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**SUPPLIER RELATIONSHIP IN JUST-IN-TIME PRODUCTION ENVIRONMENT: A STUDY IN AYDIN**

**ABSTRACT**

Today, while firms are operating in a global competitive environment, they are subjected to changes because of the increased competitiveness and developed technologies. This transformation process forces to produce with high quality and low cost products and services and leads to customer satisfaction. It requires implementing the modern approaches which add value that enterprises can be efficient in the gradually rising competition circumstances. Supply Chain Management (SCM) and Just in Time (JIT) Production Systems are important for the firms in that point. JIT is defined as necessary goods are produced at required amount, and at a required times.

Many manufacturers are dealing with the Just-in-Time (JIT) philosophy in order to be more competitive in today's global markets. The success of JIT on the production has led many firms to consider JIT philosophy to the whole supply chain. The procurement of materials and services is a very important issue in the successful and effective implementation of JIT. In this case, supplier relationship has become more critical in JIT production environment.

This study is aimed at analyzing the existent practices of production process in the enterprises which have middle and large scale in Aydın from the point of view of the Just in Time Production System which is the one from the modern approaches. The questionnaire method has been carried to the managers in the forty-three enterprises. As a result, this study may improves that, by using JIT, cost of production can decreased and in front of this quality can increased.

**KEYWORDS**

Just-in-Time Production, Supplier Relationship, Aydın