

Supply Chain Agility Workshop Key Takeaways

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Supply Chain Agility Workshop held October 15-16, 2025 at the Center for Infrastructure Renewal (above) on the TAMUS RELLIS Campus in Bryan

What Is Supply Chain Management?

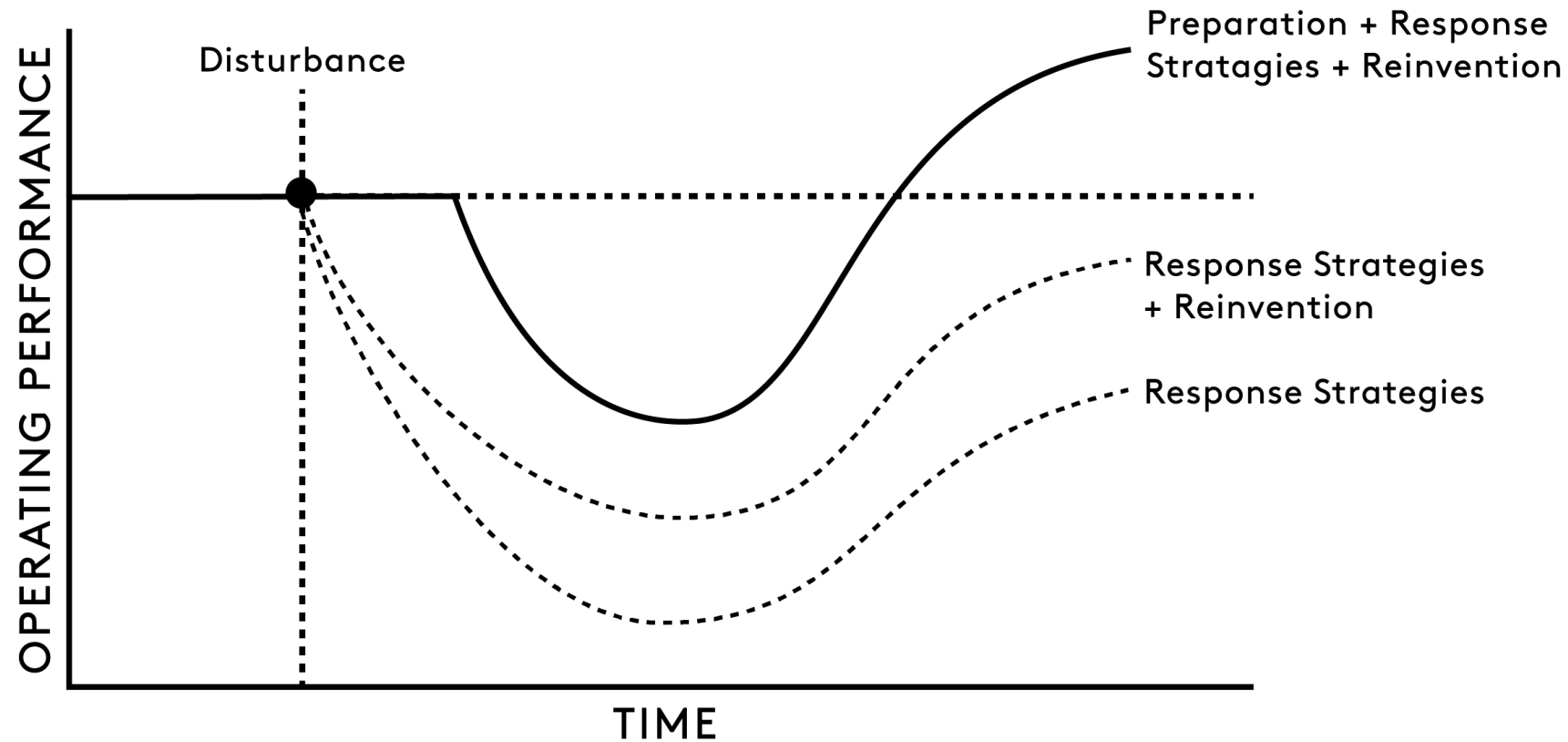
Supply chain management encompasses the planning and management of all activities involved in the sourcing and procurement, conversion, and all logistics management activities. Importantly, it also includes coordination and collaboration with channel partners, which can be suppliers, intermediaries, third party service providers, and customers. In essence, supply chain management integrates supply and demand management within and across companies.

– Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals definition

Contrasting “Lean” and “Agile”

	Lean	Agile
Purpose	Using fewer resources (reduce waste) in order to increase value	Market sensitive in order to gain a competitive advantage
Origin	Toyota 1936 – kaizen. JIT and Toyota production system developed	1990s rise of information technology
Methodology	Identify customer value. Identify value stream. Flow—reduced Lead Time, Demand pull system.	Implement an information-based supply chain. Make it market sensitive. Improve network infrastructure. Involve suppliers and buyers in process
Goal	Reduce waste	Responsiveness

Supply Chain Designed with Resilience in Mind



Resilience and Robustness

RESILIENCE

- System **elasticity**
- Recover normal function after a disruption

• ROBUSTNESS

- System **hardness**
- Maintain function during a disruption

Building robustness might require different strategies than building resilience... but some strategies are beneficial to both

Five Key Dimensions of Supply Chains and Public Policy

1. Infrastructure
investments

2. Tariffs, fees &
nontariff barriers

3. SCM
technologies and
innovations

4. Food safety,
traceability

5. Social
sustainability and
human rights

Infrastructure Investments



- Governments provide economic infrastructure (roads, ports, airports, power plants)
- Long term investments and very costly
- Infrastructure service and regulations
- Urban infrastructure increasingly important

Tariffs, Fees, Nontariff Barriers, Border Crossings

- Paperwork/border delays can be higher impact than tariffs
- Trade facilitation is about coordination (not just infrastructure)
- Nearshoring amplifies the need for efficient crossings



SCM Technologies and Innovations



- Governments set standards (e.g. 5G)
- Developing human capital
- Cyber security protection
- Integration with government transactions (customs, immigration, trade facilitation)

Workshop Concluded with Signature of MOU

- TTI and Logistics Cluster of the State of Nuevo León
- Logistics Cluster one of 15 strategic sectors of government, private sector, universities



Questions?

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