



Smart Logistics and Sustainable Transportation: Last-Mile Delivery, Vehicle Routing, and Crowd-Shipping

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Message from the Guest Editors

Even though the pandemic is over, its impact on online shopping and consumer behaviors can still be observed. Recent surveys show that, in the past few years, people have tended to keep the shopping preferences that they developed during the pandemic. The resulting increase in e-commerce delivery operations encourages logistics companies to implement smart applications. Such advanced techniques may help companies improve both the operational efficiency of their last-mile activities and the service level that they provide to their customers.

In parallel to smart logistics, companies have focused on sustainability issues for some time since governments have set ambitious targets aiming for huge reductions (e.g., 90%) in greenhouse gas emissions within twenty years. To meet such targets, companies have been replacing internal combustion engine vehicles with electric vehicles. Even though electric vehicles are cost-effective in the long run and environmentally friendly, their operational limitations (e.g., limited driving range) increase the complexity of delivery operations.





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