



Preface

This special issue of the *Journal of Global Optimization* is devoted to supply chain optimization.

Over the last decade, supply chain management has developed into a field of study of major importance and interest for practitioners and researchers alike. Research in the broad area of supply chain management encompasses a wide range of topics and methodologies. However, it has become clear that optimization can be a very effective tool in supporting the often complex decisions that need to be made when considering the integration between many different functions in the supply chain, such as location, production, inventory, transportation. Effective integration of the supply chain can reduce costs, while at the same time improving customer service.

This special issue brings together a set of articles that approach a wide range of issues in supply chain management using a great variety of optimization-based approaches, from nonlinear optimization to mixed-integer and stochastic programming. The authors are all leaders in either supply chain management or (global) optimization or both, each bringing their unique perspective to different problems in an exciting field. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the authors, as well as the referees. Without their time and effort this special issue would not have been possible.

Edwin Romeijn
Guest Editor