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Supply Chain Awards 2023: These eight companies are in the final

Emma, Infineon, Philip Morris International and Siemens - these are the names of the finalists in the Supply Chain Management Award 2023. And moving into the final round of the Smart Solution Award 2023 are: Finboot, IBAF, Loady and One Data. The finalist pitches for the Supply Chain Awards 2023 and the awards ceremony will take place on 14 November in Frankfurt am Main.

Munich, September 21, 2023. The eight finalists for the Supply Chain Awards 2023 have been announced: Emma, Infineon, Philip Morris International and Siemens will compete for the Supply Chain Management Award. Finboot, IBAF, Loady and One Data will compete in the final of the Smart Solution Award. The finalists of both awards will present their concepts to the audience and jury members on 14 November in Frankfurt am Main. Following the final round, the independent jury of experts will select the winners, but participants can also vote live during the event - the audience vote for the Supply Chain Management Award and for the Smart Solution Award will be included in the jury vote. The awards ceremony for the Supply Chain Awards 2023 will take place in the evening directly after the final rounds. Award winners and event participants can also look forward to speeches by the laudators and extensive networking within the supply chain community. On the final day of the Supply Chain Awards 2023, the agenda also includes exciting keynotes, an interesting panel discussion and workshop sessions on supply chain management. "Innovative and efficient supply chain management enables companies to master the business challenges they face. Sophisticated supply chain solutions can give companies a clear competitive advantage," says Stefan Schrauf, Global Supply Chain and EMEA Operations Lead, PwC Germany.

"We look forward to the finalists' presentations and are excited to see who will win the finalist pitches for the Supply Chain Management Award and for the Smart Solution Award ." "The eight finalists can be very proud of their qualification for the finalist pitches. The jury of experts for the Supply Chain Awards will not have an easy time selecting the winners," adds Matthias Pieringer, Editor-in-Chief of the trade magazine LOGISTIK HEUTE from the Munich-based HUSS-VERLAG.

About the Supply Chain Awards

This year, LOGISTIK HEUTE, Strategy& and PwC are presenting **the Supply Chain Management Award** for the 18th time: This award recognises outstanding SCM concepts that have been developed, implemented and are groundbreaking for other companies. The aim is to optimise the supply chain, reduce costs, increase transparency or improve cooperation between individual teams. The current award winner in 2022 is Knorr-Bremse.

The Smart Solution Award will be presented for the sixth time in 2023 - for particularly innovative concepts that are still at an early stage of implementation. This prize is awarded for solutions that have the potential to fundamentally change traditional value chains in the future. The Smart Solution Award 2022 was won by Trucksters.

The patron of the Supply Chain Awards 2023 is Oliver Luksic, Member of the German Bundestag and Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Digital Affairs and Transport.

The finalists of the Supply Chain Management Award 2023

Emma:

The rapid growth of Emma – the Sleep Company necessitated a comprehensive transformation in the areas of Operations, Supply Chain, and Technology at the beginning of 2021. This led to the creation of four innovative transformation programs:

- (1) Emma Process Engine: This program aimed to overhaul the company's end-to-end processes.
- (2) Commerce Operating Systems: Emma invested in redesigning its software architecture to meet the growing demands.
- (3) Blue Sky Supply Chain: The focus here was on increasing flexibility while simultaneously reducing complexity in the Supply Chain.
- (4) Operations Process Organization: Emma optimized its organizational structure in the Operations department to address new challenges.

A significant focus of these transformation programs was on the Reverse Supply Chain. Supported by Infront Consulting, the Emma team fully rethought and reshaped its reverse logistics processes. As a result, Emma successfully reduced reverse logistics costs, shortened return process times, significantly improved customer satisfaction, and reduced the company's ecological footprint in the realm of reverse logistics. Three key solutions played a crucial role in this success and were holistically implemented to the Emma organization:

1. **Customer-Based Mattress Returns and Roll Packaging:** Emma introduced an innovative system where customers vacuum-seal and roll their returned mattresses themselves, greatly simplifying the return process and reducing environmental impact.
2. **Outsourcing of Transactional Reverse Processes:** Through collaboration with a 4PL service provider, Emma significantly enhanced efficiency and flexibility in reverse logistics.
3. **Refurbishment and Second Life Options for Returned Goods:** Emma implemented solutions to refurbish returned products and give them a second life, which proved to be both economically and ecologically advantageous.

Founded in 2013 by Manuel Müller and Dr. Dennis Schmolzki, Emma – the Sleep Company is a leading omnichannel company specializing in mattresses, beds, and sleep products. With a strong presence in 33 countries worldwide and an almost 1 billion Euro revenue, Emma is renowned for its high-quality sleep products and its modern corporate culture and commitment to innovation.

Infineon:

Infineon's "Tailored Supply Chain" (TSC) project aims to customize supply chain processes to meet customer needs in varying business and product segments. The initiative has three strategic objectives: enhance customer satisfaction, foster profitable growth, and improve internal efficiency. Using an End-to-End (E2E) approach, TSC connects Supply Chain and Sales & Marketing views & targets. It employs digitalization to create Customer Agreements, a key measure for mitigating issues like bullwhip effects and chip shortages. The approach segments the supply chain based on customer-product combinations, offering tailored service levels. This is particularly beneficial for industries like automotive, which seek long-term supply reliability.

Infineon Technologies AG is a leading German semiconductor manufacturer headquartered in Neubiberg, Germany. Founded in 1999, the company specializes in producing microcontrollers, power management chips, and security solutions, serving diverse markets such as automotive, industrial, and consumer electronics. Infineon is known for its innovations in driving decarbonization and digitalization and is a key supplier to automotive companies for electric vehicles and autonomous driving systems. With a global presence and more than 56,000 employees, the company focuses on sustainable and secure technologies.

Philip Morris International:

Philip Morris International (PMI) has significantly transformed its supply chain to support the shift towards a smoke-free future. The development of new products for PMI, such as e-cigarettes, nicotine pouches, and heated tobacco products is bringing about a fundamental change in PMI's supply chain organization resulting in a longer supply chain, more complex sourcing, manufacturing processes and portfolio management. There's also the need for additional capabilities, such as more sophisticated forecasting, and stronger integration between the different parts of the supply chain. The new, centralized and standardized platform "Sync Hub" provides a complete, digital insight into the planning and distribution processes.

Integrated risk management is one of the core enablers for agile, flexible and reliable supply chains, allowing PMI to simulate different scenarios to avoid production downtime even in crisis situations. Sync Hub brings the required standardization, flexibility and agility to PMI's organization and processes - effectively supporting their transformation.

Philip Morris International is a leading international tobacco company working to deliver a smoke-free future and evolving its portfolio for the long term to include products outside of the tobacco and nicotine sector. The company's current product portfolio primarily consists of cigarettes and smoke-free products. Since 2008, PMI has invested more than USD 10.5 billion to develop, scientifically substantiate and commercialize innovative smoke-free products for adults who would otherwise continue to smoke, with the goal of completely ending the sale of cigarettes. Smoke-free products accounted for approximately 35.4% of PMI's total second-quarter 2023 net revenues.

Siemens:

Focused on daily operations, supply chain requires a cultural change to move from tactical to strategic thinking. The Strategic Diamond, a strategic management solution developed by Siemens, allows Siemens Smart Infrastructure - Supply Chain & Logistics to connect external and internal views to create a robust supply chain. The Strategic Diamond is the conceptual foundation to design a structure that enables Siemens to identify, integrate and, if necessary, adapt to changes (as risks & opportunities) from the market into strategy. With five facets, including Trends & Triggers, Focus Areas, Strategic Activities, Fields and Key Elements, Siemens' Diamond Model dynamically integrates the company's rapidly changing environment into its supply chain strategy. This supply chain solution minimizes the risk of delays in strategic implementation. It maintains a high level of strategic relevance and creates a culture that supports the strategy.

Siemens AG is a leading German multinational technology conglomerate headquartered in Munich, Germany. In addition to various businesses such as Digital Industries, Mobility, Healthineers and Financial Services, Siemens focuses on Smart Infrastructure to enable its customers to make their industries more sustainable and robust. With their global presence, Siemens' Smart Infrastructure Supply Chain & Logistics orchestrates a supply chain community of more than 3,980 members covering 400.000 tons of transport, 20.000 suppliers, and more than 30 million customer order lines yearly with 160 warehouse locations and 75 production facilities.

The finalists of the Smart Solution Award 2023

Finboot:

Founded in 2016, Finboot relies on its innovative blockchain technology that enables its customers in traditional sectors (energy, chemicals, mining and construction) to track and trace their increasingly complex and interconnected supply chains. The SaaS platform "MARCO" significantly improves value chain management and drives digitalization, sustainability and ESG agendas. MARCO securely connects blockchain technologies under one roof, transforming data into trusted digital assets and accelerating the path to interoperability.

The technology helps companies understand where and how their operations and products contribute to climate degradation, so they can respond appropriately to consumer and regulatory pressure. Finboot's solutions provide supply chain traceability, transparency and compliance, operational efficiencies and cost savings through process automation and streamlining, while promoting sustainability and ESG.

Finboot is a technology company that provides digital traceability solutions to enterprise customers across multiple industries. Global companies such as Repsol, Sabic and Desigual rely on Finboot. The company employs around 25 people and is headquartered in Cardiff with an office in Barcelona.

IBAF:

In an increasingly complex and digitized corporate landscape, many supply chain processes persist in their manual essence even in the present day. This holds particularly true for financial transactions that accompany the physical supply chain. Invoicing and payment procedures are time-consuming and prone to errors, often resulting in several days or even months passing before the payment for a transaction transition from the buyer's account to the seller's account.

To counteract this issue, T-Systems and Commerzbank, in collaboration with the Fraunhofer Institute for Material Flow and Logistics (IML), are pioneering in automated supply chains intertwined with integrated financial services. These companies leverage digital technologies such as 5G, Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things (IoT), Blockchain, Cloud, and sensor technology. With these technologies, key events along the physical supply chain are captured through "triggers", thereby initiating automated payments (e.g., for transport services or transfer of ownership). Consequently, fully autonomous supply chains devoid of manual processes and high error rates can be facilitated, concurrently ensuring elevated process transparency, security, and speed.

Commerzbank is partner for around 26,000 corporate client groups and almost 11 million private and small-business customers in Germany. The Bank's two Business Segments – Private and Small-Business Customers and Corporate Clients – offer a comprehensive portfolio of financial services. Commerzbank transacts approximately 30 per cent of Germany's foreign trade and is present internationally in almost 40 countries in the corporate clients' business. As a subsidiary of Deutsche Telekom, T-Systems provides integrated end-to-end IT solutions, thereby driving forward the digital transformation of businesses across all industries and the public sector. With a presence in over 20 countries, a workforce exceeding 27,000, and an annual revenue of approximately 4 billion euros, T-Systems ranks as one of Europe's premier providers of information technology and digitalization solutions.

Fraunhofer IML works in all fields of internal and external logistics. In addition to material flow technology, business process modeling and the areas of transportation systems and resource logistics, current research focuses on artificial intelligence, blockchain, smart finance and the "Internet of Things". In addition, Fraunhofer IML is working on the implementation of a decentralized, federated and open platform economy in Germany and Europe within the large-scale research project Silicon Economy. The management of the Fraunhofer Transportation Alliance, in which 23 Fraunhofer institutes and facilities combine their transportation-related expertise, is also based in Dortmund.

Loady:

Mannheim-based startup Loady has created a master data platform for cross-industry supply chain coordination. Companies using Loady maintain and securely share their logistics requirements, streamlining the exchange of loading information between partners. Efficient logistics require precise coordination of truck loading and unloading times. Historically, companies managed loading requirements differently, resulting in data silos and non-standardized information exchange that is mainly based on free text. Loady simplifies and standardizes logistics processes, covering everything from freight purchasing to transportation. Moreover, Loady is committed to revolutionising digitalisation and automation in logistics, enabling efficient data management and integration across various systems.

BASF SE's Petrochemicals division in Ludwigshafen already utilizes Loady to improve logistics planning, reduce costs, and minimize emissions. Loady's role in managing loading requirements enhances reliability and planning for both BASF and its logistics partners. By fall, the ambition is to handle freight tenders for 500 Petrochemicals division products, with plans to optimize Europe-wide transportation for over 4,000 products by 2025.

Developed at Chemovator GmbH, BASF's business incubator, Loady is a neutral, cross-industry platform suitable for inbound and outbound transportation of bulk and packaged goods. The spin-off as an independent GmbH is expected by the end of 2023.

One Data:

With the AI-powered platform "Wavetrade", the software company One Data wants to react agilely to global production downturns. Participating companies can exchange critical components with each other and thus avoid bottlenecks. Thanks to the platform, well-known companies have been able to save several hundred thousand euros on the purchase of missing components and prevent expensive production stops. The innovative matchmaking platform "Wavetrade", developed by the software company One Data based in Passau, Germany, identifies loanable and/or saleable material stocks between platform partners and enables an easy bi-lateral exchange. One of the first platform partners was supplier Harman Automotive, with whose help and application experience the solution was refined in the first few months and eventually other partners were won for the platform.

The chip crisis inspired the development of the platform to better deal with market uncertainties and the impact of scarce resources as well as overstocks. Although there are sufficient chips in the market, the asymmetric distribution of inventories poses enormous production problems for companies.

Wavetrade offers an innovative solution for this. Using AI, it is possible to automatically match the reported inventory and demand of participating companies and identify "matches". Potential providers and buyers are then invited to a bilateral conversation about a possible purchase or exchange deal, allowing available components to be shared across global suppliers and ultimately distributed evenly.

Further information on the Supply Chain Awards can be found at: <https://supply-chain-awards.com>

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Attachment: LOGISTIK HEUTE and PwC and Strategy& will again present the Supply Chain Awards in 2023, i.e. the Supply Chain Management Award (left) and the Smart Solution Award.

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LOGISTIK HEUTE

The trade magazine LOGISTIK HEUTE addresses managers in industry, trade and the service sector who are responsible for logistics processes in the company. An editorial team and specialist authors from science and practice provide up-to-date information on innovative logistics concepts, new products, ideas and trends in all areas of the supply chain. Detailed market overviews and company reports complete the range of logistics topics month after month. Procurement, production, distribution and disposal - logistics is involved everywhere. That's why LOGISTIK HEUTE, the logistics magazine for decision-makers in industry, trade and the service sector, refers consequently to the entire supply chain and represents thus an indispensable source of information.

HUSS-VERLAG

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