ASCM Case Competition Prize for Excellence in Supply Chain Management Strategy Awarded to Student Team from the University of Houston

CHICAGO – Sept. 24, 2020 – Today the Association for Supply Chain Management (ASCM), the global leader in supply chain learning, transformation, innovation and leadership, is pleased to announce that the student team from the University of Houston has won the 2020 ASCM Case Competition, organized in collaboration with Deloitte.

The University of Houston team members are Lois Suter and Kaitlyn Dahlstom – the first all-women team to win the top prize. They worked on a case that involved a fictional California-based juice manufacturer that was facing issues in tracking shipments, ensuring on-time delivery and optimizing shipping routes, due to increased market demands and the need to efficiently operationalize its newly acquired shipping fleet. Teams were tasked with leveraging technological advancements available in the market to identify solutions that could increase customer satisfaction, enhance shipping methods, reduce costs and ultimately guide leadership to make informed executive decisions in real-time.

The global case competition gives student teams an opportunity to augment and test their supply chain knowledge by working on end-to-end supply chain challenges drawn from actual company experiences. Throughout the past year, competing teams have participated in real-world case problem solving, incorporating technical knowledge as well as soft skills. First, second and third place student team winners split a $7,500 prize pool and receive industry recognition for their accomplishments.

There were 309 teams that entered the 2020 competition and for the first time ever, they had to pivot to a completely virtual format. The finalists and winning teams were notified via video chat on September 18, 2020.

Georgetown University earned first runner-up in this year’s competition, with team members Katerina Arzhayev, Adam Davis, Gerardo Di Trolio and Sameer Pandey.

Nikhil Bagrecha, Saumya Joshi, Devendra Panda and Bradley Fernandes represented the K.J. Somaiya Institute of Management Studies and Research, which was awarded second runner-up.

“ASCM is proud to collaborate with Deloitte to provide a platform for students to put everything they’ve been learning in their supply chain programs to the test before graduating,” said ASCM CEO, Abe Eshkenazi, CSCP, CPA, CAE. “If the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us anything, it’s that disruption is inevitable. I have no doubt in my mind that the supply chain industry will be prepared for whatever comes next with these future supply chain professionals leading the way.”

“Now more than ever, the supply chain industry needs motivated, young professionals who can bring innovative ideas to the table,” said Ken Olsen, managing director, Deloitte Consulting LLP. “We’re pleased to collaborate for the third year with ASCM to challenge these students to address complex, evolving supply chain scenarios that will serve them well in their future careers.”
Registration is now open for the 2021 competition and first round entries are due October 31, 2020. To register or learn more about the ASCM Case Competition visit: http://bit.ly/ascmcasecompetition.

About ASCM
The Association for Supply Chain Management (ASCM) is the global leader in supply chain organizational transformation, innovation and leadership. As the largest nonprofit association for supply chain, ASCM is an unbiased partner, connecting companies around the world to the newest thought leadership on all aspects of supply chain. ASCM is built on a foundation of APICS certification and training spanning 60 years. Now, ASCM is driving innovation in the industry with new products, services and partnerships that enable companies to further optimize their supply chains, secure their competitive advantage and positively influence their bottom lines. For more information, visit ascm.org.

About Deloitte
Deloitte provides industry-leading audit, consulting, tax and advisory services to many of the world’s most admired brands, including nearly 90% of the Fortune 500® and more than 7,000 private companies. Our people work across the industry sectors that drive and shape today’s marketplace — delivering measurable and lasting results that help reinforce public trust in our capital markets, inspire clients to see challenges as opportunities to transform and thrive, and help lead the way toward a stronger economy and a healthy society. Deloitte is proud to be part of the largest global professional services network serving our clients in the markets that are most important to them. Now celebrating 175 years of service, our network of member firms spans more than 150 countries and territories. Learn how Deloitte’s more than 312,000 people worldwide make an impact that matters at www.deloitte.com.

Deloitte refers to one or more of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, a UK private company limited by guarantee (“DTTL”), its network of member firms, and their related entities. DTTL and each of its member firms are legally separate and independent entities. DTTL (also referred to as “Deloitte Global”) does not provide services to clients. In the United States, Deloitte refers to one or more of the US member firms of DTTL, their related entities that operate using the “Deloitte” name in the United States and their respective affiliates. Certain services may not be available to attest clients under the rules and regulations of public accounting. Please see www.deloitte.com/about to learn more about our global network of member firms.

###

Media contact:
LEWIS Global Communications
ASCM@teamlewis.com