

– Call for Papers –

International Scientific Symposium on Logistics (ISSL)

Logistics for a Sustainable Future –

Contributions from Science

1. Logistics for a Sustainable Future

Sustainability in all its aspects – usage of resources, economic viability, attractiveness to people working in the field and more – is a challenge for Supply Chain Management (SCM) and Logistics.

Science has an important and probably underestimated role in improving the sustainability along our Supply Chains. Classical concepts, such as increasing efficiency, resource pooling and consolidation have always aimed at improving the utilization of all kinds of transportation equipment, distribution centers and other facilities. The driving force behind the optimization of equipment and operations is typically of an economic nature. Decisions need to respect regulation – for instance driving time rules or eco-design guidelines in the EU.

New technologies influence business models, for instance by promoting platforms, and they shape international collaboration in supply chains.

Another important issue is the future of the human capital in Supply Chains. Flexibility in automation and robotics promises a higher level of automation in operations and in the back office. An emerging question is the right qualification level and mix of skills required to successfully run these automated systems.

In this conference, we want to take a scientific look at the interaction between economic aspects, technology and humans and the resulting impact on the shape of tomorrow's supply chains.

BVL and its Scientific Advisory Board reflect interdisciplinarity in logistics and SCM. Hence, the ISSL traditionally integrates multiple academic disciplines and offers an exceptional forum for exchange across discipline borders.

The aim of the ISSL is to promote an exchange of ideas across disciplines and geographic borders. Participants will present and discuss new models to better understand what is driving the development of logistics as a science and as a field of application. Researchers and practitioners are invited to jointly gain insights about logistics systems for a sustainable future.

Dresden will be the venue for the next conference from June 15-16, 2021. The traditional [PhD Candidates workshop](#) will take place on June 14, 2021.

2. Topics and Call for Papers

We welcome academic contributions that explain what will be driving logistics and supply chain management in a sustainable future. Especially valuable are contributions that bridge the gaps among all disciplines contributing to SCM and logistics.

Many individual disciplines will have a significant impact on logistics in the future; we address the subsequent topics in logistics:

- resource consumption, renewable energy and the circular economy,
- platform economies and business models for supply chains of the future,
- global supply chains and risk management
- retail logistics including cross-channel and omni-channel distribution,
- future traffic, transportation systems and required infrastructure,
- urban and last mile logistics,
- the role of humans in future supply chains,
- material handling in production, warehousing and distribution,
- cognitive systems, robotics, human-machine collaboration,
- the impact of Covid-19 on Supply Chains and Logistics

We are highly interested in all methodological and technological contributions to the above fields. Therefore, we would like you to address in your abstract, which methodological and technological contributions you are providing to our conference.

3. Submission and Selection of Presentation Entries

Participants must submit an abstract, which, if accepted, must be followed by a short paper (approx. 5 pages). Moreover, we highly appreciate a full paper submission to *Logistics Research* after the conference.¹ All papers must be presented at the conference. The name of the presenting author must be announced with the abstract. Please note, presentations are only possible by senior researchers. **We accept unpublished resubmissions from the postponed ISSL 2021 as well as new topics.**

The abstracts should be 1–2 pages in length and should include the full names and affiliations of all authors and be submitted in PDF format. All submissions will be subjected to scientific review. ([Here](#) please find our template.)

Please send your abstract to nehls@bvl.de at the head office of BVL. All abstracts, papers, and presentations must be in English as the conference language will be English.

Please note the following deadlines

- abstracts are due: *December 1, 2020*
- Authors are notified of acceptance: *January 21, 2021*
- Short papers are due: *April 15, 2021*
- International Scientific Symposium on Logistics 2021: *June 15-16, 2021*;
*Scientific talks on June, 15, 2021, Scientific board plenary presentations scheduled
June 16, 2021*
- after the conference: optional full paper submission to *Logistics Research*¹

We very much hope that we will be able to meet in person as intended. However, we will monitor the situation concerning Covid-19 continuously, and will take decisions as required.

Assistance regarding application procedure

Susanne Grosskopf-Nehls
Bundesvereinigung Logistik (BVL) e.V.
Schlachte 31, 28195 Bremen, Germany
Phone: + 49 (421) 17 38 4 19
Email for abstracts: nehls@bvl.de

4. Documentation

Papers proposed for the International Scientific Symposium on Logistics must satisfy scientific standards. The ISSL will be accompanied by a digital conference volume in the BVL publication series and the BVL Content Warehouse.

5. Terms and Conditions

By submitting a paper you accept our terms and conditions. Speakers at the ISSL are waived from the participation fees and can receive another free ticket for a co-author, a colleague or an assistant on request. However, we are not able to reimburse traveling expenses and costs for overnight stays.

¹ Publish your research results in a scientific journal: *Logistics Research* (<https://www.bvl.de/lore>) offers you the possibility to publish an extension of your conference publication. Expand your contribution by presenting the underlying theory, the methods used and the results obtained in more detail, and then submit your manuscript in accordance with the formal requirements (<https://www.bvl.de/lore/instructions-for-authors>) via <https://www.editorialmanager.com/lore> (online submission). After a preliminary review by the editors, independent experts will examine your contribution in a double-blind process.

Please note

- the venue is disabled-friendly
- The ISSL takes place in conjunction with the International Material Handling Research Colloquium.

6. Concept Group

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Kai Furmans – Director, Institute for Material Handling and Logistics (IFL), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT); Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board, BVL, Member of the Board, BVL

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Michael Freitag – Director, BIBA - Bremer Institut für Produktion und Logistik, University of Bremen, Scientific Advisory Board, BVL

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Bernd Hellingrath – Chair for Information Systems and Supply Chain Management Department of Information Systems, University of Münster, Scientific Advisory Board, BVL

Prof. Dr. René de Koster – Professor of Logistics and Operations Management, Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands; Scientific Advisory Board, BVL

Associate Prof. Dr. Anne Lange – Luxembourg Centre for Logistics and SCM, University of Luxembourg, Scientific Advisory Board, BVL

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Thorsten Schmidt (host) – Director, Institute of Material Handling and Industrial Engineering, Technical University Dresden, Scientific Advisory Board, BVL