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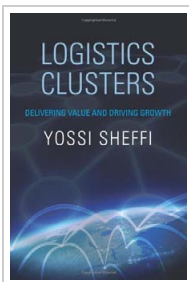
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Logistics Clusters: Delivering Value and Driving Growth

by Yossi Sheffi

Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, 2012

Why is Memphis home to hundreds of motor carrier terminals and distribution centers? Why does the tiny island-nation of Singapore handle a fifth of the world's maritime containers and half the world's annual supply of crude oil?

Which jobs can replace lost manufacturing jobs in advanced economies?

Some of the answers to these questions are rooted in the phenomenon of logistics clusters—geographically concentrated sets of logistics-related business activities. In this book, supply chain management expert Yossi Sheffi explains why Memphis, Singapore, Chicago, Rotterdam, Los Angeles, and scores of other locations have been successful in developing such clusters while others have not.

Sheffi outlines the characteristic “positive feedback loop” of logistics clusters development and what differentiates them from other industrial clusters; how logistics clusters “add value” by generating other industrial activities; why firms should locate their distribution and value-added activities in logistics clusters; and the proper role of government support, in the form of investment, regulation, and trade policy.

Sheffi also argues for the most important advantage offered by logistics clusters in today's recession-plagued economy: jobs, many of them open to low-skilled workers, that are concentrated locally and not “offshorable.” These logistics clusters offer what is rare in today's economy: authentic success stories. For this reason, numerous regional and central governments as well as scores of real estate developers are investing in the development of such clusters.

Yossi Sheffi is the Elisha Gray II Professor of Engineering Systems at MIT and Director of the MIT Center for Transportation and Logistics. He has worked with manufacturers and leading service providers around

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the world on supply chain issues and is an active entrepreneur, having founded and co-founded five successful companies since 1987. He is the author of *The Resilient Enterprise: Overcoming Vulnerability for Competitive Advantage* (MIT Press) and *Urban Transportation Networks*.



Posted by: David Forrest

David Forrest is a Canadian writer and consultant. His Integral Strategy™ process has been widely used to increase collaboration in communities, build social capital, deepen commitment to action, and develop creative strategies to deal with complex challenges. David advises organizations on emerging trends. He uses the term Enterprise Ecology™ to describe how ecological principles can be applied to competition, innovation, and strategy in business.



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ABOUT DAVID FORREST



David Forrest is a Canadian writer and strategy consultant. His Integral Strategy™ process has been widely used to increase collaboration in communities, build social capital, deepen commitment

to action, and develop creative strategies to deal with complex challenges.

Integral Strategy™ has been applied by businesses, governments, and non-profit organizations to systemic challenges in healthcare, energy, environment, resource management, scientific research, innovation, education, transportation, economic development, community development and community service.

David advises organizations on emerging trends. He uses the term Enterprise Ecology™ to describe how ecological principles can be applied to competition, innovation, and strategy in business.

David is a member of the Professional Writers Association of Canada, the World Future Society, and other futures organizations. He is a member of the Advisory Committee of the Institute for Science, Society and Policy at the University of Ottawa. He publishes Innovation Watch, and writes its biweekly trend newsletter, which is emailed to readers in more than 40 countries.

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