



Séminaire du CIRRELT

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INVENTORY DISPATCHING OF LUXURY WATCHES WITH PRODUCTION AND LEAD-TIMES UNCERTAINTY

Abstract:

A well-known Swiss luxury brand, active in the top-end luxury market, is facing a complex inventory deployment problem where items of different models must be dispatched first to wholesalers to finally reach the shops where clients come in. Along the way, different perturbations are expected at two levels (production and transportation), and accurate reactions must be taken to fit to these uncertainties. The use of simulation (involving a repair procedure) is required to evaluate any solution. Fast and efficient constructive heuristics are proposed to solve realistic instances.

Biography:

Nicolas Zufferey is a full professor of operations management at the University of Geneva in Switzerland. His research activities are focused on designing metaheuristics for difficult and large combinatorial optimization problems, with applications mainly in transportation, scheduling, production, inventory management, network design, and telecommunications. He is member of the CIRRELT transportation and logistics research center (www.cirrelt.ca) and of the GERAD decision analysis research center (www.gerad.ca). He received his BSc and MSc degrees in Mathematics at EPFL (the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne), as well as his PhD degree in operations research (2002). He was then successively a post-doctoral trainee at the University of Calgary (2003 – 2004) and an assistant professor at Laval University (2004 – 2007). He is the (co)author of more than 80 publications (papers in professional journals, proceedings of conferences, and book chapters) and has reviewed papers for 36 international journals. With 42 coauthors, he has had research activities with 18 Universities in Europe and North America, as well as with 13 private companies.

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