

Sustainable Logistics: A Literature Review and Exploratory Study of Irish Based Manufacturing Organizations

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Abstract

There is growing evidence that the influence of environmental performance as a decision criteria in the consumption of products/ services for consumers is growing. It's in the logistic operations where most organizations can implement green supply chain strategies. This paper presents a comprehensive literature review charting the evolution of logistics operations as it increasingly includes modern environmental concerns. Building on this the paper also presents the results of an exploratory face to face survey that was conducted to analyse attitudes to, knowledge of and preparedness among sellers but more extensively buyers of logistics services to implement sustainable logistics in Ireland. The paper shows that there is a varying degree of willingness among logistic buying organizations to implement practices to address the environmental impact of their activities. The results show that although the majority of these organizations are willing to some extent, this is not universal, with a significant proportion of organizations believing that there are hidden costs and risks associated with the implementation of sustainable logistics.

Keywords: sustainable logistics, logistic service provider, supply chain management, Ireland

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