

Preface to the Second Edition

The first edition of this reference-book on modern logistics has been well accepted by professionals, scientists, teachers and students. Apart from corrections of errors and modifications to improve clarity, the content and presentation remain essentially unchanged in the second edition. The bibliography has been amended by selected publications.

In this edition, current aspects of logistics such as the *ecological aspect*, the *revenue aspect*, *flexibility*, *adaptability* and *dynamic scheduling*, and the opportunities of the *Internet* are extended. A strategy of *virtual centralization* which uses *Internet-platforms* is outlined in an additional section. A new chapter is about *maritime logistics*. It presents a logistic approach to modern shipping and demonstrates how the methods, strategies and formulas of this book help to solve complex problems of high relevance for economy, society and environment.

We would like to acknowledge the comments of colleagues and the helpful remarks of professionals and graduate students. We hope that this book helps to create an *international logistic science* and will spread the ideas of modern logistics further.

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