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David Simchi-Levi is a professor of Engineering Systems at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His research currently focuses on developing and implementing robust and efficient techniques for manufacturing and supply chains. He has published widely in professional journals on both practical and theoretical aspects of supply chain management. He is the Editor-in-Chief of *Operations Research*, the flagship journal of INFORMS, the former Editor-in-Chief of *Naval Research Logistics* and a member of the board for several scientific journals. His Ph.D. students have accepted positions in leading academic institutes including Berkeley, Columbia U., U. of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, U. of Michigan, Purdue U., Georgia Tech, and Virginia Tech.

Professor Simchi-Levi has been the principal investigator for more than seven million dollars in funded academic research. Recently, the National Aeronautics & Astronautics Administration (NASA) has awarded him (and a colleague, Professor Oli de Weck) a grant to create a framework for analysis and strategic planning of the future interplanetary supply chain. Exploration even on Earth is crucially dependent on a robust, yet flexible and affordable supply of propellant, crew consumables, scientific instruments and spares among others.

Professor Simchi-Levi is the co-author (with Julien Bramel) of *The Logic of Logistics*, published by Springer in 1997; 2nd Edition appeared in October 2004. His book, *Designing and Managing the Supply Chain* (with P. Kaminsky and E. Simchi-Levi) was published by McGraw-Hill in August 1999, 2nd Edition appeared in October 2002. The book received the **Book-of-the-year award** and the **Outstanding IIE Publication award** given in 2000 by the *Institute of Industrial Engineers*, and the **Outstanding First Edition of the Year award** given in 2000 by *McGraw-Hill*. The book was also selected by *Business 2.0*, December 2001 issue, as the **best source for slashing time and cost and increasing productivity in the supply chain**. The book has been translated to Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Portuguese. His third book, *Managing the Supply Chain* (with P. Kaminsky and E. Simchi-Levi) was published by McGraw-Hill in December 2003.

Professor Simchi-Levi has consulted and collaborated extensively with private and public organizations. He is the founder and chairman of LogicTools (www.logic-tools.com) which provides software solutions and professional services for supply chain planning. These solutions have been used widely to reduce cost and improve service level in large-scale supply chains. Clients include Colgate-Palmolive, ConAgra, Del Monte, Kraft Foods, Ryder, SC Johnson, UPS, US Postal Service, Walgreens, and Weyehaeuser to name a few.