SC
Strategic Change

Call for Papers

Special Issue

Cascading Effects of Knowledge Hiding in Supply Chains: Antecedents, Diffusion Mechanisms, and Outcomes

Submission deadline: 1st June 2027

Submission start date: 1st February 2027

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Introduction

Supply chains represent a multi-level framework involving individuals, organizations, and environments, in which the connections and interactions among these actors facilitate the flow of information, materials, and financial resources across the chain. Such complexity provides an important context for exploring knowledge hiding behaviors across different levels (e.g., intra-organizational and inter-organizational), as well as their trans-level cascading effects and associated outcomes.

Existing studies have largely examined knowledge hiding as intra-organizational behavior, focusing on interpersonal antecedents and individual-level consequences (e.g., Shen et al. 2025; Ali et al. 2026). Prior research has demonstrated that knowledge hiding negatively affects innovation, collaboration, trust, creativity, and organizational performance (e.g., Su et al. 2025). However, substantial theoretical and empirical gaps regarding the multi-level, inter-organizational, and networked dynamics of knowledge hiding still existing (Anand et al. 2021; Grinberg and Strakhovich. 2021), particularly concerning how such behaviors spread and cascade across interdependent supply chain networks. At the same time, the supply chain literature strongly emphasizes the critical role of information sharing, collaboration, and knowledge exchange in enhancing resilience, sustainability, agility, and innovation (Zhao et al. 2023; Singh et al. 2026). Studies on supply chain knowledge management have repeatedly identified knowledge flows as central to coordination and competitive advantage, yet they primarily focus on knowledge sharing rather than knowledge withholding or hiding. Consequently, there is limited understanding of how deliberate concealment of knowledge disrupts relational exchanges, weakens trust, and triggers cascading dysfunctions across interconnected supply chain actors. This gap is particularly significant because modern supply chains operate as highly interdependent networks in which behavioral disruptions originating from one node can rapidly spread throughout the entire system.

Aims and Scope

This special issue call therefore responds to several critical research gaps. First, it reconceptualizes knowledge hiding as a cascading and networked phenomenon rather than isolated interpersonal behavior. Second, it advances cross-level theorization by examining how individual, team, organizational, and inter-organizational knowledge hiding behaviors interact and diffuse across supply chain networks. Third, it seeks to uncover the transmission mechanisms, including relational distrust, power asymmetries, institutional pressures, technological barriers, and behavioral contagion, through which knowledge hiding spreads. Finally, it explores the broader outcomes of cascading knowledge hiding for innovation, resilience, sustainability, performance, governance, and stakeholder relationships.

By bringing together scholars from supply chain management, knowledge management, organizational behavior, information systems, and sustainability research, this special issue aims to develop a systemic understanding of knowledge hiding in contemporary supply chain networks. It will provide timely theoretical insights and practical implications for managers, policymakers, and researchers seeking to strengthen collaboration, transparency, and resilience in increasingly interconnected global supply chains.

Potential topics

We invite submissions that engage with, but are not limited to the following themes:

Cascading effects of knowledge hiding in supply chains

- Cross-level transmission of knowledge hiding across supply chain actors
- How individual knowledge hiding becomes organizational-level knowledge hiding
- Thresholds, tipping points, and escalation mechanisms in knowledge hiding cascades

Consequences for supply chain performance

- Knowledge hiding and supply chain resilience
- Knowledge hiding and supply chain innovation
- Knowledge hiding and collaborative performance

Governance and mitigation

- How can supply chain managers detect knowledge hiding
- Leadership and knowledge hiding prevention
- Knowledge governance across multiple supply chain tiers

Methodological opportunities

- Social network analysis of knowledge hiding
- Multi-level modelling of knowledge hiding
- Simulation of knowledge hiding propagation

Submission guidelines

Authors are invited to submit their manuscripts electronically via the Strategic Change Journal online submission system (https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10991697).

All submissions should adhere to the journal's guidelines, available on the journal's website. Manuscripts will undergo a double-blind peer-review process to ensure the highest quality and rigor. The journal also welcomes interdisciplinary perspectives and encourages collaborations between researchers from different disciplines.

Submission process and important dates

Submission starts date: 1st February 2027

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