



**Unlocking Resilience and Performance: The Dynamic Impact
of Collaborative Social Media Integration in Operations,
Marketing, and Sales**

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Abstract

Purpose: This study theoretically hypothesises and empirically explores the relationships between Operations and Supply Chain Management, and Marketing/Sales collaboration, social media usage, organisational resilience, and performance. We consider how collaboration through social media can enhance organisational resilience capability and performance.

Design/methodology/approach: A survey was conducted among 395 organisations in the UK. Structural equation modelling was applied to test the research hypotheses.

Findings: The empirical findings support the significant mediating role of Operations and Supply Chain Management-Marketing/Sales collaborative activities through internal and external social media for better organisational resilience, capability, cost efficiency, customer-focused and business performance. This also extends to exploring differences based on product versus service industries.

Originality/value: Through empirical research, the findings contribute to the theoretical development and managerial guidance on Operations and Supply Chain Management - Marketing/Sales collaboration and resilience capability by emphasising the strategic deployment of social media across functions through the lens of contingency theory and resource-based view.

Keywords Operations and Supply Chain Management-Marketing collaboration, Social media, Resilience capability, Organisational Performance

Paper type Research paper

1. Introduction

Companies face increasing complexity and volatility in global markets, leading to an enhanced need for inter-departmental collaboration in driving resilience and business performance. One of the emerging strategies for achieving collaboration is integrating social media (SM) across various business functions, particularly operations, marketing, and sales (Cao *et al.*, 2018). Yet how the integration of SM supports inter-departmental collaboration; which is a continuous challenge between these functions (Tang, 2010), is largely un-researched. This gap is addressed in this paper as we develop insight into the potential of SM as an enabler of resilience and performance, through improved collaboration. By bridging the gap between theory and practice, we seek to offer a comprehensive understanding of how collaborative SM integration can drive organisational success in an increasingly interconnected and dynamic world.

Digital platforms and technologies have been acknowledged as a strategic imperative for Operations and Supply Chain Management (O&SCM), offering a range of opportunities such as efficiency, customer focus, business transformation, innovation, and competitive positioning (Roberts *et al.*, 2016; Cao *et al.*, 2018; Cheng *et al.*, 2020). The proliferation of SM platforms has revolutionised how businesses interact with customers and suppliers, manage operations, and execute marketing strategies (Neuhaus *et al.*, 2023). SM has profoundly transformed various business functions, contributing to organisations by providing better access to markets for promotional activities (Huang, 2020), supporting supplier selection processes and supplier attractiveness (Banerjee *et al.*, 2020; Tóth *et al.*, 2020), and enabling more direct engagement with stakeholders for gathering market intelligence (Ainin *et al.*, 2014). SM channels enhance communication, engagement, and collaboration with supply chain partners (Guo *et al.*, 2020; Cartwright *et al.*, 2021), fostering communication and engagement within organisations, reducing costs and supporting better organisational knowledge management internally (Neeley and Leonardi, 2018; Nisar *et al.*, 2019). Consequently, this facilitates organisational learning and innovation, improving performance and agility and timely responses to changes within the business environment (Wang *et al.*, 2017; Zhan *et al.*, 2020). However, most existing SM literature focuses on applying SM within organisational functions (Salo, 2017; Cartwright *et al.*, 2021), and there is a clear gap in understanding its role *across* organisational functions (Huang *et al.*, 2020).

One suggested benefit of SM is bridging organisational and functional gaps; integrating business processes within organisations and supply chains (Lam *et al.*, 2016; Irani *et al.*, 2017). This collaboration is pivotal in enhancing organisational resilience capabilities and

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3 performance, as it enables firms to respond more effectively to market dynamics and
4 operational disruptions. However, the SM literature has yet to address the traditional divide
5 between organisational business functions (Huang *et al.*, 2020). This paper aims to fill this gap
6 by examining the impact of strategically integrating SM across O&SCM and Marketing/Sales
7 (OMS) to enhance organisational resilience and performance. Hence, this paper aims to address
8 the following research question: How does SM contribute towards improving collaboration
9 between O&SCM and Marketing/Sales functions and thus improving organisational resilience
10 and performance? In doing so, we explore the development of performance and resilience
11 capabilities, viewing SM as a dynamic resource that enables collaboration and interaction
12 between O&SCM and Marketing/Sales for mutual growth.
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21 Organisational resilience is an essential dynamic capability for enterprises to survive, adapt,
22 and grow in the face of turbulent change and unexpected events (Fiksel *et al.*, 2015; Nikoogar
23 and Yanadori, 2022), and dynamic capabilities are a learned pattern of collective activity (e.g.,
24 functional collaborations) through which an organisation can generate new operating practices
25 to achieve and sustain a competitive advantage (Teece, 2007). Thus, the organisational
26 resilience capability to prepare, absorb and sustain unforeseen events (Golgeci and Ponomarov,
27 2013) and minimise the impact of disruptions (Verbano and Venturini, 2011) can lead to better
28 organisational performance such as cost efficiency (i.e., cost leadership), customer focus (i.e.,
29 differentiation) and financial performance.
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37 In answering our research question, we strengthen the extant knowledge about overcoming the
38 strategic divide between O&SCM and Marketing/Sales functions, and the value of using SM
39 to bridge this gap. Utilising a quantitative exploratory survey of UK organisations, we build on
40 existing theories explaining the nature and function of SM, including
41 information/communication, contingency theory (e.g., internal and external conditions), and
42 the resource-based view (RBV). Our study provides three crucial contributions. First, it
43 determines how OMS collaborates through SM, thus understanding its role across
44 organisational functions. Second, it identifies how SM applications can facilitate a
45 collaborative approach to reducing the gap between OMS functions and enhancing existing
46 organisational capabilities and performance (i.e., organisational resilience capability, cost
47 efficiency, and customer focus). Third, we present how internal and external SM contribute
48 differently to organisational resilience capability and how OMS collaboration influences
49 organisational performance differently depending on the industry's nature. By analysing views,
50 approaches, and implications in this manner, we offer theoretical insights and managerial
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3 guidance on strategic procedures required for organisations to apply SM to develop
4 organisational resilience capability and improve organisational performance across functions.
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7 We organise the rest of the paper as follows. Section 2 presents a literature review on key
8 concepts, including OMS collaborations and SM to enhance organisational resilience and
9 performance. In Section 3, we explain the research model and formulate the hypotheses. After
10 discussing the methodology (i.e. section 4), in Sections 5 and 6, we analyse the data and discuss
11 the research results, findings and their theoretical and managerial implications. Section 7
12 concludes the paper by discussing the study's limitations and suggesting topics for future
13 research.
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22 **2. Literature review**

23 **2.1 Operations/supply-chain management and marketing/sales collaboration**

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25 Collaboration between marketing and O&SCM is often referred to as alignment (Weir *et al.*,
26 2001), coordination (Narver and Slater, 1990), integration (Hausman *et al.*, 2002), or the
27 interface between functions (Parente, 1998). The critical marketing objectives include
28 increasing revenue and customer-focused performance, such as customer satisfaction (Assen,
29 2018) and service quality (Torres, 2014). Conversely, the O&SCM function primarily focuses
30 on reducing costs (Beamon, 1999; Zelbst *et al.*, 2009; Aoki *et al.*, 2014) and product flow
31 (Bijmolt *et al.* 2021), while also enhancing customer satisfaction and service quality through
32 speed, dependability, and flexibility (Assen, 2018; Patel *et al.*, 2013). Better customer-focused
33 service and cost efficiency improve business performance metrics like return on sales (ROS),
34 sales, and market share growth (Huo *et al.*, 2014; Fulleton *et al.*, 2014; Okafor, 2021).
35 Therefore, aligning marketing and O&SCM is crucial to achieving both cost-efficiency and
36 customer-focused objectives, contributing significantly to organisational performance.
37 Although aligning organisational functions and strategic approaches is vital for achieving
38 organisational excellence, there are theoretical and pragmatic gaps in understanding the
39 coordination between marketing and O&SCM that still need exploration (Piercy, 2007;
40 Sombultawee and Boon-Itt, 2020).
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55 Hausman *et al.* (2002) view alignment as an interface between both functions, which have "the
56 ability to work together in strategy implementation" (p. 242). OMS encompass activities such
57 as sales forecasting (Parente, 1998; Weir *et al.*, 2001; Sombultawee and Boon-Itt, 2018), new
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3 product introduction (Karmarkar, 1996; Swink and Song, 2007), order fulfilment (Sawhney
4 and Piper, 2002), quality/quantity issues (Paiva, 2010), responding for the business
5 environment (Jaworski and Kohli, 1993), operations schedules, delivery plans (Sombultawee
6 and Boon-Itt, 2018), customer order coordination (Alex *et al.*, 2014), returns (Bijmolt *et al.*
7 2021) and exploring new market entry (Kong *et al.*, 2015; Goh and Eldridge, 2019). The
8 alignment between O&SCM and Marketing/Sales is seen as a source of competitive advantage
9 through these activities (Powell, 1992). However, research across both functions remains
10 limited, as observed in studies by Dixon *et al.* (2014), Mollenkopf, Frankel and Russo (2011),
11 and Weir *et al.* (2001).

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What the extant literature does suggest is that the more collaborative marketing and O&SCM
are, the greater the benefit derived from their resource planning systems (Gattiker, 2007).
Moreover, greater cooperation between functions positively influences both effectiveness and
efficiency (Brettel *et al.*, 2011). Research emphasizes the need for careful communication and
feedback systems for a successful interface at the operational, tactical, and strategic levels (see
Parente, 1998; Thome, *et al.*, 2012). Although authors' definitions of collaboration vary, there
is a collective understanding that the collaborative cross-functional alignment of activities is
crucial for organisational success. In light of this, we define OMS collaboration as the extent
to which O&SCM and marketing functions work harmoniously (i.e., across functions) based
on shared objectives and activities.

Empirical evidence on marketing-operations collaborations across both functions has only been
extant since around 2000 (Sombultawee and Boon-itt, 2018), and there is a lack of research
regarding actual activities and operational practices that facilitate effective collaboration
between marketing and O&SCM functions (Marques *et al.*, 2014). A further concern is the lack
of understanding of collaboration's tangible benefits to the firm, such as organisational
capability (e.g., resilience), cost-benefits, and customer service improvement, since marketing
and O&SCM functions may often have different or conflicting operational and strategic goals
(Erickson, 2012). In addition, the supporting strategies or tools for OMS collaboration have
not been empirically investigated since marketing-O&SCM collaboration is often neglected as
an organisational practice and may frequently be implemented inconsistently (Sombultawee
and Boon-itt, 2020). Therefore, collaboration across both functions is the research gap we aim
to address. For example, SM has been acknowledged as a resource contributing not only to
external (with suppliers and customers) but also internal (with colleagues) relationship
development and collaboration, leading to improved customer focus and financial performance

(Mitrege *et al.*, 2017; Rajamma *et al.*, 2011; Wang *et al.*, 2016). Consequently, we turn to SM to investigate its role in enhancing OMS collaboration **to manage the supply chain**.

2.2 Social media research: O&SCM and marketing/sales perspective

SM refers to "a group of Internet-based applications that build on the ideological and technological foundations of Web 2.0, and that allow the creation and exchange of user-generated content" (Kaplan and Haenlein, 2010, p. 61). Through SM channels, organisations can reach, communicate, and engage with larger audiences on a global scale at a significantly lower cost than ever before (Craft *et al.*, 2017; Drummond *et al.*, 2020). From a marketing perspective, the benefits of utilising specific applications of SM have been identified in a number of marketing practice areas such as sales (Ancillai *et al.*, 2019; Guesalaga, 2016), key account management (Lacoste, 2016), and content marketing (Leek *et al.*, 2019; Swani *et al.*, 2019) as enhancing performance. However, limited systematic theory development or extension exists on how these channels can benefit O&SCM (Cheng *et al.*, 2020; Cui *et al.*, 2019).

Existing research suggests that at the relational level, SM can be employed to enhance operational efficiency and innovativeness internally (Chen *et al.*, 2020; Lam *et al.*, 2016). Organisations utilise SM for effective knowledge-sharing among employees, resulting in improved job performance (Cartwright *et al.*, 2021; Cui *et al.*, 2019). For example, employees are formally interacting with company news, online blogs, CEO messages, and exchanging reports as well as sharing information or resources (e.g., financial means, personnel, work results), and informally through private communities and discussion platforms, such as WhatsApp, X, Yammer, Slack, Discord, LinkedIn and Facebook Workplace. Furthermore, SM is utilised for information diffusion (Yoo *et al.*, 2016), sentiment manipulations (Lee *et al.*, 2018), customer satisfaction through social interaction (Wang *et al.*, 2016), and measurement of online responses (Gu and Ye, 2014; Ramanathan *et al.*, 2017). At the organisational level, research demonstrates the role of SM in managing supplier attractiveness (Tóth *et al.*, 2020), selecting suppliers (Banerjee *et al.*, 2020), facilitating customer service and enhancing organisational reputation (Guo *et al.*, 2020), deploying the value of SM data and information (Chan *et al.*, 2016; Cui *et al.*, 2019), and improving service recovery strategies (Fan and Niu, 2016). Thus, SM has the potential to create value through interactions between professionals within and beyond focal organisations by sharing intellectual capital within close networks (Cartwright *et al.*, 2020; Mitrege *et al.*, 2017).

SM offers opportunities for understanding the interplay between operations and marketing management (Cheng *et al.*, 2020). There is an implied collaborative responsibility for reciprocity in sharing and posting content between operations and marketing (Tóth *et al.*, 2020; Palmatier, 2008; Karampela *et al.*, 2020; Chae *et al.*, 2020). This reciprocity strengthens internal and external relationships (Eklinder-Frick *et al.*, 2011; Lee *et al.*, 2018). However, existing empirical SM research takes a siloed approach to looking at SM usage within functions rather than across functions (Huang *et al.*, 2020), leading us to develop our research framework and hypotheses.

3. Research framework and hypothesis development

Several studies have explored the impact of SM practices on business and financial performance (see Paniagua and Sapena, 2014; Tajvidi and Karami, 2021; Ye *et al.*, 2022; Corral de Zubielqui and Jones, 2022). However, there is a notable gap in research concerning SM's potential as a strategic tool for enhancing functional collaboration and resilience capabilities, ultimately leading to improved organisational performance across functions rather than within functions. To address this gap, we propose a conceptual framework illustrating the relationship between SM and OMS collaborative activities in enhancing organisational resilience capability, cost efficiency, customer focus, and overall business performance. For a structural representation of our research framework, refer to Figure 1.

Figure 1. Research framework

Our framework makes several significant contributions to the current literature. Firstly, it extends our understanding of SM beyond its siloed functional role in marketing, operations, sales or supply-chain management by emphasising its strategic importance in fostering cross-departmental collaboration and organisational resilience. This is crucial as existing studies primarily focus on SM's direct impact on performance metrics without considering its intermediary effects through collaboration and resilience capabilities. By identifying OMS collaboration and organisational resilience as mediating variables, our framework determines the pathways through which the utilisation of SM translates into performance outcomes across functions.

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3 Additionally, the model contributes to the literature by differentiating between the impacts of
4 SM in manufacturing/production-oriented and service/delivery-oriented environments. This
5 distinction provides nuanced insights into how industry context influences the effectiveness of
6 SM practices, a perspective that has been underexplored in previous research. Furthermore, our
7 model investigates the differential effects of internal and external SM usage, adding another
8 layer of depth to the analysis of SM's strategic role within organisations.
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11 In the following sections, we delve into a detailed discussion of the relationships depicted in
12 the framework and present the corresponding hypotheses. By clarifying these contributions,
13 our study aims to bridge the existing gaps in the literature and offer a comprehensive
14 understanding of the strategic value of SM in enhancing organisational resilience and
15 performance through collaborative efforts.
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18 **3.1 SMs role in OMS collaboration and organisational resilience**

19 Collaborations in demand forecasting, new product introduction, quality/quantity management,
20 and responses to changing business environments between OMS functions are crucial at the
21 tactical level (see Jaworski and Kohli, 1993; Malhotra and Sharma, 2002; Paiva, 2010). Also,
22 collaborations in customer order coordination, operations schedule and delivery plan are key
23 areas at an operational level. SM activities are suggested to play a significant role as
24 collaborative tools from both the O&SCM and marketing perspective (Brettel *et al.*, 2011).
25 Inter-organisational collaboration supported by SM is predicted to enhance organisational and
26 financial performance (Sanders and Premus, 2005; Wu *et al.*, 2015), and to enhance network
27 coordination and collaboration (Drummond *et al.*, 2018). According to Järvinen and Taiminen
28 (2016) creating SM content should also contribute towards organisational collaboration and
29 performance.
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32 Conflicting objectives between O&SCM and marketing (e.g. Cost-saving and customer-focus
33 respectively) can induce problems for collaboration (Parente, 1998). However, SM can
34 contribute to improving organisational resilience by achieving efficiency in interactions at a
35 relatively low cost (Lam *et al.*, 2016) and enabling collaborative project management (Ollus *et*
36 *al.*, 2011) as an integrated communications tool (Leek *et al.*, 2019; Iankova *et al.*, 2019). SM
37 can also act as a tool to facilitate employee engagement (Barry and Girona, 2019; Pitt *et al.*,
38 2019). Employees can leverage SM channels to avoid the impact of unexpected change (Klibi
39 *et al.*, 2010), develop new business opportunities, and collaborate effectively with colleagues,
40 optimising operational processes (Järvinen and Taiminen, 2016). Although improved
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collaboration and a positive relational impact through SM could lead to enhanced operational performance (Auramo *et al.*, 2005), there is limited research on how SM contributes to aligning activities between O&SCM and marketing departments.

The speed and dynamic nature of SM interactions have been suggested to enhance organisational resilience capability (Martín-Rojas *et al.*, 2023) such as anticipation of disruptions, agile response to problems and reflection on the change (Chowdhury and Quaddus, 2017; Gölgeci and Kuivalainen, 2020). Since organisational resilience involves preparing for, absorbing, and sustaining unexpected events (Peck, 2005; Bhamra *et al.*, 2011) and responding to disruptions (Kumar and Sosnoski, 2011) the literature categorises resilience broadly into readiness and preparedness, response and adaptation, and adjustment (Chowdhury and Quaddus, 2017). However, SM's role in enhancing organisational resilience is still underexplored (Cheng *et al.*, 2020; Fan and Niu, 2016). Considering information flows, visual sharing, and relational aspects between operations and marketing through SM, we explore the following hypotheses:

H1: Organisations engaging more through SM exhibit superior OMS collaboration.

H2: Organisations engaging more through SM demonstrate enhanced organisational resilience capability.

SM is accessible to many individuals within an organisation, connecting them to information and providing access to an organisational database that supports sharing technical information and policies, establishing common goals collaboratively (Kong *et al.*, 2016). Research shows that the first step to engagement internally and externally is to interact with SM (Lacoste, 2016). SM accelerates the effective transfer of knowledge across various business functions, fostering higher collaborative innovation. Thus, SM is a resource that enables the development of intellectual capital (Cartwright *et al.*, 2020). In turn, organisational collaboration and information sharing are critical for achieving a competitive advantage, enhancing adaptability to changing conditions and utilising resources effectively (Sombultawee and Boon, 2018), which leads to enhanced organisational resilience capability to survive, adapt and grow in the face of turbulent change in sourcing, manufacturing and delivery of product and service (Jain *et al.*, 2017). Furthermore, sharing timely and valuable content also contributes to idea development, while enhancing innovation (Chen *et al.*, 2020), raising high entry barriers to the market and strengthening organisational positioning. Thus, we consider SM usage as an

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3 antecedent for OMS collaboration, enhancing organisational resilience, and propose the
4 following exploratory hypothesis:
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7 *H3: OMS collaboration mediates relationships between SM and resilience capability.*
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10 The relationships among SM, OMS collaboration, resilience, and organisational performance
11 can be explained by two grounded theories. The RBV suggests that organisations can achieve
12 their objectives by accumulating and integrating the producing resources (Powell, 1992).
13 Integrated resources are organisational assets that are the foundation for creating competitive
14 advantage (Barney, 1991; Eisenhardt and Martin, 2000). Thus, we regarded SM as a technical
15 resource (Bharadwaj, 2000) to support the OMS resource collaboration and an information
16 exchange channel to improve cost efficiency and customer focus (Sombultawee and Boon-Itt,
17 2020). Operations management requires collaboration with marketing to enhance strategic
18 planning and the utilisation of resources throughout the process to create a competitive
19 advantage (Hitt *et al.*, 2016). For example, sales and operations planning (S&OP) processes
20 through the collaboration of two business functions facilitate master planning, demand
21 planning, and the flow of information (Oliva and Watson, 2011). With increasing technological
22 advances, such as SM channels and dynamism in the environment, organisations are forced to
23 revisit their resource integration and develop strategic changes continuously (Quinn *et al.*, 2016;
24 Derfus *et al.*, 2008).
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27 Contingency theory emphasises that a proper alignment of endogenous design in the
28 organisation (i.e., internal boundary conditions) influences the management of the resource
29 (Grötsch *et al.*, 2013) and results in competitive advantage and better business performance
30 (Powell, 1992). For example, appropriate organisational structure and the degree of cooperative
31 planning (e.g., collaboration between OMS) play a significant role in achieving efficient and
32 effective organisational performance, so that organisations can manage resources effectively
33 to develop an integrative capacity (Lawrence and Lorsch, 1967). Thus, we regarded OMS
34 collaboration as an internal enabler and condition leading to better cost efficiency and
35 customer-focused performance. Collaborative digital information sharing for the sales forecast
36 increases the efficiency of fulfilment operations and customer service (Van Duin *et al.*, 2016).
37 Also, OMS collaboration facilitates customer-focus performance since customer orientation
38 requires OMS departments to work closely together to discover and meet customer needs
39 (Sombultawee and Boon-Itt, 2020). Thus, collaborative processes and structures facilitate
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3 improvement in the ability of the organisation to meet customer needs and cost efficiency
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5 (Auramo *et al.*, 2005; Feng *et al.*, 2008).
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8 Organisational resilience capability allows organisations to recover in less time (Wang *et al.*,
9 2010), with less effort, and at a lower cost to shocks in the market (Vugrin *et al.*, 2011) based
10 on achieving both cost efficiency and a unique ability to absorb the shock (Holling, 1973).
11 Resilience capability also reduces the impact of the disruption (Rose, 2004) or its inherent
12 ability to return to its original position (Christopher and Peck, 2004). Furthermore, resilience
13 improves customer satisfaction and relationships (Pettit *et al.*, 2013), flexibility (Swafford *et*
14 *al.*, 2006), quick response (Sheffi and Rice, 2005), and quality of service and product (Epstein
15 and Wisner, 2001). Finally, the enhanced corporate competitive status (i.e., cost efficiency and
16 customer focus) acquired from a superior capability (e.g., resilience) and strategy has
17 significant consequences for better business performance (Miles and Snow, 1978). As designed
18 in this study cost efficiency and customer focus can be treated as intermediate organisational
19 performance outcomes, while financial performance is viewed as the final business
20 performance outcome (Vickery *et al.* 2003). Table 1 summarises the cross-referred structures
21 that are used to build items, with supporting literature. Thus, considering the benefits and
22 relationship of OMS collaboration, SM, and resilience capability elucidated on organisational
23 performance, we propose the following hypothesis:
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36 *H4: OMS collaboration enhances (a) cost efficiency and (b) customer-focus performance.*

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38 *H5: The use of SM improves (a) cost efficiency and (b) customer focus performance directly.*

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41 *H6: Organisational resilience capability enhances (a) cost efficiency and (b) customer-focus*
42 *performance.*

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45 *H7: (a) Cost efficiency and (b) customer focus performance are positively related to better*
46 *business performance.*
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49 OMS collaboration and communication frequently occur at the level of individual manager or
50 employee, informally (e.g., internal SM) and without acknowledgement within the formal
51 processes of the firm (Piercy, 2010). Communication with customers and suppliers (e.g.,
52 external SM) can be managed formally and informally. Although researchers demonstrated the
53 benefits of SM on functional collaborations and organisational resilience (see Wu *et al.*, 2015;
54 Järvinen and Taiminen, 2016; Martín-Rojas *et al.*, 2023), there is limited research investigating
55 the respective impact of internal and external SM. Thus, to explore the potential difference in
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3 the roles of internal and external SM in the relationships with OMS collaboration and resilience
4 capability, as well as to compare the mediation effect of OMS collaboration relatively, we
5 propose the following exploratory hypothesis:
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9 *H8: Both (a) internal and (b) external SM improve organisational resilience capability through*
10 *OMS collaboration.*
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13 14 15 **3.2 OMS collaboration in a different industrial environment**

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17 Contingency theory also suggests that organisations must adapt their business to the
18 environmental conditions and changes (i.e., external boundary conditions) in which they exist
19 (Donaldson, 2001), supporting the requisite organisational resilience capability under various
20 industry environments. According to contingency theory, identifying the boundary conditions
21 around the phenomenon under investigation can lead to richer theory development according
22 to contingency theory (McMahon and Perritt, 1973). Thus, contingency theory serves as a
23 valuable theoretical framework for understanding how organisations adjust to changes in
24 competitive markets through SM deployment, contingent upon varying environmental
25 conditions. For example, contingency external factors, such as industry types, national context
26 and culture, organisation size, strategic context, and other organisational variables (e.g.,
27 structure and alignment) have been considered in the O&SCM literature (Sousa and Voss,
28 2008). Thus, this study delves into the contingency effects of OMS collaboration, comparing
29 different industrial environments between production and service-oriented conditions.
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33 Two key organisational performances, cost efficiency and customer focus encompassing
34 quality, speed, dependability, and flexibility, are vital for both manufacturing and service
35 industries (Bouranta and Psomas, 2016). Organisations strategically emphasise these aspects
36 to gain a competitive edge over their rivals (Dabhilkar *et al.*, 2016). Notably, a distinct focus
37 exists between manufacturing and service industries, primarily rooted in their output and the
38 level of customer involvement. For instance, service-oriented industries prioritize quality and
39 delivery over cost, emphasising service differentiation (Phusavat and Kanchana, 2008;
40 Naqshbandi and Idris, 2012). In contrast, manufacturing can be segmented into two stages:
41 production and consumption, which might occur at different places and times. In service
42 organisations, intangible service production and consumption often coincide with customer
43 participation (Moeller, 2010). Unlike manufacturing organisations, the quality of services in
44 service-oriented industries varies from day-to-day or customer-to-customer, making
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3 standardisation challenging (Palmer, 2011). Service organisations offering high levels of
4 customisation require robust alignment between marketing and operations to enhance customer
5 focus, contrasting with manufacturing environments where the focus leans more towards cost
6 efficiency (Kotler and Keller, 2012). Thus, we explore the different effects of SM and OMS
7 collaboration on performance contingent on different industry environments and posit a
8 contingency theory perspective (i.e., external boundary condition) as follows:
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14 *H9: In a production-oriented environment, SM through OMS collaboration significantly*
15 *influences cost efficiency more than customer focus, while in a service-oriented environment,*
16 *SM through OMS collaboration significantly influences customer focus more than cost*
17 *efficiency.*
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24 **Table 1. Structures and supporting literature**
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29 **4. Methodology**

30 **4.1 Sample and data collection**

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33 The study used a survey methodology to gather data from the UK's manufacturing and service
34 industries. To ensure the clarity and comprehensibility of the questions, a pilot test was
35 conducted based on three interviews, involving manufacturing and service organisations. This
36 preliminary data collection confirmed that the questions were easily understandable for the
37 respondents, eliminating any uncertainty or confusion.
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43 The final questionnaire was distributed to manufacturing and service organisations in the UK
44 (n = 773) through emails and an open online survey platform (i.e., Qualtrics panel) that
45 provides high honesty and reliability in response quality (Peer *et al.*, 2022), drawing from a
46 database provided by an expert panel in the UK. The target sample size was set at more than
47 271, enabling the investigation of relationships, including minor effects, with a statistical power
48 of 0.8 at a 0.05 significance level (see Forza, 2002), which is considered reasonable and
49 realistic for social science research (Verma and Goodale, 1995). The survey yielded completed
50 questionnaires from 395 organisations, comprising 188 from the manufacturing sector and 207
51 from the service sector, indicating a response rate of 51.1% and allowing for a thorough
52 examination of even subtle relationships, including mediating effects.
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3 The respondents are full-time experts in operations (92.4%) and supply chain management
4 roles (7.6%), ensuring insights into OMS collaborations from O&SCM perspectives. The
5 respondents included directors (9.6%), managers (68.4%), and staff (22%). Using stratified
6 sampling for better generalisation, 44.8% were categorised as small and medium-sized
7 enterprises (SMEs). In comparison, 55.2% were classified as large enterprises (LEs) based on
8 the number of full-time employees ($n > 250$). Table 2 provides a detailed breakdown of the
9 respondent organisations according to their product and service sectors based on UK Standard
10 Industrial Classification (SIC) codes.
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20 **Table 2. Survey respondents**

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23 We followed the procedure recommended by Armstrong and Overton (1977) to assess the
24 possibility of late response bias. T-test results indicated no significant differences at the 0.05
25 level between early and late respondents, suggesting a negligible risk of response bias.
26 Additionally, Harman's one-factor test was conducted to examine common method bias. A
27 principal component factor analysis was performed on all study items, revealing six factors
28 with eigenvalues above 1, accounting for 61.4% of the total variance, with the most significant
29 accounting for 14.0%. No single dominant factor emerged in the un-rotated factor structure,
30 indicating that the common method bias issue is minor.
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40 **4.2 Measurement**

41 We utilised multiple indicators for each construct, selecting items from prior literature to ensure
42 high validity (see Table 1). For instance, to gauge organisations' social media (SM) usage for
43 information sharing and relationship building, we developed four items for 'internal SM' based
44 on Brettel *et al.* (2011) and three items for 'external SM' from Karampela *et al.* (2020) and
45 Chae *et al.* (2020). A five-point Likert scale (1 – "strongly disagree," 5 – "strongly agree")
46 measured SM deployment.
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53 OMS collaborations were developed to explain collaborative activities for better operations
54 performance using nine items that were adapted from several studies (e.g., Jaworski and Kohli,
55 1993; Karmarkar, 1996; Parente, 1998; Weir *et al.*, 2001; Malhotra and Sharma, 2002;
56 Sawhney and Piper, 2002; Swink and Song, 2007; Paiva, 2010; Alex *et al.*, 2014; Kong *et al.*,
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2015; Sombultawee and Boon-Itt, 2018). Based on Parente's (1998) levels of inter-functional alignment, we categorized and developed the items based on the operational and tactical levels (see Table 1). While the operational level is referred to as a direct collaboration between the actors within both departments where individuals are likely to engage with each other to fulfil routine operational tasks, the tactical level refers to departmental levels of alignment. Similarly, a five-point Likert scale (1 – "lowest," 5 – "highest") is employed to measure the level of collaboration.

Resilience capability, cost efficiency, customer-focused and business performance were measured by a five-point Likert scale (1 – "poor," 5 – "excellent"). Items for resilience capability were adapted from Ponomarov and Holcomb (2009), Gölgeci and Ponomarov (2015) and Chowdhury and Quaddus (2017). Business performance latent variables were derived from Huo *et al.* (2014) and Fulleton *et al.* (2014). Cost efficiency includes six items adapted from various sources including Beamon (1999), Sezen (2008), Bhasin (2008), Zelbst *et al.* (2009), Nawanir *et al.* (2013), Aoki *et al.* (2014), Um *et al.* (2017) and Alkhaldi and Abdallah (2019), to cover cost minimisation in O&SCM, and customer-focused performance was measured with eight items based on concepts from Assen (2018), Patel *et al.* (2013), and Torres (2014).

4.3 Measurement validation

Confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) was employed to assess measurement composite reliability (CR), convergent and discriminant validity. The study employed CFA instead of exploratory factor analysis (EFA) since it has an a priori theory on the links between the item measures and their structures, which enables the use of structural equation modelling (SEM) that facilitates the examination of not only the bivariate relationships between single interacting variables but also the overall causal fit of a holistic model including mediation effect (Worren *et al.*, 2002).

Content validity was ensured by retaining items with loadings above 0.6 for dependent and independent variables. Table 3 presents factor loadings, composite reliability (CR), and average variance extracted (AVE) with the fit indices. The measurement model demonstrated an acceptable fit to the data ($\chi^2/df = 1067.04/608 = 1.76$, SRMR = 0.036, RMSEA = 0.044, CFI = 0.941) suggested by West *et al.* (2012). CR showed acceptable internal consistency and reliability (CRs > 0.786), while convergent validity was assured since all the loadings were greater than 0.6, with acceptable AVE values (> 0.533). There was no case where the square of the correlation between a pair of constructs was greater than the AVE of the constructs (see

Table 4), which confirmed discriminant validity using the procedures suggested by Fornell and Larcker (1981).

Combining items representing distinct facets into a single first-order construct is conceptually and methodologically perilous due to discriminant validity and multicollinearity issues (Koufteros *et al.*, 2009). A construct of SM as a second-order factor includes two first-order factors (i.e., internal and external SM) with corresponding observed variables. First-order factor loadings of internal SM (SMI) and external SM (SME) are .930 and .965, respectively, with good fit indices (i.e., SRMR = 0.050, Normed-fit index (NFI) = 0.950, CFI = 0.959). Factor loadings of the second-order structure show a solid relationship between first-order factors and the second-order factor, attesting to the convergent validity of the posited second-order model (Byrne, 1998). When comparing the model, the second-order structure indicates better model fits than one first-order uncorrelated factor (i.e., SRMR = 0.057, NFI = 0.932, CFI = 0.941).

Table 3. Confirmatory factor analysis

Table 4. Inter-construct correlation estimates and related AVEs

5. Results and Findings

5.1 SEM analysis and mediation effect

We employed AMOS 25 to conduct the path analysis and utilised a bootstrapping estimation SEM procedure to explore the significance of paths and mediation effects. Subsequently, SEM analyses were performed for different industries to compare the models. The model paths displayed high t -values (≥ 4.332) and acceptable p -values (< 0.05), except for the direct connection of SM with resilience capability, cost efficiency, and customer-focused performance. The fit indices, including Ch-sq/df (1.86), CFI (0.933), RMSEA (0.047), and SRMR (0.043) in the combined model (M1), indicated an acceptable fit. Consequently, the results presented in Table 5 provide support for hypotheses H1 (i.e., a direct impact of SM on OMS collaboration), H4 (i.e., a direct impact of OMS collaboration and organisational performance including cost efficiency and customer focus), H6 (i.e., a direct impact of resilience capability on organisational performance including cost efficiency and customer focus), and H7 (i.e., a direct impact of organisational performance on business performance).

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3 However, H2 (i.e., a direct link between SM and resilience capability) and H5 (i.e., a direct
4 link between SM and organisational performance including, cost efficiency and customer focus)
5 were rejected. SEM results, including indirect and total impacts with significant levels, are
6 presented in Table 5.
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10 Secondly, concerning the mediation effects (bootstrapping 1,000 times), H3 (i.e., an indirect
11 effect of SM on resilience capability through OMS collaboration) received significant support
12 with a positive indirect effect (i.e., 0.214). Furthermore, Model 1 demonstrated indirect impacts
13 of SM on cost efficiency ($0.292=0.458*0.306+0.458*0.468*0.556+0.059*0.468$) and
14 customer focus ($0.284=0.458*0.249+0.458*0.468*0.620+0.059*0.620$) significantly through
15 OMS collaboration and resilience capability. A higher direct impact (0.306) existed than an
16 indirect impact between collaboration and cost efficiency (0.260). A higher indirect impact
17 (0.290) was observed than a direct impact (0.249) between collaboration and customer focus
18 through resilience capability. Figure 2 shows path analysis with a significant level.
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26 The results obtained from the SEM shed light on the hierarchical relationship within the
27 conceptual model. They reveal the structural procedure of how SM leads to enhanced cost
28 efficiency and superior customer-focused performance through increased collaboration
29 between OMS and bolstered resilience capabilities. Comparing the path values among these
30 constructs indicates that OMS collaboration mediates the impacts of SM on resilience
31 capabilities. These findings reinforce the notion that the synergistic collaboration between
32 OMS departments supported by SM profoundly affects an organisation's resilience, aligning
33 with Powell's (1992) resource-based view. Consequently, OMS collaboration regarding
34 O&SCM activities is a precursor or enabler to achieving organisational resilience.
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43 Furthermore, OMS collaboration and resilience positively, and directly, influence cost
44 efficiency and customer-focused performance. Analysing item-level connections implies that
45 collaborative efforts between O&SCM and marketing/sales in areas such as sales forecasting
46 (Ovliwa and Watson, 2011; Sombultawee and Boon-Itt, 2020), new product and service
47 development (Kong *et al.*, 2015; Goh and Eldridge, 2019), order fulfilment (Thome' *et al.*,
48 2012; Alex *et al.*, 2014), quality management (Alex *et al.*, 2014; Bijmolt *et al.*, 2021), responses
49 to market changes (Kong *et al.*, 2015; Goh and Eldridge, 2019), operations planning (Malhotra
50 and Sharma, 2002; Sombultawee and Boon-Itt, 2020), order coordination (Malhotra and
51 Sharma, 2002; Alex *et al.*, 2014), delivery planning (Alex *et al.*, 2014; Bijmolt *et al.*, 2021),
52 and new market entrance (Kong *et al.*, 2015; Goh and Eldridge, 2019) directly influence
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resilience capability. This, in turn, supports customer-focused performance metrics (Patel *et al.*, 2013; Assen, 2018) such as customer satisfaction, flexibility, and responsiveness, as well as cost-efficiency performance (Beamon, 1999; Sezen, 2008; Um *et al.*, 2017; Gölgeci and Kuivalainen, 2020), including minimising manufacturing, resource, delivery, and failure costs. Given that SM does not directly impact efficiency and customer performance, resilience capability through OMS collaboration, as viewed through **contingency theory (i.e., internal boundary) suggested by Grötsch *et al.* (2013) and** the resource-based perspective (Bharadwaj, 2000), can offer a viable approach to enhancing competitiveness and organisational performance such as cost efficiency and high customer-focused outcomes in this study (see Wu *et al.*, 2015; Sombultawee and Boon-Itt, 2020; Martín-Rojas *et al.*, 2023).

Table 5. Structural equation modelling and mediation results

Figure 2. Path analysis of a combined model

5.2 SEM comparison between the Manufacturing (M2) and Service industry (M3)

We conducted a multi-group SEM analysis to compare the relationships and coefficients between the manufacturing and service industries (i.e., models 2 and 3). The imposition of the equality constraint significantly deteriorates the model fit ($p < 0.05$), indicating significant differences in path coefficients across groups (Byrne, 2001). Thus, the models across the different industry groups are considered comparable. In the production-oriented environment, the fit of the SEM was assessed using multiple fit indices (Ch-sq/ df=1.61; SRMR =0.053; RMSEA =0.055; CFI =0.901). For this exploratory study, we considered p-values close to the 0.05 level for Models 2, 3, 4, and 5 to capture all potential relationships among the constructs.

All paths showed significant impacts except for the relationships between SM-resilience capability, SM-cost efficiency, and SM-customer focus. Comparing the significant total direct and indirect impacts of SM on cost efficiency and customer focus, SM through OMS collaboration has a more significant influence on cost efficiency ($0.196=0.362*0.233+0.362*0.458*0.675$) than customer focus ($0.174=0.362*0.178*+0.362*0.458*0.667$) in a production-oriented environment. An intriguing point emerged, highlighting that resilience capability in the manufacturing

environment has a more substantial impact on cost efficiency ($0.675 > 0.516$) and customer focus ($0.667 > 0.593$) than those in the service environment. Additionally, OMS collaboration exhibited closer relationships with cost efficiency than customer focus in both manufacturing ($0.233 > 0.178$) and service industries ($0.465 > 0.307$).

In the service-oriented environment, the SEM fit indices were acceptable (Ch-sq/ df =1.60; SRMR =0.050; RMSEA =0.054; CFI =0.918), and all paths showed significant impacts except for the relationships of SM with resilience capability and cost efficiency. Similarly, comparing the total effects, including significant direct and indirect impacts of SM through OMS collaboration on cost efficiency ($0.307=0.563*0.307+0.5563*0.465*0.516$) and customer focus ($0.426=0.563*0.252+0.563*0.465*0.593+0.129$) in a service-oriented environment, we accepted H9 that SM through OMS collaboration significantly influences cost efficiency more than customer focus in a production-oriented environment, while SM through OMS collaboration significantly influences customer focus more than cost efficiency in a service-oriented environment. An interesting finding was that SM in the service environment has a significant direct impact on customer focus ($\beta = 0.129$) at a significance level close to 0.05 ($p = 0.065$).

SM enhances OMS collaboration in the production-oriented environment, resulting in enhanced resilience capability, cost efficiency, and customer-focused performance. However, the total impact of SM on cost-efficiency performance is more robust than on customer-focused performance, aligning with the dominant cost leadership strategy in production-oriented environments that prioritise cost efficiency (Kotler and Keller, 2012) through streamlined operations processes, such as make-to-stock, assembly-to-order or mass customisation environments. Thus, the findings demonstrated the significance of OMS collaboration and resilience capability through SM for better cost efficiency in a manufacturing-oriented environment.

Similarly, SM enhances OMS collaboration in the service-oriented environment, improving resilience capability, cost efficiency, and customer-focused performance. Here, SM directly impacts customer-focused performance, a vital objective in the service-oriented environment, influencing service quality, delivery speed, dependability, and flexibility (Martín-Rojas *et al.*, 2023). Notably, SM in a service-oriented environment is more significant in improving customer-focused performance in building service differentiation than cost efficiency (see Phusavat and Kanchana, 2008; Naqshbandi and Idris, 2012). This holds especially true

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3 considering design-to-order and make-to-order or customised service environments. Therefore,
4 as viewed through contingency theory (i.e., external boundary) suggested by Donaldson (2001),
5 the results highlight the complementary role of SM to enhance customer focus in a service-
6 oriented environment.
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10 11 12 13 **5.3 SEM comparison between the Internal (M4) and External Social Media (M5)**

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15 SEM analyses were conducted (i.e., models 4 and 5) to scrutinise further the relationships and
16 coefficients between internal and external SM (i.e., H8). The SEM fit indices for internal SM
17 demonstrated acceptability (Ch-sq/ df=1.89; SRMR =0.041; RMSEA =0.047; CFI =0.934).
18 Similarly, the SEM fit indices of the external SM confirmed adequacy (Ch-sq/ df=1.87; SRMR
19 =0.037; RMSEA =0.047; CFI =0.939). In both cases, all paths exhibited significant impacts,
20 except for the relationship between SM and resilience capability, and between SM and
21 organisational performance. Consequently, we accept H8 that internal and external SM
22 improve organisational resilience capability through OMS collaboration.
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30 The findings highlight the nuanced impact of internal and external SM on the intricate
31 dynamics of organisational resilience, cost efficiency, and customer-focused performance.
32 Comparing relationships based on internal and external SM, the SEM analyses reveal that
33 external SM holds a more decisive indirect influence on enhancing resilience capability than
34 internal SM (0.234>0.193). Thus, the finding indicated that interactions with suppliers and
35 customers through external SM enhance OMS collaboration and achieve better resilience
36 capabilities, compared to the formal and informal interactions and information exchanges
37 between OMS functions facilitated by internal SM. However, it is prominent that both the
38 internal and external SM statistically enable the development of robust business networks and
39 communication channels and provide collaboration opportunities with internal and external
40 stakeholders within the existing supply chain, supporting the fulfilment of product/service
41 requirements across different markets and creating an organisational resilience potential and
42 competitive edge. Therefore, appropriate deployment of both internal and external SM results
43 in competitive advantage, as supported by RBV (Powell, 1992).
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57 **6. Discussion**

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The findings indicate that **deploying internal and external SM enhances OMS collaboration, integrating critical operations and supply chain management activities between OMS that have shared objectives. While SM and OMS's collaborative O&SCM activities are not exclusive to any specific manufacturer or service provider, they are recognised as best practices. With joint decisions and management of relevant supply chain knowledge such as sales forecasting, new product development, order fulfilment, collaborative planning, market response and investment, they can lead to greater resilience and enhanced organisational performance in a competitive environment, which is aligned with RBV and contingency theory (i.e., internal boundary).**

Thus, the study contributes significantly to the literature on OMS collaborative activities for managing the supply chain (see Table 1). Moreover, findings from path analysis offer empirical evidence that enriches our understanding of the structural and **procedural** relationships between SM, OMS collaboration, **organisational** resilience capabilities, and performance. **Theoretically**, the results extend the Resource-Based View (RBV) framework through the lens of **SM to achieve competitive capability (i.e., organisational resilience capability)** and explore the implications of contingency theory by investigating internal (**i.e., collaboration from two different business functions**) and external boundaries (**i.e., different industry environments**) conditions. Delineating such contingencies can enable better development of 'mid-range theories' that outline the **internal** boundary conditions related to the effectiveness of collaboration (Miller, 1992; Narayanan, 2015). **Also, identifying the external boundary conditions (i.e., industry types) of contingency theory around the phenomenon (i.e., collaborative supply chain management) leads to richer theory development (McMahon and Perritt, 1973).** From a practical standpoint, **the** findings support decision-making procedures for manufacturers and service providers by comparing the relative influences of separate models (**e.g., internal versus external SM**). Items **developed** for the OMS collaborations **for better O&SCM** and the path analyses employing SM deployment provide actionable insights into integrating OMS collaborations and improving resilience capabilities depending on the nature of the industry **the company encountered**. The theoretical contributions are discussed in more detail, followed by practical implications.

6.1 Theoretical implications and contributions

This study advances the theoretical understanding of the intersection between SM usage, cross-departmental collaboration, and organisational resilience and performance. Our findings have

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3 several critical theoretical implications that contribute to the existing body of knowledge in
4 **Operations and Supply Chain Management (O&SCM)**. Firstly, the study provides empirical
5 evidence that SM usage significantly enhances OMS collaboration and organisational
6 resilience **under uncertain supply chain environments**. This finding confirms previous
7 conceptual and qualitative research suggesting that digital platforms can facilitate information
8 sharing and coordination across functional boundaries (Roberts *et al.*, 2016; Cao *et al.*, 2018)
9 and enhance resilience capability (Martín-Rojas *et al.*, 2023). By incorporating SM as a
10 strategic tool supported by the RBV, our research extends these insights, demonstrating that
11 SM platforms are effective in marketing contexts and crucial for **operations and supply chain**
12 **collaboration between OMS functions**, thus bridging a gap in the literature.

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21 Secondly, the study highlights the role of SM in enhancing organisational resilience **through**
22 functional collaboration (**i.e., internal boundary condition from contingency theory**). Prior
23 research has identified various factors contributing to resilience, including flexible operations,
24 **supply chain agility, risk evaluation**, information sharing and adaptive leadership (Jain *et al.*,
25 2017; Cheng *et al.*, 2020; Guo *et al.*, 2020). Our findings **suggest** a new dimension by showing
26 that **internal (i.e., between business functions) and external (i.e., with suppliers and customers)**
27 **SM and OMS collaboration (i.e., mediating role)** facilitates real-time communication and rapid
28 **joint** decision-making, which is essential for responding to **potential** disruptions **within the**
29 **existing supply chain**. This supports the notion that digital tools can enhance organisational
30 agility and resilience (Neeley and Leonardi, 2018; Nisar *et al.*, 2019), **enrich** innovation (Chen
31 *et al.*, 2020), and create intellectual capital (Cartwright *et al.*, 2020) **to cope with unforeseen**
32 **events**.

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35 Thirdly, our research distinguishes between production-oriented and service-oriented
36 environments (**i.e., external boundary conditions from contingency theory**), providing nuanced
37 insights into how SM impacts cost efficiency and customer-focused performance. SM enhances
38 cost efficiency **more than customer focus** in production-oriented environments by streamlining
39 operations **and supply chain processes** and reducing communication barriers (Banerjee *et al.*,
40 2020; Tóth *et al.*, 2020). **OMS collaborative activities such as management of demand, lead**
41 **time, inventory, capacity, process change, product variety and distribution channel**
42 (Parente, 1998; Weir *et al.*, 2001; Sombultawee and Boon-Itt, 2020) support to mitigate
43 **operations and supply chain disruptions and lead to cost efficiency**. Conversely, in service-
44 oriented contexts, SM's role in fostering direct customer engagement (Ainin *et al.*, 2014;
45 Cartwright *et al.*, 2021), as well as OMS collaborative activities such as management of return,

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3 volume, customer needs, order fulfilment, quality, technology and delivery (Parente, 1998;
4 Kong et al., 2015; Goh and Eldridge, 2019), leads to improved customer-focused performance.

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6 This dual perspective enriches the theoretical discourse on the context-specific applications of
7 SM for O&SCM.
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11 Moreover, the study contributes to the theoretical development of organisational learning and
12 innovation for O&SCM. The positive relationship between SM usage and enhanced
13 organisational knowledge management supports the idea that SM tools can facilitate
14 continuous learning and innovation within organisations (Wang et al., 2017; Zhan et al., 2020).
15 This underscores the strategic importance of SM as a facilitator of organisational learning
16 processes to collaborate on shared objectives and supply chain activities between two business
17 functions. Finally, by employing SEM to validate our hypotheses, this study reinforces the
18 methodological robustness required for examining complex relationships and structural paths
19 to testing and exploring theoretical research frameworks (i.e., M1-M5). In summary, this
20 research enriches the theoretical landscape by elucidating the multifaceted role of SM in
21 enhancing OMS collaboration to manage operations and supply chain activities, organisational
22 resilience, and performance. It underscores the strategic value of SM and OMS collaboration
23 in different business contexts. It provides a robust foundation for future research exploring the
24 dynamic interplay between other digital tools and organisational capabilities.
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38 **6.2 Practical implications and contributions**

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40 The findings of this research offer several actionable insights for O&SCM practitioners aiming
41 to enhance the OMS collaborative processes and achieve organisational resilience and business
42 performance through the strategic use of SM. This section provides practical guidelines and
43 strategies for managers to effectively implement SM integration across their operations, supply
44 chain, marketing, and sales functions. Notably, improved organisational resilience is only
45 guaranteed by improving OMS collaboration on operations supply chain management activities
46 (i.e., mediating effect). Thus, this study guides companies on improving OMS collaboration
47 effectively and efficiently to be resilient and adaptive by understanding the role of SM.
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55 As a resource tool, SM contributes to the connectedness of the functions, resulting in relational
56 engagement (Agnihotri, 2020). The platforms provide an invaluable real-time communication
57 and information exchange channel, which contributes towards bridging the gap between OMS
58 functions regarding O&SCM activities. Managers can leverage these external SM platforms to
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3 monitor **suppliers, material flows**, market trends, customer feedback, and competitor activities.
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5 Sharing the knowledge gathered through SM **also internally** contributes to improved
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7 departmental collaboration, innovativeness, and the creation of a competitive advantage.
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9 Platforms like Yammer or internal social networks can help employees share insights, best
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11 practices, and innovative ideas. As a result, the tools enable functions to interact and engage
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13 with each other, thus strengthening relationships internally and externally while improving
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15 processes by sharing valuable information and know-how (Cartwright et al., 2021; Ancillai *et*
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17 *al.*, 2019).

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19 Furthermore, effective SM integration fosters better collaboration between operations, **supply**
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21 **chain**, marketing, and sales departments. SM allows collaboration and co-creation between all
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23 functions **suppliers** and customers (Zhang *et al.*, 2020). **OMS** managers should encourage
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25 using collaborative tools, such as Slack, Microsoft Teams, or dedicated SM groups to facilitate
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27 seamless communication and information sharing **regarding O&SCM activities that cover**
28
29 **mutual interests and objectives**. Regular cross-functional meetings and joint SM initiatives can
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31 break down silos, leading to more coordinated efforts in demand forecasting, inventory
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33 management, **order fulfilment, delivery priority and** customer engagement. This leads to
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35 reaching new markets and building resilience capability in competitive markets (Bocconcelli,
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37 Cioppi, & Pagano, 2017). However, training staff to effectively use these tools will be essential
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39 for maximising their benefits. Therefore, regular training and development programs will
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41 ensure that employees are proficient in using SM tools and understand their strategic
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43 importance **in O&SCM. Thus, both managers** must recognise the strategic value of SM and
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45 deploy it thoughtfully across OMS functions. They must ensure that clear objectives are set for
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47 SM usage, align strategies with overall business goals, and continuously assess the impact of
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49 SM activities on **organisational** performance and resilience.

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51 The study underscores the importance of SM in enhancing organisational resilience **under**
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53 **unpredictable supply chain environments**. To build resilience **capability**, managers should
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55 integrate SM into their **supply chain** risk management frameworks (**e.g., sourcing,**
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57 **manufacturing and delivery risks**). SM can be an early warning system for potential disruptions
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59 **and new trends**, such as **sourcing delays, material quality issues, operations breakdown,**
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demand variation, new service trends or reputational threats in the supply chain. Also,
collaborative operations and supply chain activities between OMS, such as sales forecasting,
profit management, new product development, capacity management, quality assurance,
customer specification, resource utilisation, and packing and delivery request management, are

communicated formally and informally through diverse SM tools. Organisations could go the extra mile by integrating SM channels, such as LinkedIn or Facebook Workforce messaging, to gather real-time information, share information with business functions to make joint decisions and solve customer complaints and needs. Developing a SM crisis management plan, including clear protocols for monitoring and responding to crises in the supply chain, can help organisations quickly mitigate risks, maintain operational continuity and develop adaptive capability through OMS collaboration.

7. Conclusion and limitations

This research delves into the imperative task of comprehending how manufacturers and service providers can fortify their resilience to navigate unpredictable markets and fierce competition. It emphasises the pivotal role of OMS collaboration supported by SM, aligning seamlessly with the perspectives of contingency theory (i.e., internal and external conditions) and the RBV (i.e., technical resource). The study, grounded in six key constructs, meticulously delineates the intricate relationships within this framework. Employing structural equation modelling to construct and scrutinise a comprehensive model, the empirical findings underscore the paramount importance of both internal and external SM deployment. These deployments significantly bolster OMS collaboration regarding O&SCM activities and resilience capabilities, which, in turn, foster both enhanced cost efficiency and customer-focused organisational performance. In addition, the significance of organisational resilience capability is demonstrated especially for customer-focused performance.

The impacts of SM and OMS collaboration on resilience and organisational performance are intricate, and influenced by a medley of internal and external contingency factors. In production-oriented environments, SM emerges as a linchpin for achieving robust cost efficiency, while in service-oriented conditions, it proves instrumental in cultivating customer-focused performance. Notably, SM directly influences customer-focused performance in service-oriented contexts. In addition, it is important to note that both internal and external SM deployments improve OMS collaboration. However, external SM exerts a more substantial influence on resilience capability compared to its internal counterpart.

This study's scope is delimited to the manufacturing and service industries within the UK, thus constraining the generalisability of its findings to broader populations. Recognising the nuanced disparities in competition, environment, and culture across various countries and

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3 regions (Hughes and Morgan, 2008), future research should encompass a more diverse global
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5 landscape. Moreover, internal and external SM deployment often hinges on an organisation's
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7 strategic orientation and individual preferences. Extrapolating conclusions from the 395
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9 responses gathered exclusively from UK-based organisations necessitates further exploration
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11 to discern the specific challenges these organisations encountered while utilising SM.

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13 Additionally, this study categorises industrial environments into broad clusters (i.e., production
14
15 and service-oriented industries), warranting a deeper exploration of the intricacies of OMS
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17 collaboration challenges (e.g., the size of the organisations). Qualitative methodologies, such
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19 as in-depth interviews, can shed light on the subtle nuances of these challenges and illuminate
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21 how SM seamlessly integrates OMS functions. Encouraging a shift toward contingency theory
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23 as a theoretical framework can provide a more nuanced understanding of how SM underpins
24
25 superior operations performance within varied environmental contexts. These avenues of
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27 inquiry stand as vital future research directions, offering opportunities for a deeper
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29 comprehension of the intricate interplay between SM, OMS collaboration, and organisational
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31 resilience.
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Figure 1. Research framework

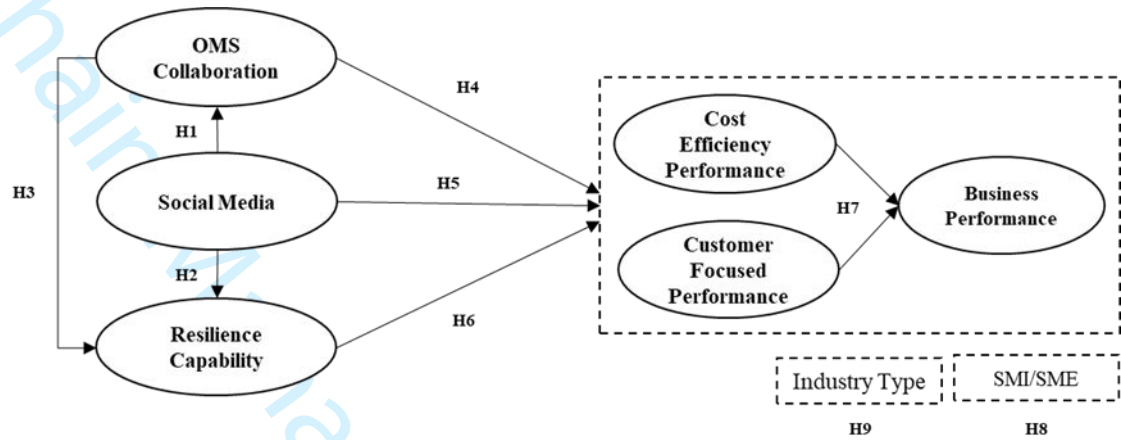


Figure 2. Path analysis of a combined model

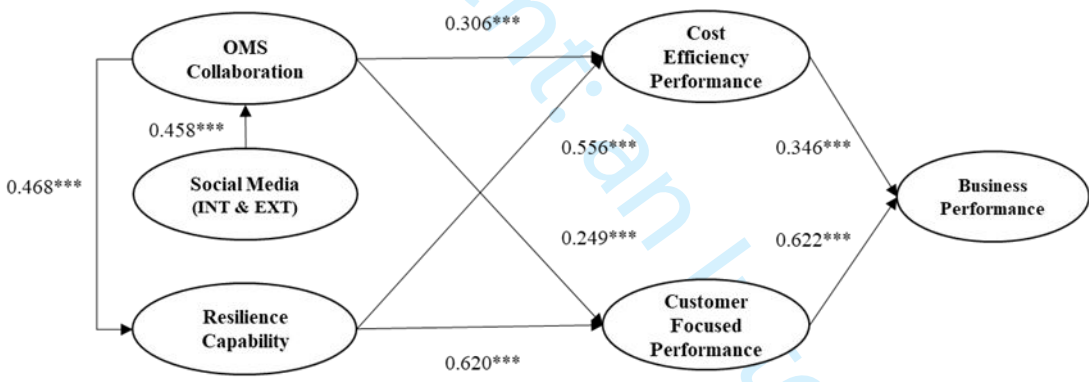


Table 1. Structures and supporting literature

Structure	Items	Literature Review
Internal Social Media	The company interacts formally with SM channels between business functions	Culnan <i>et al.</i> (2010); Brettel <i>et al.</i> (2011); Mitrega <i>et al.</i> (2017)
	The company interacts informally through SM channels between business functions	Culnan <i>et al.</i> (2010); Brettel <i>et al.</i> (2011); Mitrega <i>et al.</i> (2017)
	The company exchanges information through SM channels between business functions	Culnan <i>et al.</i> (2010); Brettel <i>et al.</i> (2011); Mitrega <i>et al.</i> (2017)
	The company exchanges resources through SM channels between business functions	Culnan <i>et al.</i> (2010); Brettel <i>et al.</i> (2011); Mitrega <i>et al.</i> (2017)
External Social Media	The company's SM activities are linked to suppliers' social media activities	Palmatier (2008); Mitrega <i>et al.</i> (2017); Karampela <i>et al.</i> (2020)
	The company uses SM for estimating future customer demands and needs	Palmatier (2008); Mitrega <i>et al.</i> (2017); Chae <i>et al.</i> (2020)
	The company uses SM to ask for customer feedback on existing products and services	Palmatier (2008); Mitrega <i>et al.</i> (2017); Chae <i>et al.</i> (2020)
OMS Collaboration	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for sales forecasts (e.g., demand, profit management)	Karmarkar (1996); Parente (1998); Weir <i>et al.</i> (2001); Malhotra and Sharma (2002); Ovliva and Watson (2011); Sombultawee and Boon-Itt (2018, 2020)
	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for new product/service development (e.g., frequency, timing, pricing/costing)	Weir <i>et al.</i> (2001); Malhotra and Sharma (2002); Swink and Song (2007); Paiva (2010); Kong <i>et al.</i> (2015); Goh and Eldridge (2019); Karmarkar (1996); Parente (1998); Weir <i>et al.</i> (2001); Sawhney and Piper (2002); Thome' <i>et al.</i> , (2012); Alex <i>et al.</i> (2014)
	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for order fulfilment (e.g., lead time, stock levels and capacity)	Parente (1998); Weir <i>et al.</i> (2001); Malhotra and Sharma (2002); Paiva (2010); Thome' <i>et al.</i> , (2012); Alex <i>et al.</i> (2014); Bijmolt <i>et al.</i> (2021)
	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for quality/quantity issues (e.g., return, volume)	Jaworski and Kohli (1993); Sawhney and Piper (2002); Hausman <i>et al.</i> (2002); Ovliva and Watson (2011); Kong <i>et al.</i> (2015); Goh and Eldridge (2019)
	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales to plan responses to changes taking place in our business environment (e.g., new product/service trend, process change, customer needs management)	Parente (1998); Weir <i>et al.</i> (2001); Malhotra and Sharma (2002); Sombultawee and Boon-Itt (2018, 2020)
	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for operations plan/schedule in product/service area (e.g., collaborative planning for purchasing, resource utilisation, staffing, changeover reduction and customer contact management)	Parente (1998); Weir <i>et al.</i> (2001); Sawhney and Piper (2002); Malhotra and Sharma (2002); Alex <i>et al.</i> (2014)
	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for customer order coordination (e.g., specification, order promise date and order management)	Parente (1998); Weir <i>et al.</i> (2001); Sawhney and Piper (2002); Malhotra and Sharma (2002); Alex <i>et al.</i> (2014); Bijmolt <i>et al.</i> (2021)
	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for delivery request and plan (e.g., shipping priority/packing and delivery request/time management)	Parente (1998); Weir <i>et al.</i> (2001); Sawhney and Piper (2002); Malhotra and Sharma (2002); Alex <i>et al.</i> (2014); Bijmolt <i>et al.</i> (2021)
	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for new market entrance (e.g., build a new plant, vertical integration, product/service variety, distribution channel/location, technology choice)	Parente (1998); Kong <i>et al.</i> (2015); Goh and Eldridge (2019)
	Customer-focused performance	Customer satisfaction
Product/Service Quality		Patel <i>et al.</i> (2013); Torres, (2014)
Delivery speed		Patel <i>et al.</i> (2013)
Delivery dependability		Patel <i>et al.</i> (2013); Assen (2018)
Order flexibility		Patel <i>et al.</i> (2013)
Cost efficiency	Delivery flexibility (e.g., quantity, time, return)	Patel <i>et al.</i> (2013)
	Responsiveness (e.g., market, technology)	Patel <i>et al.</i> (2013); Assen (2018)
	New product/service introduction (i.e., speed and frequency)	Patel <i>et al.</i> (2013)
	Ability to minimise the total cost of resources used	Sezen, (2008); Beamon, (1999); Um <i>et al.</i> (2017)

	Ability to minimise the total cost of product distribution/service delivery	Beamon, (1999); Sezen, (2008); Um <i>et al.</i> (2017)
	Ability to minimise the total cost of manufacturing/service provision	Beamon, (1999); Sezen, (2008); Zelbst <i>et al.</i> (2009); Nawanir <i>et al.</i> (2013); Aoki <i>et al.</i> (2014)
	Ability to minimise internal failure costs (i.e., defect, re-work, process failure, price reduction, and downtime)	Bhasin (2008); Nawanir <i>et al.</i> (2013); Alkhaldi and Abdallah (2019)
	Ability to minimise external failure costs (i.e., complaints, returns, warranty claims, liability, and lost sales)	Bhasin (2008); Nawanir <i>et al.</i> (2013); Alkhaldi and Abdallah (2019)
Organisational Resilience Capability	Ability to anticipate disruption/problems (i.e., observation, identification, and preparation)	Ponomarov and Holcomb (2009); Golgeci and Ponomarov (2013)
	Ability to quickly cope with disruption/problems (i.e., agility, sensemaking and problem-solving)	Ponomarov and Holcomb (2009); Golgeci and Ponomarov (2013); Chowdhury and Quaddus (2017); Gölgeci and Kuivalainen (2020)
	Ability to adjust following disruption/problems and develop adaptive capability (i.e., reflection, learning and readiness)	Ponomarov and Holcomb (2009); Golgeci and Ponomarov (2013); Chowdhury and Quaddus (2017); Gölgeci and Kuivalainen (2020)
Business Performance	Return on sales (ROS)	Vickery <i>et al.</i> (1999); Huo <i>et al.</i> (2014)
	Return on Asset (ROA)	Vickery <i>et al.</i> (1999); Fulleton <i>et al.</i> (2014); Okafor <i>et al.</i> (2021)
	Sales growth	Vickery <i>et al.</i> (1999); Huo <i>et al.</i> (2014); Okafor <i>et al.</i> (2021)
	Market share	Vickery <i>et al.</i> (1999); Fulleton <i>et al.</i> (2014)
	Market share growth	Vickery <i>et al.</i> (1999); Huo <i>et al.</i> (2014)

Table 2. Survey respondents

Industry type	Total	Valid %
Food, beverage, tobacco	28	7.1
Chemical materials and products	12	3.0
Fabricated metal products	13	3.3
Computer and communication products	11	2.8
Electric parts and components	14	3.5
Machinery and equipment	16	4.1
Transport equipment	15	3.8
Paper, wood, and furniture	11	2.8
Textiles and clothing	14	3.6
Non-metal mineral products	8	2.0
Energy and water	15	3.8
Construction	31	7.8
Business service (e.g., computing, engineering)	11	2.8
Health service	34	8.6
Education service	17	4.3
Insurance/Financial service	15	3.8
Personal service (e.g., beauty, cleaning)	16	4.1
Professional service (e.g., legal)	17	4.3
Social service	26	6.6
Logistic service (e.g., courier, warehouse)	34	8.6
Retail/wholesale service	27	6.8
Accommodation and Travel service	8	2.0
Other	2	0.5
Total	395	100 %

Table 3. Confirmatory factor analysis

Structure	Code	Abbreviated item statement	Factor loading	CR	AVE
Social Media (SMI/SME)	SMI1	Our company interacts formally on social media between business functions	.685+	0.820	0.533
	SMI 2	Our company interacts informally through social media channels between business functions	.731+		
	SMI 3	Our company exchanges information through social media channels between business functions	.785+		
	SMI 4	Our company exchanges resources through social media between business functions	.780+		
	SME 1	Our company's social media activities are linked to suppliers' social media activities	.750+		
	SME 2	Our company uses social media to estimate future customer demands and needs	.846+		
Operations Marketing/Sales Collaboration (CO)	SME 3	Our company uses social media to ask for customer feedback on existing products and services	.772+	0.786	0.551
	CO 1	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for sales forecasts	.731		
	CO 2	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for new product/service development	.726		
	CO 3	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for order fulfilment	.711		
	CO 4	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for quality/quantity issues	.690		
	CO 5	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales to plan responses to changes taking place in our business environment	.661		
	CO 6	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for operations plan/schedule by product/service/area	.765		
	CO 7	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for customer order coordination	.734		
	CO 8	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for delivery request and plan	.697		
Resilience Capability (RC)	CO 9	Level of collaboration between Operations and Marketing/Sales for new market entrance	.697	0.869	0.688
	RC 1	Ability to anticipate disruption/problems	.772		
	RC 2	Ability to quickly cope with disruption/problems	.820		
Cost Efficiency (CE)	RC 3	Ability to adjust following disruption/problems and develop adaptive capability	.831	0.880	0.595
	CE 1	Ability to minimise the total cost of resources used	.695		
	CE 2	Ability to minimise the total cost of product distribution/service delivery	.765		
	CE 3	Ability to minimise the total cost of manufacturing/service provision	.739		
	CE 4	Ability to minimise internal failure costs	.705		
Customer Focus (CF)	CE 5	Ability to minimise external failure costs	.708	0.913	0.567
	CF 1	Customer satisfaction	.704		
	CF 2	Product/Service quality	.671		
	CF 3	Delivery speed	.646		
	CF 4	Delivery dependability	.679		
	CF 5	Order flexibility	.682		
	CF 6	Delivery flexibility	.664		
	CF 7	Responsiveness	.718		
Business Performance (BP)	CF 8	New product/service introduction	.709	0.862	0.556
	BP 1	Return on sales	.698		
	BP 2	Return on asset	.686		
	BP 3	Sales growth	.719		
	BP 4	Market share	.647		
	BP 5	Market share growth	.666		

+ represents two first-order factors' (ISM and ESM) loadings

$$\text{Composite Reliability (CR)} = \frac{(\sum \text{standardised loading})^2}{(\sum \text{standardised loading})^2 + \sum \varepsilon_i}$$

$$\text{Average variance extracted (AVE)} = \frac{\sum (\text{standardised loading})^2}{(\sum \text{standardised loading})^2 + \sum \varepsilon_i}$$

Note: Fit indices: χ^2/df (chi square) = 1067.04/608 = 1.76, SRMR (standardized root mean square residual) = 0.036, RMSEA (root mean squared error of approximation) = 0.044, Normed-fit index (NFI) = 0.932, CFI (comparative fit index) = 0.941

Table 4. Inter-construct correlation estimates and related AVEs

	SMI	SME	CO	RC	CE	CF	BP
SMI	0.533 ⁺						
SME	0.729**	0.551 ⁺					
CO	0.388**	0.417**	0.564 ⁺				
RC	0.262**	0.207**	0.432**	0.688 ⁺			
CE	0.244**	0.293**	0.517**	0.564**	0.595 ⁺		
CF	0.254**	0.261**	0.493**	0.592**	0.691**	0.568 ⁺	
BP	0.295**	0.3294**	0.415**	0.587**	0.644**	0.683**	0.556 ⁺
Mean	3.20	3.20	3.49	3.70	3.65	3.87	3.68
SD	0.823	0.924	0.695	0.808	0.676	0.610	0.650

+ =Average variance extracted, * represents significant at the 0.05 level and ** 0.01 level.

Table 5. Structural equation modelling and mediation results

Construct (Models)	Path Coefficient	t-value	Significance	Indirect Impact	Total Impact
Model 1: Combined data					
Social media - Collaboration	0.458***	7.279	0.000	-	0.458
Social media – Resilience capability	0.059	0.979	0.246	0.214**	0.273
Collaboration - Resilience capability	0.468***	6.934	0.000	-	0.468
Collaboration – Cost efficiency	0.306***	5.015	0.000	0.260**	0.566
Collaboration – Customer focus	0.249***	4.332	0.000	0.290**	0.539
Resilience capability – Cost efficiency	0.556***	8.551	0.000	-	0.556
Resilience capability – Customer focus	0.620***	9.547	0.000	-	0.620
Social media – Cost efficiency	0.027	0.898	0.369	0.292**	0.319
Social media – Customer focus	0.043	0.540	0.589	0.284**	0.327
Cost efficiency – Business performance	0.346***	5.418	0.000	-	0.346
Customer focus – Business performance	0.622***	8.468	0.000	-	0.622
Model 2: Manufacturing					
Social media - Collaboration	0.362***	4.194	0.000	-	0.362
Social media – Resilience capability	0.067	0.804	0.421	0.166**	0.223
Collaboration - Resilience capability	0.458***	4.828	0.000	-	0.458
Collaboration – Cost efficiency	0.233**	2.815	0.005	0.309**	0.542
Collaboration – Customer focus	0.178*	2.154	0.031	0.305**	0.483
Resilience capability – Cost efficiency	0.675***	6.373	0.000	-	0.675
Resilience capability – Customer focus	0.667***	6.068	0.000	-	0.667
Social media – Cost efficiency	0.013	0.186	0.853	0.241**	0.254
Social media – Customer focus	-0.021	-0.304	0.761	0.220**	0.198
Cost efficiency – Business performance	0.363***	3.433	0.000	-	0.363
Customer focus – Business performance	0.589***	4.787	0.000	-	0.589
Model 3: Service					
Social media - Collaboration	0.563***	6.236	0.000	-	0.563
Social media – Resilience capability	0.063	0.693	0.488	0.262**	0.325
Collaboration - Resilience capability	0.465***	4.788	0.000	-	0.465
Collaboration – Cost efficiency	0.307***	3.511	0.000	0.240**	0.547
Collaboration – Customer focus	0.252**	3.221	0.001	0.276**	0.527
Resilience capability – Cost efficiency	0.516***	6.114	0.000	-	0.516

3	Resilience capability – Customer focus	0.593***	7.528	0.000	-	0.593
4	Social media – Cost efficiency	0.095	1.244	0.213	0.340**	0.435
5	Social media – Customer focus	0.129 ⁺	1.845	0.065	0.334**	0.463
6	Cost efficiency – Business performance	0.379***	4.431	0.000	-	0.379
7	Customer focus – Business performance	0.595***	6.552	0.000	-	0.595
8	Model 4: Internal Social Media					
9	Social media - Collaboration	0.427***	6.597	0.000	-	0.427
10	Social media – Resilience capability	0.103 ⁺	1.671	0.095	0.193**	0.296
11	Collaboration - Resilience capability	0.451***	6.834	0.000	-	0.451
12	Collaboration – Cost efficiency	0.327***	5.387	0.000	0.253**	0.580
13	Collaboration – Customer focus	0.263***	4.644	0.000	0.280**	0.543
14	Resilience capability – Cost efficiency	0.560***	8.537	0.000	-	0.560
15	Resilience capability – Customer focus	0.621***	9.532	0.000	-	0.621
16	Social media – Cost efficiency	-0.022	-0.427	0.669	0.305**	0.283
17	Social media – Customer focus	0.013	0.267	0.789	0.296**	0.309
18	Cost efficiency – Business performance	0.344***	5.398	0.000	-	0.344
19	Customer focus – Business performance	0.699***	8.494	0.000	-	0.699
20	Model 5: External Social Media					
21	Social media - Collaboration	0.477***	7.600	0.000	-	0.477
22	Social media – Resilience capability	0.009	0.136	0.892	0.234**	0.243
23	Collaboration - Resilience capability	0.491***	7.079	0.000	-	0.491
24	Collaboration – Cost efficiency	0.278***	4.502	0.000	0.274**	0.552
25	Collaboration – Customer focus	0.233**	3.977	0.000	0.306**	0.539
26	Resilience capability – Cost efficiency	0.557***	8.565	0.000	-	0.557
27	Resilience capability – Customer focus	0.622***	9.579	0.000	-	0.622
28	Social media – Cost efficiency	0.083	1.603	0.109	0.268**	0.351
29	Social media – Customer focus	0.070	1.395	0.163	0.263**	0.333
30	Cost efficiency – Business performance	0.347***	5.431	0.000	-	0.347
31	Customer focus – Business performance	0.622***	8.470	0.000	-	0.622

M1: Ch-sq/df = 1133.81 / 608 = 1.86, SRMR = 0.043, RMSEA = 0.047, CFI = 0.933

M2: Ch-sq/df = 976.96 / 608 = 1.61, SRMR = 0.053, RMSEA = 0.055, CFI = 0.901

M3: Ch-sq/df = 973.61 / 608 = 1.60, SRMR = 0.050, RMSEA = 0.054, CFI = 0.918

M4: Ch-sq/df = 964.66 / 511 = 1.89, SRMR = 0.041, RMSEA = 0.047, CFI = 0.934

M5: Ch-sq/df = 893.694 / 478 = 1.87, SRMR = 0.037, RMSEA = 0.047, CFI = 0.939

⁺ represents significant at the 0.1 level, * 0.05 level, ** 0.01 level, and *** 0.001 level

Note. Bootstrapping 1,000 times in SEM