

Decision models for the design, optimization and management Of warehousing and material handling systems

Riccardo Manzini, Yavuz Bozer, Sunderesh Heragu



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Editorial Special Issue IJPE**Decision models for the design, optimization and management of warehousing and material handling systems**

Authors: Riccardo Manzini, Yavuz Bozer, Sunderesh Heragu,

Professor Riccardo Manzini,

Professor of Logistics, ALMA MATER STUDIORUM, BOLOGNA UNIVERSITY, Industrial Engineering, Bologna, ITALY

riccardo.manzini@unibo.it

+39 0512093406

Dr. Yavuz Bozer

Dept. of Industrial and Operations Engineering

University of Michigan

1205 Beal Avenue

Ann Arbor

MI 48109-2117

Michigan

USA

yabozer@umich.edu

Professor Sunderesh Heragu

General

University of Louisville

511 S. Floyd Street

Louisville

KY 40202

Kentucky

USA

s.heragu@louisville.edu

1. Introduction

For many companies, warehousing and materials handling (MH) are essentially non-value added activities. Storing a product on a shelf or moving it in and out of storage racks does not add value to the product. However, both are important elements in a supply chain and play a critical role in enabling efficiency and in providing customer satisfaction (Bartholdi and Hackman 2012, Tompkins et al. 2003). Warehousing and material handling allow matching vendor supply with customer demand, smoothing demand for seasonal

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