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Analysis of the UK flour milling industry

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Purpose: This paper present supply chain analysis of the UK flour milling industry in order to identify existing problems and propose possible improvements. In addition, this paper examines the current supply chain strategies deployed in the literature using the theoretical framework of power dependency theory.

Methodology: Data sources include publicly available industrial information, reports and literature reviews. It worth to note that it was not possible to find an exact data for processes, therefore some of the data is derived making approximations

Key findings: The paper concentrates on the upstream members of the chain which are farmers (Producers) and flour millers (Processors). This is because in the upstream part of the chain there has been a high degree of polarization in terms of the efficiency and value being realized. For example, between the processor retailer, the number of deliveries on time, no shows and quality rejection are 98%, <1% and <1% respectively, whereas between the farmer and processor these numbers are 60%, 10% and 7% respectively. As result, the upstream chain is examined in order to make leaner by reducing existing wastes. To achieve leaner supply chain, it is established that the relationships must be improved between upstream actors. However, it is not always possible for buyers and suppliers to achieve such goal due to lack of resources, internal competence, no favorable external environment and trying to improve relationship without even considering the current circumstances. Consequently, there is no an ideal way of refining the current situation. Instead, the best way to achieve a common goal is to study possible management styles and align them appropriately with power circumstances and the sourcing approaches.

Speaker Biography

Musa Shavanov is a Russian Researcher interested in Food safety, and food technology.

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