

Auction Logistics in Perishable Supply Chain Trading: Developments and Research Perspectives

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Abstract

This review addresses current research on various subject areas of auction logistics within the context of perishable supply chain trading (PSCT). Most of recent reviews focus on general food supply chains in manufacturing and distribution industries and the consensus has not yet been reached on how best to characterize auction logistics (AL). It exceeds by far the generic logistics needs to provide flexible commitments to clients while minimizing operational costs in a very short time window due to typical product and process characteristics. The potential benefit of considering logistics service requirements under varied auction mechanisms becomes evident. This paper is among the first attempts to present a systematical survey of current relevant studies and develops an AL conceptual framework that can help us to understand better the scope of both the challenges and opportunities regarding PSCT. The paper investigates research and practical frontiers of auction logistics across three typical food industries that seek to find emerging issues of AL associated with strategic and operational principles. The consonant classification and summarization of the current body of knowledge should be of great value not only to those who wish to extend their research into this new and exciting area, but also to logistics and trading decision makers. The paper also identifies key research questions and gaps in auction logistics, addressing the need for the development of theory that is worthy of future theoretical and empirical exploration.

Keywords

Perishable supply chain trading, Auction Logistics, Research Developments, Research Perspectives