Dep. Industrial Engineering
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August 17, 2021

Prof. Prof. João Flávio de Freitas Almeida
Editor-in-Chief
Engenharia de Produção & Pesquisa Operacional

Dear Prof. Prof. João Flávio de Freitas Almeida,

I wish to submit a Research Paper for publication in Engenharia de Produção & Pesquisa Operacional, titled "A Multi-Criteria approach to the selection of maintenance service providers based on Delay Time". The paper was co-authored by Dr. Cristiano Alexandre Virgínio Cavalcante (supervision, conceptualization). I contributed with conceptualization, development and formal analysis.

This study aims to develop the multi-criteria decision model that uses the Multi-Attribute Utility Theory (MAUT) to select maintenance service providers linked to the concept of Delay Time (DT), this being an approach not yet explored in the literature.

The results showed that MAUT can be used as a powerful tool to aid decision making in maintenance contracts. This suggests that, compared to approximate studies, the developed model is a promising approach for selecting maintenance service providers.

We believe that this study makes a significant contribution to the literature on Decision Theory, Outsourcing and Maintenance Contracts and, as far as we know, no study has proposed this approach.

Furthermore, we believe that this article will be of interest to EPPO magazine readers because we approach theory in a new OR issue by developing a computational tool to support decision-makers, which is a problem of interest to the EPPO community.

This manuscript has not been published or presented elsewhere and is not under consideration by another journal. We have read and understood your journal's policies, and we believe that neither the manuscript nor the study violates any of these. There are no conflicts of interest to declare. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

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