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Abstract
Distribution refers to the movement of product from one location to another in a supply chain network. Any supply chain's success is closely linked to the appropriate use of distribution activity. Therefore, Distribution is a very important issue in supply chain because products are rarely produced and consumed in the same location. Third-Party-Logistics is the use of an outside company to perform all or part of the firm's materials management and product distribution functions.

Third-Party-Logistics refers to the movement of product from the supply to the customer in a supply chain network. Third-Party-Logistics plays a key roly in supply chain's distribution activity. The loading planning problem for Third-Party-Logistics is simultaneously determine freight routes for all O-D pairs and balanced trailer movements to minimize the total operating cost. It is one of the important operational issues for Third-Party-Logistics.

The dissertation presents a mixed integer programming model for the load planning problem of Third-Party-Logistics in supply chain. The model was tested with some small examples to show its function and effectiveness for the loading planning problem. Moreover, it is shown to be a tool to investigate the operational characteristics of every load planning problem of Third-Party-Logistics in supply chain.
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