

MASTER OF SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

STUDENT CONSULTING PROJECTS

2024 PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

- Created a fleet optimization plan for a regional fuel distributor.
- Analyzed data and created a dashboard with predictive capabilities for an international cruise line to reduce the costs of disposing of shipboard waste products.
- Developed a dashboard for a technology product manufacturer to predict availability and ordering priorities for parts and materials.
- Built a baseline forecast model for an online retailer to predict increases in demand resulting from their promotional activities, enabling their suppliers to better prepare for the expected upticks in orders.
- Optimized Min/Max and Periodic Automatic Replenishment (PAR) inventory levels for a major healthcare provider.
- Analyzed safety and cycle stock levels, improving overall inventory management for a leading smart home technology manufacturer.
- Developed methodologies for a global IT solutions provider to improve safety stock strategies.
- Fashioned an Excel-based prototype vendor management system which this global distributor will utilize in spend control.

PREVIOUS SPONSORS

- Alaska Airlines*
- Anavasi
- Arvato Supply Chain Solutions
- Boeing
- Brooks Running
- Carrix/SSA Marine*
- Columbia Distributing
- Continental Mills*
- Darigold*
- Darwin's Natural Pet Products*
- Expeditors*
- FS Networks
- Fluke Biomedical
- Foss Shipyard*
- Holland America Group
- Microsoft*
- MicroSurgical Technology*
- Nike
- NorthStar Energy
- Ossia
- PACCAR*
- Polyform US*
- Princess Cruise Lines
- Puget Sound Energy*
- Redbubble.com
- REI
- Saltchuk Aviation
- SimpliSafe*
- Sound Transit
- Tommy Bahama*
- UW Medicine
- Wyze
- Zones*

**Multiple Projects*

CONTACT

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FOSTER

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WHAT MAKES A GOOD PROJECT?

The project should be of value to you and your organization. If nothing comes immediately to mind, you might consider issues or challenges on the back burner because you have not had the time or resources to address them.

1 DOES IT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS?

- Strong support from company management
- Sponsor available for weekly check-in
- Can be completed in the eight weeks allotted
- Requires no more than four site visits
- Sponsor company can readily provide access to data and other resources
- Deliverables include actionable recommendations

SPONSOR TIME COMMITMENT

Depending on the scope and nature of the project, you should plan on an hour per week minimum once the project is underway. More time will be required at the beginning to get the scope settled and host a site visit.

Take a look at the functional areas and topics listed here to get some ideas.

We would be glad to talk with you about your possible projects. In the meantime, this information will provide further guidance.

2 DOES IT FIT INTO ONE OR MORE OF THESE SUBJECT AREAS?

- **Strategy:** Supply chain audit, mapping and benchmarking; global network design
- **Planning:** Forecasting and demand planning, capacity analysis, sales & operations planning
- **Distribution:** Inventory optimization, warehouse location and efficiency, omnichannel management, transportation and logistics decisions
- **Manufacturing and Service:** Production planning, service systems design, wait-time analysis, staffing plans
- **Sourcing:** Make vs. buy analysis, supplier selection process, auctions, scorecards, contracts, CSR benchmarking, procurement
- **Process Improvement:** Lean and Six Sigma, reengineering, decision support systems, spreadsheet modeling, software selection, project planning, collaborative processes, carbon footprint reduction

EVEN BETTER IF

- It has large, readily-available, data sets
- It's suitable for Six Sigma problem solving methodologies
- There is a strong likelihood that at least some recommendations will be implemented

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