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Supply Chain Resilience in Pharma Packaging

Building Confidence Through a Risk-Intelligent Approach

In today's volatile global landscape, managing supply chain risk isn't just good practice—it's essential for business survival. Between pandemic disruptions, geopolitical tensions, and cyber threats, pharmaceutical supply chains face unprecedented challenges. Success now depends on resilience: the ability to adapt, recover, and thrive.

A business that manages its supply chain risks effectively can boost market reputation and create significant shareholder value through lower costs, higher capital efficiency, and the ability to seize new opportunities.

The shifting Landscape of Supply Chain Risks

The traditional focus on operational risks is no longer sufficient. A holistic and strategic approach must address four distinct risk categories:

- **MACRO ENVIRONMENT RISKS**

External forces originating outside the immediate supply chain—political changes, pandemics, and global economic shifts that can dramatically impact operations.

- **OPERATIONAL RISKS**

Challenges within core internal processes. While lean manufacturing and just-in-time inventory boost efficiency, they increase vulnerability to shortfalls and disruptions.

- **EXTENDED SUPPLY CHAIN RISKS**

Risks from upstream and downstream partners. Outsourcing may reduce costs but increases complexity and introduces third-party vulnerabilities.

- **FUNCTIONAL RISKS**

Challenges within support functions (Finance, HR, IT). Today's interconnected systems mean any single disruption can cascade throughout the entire operation.

Challenges at a Glance

- 84% of leaders report feeling underprepared for future disruptions¹
- 60% of board members say their companies aren't ready for the next major event¹
- 71% of CEOs plan to evolve their supply chain approaches to mitigate risks²
- 37% of life sciences executives identified building resilient supply chains as a top priority for 2025³

Building Resilience: Four Key Capabilities

Resilience and agility are not inherent qualities but strategic capabilities. Here are the four key-pillars to develop:

visibility

Track and anticipate supply chain events before they happen. Share knowledge and establish shared risk assessments with partners.

flexibility

Develop agility to scale and adapt quickly. Medium-sized specialists often excel at rapid adaptation to changing market requirements.

collaboration

Build trust-based relationships with suppliers and customers. Understand your partners' capabilities and resilience strategies.

control

Implement robust policies and monitoring with clear accountability. Create a strong foundation across people, processes, and data.

The elmplastic Advantage

As a specialized German manufacturer of pharmaceutical primary packaging and medical devices, elmplastic offers unique advantages that enhance your supply chain resilience:

Strategic Location

Located in western-central Germany, elmplastic benefits from excellent accessibility by road, rail, and air while maintaining sufficient distance from urban centers to ensure operational stability.

During COVID-19, this location proved invaluable, allowing us to maintain stable raw material supply while implementing a rolling 24/7 shift system that doubled production capacity within 12 months.

Specialized Expertise

We focus exclusively on pharmaceutical packaging and medical devices, to helping patients recover from any kind of sicknesses. The fact that we are specialists in our field means:

- Fully understand pharma manufacturing requirements
- Produce everything in-house in Germany for complete supply control
- Operate independently from external service providers with quick turnaround times
- Scale production efficiently for any order size
- Maintain regulatory compliance and MDR certification with fully auditable processes

Dedicated Team

At elmplastic, quality drives everything we do. Our reputation for outstanding, on-time customer service comes from a team that:

- Is fully committed to service and production excellence
- Makes your needs visible within our organization
- Proactively cross-checks requirements and provides reminders
- Guides you through everyday business challenges
- Approaches every challenge with a solutions mindset

Your Competitive Edge with elmplastic

• CUSTOMER CENTRICITY	A professional team that truly cares for tailored solutions
• 100% IN-HOUSE DEVELOPMENT	Maximum supply security with complete production control
• TECHNICAL EXPERTISE	Proactive, quick-response solutions to complex challenges
• REGULATORY EXCELLENCE	Comprehensive expertise (EMAS, ISO, MDR) for seamless compliance
• CONTINUOUS INNOVATION	Technological advancement and sustainable solutions
• PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES	Stable raw material supply, in-house prototyping to large order volumes
• CUSTOMIZATION	Individualized product design and packaging configuration
• TRANSPARENCY	Fully auditable organization and production site



Resilience Begins with Choosing the Right Partner

Supply chain disruptions are the new normal. By partnering with elmplastic, you secure your delivery capability and also strengthen your competitiveness and innovation power in the pharmaceutical market. Together, let's turn challenges into opportunities.

Ready to Enhance Your Supply Chain Resilience?

Contact elmplastic today to discuss your pharmaceutical packaging needs:

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Our team of experts is ready to help you develop customized solutions that ensure your pharmaceutical packaging supply chain remains resilient in the face of any challenge. Reach out today and discover how elmplastic can become your trusted partner in pharmaceutical packaging excellence.

Sources:

1. The CEO as chief resilience officer, May 2025
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<https://www.deloitte.com/us/en/programs/chief-executive-officer/articles/ceo-survey.html>
3. Deloitte: 2025 Life Sciences Outlook
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