CALL FOR PAPERS

Flexible Services and Manufacturing Journal
Formerly: International Journal of Flexible Manufacturing Systems

Special Issue on
Maritime Container Logistics and Onshore Transportation Systems

Submission Deadline: December 31, 2010

The last decade has seen tremendous investments in new container ports, vessels, and linked onshore transportation systems. Due to the high level of customer service requested and the complexity of logistic processes in seaport container terminals, many terminal operators have attempted to improve the performance of their terminals by applying new technologies including automated equipment, advanced information technologies, and optimization techniques. The demand for these new technologies has been further intensified as the size of deep-sea vessels gets larger and coastal and landside transportation systems are linked to major container ports. As a result, global freight networks are emerging which combine maritime transport, inland waterways and onshore road and rail transportation systems.

The primary objective of this special issue of the Flexible Services and Manufacturing (FSM) Journal is to reflect the recent developments in maritime and landside container transport and to examine research issues concerned with quantitative analysis and decision support for container terminal logistics and freight transportation systems. We seek papers that present new research contributions to the application in this field, preferably illustrated by real world examples. Papers for the Special Issue must make a substantial new contribution, and authors must explicitly show the scientific advances compared to the previously published research literature. Topics could include (but are not limited to) areas such as the following:

- Design of transportation networks
- Layout and configuration of container terminals
- New concepts in automated container terminal design
- Performance analysis of container terminals
- Simulation optimization of container terminals
- Empty container management
- Management of resources at container ports
- Scheduling of container handling and transportation operations
- Ship routing and fleet scheduling
- Stowage plans for container vessels
- Landside interface at container terminals
- Multimodal transportation design and optimization for containers
- Onshore transportation of containers
- Operation software for container transportation systems
Real-time control of logistics activities in container terminals
Transport planning in freight carrier networks
Applications of IT-technologies to transportation systems

Submission Guideline

Papers must clearly address research issues of container terminal logistics or freight transportation systems. Please submit your paper in pdf format via e-mail to one of the special issue editors. The target print publication date is Fall 2011. Accepted papers appear on Springer’s webpage prior to print publication.

The submitted papers must not have been previously published or be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. All papers will be reviewed according to the standards of the FSM journal. We will adopt a rapid and fair review process in order to meet the target publication date. Please feel free to contact the editors with any questions.

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