



LITERATURE REVIEW

# Literature analysis on product-service systems business model: a promising research field

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## ABSTRACT

**Goal:** Product-service system (PSS) is a business model implemented by organizations aiming at generating profitability and competitiveness, and contributing to sustainability. However, companies need to build up new skills to develop and implement PSS focused on business models that should be able to generate value. This context calls for a theoretical analysis with the objective of identifing characteristics of this type of business model by means of a literature review.

**Design / Methodology / Approach:** A descriptive review was conducted, and 313 publications related to PSS business model were selected. A final set of 48 articles related to PSS and business models were identified as well as the number of publications per year and main journal. Mechanisms for generating value from the PSS business model and its components were described after content analysis.

**Results:** Most of PSS business model publications were published in recent years with the main focus on sustainability. Fourteen business model components were identified from the literature to be considered when structuring a PSS, associated with value proposition, creation, delivery, and value capture mechanisms. The most common components were 'value proposition' and 'key partners', although their concepts need a clarification. The business model should be designed with a value-centric vision in an iterative process. Moreover, it must cover the interests of the entire PSS value network, considering environmental, economic, and social dimensions of sustainability.

**Limitations of the investigation:** The analysis has not considered the related research field on servitization, and nor the publications related to the 'value' concept from interdisciplinary areas (e.g., marketing).

**Practical implications:** Developing a PSS business model requires forming a value network, considering the interests and responsibilities of those involved for the generation of mutual value as well as the inter-organizational relationships.

**Originality / Value:** As PSS as a business model is a promising field of study, this paper devotes more attention on developing this kind of business model.

**Keywords:** Product-Service System; Sustainable Business Model; PSS Value Generation; Literature Review.

## INTRODUCTION

In response to several transformations that have been taking place over the years, such as extensive globalization, increased competition based on low costs, and networks guided by

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demand (Van Halen et al., 2005), companies increasingly realize the need to readjust their strategies, focusing in generate value for customers (França et al., 2017). For example, the automotive industry, traditionally based on vehicle sales, has been investing on new ways of offering mobility, concentrating on providing value to the customers in the product use phase (Mahut et al., 2017). An example is a recent initiative from VW Brazil to offer a subscription vehicle service, with the possibility of contracting online (Volkswagen, 2021). When hiring the "VW Sign & Drive", the customer finds out a transparent pricing proposal (minimum period of one year), which includes taxes and duties, insurance, and preventive maintenance (Monteiro, 2020). This business model example changes the way customers perceive the culture of vehicle ownership and disbursement of money and requires a reorganization of the value chain (Estigarribia, 2020). Nonetheless, the transition from product to performance-focused based on product-service integration requires developing innovative business models (Evans et al., 2017).

An approach based on product-service system (PSS) focuses on new business models that meet the customer's functional needs innovatively by adding services to the products offered (Scheepens et al., 2016). This approach was proposed as an opportunity to promote the sustainability and strategic development of the business model (Tukker, 2004; França et al., 2017), as a solution to deliver value to customers (Reim et al., 2015). Bike-sharing system is an example of PSS offered as a sustainable alternative (Sousa-Zomer et al., 2016). Additionally, product-service offers could also contribute to increasing organizations' differentiation against competitors and increase in profit margin (Annarelli et al., 2016; Mahut et al., 2017).

With the promise of increasing attractiveness to customers, new PSS business models should provide some environmental benefits and make PSS viable as opposed to traditional production/consumption business models (Pialot et al., 2017). Besides the mobility sector previously cited, PSS have been offered by companies from different sectors such as lighting system, printers and photocopiers, water purifiers and material handling operations (Beuren et al., 2013; Brambila-Macias et al., 2018; Sousa-Zomer et al., 2018). To deliver these product-service offers, an innovative business model should be developed, supported by the concept of sustainability (Bocken et al., 2014). Developing a PSS or transforming an existing business model into PSS has been described as a business model innovation for sustainability (Evans et al., 2017).

Although PSS as a research topic emerged during the 90s, it continues to attract interest, with a steadfast growth of publications, possibly due to the convergence of specific causes over the years, such as communication and information technology and its wider adoption by industrial organizations (Annarelli et al., 2016). Nevertheless, many companies have faced difficulties developing their business model as a PSS (Reim et al., 2015) and combining sustainability with innovation (França et al., 2017). Considering that business model is a promising field of study, the investigation on concepts of business models applied specifically to a PSS deserves attention and could be interesting to provide a better understanding of PSS not only for researchers but also PSS developers.

In this sense, this investigation aims to analyze the literature on PSS from a business model perspective, aiming to identify how publications have addressed this concept and the required components for companies to develop their PSS business model focusing on value generation. The following section points out some concepts related to the business model. Later on, the research methodological procedures adopted to conduct this literature review are described. The results of literature analysis related to the PSS business model included quantitative results of the publications, as well as the analysis of the components and mechanisms for generating value from the business model. To finish, concluding remarks, as well as the limitations of this work and future research opportunities are posed.

## **BUSINESS MODEL RELATED CONCEPTS**

A business model is a conceptual representation that helps to link an organization's strategy to its activities (Richardson, 2008). The business model concept spread exponentially after a work co-created by 470 practitioners from 45 countries (Osterwalder and Pigneur, 2010), elaborated mainly based on Osterwalder (2004), which addresses the ontology of the business model. The author defines the term 'business model' as (Osterwalder, 2004, p.14): "a representation of how a company buys and sells goods and services and makes money." The business model connects technical potential with economic value realization (Chesbrough and Rosenbloom, 2002). Concerning the operational dimension, the 'business model' concept essence was already presented by Peter Drucker in the 50s, which is a classic source for business studies (Fjeldstad and Snow, 2018). The works of Chesbrough and Rosenbloom (2002), Osterwalder et al. (2005), as well as Teece (2010) offer theoretical contributions to business model subject. However, there is still a lack of clarity, conceptual consensus, and consistency in the use of the terms business model, business model innovation, and sustainable business models (Osterwalder et al., 2005; Boons and Lüdeke-Freund, 2013; Evans et al., 2017).

While it is possible to design generic business models, each company has its unique business model, which describes how the company creates and captures value (Kindström and Kowalkowski, 2014). According to this perspective, each company must structure its business model individually to suit its strategy and operations (Tukker, 2015).

Changing a business model constitutes an innovation process in the current scenario of business models (Kindström and Kowalkowski, 2014; Fjeldstad and Snow, 2018). Unlike product or service innovation, business model innovation does not necessarily discover a new product or service, but it uses new ways to create and deliver the existing product or service and new ways to capture its value (Yang et al., 2017). A business model development consists of structuring several components (also called by the literature as elements, functions, or attributes of the business model) described next.

## **Business models components**

Generally, a simplified representation of the elements that make up the system, as well as the interrelationships between these components is used (Geissdoerfer et al., 2018). After the business model components analysis and contrast from the perspective of several authors, Osterwalder (2004) describes nine components that cover four primary areas of a business, namely: (i) customers, (ii) supply, (iii) infrastructure, and (iv) financial viability. Osterwalder and Pigneur (2010) developed structured components by a framework - Business Model Canvas (BMC), which are illustrated in Figure 1.



**Figure 1.** Business model components (adapted from Osterwalder and Pigneur, 2010). Note: the changes added sequential numbering and a brief description of each of the components.

The business model components showed in Figure 1 are interdependent. For instance, the channels used for communication depend on the customer segment that the company wants to achieve. As a consequence, one component's change depends on the corresponding changes and other components' realignment for successful innovation (Kindström and Kowalkowski, 2014).

# Sustainable business model

The literature on business models shows that PSS is a sustainable way to offer value to customers (Boons and Lüdeke-Freund, 2013; Bocken et al., 2014). In its origin, PSS, focused on sustainability issues. After the concept evolution, the business model's profitability and companies' competitiveness became central issues. In addition, PSS should combine the three sustainability dimensions (economic, environmental, and social) in a holistic approach, meet the customer needs (Vasantha et al., 2012), and focus on value generation. Table 1 summarizes the sources of value related to sustainability dimensions.

Value sources
Business stability
Financial resilience
Long-term viability
Profit
Return on investment
Biodiversity
Little waste
Low emissions
Pollution prevention
Renewable resources
Community development
Equality and diversity
Health and safety
Labour patterns
Safe living
Welfare

Table 1. Sustainable values and sources.

Source: Evans et al. (2017).

When considering business model innovations for sustainability, there is a greater complexity associated with assessing the impact of sustainability innovations and understanding their effects across the business network (Evans et al., 2017). A sustainable business model's fundamental idea is a sustainable value proposition, which allows the simultaneous creation of value for multiple stakeholders, including customers, shareholders, suppliers, partners, the environment, and society (Bocken et al., 2014). In most business models, the basic principles are related to the value concept (Evans et al., 2017; Yang et al., 2017). It determines the value proposition, the creation and delivery of value, and the capture of value (Geissdoerfer et al., 2018). Bocken et al. (2014) and Short et al. (2014) defined these value-related concepts according to the sustainability perspective, as described in Table 2.

Value-related concept	Description	References
Value proposition	It refers to describing the business model's value purpose to customers, differentiating them from competitors, and sustaining the activities and resources	Bocken et al. (2014)
Value creation and delivery	It refers to how value is provided to customers. In the case of a PSS, significant changes are required in the company, with incentives from the design for durability, reparability, and facilitating the update	Bocken et al. (2014), Short et al. (2014)
Value capture	It refers to how the company makes money and captures other forms of value	Teece (2010), Bocken et al. (2014), Short et al. (2014)

Table 2. Business model value-related concepts.

After establishing the basis of this work, the following section describes the methodological research approach.

# **RESEARCH METHODS AND PROCEDURES**

The research question that guides this literature review is: "how PSS as a business model has been described in the literature?". The research methods and procedures to conduct this literature review were developed based on the recommendations from King and He (2005); Booth et al. (2012); and Adams et al. (2017) to conduct 'descriptive reviews'. This type of literature review generally involves a systematic search of as many as possible relevant papers in an investigated area to represent the state of a research domain (King and He, 2005).

The search was done at Scopus, ISI Web of Science and Compendex (Engineering Village) databases, which are considered the main bases covering multidisciplinary subjects (Booth et al., 2012) as well as engineering. Table 3 summarizes the research procedures for search and selection of publications (based on Booth et al. 2012).

	Procedures	Description				
	Purpose	PSS business models conception, description of the PSS business models components, and PSS value addition mechanisms				
v		Searched in title, keywords, and summary of publications:				
	Keywords	Axis 1 – PSS: "product-service system*" OR "product- extension service*" OR "integrated product-service*" OR "product-service offer*"				
tior		Axis 2 – Business model: "business model*"				
ublica	Databases	Scopus, ISI Web of Science and Compendex (Engineering Village)				
ch for p	Search period	Searches carried out between April and July 2018 – no date filter was used for publications				
earc	Selected publication types	Articles published in peer-reviewed journals in English				
Ň		371 publications				
	Obtained number of nublications	Scopus: 122				
	obtained number of publications	ISI Web of Science: 113				
		Compendex - Engineering Village: 136				
	Update (after the first analysis)	93 publications (3 databases) from 2018-2019				
	Total - set of articles	313 publications				

**Table 3.** Methodological procedures for searching and selecting publications.

Table 3. Continued...

	Procedures	Description			
	Total non-duplicates	220 publications			
ions	Criteria for selection	Publication selected conceptualize and describe business models and their components			
licat	Reference management software	Endnote™			
of publ	Reading the title, keywords, and summary	74 publications			
u	Full reading	36 publications			
Selecti	Retrospective procedure	Analysis of references cited by the selected publication - inclusion of 29 publications (books and technical publications on business model cited by the selected articles were also considered)			
	Data analysis Software	Endnote <sup>™</sup> and Microsoft Excel <sup>™</sup>			
sis		65 publications			
alys	Total publications analyzed	Business model: 13			
e an	Total publications analyzed	Sustainable business model: 9			
tur		PSS business model: 43			
tera	Publications included in the	11 – PSS business model			
Ľ	analysis (2018-2019)	1 - sustainable business model			
	PSS business model components	18 publications analyzed			

A total of 313 non-duplicated peer-reviewed publications related to PSS and business model were considered for further selection. Quantitative information regarding these publications – such as year of publications and top-published journals - is provided as a general view of the research topic.

After the selection of the publications, an analysis of the reference list was conducted by applying a retrospective procedure. This consists of searching for studies cited by the analyzed publications (Gough et al., 2012), since most of the studies use the term 'business model', but do not describe its components (Figure 1). Because this work also aimed at understanding the concept of the PSS business model and its components, gray literature publications – 'first layer' - were also considered when applying the respective procedure, to fill in gaps in the academic literature as recommended elsewhere (Adams et al., 2017). Previously cited authors add that the 'first layer' is the clearest gray literature in terms of controlling the transparency of the source with significant credibility (e.g., book chapters, and government reports). Books published by authors with prominence in the subject (e.g., Osterwalder and Pigneur, 2010, Osterwalder et al., 2015) were also taken into account. Thus, this literature review embraced the analysis of 65 publications related to PSS business models.

Based on the analysis of the selected publications that presented the business model components (18 publications), a comparison among the components depicted by them was carried out. The components considered when structuring a PSS business model were highlighted by means of content analysis (as in Seuring and Gold, 2012). Finally, PSS business models' value addition mechanisms were described in terms of value proposition, creation, delivery, and value capture (discussed by 43 publications), and a summary of the components and mechanisms for generating value to the PSS were developed. Afterwards, an updated was performed to provide a recent perspective of publications in PSS business model topic, by including some other sources in the analysis (e.g., Oliveira et al., 2018; Kwon et al., 2019). A final set of 48 articles related to PSS and business models were then analyzed.

# **RESULTS OF LITERATURE ANALYSIS**

The PSS business model subject is relatively recent in literature. Figure 2 shows the distribution of papers along the time. More than half (56%) of the 313 publications selected are from 2017 onwards.



**Figure 2.** Distribution of publications per year (n=313). Note: articles published in peer-reviewed journals in English

These articles were published in 121 journal sources. Figure 3 shows the top-published journals (n>3) of the publications about PSS business models. These 15 journals sources are responsible for more than half (58%) of the total of publications.



Figure 3. Top-published journals (n>3) of publications (n=313).

As somewhat expected, sustainability-related journals are the most common sources for PSS business model publications. Journal of Cleaner Production stands out as the main journal with publications on the subject. Since 2017, interest in the topic has grown in production management journals (International Journal of Production Research, International Journal of Production Economics, and International Journal of Operations & Production Management), and marketing journals (Industrial Marketing Management and Journal of Business & Industrial Marketing). Next section presents the results of the content analysis concerning business model components and mechanisms for generating value from the PSS business model.

## Mechanisms for generating value from the PSS business model

Pawar et al. (2009) identified the following steps for value creation in product-service offerings:

- Defining value identifying the customer's value, needs, and cost of meeting them to determine the profitability of a PSS;
- (ii) Designing value identifying organizational requirements in terms of resources and capabilities that are available or needed; and
- (iii) Delivering value selecting the partners' network to provide the necessary resources and manage that network's performance to ensure uninterrupted access to value for customers.

Evans et al. (2017) point out that the internalization of externalities through the PSS (e.g., maintenance, repair, etc.) enables innovations for sustainable business models. The externalities of product-based business models are brought to the core of the PSS concept. Evans et al. (2017) add that to internalize them, it is essential to incorporate life cycle thinking concepts and establish new ownership modes that lead companies to greater responsibilities.

It is a consensus among the main authors that the 'value proposition' is the key component of business models (Adrodegari et al., 2017). However, the value proposition is difficult when developing a business model. Charro and Schaefer (2018) used the BMC structure and the value proposition framework of Osterwalder et al. (2015), which focused specifically on developing a business model's value proposition. In this sense, the cited authors add that it is necessary to understand the customer tasks (or 'customer jobs') to develop the PSS value proposition. Additionally, the value proposition must communicate potentially favorable changes in value to the client, such as reduced problems/pains and benefits/gains (Osterwalder et al., 2015). So, it must be clear the benefit/value that customers receive (Adrodegari et al., 2017). Moreover, customer problem-solving must incorporate the three dimensions of sustainability (Clark et al., 2009, Parida et al., 2014). Therefore, to develop the value proposition, strategies can be used that integrate economic, environmental, and social issues, focusing on value exchange.

The PSS business model's value creation is responsible for defining the main characteristics and quality of the PSS (Annarelli et al., 2016). The business model's improvements should not limited be to the company's production areas and all product and supply value chain activities, but they can emerge at any point along the PSS life cycle (Van Halen et al., 2005).

The PSS value delivery mechanisms comprise the description of distribution channels, customer relationships, and process efficiency. It is necessary to identify concerned parties in business relationships and develop close collaboration between the customer and the supplier through interactive procedures (Vasantha et al., 2012). In this case, more cohesive joined-up thinking and reconfiguration of various aspects of the business, such as capabilities, relationships with stakeholders, knowledge management, leadership, and culture are required, therefore involving the entire business model (Evans et al., 2017).

Value capture refers to mechanisms associated with the final results of the business model, such as those associated with the cost structure and revenue streams. However, the literature points out that, in practice, PSS providers have struggled to fully capture PSS offerings' benefits (Yang et al., 2017). Another vital factor to consider is that sustainable business models require a value network with a new purpose, design, and governance, considering stakeholders' interests and responsibilities in creating mutual value (Evans et al., 2017). After analyzing these PSS business model concepts, the next section provides a summary of the analyzed product-service system components and mechanisms to value generation.

## PSS business models components analysis

A PSS involves a change in the product-service mix, moving from a 'resource-based' production system to a 'knowledge-based' system in which business activities aim to meet

customer needs (Van Halen et al., 2005). Therefore, the developed PSS business models must consider adding extra value to solutions, which mainly concern meeting customer needs with a competitive cost (Scheepens et al., 2016).

Adopting the business model approach provides a more comprehensive understanding for companies to successfully leverage, coordinate, and align the transformations required for operationalization (Adrodegari et al., 2017). This opens an opportunity for business model offers to close the gap between knowledge about the effects of individual variables on company performance and the need for learning about how relationships between these variables affect performance (Fjeldstad and Snow, 2018).

The Business Model Canvas (BMC) proposed by Osterwalder and Pigneur (2010) is often cited and may be considered as a standard support for the business model design since it was developed through extensive research and represented the consensus of a large group of experts from academia and industry (Barquet et al., 2013). BMC by Osterwalder and Pigneur (2010) was proposed for the development of internet-based business model innovations. The proposed structure is one of the most recognized in the literature (Oliveira et al. 2018). A number of publications used the BMC structure to examine business models, e.g., Barquet et al. (2013), França et al. (2017), Gembarski and Lachmayer (2017), Pallaro et al. (2017), Charro and Schaefer (2018), Oliveira et al. (2013), Kwon et al. (2019), Majava and Isoherranen (2019), to name but a few. Barquet et al. (2013) argue that BMC structure stands out as an appropriate tool; it was developed through extensive business model research, and represents the consensus of a large group of academics and industry experts. Sousa-Zomer et al. (2018) and Sousa-Zomer and Cauchick-Miguel (2019) used Bocken and Short (2016) structure to describe sustainable PSS. Table 4 highlights the publications that presented business model components.

Publication	Main focus	Brief description	Depth of contents	# of components
Osterwalder and	Business model	It explains the most common business model standards based	Detailed	9
Pigneur (2010)	innovation	on business concepts		(see Figure 1)
Meier et al. (2010); Meier et al. (2011)	IPSS	It describes the modular organization and the actors' network involved	General	4
Boons and Lüdeke-Freund (2013)	Sustainable business models	It proposes examples of regulatory requirements that business models must meet to support sustainable innovations	General	4
Bocken et al. (2014)	Sustainable business models	It incorporates the Triple Bottom-line (TBL), considering concerned parties, including environment and society, considering value-related mechanisms	Detailed (2 levels)	10*
Gaiardelli et al. (2014)	Green PSS	It develops a model for classifying traditional and green product and service offerings, pointing the elements of a PSS	General	4
Kindström and Kowalkowski (2014)	Service innovation	It presents what unique features and capabilities product-centric companies should develop and deploy to pursue service innovation	Detailed	10

Table 4. Contributions of business models from the literature.

Table 4. Continued...

Publication	Main focus	Brief description	Depth of contents	# of components
Chiu et al. (2015)	Digital Products Manufacturer	It analyses the literature and presents 6 elements needed to develop a PSS business model	Detailed	6
Gelbmann and Hammerl (2015)	PSS for reuse	It presents a framework for PSS for reuse (ECO-WISE) aligned with TBL highlighting the importance of integration with stakeholders	Detailed	6
Reim et al. (2015)	PSS	It describes each type of PSS (based on Tukker, 2004) linked to five operational-level tactics and practices related to the implementation of PSS business models	Detailed (2 levels)	13*
Bocken and Short (2016)	Sustainable innovation	It depicts a framework for business model innovation for sustainability	General, exemplified	11
Kanda et al. (2016)	Large scaled environment al technology systems	It proposes the components to consider when developing large- scale environmental technology systems BM (e.g., renewable energy systems)	Detailed	6
Tran and Park (2016)	Co-creation for PSS redesign	It proposes a co-creation framework, for designers to effectively design PSS in terms of users' perception of PSS value, design quality and evaluation	Detailed and exemplified	7
Zancul et al. (2016)	IPSS	It highlights the role of technology and Internet of Things (IoT) in PSS business models, based on part the components of BMC	Detailed and exemplified	7
Adrodegari and Saccani (2017)	Service transformatio n of industrial firms	It analyzes the business model literature and proposes a structure for the transformation of industrial companies, based on BMC	Detailed	8
Adrodegari et al. (2017)	IPSS	It describes the relevance of each of the BMC components to PSS and subdivides the core components highlighted by the template into topics	Detailed and exemplified	8
Fjeldstad and Snow (2018)	Business model and organization structure	It points out that each of the elements of a business model is affected by the configuration of the company's value, connecting the business model to the organization design	Detailed	8
Petrulaitiene et al. (2018)	Servitization	Describes the elements in the workplace servitization process with a focus on greater flexibility and experience orientation	Detailed	5
Salomon et al. (2019)	PSS in aerospace industry	Prioritize the most important elements of the BM using a multi-criteria method	General (in 2 levels)	20*

Note: \*refer to the 2<sup>nd</sup> level of components.

As can be seen in Table 4, although many publications focus on PSS business model, only a few of them develop their structure specifically for PSS.

Although the main focus is on internet-related business, Osterwalder and Pigneur (2010) describe the market introduction process of Car2Go (car-sharing system – a classic example of PSS) as an example of business model innovation that complements Daimler's core business model. It is worth emphasizing that BMC is the most used structure in the publications analyzed, although it is not from a peer-reviewed journal. In this sense, the components described in the selected publications were compared as the Canvas model components of Osterwalder and Pigneur (2010). Table 5 presents studies addressing business model structures that can be applied to different types of organizations. In this sense, we excluded those studies developed for specific contexts such as aerospace industry (Salomon et al., 2019), environmental technology systems (Kanda et al., 2016), and workplace servitization (Petrulaitiene et al. 2018).

	Business model components (Figure 1*)								Other components	
Publication	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	pointed by the publications
										· Customer value
Meier et al.										· Service delivery
(2010); Meier et										model
al. (2011)										· Objects/resources
										· Processes
Deensand										· Customer interface
BOONS and		,								· Supply chain
(2012)		V								· Financial model –
(2013)										similar to (5)
Bocken et al.	/		/	/	/	/	/	/	/	<ul> <li>Technology</li> </ul>
(2014)	V		~	V	~	V	V	V	~	· Product/service
										<ul> <li>Infrastructure and</li> </ul>
										network
Gaiardelli et al.		./								<ul> <li>Relationship</li> </ul>
(2014)		v								capital
										<ul> <li>Sustainable</li> </ul>
										aspects
										<ul> <li>Strategy</li> </ul>
										· Structure
										· Culture
Kindström and										· Offer
Kowalkowski				$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$					· Sales process
(2014)										<ul> <li>Delivery process</li> </ul>
										<ul> <li>Development</li> </ul>
										process
										· Value network
										<ul> <li>Product/Service and</li> </ul>
										Core Competence
										Identification
										• Target Customer
										Searching
Chiu et al.										Market Analysis
(2015)										· Value Chain
										Construction
										Cost and Revenue
										Estimation
										Business Model
										Transformation

Table 5. Comparison among business model components presented by the literature.

Table 5. Continued...

	Business model components (Figure 1*)							Other components						
Publication	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	pointed by the publications				
			•		-	-	-	-		· Stakeholders				
										· Key features				
Collemann and										· Relationship and				
Hammerl (2015)		$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$			partnerships				
1011111111(2013)										· Financial				
										implications similar				
										to (5)				
										<ul> <li>Sustainability</li> </ul>				
										<ul> <li>Marketing</li> </ul>				
Reim et al.										· Contracts				
(2015)										<ul> <li>Product and</li> </ul>				
										service design				
										<ul> <li>Networks</li> </ul>				
										· Product/service				
										$\cdot$ Value for				
										customers, society				
										and environment				
Bocken and	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	• Technology and
Short (2016)						·		•	•	•	-	•	product features	
										$\cdot$ Value capture for				
										key actors				
										·Growth				
										strategy/ethos				
										· Product				
										· Service				
Tran and Park		$\checkmark$								· Process				
(2016)										Parameters				
										· Network				
		-					-			Stakeholders				
Zancul et al.	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	√**	√**	$\checkmark$	Not indicated by				
(2016)										publication				
Adrodegari and	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$			$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	Strategy				
Saccani (2017)										• Network				
Adrodegari et al.	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	Not indicated by				
(2017)		-		. <u> </u>			-	<del>.</del>		publication				
										· Product/service				
Fjeldstad and	,	,			,	,	,							
Snow (2018)	2018)	$\checkmark$			$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$			· Economy				
(_00)										Protection				
										mechanisms				

Source: Constructed based on content of publications. Note: \* The numbers refer to the components shown in Figure 1: (1) – Customer segments; (2) – Value Proposition; (3) – Channels; (4) – Customer Relationships; (5) – Revenue streams; (6) – Key resources; (7) – Key activities; (8) – Key partners; and (9) – Cost structure; \*\*(7) and (8) were considered only one component

Based on the components' analysis, those components proposed by Osterwalder and Pigneur (2010) are present in a large part of the models described by other authors (e.g., Adrodegari et al., 2017; França et al., 2017; Fjeldstad and Snow, 2018). Other subsequent publications apply the BMC by Osterwalder and Pigneur (2010) for the development of PSS solutions (e.g., Barquet et al., 2013; França et al., 2017), part of the components (e.g., Gelbmann and Hammerl, 2015; Zancul et al., 2016; Adrodegari et al., 2017), or add new components (e.g., Reim et al., 2015; Fjeldstad and Snow, 2018).

Table 6 organizes the 14 components identified as critical to PSS business models value proposition, value creation, delivery, and value capture.

Business model	Description							
components								
Value proposition	Describe the assumptions of its purposes for consumers, differentiating them from competitors and supporting their activities and use of resources (Bocken et al., 2014)							
Customer segments	Group of people or organizations that the company intends to offer its							
	solution (Osterwalder and Pigneur, 2010)							
Customer jobs	Functions and/or situations for which the consumer will use the solution (Osterwalder et al., 2015)							
Customer	Describe the problems that block the customer from performing their tasks							
pains/problems	(Osterwalder et al., 2015)							
Customer	Represent the benefit for which the customer is willing to pay							
gains/benefits	(Galardelli et al., 2014)							
relationships	(Osterwalder and Pigneur, 2010)							
	The most important internal and external resources required to operate the							
Kovresources	business model, e.g., human, financial, and technology (Adrodegari and Saccani, 2017)							
Rey resources	Maximizing resource usage throughout the PSS life cycle (Vasantha et al							
	2012, Yang et al., 2017)							
	The most important activities to deliver the value proposition (Adrodegari							
Kovactivitios	and Saccani, 2017)							
Key activities	Focus on activities that allow product longevity and system's eco-efficiency at PSS (Moro et al., 2021)							
	Activities and resources that go beyond company boundaries, including							
Key partners	partnerships between concerned parties such as producers, resellers,							
	customers, and 'end-of-life products administrators' with connected							
	economic interests (Morelli, 2006)							
	Description of how the company reaches the customer segment to deliver							
Distribution	Its value proposition (Osterwalder and Pigneur, 2010)							
	and parallel activities that occur for the PSS provision (Tran and Park 2016)							
Charmels/Frocesses	Sock to emphasize value delivered, improving system efficiency (More et al.							
	Represent how the company makes money from the target customer							
Revenue streams	segment (Osterwalder and Pigneur, 2010)							
Revenue streams	In a PSS, costumers pay for the use of the service and/or for the work done							
	(Boons and Lüdeke-Freund, 2013)							
	Describe all costs involved in the business model provision (Osterwalder							
	and Pigneur, 2010)							
	partners (Bocken et al., 2014)							
Cost structure	The company has responsibility for economic, environmental, and social							
	issues during and after the product use phase (Evans et al., 2017)							
	In a PSS, to reduce cost, the focus should be on reducing resource use and							
	system effectiveness (Moro et al., 2021)							
	Metrics of product and service features (Tran and Park, 2016)							
Indicators/Parameters	Indicators related to: customer responsiveness and acceptance; waste,							
	emissions, and pollution reducing; and product durability and maintenance							
	efficiency (Moro et al., 2021)							
Value network	i ne intrastructure of PSS and its interactions of products, services,							
	An integrated network of suppliers with clearly defined roles (Mercili, 2006)							
	An integrated network of suppliers with clearly defined roles (worldlin, 2000)							

By the analysis, other components were identified, such as technology (Bocken et al., 2014), sustainability (Reim et al., 2015), and economy (Fjeldstad and Snow, 2018). However,

those components may be present in more than one of the components considered. Strategy, defined as a plan of action designed to achieve a specific goal (Adrodegari and Saccani, 2017), was not considered as a component, because it also refers to a broader concept.

## DISCUSSION

Through the analysis of the main journals with publications, it seems evident that several areas approach the PSS as a business model, with an emphasis on sustainability-related journal sources. Nevertheless, the literature points out that there is still a lack of interconnection between fields and areas thematic (Annarelli et al., 2016). In addition, the PSS integrates different agents and life cycles, and only the solution (product + service) design cannot provide solutions according to customer needs (Tukker, 2015). Thus, the importance of understanding the market and aligning the PSS with operational issues is highlighted by analyzing PSS business model recent publication's sources. In this sense, the study of the PSS as a business model presents itself as a possibility for a more general analysis of the PSS since it integrates several components, which, in addition to the solution, present its integration with other stakeholders (customers and partners).

As showed in Table 6, 14 components related to the functioning of the business model were identified through content analysis. To some extent, some of those components are common in most of the structures presented in Table 5 (e.g., value proposition, key partners, and so on). Value proposition is found as a component and a mechanism in the (broader sense) in the publications and, therefore, its concept deserves a deeper analysis, which is one of this work recommendation.

Despite following a logical sequence, the process of structuring the PSS business model should be cyclical and iterative and not necessarily sequential and linear (Tukker, 2015). A PSS business model allows the collection of data regarding the product/service during its use and product monitoring (Zancul et al., 2016), facilitating the provision of information for changes, redesign of products, and information on the scope of the development of services necessary to meet the future needs of customers (Parida et al., 2014). Finally, it is emphasized that the global economy is increasingly digital, networked, and knowledge-based, which requires companies to reconsider their business models constantly and, if necessary, modify them to adapt to changing conditions (Fjeldstad and Snow, 2018). Therefore, there must be integration and exchange of information between stakeholders so that the product-service system business model includes all those involved in the value network, in a sustainable way.

## CONCLUSIONS

The business model is still a relatively recent concept in addition to the fact that productservice system interest has increased in recent years. So, applying the business model concept to structure a PSS can favor its understanding and facilitate the development and subsequent implementation activities. Based on a literature analysis, 14 components were identified to be taken into account when structuring a business model. These components were organized in this work in mechanisms of value proposition, value creation, value delivery, and value capture. Indeed, a value-centric vision is essential for the business model to meet customers' needs and the interests of the PSS value network members sustainably. These PSS business model concepts related to sustainability and value mechanisms were then discussed in this work to achieve a better understanding of this research topic. Nevertheless, some valuerelated concepts need an in-deeper analysis, such as 'value proposition' and 'value network'. This is recommended for further research.

As a limitation of this work, the analysis covered only the researchers' point of view on product-service systems. When considering PSS as a business model, it is also essential to consider the literature on servitization since it refers to creating revenue streams for service organizations. Thus, as another work opportunity would be to include search terms related to servitization, aiming at broadening the scope of the current literature review. Moreover,

another research opportunity could be a bibliometric analysis, for instance by using software such as VOSviewer<sup>™</sup> which may also reveal relevant insights about the literature's evolution. Interdisciplinary studies (e.g., marketing) to analyze the 'value' concept are also needed to enhance PSS business model knowledge. Furthermore, it would be also relevant to analyze business model literature and those concepts to provide a better understanding of how they could be effectively applied in a product-service system.

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