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SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT REVIEW



WELCOME

Welcome to NextGen 2026!

Welcome to Nashville and the eighth annual NextGen Supply Chain Conference! Our theme, Innovate. Upskill. Transform., reflects an opportunity facing every supply chain leader: putting new capabilities to work while preparing people to lead through change.

What makes NextGen special is the chance to learn directly from those doing that work. Through keynotes, fireside chats, panels and small-group discussions, practitioners, solution providers, and academics will share practical lessons, honest perspectives and ideas you can bring back to your organization. Just as valuable are the conversations between sessions, when a shared challenge can become a new connection or a fresh approach.

This year, our awards program recognizes Intelligent Transformation and Autonomous Operations among both end users and solution providers. Our new Partnership in Execution Award celebrates the collaboration that turns innovation into results, alongside our Startup and Visionary honors.

Thank you to our sponsors, whose support makes this gathering possible, and to our speakers for sharing their experience so generously. Most of all, thank you for bringing your curiosity, questions and perspective to NextGen.

During your time at the W Nashville, I encourage you to join the discussions, introduce yourself to someone new and enjoy the live music that brings a little of Nashville into our program. Leave with an idea worth pursuing, a connection worth keeping and renewed confidence in what comes next.

Brian Straight
Editor in Chief
Supply Chain Management Review



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NETWORK: **MarriottBonvoy_Conference**
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AGENDA AT A GLANCE

Welcome Cocktail Reception: The Living Room, Terrace and Spanish Steps, 1st Floor
General Sessions: Great Room, 2nd Floor
Lunch Thursday: Zaytinya, 1st Floor
Thursday Reception on The Rooftop: Butterfly, Rooftop
3 Small Group Session Rooms: Strategy 1, Strategy 2, Strategy 3, 2nd Floor
Breakfast & Breaks: Foyer, Great Room, Great Room Terrace, 2nd Floor

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21 - AB Meeting and Welcome Reception

10:00am – 6:00pm	REGISTRATION OPEN
5:00pm – 7:00pm	WELCOME RECEPTION IN W LIVING ROOM & TERRACE Entertainment: Nick DeLeo Sponsored by SoftBank Robotics

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 - Technical Sessions and Networking

7:30am – 5:00pm	REGISTRATION OPEN
7:30am – 8:30am	BREAKFAST OPEN Sponsored by verity
8:00am – 8:05am	OPENING WELCOME: **Brian Ceraolo,** CEO, Peerless Media & **Brian Straight**, Editor in Chief, *SCMR*
8:05am – 8:45am	2026 END USER AWARDS Sponsored by ZION SOLUTIONS GROUP
8:45am – 9:15am	KEYNOTE: **Nitin Kapoor,** VP/GM of Technology, Data and Innovation, Wayfair
9:15am – 10:15am	PRESENTATIONS
10:15am – 10:45am	AM BREAK Sponsored by CORVUS ROBOTICS
10:45am – 12:15pm	SMALL GROUP SESSIONS
12:15pm – 1:30pm	LUNCH & NETWORKING (ZAYTINYA) Sponsored by GATHER AI
1:30pm – 2:00pm	VISIONARY AWARD KEYNOTE: **Tracie Haislip**, VP, Merchandising and Supply Chain Planning, Tractor Supply
2:00pm – 3:10pm	PRESENTATIONS
3:10pm – 3:30pm	PM BREAK Sponsored by WORLDS
3:30pm – 5:00pm	SMALL GROUP SESSIONS
5:00pm – 7:00pm	COCKTAIL RECEPTION **Performance by Scooter Carusoe** (Travis Hill) (Butterfly - Rooftop)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 - Technical Sessions and Networking

7:30am – 11:50am	REGISTRATION OPEN
7:30am – 8:30am	BREAKFAST OPEN
8:00am – 8:05am	OPENING WELCOME: **Brian Ceraolo,** CEO, Peerless Media & **Brian Straight**, Editor in Chief, *SCMR*
8:05am – 8:30am	2026 SOLUTION PROVIDER AWARDS Sponsored by ZION SOLUTIONS GROUP
8:30am – 9:00am	KEYNOTE: **Dr. Mar Gimeno,** Associate Vice President, US Supply Chain, Eli Lilly
9:00am – 10:15am	PRESENTATIONS
10:15am – 10:35am	AM BREAK Sponsored by WORLDS
10:35am – 11:45am	PRESENTATIONS
11:45am – 11:50am	CLOSING REMARKS: **Brian Straight**, Editor-in-Chief, *SCMR*



AGENDA

REGISTRATION:

Wednesday, The Den, 1st Floor • **Thursday through Friday**, Foyer Area, 2nd Floor

Advisory Board Meeting: Boardroom, 2nd Floor
General Session: Great Room, 2nd Floor
Welcome Cocktail Reception: The Living Room, Terrace and Spanish Steps, 1st Floor
Lunch Thursday: Zaytinya, 1st Floor
Thursday Reception on The Rooftop: Butterfly, Rooftop
3 Small Group Session Rooms: Strategy 1, Strategy 2, Strategy 3, 2nd Floor Breakfast & Breaks: Foyer, Great Room, Great Room Terrace, 2nd Floor

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

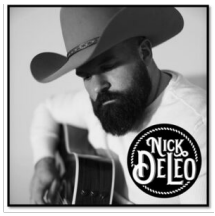
10:00 am - 6:00 pm **Registration Open** (The Den - 1st Floor) **Advisory**

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm **Welcome Reception & Networking** (The Living Room)

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With a Performance by Nick DeLeo



NICK DeLEO — Originally from Cape Cod, Massachusetts, Nick DeLeo has called Nashville home since 2013. As a singer-songwriter and performer, he brings together country, rock and roll, and blues with a sound rooted in honest storytelling and the energy of a great live performance.

Influenced by legendary storytellers including Jim Croce, Bob Seger, and the Eagles, as well as country artists such as Garth Brooks, Travis Tritt, and Chris Stapleton, Nick creates music that feels both familiar and distinctly his own. Since releasing his solo-written debut album, Country Ain't a Place in 2015, he has continued writing, recording, releasing music, and performing for audiences across the country.

Whether playing his original songs or putting his own stamp on a familiar favorite, Nick combines soulful vocals, accomplished musicianship, and an easygoing stage presence that connects naturally with an audience.



AGENDA

Thursday October 22

7:30 am - 8:30 am

Breakfast (Great Room Foyer & Terrace - 2nd Floor)

Sponsor verity

You are welcome to bring your coffee/breakfast into general session.

7:30 am - 5:00 pm
8:00 am - 8:05 am
8:05 am - 8:45 am

Registration Open (Foyer Area - 2nd Floor)
Opening Welcome (Great Room - 2nd Floor)
NextGen Supply Chain End User Awards (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

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Intelligent Transformation: Mars Snacking
Kristen Daihes, SVP of Analytics, Digital and Data

Autonomous Operations: Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits
Speaker: Carlos Osma, Senior Director, Engineering Operations

Partnership in Execution: Ryder and BJC HealthCare

Moderator:
Drew Eubank, EVP & Co-Founder, Zion Solutions Group

Speakers:
Cherie Brinkerhoff, Senior Vice President of Operations for Retail, Technology & HealthCare, Ryder System Inc.
Jason Luby, Vice President, Value Chain Management & Sourcing Operations, BJC HealthCare

8:45 am - 9:15 am

Keynote: Building the Future of Home Delivery: Wayfair's Logistics Evolution (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: In this keynote fireside chat, Nitin Kapoor joins Brian Straight to discuss how Wayfair built and evolved its logistics network with technology to deliver speed, reliability, and scale. The conversation will explore the innovations driving Wayfair's supply chain strategy, lessons learned from operating a complex home delivery network, and the company's recent enhancements to its delivery offerings designed to further improve the customer experience.

Moderator: Brian Straight, Editor-in-Chief, Supply Chain Management Review

Speaker: Nitin Kapoor, VP/GM of Technology, Data and Innovation, Wayfair



AGENDA

Thursday October 22

9:15 am - 9:35 am

Fireside Chat: Agentic AI in Action: Reinventing Demand Forecasting at Scale (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: A real-world case study on how a high-velocity retailer re-architected its eCommerce forecasting using agentic AI orchestration and a revitalized Forecast Value Add (FVA) discipline to drive measurable accuracy, faster response to volatility, and scalable operational impact.

Moderator:
Douglas Kent, Founder, Supply Chain Impact Alliance

Speaker:
Bijoy Sasidharan, Director of Analytics, Capacity Planning & Forecasting, Fanatics

9:35 am - 9:55 am

Presentation: Climate-Ready Supply Chains: The Latest NOAA Data for Logistics Resilience (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: Accessible and authoritative environmental intelligence is at the forefront of supply chain strategic long-term planning. This session explores how some leading supply chain decision-makers and retailers are moving beyond reactive logistics to a proactive, climate-ready approach by integrating the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) data tools to leverage historical weather and climate data to protect physical assets and meet consumer demands.

Speaker:
Jenny Dissen, North Carolina Institute for Climate Studies (NCICS) Director and Engagement and Partnerships lead at NC State University

9:55 am - 10:15 am

Fireside Chat: What Changes and What Endures in Supply Chain (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: Supply chain problems often arrive already framed as a rate issue, a capacity constraint or a data gap. In this one-on-one conversation, Andy Moses of Penske Logistics joins Michael Levans to discuss how experience shapes what leaders notice, the questions they ask and the decisions they make. Their conversation will explore how sound judgement, disciplined execution and collaboration build the kind of logistics partnership customers can rely on when conditions change.

Moderator:
Michael Levans, Group Editorial Director, Peerless Media

Speaker:
Andy Moses, SVP of Sales and Solutions, Penske Logistics

10:15 am - 10:45 am

AM Break (Great Room Foyer & Terrace - 2nd Floor)

Sponsor CORVUS ROBOTICS



AGENDA

Thursday October 22

10:45 am - 12:15 pm

Small Group Sessions: Room 1 (Strategy 1 - 2nd Floor)
Session A

Session Title: AI Is Not a Test Strategy: Where Supply Chain Leaders Still Need Automation, Not Predictions

Session Description: Not every supply chain challenge can be solved by throwing AI at it. Before leaders can trust an AI-driven prediction, they need to know the underlying systems work. When a WMS update or EDI change breaks order fulfillment, a confidence score won't tell you why. Test automation will. This session shows where AI earns its place in supply chain testing, and where deterministic validation protects you from costly downtime.

Speakers:
Josh Owen, Founder, President & Executive Chairman, Cycle Labs
Casey Brasford, Software Engineering Manager, Polaris

Session B

Session Title: The Two-Year-Old Carton That Never Existed: What We Found When We Interrogated Our Aged-Inventory Number

Session Description: What happens when a trusted inventory metric points to a carton that never actually existed? This session explores how Nordstrom used data and AI to interrogate its aged-inventory numbers, uncover hidden data-quality problems and rethink how operational metrics should be validated before they drive supply chain decisions.

Speaker:
Prasad Sundaramoorthy, Sr. Distinguished Leader, Data & AI, Nordstrom

Session C

Session Title: Modernizing Beverage Distribution: How Southern Glazer's and Dematic Built a Scalable Fulfillment Network

Session Description: Join Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits and Dematic for an inside look at how the companies partnered to transform a complex distribution network into a scalable, future-ready operation. Learn how consolidating two legacy facilities into one automated fulfillment center doubled throughput, increased picking capacity by 25%, improved delivery efficiency, and created the flexibility to support continued growth and evolving customer demand.

Speakers:
Carlos Osma, Sr. Director, Engineering Operations, Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits
Paul Havens, Director, Project Management, Dematic



AGENDA

Thursday October 22

10:45 am - 12:15 pm

Small Group Sessions: Room 2 (Strategy 2 - 2nd Floor)
Session A

Session Title: Closing the System Reality Gap: How Vitti Logistics Uses Computer Vision to Maintain Inventory and Shipping Accuracy with High-Value Goods

Session Description: Vitti Logistics, a 3PL specializing in storage of high-value goods and cross-border logistics, recently rolled out Zimark's Visual Verification System, to further improve accuracy whilst reducing costs at their facilities. By installing cameras on MHE and dock-doors together with Nvidia edge AI compute units, Vitti Logistics ensure that the WMS continuously reflects reality, whilst reducing the QA burden on their team. In this session, we will look at the technology, ROI and change management involved, and how computer vision is becoming a popular alternative to full automation, with many of the same benefits at a fraction of the cost.

Speakers:
Antonio Luna, Founder, Vitti Logistics
Hilla Herzog Manor, VP Business Development & Strategy, Zimark

Session B

Session Title: From Planner to Orchestrator: The Future of Supply Chain Talent in the Age of AI

Session Description: Planning, procurement, and operations roles are evolving as organizations adopt increasingly intelligent decision-support systems. In this session, Piu Ghosh, Manager, Product Operations at Apple, will walk attendees through the evolving talent landscape in the age of AI.

Speaker:
Piu Ghosh, Manager, Product Operations, Apple

Session C

Session Title: From Fragmented Data to Trusted AI, Building the Foundation for Supply Chain Agents

Session Description: Supply chain leaders are being asked to hand decisions to AI agents, while their data still sits in ERPs, supplier spreadsheets and planning tools that each define a late order or an active supplier in their own way. This session walks through work with a global oilfield services company, where buyers and planners now ask questions such as "which suppliers have the most late order lines this month" in English, Spanish or German and get answers in seconds. Every answer comes from a governed layer of shared business definitions that the AI queries, and the query appears beside the answer, so each number traces to its source and any error can be seen and fixed. Attendees will leave with a practical sequence for building that layer one business area at a time, so the second and third AI use cases cost a fraction of the first.

Speakers:
Sagar Paul, Chief Revenue and Growth Officer, The Modern Data Company
Partha Dey, Head of Supply Chain Development, Weatherford



AGENDA

Thursday October 22

10:45 am - 12:15 pm

Small Group Sessions: Room 3 (Strategy 3 - 2nd Floor)
Session A

Session Title: From Weeks to Real-Time: Inside ODW Logistics' Journey to Warehouse Intelligence with Dexory

Session Description: When a full warehouse audit takes weeks, inventory errors don't wait. In this session, Dexory explores how ODW Logistics replaced manual audit cycles with continuous, autonomous inventory intelligence, auditing 1 million sq. ft. in under 24 hours and catching 90% of discrepancies before they ever reached the customer. Joined by ODW Logistics, we'll hear directly from the team behind the transformation about what the journey really looked like in practice.

Speakers:
Todd Boone, VP North America, Dexory
Kayla Watson, Director of Inventory Control, ODW Logistics

Session B

Session Title: The Human Advantage in Automated Warehouses

Session Description: Warehouse automation promises greater speed and efficiency, but it also creates new operational complexity. As AMRs, robotics, WMS, WES and WCS platforms multiply, human operators are increasingly responsible for managing exceptions when automated systems reach their limits. This session explores how leading organizations are designing workflows, visibility and decision support to keep people effective in highly automated environments.

Speaker:
Mukul Parkhe, Continuous Improvement Manager, DHL Supply Chain

Session C

Session Title: Automation from Day 1 – Neovia Logistics and Geekplus Shelf To Person Solution

Session Description: Discover how Geek+ and Neovia Logistics are using warehouse robotics to improve fulfillment performance at scale. The session will explore the implementation of Geek+ PopPick Lite, a compact shelf-to-person solution, and the measurable results achieved by Neovia, including a 67% improvement in workstation efficiency and a 10-second increase in speed per tote. The discussion will highlight practical insights into scaling flexible automation to address real-world warehouse challenges.

Speakers:
Michael Sahler, Head of Business Development, Geekplus America Inc
Dan Bombrys, Vice President Business Development and Customer Success, Neovia Logistics



AGENDA

Thursday October 22

12:15 pm - 1:30 pm

Lunch & Networking (Zaytinya)

Sponsor GATHER AI

With a Performance by Emma White



EMMA WHITE is an independent Nashville-based country-pop singer-songwriter named after Emmylou Harris. She blends traditional country storytelling with pop and R&B elements, runs her own label Whitehouse Records, and has earned features in Rolling Stone, Billboard, and NPR.

"Meticulous, modern country pop, influenced equally by southern storytelling and R&B production." — Rolling Stone

"10 Best Country Songs" and "10 New Country Artists You Need to Know" — Rolling Stone

"Country Music Obsession" — Buzzfeed

"Artist to Watch" — Taste of Country

1:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Visionary Award Keynote: Supply Chain as a Growth Engine (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: Supply chains are no longer measured solely by efficiency and cost. Increasingly, they are expected to drive growth, improve customer experience, and create competitive advantage. In this Visionary Keynote fireside chat, Tracie Haislip, VP of Merchandising and Supply Chain Planning, Tractor Supply, will share how the organization is building a supply chain designed not only to support the business, but to help shape its future.

Attendees will hear lessons learned from Tractor Supply's growth journey, including investments in network expansion, fulfillment capabilities, operational scalability, and last-mile delivery. The discussion will explore how supply chain leaders can align strategy, technology, and execution to create lasting business value.

Moderator: Brian Straight, Editor-in-Chief, Supply Chain Management Review

Speaker: Tracie Haislip, VP, Merchandising and Supply Chain Planning, Tractor Supply



AGENDA

Thursday October 22

2:00 pm - 2:20 pm

Presentation: From Fragmentation to Orchestration: Advancing Healthcare Supply Chain Performance Through Control Tower Intelligent Planning (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: Discover how Stanford Health Care transformed its supply chain by integrating a digital control tower, intelligent planning, and AI-driven automation to improve visibility, streamline procurement, reduce financial leakage, and align supply chain operations with clinical and financial performance. This session will explore the technology, change management, and governance strategies behind one of healthcare's most advanced supply chain transformation initiatives.

Speaker:
Omar Devlin, Executive Director, Supply Chain Technology, Stanford Medicine

2:20 pm - 2:40 pm

Fireside Chat: Scaling Transformation: Aligning Operating Models, Process Discipline, and Talent (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: Supply chain transformation is rarely limited by technology. More often, transformation falls short because the operating model, leadership behaviors, and talent systems fail to evolve in step with growth and complexity. This session explores how leaders can proactively align people and processes to support growth, future-proof their operating models and ensure transformation delivers measurable, sustainable results.

Moderator:
Andy Gray, Editorial Director, Supply Chain 247

Speaker:
Carey Boone, VP Transformation-Americas, DP World

2:40 pm - 3:10 pm

Panel: Retail Reinvented: Automation, Omnichannel Execution & the New Fulfillment Economy (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: Retail supply chains are being reshaped by changing consumer expectations, omnichannel fulfillment demands, automation investments, labor challenges, and an increasingly complex regulatory environment. In this executive panel, leaders from retail, logistics, and fulfillment will discuss how organizations are adapting their networks to balance service, speed, cost, compliance, and profitability in a rapidly evolving marketplace.

Moderator:
Norman Katz, President & CEO, Katzscan

Panelists:
Jeff Kellan, Division President, Omnichannel Retail in AmAPAC, GXO Logistics
Jay De Sieno, Senior Strategic Sourcing Manager, AmeriCold
Eric Watts, VP of Food Supply Chain Operations, Target

3:10 pm - 3:30 pm

PM Break (Great Room Foyer & Terrace - 2nd Floor) Sponsored by WORLDS



AGENDA

Thursday October 22

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Small Group Sessions: Room 1 (Strategy 1 - 2nd Floor)
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Speakers:
Josh Owen, Founder, President & Executive Chairman, Cycle Labs
Casey Brasford, Software Engineering Manager, Polaris

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Speaker:
Prasad Sundaramoorthy, Sr. Distinguished Leader, Data & AI, Nordstrom

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Speakers:
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Paul Havens, Director, Project Management, Dematic



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Piu Ghosh, Manager, Product Operations, Apple

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Speaker:
Mukul Parkhe, Continuous Improvement Manager, DHL Supply Chain

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Speakers:
Michael Sahler, Head of Business Development, Geekplus America Inc
Dan Bombrys, Vice President Business Development and Customer Success, Neovia Logistics



AGENDA

Thursday October 22

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Evening Reception – Performance by Scooter Carusoe (Travis Hill) (Butterfly - Rooftop)
With a Performance by Scooter Carusoe (Travis Hill)



SCOOTER CARUSOE — Travis Hill has lived and worked in the Nashville music community for two decades. He was a cofounder of independent music publisher Carnival Music and writes songs under the pen name "Scooter Carusoe." Between the two he has 20-plus number one songs to his credit. As a writer, he has five #1 songs by Kenny Chesney, Darius Rucker, and Brett Eldredge. His works have also been recorded by Tim McGraw, Taylor Swift, Keith Urban, Rascal Flatts, Eric Church, Lady A, Uncle Kracker, Dierks Bentley, and many others.

Friday October 23

7:30 am - 11:50 am **Registration Open** (Foyer Area - 2nd Floor)
7:30 am - 8:30 am **Breakfast** (Great Room Foyer & Terrace - 2nd Floor)

You are welcome to bring your coffee/breakfast into general session.

8:00 am - 8:05 am **Opening Remarks** (Great Room - 2nd Floor)
8:05 am - 8:30 am **NextGen Supply Chain Solution Provider Awards** (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Sponsor: Zion Solutions Group

Session Title: NextGen Supply Chain Solution Provider Awards

Intelligent Transformation: Netstock, Omar Qayyum, Product Manager

Autonomous Operations: Pickle Robot, Pete Blair, VP of Product & Marketing

Startup Award: Robust.AI, Kyle Detwiler, Head of Sales & Solutions



AGENDA

Friday October 23

8:30 am - 9:00 am

Keynote: Unlearning Supply Chain: How Agentic AI Demands a New Mindset (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Keynote Description: The real barrier to agentic AI isn't technology — it's our instinct to control every step. This talk challenges leaders to let AI agents sense, decide, and act autonomously, cutting human error, freeing people for higher-value work, and turning human judgment into superhuman decision-making where it still matters most.

Speaker:
Dr. Mar Gimeno, Associate Vice President, US Supply Chain, Eli Lilly

9:00 am - 9:25 am

Presentation: From Reactive to Predictive: How ML-Based Carrier Risk Scoring Reduced Pickup Defects by 35%, Amazon
(Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: The session will cover a machine learning framework built and validated across 150,000+ loads and 1,600+ carriers that generates pickup risk scores at the carrier level, shifting the operational model from reactive exception management to proactive intervention. Results include a 35% reduction in pickup defects in the high-risk carrier segment, 85% model accuracy, and $40M+ in projected annual savings.

Speaker:
Debanshu Sharma, Senior Supply Chain Manager, Amazon

9:25 am - 9:50 am

Presentation: Planning and Scaling AI Programs to Deliver Cash Flow Savings: Lessons from GE Healthcare
(Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: Data Science at GE Healthcare took a finance-first lens to implement simulation-based optimization methods to test, validate, and scale AI use cases to manage inventory. Learn how the team implemented digital twin models tightly coupled with forecasting models and leveraged it to partner with operating teams across commercial, finance, and supply chain to optimize supply chain decisions.

Speaker:
Samuel Colen, VP, AI Forecasting, GE Healthcare

9:50 am - 10:15 am

Panel: The Future of Supply Chain Talent: Rethinking Education, Training, and Career Pathways (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: The traditional pipeline for supply chain talent is being disrupted by automation, digital technology, and changing workforce expectations. Companies are experimenting with new ways to attract and develop talent, including non-degree credential programs, expanded internships, industry-university partnerships, and accelerated upskilling initiatives. In this session, learn how the talent pipeline is evolving and what organizations must do to ensure their workforce can keep pace with technological transformation.

Panelists:
Ron Volans, Head of NA Janssen Deliver, Janssen Pharmaceuticals
Elena Manta, ETO Transformation Leader in Global Supply Chain, Schneider Electric

Moderator:
Dan Pellathy, Director of Corporate Programming in Supply Chain Management, University of Tennessee

10:15 am - 10:35 am

AM Break (Great Room Foyer & Terrace - 2nd Floor) Sponsored by WORLDS



AGENDA

Friday October 23

10:35 am - 11:00 am

Presentation: Building the Agent-Driven Warehouse: Orchestrating Work Across the WMS (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: What would warehouse execution look like if specialized AI agents could manage individual processes and coordinate work from release through shipment? RealTruck executives will share how it is exploring an agent-driven operating model within Manhattan Active WMS, with AI bots designed to support waving, picking, packing, shipping and other warehouse activities. The session will examine how these agents can use real-time demand, inventory, labor and capacity data to make decisions, transfer work across processes and respond more quickly to changing conditions.

Speakers:
Prabhakaran Rajendran, Director of IT, RealTruck Subir Ghosh, Director of Continuous Improvement, RealTruck

11:00 am - 11:25 am

Presentation: The Better Tanks Lost: Getting a Real Return on AI (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: In May 1940, France had more tanks than Germany, and several of its models were better. Six weeks later, France had fallen. Germany's edge was radios in its tanks and junior officers trusted to act without waiting for orders from headquarters. Agentic AI is the most capable arsenal supply chains have ever been handed, and most companies are repeating France's mistake by buying the tanks and keeping the old way of leading and organizing. Writing the check is the easy part. In this presentation we will show you what it takes to get an ROI from AI.

Speakers:
Alan Amling, Assistant Professor of Practice, University of Tennessee
Steven Melnyk, Professor Emeritus, Michigan State University

11:25 am - 11:45 am

Presentation: The New Supply Chain Equation: Connecting Inventory, Transportation, Warehouse Capacity and Sustainability, Evonik Corporation (Great Room - 2nd Floor)

Session Description: How can organizations reduce inventory and logistics costs while improving customer service, strengthening network resilience and meeting sustainability goals?

The next generation of supply chains requires leaders to look beyond individual functions and manage inventory, transportation and warehouse capacity as one connected network. This session explores how an integrated approach can help leaders evaluate tradeoffs and balance cost, service, resilience and sustainability.

Speaker:
Santosh Yerasuri, Head of Strategic Business Projects, Evonik Corporation

11:45 am - 11:50 am

Closing Remarks (Great Room - 2nd Floor)



INSIGHT BY DAY, ENTERTAINMENT BY NIGHT

At NextGen, the learning doesn't stop when the sessions end. After a full day of big ideas and bold insights, unwind with incredible entertainment that makes this conference an experience you won't forget.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

WELCOME RECEPTION

ACOUSTIC SOLO ARTIST
NICK DELEO



Sponsored by

SoftBank Robotics

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

LUNCH & NETWORKING

EMMA WHITE



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GATHER AI

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

BUTTERFLY - ROOFTOP

SCOOTER CARUSOE



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SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT REVIEW

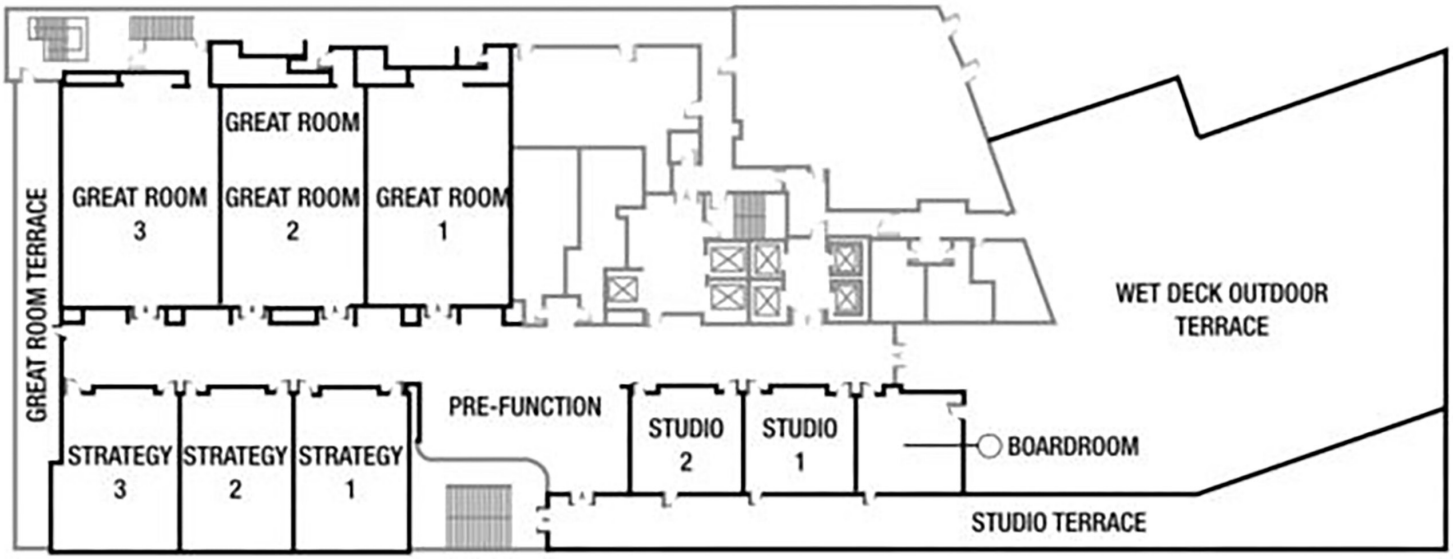


MEETING ROOMS

SESSION 1 - Strategy 3

SESSION 2 - Strategy 2

SESSION 3 - Strategy 1





SPEAKERS



ALAN AMLING / Asst. Professor of Practice, UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

Distinguished Fellow at The University of Tennessee; CEO of Thrive and Advance LLC, Alan Amling is a TED speaker and supply chain thought leader. Alan helped drive innovation over a 27-year career with UPS and is currently a Distinguished Fellow at The University of Tennessee, CEO of advisory firm Thrive and Advance LLC, and on the Executive Advisory Board for the Georgia Tech Manufacturing Institute. He researches, invests, advises, and speaks on innovation in logistics and how all firms can recognize and thrive in disruption. His first book, Organizational Velocity, was released in March 2022.

Alan holds a Ph.D. in Management from Kennesaw State University, an MBA from Indiana University, and a BA in Business and Psychology from Lewis & Clark College.



CASEY BASFORD / Software Engineering Manager, POLARIS

Casey Basford is a technology and operations leader with more than 13 years of experience at Polaris, where he has led software engineering initiatives and enterprise technology solutions supporting manufacturing, distribution, and supply chain operations.His expertise includes warehouse management systems (WMS), systems integration, software engineering, automation, and technology strategy.

A strong advocate for quality and automation, Casey has helped lead Polaris' automated testing strategy since partnering with Cycle Labs nearly eight years ago. He has established testing standards and best practices that transformed testing from largely manual processes into scalable, repeatable automation, improving software quality, reducing risk, accelerating deployments, and increasing confidence in enterprise system changes.



PETER BLAIR / VP of Product & Marketing, PICKLE ROBOT COMPANY

Pete Blair is the VP of Product & Marketing at Pickle Robot, a pioneer in Physical AI for supply chain applications. He leads with a customer first approach that balances strategy with execution to deliver innovative products that customers love. Pete has spent 20+ years at the forefront of robotic innovation for supply chain. Pete's experience ranges from logistics operations to consulting to technology development and marketing for both startups and enterprise companies. Prior to Pickle, Pete ran marketing for Berkshire Grey, a leader in intelligent robotics for piece picking in ecommerce operations, served on the leadership teams at Kiva Systems and Amazon Robotics, consulted for IBM, and held various leadership roles in distribution operations at The Home Depot. Pete has a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering and operations research from Cornell University.



DAN BOMBRYS / VP Business Development and Customer Success, NEOVIA LOGISTICS SERVICES

Dan Bombrys is Vice President of Business Development and Customer Success at Neovia Logistics, where he works with customers to address complex supply chain and logistics challenges. With more than 25 years of experience across third-party logistics, operations, business development, and customer solutions, Dan brings a practical perspective on how organizations can improve and scale their supply chain operations. His experience spans automotive, industrial, aerospace, and technology sectors, with a particular focus on service parts logistics, distribution, and operational transformation.



CAREY BOONE / VP Transformation-Americas, DP WORLD

Carey Boone is the Vice President of Transformation at DP World Americas, tasked with supporting and developing the region's engineering and quality, environmental, health and safety initiatives as well as overseeing the project management and business intelligence teams. With over 15 years of experience in logistics, Boone is a leader in developing and driving solutions. His background spans roles in many functions including Engineering, Operations, and Business Development for large multi-national companies including CEVA Logistics. Boone earned a BA in Marketing and Logistics from The Ohio State University.



TODD BOONE / VP, North America, DEXORY

Todd is a seasoned warehouse automation and robotics leader with deep experience driving supply chain technology innovation globally. As VP North America at Dexory, Todd leads expansion into the U.S. market, leveraging Dexory's cutting-edge autonomous mobile robots and AI-driven data platform, DexoryView. Todd blends innovation strategy, execution, and advisory across dynamic supply chain environments. His focus on scalable innovation, operational efficiency, and commercializing emerging technology solutions positions him as a recognized voice in the future of logistics automation.





CHERIE BRINKERHOFF / Sr. VP of Operations for Retail, Technology & Healthcare, RYDER SYSTEM, INC.

Cherie Brinkerhoff is senior vice president of operations for Ryder's Supply Chain Solutions business unit. She is responsible for operational execution, strategic leadership, sales, and financial performance of the company's Retail, Technology, and Health business segments throughout North America. Cherie's organization provides fully integrated supply chain services, including warehousing, forward and reverse logistics, refurbishment, warehousing, and various other value-added services. Her team handles more than $900 million in managed and dedicated transportation services for customers in these industry segments across 40 locations. Cherie also spearheaded various workforce and development initiatives at Ryder including launching the Retail, Tech & Health Women's Leadership group. Prior to joining Ryder in 2018, she was vice president of operations and supply chain at FedEx where she led operations for the Technology business unit, including warehouse logistics, engineering, business development, and procurement. Previously, she was with Teleplan International, where she was responsible for warehouse logistics in North America, Europe, and Asia.



BRIAN CERAOLO / President & CEO, PEERLESS MEDIA, LLC

Brian is the founder and CEO of Peerless Media. He has 35 years of experience in B2B publishing; 31 of which are in the logistics, supply chain and materials handling markets. When he launched Peerless, Brian's vision was to create a unique media company for the new digital era in publishing, offering both the traditional print and online B2B products, while adopting new digital services such as market intelligence, SEO enhancement, behavioral targeting and content engagement. His goal is for Peerless to become a full-service media partner to their clients.



SAM COLEN / VP, Head of Forecasting, GE HEALTHCARE

Sam Colen is Vice President, Head of Forecasting at GE HealthCare, where he built and leads a decision intelligence team that turns planning into a financial lever. Partnering with operating teams across commercial, finance, and supply chain, the team blends generative AI with traditional AI/ML forecasting and operations research to optimize cash flow, defend EBIT, and put supply chain decisions where they ultimately land: on the financial statements. A finance native by background, Sam built McKesson's Finance and Supply Chain AI practice from the ground up — improving cash flow by 25% and implementing digital twins that today manage $20B in inventory. That finance-first lens shapes how he builds and how he leads. Much of his current focus centers on simulation-based optimization as the bridge between supply chain and finance — an approach that retires the simplifying assumptions most planning tools still rely on, the ones that quietly fail when product portfolios are imbalanced and correlated. Sam holds a BA in Economics from the University of Southern California and a Master of Accounting from the University of Dallas.



KRISTEN DAIHES / SVP Digital, Analytics & Data, MARS SNACKING

Kristen is the Senior Vice President of Analytics, Digital and Data supporting the Supply, R&D, and Commercial functions of Mars Snacking. She joined Mars in 2021 to lead the Global Supply Chain function, exploring how the intersection of her prior industry experience and tech start-up experiences could support the acceleration of value supporting Mars growth agenda. She leads an investment program to bring AI-enabled digital solutions to life to support growth while making work easier for Associates. What most excites Kristen is leading with problem solving and teaming cross-functionally to provoke and explore new possibilities in driving quality growth enablement. Prior to joining Mars, she was a Partner for Opex Analytics and supported a number of companies to reinvent their supply chains and operations with artificial intelligence, machine learning, and advanced analytics. She has held strategic planning, innovation, and engineering roles in Procter & Gamble and Unilever and was the VP of Global Supply Chain for SC Johnson.



JAY DE SIENO / Sr. Strategic Sourcing Manager, AMERICOLD

Jay De Sieno, MBA, ASCM Certified is a Strategic Sourcing Leader at Americold, where he drives initiatives in cost optimization, strategic sourcing, and operational excellence within the cold chain and temperature-controlled logistics space. With experience spanning telecommunications, automotive, industrial distribution, and software, he brings a broad, cross-industry perspective to building agile and resilient supply chains. Jay has a proven track record of delivering sustainable cost savings, strengthening supplier ecosystems, and enhancing end-to-end supply chain performance. Jay has consistently delivered sustainable cost improvements, strengthened global supplier networks, and enhanced end-to-end supply chain performance in both complex and rapidly evolving environments. His ability to transfer best practices across industries enables him to unlock new efficiencies and drive innovation at scale. Jay is recognized for shaping and executing supply chain strategies that align with broader business priorities, enabling organizations to drive measurable enterprise value, resilience, and long-term growth.



KYLE DETWILER / Head of Sales & Solutions, ROBUST.AI

Kyle Detwiler is the Head of Sales & Solutions at Robust.AI, where he helped build the commercial motion behind Carter™, a collaborative mobile robot now live across 20+ customer sites. His focus has been making automation easy to say yes to — low risk, low capex, immediate value — so operations get results the day it lands, not months later. Across a career in engineering, sales, consulting, and partner management throughout the automation industry, Kyle has focused on giving customers a way to grow into automation rather than bet big all at once. He holds degrees in Industrial Engineering and Computer Science from Cal Poly, SLO.





OMAR DEVLIN / Exec. Dir. – Supply Chain Technology, STANFORD HEALTH CARE

Omar Devlin is Vice President of Supply Chain Technology, Planning & P2P at Stanford Health Care, where he sets strategic direction for technology, data analytics, planning, and procure-to-pay operations across a top-ranked academic health system. He has driven AI adoption initiatives that cut manual P2P intervention by 30%, implemented Control Tower and Command Center capabilities purpose-built for healthcare, and led GPO and value analysis programs delivering tens of millions in savings. Prior to Stanford, Omar held senior supply chain and program leadership roles at Google, Facebook, Apple, and BlueScope Steel, where he managed multi-billion-dollar infrastructure portfolios, led global teams of up to 200, and delivered over $300M in cumulative cost savings through ERP, TMS, and S&OP transformations. He holds an MBA, an MSc in Logistics, and a BE in Mechanical Engineering, and is ASCM CSCP-certified. Omar recently completed Stanford's AI-Driven Leadership program and speaks frequently on applying AI and analytics to modern supply chain operations.



JENNY DISSEN / Director, Strategic Engagement and Partnerships, NCICS

Ms. Dissen is the Engagement and Partnerships lead at the NC Institute for Climate Studies (NCICS), a research institute within the NC State University Office of Research and Innovation. Her work with NOAA Cooperative Institute for Satellite Earth System Studies (NOAA CISESS) involves engagement activities with NOAA, cloud partners Google, Amazon Web Services and Microsoft, and leads industry sector engagements with retail associations RILA and NRF, and with EPRI. She provides strategic user engagement support to the NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information Services Team and was a program lead for the U.S. Department of State NOAA U.S.-India Partnership for Climate Resilience. In prior roles, Ms. Dissen was an executive at Accenture and worked with William J. Clinton Foundation Clinton Climate Initiative in Southeast Asia. Ms. Dissen has a Masters and Bachelors in Civil/Environmental Engineering from NC State University, with recent certificates in Climate Change and Society and Harvard Business School Executive Education Program. She currently serves on the Boards of Mountain True, NC School of Science and Math, supports the Asheville Museum of Science and was involved on the Advisory Council for Electric Power Research Institute.



DREW EUBANK / EVP & Co-Founder, ZION SOLUTIONS GROUP

Drew Eubank is the EVP & Co-Founder of Zion Solutions Group. He is an operations executive with over 20 years of experience running both large and small operations, building and leading high-performing teams, and developing strategies that drive significant returns. His areas of expertise include: operations improvement, facility and process design, network development and strategy, labor efficiency, software functional design and system selection, material handling integration, partnership/program management, executive strategy, and support. Drew lives near Athens, Georgia, has been married to his wife Lindsay for fifteen years, and is father to a son, Caleb (12) and a daughter, Adilynn (9). An avid Georgia "Bulldawg," Drew holds a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership.



PIU GHOSH / Senior Manager, APPLE INC.

Piu Ghosh is a Senior Manager at Apple, where she leads strategic initiatives across global manufacturing, capital investment, supplier strategy, and product operations for new product introductions. Over her 10+ year career spanning Apple, Amazon, and Bechtel, she has led complex, cross-functional supply chain transformations at the intersection of technology, operations, and data-driven decision making. Piu's work focuses on how AI is reshaping modern supply chains — not simply by automating tasks, but by transforming how organizations make decisions. She is particularly interested in the evolution of supply chain talent as planners, buyers, and operations leaders transition from executing transactions to orchestrating AI-enabled networks and strategic business outcomes. Beyond Apple, Piu is an active speaker, startup pitch competition judge, mentor, and advocate for stronger collaboration between industry and academia. She regularly shares insights on AI, leadership, operational excellence, and the future of work, with a passion for helping the next generation of supply chain professionals develop the skills needed in an increasingly intelligent and autonomous world.



SUBIR NITISH GHOSH / Dir. Warehouse Systems and Continuous Improvement, REAL TRUCK

Subir Nitish Ghosh currently serves as the Director of Warehouse Systems and Continuous Improvement at Real Truck where he is the Supply Chain thought leader transforming Warehousing & Distribution systems and processes to the next level. He has over 15 years of Implementation experience in WMS and Warehouse Automation landscape across Retail, E-Commerce, and Auto-parts distribution in Fortune 500 organizations spanning over 30 full cycle implementations.



DR. MAR G. GIMENO / AVP US Supply Chain and Global Launches, ELI LILLY

Dr. Mar Gimeno is an experienced supply chain executive with 20 years in the pharmaceutical sector. She started her career as a pharmacist, later working in the food industry before transitioning to manufacturing and supply chain roles within pharmaceuticals. She has held several leadership positions, including Vice President of International Markets Supply Chain and Vice President of Global Planning & Global Supply Chain at Teva Pharmaceuticals, where she led supply chain strategy and transformation across a complex network of 53 sites and 60 markets. Currently, as Associate Vice President of US Supply Chain and Global Launches at Eli Lilly, she manages the team responsible for demand planning, order fulfillment, and customer service for the US Affiliate. She also oversees the supply chain execution for all new product launches at Lilly. Mar is a registered pharmacist in Spain and holds a PhD in health sciences, an MBA, and a master's degree in Public Health.





ANDY GRAY / Editorial Director, PEERLESS MEDIA LLC

Andy Gray is the Editorial Director of Supply Chain 24/7. He oversees coverage of supply chain, logistics, and materials handling news, providing readers with clear and practical insights. A graduate of Columbia Journalism School, Andy spent 13 years at Sports Illustrated and also worked at the Harvard Business Review, JPMorgan, lululemon, and the fitness startup MIRROR. He lives on Cape Cod with his wife, son, and dog, Larry.



TRACIE HAISLIP / VP, Merchandising and Supply Chain Planning, TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY

Tracie Haislip is Vice President of Merchandise Planning, Inventory Management, and Supply Chain Planning at Tractor Supply Company. Since joining Tractor Supply in 2003, she has built her career across supply chain operations and planning, from transportation and inventory replenishment to the decisions that connect merchandising, inventory, and supply chain execution. Her experience across these areas gives Tracie a broad perspective on how assortment, inventory, and supply chain network decisions affect customers, store teams, suppliers, and the broader business. In her current role, Tracie aligns Merchandise Planning, Inventory Management, and Supply Chain Planning around shared priorities. She focuses on strong execution, cross-functional partnerships, and developing leaders who can meet today's business needs while preparing for what comes next.



PAUL HAVENS / Dir., Project Management, DEMATIC

Paul Havens is Director of Project Management at Dematic, bringing more than 20 years of experience in the material handling and conveyor industry. Since joining Dematic in 1998, he has held a variety of roles within project management, building extensive experience leading complex projects and supporting successful customer implementations. Paul holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Grand Valley State University.



NITIN KAPOOR / VP/GM of Technology, Data and Innovation, WAYFAIR

Nitin Kapoor is an accomplished entrepreneur, 2x founder, and executive with a specialization in technology and product management within the Omnichannel retail and supply chain sectors. At present, he oversees the technology strategy and execution as GM & VP of Technology for Wayfair's Omnichannel Retail, Supply Chain, and Enterprise where he is responsible for an integrated technology stack that enables Wayfair's digital and physical retail environments and end-to-end supply chain and logistics capabilities. He also serves as the Head of Data and Innovation. Previously, Nitin was GM of Supply Chain at Shopify, responsible for building out Shopify Logistics, a set of managed fulfillment products for Shopify's merchant base. He also spent time building and leading ultra-scaled fulfillment systems and global teams in Amazon's Supply Chain.



NORMAN A. KATZ / President, KATZSCAN INC.

Norman Katz is President of supply chain consultancy Katzscan Inc. (www.katzscan.com) which celebrates its 30-year anniversary in 2026. Prior to starting Katzscan, Norman held various technical, analyst, and management roles at consumer product companies for over a decade. Norman's core specialty is helping consumer product brands comply with retail and grocery supply chain technical and operational vendor requirements. His efforts reduce financial penalty chargebacks, improve end-to-end performance, and enhance data analysis and reporting. He acts as a dedicated software and supply chain strategic partner with responsibility for retail and grocery B2B-B2C-D2C portfolios of upwards to $60M annual. Norman is an expert in ERP, X12-EDI, and barcode label/scanning applications including GS1US standards, and FDA FSMA 204 compliance pertaining to retail and grocery compliance. He helps to transform his clients' relationships with their software partners, contract manufacturers, 3PLs, and customers through clear communications, master data management, and smooth flowing transactions.



JEFF KELLAN / Division President, Omni-channel Retail, AMAPAC, GXO

Jeff Kellan joined GXO in March of 2025 as Division President, Omni-channel Retail for AMAPAC, responsible for contract logistics operations and growth. He manages a portfolio of 35+ distribution centers for 25 customers, delivering over $600M revenue to GXO. Prior to GXO, Jeff spent six years with Maersk in various logistics roles for its North American division, based in the NYC area. He spearheaded Maersk's 2020 acquisition of Performance Team, a key element in expanding logistics capabilities in North America, and transitioned to Senior VP of Operations as part of the integration. He worked closely with customers to develop winning strategies for integrated end-to-end supply chain solutions while fostering operational excellence. In 2023, Jeff became Head of Contract Logistics, overseeing technical sales, solutions engineering, and product development for all warehouse-based activities. His role expanded in 2024 to include Cold Chain product and operations and the NAM Innovation Center.



DOUGLAS KENT / Founder, SUPPLY CHAIN IMPACT ALLIANCE

Douglas J. Kent is founder of the Supply Chain Impact Alliance (scimpactalliance.org) focused on improving global communities through focused initiatives including global health, sustainability and humanitarian efforts. Formerly, Kent was the executive vice president of sales and alliances at ASCM having overseen ASCM's North American chapters, international training partners, corporate clients, eCommerce and was responsible for growing and strengthening the organization's strategic collaborations. Kent has nearly 40 years of transformational advisory and practitioner experience with large multi-national organizations. He specializes in SCOR®-based transformations, supply chain strategy & segmentation, supply chain planning, enterprise risk optimization, and supply chain visibility. As a certified SCOR® master instructor, he has traveled the globe leading workshops, education, and transformational programs.





MICHAEL LEVANS / Group Editorial Director, PEERLESS MEDIA

Michael Levans is the Group Editorial Director at Peerless Media, where he oversees several industry-leading publications, including *Logistics Management, Supply Chain Management Review,* and *Modern Materials Handling*. With over 30 years in B2B media management and decades of experience in the logistics and supply chain industries, Levans has established himself as a trusted authority, providing insights on the latest trends, challenges, and innovations. Under his leadership, these publications have become key resources for professionals seeking to navigate the complexities of logistics, supply chain management, and materials handling operations.



JASON LUBY / VP of Value Chain Management & Sourcing Operations, BJC HEALTHCARE

As VP of Value Chain Management & Sourcing Operations, Jason leads BJC Health System's procurement and distribution strategy for the entire enterprise which includes maximizing our service at the patient bedside while reducing our total cost to serve. Jason's team goals include integrating our clinical strategy with our trading partners to ensure we deliver better patient outcomes at the lowest total cost of ownership. Recently, Jason served as the VP, Supply Chain Operations working with our HSO leaders to build new logistics capabilities and improve our patient experience. Prior to that, Jason held numerous supply chain roles in the areas of logistics, business development, and strategic planning with industry leaders such as Ralcorp, Covidien, and Beckman Coulter developing a proven track record in reducing waste, improving inventory management strategies, and capturing gains in efficiencies and productivity. Most recently, Jason served as the Director of Supply Chain Central Operations, forming a Central Operations Team which defined comprehensive systemwide inventory and distribution strategy while simultaneously establishing ad-hoc inventory planning and internal distribution needs.



ANTONIO LUNA / Founder, VITTI LOGISTICS

Antonio Luna is the Founder and Managing Partner of Vitti Logistics. His expertise in logistics management and customs clearance has cemented the company's reputation in the USMCA corridor. Vitti Logistics specializes in comprehensive door-to-door services — from over-the-road transportation to contract logistics — thriving on operational efficiency.



HILLA HERZOG MANOR / VP Business Development & Strategy, ZIMARK

Hilla Herzog Manor is VP of Business Development and Strategy at Zimark, where she drives the company's growth strategy and partnerships across the warehouse and logistics technology space. Zimark provides real-time visual verification for warehouses and 3PLs, using computer vision at the dock door and on forklifts to close the gap between what the WMS assumes and what's actually happening on the floor.



DR. STEVEN ALEXANDER MELNYK / Professor Emeritus, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Steven A. Melnyk (Ph.D., Western – 1981) is Professor of Supply Chain Management (retired/Emeritus) at Michigan State University. He has co-authored 25 books, over 100 refereed journal articles and over 300 practitioner articles. His research focus includes buyer-supplier relationships, supply chain risk and resilience, strategic supply chain management, supply chain cyber security, and certified management standards. From 2014 to 2016, Dr. Melnyk was a member of the APICS Board of Directors. From 2017 to 2019, Dr. Melnyk had a joint appointment from the University of Newcastle (Australia) where he was the Newcastle Global Innovation Chair in Supply Chain Management.



ANDY MOSES / Sr. VP, Solutions and Sales Strategy, PENSKE LOGISTICS

Andy Moses is the senior vp of solutions and sales strategy for Penske Logistics. He leads the organization's engineering solutions team and heads corporate sales strategy. Moses also advises Penske's product line leaders with their sales and development strategies. He was most recently senior vp of sales and solutions. Moses was also senior vp of global products. He has had a distinguished career in the transportation industry in product and sales leadership roles. Prior to joining Penske Logistics, he was vp of sales at Penske Truck Leasing. A member of the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP), Moses has spoken at industry-leading supply chain conferences and guest lectured at top universities.



CARLOS OSMA / Sr. Director, Engineering Operations, SOUTHERN GLAZER'S WINE & SPIRITS

Carlos Osma is Senior Director of Engineering for Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits, where he leads strategic engineering initiatives across 40+ distribution centers, focusing on warehouse automation, robotics, conveyor sortation, and ASRS. He partners with Operations, IT, and Logistics to implement solutions that improve efficiency, scalability, and performance across the Company's national distribution network. Since joining Southern Glazer's in 2010, Carlos has held progressively senior leadership roles, leading large-scale automation initiatives, SAP warehouse management implementations, and enterprise-wide engineering projects that support the Company's growth and operational excellence.



JOSH OWEN / Founder, President and Executive Chairman, CYCLE LABS

Josh is the CEO and Co-Founder of Cycle Labs. Prior to Cycle Labs, Josh founded and led a global supply chain consulting firm through 12 years of organic growth where he also led the development of the Cycle product from its idea phase to the valuable enterprise continuous testing platform it is today. With over 19 years of experience deploying enterprise solutions across various industry verticals, Josh is dedicated to modernizing enterprise solution deployment and helping companies focus on business growth rather than business risk.





MUKUL PARKHE / Continuous Improvement Manager, DHL SUPPLY CHAIN

Mukul has spent nearly a decade in industrial engineering across retail, consumer packaged goods, and e-commerce supply chains. He now leads continuous improvement for one of DHL Supply Chain's most automated omnichannel operations in North America, consistently improving how people, machines, and processes work together. Mukul believes automation only works if it's built around the people running it, not the other way around. He strives to build human-centered warehouse operations that can be complex under the hood but stay simple to run on the floor, resilient, agile, and self-sustaining to keep performing under pressure. He is a CSCMP George Gecowets Emerging Leader Award recipient (2023) and ISM 30 Under 30 Rising Supply Chain Star (2025).



SAGAR PAUL / Chief Revenue & Growth Officer, THE MODERN DATA COMPANY

Sagar Paul is Chief Revenue & Growth Officer at The Modern Data Company, creator of DataOS, an AI-native data operating system that brings context, governance, and trust to enterprise AI and analytics. He leads global go-to-market, sales strategy, and solutions, drawing on more than three decades of experience in technology, consulting, and business growth. Since joining the company in 2024, he has helped enterprises modernize data environments and prepare data for AI-driven initiatives. Previously, Sagar held leadership roles at Thoughtworks and Mu Sigma and spent more than 12 years at Mindtree as Chief Knowledge Officer and Growth Leader, working across North America and Asia.



OMAR QAYYUM / Product Manager, NETSTOCK

Omar Qayyum is a Product Manager at Netstock, focused on developing AI-enabled solutions for SMB supply chain leaders to improve inventory management and demand planning workflows. With nearly a decade of experience in product management across hardware, BPaaS, and SaaS, he brings a cross-functional perspective to everyday supply chain challenges. His work centers on turning new ideas into practical capabilities that help lean supply chain teams make faster, more informed decisions.



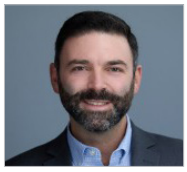
DR. DAN PELLATHY / Dir. of Corporate Programming in Supply Chain Management, UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

Dan Pellathy is Faculty of Practice and Director of Corporate Programming in Supply Chain Management at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville's Haslam College of Business. He holds a Ph.D. in Supply Chain Management from UT Knoxville, an MBA/MPIA from the University of Pittsburgh, and a BA from Cornell University. With a background in enterprise risk management, he consults with companies on strategic supply chain planning, organizational alignment, risk management, and end-to-end operational excellence. His research has appeared in leading academic journals and industry publications, including Supply Chain Quarterly, Supply Chain Management Review, The Conversation, and The Wall Street Journal. He is also co-author of Advanced Practice Playbook: Right-to-Left Planning.



PRABHAKARAN RAJENDRAN / Director of WMS Implementations, REAL TRUCK

Prabhakaran Rajendran is Director of IT – Warehouse Management Systems at RealTruck, where he leads warehouse technology modernization and Manhattan Active WMS implementation across the distribution network. With more than 15 years of experience, he specializes in WMS transformation, warehouse automation, and technology-driven solutions that improve productivity, inventory accuracy, and operational efficiency. He is passionate about AI-driven warehousing, Agentic AI, and intelligent WMS, and regularly shares practical insights on warehouse innovation, automation, and the future of autonomous operations at industry events.



MICHAEL SAHLER / Head of Business Development, GEEKPLUS AMERICA INC

Michael Sahler is the Head of Business Development for Geek+ Americas, where he works with manufacturers, distributors, retailers, and third-party logistics providers to transform warehouse and distribution operations through advanced robotics and automation solutions. Michael helps organizations navigate the rapidly evolving logistics landscape, improve operational efficiency, and build scalable fulfillment strategies. He works closely with customers across North America to identify automation opportunities that address labor challenges, increase throughput, and support long-term growth.



BIJOY SASIDHARAN / Dir. of Analytics, Capacity Planning and Forecasting, FANATICS INC

Bijoy Sasidharan is a supply chain and analytics leader based in Atlanta, with a career spanning strategic roles across retail and ecommerce. His experience includes leadership positions at Walmart E-commerce in supply chain analytics, capacity planning, and forecasting, before serving as Director of Analytics at Fanatics Inc. At Fanatics, he leads capacity planning, demand forecasting, and agile inventory optimization for one of the largest licensed sports apparel platforms. His background combines deep expertise in financial and operational analytics from his Walmart tenure with hands-on inventory strategy across consumer goods and ecommerce.



DEBANSHU SHARMA / Sr. Supply Chain Manager, AMAZON

Debanshu Sharma is a supply chain and transportation strategy expert with 15+ years of experience in freight network design, carrier optimization, predictive analytics, and logistics operations. At Amazon Transportation Services, he leads transportation strategy and developed the Predictive Reliability Index (PRI), a machine learning framework validated across 150,000+ shipments and 1,600+ carriers that achieved an 85% model accuracy and reduced pickup defects by 35%. His peer-reviewed research, co-authored with Dr. Amulya Gurtu of Texas A&M University, was accepted for presentation at the 2026 INFORMS Annual Meeting.





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BRIAN STRAIGHT / Editor in Chief, SCMR, PEERLESS MEDIA, LLC

Brian Straight has been covering trucking, logistics and the broader supply chain for the past 15 years, with a particular interest in the technologies that are driving change in these industries. He joined *Supply Chain Management Review* as editor in chief in January 2023.



NORDSTROM

PRASAD SUNDARAMOORTHY / Sr. Distinguished Leader - Data & AI, NORDSTROM

At Nordstrom, as a Senior Engineering Leader, I lead the transformation of our data architecture and drive advancements in data insights and AI capabilities. By managing multidisciplinary teams, I deliver agile, scalable Data & Analytics solutions that enhance operational efficiency and business outcomes. My role blends technical expertise with strategic leadership, focusing on optimizing data pipelines and fostering a culture of innovation. Passionate about leveraging data-driven strategies, I aim to align technology initiatives with organizational goals, creating measurable impact and driving customer-centric solutions. Be an active participant in the tech community and do participate in anything that I could in both technology and leadership perspectives. Have industry experience of over 20 years in software, data engineering and AI related technologies. Be the person for change in the society and people around me and use the technology as the tool to be able to do outreach and most importantly try to get the tech closer to non-privileged and underprivileged.



Johnson&Johnson

RONALD VOLANS / Head of Janssen Deliver NA, JOHNSON & JOHNSON

Ron Volans is a globally recognized leader in healthcare supply chain management, with a distinguished career spanning more than 25 years. As the Head of North America Deliver at Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine, Ron plays a pivotal role in overseeing distribution and customer service for Johnson & Johnson's pharmaceutical business, which generates over 60% of the company's pharmaceutical revenue. Leading a dedicated team of more than 150 professionals, he ensures the timely delivery of life-saving medicines to 90 countries, serving over 7 million patients, including clinical sites and healthcare providers. He also serves as President of the Board for JOM Pharmaceutical Services, a Johnson & Johnson Company. Ron's career at Johnson & Johnson is marked by an extensive range of supply chain roles across Planning, Procurement, External Manufacturing, and Deliver, spanning the Medical Devices, Consumer, and Pharmaceutical sectors. He has successfully managed an extensive external manufacturing sites, cultivated strong relationships with more than 300 customers, and spearheaded the distribution integration of J&J's largest pharmaceutical acquisition, Actelion, across 80+ countries. His innovative approach to supplier management, business transformation, and change management has consistently driven measurable results, all guided by his patient-centric, people-focused leadership philosophy.



ODW Logistics

KAYLA WATSON / Director of Inventory Control, ODW LOGISTICS

Kayla Watson is a seasoned inventory control and 3PL operations leader with deep expertise in building the processes, playbooks, and people that keep warehouse operations running accurately at scale. As Director of Inventory Control at ODW Logistics, Kayla oversees inventory strategy across a national network, driving measurable operational improvement that turns inventory from a liability into a competitive advantage. Kayla blends hands-on operational discipline with a talent for developing teams and scaling best practices across complex, multi-site environments. Her work at ODW has reduced customer-required physical inventories from five-day, around-the-clock counts to two-hour audits, and her Inventory Playbook has become a foundational training tool for leaders across the organization. A recipient of the 2023 Women in Supply Chain Award, Kayla is recognized not only for her operational impact but also for her commitment to mentorship and developing the next generation of supply chain leaders.



ERIC WATTS / Group VP, Food & Beverage, TARGET

Eric Watts is Group Vice President of Field Operations for Target's Food Supply Chain, overseeing nine Food Distribution Centers, middle-mile carrier management, and daily transportation execution for the company's temperature-controlled network. With more than 20 years of supply chain leadership at Target and eight years in the U.S. Army Reserves, Eric specializes in operational excellence, team development, automation, and network optimization. He has led large-scale distribution operations, facility start-ups, and multimillion-dollar transformation initiatives to improve reliability, efficiency, and supply chain resilience. Eric holds an MS in Operations Management from the University of Arkansas and a BBA from Angelo State University.



EVONIK Leading Beyond Chemistry

SANTOSH YERASURI / Head of Strategic Business Projects, EVONIK CORPORATION

Santosh Yerasuri is a supply chain and logistics leader with 12+ years of experience in risk management, transportation strategy, and operational finance across the specialty chemicals and aerospace industries. He leads global logistics optimization and risk mitigation initiatives at a specialty chemicals company. A Senior Member of IEEE, Santosh reviews technical papers for leading IEEE conferences, serves as a Grand Judge for Society for Science fairs, and contributes to international engineering forums. He has published peer-reviewed research, authored books on supply chain and transportation systems, and holds patents for logistics devices. Santosh holds an MS in Manufacturing Engineering Management from California State University, Northridge, and is a frequent industry speaker on supply chain resilience, sustainability, and operational optimization.



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