

## **A Study of Supply Chain Management in Foundry Industry with Special Reference to Kolhapur District**

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### **Abstract**

To Survive and thrive within an increasingly competitive market place and to succeed on sustainable basis, organization must adopt the new techniques and business models like supply chain management. A supply chain management consists of all the stages involved directly or indirectly in fulfilling the customer request. The supply chain not only includes the manufacturers & supplies, but also transporters, warehouse, retailers & customers themselves. Kolhapur is a leading foundry cluster, in providing quality castings to its customers majority of the foundry units in the cluster cater to the automotive sector along with other sectors such as pumps/valves, sugar, textiles, etc. Productivity is reduced due to the occurrence of defects in the foundry. These defects occur in various processes of manufacturing. The rejection percentage is not within the company

standards in some places. The purpose of any business is to reduce supply risk at lower cost, provide timely delivery, increase customer service, the proper managing the flow of information and product with compressed cycle time and reducing overall operational cost.

**Keywords:** *Supply chain, foundry ,process, defect free, procedure,policies*

## 1. Introduction

- **Supply chain Management:**

Supply chain management is a systematic approach to managing the distribution of goods from producers of raw materials, through manufacturers and eventually down to end users. Supply chain management affects manufacturing companies in a variety of ways, including the availability of inputs needed for production processes, costs and profitability of manufactured items, company infrastructure and ways in which companies interact with their suppliers and customers.

Supply chain management in foundries manages Issues related to production management such as Quality, Material planning, Inventory, Technology, Waste, Rejection, Quantity, Productivity, ISO, Modern Production management Techniques, Poka Yoke, Safety stock, Raw Material Procurement, Raw material testing, Control, etc.

- **Foundry and its processes:**

Foundry is the most basic industry and it is the feeder industry for many manufacturing industries. Foundry is a workshop where the castings are manufactured. Casting is the process of creating a shape for iron by melting it. The iron will be melted and made in liquid form and it is poured in the hollow cavity of the desired shape called mold. The core made of sand will be used to create the desired shape. Once the metal gets cool, the iron casting will be ready with some geometrically complex shape. Other metals like magnesium, aluminum, zinc, steel, and copper-based alloys can also be used to make castings. These all castings will be majorly used in cars, trucks, planes, trains, mining and construction equipment, oil wells, pipes, toys, space shuttles, wind turbines, and nuclear plants, etc. The minor changes in the process will happen from company to company. Different stages in the manufacturing of casting include the following:

1) Preparation of molds and charge material. This involves the preparation of (i) Molding sand, (ii) Casting molds, and (iii) Charge (metals and alloys).

Kolhapur foundry cluster is one of the famous and important foundry clusters in India, it is especially known for automotive castings. Kolhapur is a leading foundry cluster, in providing quality castings to its customers. There are many industrial estates viz: Kolhapur city Shirol MIDC, Gokul Shirgaon MIDC, Kagal 5-star MIDC, Ichalkaranji industrial estate, Jaisingpur industrial area, Laxmi industrial area, Hatkanagale industrial area are established over a period of time.

The main aim of the foundry industry is to make safer components for automobiles by making defect-free and duly tested components as per the customer expectations. Foundries are implementing and using process

quality assurance techniques right from procurement of raw material, storage, production, packing, and dispatch till receipt of final casting in the hands of customers and that too in good condition. Many foundries are associating with clients from the conceptualization and development stage of the product to fulfill the expectations of customers.

## **2. Significance of the study**

This study will be a significant endeavour in analysis of supply chain in the foundry industry. This study will also be beneficial in supply chain management, corporate strategies with respect to the operations management. It is beneficial to understand the process planning and simulations. By understanding the needs of the simulations and implementations of supply chain management, improvisations and optimization in process time and flexibility. This research will assure about quality improvement and more productivity.

## **3. Scope of the study**

Scope of the study is material flow management and supply chain analysis. The areas of analysis are Foundry and its current function with respective to Kolhapur district. Supply chain management Planning process and its simulation and further implementation. Utilizing manufacturing plants to optimum level of foundry processes.

## **4. Objectives of the study**

- 1) To examine the significance of Supply Chain management and its implementation of Foundry industry of Kolhapur district.
- 2) To study the scope of functional areas of Supply Chain Management.
- 3) To study the impact of Supply Chain Management on profit of the foundry industry for Kolhapur district.

## **5. Limitations of the study**

This research is Secondary research. Therefore, data collection from the employees who are regularly experiencing the problems about the supply chain will not be analysed in this research. Analysis of secondary data is only performed.

## 6. Background of the study

Kolhapur Foundries are majorly contributing towards the end-user markets like the Automobile sector, Oil engines, Pump and Valves, Electric Motors, agriculture equipment, Food processing industry, Machine tools, Sugar industry, Textile Machinery, etc. But there is a strong need to develop and establish innovative and self-sustained foundry clusters, which can respond to the global demand.

India has its own opportunities and challenges in the foundry industry. But there is a need of developing more competitive strategies to make India number one in the world foundry industry, and that can be possible when the foundries will implement best management practices.

Foundry is indeed the foundation of many industries. To make all processes and working of foundry industries more efficiently and effectively, lean manufacturing process is useful. It eliminates the waste from processes and it improves processes effectively. As the processes are more efficient than productivity of company will increase. It results too more beneficial for the more upcoming foundry projects of Kolhapur region.

## 7. Research methodology

- a. Secondary data has been collected of from research papers and PhD theses related foundry industry situated near Kolhapur district. Analysis of 530 foundry units is selected and 15 foundry industry Sample size tentatively considered.
- b. **Secondary** analysis involves the **use** of existing **data** collected for the purposes of a prior study This research is Secondary research. Secondary data is collected from sources. and this data is studied and analysed. In this research, Supply chain process and its simulations are analysed and studied from research paper which is based on the topic foundry industry related and its functioning data related Kolhapur district which are provided in this research papers.
- c. paper-based sources journals, abstracts, research reports, conference papers, market reports, annual reports, internal records of organizations, newspapers and magazines electronic sources online databases, Internet, videos and broadcasts.
- d. PhD theses are referred which are the analytical studies of the foundry industries, Kolhapur for recent years. Secondary data was gathered through, the information received from the magazines like outlook, Business world, Business Today, journals and online sources. Shodhaganga theses were the proper resource for the data interpretations.

## 8. Data analysis and interpretations:

The major findings emerging from this research work regarding prevailing supply chain management practice of surveyed foundry industry of Kolhapur district. Findings are analysed based on the supply chain management practices survey

### I. General information regarding Foundry industry from analysis:

As per the 2020 research data analysis, in foundry industries 3(30%) having the annual sales turnover between 5001-10000 lakhs followed by 2(20%) each 3000-3500 lakh, 10001-20000 lakhs and 1(10%) each, 3501-5000 lakhs, 20001-30000 lakhs and above 30001 lakhs. foundry industries have got the different capacity of melting the material which varies from up to 250 tons to above 3001 Tons per months (P.M.) This depends on production schedule in hand, availability of raw material, break down time of the plant and its capacity etc. The majority of surveyed units have adopted the modern production processes with the aim of producing the desired and specified product, for smooth production processes and minimizing the waste.

### II. Inventory Management and Inventory Control

In all the surveyed units only selected inventory control technique are used which are common and very popular like ABC Analysis, XYZ Analysis, MIL / ROL, FSN and HML analysis etc. Various types of updated MIL/ROL systems like value-based MIL/ROL, D-class based system (4 bin system), various types of matrixes like ABC V/S XYZ ANALYSIS (useful for inventory in store) and XYZ V/S FSNOD ANALYSIS (useful for inventory in WIP) are not at all used by all the surveyed units. Therefore, it is necessary to implement such new system and matrix for better inventory control. It is also observed that a big amount is blocked in inventory in —work in process Inventory —(WIP) and also inventory in —stores of all the surveyed units. A proper analysis of such inventory is not done in all the surveyed units. The procedural steps of —core process for forming the inventory polices are not properly followed in all the Surveyed organizations. It is very much necessary to follow it seriously for having better inventory management and control system.

**III. Effective implementation of Supply Chain Management Practices** the Supply chain executives of the majority 15(75%) surveyed units have shown the satisfaction about the supply chain management practices followed in their organizations.

1. **Stores Management-** All the Surveyed Units are following two methods for stock checking i.e Annual Stock (A.S) verification and perpetual inventory checking. However, the activity of perpetual inventory checking is not at all followed properly and seriously in all Foundry industries.

2. **Reverse Logistic-** Surveyed Units are receiving the goods back which are sold to the customers through the system of reverse logistic. The various reasons for reverse logistic in all the Surveyed Unit are common. It is also observed that this activity is not properly followed in all surveyed units
3. **Procurement Management** The corrective action to meet the shortages of material the purchase department of all the surveyed units is purchasing the material by paying the premium rate.

This has resulted into higher purchasing cost of the material. It is noted that some of foundry units are units having a separate Inventory Control Department.

4. **Material Planning-** It is observed by the researcher that all the 20(100%) surveyed units are doing the materials planning well by performing various functions and following systems of the supply chain management.

5. **Delivery Schedule-** The 100% surveyed units are following the practice of preparing and circulating the delivery schedule throughout in the organization which is a good practice. There is a production review system for monitoring the status of achievement of delivery schedule in all the surveyed units. Through this system the production target v/s the production done v/s. delivery (sales made), all these figures are weekly very well communicated in all the surveyed organizations through e393 mail. This is a very good practice and a system which gives an idea / to know the exact status of delivery schedule achieved (against target) and actual sales turnover done.

## 9. Suggestions:

- I. the management of all the surveyed units must have a strong & thorough grounding of the principles, practises, procedures & various strategies of supply chain management system.
- II. Proper execution of supply chain management system has definitely resulted in the increase of profitability & growth of all the surveyed organizations
- III. Updating the knowledge of supply chain management professionals by giving them frequent training on supply chain.
- IV. Constant review of performances of the present supply chain management systems.
- V. Moral support to motivate the supply chain management professional for smooth execution of supply chain management system.

## 10. CONCLUSIONS:

If the recommended suggestions are executed then it will definitely support to strengthen and to improve the existing supply chain management system of the surveyed units. If the recommended suggestions are executed then it will definitely support to strengthen and to improve the existing supply chain management system of the surveyed units. These suggestions can be implemented by utilizing the presently available infrastructure with all the surveyed units and will result into increase the productivity, profitability and growth of all the surveyed units.

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