

The topic of information risks of freight forwarders in container shipping sphere is not well studied yet and this topic is of special interest both from scientific and practical viewpoints. The complexity of actors' relationship in the industry, as well as the place of freight forwarding companies are presented in the figure 2 (p.12), the nature and importance of risks, associated with information flow in the industry are described in the Chapter 2 (pp.21-22). The aim and objectives together with research questions are well aligned in the study. However, such formal but important for organizing research items as research goal, objectives, object, and subject could be defined in a better and more clear way.

#### **Structure and logic of the text flow.**

The Master Thesis has quite a logical structure; the paper comprises 4 chapters and these chapters are consequently connected. The author goes from the theoretical parts linked to different aspects of the topic, namely maritime transport logistics and the role of sea containers freight forwarding companies in this industry (pp.8-14) on the one hand and risk management aspects (pp.15-21, p.22-26) on the other hand. The theoretical overview is followed by the author's research methodology (pp. 27-32) and findings of the empirical part (pp. 38-43). But the present alignment of thesis' structural parts (i.e. theoretical and empirical parts) is not well-balanced. Referee would like to see more justified methodology of research supporting better its empirical part.

#### **Quality of analytical approach and quality of offered solution to the research objectives.**

Research scope is rather well-defined (pp.5-6) and exploratory research process with expert interviews and survey is mainly reasonable and justified (pp.28-31). The relevant theoretical aspects are basically considered (pp.8-26), although it seems the theoretical part can be presented in more details. Nevertheless, generally, the objectives of the research, stated in Introduction part (p.5-6) are more or less achieved.

#### **Quality of data gathering and description.**

The data taken from the literature review for the information risk classification is based on the model of the PricewaterhouseCoopers company (p.38). The data gathered from the industry experts is valuable. For the final result the author provides two main types of data: the list of information risks, composed on the basis of literature examination and assessments of managerial risk perception, got from the survey (pp.38-40). This research is supported by a quite sufficient list of references. Although the research is limited by number of respondents, the results can be considered as significant for further investigation.

#### **Scientific aspect of the thesis.**

The results of the research – in a few points - provide a sort of specific supplements for the risk management in certain logistics field especially. The author having used PWC risk models options has tried to itemize some categories of information risks and sets of main risks for each category (pp.38-40) that gives a clear idea about this sphere of management. Nevertheless, the author's adaptation of the said PWC models could be made better. The iterative arrangement of studying managers' perceptions of information risks in maritime transport logistics demands should be described in more details.

#### **Practical/applied nature of research.**

The paper provides the information concerning information risks in freight forwarding sea containers and could be used by corresponding managers of related companies to improve the process of risk management (see Managerial implications and Research Limitations section of the present work (p.42). The results of the research seem to be

based on the said industry experts. But the relatively poor scale of interviewing restricts its applicability for managerial implementation as minimum at this stage of research maturity.

**Quality of thesis layout**

The layout of thesis meets the main GSOM requirements.

**CONCLUSION:**

Master thesis of **Ekaterina Artemovich** - **MANAGING INFORMATION RISKS IN FREIGHT FORWARDING SEA CONTAINERS** - meets as a whole the requirements of the Master in Management – International Logistics and Supply Chain Management Program, and according to the reviewer's opinion deserves a «**satisfactory/D**» grade, thus the author can be given the desired degree.

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