



News in Brief on Logistics Developments in Asia

Editorial Commentary – Supply Chain Asia Forum Bangkok 2006

More than 180 logistics and supply chain professionals descended into Bangkok, Thailand, amidst the political uncertainty to attend the Supply Chain Asia Forum on 28-29 March 2006. Featuring speakers from various parts of Asia, Europe and USA, discussions varied from trends and developments to regulatory issues as well as technological developments. Focusing on Asia, speakers were in one voice when it comes to the potential of the Asia Pacific region but were clearly concern about the lack of consistency in terms of infrastructure and policy in the region. Delegates from more than 24 nationalities delegates were treated to a unique WEF-style forum whereby issues are deliberated by 4-5 experts with differing opinions and comments. A pictorial view of the event has been posted on the web, courtesy of [Moduslink](#). We will be putting together the video recording of the 2 days event into a 2-set DVDs and this will be ready by end of April. Order form can be found at Supply Chain Asia.

Issue 7, 30 March 2006



Supply Chain Asia Forum - Day One
Panelist

M & A News - Consolidation in express, logistics sector continues

Mergers and acquisitions in the worldwide express, mail, and logistics sectors has peaked to its highest level since the "dotcom" boom, says the report "Global Logistics Strategies 2006," by industry analyst Transport Intelligence. The report examines the development strategies employed by logistics companies, lists major deals undertaken in the last eight years, and assesses their impact. The report also includes profiles of 20 leading companies and where their expansion priorities have been focused. John Manners-Bell, Chief Analyst at TI said of the report, "In terms of deal size, 2005 was the biggest ever. Deutsche Post's acquisition of Exel, plus significant purchases by Kuehne + Nagel, Deutsche Bahn, DP World, and PWC Logistics set the year apart." According to Manners-Bell, there are now more reasons for the sector-wide increase in mergers and acquisitions. Etailing volumes are increasing significantly, international freight—driven largely by the soaring Chinese economy—is at an all time high, and this has led to resurgence in interest in freight forwarders. In the dynamic environment we have now, says Manners-Bell, we can expect developments to continue at the same pace for some time to come.

Events Highlights

[31 March 2006. M Hotel. Singapore. Mergers & Acquisitions Workshop.](#)

[21 July 2006. SCM IT Asia Roundtable. Singapore. Bridging the gap for the small & medium IT vendors in Asia.](#)

[6 - 8 September 2006. Fundamentals in Supply Chain Management. A 3-days Logistics Executive Program. Tawana Ramada Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand.](#)

[4 September 2006. Asia Logistics CEO Summit. Hyatt Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. \(By Invitation Only\)](#)

Events - Mergers & Acquisitions Seminar in Singapore and Shanghai

Mr Benjamin Gordon, Managing Director of BG Strategic Advisors will be conducting 2 M&A seminars, one in Singapore on 31st March 2006 and the other on 4th April in Shanghai. You can find out more about the seminar in Singapore at www.sla.org.sg The Shanghai seminar is hosted by China Supply Chain Council and more information can be found at www.supplychain.cn.

Procurement News - Buying into the Right Global Sourcing Strategy

Successful global sourcing is not as simple as merely moving production and procurement from higher cost countries to lower cost regions. It's now part of a more sophisticated business discipline grounded in the ever-present realm of "total cost of ownership (TCO)." Each step in the sourcing process raises a multitude of extremely complex cost challenges. Manufacturers doing business around the world with multiple suppliers are constantly challenged to calculate their total costs in an efficient and accurate manner. It is a complex calculus, helping to ensure that global sourcing strategies are achieving the desired results. The benefits and challenges associated with global sourcing, and its golden child low-cost country sourcing, have been debated ad infinitum in the news and around conference tables and water coolers, and most people now have a thorough understanding of the dynamics involved. The more pressing issue is how to deal with these challenges and costs to sustain maximum profitability.

http://www.internetviz-newsletters.com/moduslink/e_article000539793.cfm?x=b72PqV7_b4hH6fjl

Supply Chain Regulatory News - UPS Warns of Bribery Violations

Shipping giant says a business it acquired in 2001 may have violated the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. United Parcel Service Inc. is the latest company to run afoul of a U.S. law prohibiting bribery overseas, announcing that it is investigating possible violations within its Supply Chain Solutions subsidiary. In a regulatory filing, the Atlanta-based shipping company disclosed that the possible violations of the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act began prior to its 2001 acquisition of a freight forwarding business from Fritz Companies Inc. UPS added that a small number of former employees directed the questionable conduct. The UPS filing did not disclose the names of the employees or the countries where violations may have taken place, reported *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

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