

THENIMELAPETTAIHINDUNADARGALURAVINMURAI
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ARTS & SCIENCE**
(Autonomous)



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Digital transformation and disruption in supply chain management

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ABSTRACT

Digitization has revolutionized supply chain management, driving industrialization and economic growth. To meet rising global demand, companies must invest in R&D and continuous improvement. With consumers expecting real-time visibility in B2C transactions, similar demands are emerging in B2B. To stay competitive, businesses must adopt new technologies to create digital supply chains that enable real-time monitoring, complex analytics, and optimized customer experiences. The Internet of Things and demand for connectivity are fueling digital transformation among supply chain startups. As a result, industries are upgrading their operations without disrupting supply chain continuity. Effective supply chain management now requires ongoing learning and adaptation to digitalization, globalization, and automation, supported by rapid advancements in information technology.

KEYWORDS: Digitalization, Technology, supply chain management and Economic growth.

INTRODUCTION

INNOVATION

The digital supply chain is crucial for meeting evolving customer needs, driving innovation, and enhancing efficiency without operational disruptions. By leveraging advanced forecasting, data analysis, and competent data handling, digital supply chains adapt to changing economic demands. Companies are investing in digital technologies, such as IoT, AI, and big data analytics, to improve local visibility and deliver exceptional experiences. This digital transformation streamlines operations, reduces costs, and enhances service quality. To stay competitive, manufacturers must invest in digital infrastructure and technologies, embracing innovation to meet rising customer expectations and ensure seamless operations. Recent advancements in digital technology have enabled just-in-time operations, allowing organizations to respond agilely to specific needs and harness the power of digital transformation.

TECHNOLOGY

By leveraging automation, strategic planning, and effective task allocation, supply chains can boost efficiency and look forward to a promising future. Future robotic automation applications may include tasks such as pallet handling, warehouse management, manufacturing, and retail monitoring. These advancements are expected to benefit distributors, wholesalers, and retailers across the supply chain

network.

CONSUMER EXPECTATIONS

The rise of digital technology is revolutionizing consumer experiences, driving expectations for greater transparency, efficiency, innovation, and connectivity across industries. As digital products become ubiquitous, consumers demand seamless service and transformative supply chain processes. The Internet of Things (IoT) enables real-time connectivity, redefining the digital supply chain and transforming consumer lives. Voice-controlled devices, big data analytics, and AI are being leveraged to meet evolving consumer demands. Manufacturers are embracing digital supply chains to stay ahead, using technologies like predictive analytics, virtual reality, and augmented reality to optimize product lifecycles. The integration of AI and IoT is expected to automate repetitive tasks, improve forecasting, and enhance supply chain efficiency. Digitalization will bring transparency and real-time tracking to logistics, transforming supply chain operations with minimal disruptions. The digital supply chain will provide automated solutions to tackle challenges across industries, enabling seamless transformation and connected services.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Research by Hermansson and Möller (2016) highlights the benefits of digitalizing supply chains, including standardization, simplification, and automation, which enhance information flow, order reliability, and customer satisfaction. Handfield et al. (2021) emphasize the importance of digital transparency in supply chains, recommending real-time data exchange to improve collaboration and adaptability.

Schneiderjans et al. (2021) stress the need for effective knowledge management practices to leverage digital tools and improve supply chain performance.

Holmström et al. (2021) argue that digital transformation requires a shift in traditional operational frameworks, leading to more dynamic supply chain governance.

Gezgin et al. (2021) find that digital technologies like IoT, big data analytics, and AI significantly improve operational efficiency, forecasting accuracy, and inventory management, enabling organizations to meet market demands while reducing costs.

STATEMENT OF PROBLEMS

CHALLENGES

The supply chain industry faces significant challenges, including integrating technologies like IoT, AI, and robotics, due to insufficient understanding and planning. However, digital transformation can drive growth, reduce risks, and optimize costs. Digital supply chains utilize specialized technologies like cold chain packaging for temperature-sensitive products and 3D printing to streamline transportation. To succeed, companies need technical knowledge, cross-functional analytics, and data-driven decision-making. Digital technologies enable efficient meeting of customer demands for better services, broader product selection, and personalized solutions. Blockchain technology presents new challenges, while digital supply chain technologies like graphical interfaces, email communication, and cloud computing have transformed supply chain operations, enabling innovation, efficiency, and reduced costs.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

B2B enterprises are leveraging big data technologies to enhance data management and extraction in industrial applications, thanks to the digital supply chain. Advanced analytics and data collection techniques are being used to generate insights from manufacturing and industrial processes. The integration of IoT has improved data visibility, enabling real-time tracking and monitoring of supply chain operations, including temperature, humidity, and location. Effective tracking systems can identify damages or delays, ensuring seamless operations and uninterrupted transitions in the digital supply chain."

A highly effective system is crucial for achieving strong visibility across the digital supply chain network. Advanced cellular components and low-power communication technology enable smooth data transfer and

longer operation times, allowing for continuous operations and transforming the supply chain landscape.

HYPOTHESIS

The digital supply chain represents a shift towards full digitization, enabling manufacturers to adapt and grow in response to consumer demands. By embracing modern trends and technology, manufacturers can exceed customer expectations and achieve real-time responsiveness. However, challenges arise in forecasting visibility, predictive analysis, and managing optimization costs across the digital supply chain.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

PRIMARY

The digital supply chain enables macro-level optimization through Lean management and Six Sigma principles, reducing waste and costs. Predictive analytics allows supply chains to forecast delays, identify risks, and optimize operations. Big data analytics helps identify root causes of issues, improving the digital supply chain. Digitalization leads to enhanced visibility, efficiency, and cost savings, meeting consumer expectations for transparency and connectivity. Future manufacturing will leverage predictive analytics, generative design, and virtual agents to create tailored products and optimize production. Digital technologies like AI, augmented reality, and virtual reality will drive innovation, quality management, and predictive maintenance, redefining the role of engineering expertise in manufacturing and supply chain management.

SECONDARY

The real-time digital supply chain leverages equipment, sensors, and personnel to enhance predictive analytics, improving forecasting accuracy and reducing costs. AI and advanced analytics are transforming smart manufacturing, enabling intelligent factory operations, digital processes, and collaborative robotics. Future factories and warehouses will rely on AI-driven predictive and prescriptive analytics to optimize logistics, track products, and understand customer expectations. Digital Bills of Material (BOM) and centralized purchasing are streamlining procurement, while digital distribution centers are improving transportation routing and reducing costs, driving efficiency and transformation in the supply chain.

SCOPE OF THE RESEARCH

A unified approach combining technologies and streamlining communication is driving the digital supply chain's evolution, ensuring seamless operations. Digital transformation minimizes manual tasks, reduces inefficiencies, and optimizes processes. By leveraging advanced technologies, the digital supply chain improves efficiency, reduces inventory and operational costs, and enhances flexibility. Sophisticated network optimization calculates overall network costs, lowering transportation and warehousing expenses, and resulting in a more efficient supply chain process.

OUTCOMES/ANALYSIS/KEY INSIGHTS

The digital supply chain is just the beginning. To meet rising customer expectations, supply chains must be adaptive and dynamic, leveraging technologies like IoT, AI, and data analytics. Digital transformation requires specific expertise to utilize digital information effectively and minimize disruptions. Innovations like GPS, RFID, and digital trucking have streamlined fleet management, improved route optimization, and enhanced security. Real-time monitoring and advanced technologies have transformed digitalization practices, driving innovation and efficiency in supply chain operations. The industry's digitalization shift is revolutionizing logistics, freeing up resources, and optimizing processes.

FUTURE SCOPE/CONCLUSION

Implementing a digital supply chain system is crucial for Enterprise Resource Planning, enabling automated procedures, maximizing supply chain efficiency, and meeting consumer demand. This system allows for real-time inventory analysis, reducing expenses and addressing supply chain challenges. Big data

transparency is essential for analyzing trends, predicting outcomes, and identifying revenue opportunities. Digital supply chains provide a competitive advantage, enabling differentiation and smooth operations. Digital technology enhances control, globalization, distribution, and customer experiences, securing supply chain transparency.

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