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Nadim E. Abboud is an Assistant Professor of Engineering Management at the American University of Beirut (AUB). The paper in this issue reflects his interest in repairable-item inventory problems and developing efficient algorithms to solve such problems of large sizes. Prior to joining AUB, the author worked as a staff analyst in Corporate Research and Development at United Airlines.

John N. Daigle is the Director of the Center for Wireless Communications and a Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Mississippi, Oxford. His research focuses on understanding and solving real-world problems in telecommunications and logistics. The current contribution is the result of a long-term collaborative effort that began during Nadim Abboud's doctoral dissertation work.

Lisa M. Betts is an inventory analyst for Norton Performance Plastics. Her work focuses on continual improvements in the production process. **J. Randall Brown** is a Professor of Administrative Sciences at Kent State University. His current research focuses on mathematical programming with an emphasis on sharing problems, utility measurement, scheduling theory, and calculating statistical sampling distributions. This article is an expansion of Dr. Betts' dissertation with Dr. Brown that was motivated by a concern for the equitable distribution of resources.

Mike Bevers is a Natural Resources Management Research Scientist at the USDA Forest Service's Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station in Fort Collins, Colorado. **John Hof** is a Research Project Leader at the same location. John and Mike have been investigating spatial optimization approaches to management modeling for forest and range land resources including wildlife habitat, streams, recreation sites, and timber for the past several years. **Dan Uresk** is Research Project Leader at the Experiment Station's Center for Great Plains Ecosystem Research in Rapid City, South Dakota. **Greg Schenbeck** is a USDA Forest Service Wildlife Management Biologist on the Northern Great Plains Ecosystem Planning Team located at the Nebraska National Forest headquarters in Chadron, Nebraska. Greg has served as a member of the National Black-Footed Ferret Recovery Team involved with the recent reintroduction of ferrets in South Dakota. Greg and Dan have been studying prairie ecosystems and working on recovery of diminishing grassland wildlife populations for over two decades.

Sem Borst is a member of the technical staff in the Mathematics of Networks and Systems Research Department of Bell Labs, Lucent Technologies in Murray Hill, NJ. **Onno Boxma** is the Head of the Department of Probability, Networks and Algorithms at CWI, Amsterdam, and a Professor of Operations Research at Tilburg University. They are

both interested in queueing theory and its application to computer/communication performance issues. In several studies, including the present one, their aim has been to explain, unify, and generalize results that relate performance measures in polling models with and without switchover times. These results have been at the heart of the 1994 dissertation of Dr. Borst.

Onno Boxma, see **Sem Borst**.

J. Randall Brown, see **Lisa M. Betts**.

Chun Hung Cheng, see **Arnold Reisman**.

Jim Dai is an Associate Professor holding a joint appointment in the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering and the School of Mathematics at the Georgia Institute of Technology. His research interests include performance analysis and scheduling of multiclass queueing networks arising from telecommunication and manufacturing systems. **Din-Horng Yeh** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Information Management at Kaohsiung Polytechnic Institute, Taiwan, R.O.C. He received his Ph.D. degree in Operations Research from the Georgia Institute of Technology. His research interests include queueing networks as well as Brownian system models for performance analysis of manufacturing and telecommunication networks. **Chen Zhou** is an Associate Professor in the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology. His research has been in process control in manufacturing systems, dimensional measurement, and tool management.

John N. Daigle, see **Nadim E. Abboud**.

Stéphane Dauzère-Pérès is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Automatic Control and Production Engineering at Écoles des Mines de Nantes in France. His research mostly focuses on optimization in production and logistics, with applications in production planning, scheduling, and vehicle routing. **Jean B. Lasserre** is Directeur de Recherche at LAAS-CNRS, Toulouse, France. His research interests include production planning and scheduling, Markov decision processes and applied probability. Their article is part of a larger research program on integration of planning and scheduling decisions in manufacturing.

Awi Federgruen is the Charles E. Exley Professor of Management and Chair of the Management Science Division at the Columbia University Graduate School of Business. **Garrett van Ryzin** is the Class of 1967 Professor of Management, Columbia University, Graduate School of Business. This paper grew out of the authors' mutual interest

in logistics planning models, in particular the role of probabilistic analysis as an aid in both designing and evaluating heuristics for complex packing and routing problems.

Michel Gendreau is a Professor of Operations Research at the Université de Montréal and a member of the Centre for Research on Transportation (CRT).

Alain Hertz is an Assistant Professor at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Laussane, Switzerland. He conducts research in graph theory, combinatorial optimization, algorithms, scheduling and time-tabling, production, and distribution.

John Hof, see **Mike Bevers**.

Bernd Jurisch is a Project Manager in the Decision Support Department of the Lufthansa Systems GmbH in Frankfurt/Main, Germany. His current work focuses on timetable optimization and optimal distribution of freight over networks. The paper presented in this issue had been written when he was a postdoctoral fellow in the Faculty of Business Administration at Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada. **Wieslaw Kubiak** is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Business Administration at Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada. His current research focuses on production planning and scheduling, performance evaluation, combinatorial optimization, and computational complexity.

Leo Kroon is working for the Logistics Department of Netherlands Railways, the main railway operator in the Netherlands. His main job is to develop decision support systems for analyzing and improving the quality of the timetable of Netherlands Railways. Furthermore, he is an Associate Professor at the Rotterdam School of Management of the Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands. **Marc Salomon** is the Manager of the Center for Applied Mathematics of Rabobank (Rabofacet) in the Netherlands and a full Professor in the Department of Econometrics at Tilburg University, the Netherlands. He is the coordinator of the EURO working group that promotes the application of operations research in practice. **Luk Van Wassenhove** is a full Professor and holds the John H. Loudon Chair in International Management at INSEAD in Fontainebleau, France. He is also Area Coordinator of the Technology Management Department and the Director of the Research Center for Integrated Manufacturing and Service Operations at INSEAD. His research focuses on operations management, time compression in new product development, quality, continual improvement, and learning at the factory level.

Wieslaw Kubiak, see **Bernd Jurisch**.

Ashok Kumar, see **Arnold Reisman**.

Gilbert Laporte is a Professor of Operations Research at the École des Hautes Études Commerciales de Montréal.

He is a former Director of the CRT and the current Editor of *Transportation Science*.

Jean B. Lasserre, see **Stéphane Dauzère-Pérès**.

Chung-Yee Lee is the Rockwell Professor of Industrial Engineering at the Texas A & M University. His research includes production scheduling and operations management and their applications in manufacturing organizations. **George L. Vairaktarakis** recently joined the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University as an Assistant Professor. His work focuses on manufacturing systems and production planning with a current emphasis on manufacturing and project management with multiple resource options. The work in this article is part of Dr. Vairaktarakis's doctoral dissertation with Professor Lee. Their ongoing work concerns developing methods for long-range planning of the workforce needs in labor intensive assembly systems.

Jaideep Motwani, see **Arnold Reisman**.

Arnold Reisman was a Professor of Operations Research at Case Western Reserve University for 27 years. He opted for early retirement in 1994. His work experience includes extensive worldwide consulting and lecturing. His current research interests are technology transfer, knowledge generation, and meta research. He is also actively pursuing his life long interest in sculpting. **Ashok Kumar** is an Associate Professor at Grand Valley State University. Dr. Kumar's areas of research interest include meta-research on the research directions of various OR/MS disciplines, stochastic-demand integrated distribution systems, and total quality management. The current research grew out of curiosity as to how individual modules of OR/MS research, such as cellular manufacturing, are doing both in terms of the theory/application orientation as well as the research strategies employed. The basic framework for analysis was provided by Reisman and Kirschnick (1994, 1995) published in *Operations Research*. **Chun Hung Cheng** is an Associate Professor at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Cellular manufacturing has been a primary area of Dr. Cheng's research for several years now. Papers related to cellular manufacturing that bear Dr. Cheng's name have appeared in many journals, such as the *International Journal of Production Research*, *IIE Transactions*, and the *Annals of Operations Research*. **Jaideep Motwani** is an Associate Professor at Grand Valley State University. Dr. Motwani has papers published or forthcoming on cellular manufacturing, quality management, strategic operations, and technology management in journals such as *IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management* and the *International Journal of Production Research*.

Marc Salomon, see **Leo Kroon**.

Greg Schenbeck, see **Mike Bevers**.

Frédéric Semet is a Researcher at the Health Administration Department, Université de Montréal. He is also affiliated with the CRT.

Dan Uresk, see **Mike Bevers**.

George L. Vairaktarakis, see **Chung-Yee Lee**.

Garrett van Ryzin, see **AWI Federgruen**.

Luk Van Wassenhove, see **Leo Kroon**.

Din-Horng Yeh, see **Jim Dai**.

Chen Zhou, see **Jim Dai**.