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# **Supplier evaluation system of the wood processing enterprise in the region of the CR, SK, HU and AT**

**Bakalářská práce**

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Podpis studenta

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## **Abstract**

The Bachelor thesis Supplier evaluation system of the wood processing enterprise in the region of the CR, the SK, HU and AT deals with analysis of the current supplier evaluation system in IKEA Industry company in Malacky. The theoretical part is based on literature review and contains description of the purchasing process and methodology for selection and evaluation of suppliers. The practical part is devoted to the analysis of the Supplier Classification in IKEA and gives suggestions for specific improvements for the system in IKEA Industry Malacky, which deals with purchasing and processing of the raw material.

Key words: decision criteria, purchase, purchasing process, suppliers, supplier selection, supplier evaluation

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## **Abstrakt**

Bakalářská práce Systém hodnocení dodavatelů v regionu ČR, SK, HU a AT se zabývá analýzou současného systému hodnocení v IKEA Industry v Malackách. Teoretická část je založená na literární rešerši a obsahuje popis nákupního procesu a metody pro hodnocení a výběr dodavatelů. Praktická část je zaměřena na analýzu Klasifikace Dodavatelů ve společnosti IKEA a nabízí možná specifická řešení pro systém v závodě IKEA Industry v Malackách, který se zabývá nákupem a zpracováním surového materiálu.

Klíčová slova: kritéria výběru, nákup, nákupní proces, dodavatelé, výběr dodavatelů, hodnocení dodavatelů

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# 1 Introduction

A very basic part of business management is the purchasing function. Supply chain management and strategic sourcing have been one of the fastest growing area of management, particularly in last ten years. Enterprises, especially in post-soviet countries, are aware of this fact, nevertheless they still tend to put more effort into the process of selling. However, some of them neglected to realize, that with studied system of the purchase they could save more money than in a case of high sells with extra expenses when purchasing the material. Within the purchasing function one of the prime responsibilities is the selection and evaluation of suppliers. The awareness of importance of selection of suppliers is dated to early forties, when Lewis (1943) stated: "It is probable that of all the responsibilities which may be said to belong to the purchasing officers, there is none more important than the selection of a proper source. Indeed, it is in some respects the most important single factor in purchasing."

In most industrial companies raw material represents the largest percentage of the cost. For instance, in wood processing industry, it can be about 70% of the total product cost. Therefore the selection of the right supplier is absolutely crucial.

To successfully assess possible suppliers the company must take into account many qualitative and quantitative criteria. We can take these factors and group them and get different approaches. As the literature suggests, these approaches can be difficult to handle in reality and company managers can overcome many difficulties when they find out that the specific system is not applicable and should consider that a certain level of flexibility is necessary.

## 2 Objectives

The main objective of this thesis is to analyze current system of supplier evaluation in enterprise Ikea Industry in Malacky and discuss eventual improvements, based on literature review and practical evaluation.

The theoretical part of the thesis is based on literature review and is divided into two main chapters: Purchase and Suppliers. The Purchase chapter includes details about Supply Chain Management as well as about the purchasing process and single steps of the process. The follow-up chapter includes description of the supplier selection and evaluation system, criteria involved in this process and the most important and frequently used methods for supplier selection.

The IKEA Industry Group, formerly Swedwood Group, is a fully integrated international industrial group of IKEA. There are two focuses of the production in the enterprise IKEA Industry in Malacky. Firstly it is the production of chipboard from the raw materials such as raw wood and wood chips. Secondly it is the manufacture of furniture components parts which are made of the chipboard and afterwards send to the retail stores mainly in Europe.

Ikea Industry is currently dealing with a change of system of suppliers. The old system was designed by a single responsible person within the enterprise and the new one comes as centrally designed system from Sweden. So-called “Supplier classification” is only applicable for evaluation of Home Furnishing Suppliers and Components suppliers so the IKEA Industry is almost completely excluded as the main object of purchase is the raw material.

The practical part of the thesis deals with analyzing of the data provided by IKEA and actual visit of few suppliers. It contains a description of the company and the enterprise, specific criteria, typical for IKEA or IKEA Industry and analysis of the past and current system and the data. The datasets of the purchasing history are transferred within Excel tables and form comprehensive overview of the situation. Based on the data and personal meetings there is a summary of problems and

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formulated improvements and suggestions for this specific situations.

### 3 Methodology

The theoretical part mainly includes information based on extensive study of academy textbooks, both Czech and foreign. The work is further supported with information and statistical data found in online academic journals and scholars. Last but not least, the thesis contains data and information from diploma and dissertation thesis.

As the prime sources for this part of the thesis were studied online articles from academic journals supported with extensive study of academic textbooks, both Czech and foreign. The thesis also encompasses statistical data taken from academic journals, dissertation and diploma works.

The practical part of the thesis deals with analyzing of the data provided by IKEA and actual visit of few suppliers. It contains a description of the company and the enterprise, specific criteria, typical for IKEA or IKEA Industry, analysis of the past and current system and the data. The purchasing history data are transferred within Excel tables and form comprehensive overview of the situation. Based on the data and personal interviews there is a summary of problems and formulated improvements and suggestions for this specific situations. These problems were further compared with the literature review.

## 4 Literature Review

The following part of the bachelor thesis deals with the description of the purchasing function in general and with the focus on the suppliers' criteria for selection, selection methods and evaluation.

### 4.1 Role of the purchasing management within the Supply chain management

To describe these two fundamental terms we have to consider the scope and focus. Sometimes, academic specialists see these as practically the same, while some see SCM as about developing relationship with suppliers (Giunipero and Brand, 1996) and others say that good supplier management is not enough and there is an additional requirement for a wider, more integrated, all encompassing perspective which embrace all the processes from sourcing to merchandising (Davis, 1993). Monczka et al. (2009) gives a comprehensive definition: "SCM is a strategic approach to planning for and acquiring the organizations current and future needs through effectively managing the supply base, utilizing a process orientation in conjunction with cross-functional teams to achieve the organizational mission."

To simplify this topic and relate it to the level of bachelor thesis, the SCM term will not be used and purchasing management will be taken as superior term to supplier management, which involves the selection, evaluation and relationship with the suppliers.

The purchasing function traditionally encompasses the process of buying. It involves determining of the purchasing needs, selecting the supplier, arriving at a proper price, specifying terms and conditions, issuing the contract or order, and following up to ensure proper delivery and payment (van Weelen, 2010).

The main objectives of the purchasing management and logistics, according to Monczka (2009), are following:

1. Supply continuity traditional role of the purchasing function is the satisfying of the requirements of the internal customers. Purchasing supports operations within the purchase of raw materials, components and others. The support of the physical distribution is also in the responsibilities of the purchasing function.

Key to the smooth flow is in the following steps:

- At the right place - the costs will be minimized, only in the case of optimizing the price From the best source qualities as reliability, efficiency and dealing with queries as the example of after cooperation
  - Of the right quality to low quality can result in high wastage of materials, extra labor expenses, increased machine time and wear and mainly spoilt production
  - In the right quantity
  - At the right time - this point is closely connected to the right quantity, so there is limited chance of running out of stock and minimalizing the expenses for long stocking.
2. Manage the purchasing process efficiently and effectively purchasing management must continuously look for employees with developed skills and constantly try to improve the transactional level work through efficient purchasing systems. The objective is completed if following internal operations are managed:
    - Optimal staffing levels
    - Keeping the administrative calculations
    - Professional training for the staff
    - Accounting transparency system which is easy to use and follow

3. Develop supply base management selecting, developing and maintaining the supply, so called supply base management. The key focuses are:
  - Selection of competitive suppliers which have potential for excellent performance and development of the relationship with these suppliers,
  - Improving current suppliers
  - Developing suppliers which are not competitive, if possible
4. Develop aligned goals with internal functional stakeholders improving the communication within the company as well as with the suppliers and big internal customers stakeholders. This, for example, includes communication between marketing and purchasing department, when marketing spends a great deal on promotion, purchasing must ensure that the pricing is competitive. Other functional groups are: manufacturing, engineering, technology and finance.
5. Support Organizational Goals and Objectives purchasing may directly affect overall performance and for this reason must be concerned with the organizational directives. Purchasing management can work with suppliers to extend/reduce delivered quantities and other steps which can influence the performance.
6. Develop Integrated Purchasing Strategies which supports company plans. Purchasing was/is often seen as a tactical support function rather than the part of corporate planning and executive management did/does not recognize the benefits of well-thoughtout purchasing. These two factors are quickly changing and purchasing is usually actively involved in strategic planning. The areas which are regularly reviewed are:
  - Market trends (price, changes in suppliers)

- Critical materials which are needed especially during new product development
- Supply options including the globally competitive supply base suitable for the company

One of the objectives of purchasing is ensuring the purchasing process which includes steps, which must be followed when company requires some product, material or service. This includes steps from the initial phase of identification of the problem to the payment and evaluation of the performance. The following process shown in the Figure 1 was designed by van Weele (2010).

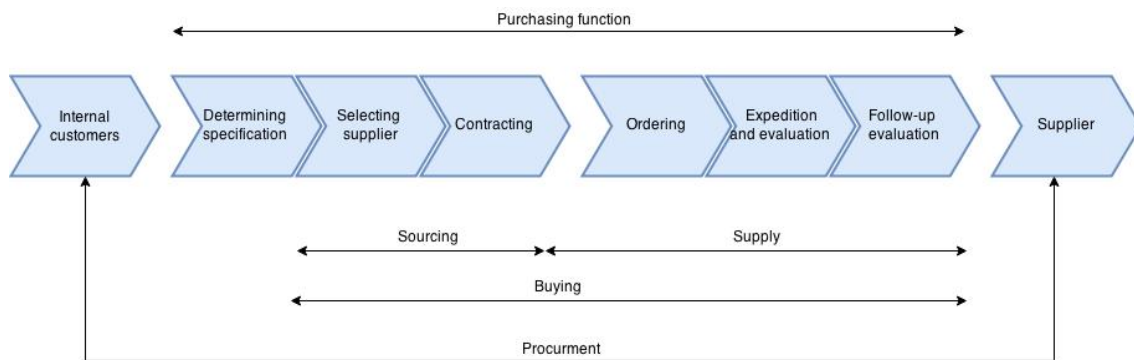


Fig. 1: Purchasing process activities (van Weele, 2010)

As mentioned, purchasing decision making directly influence the profitability of the company. With the progress and more focus from the public, companies have to take into account not only their own interests, but also government regulations or environmental concerns. In the Figure 1 is shown the factors which are involved in purchasing making decision.

Current trends shows the use of decision models in purchasing implies that the mathematical nature of the models is incompatible with the highly emotion and intuition driven practice of purchasing decision-making used in the past.



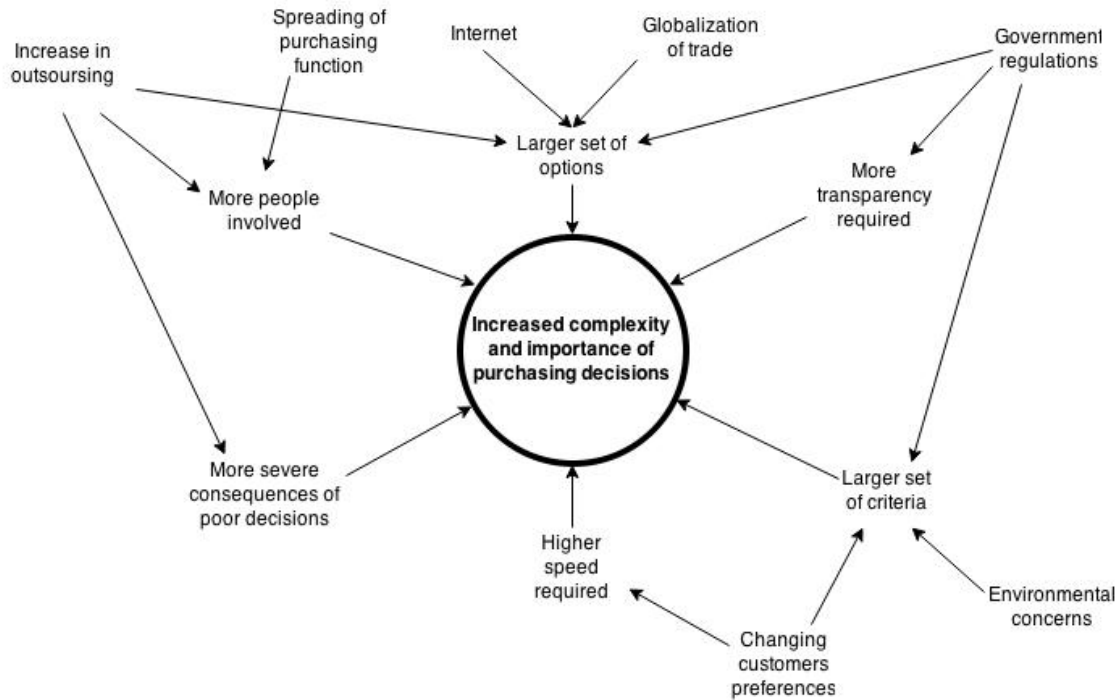


Fig. 2: Impact of developments on the complexity of initial purchasing decisions (de Boer, 1998)

## 4.2 Suppliers

As mentioned before, supplier management is the key part of the strategy management which can be completely crucial for the company's profit. Suppliers are not necessarily equal, but this does not mean there is only one suitable supplier. Current trend is to have a so-called strategy supplier – supplier that is very responsible, but the rate of dependency is not very high. The supplier is also able to cover more than 30% of the company demand. There are further classifications and divisions of the suppliers which serve for both, evaluation and selection. Monczka et. al (2009) proposes to define the suppliers as follows:

- Manufacturer vs. distributor, the choice is based on these criteria: (1) the size of the purchase; (2) the manufacturer's policies regarding direct sales; (3) the storage space available at the purchaser's facility; and (4) the extent of services

required. In case of IKEA Industry would be more appropriate to consider suppliers from the private and state sector.

- Local or national or international suppliers in the wood industry firms consider cost of transport, possible forest production and some companies take into account environmental issues. The issue is sometimes limited to the fact that demanded kind of wood grows only in certain areas.
- Large or small suppliers some purchases prefer to focus on small suppliers as they are more willing to cooperate and discuss the conditions. Also if the firm wants to reduce the level of dependency it is convenient to extend the portfolio of suppliers.
- Multiple or Single Sourcing surely, the trend goes towards reducing the number of suppliers, however, the assurance of supply is higher in the case of multiple sourcing. Innovative or conservative suppliers.

### 4.3 Supplier selection process

For the matter of supplier selection process and methodology, there are rich sources in terms of conceptual and empirical research and decision support methods for purchasing managers. However none of these articles have actually studied how managers choose suppliers in practice (Verma, 1998) and there is no universal or best way to evaluate and select suppliers. For this reason the thesis deals with literature review and the practical part will include the description of actual supplier selection in Ikea Industry. Following steps were further discussed by Monczka et al. (2009):

#### Step 1: Recognize the need for supplier selection

This usually means realizing that there is a requirement to evaluate and select a supplier to cover the gaps in the company progress. Responsible person is a purchasing manager who might begin the process with anticipation of a future

purchase demand. The recognition of the need for evaluation and selection of new suppliers can come in different ways. This may include new product development, the end of a contract, poor supplier performance, extension into new markets and others.

### **Step 2: Identify key sourcing requirements**

The criteria of selection for specific supplier differ with every supplier. In our case, the IKEA Industry have suppliers from different countries. In practice means, that some suppliers cannot compete with the price of transport, but they have other qualities which make them competitive. Although the criteria are not constant, certain factors should be involved in every evaluation: cost, quality and delivery performance.

### **Step 3: Determine Sourcing Strategy**

The company can and should have different approaches to the sourcing with different suppliers. Companies usually prepare some initial strategy with many different decisions, however these often need a change as a result of conditions during actual selection market conditions, purchaser preferences or corporate objectives. Among decisions which need to be made are:

- Single versus multiple supply sources
- Short-term versus long-term purchase contracts
- Selecting suppliers that provide design support versus those that lack design capability
- Full-service versus non-full-service suppliers
- Domestic versus foreign suppliers
- Expectation of a close working relationship versus arms-length purchasing

Common intuition implies, that single sourcing is not appropriate and in case of IKEA it is an extreme truth the whole IKEA has more than 5000 suppliers (IKEA). Other decisions differ supplier from supplier.

**Step 4: Identify Potential Supply Sources** As there are different sourcing strategies, there are also different ways how to actually search new potential suppliers. The intensity of the search is influenced by several variables, such as how well existing suppliers can satisfy buyers, strategic importance or technical background. The most common and valuable sources where to search for suppliers are:

- Current suppliers purchaser can easily identify new purchase requirements when looking at current suppliers. Selecting an existing supplier for new purchase is appealing, on the other hand, managers may not know, if there are better options without searching other options.
- Sales Representatives, Information Databases these are sometimes available for purchase from external parties, especially for foreign sources.
- Experience, Trade Journals, Trade Directories, Trade Shows ,Second-Party or Indirect Information
- Internet belongs to current trend and is widely considered as the quickest way for searching new suppliers. The Internet is also considered to be good for searching alternatives and in initial steps of searching.

There are also involved employees from different departments, who should be equally interested and undertake the same level of the risk. There are: users of the products or service, influencers, deciders, approvers, buyers and purchaser. All these roles are important to maintain the security of the subjectivity of the process.

**Step 5: Limit Suppliers in Selection Pool** This step basically involves the pre-selection of the suppliers based on criteria which are essential for the certain company. In the case of IKEA, there is directive called IWAY and potential suppliers must be IWAY approved to be considered as supplier for further analysis. As critical criteria are also considered the price and quality. In this case supplier may use the help of ISO standardization, e.g. ISO 9001. The step is further discussed in the section of pre-qualifying of the suppliers.

**Step 6: Determine the Method of Supplier Evaluation and Selection** Once the initial cuts have been made, the buyer must decide how to evaluate the rest, to reduce the number to the final group. There are several methods for the supplier selection and some of these methods are described in the following sections. In practice this can mean also visitation of the supplier, evaluation of supplier provided information or information provided by a third party and use of preferred suppliers.

**Step 7: Select Supplier and Reach Agreement** The final step of the evaluation and selection process is to select the supplier(s) and reach a contract agreement. The activities associated with this step can vary widely depending on the purchase item under consideration. For routine items, this may simply require notifying and awarding a basic purchase contract to a supplier. For a major purchase, the process can become more complex. The buyer and seller may have to conduct detailed negotiations to agree upon the specific details of a purchase agreement. Also personal audits based on the evaluation are part of this step.

## 4.4 Decision criteria

Decision criteria are the set of requirements which must be completed by the supplier part and the list of criteria is used for assessment. The criteria might be assigned

different weight according the type of selection system.

Though a little bit outdated, but still widely informative work can be cited by Dickson (1966). He sent 273 questionnaires to managers of leading companies in the USA and Canada and asked to mark criteria which are the most seminal in the decision-making process. In his book he stated, that it is quite easy to abstract a list of 50 distinct criteria, whilst for his study he chose 23 which were constantly repeating in the surveys. These factors are shown in the Table 1. below, in order of importance. We have to consider the fact, that this list was revealed in the sixties and the table would slightly differ with diverse products. For this reason the Table 1. Also includes the order suggested by Weber (1991) The most significant difference is spot in geographical location as nowadays the logistics method of stocking just-in-time (JIT) is very popular and suppliers are required to deliver on time. There are another factors, as environmental issues, which are not included as the significance in 1966 was not high.

Later, Lehman and OShaugnessy (1982) suggested in their study to form groups of factors: performance criteria, economic criteria, integrative criteria and adaptive criteria - the extent to which buying firm may have to adapt its plans to accommodate uncertainty about the capability of the supplier (Vokurka et al. 1996) The literature related to the problem of criteria in the supplier selection problem is very rich. As another example of how we can look at criteria was distinguished by Barbarosoglu and Yazgac (1997) and the work suggests to form groups of three principle criteria:

- The performance of the supplier
- The business structure/manufacturing capability of the supplier
- The quality of the products

Each criteria group have many sub-criteria, but the description goes beyond the frame of the thesis.

Tab. 1: Dickson's (1966) supplier or vendor selection criteria compared with situation by Weber et al. (2001)

Rank		Criteria
Dickson	Weber et al.	
1	3	Quality
2	2	Delivery
3	10	Performance History
4	23	Warranties and Claim Policies
5	4	Production Facilities and Capabilities
6	1	Net Price
7	6	Technical Capability
8	9	Financial Position
9	16	Bidding Procedural Compliance
10	18	Communication System
11	8	Reputation and Position in Industry
12	21	Desire for Business
13	7	Management and Organization
14	14	Operational Controls
15	11	Repair Service
16	12	Attitude
17	20	Impression
18	13	Packaging Ability
19	17	Labor Relations Records
20	5	Geographical Location
21	22	Amount of Past Business
22	15	Training Aids
23	19	Reciprocal Arrangements

#### 4.4.1 Weights put on different criteria

After identifying factors which are important for specific commodity, the company management is supposed to assign weights to each criteria and sub-criteria which are subordinate. This reflect relative importance of each criteria. This step also include the way how will be each category assessed. In case of IKEA, they have chosen the method of goals. In each category there is defined goal position and wished position. Wished position shows the best possible results in the category. Category goal is a position which can be reached by suppliers in case of outstanding performance. Usually this means, that the best supplier is positioned on the level of category goal

or slightly above. If the supplier has better performance than is the wished position, it mean there might be some mistake in the supplier management and this business cannot be profitable. The scoring in sub-criteria is normally averaged and the result stands for the result of the category. As very suitable method for weight assignment is AHP, described further.

## 4.5 Suppliers selection and evaluation methods

The supplier selection was supposed to be a matter of straightforward process, but later the approach had to changed due to difficulties such as (1) growing number of potential suppliers; (2) growing number of attributes; (3) increasing number of situational contexts that affect appropriateness of specific supplier attributes; and (4) difficulty in identifying and defining supplier selection parameters (Altinoz et al. 2010).

There is a large number of existing decision making methods whom main goal is to assist in supplier selection. Both, qualitative and quantitative factors are involved. As previously mentioned the contemporary supply management is to maintain long term partnership with suppliers and rely on fewer of them. This thesis differ terms system and method. The system stands for the approach and the method describes models which are suitably used for the certain system. Therefore there are three systems: categorical system, weight point system and cost based system.

The list of methods and systems used for supplier selection here, is for further comparing and contrasting with the method proposed for Ikea by McKinsey and Company. The Figure 3 shows suggested division of methods.

The evaluation of suppliers is supported by ISO normalization the ISO 9000,1 series help to evaluate required quality and helps managers mainly in the predominant phases of the process. One of the main objectives of evaluation is getting feedback from the side of the supplier. The right usage of the data can help us to decide whether the supplier is worthy of the partnership, there is some change needed



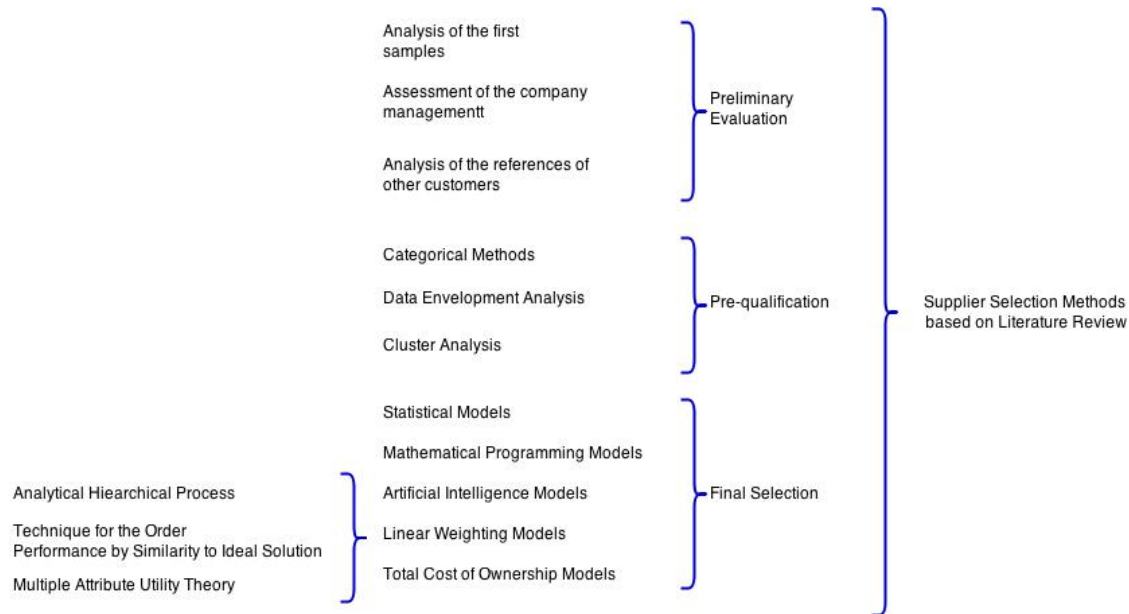


Fig. 3: Suggested division of the methods (Mendoza, 2007)

or the company should not continue cooperating. For this reason the companies should keep their database of suppliers updated as frequently as possible.

#### 4.5.1 Selection of supplier based on quality assessment ISO 9000

Evaluation of suppliers is supported by ISO normalization the ISO 9000 series help to evaluate required quality and helps managers mainly in the prime phases of the process. These standards were designed for companies which want to prove that are capable of consistent production and supply.

Main objectives of the system of quality are (Menšíková, 2009):

- Strict requirements of the purchase should be set
- Convenient choice of the supplier
- Agreement for the quality safety, including the steps for the solution in the case of conflict in the quality area (usually other standards)
- Input checks

- Evidence about the quality when the goods are received

#### **4.5.2 Pre-selection process**

The main objectives of prequalification are to effectively eliminate completely or partly inconvenient suppliers and it is rather the process of sorting than ranking. (de Boer et al. 2001) The pre-selection methods helps to make further investigation more comprehensive. Some systems use these methods for final decisions which can lead to ineffectiveness, on the other hand the usage of these methods for final selection is easy and very quick.

#### **4.5.3 Preliminary evaluation**

Nenadál (2006) suggests making primer selection based on analysis of the first samples, assessment of the company management and references of other customers.

- Analysis of the first samples means that the company takes the provided samples and compare them with their own requirements. The company must take into account the fact that samples might be produced in completely different environment than standard high volume production. This approach is limited to raw material, stock products, and final products. Otherwise the method of the assessment of the company management must be applied.
- Assessment of the company management is a process when supplier receives a survey with a focus on prior criteria and is further examined. In case of the Ikea Company, the supplier could expect questions concerning environmental issues, net price or development and modernization.
- Analysis of the references of other customers represents experience of other customers with the particular supplier. This approach is not recommended for the final decisions as the requirements differ company from company.

#### 4.5.4 Pre-qualification methods of supplier selection

Among the pre-qualification methods, there are: categorical methods, data envelopment analysis and cluster analysis (Pal et al. 2007).

*Categorical system* is a qualitative model which evaluate historical data and companys experience with the supplier. First the suppliers performance is classified as negative, neutral or positive and secondly, based on average rating the supplier receive overall evaluation: negative, neutral or positive. Czech literature (Ochrana, 2004) suggests to divide methods into categories of methods of simple evaluation and methods of weighted evaluation. In this case it is appropriate to involve methods of simple evaluation in categorical system. There are three scales:

- Nominal scale the simplest method, which does not carry much information and have two values 0/1, yes/no or convenient/inconvenient. The disadvantage of this method is, that preferences of each criteria cannot be displayed.
- Ordinal scale compares criteria either by order or by scale points (1-10). The supplier with most points either wins or is further examined.
- Cardinal scale expresses how many times or how much is evaluation of one bid higher than the one of the other is. In practice this means that all data has the same denominator and are expressed by percentage. The best supplier stands for 100% and the rest scores proportionately.

*Data envelopment analysis (DEA)* is a method which put suppliers into two categories, efficient and inefficient according to the performance of the inputs and outputs. It is a linear programming method which allows to measure multiple criteria at once. The method also gives results which can help to improve partnerships with inefficient supplier. The DEA was evaluated as the most popular approach for supplier evaluation (Weber et al. 1991).

*Cluster Analysis (CA)* is a basic method from statistics which uses a classifica-

tion algorithm to group a number of items which are described by a set of numerical attribute scores into a number of clusters such that the differences between items within a cluster are minimal and the differences between items from different clusters are maximal. This classification is used to reduce a larger set of suppliers into smaller more manageable subsets. Cluster analysis was in details described by Timmerman (2004).

#### 4.5.5 Selected systems and models for the final selection of the suppliers

Most of the designed systems and methods are proposed for the final selection. Also, most of them are multi-criteria decision making approaches (MCDA). The thesis will further discussed the weighted point system which mostly includes the linear weighting models and cost based system - detailing the total cost of ownership method (TCO). To mention more complex approaches, which are not widely used due to their complicated structure, there are statistical models, mathematical programming models and artificial intelligence models. These models are usually used in larger companies where a cost based system is implemented.

*Statistical models* capture the uncertainty related to the supplier selection problem, for example, uncertain demand. As an approach to capture uncertainty, Ding et al. (2005) proposed a simulation optimization methodology for supplier selection. The methodology consists of three parts: (1) a genetic algorithm (GA) optimizer that continuously searches for new supplier portfolios; (2) using the output from the GA optimizer, a discrete-event simulation model is run to evaluate suppliers on pre-selected key performance indicators (KPIs); (3) after simulation runs, a fitness value is calculated based on the KPIs. The fitness is returned to the GA optimizer to search for the next supplier portfolio. Genetic algorithm is a kind of algorithm, which takes inputs which are supposed to be optimized and generate the score, which should be ideal for certain usage (Mendoza, 2007).

*Mathematical programming models* are very suitable for the supplier selection problem as these models can optimize results using either single or multi objective

models. To highlight one example, there is a goal programming model (GPM), which includes decision-maker that is able to process data with set target levels, the goals on different criteria.

*Artificial intelligence models* are models which are able to work with experience and historical data, therefore they can pretend human behavior and decisions. Models are very good at coping with unpredictability and uncertainty which is very often included in the process of supplier selection and at the same time they lack the subjectivity which arises with the human factor.

#### 4.5.6 Weighted point system and linear weighting models

The system of weighted points is closer to objectivity than the categorical system. Weighted point system places a numerical weight on each criteria and multiplies them with these weights. Several issues regarding the system must be understood: the company management must carefully select the most important criteria and decide the weights put on each performance (Monczka et al. 2009). The preferred models for weighted point system are e.g.: Analytical Hierarchical Process (AHP), Technique for the Order Performance by Similarity to Ideal Solution (TOPSIS) or Multiple Attribute Utility Theory (MAUT).

*AHP* was designed by Saaty (1980) and since then was implemented in many different fields such as planning and selecting. The model is based on three principles: structure of the hierarchy, comparative (usually pairwise) judgment of the alternatives and synthesis of the priorities. The hierarchical system has at least three levels. After the decision criteria are put in structure, the pairwise judgment can start from the second level, going to the lowest level. In each level the criteria are compared pairwise according to their levels of influence and based on the specified criteria in the higher level. The judgement are based on the question: How important is criterion A relative to criterion B? In AHP, comparisons are based on nine levels, when 1 means that the criteria are the same important.

*TOPSIS* is a technique based on the concept of distances. Optimal solution, alternative should have the farthest distance from the negative ideal solution and shortest distance from the positive ideal solution. The method includes identifying of the closeness coefficient which determines the ranking order of all suppliers and defining the linguistic values which assess the weights of each criterion.

*MAUT* is a method which mainly differ from AHP and TOPSIS method that can evaluate what-if scenarios. MAUT enables the decision maker to structure a complex problem in the form of a simple hierarchy and to subjectively evaluate a large number of quantitative and qualitative factors in the presence of risk and uncertainty MAUT also handles multiple conflicting factors. The application of the MAUT method involves following steps (Min, 1994):

1. Identification of the “performance matrix”<sup>1</sup> and scope of the problems with the goals.
2. Defining the criteria and putting them into a “value tree”.<sup>2</sup>
3. Calculation of the relative importance of the criteria.
4. Establishing a relationship between the criteria and the utility scores (attractiveness), putting a utility score on each criterion.
5. Computing the overall utility score for each decision alternative and rank alternatives in terms of aggregate utility scores.
6. Perform sensitivity analyses, which determines that either the weights are set properly or some changes must be made.

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<sup>1</sup>Table, in which each row describes an option and each column describes the performance of the options against each criterion.

<sup>2</sup>Hierarchy of preferred criteria

#### 4.5.7 Cost based system and total cost of ownership model (TCO)

The cost based system is considered to be least subjective. The system quantifies the total cost and considers that the lowest buying price does not mean lowest total price. Part of the evaluation is the estimation of the additional cost. Companies often calculate a supplier performance index (SPI), which shows the level of satisfaction (best result is 1) with each item/commodity provided by the supplier.

$$SPI = \frac{\text{Total purchases} + \text{Nonperformance Costs}}{\text{Total Purchases}}$$

This approach necessitates identifying of costs beyond the purchase, which usually includes unit price, transport and tooling. Formally the TCO is defined as the present value of all costs associated with a product, service, or capital equipment that are incurred over its expected life. Costs can be broken into four broad categories:

- Purchase price the amount paid to the supplier.
- Acquisition costs all costs connected to the process of bringing the product (including the taxes and administration.
- Usage costs costs associated with the processing of the material/part into the finished product. This involves for example inventory, scrap, warranty claims and others.
- End-of-life costs all costs which must covered after the product reaches the end of the lifespan. Examples are costs linked to obsolescence, disposal or clean up.

Introduction of the TCO model can be in many cases a very difficult task which requires input from different departments within the company. The company management must be assured that all costs were captured correctly through the entire life cycle. Also the accounting systems are not designed to include nonperformance

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costs (Monczka et al. 2009) The wood industry is a convenient business for implementing TCO model as the costs connected to the process of wood can be extremely high.



## 5 Practical part

The practical part of the bachelor thesis analyzes the current system of supplier evaluation. The first part deals with the introduction of the company and enterprise. The follow-up section summarizes the past evaluation system and tries to describe the biggest disadvantages of the past system and finally the work is focused on the current system and analyzes individual criteria with the help of the literature review and of the employees of the Malackys enterprise.

All numbers included are real but the names of suppliers are replaced with the letters.

### 5.1 Company and enterprise introduction

The main concept of IKEA is to offer good quality for reasonable prices and to a wide range people. Behind good quality there are features such as good function, design and value, everything achieved with respect to the sustainability. The IKEA was founded by Ingvar Kamprad in 1947 and the company name is an acronym: I and K are initials of the founder and E and A are the first letters from the names of the farm and village where he grew up - Elmtaryd and Agunnaryd.

The IKEA stores work under the franchise agreement and the stores are located worldwide with the main quarters in the Netherlands with total sales in 2014 of 28.7 billion of euros.

IKEA's main vision is: "To create a better everyday life for the many people" and "to offer a wide range of well-designed, functional home furnishing products at prices so low that as many people as possible will be able to afford them" is the business idea and IKEA tries to fulfill this through constant optimizing the value chain, good partnership with suppliers, investing in highly automated production and producing large volumes. For more information about IKEA, its history and visions see IKEA website.

### 5.1.1 IWAY Directives

IKEA intern directives follows certain rules in choosing potential suppliers. It was first set in 2000 to protect companys reputation and mainly to actually prevent destruction of the environment. IWAY directives (2012) comprised following sections:

- Start-up Requirements, IWAY Musts requirements which must be compiled before signing any contract. This point includes description of child and forced work, insurance, wages, severe safety hazards and environmental pollution
- General Conditions
- Environment Air, Noise, Water and Ground
- Chemicals
- Hazardous and Nonhazardous Waste
- Fire Prevention
- Worker Health Safety
- Housing Facilities
- Wages, Benefits and Working Hours
- Child Labour
- Forced Bonded Labour
- Discrimination
- Freedom of Association
- Harassment, Abuse and Disciplinary Actions

The IWAY Forestry Standard - part of the IKEA supplier code of conduct, sets out the minimum criteria for all wood and board supplied to IKEA:

- Not from forests that have been illegally harvested
- Not from forestry operations engaged in forest-related social conflicts
- Not harvested in geographically identified Intact Natural Forests (INF) or High Conservation Value forests, unless they are certified as responsibly managed
- Not harvested from natural forests in the tropical and subtropical regions being converted to plantations or non-forest use
- Not from officially recognized and geographically identified commercial genetically modified (GM) tree plantations.

Suppliers must have procedures in place to implement these standards throughout their supply chain and be able to track and report the origin of their wood. Forest Stewardship Council standards vary from country to country depending on the type of forest, local conditions and stakeholder interests, but are guided by a set of common principles and criteria determined by the FSC's members. Among other things, they aim to:

- Protect biodiversity
- Ensure forest regrowth
- Protect the rights and needs of people who work and live in the forest
- Stimulate economic development.

### 5.1.2 IKEA and suppliers

For IKEA it is very important that potential suppliers share the same ideas about business. This means long term partnership, everyday performance, constant de-

velopment, as well as making profits on high volumes rather than on high margins reducing overhead costs, better logistics, better supplier purchase and production process and many others. IKEA also tries to bring closer the needs of customers and possibilities of suppliers with continuous evaluation of real life situations as seen in the Figure 4.

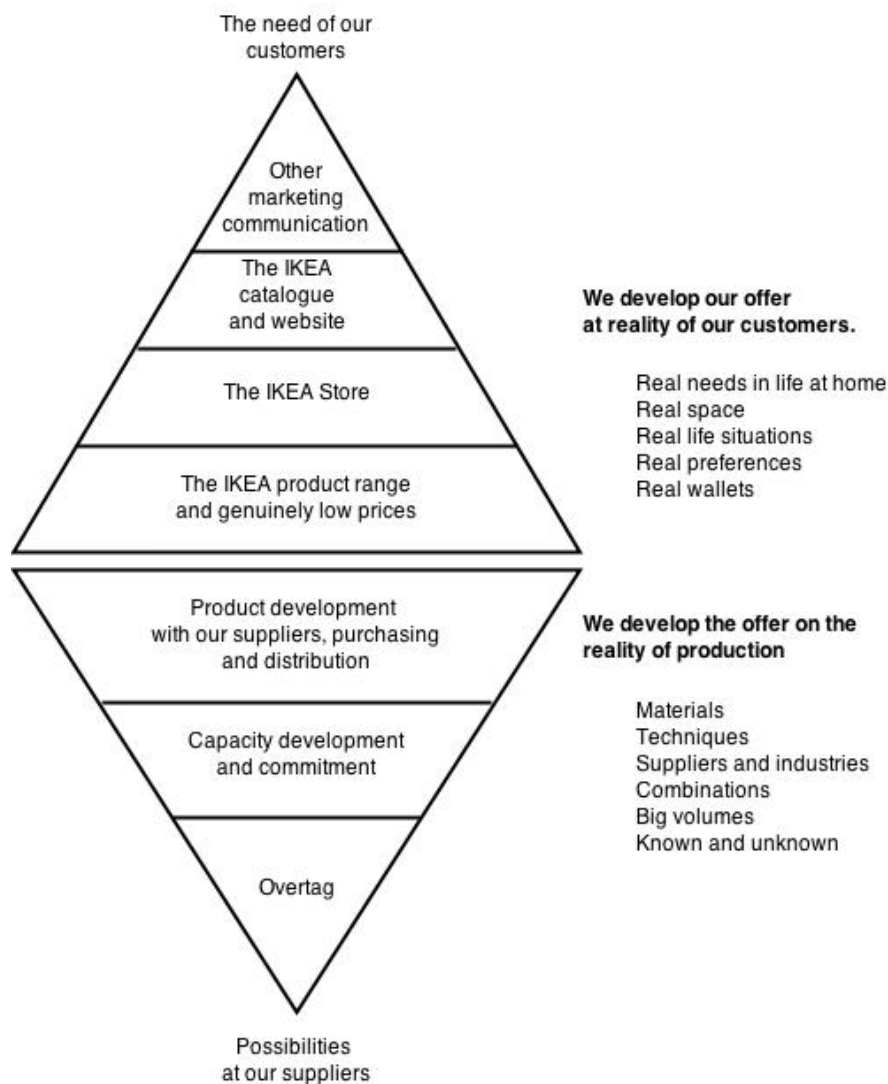


Fig. 4: IKEA business model (IKEA, 2015)

### 5.1.3 IKEA Industry

IKEA Industry is a group of subsidiary companies, fully integrated international industrial group of IKEA. There are 44 production units in 11 countries. The role of IKEA Industry is to:

- Create outstanding customer value in terms of price and quality.
- Create capacity for growth in strategic important categories where capacity is hard to find or there is a monopoly/oligopoly situation.
- Add production competence to IKEA and suppliers find or there is a monopoly/oligopoly situation.

## 5.2 Analysis of the past evaluation system

The last system of evaluation of suppliers was designed by the former SWEDSPAN Company, currently IKEA Industry. The system was inconvenient for several reasons, but the most importantly the level of objectivity was very low.

Operations involved:

1. Surveys, which are required to be filled in and sent back, are sent to chosen suppliers.
2. Evaluation of the surveys; the ones which were assessed as inconvenient are excluded, the ones who passed are asked for samples.
3. Samples are assessed, based on IKEA requirements IOS MAT 0003, 010, 066, 069 and the REACH requirements<sup>3</sup>
4. Testing of the samples, manager of the production makes a written transcript and sends it to the business manager and controlling manager

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<sup>3</sup>Requirements which follow basic rules of environment protection (formaldehyde, etc.)

5. Technical specifications received from customers are dealt with through process PP04.01 and request for price list is made based on quality and quantity requirements
6. Inconvenient price offers are excluded
7. Material files, IKEA requirements (environmental issues, IWAY) and sample tests are archived and samples are placed in a laboratory. Manager of quality and environment is responsible
8. Results of testing forms a base for internal discussion. Business manager, manager of production and manager of quality and environment are present. Comments are sent to business manager
9. Business manager in cooperation with manager of production choose strategic and substitute supplier based on available information
10. Realization of the purchase of products and services.
11. Revaluation of suppliers based on set criteria, category assessment strategic or substitute supplier
12. Archiving of the evaluation
13. Internal decision about audit, if necessary, the action is followed by supplier audit
14. The audit is made before the first supply and the results are archived in business department

### **5.2.1 Methodology of evaluation of suppliers in the past evaluation system**

Each part of the evaluation was a given point value as follows:

- Point scale 1-3: terms of delivery, price, on time deliveries, warranty claim reactions
- Point scale 1-3 and 5: wood kind (5 is a classification for recycled wood)
- Point scale 1, 3, 5: dependency on the supplier, product range (processing expenses)

After evaluation of each section, points were counted up and the supplier was put in a category.

### 5.2.2 Disadvantages of the past system

According to the responsible person in the enterprise, main disadvantages of the system were spotted in the low objectivity. No further specification for evaluation were given, so in the case of evaluating where more than one person was involved, there was an occurrence of disagreement. The person responsible for evaluating of the wood supplies in the Slovak Republic did not have the same ideas about evaluating of the suppliers as the person who did evaluation in the region of the Czech Republic. Also the cost of transport from different places then in the Slovak Republic moved the suppliers from different countries to the bottom of the scale.

## 5.3 Current supplier classification evaluation system

The document describes the methodology and process for how to perform the Supplier Classification. The purpose with supplier classification is to structure the supplier base according to the following criteria: strategic fit, track record of performance (based on 4 best buy criteria) and how dependent IKEA is on the supplier. The supplier classification will secure a common view on the performance of the supplier base and support identification of potential areas of improvement at the suppliers.

Currently, the method is applicable only for classification Home Furnishing Suppliers and Components Suppliers and this thesis suggests possible improvements for application in the IKEA Industry (in Malacky).

IKEA classify the supplier base based on long term performance, strategic fit and how dependent IKEA is on the supplier.

IKEA drives supplier development focusing on capability and strategy to develop future performance these dimensions + potential other criteria that are viewed as critical to develop the business are in focus of the supplier evaluation.

### **5.3.1 Working Method**

The method describes step by step how to manage supplier evaluation. All the data are inserted into an Excel table.

#### **Step 1: Select suppliers to be classified**

The principle is that all active suppliers shall be classified and each suppliers performance shall be evaluated and scored individually. If the supplier is part of a group of companies, strategic fit and product development/innovation shall reflect the group of companies (where applicable). If a supplier is decided to be on exit no classification needs to be done.

For suppliers with very small notified volumes (one-time buys etc.) in combination with the supplier is of low importance to IKEA, a classification is not needed.

The reasons for not classifying certain supplier need to be defined, documented and presented as part of the approval of the classification.

In the case of shared suppliers between different entities, secure dialogue around supplier performance and business importance in the different entities and agree on which entity that shall classify the supplier taken into account the complete performance picture of supplier.



**Step 2: Define criteria/reference point**

Collect the agreed goals and wished position (where applicable) for the supplier classification criteria. If relevant, define the category specific criteria (1 or 2) including defining the thresholds for scoring (from 1 to 4).

A category specific criteria can only be added if it is crucial for performance in the specific category. Wished position is the lowest possible position in criteria of lowest price and product quality. Category goal the position which should be actually achieved or slightly exceeded by the best suppliers.

Open Supplier Classification Tool and insert the goals and wished position for the defined criteria and load; suppliers, notified volumes for previous year and track record of performance. Make sure all suppliers within the category have been loaded, if not, insert the missed out supplier's and their data manually. In our case all data will be inserted manually.

**Step 3: Score and Classify Suppliers**

Review the loaded performance data on all suppliers. If there has been any external factors impacting the performance of the supplier(s) (e.g. radical increase in raw material prices affecting the price development) the performance can be manually adjusted to compensate for such events. Any manual correction need to be documented in the supplier classification tool with a reason.

Scoring on the different criteria will be performed automatically based on the loaded data. The exceptions are the category specific criteria where is needed to perform the scoring based on set reference points (1-4).

Once the performance scoring is complete perform the following evaluations for each supplier:

- Evaluate the strategic fit between the supplier and IKEA
- Evaluate if it is a potential product development/innovation supplier. If yes, perform the detailed evaluation of the supplier

- Type in the latest IWAY approved status (Yes/No)
- Evaluate how dependent IKEA is on the Supplier.

Once all performance data is complete and the evaluations mentioned in 3.2 are performed and result inserted in the supplier classification tool on all suppliers, a proposed classification can be calculated by clicking the button “calculate proposed classification”.

Supplier with track record only for 1 or 2 years, the average of the performance will be calculated based on the track record over time that is available. If track record is less than 3 years it is not possible to become IKEA Prioritized supplier.

#### **Step 4: Create total picture through**

- Dialogue with business development teams to create a common picture around performance and improvement areas
- Category Manager/Category Leader (Components) to share good examples/ benchmarks

#### **Step 5: Summarize Supplier Classification through**

- Dialogue to conclude on classification for suppliers in several categories/entities. Guidelines for “hierarchy” of classification is:
  - IKEA Critical Supplier
  - IKEA Prioritized Supplier
  - IKEA Potential prioritized Supplier
  - IKEA Product development/Innovation Supplier

– IKEA Supplier

- Summarize classification and motivations for deviations (if applicable)
- Present in category council for approval.
- Update and save supplier classification tool with final approved classification for each Supplier based on decision in category council. This shall be done at the latest one week after approval in category council

**Step 6: Communicate and follow up on Supplier Classification**

In the APL process, the following shall be secured:

- Supplier Classification is communicated to the Supplier, including the logic behind they have a certain Classification
- Correct resources are allocated to the Supplier according to the principles:
- Senior competence for Prioritized suppliers
- Minimum in the role for Critical, Product development/Innovation and Potential prioritized suppliers
- Clear link to Supplier Classification, e.g., critical supplier have plan to fix performance issues, potential prioritized should have APL to close gap to prioritized

In cases of changed classification, always communicate the driver for the change together with the new classification to the supplier and relevant internal stakeholders.

## 5.4 Analysis of individual criteria from the current evaluation system

Criteria indicated in the Table 2 are the ones which requires either both wished position and category goal or just category goal.

Tab. 2: Criteria and their category goals and wished positions (IKEA directives)

Criteria	Wished Position	Goal
Lowest price (Current PuA) (EURO)	95, 00 (Spruce)	100,80 (Spruce)
Price development (PuA) (%)	96, 97	97, 00
Product Quality (COPQ) (%)	-	100
Quality development (COPQ)	-	100
Availability On time delivery sender	-	100
Sustainability	-	-
MSS (%)	-	10

Scale of evaluation: 1-4 according to below thresholds:

> 10% deviation from category goal = 1

Below category goal, max 10% deviation from category goal = 2

Below wished position or according to category goal = 3

According to wished position or above = 4

If the scale differs, it will be written in the specific criteria description.

### 5.4.1 Strategic Fit

Strategic fit shows overall understanding of the supplier. To avoid subjectivity it is strongly recommended to leave a comment why supplier scored the certain point evaluation. Suppliers can receive 1-4 point in each part. Strategic fit further includes following topics:

- Business model
- Values
- Others
- Growth
- Organization and competence

Specification for each topic can be found in the appendix.

Weight: 6,25%

#### **5.4.2 Lowest Price (Current PuA)**

Description: Price benchmark between existing suppliers towards wished position and goal within the category/segment. Lowest price (PUA) can be considered on a regional basis if relevant (e.g., in cases of high transportation cost).

Weight: 25%

To complete this step of evaluation there we needed to set material categories, because IKEA Industry in Malacky processes more than one kind of material.

Next, the prices differ with every supplier. For this reason there are two main ways which are included in the suggested model. Free Carrier (FCA) price is a price excluding the transport, whilst Delivered at Place (DAP) price which includes the transport costs.

The data was transferred to the evaluation table as follows:

1. Category goal and wished position were set for each category.
2. Each supplier was evaluated in the categories of delivered material, some in both FCA and DAP section, some of the suppliers only in DAP when the cost of transport was not known.

3. If the prices differ, the average price was taken into account.
4. The results for each supplier were averaged.

Price development was also suggested to be the most important criteria from all the mentioned.

#### **5.4.3 Price development (PuA)**

Description: Average ongoing price development compared to average category goal over the past 3 full years.

Weight: 25%

The criteria description was further discussed and the final decision was to evaluate the price development based on the track of the difference between ongoing price and price of the commodity index.

#### **5.4.4 Product quality (COPQ)**

Description: Benchmark between existing suppliers towards wished position and goal within the category/segment on COPQ.

Weight: 6,25%

The criteria was specified as the ratio between the whole volume and the volume with costs connected to the poor product quality. The problem should be further discussed as sometimes the volume does not say much about the actual problem, so the price should be included as well.

#### **5.4.5 Availability On time delivery sender**

Description: Dispatch precision is based on Notified on time by the supplier versus Ordered value per supplier and week. An average of the last 52 weeks shall be base for the evaluation.

Weight: 6,25%

For the purpose of the usage in IKEA was suggested to use data of fulfillment according the contract, which divides year into the quarters.

#### **5.4.6 Sustainability index**

We did not include the index in the evaluation system. The criteria MSS (Main sustainable sources), which shows percentage of using certified forests, and Sustainability, showing the overall supplier approach to the energy, water and waste management, were added instead.

Weight (MSS): 12,5%

Weight (Sustainability): 18,75%

#### **5.4.7 IWAY Approved**

If the supplier is not classified as approved, the company should be automatically classified as the critical supplier. For the purpose of IKEA Industry in Malacky, there has been a suggestion to narrow this down to the IKEA must, the first chapter in the IWAY directives.

#### **5.4.8 Product development/Innovation**

Whether the supplier is classified as innovative is further evaluated in the following topics:

- Innovation capability
- Vitality
- Develop on factory floor
- Tools and documentation

The classification includes detailed description for evaluating each category. Nevertheless current suppliers do not show much of the intentions for the innovation or development, so the criteria are not further discussed.

#### **5.4.9 IKEA Dependency**

The reason for defining how dependent IKEA is on a supplier shall be based on reasoning around the answers to the following questions:

##### **Is it possible to replace or cancel the range delivered by the supplier?**

If not possible to replace or cancel the range it will support a high dependency score (3-4) and vice versa.

##### **How long time would it take to move to an alternative supplier?**

For complex products requiring long start up process, or where limited/no alternative suppliers exists today it supports a high dependency score (3-4) and vice versa.

##### **What is the cost of moving to an alternative supplier?**

In case of high cost of moving to a new supplier, the dependency shall be considered as high (3-4) and vice versa.

For the usage in the enterprise we had to develop quite a different evaluation system. We decided to include volume dependency, price and patent.

## **5.5 Classification**

According to the results, suppliers are classified as indicated in the Table 3.

### **5.5.1 Changes and suggestions to the original new evaluation system**

The analysis of the evaluation system led to the following suggestions:



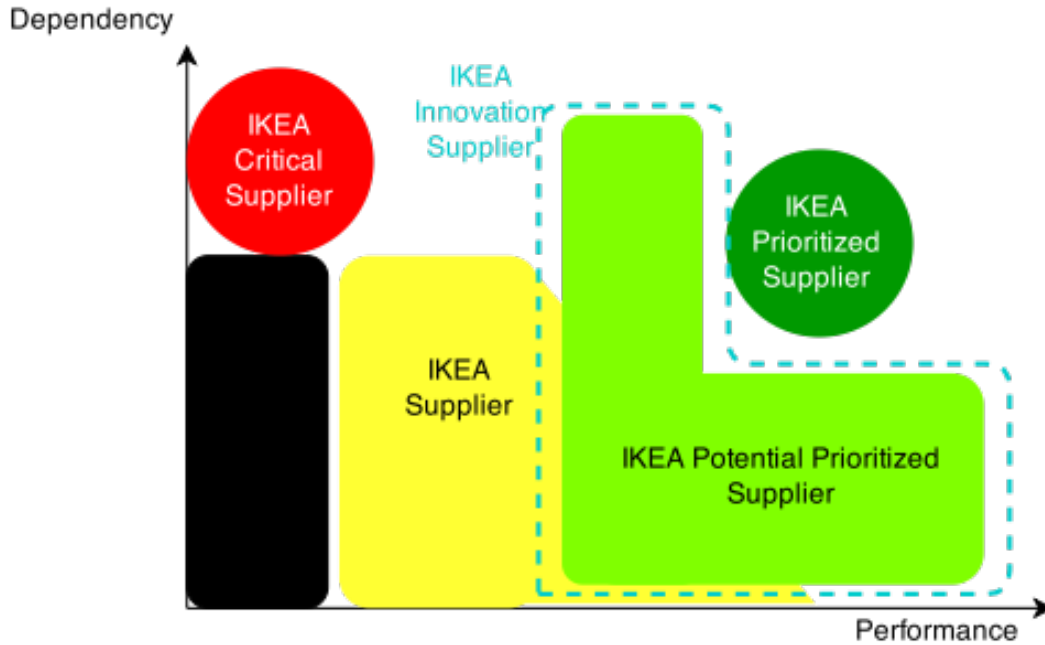


Fig. 5: IKEA dependency matrix (IKEA, 2015)

- Considering the weight distribution. The weights were distributed based on the personal feeling which means that the level of subjectivity is very high. Distributing weights according the AHP model (described in the literature review) is shown in the Table 4. This is only suggestion for further review.
- The introducing part of the table was adjusted to the needs of the IKEA Industry as following:
  - Supplier number: number in the database.
  - Supplier name: official supplier name.
  - Supplier state (location): supplier country of origin.
  - Total notified segment current FY (€): total production in the certain category (our case: pine/spruce)

Tab. 3: IKEA Clasification of the suppliers (IKEA directives)

Classification	Scoring condition
IKEA Prioritized Supplier (P)	IWAY approved is Yes, Strategic fit score 3, IKEA dependency score 3, Long high stable Performance score 3.
IKEA Potential prioritized Supplier (T)	IWAY approved is Yes, Strategic fit is scoring 3 and Performance scoring is >2, if new supplier no track record is needed. New supplier can be classified as Potential prioritized.
IKEA Product development/ Innovation Supplier (I)	IWAY approved is Yes, Product development and Innovation is Scoring 3, No big Performance issues, scoring >1,5.
IKEA Supplier (S)	IWAY approved is Yes. Suppliers that does not fulfill the criteria for any other Supplier classification and total business with IKEA <20 MEUR and <10 % of the category
IKEA Critical Supplier (C)	One or more of following criteria; IWAY approved No or Performance score is low, combined with high IKEA dependency scoring 3.

- Related country notified segment FY (€): total production in the specific country
- Total notified supplier current FY-1 (€): total production of the supplier in the past year.
- Supplier share related country FY (in %): the share of production in the related country.
- Main supplied material/component: material which supplier can provide.

Supplier involvement other segments: In the criteria of the lowest price we had to divide the categories of different materials, suggested merged categories are shown in Table 5.

Tab. 4: AHP weight distribution (Own sourcing)

Category		Priotity	Rank		1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Lowest Price	28.5%	1	1	1	1.00	4.00	4.00	3.00	2.00
2	Price Development	28.5%	1	2	1.00	1	4.00	4.00	3.00	2.00
3	Product Quality	5.3%	5	3	0.25	0.25	1	1.00	0.33	0.20
4	On Time Delivery	5.3%	5	4	0.25	0.25	1.00	1	0.33	0.20
5	MSS	11.8%	4	5	0.33	0.33	3.00	3.00	1	0.50
6	Sustainabilty	20.4%	3	6	0.50	0.50	5.00	5.00	2.00	1

- Also the evaluation is divided into two main parts: price FCA and DAP. Some suppliers can be evaluated in both, the rest only in DPA.
- We did not evaluate product quality development.
- MSS/Sustainability these two criteria were added as sub-criteria to the Sustainability index, which was later deleted as we do not know the indexes. MSS (Main sustainable sources) gives a percentage of wood which has been mined in certified forests. Sustainability expresses the overall approach of the supplier to the sustainability- water, energy, and waste management. MSS is expressed as a percentage (1-100%), sustainability 1-4.
- IKEA dependency will be evaluated from the point of volume, price and range of supplied materials.
- If the IKEA Approved is to be classified as “no”, it will not mean that the supplier is immediately classified as critical. Other criteria will be also assessed.
- The classification always round the final results down. This can sometimes lead to the inaccuracies in the classifying. We suggest to further examination of the point evaluation in the final step.
- The system does not consider processing costs, which can be sometimes very high. The consideration of adding the criteria would be appropriate.

Tab. 5: Material categories (Own sourcing)

Marking	Material
H011	Spruce
H012, H013	Larch, Pine
H02	Broad-leaved softwood
H03	Broad-leaved hardwood
K011	Spruce 2m cut
K012, K013	Larch, Pine 2m cut
K02	Broad-leaved softwood 2m cut
K03	Broad-leaved hardwood 2m cut
E01	Spruce, Pine chips
E02	Poplar, Alder, Birch chips
E03	Wood chips
F01	Coniferon sawdust
F02	Broad-leaved sawdust
F03	Mix sawdust
X01	Fuel chips
X02	Fuel chips

## 5.6 Comparing and contrasting of the past and new evaluation system

After the analyzing the system and changing the evaluation system to the needs of IKEA Industry in Malacky, we tried the new system with 15 suppliers from different countries in the region, private and state, small and bigger. In the Table 6 we can see results comparing the past evaluation system and the new one. Complete tables can be found in the appendix.

*Supplier A* is in the TOP 3 suppliers considering the volume. In the past system scored 20 points, which was considered as above average. In the new evaluation system, the supplier was classified as critical. The reasons are the high dependency, which is in the new system seen as rather negative and low MSS/ Sustainability. In the past system the dependency criteria gave plus points. Further cooperation will continue, but IKEA will probably have more demands in the field of environmental issues such as mining the certified forests.

Tab. 6: Comparison of the old and new results of supplier's evaluation (Own sourcing)

Supplier	OLD	NEW		
	Points	Performance	IKEA Dependency	Approved Classification
A	20	2	4	IKEA Critical Supplier
B	15	2	2	IKEA Potential Prioritized Supplier
C	24	1	2	IKEA Supplier
D	14	1	2	IKEA Supplier
E	14	2	2	IKEA Supplier
F	19	1	2	IKEA Supplier
G	19	2	2	IKEA Supplier
H	18	1	2	IKEA Supplier
I	21	2	2	IKEA Supplier
J	18	1	2	IKEA Supplier
K	-	2	2	IKEA Supplier
L	16	1	2	IKEA Supplier
M	-	2	2	IKEA Supplier
N	-	2	2	IKEA Supplier
O	17	2	2	IKEA Supplier

*Supplier B* does not supply the same amounts as the *A* supplier, but mined forests are 100% certified and supplier tends to approach sustainability issues carefully. Supplier scored only 15 points in the past evaluation. The supplier had/has high processing costs, which are not currently implemented in the new system.

*Supplier C* scored 24 points, which is the highest score in the evaluated selection. Supplier offered good quality material at average price. On the other hand, in the new system is classified as IKEA Supplier, because does not mine certified forests and does not have the best quality performance. This might be the result of subjective evaluation.

*Suppliers D - N* have average score in both evaluation system. This means that except one supplier (*G*) they do not mine certified forests have and have acceptable or very good prices. Suppliers of the chips - *K*, *O* - have even scored 4 points in

price development and lowest price development, but because their approach to sustainability and understanding the IKEA model, they cannot be classified otherwise. Supplier I scored 21 points in the past evaluation system and has the best prices in the category of round wood supplies. Again, the supplier does not mine the certified forests.

## 5.7 Application of elements from other methods

IKEA evaluation system is based on the linear weighted model. Some evaluation models contain elements, which could be helpful in addition to the current evaluation system.

TCO model does not show benefits costs, but can effectively show hidden costs. Among hidden costs in our case, we can find cost of maintenance, processing costs, environmental costs, acquisition costs - costs connected with the selection, ordering process or identifying the problems and costs connected with administration. The TCO model also helps to spotlight the costs before they become problems as so-called “change costs”, costs connected with the change of suppliers, loss of suppliers, adding capacity or system upgrading.

DEA method could help us to analyze the relationship between inputs and outputs. In practice, this means difference in costs between supplied material and the final product. For further studies about DEA method see Quantitative Models for Performance Evaluation and Benchmarking: Data Envelopment Analysis with Spreadsheets (Zhu, 2014).

## 6 Discussion

Over few last years, corporations like IKEA were facing the pressure from the stakeholders, public and government to incorporate a more responsible approach to the environmental issues. This main reason among other reasons led to the need of creating the new system of supplier selection and evaluation.

The current evaluation system in the IKEA Industry Malacky is an example of the linear weighted model, where different criteria have a different weight. The system was designed specifically for the company with the consultation of McKinsey Company.

The analysis of the system of the system discovered few imperfections. Some criteria could not be used in the system and some had to be added. Also, the criteria had to be reassessed. After analyzing the new evaluation system and adjusting the system to the need of IKEA Industry in Malacky we tried the system on 15 suppliers, we included the private and state suppliers and suppliers from different countries.

Results showed that the wood-processing industry is not fully ready to fulfill the requirements for the sustainability, at least in the region of central Europe. For most of the suppliers are quantity and competitive prices the most significant factors. From the comparing of two approaches, we can say that the fact that by the year 2020, IKEA wants to have all suppliers classified as IWAY approved, moved most of the suppliers to worse positions.

The classification is currently designed to be very easy to follow and to be convenient for as many divisions as possible. The fact that the output of the evaluation system is classification in 5 categories does not seem sufficient. The evaluation could also include some of the most important data such as overall performance (not in a rounded-off form), dependency or supplied volume to give a more comprehensive idea about the supplier.

The system could be further improved by trying some more complex method which were mentioned in the literature review. Many of these methods can be tried

online with low time demand.

Further research in the field of suppliers in the wood-processing industry could include analysis of the suppliers approaches to environmental issues and motivation for the mining of the certified forests.



## 7 Conclusion

The thesis deals with the topic of suppliers evaluation. Based on the literature review, the first part of the thesis describes the purchasing process and functions. This is followed by the section concerning the suppliers and finally by the selected methods - included methods are either modern and popular or easy to use and understand. The main aim of the literature review was to understand the way of creating and compare the current evaluation system which is used in IKEA Industry in Malacky.

Analysis showed that the system cannot be completely taken and applied in the enterprise in Malacky. We had to further analyze each criterion and its weight. The new system does not include all criteria and criteria of MSS and Sustainability were added. The application of the new system, on selected suppliers, discovered that in the worldwide scale, supplier in the region of the CR, the SK, HU and AT do not meet the requirements, especially in the category of environmental issues and therefore many of them were classified as suppliers, which needs to be improved.

Supplier selection evaluation is one of the most crucial functions within any company. It should be done carefully and with the respect to the costs and other criteria, nowadays, especially to the environment. Not all suppliers are able to meet requirements of the current trends and this could have the fatal consequences on the company's name and reputation and profits.

## 8 Souhrn

Práce Systém hodnocení dodavatelů v regionu ČR, SK, HU a AT se zabývá analýzou nového systému hodnocení dodavatelů v závodě IKEA Industry v Malackách. Literární rešerše se zabývá popisem nákupní funkce a různými metodami výběrů dodavatelů včetně výběru kritérií a určení jednotlivých vah.

Samotná analýza popisuje detailně proces výběru dodavatelů pro IKEA. Jednotlivá kritéria bylo třeba upravit potřebám závodu v Malackách. Některá kritéria byla vyškrtnuta a jiná byla přidána (využívání udržitelných zdrojů, přístup k udržitelnosti ŽP). Do systému bylo zadáno 15 různých dodavatelů a výsledky byly srovnány s minulým systémem hodnocení. V praktické části jsou dále uvedeny další poznatky a návrhy na úpravu klasifikace na základě literární rešerše.

Výstupem práce je upravený systém hodnocení dodavatelů, který v budoucnosti nahradí bývalý, nevyhovující, systém hodnocení dodavatelů, mezi jehož hlavní nedostatky patří vysoká míra subjektivity. Mezi hlavní poznatky práce patří skutečnost, že současní dodavatelé nejsou zatím schopni dodávat dřevní materiál z certifikovaných lesů a neodpovídají tak mezinárodním IKEA standardům.

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