

Call for Papers—Special Issue of the *Journal of Operations Management*

Closed-Loop Supply Chains with Product Remanufacturing: Challenges and Opportunities

Guest editors: Saurabh Bansal, V. Daniel R. Guide and Sergey Naumov

What can make the Circular Economy—closed-loop supply chains (CLSC) based on product remanufacturing—successful? The body of knowledge about CLSCs based on product remanufacturing has been dominated by analytic models, case studies, and empirically informed analytic research. There is also a growing body of empirical research that examines consumer perceptions of remanufactured products. However, there are opportunities for better understanding of key aspects of managing and controlling CLSCs based on product remanufacturing.

We seek submissions that specifically identify pressure points in CLSCs based on product remanufacturing and identify and explore new policies and solutions that mitigate these pressure points. We also welcome papers that contribute more generally to understanding OEM remanufacturing. Submitted papers should employ data-driven methods, including any empirical methodologies. We encourage authors to follow *JOM*'s strong tradition of basing measurable properties on formal conceptual definitions (Wacker, 2004) to lay a solid foundation for ongoing theory development.

Potential Areas for articles include (but are not limited to):

- Public policy (e.g., what policy instruments exist and may be useful to encourages OEMs to participate in CLSCs);
- Inter-functional issues (e.g., how to develop procurement processes and contract for remanufacturing, connect inventory decisions to remanufacturing, accounting systems to support CLSCs);
- Role of Information Systems to enable CLSCs based on product remanufacturing (what information is needed, by who, and the impact of information on the efficiency of CLSCs);
- Reception and collection of returned products in B2B channels;
- Product design to support CLSCs (how to design these products, and how CLSCs change product design and bottom values for firms);
- Environmental and Sustainability benefits and costs (e.g., when and under what conditions do CLSCs provide benefits, and when they don't).

The use of primary data is encouraged, where possible. We also encourage authors to use multiple methods to triangulate on their problems and solutions/insights.

To be a strong fit with the special issue, a manuscript must:

- Focus on the coupling of remanufacturing and closed-loop systems;
- Use data and contexts that are directly derived from and are relevant to such systems.

Manuscripts should conform to the instructions given in the [Guide for Authors](#) in *JOM*.

Deadlines:

Authors are encouraged to contact the guest editors with a short description of their research ideas by **1 December 2021** to receive an initial feedback on a potential fit with the scope of the special issue. This feedback does not guarantee an eventual acceptance, and all full papers go through standard double-blind reviews.

Manuscript submissions:	31 July 2022
First round review and decisions:	31 October 2022
Second round revision submissions:	31 January 2023
Final round review and decisions:	30 April 2023

*We welcome manuscripts on an earlier schedule where possible.

Guest Editors:

V. Daniel R. Guide is a Smeal Chaired Professor of Operations and Supply Chain Management and an Associate Director of the Center for Supply Chain Research at the Pennsylvania State University. For the last two and a half decades his research has focused on closed-loop supply chains, remanufacturing, and sustainable operations. He is a regular contributor to numerous academic and managerial journals and is a former co-Editor-in-Chief of *JOM*.

Saurabh Bansal is an Associate Professor of Supply Chain Management at the Pennsylvania State University. His research focuses on developing mathematical models, algorithms, and data-analysis protocols to estimate business risks and optimize business operations under risks. His recent research involves assortment planning and pricing decisions for used products in closed loop supply chains (CLSC) and inter-functional tensions around remanufacturing at OEMs that actively participate in CLSCs. He has also authored teaching cases on product acquisition for the purposes of remanufacturing in CLSC.

Sergey Naumov is an Assistant Professor of Supply Chain Management at the Pennsylvania State University. Sergey completed his Ph.D. in Management Science, System Dynamics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Sloan School of Management. He holds a master's in Management Research and a master's in Engineering and Management, both from MIT. He also earned a master's in Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Research from Bauman Moscow State Technical University in Moscow. His research focuses on sustainable and behavioral operations management using dynamic modeling and simulation and optimization supported by qualitative empirical methods to inform business decision-making in complex real-world systems. His recent research studies optimal inventory and reordering policies and management of product return flows in closed loop supply chains.

References:

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Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2012. *Towards the circular economy Vol. 1: an economic and business rationale for an accelerated transition*. Downloaded from:

<https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/assets/downloads/publications/Ellen-MacArthur-Foundation-Towards-the-Circular-Economy-vol.1.pdf>

Wacker, J.G., 2004. A theory of formal conceptual definitions: developing theory-building measurement instruments. *Journal of Operations Management* 22, 629-650.