



EDITORIAL INTRODUCTION

The present issue of the *Brazilian Journal of Operations & Production Management* (BJO&PM) relies on a special context: the transition of the Editorial responsibility which has changed from Prof. Dr. Paulo Cauchick Miguel to myself. Prof. Cauchick Miguel had been in charge of it since this journal was first published in 2004. I think the Brazilian community of Production and Operations Management is really in debt with him, since he was the pioneer of it and has performed a very valuable work.

Since its first edition up to December 2008, 9 issues were published containing 46 papers, all of them selected under a rigorous blind review system, whose referees were well qualified and important researchers on production and operations management subjects. So, it is a great responsibility to take the BJO&PM ahead in the direction of its mission:

“Publish research on production engineering and operations management produced in Brazil and abroad, in English language.”

Facing this challenge, the new editorial efforts focus on two main goals: increase visibility of our journal, in both Brazilian and international communities, and reduce the lead time for publishing high quality manuscripts. To achieve these goals, some strategies have been adopted, such as installing a portal for managing electronic submissions and increasing the number of referees from the international community.

It is also relevant to highlight that it is not a result of a solitary work. Right now there are also important contributions from three associated editors that are working hard in order to make this journal a reference for excellence on its subject: Prof. Dr. Nei Soma, Prof. Dr. Caroline Miranda and Prof. Dr. José Luís Duarte Ribeiro. Their work, jointed with the carefully collaboration of ad-hoc referees and also the contribution of authors, encourage and make it possible to consolidate BJO&PM as a vehicle for publishing high quality researches in POM fields.

In this Issue

As a first result of these actions, in the present issue of the BJO&PM we are publishing

papers which cover important aspects of production and operations management.

The first paper is authored by M.Sc. Rogerio Odivan Brito Serrão and Dr. Paulo Roberto Tavares Dalcol and proposes a conceptual model on the relationship among supply chain members and its impact on the operation of manufacturing flexibility. It also presents the results that come from a field work involving four manufacturing companies to study the influence of four aspects of buyer-supplier relationship (trust/commitment, information sharing, supplier development and joint product development) on three external dimensions of manufacturing flexibility (mix, new products and volume). This work shows how buyer-supplier relationships can influence external dimensions of manufacturing flexibility and manufacturing performance.

The second one is authored by Dr. Supriyo Roy and presents an optimization model for cross-functional decision making which is based on a computational business intelligence approach. This model construction takes in account constrained maximization problem for marketing and minimization problem for production.

The third manuscript was written by Dr. Dagoberto Alves de Almeida and M,Sc. Tainá da Costa Neves. This paper presents a model for measuring communication problems in service process, exploring the gaps between supplier's suppositions and client's expectations. The results from the research are very interesting and can contribute to operations managers in their decision process.

Dr. Helder Gomes Costa, Editor

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