

Looking towards 2016

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC: What are the main challenges that businesses will face in 2016? What opportunities, if any, could arise?

Frans Kok

General Manager

AEB (Asia Pacific) Pte Ltd

GLOBAL trade faces an uncertain 2016 due to the threat of terrorism, economic instability and even environmental disasters, which seem to have become more frequent and severe. These complicate the already challenging landscape that businesses face in managing their supply chains, increasing supply chain risk, complexity and compliance requirements.

To meet these challenges, businesses need have more well-integrated supply chains in order to respond more quickly to potential disruptions, and be more adaptable to changes in regulations. Better collaboration within the supply chain also allows for more effective decision making, and can help mitigate economic and environmental risks.

While the launch of the Asean Economic Community will bring about new opportunities in this fast growing region, companies that are able to leverage on automation and intelligent processes will reap the most benefits.

Hence, a focus on upgrading logistics systems and an adoption of the latest technologies will put businesses in the best position to manage the challenges and capture the opportunities that are coming in 2016.