1 2		Ameliorating Supply Chains of Prefabricated Housebuilding: An Integrated Performance Framework
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36 ABSTRACT

37 Prefabrication construction has proven sustainability and affordability through innovative solutions. Prefabricated housebuilding companies, as supply entities, play a vital role towards successful projects 38 39 using prefabricated products. Many companies go into liquidation due to poor performance. Supply 40 chain management performance is linked with organizational performance in the manufacturing 41 domain. However, there is no performance framework to date for prefabricated housebuilding 42 companies using supply chain management theory. The purpose of this study is to identify the supply 43 chain management interventions in prefabricated housebuilding research and report relevant key 44 performance indicators based on empirical evidence. These indicators were classified under 45 performance dimensions and supply chain processes. These indicators were then checked for relevancy 46 with subject matter by academic and industry experts engaged in prefabricated construction research 47 and practice, respectively. Later an industry-wide Likert scale-based survey was conducted with 48 experienced experts in practice, involved in the prefabricated construction business, for validation of 49 the proposed framework. This study reports forty key performance indicators, ranked under six principal 50 component bodies of supply chain management, with low to high ranges from marketing to strategic 51 management. The purposive selection is used for industry consultation with experts having practical 52 experience. Survey results show all the indicators are highly significant except "supplier-driven 53 strategy" which is still under a medium range of relative importance index. The top six key performance 54 indicators are "Collaborative networking", "Quality assurance", "Entrepreneurial cognition", "geographical proximity", "intellectual property" and "Relationship marketing". The performance 55 framework is suitable for vertically integrated companies involved in design, manufacturing, and 56 57 construction. A qualitative nature of framework is highly useful, with implementation ease, for the 58 companies to benchmark and gauge performance in a competitive market. This study explored the 59 general supply chain management theoretical intervention for the development of an integrated 60 performance framework as only specific elements were considered previously.

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Keywords: Prefabricated housebuilding; Supply chains; Integrated performance framework; Supply
 chain management; Principal component bodies; Suppliers; Organizational performance; offsite
 construction; Industrialized housebuilding

64 INTRODUCTION

Prefabricated construction (PC) has the potential to achieve affordability and sustainability in house 65 66 building. This enhanced the involvement of the supply chain (SC) with more work happening offsite 67 (Vrijhoef & Koskela, 2000), changing the industry dynamic from projects to products (Bertram et al., 68 2019). Nevertheless, the role of supply organisations has become critical to the adoption of PC. 69 Prefabricated house building (PHB) (Schoenwitz, Potter, Gosling, & Naim, 2017) companies are supply 70 organisations for prefabricated components, panels, modular and whole buildings, playing SC roles as 71 manufacturer, supplier, subcontractor or builder (Rehan Masood, Lim, González, Roy, & Khan, 2022) 72 in the house building sector. Despite other members in the SC of house building, these companies are 73 more vulnerable, having different levels of interdependency and engagement (Forbes & Ahmed, 2010, 74 p. 128) with a higher risk share of implementing the PC technologies on the projects (R. Masood, Roy, 75 Gozález, Lim, & Nasir, 2023). Most PHB companies went into receivership within a few years of their 76 establishment (Taylor, 2022). PHB companies have been persistent in facing critical performance 77 challenges of the last two decades (Dainty, Millett, & Briscoe, 2001; Rehan Masood, Lim, & Gonzalez, 78 2021) which need to be addressed to attain survival as well as growth.

79 Supply chain management intervention for Prefabricated housebuilding (PHB) 80 performance

81 Improvement in the supply chain management (SCM) practices is directly linked with the organizational 82 performance (Gandhi, Shaikh, & Sheorey, 2017) and integrated project delivery as well (R. Jin, Gao, 83 Cheshmehzangi, & Aboagye-Nimo, 2018). SC, in PHB context, "comprises the complete package of 84 concept, design, detailing, manufacture and erection" (Elliott, 2017). However, SC complexity 85 increases with prefab type, from intra-supply chain (organizational) to inter supply chain (project-based) 86 (Hussein, Eltoukhy, Karam, Shaban, & Zayed, 2021). SC maturity is the least under researched topic 87 in offsite construction literature (G. Liu, Nzige, & Li, 2019), while intelligentization and informatization 88 are the most researched within this domain (Han, Yan, & Piroozfar, 2022). However, SCM from an 89 organizational perspective is still incipient (Rehan Masood et al., 2022).

90 Literature on performance frameworks using supply chain management theories

91 Researchers attempted to develop frameworks and models to understand and measure the 92 performance of PHB companies; however, limited studies focused on relevant SCM theories. Some 93 notable works are reported here. The foremost attempt at developing a framework for the 94 industrialization of PHB companies was based on integrated lean and SCM theories (J Lessing, 95 2006). The performance framework by Halman and Voordijk (2012) is based on balanced scorecard 96 theory with sources from manufacturing literature. Yashiro (2014) conceptualized SC maturity 97 based on prefab types. Value-based modelling by Sahin, Miller, and Mohamed (2016), is based on 98 system dynamics to create value from manufacturer and industry perspective. Goh and Loosemore 99 (2017) used a resource-based view to determine the impact of offsite technology at the 100 organisational level. K. Liu, Su, and Zhang (2018) used maturity theory to manage SCs (i.e., prefab 101 suppliers) from a project perspective. Xun, Kang, and Zhao (2019) developed an operational model 102 based on a SC operations reference for PHB companies. Sooriyamudalige, Domingo, Childerhouse, 103 and Shehzad (2020) developed a framework that illustrates barriers and enablers for SC integration. 104 A process-oriented framework based on lean manufacturing principles was developed by Youyi 105 Zhang, Lei, Han, Bouferguene, and Al-Hussein (2020). Stehn, Engström, Uusitalo, and Lavikka 106 (2020) explored dynamic capabilities based on a resource-based view. SC capabilities for PHB 107 companies to achieve SC resilience were reported by Ekanayake, Shen, and Kumaraswamy (2020). 108 Grenzfurtner, Rudberg, Loike, Mayrhofer, and Gronalt (2021) used business strategies that led 109 companies to develop specific features within their performance management system and showed 110 which specific indicators are relevant for managing on-site performance. Sustainability triple tier: 111 social, economic and environmental, were also investigated to develop performance indicators for 112 prefab SCs (YD Zhang, Yang, Pan, & Pan, 2021; Zhao, Wang, Ye, Huang, & Si, 2022). 113 Assessment model for interface management was developed to imporve the logisitc process in SC 114 (S. Zhang, Li, Li, & Yuan, 2022). A dialectical system framework has been developed for 115 enhancement of modualr construciton supply chain with focus on seven components (Pan, Pan, & Yang, 2023). The trend is adopting mature SCM theories from manufacturing to offsite
construction for developing performance frameworks or models (Rehan Masood et al., 2022).
However, none of the research studies considered the principal component bodies (PCB) for
general SCM theory to develop a performance framework for PHB companies.

120 Organization of Paper

This study is an attempt to develop an integrated performance framework (IPF) SCM-driven best practices reported in empirical studies. In phase 1, a literature review was conducted to identify the best practices for designing the key performance indicators (KPIs). KPIs are further classified for performance dimensions (PDs) and organizational supply chain processes (SCP). In phase 2, a questionnaire survey was then conducted with Prefab industry experts to validate the IPF for PHB companies. Lastly, the application of the IPF, the contribution of the research, and its limitations were discussed.

128 **RESEARCH METHOD**

This study follows a positivist research approach to using the SCM theory (Schweber, 2015). There aretwo main phases.

131 Phase 1: Design of IPF

In this phase, IPF was designed based on the literature review. Most recurring themes were extracted
from the systemic literature review on the SCM within PHB research focusing on suppliers perspectives
(Rehan Masood et al., 2022). These themes are driven by six PCBs of SCM by Croom, Romano, and
Giannakis (2000), including strategic management (STM), relationships (REP), logistics (LOG), best
practices (BST), marketing (MKT), and organizational behavior (ORB).

Best practices were then identified towards developing key performance indicators (Castillo, Alarcón,
& Pellicer Armiñana, 2018), with an extensive literature review of relevant studies published in the last
10 years, establishing the grounded theory of SCM for PHB (Knight & Ruddock, 2009, p. 88). Search
string on Google Scholar (Ayodele, Chang-Richards, & González, 2020) for specific KPI, for example,

141 "intellectual property" "prefabricated construction" OR "Offsite construction" OR "Modular 142 construction" OR "offsite manufacturing" OR "prefabricated housebuilding" "case study" "house" OR 143 "housebuilding" "supplier" OR "manufacturer" "performance"; custom range: 2013 to 2023; sort by 144 relevance. Only peer-reviewed construction focused journal articles were selected (Fellows & Liu, 145 2021, p. 141) with case study research method, for validation of the theoretical elements (Schweber, 2015). Google Scholar is suitable for construction related search, and retrieved articles with higher 146 147 relevance and citation score (Martín-Martín, Orduna-Malea, Thelwall, & López-Cózar, 2018) that were 148 found in initial 1-2 search pages. It was ensured that the articles focused on PHB company 149 organizational performance having clarity on specific KPI with relevancy for performance dimension 150 and SC process with empirical intervention. All the review studies with only theoretical contributions 151 and surveys or interview studies without empirical intervention, also, conference, books and reports 152 sources were excluded from the selection process.

153 KPIs were also classified against the performance dimensions (Miltenburg, 2005) and organisational 154 SC processes (Lambert & Enz, 2017). Performance dimensions have interrelations (Rehan Masood, 155 Roy, Gonzalez, Lim, & Nasir, 2023) and include cost (C), quality (Q), features (F), delivery (D), flexibility (L), and innovation (I). SC processes include customer relationship management (CRM), 156 157 supplier relationship management (SRM), customer service management (CSM), demand management 158 (DM), order fulfillment (OF), manufacturing flow management (MFM), product development and 159 commercialisation (PDC) and return management (RM). The IPF has been designed considering the 160 PHB companies involved not only in production (manufacturing, pre-assembly and subassembly) but 161 also vertically integrated with design and sales in upstream and transportation and on-site installation 162 in down-stream (Gann, 1996).

The proposed performance measurement scale for IPF is standardized and applicable to all KPIs. The
scale is qualitative, comprised of five-points demonstrating the implementation of the best practices
(Kourtzanidis, Angelakoglou, Apostolopoulos, Giourka, & Nikolopoulos, 2021). The scale is described
as, 0 – No awareness; 1 – Awareness but no implementation; 2 – Not fully implementation; 3 – Full
implementation; 4 – Enhanced implementation.

168 **Phase 2: Evaluation of IPF**

169 Initially, the content and thematic validation were achieved through consultation with two experts. One was a NZ University PhD faculty member with more than 10 years of research experience in offsite 170 171 manufacturing. The other was OffsiteNZ's former CEO, who had more than 20 years of prefab 172 experience. This is essential to determining the relevance of the subject matter (Beck & Gable, 2001). 173 The designed IPF has been validated through industry expert opinions collected through an online 174 questionnaire survey to save time and avoid face-to-face meeting constraints (Z. Jin, Deng, Li, & 175 Skitmore, 2013). Ethical approval (023539) was obtained from the human participants' ethics 176 committee to conduct the survey.

177 Purposive sampling was adopted to select the industry experts (Knight & Ruddock, 2009), who had 178 relevant prefab experience in the New Zealand context. All the PHB companies categorized under the 179 "manufacturer" category of the OffsiteNZ (https://www.offsitenz.com/directory) were approached, and only twelve valid responses were finalized (41.37%), a good representative of the prefab industry by 180 181 sample size i.e. 14 (Halman & Voordijk, 2012), country context (Sooriyamudalige et al., 2020) i.e. 12 and based don experience only six (Palacios, Gonzalez, & Alarcón, 2014). These are product-182 183 oriented (Jerker Lessing & Brege, 2018) and vertically integrated (Rehan Masood et al., 2022) 184 companies, having technology-based manufacturing and/or assembly as core business (Das, Hijazi, 185 Maxwell, & Moehler, 2023).

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Table 1 shows the profiles of the selected industry experts and representative of prefab industry in New Zealand. All the participants were positioned in managerial roles in PHB companies, involved in either managing the whole SC or part, posing relevant areas of expertise; 83% have more than 5 years of experience in the PHB industry and engage in a variety of prefab types ranges (R Masood & Roy, 2022); component (C), non-volumetric (NVA), volumetric (VA), modular (M) and hybrid (H).

The questionnaire design focused on demographics, SC understanding, and common performance
 measures, and proposed KPI agreement levels through 5-point Likert scale (Boone Jr & Boone, 2012).

Participants were asked for their understanding of SCM definition by Cutting-Decelle et al. (2007) as: "Managing supply chain efficiently and effectively has the potential to improve the performance of Prefab supplier firms to deliver the right product at the right time with right quality, cost and service." Further, they were asked for common performance measures used in the prefab industry (Gunasekaran, Patel, & Tirtiroglu, 2001) such as lead time (order to delivery), product cost, product quality, serviceability, flexibility, inventory stock, inventory cost, large product portfolio, customer satisfaction etc.

201 KPIs significance agreement level was evaluated through 5-point Likert scale (Boone Jr & Boone, 202 2012), where "1" indicates not at all significant to "5" as extremely significant. Cronbach's α was 203 applied to determine the internal reliability of the IPF based on multiple KPIs (Cronbach, 1951, p. 304), 204 following Eq. and 2.

205
$$\alpha = \left(\frac{k}{k-1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{k} \sigma_i^2}{\sigma_t^2}\right)$$
(1)

206
$$\sigma_t^2 = \sum_{i=1}^k \sigma_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=1}^k \sigma_{ij}^2, \ (i \neq j)$$
(2)

207 Where k = number of KPIs in scale, σ_i^2 = variance of KPI *i*; σ_t^2 = total variance of scale; σ_{ij}^2 = covariance 208 of items *i* and *j*. α value greater than or equal to 0.60 is considered reliable (Nunnally & Bernstein, 209 1994).

The relative importance of each KPI was determined by relative importance index (RII) values, usingthe following equation (Wu et al., 2019), following Eq. 3:

212
$$RII = \Sigma W/(A * N)$$
(3)

where: W – weight of each factor (i.e., 1–5); A – highest weight (i.e., 5); N – total number of
respondents.

The importance scale for RII by Akadiri and Olomolaiye (2012) was used: high (H) ($0.6 \le RII \le 1.0$), medium (M) ($0.4 \le RII \le 0.6$), and low (L) ($0.0 \le RII \le 4.0$).

217 INTEGRATED PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

218 This framework is comprised of forty KPIs based on best practices, categorized by six PCBs. These

- 219 KPIs were further classified by performance dimensions and SCM processes.
- 220

221 STM - Strategic Management

222 The organisational performance of PHB companies is highly dependent on the strategic 223 management, which has inexorable links with SCM (Ketchen & Giunipero, 2004). STM₁ places on the 224 intellectual property, which gives a competitive edge to PHB companies both locally and 225 internationally. STM₂ is about how well the PHB companies comply with the building code, such as by 226 obtaining CodeMark to certify the products. STM₃ indicates the social responsiveness of the PHB 227 companies to societal issues such as affordability and sustainability. STM₄ demonstrates the integral 228 position of the PHB company in the organization of the prefab projects. STM₅ is linked to the 229 operational capability for dealing with customers for products with low to high customization. STM_6 230 referred to the systematic approach of PHB companies to regularise the orders through continuous 231 improvement in onsite integration, SC control, and governance and learning from co-experience with 232 other stakeholders. STM7 focused on the readiness of PHB companies to get involved in the projects using OSM, preferably in the initial phase. STM₈ emphasises the power of the PHB companies to shape 233 234 the strategy to value the projects, with standardised components having flexibility in use and 235 maintenance.

236 **REP – Relationships**

PHB companies must develop relationships for SCM integration primarily based on trust and commitment (Tan, 2001). REP₁ indicates the long-term collaborative relationships with customers based on information and knowledge sharing. REP₂ demonstrates the horizontal collaboration with complementing and competing companies through sharing at multiple levels. REP₃ places on the establishment of the collaborative network among down-stream SC members, considering the causality and closeness. REP₄ focused on the engagement in a possible strategic partnership to enhance the buyers and to keep the business running. REP₅ refers to the utilisation of outsourcing to gain operational
 efficiency and profitability. REP₆ highlights the capability to maintain the social linkage with industry
 through frequent engagement and intense connections.

246 LOG – Logistics

Logistics defined the material flow and transportation of prefab products (Cooper, Lambert, & Pagh, 1997). LOG₁ indicates the onsite integration through joint planning towards mutual understanding ofr logistic requirements. LOG₂ refers to the inclusion of third-party logistics in delivery. LOG₃ places on postponement strategies for onsite operations to manage the schedule risk. LOG₄ highlights the capability to optimise the schedule of delivery with proper planning. LOG₅ demonstrates the inclusion of RFID for real-time monitoring. LOG₆ focused on the manufacturing and/or assembly facility that was near the source market and accessible to the customers.

BST – Best practices

255 The best practices intervention aims for SCM improvement (Lamming, 1996). Best practices are driven by relevant theories and frameworks with empirical characteristics. BST1 indicated the process 256 257 synchronisation of manufacturing for just-in-time delivery. BST2 refers to BIM applications for the 258 digitalization of SCM phases. BST₃ places on the information integration through block chain and the 259 internet of things. BST₄ is mapping the value streams for each product family to identify and eliminate 260 waste. BST₅ is the adoption of a business model following the economic circularity principles. BST₆ is 261 the implementation of enterprise resource planning to manage the resources proficiently. BTS₇ focused 262 on smart contracting for contractual and financial transparency. BST₈ demonstrates the management of 263 organisational quality through establishing control points. BST₉ is the management of the product design for adaptation driven by scenarios based on coordination. 264

265 MKT – Marketing

Marketing helps in capturing the customers through the right advertising (Min & Mentzer, 2000). MKT_1 demonstrates the strategy for market integration with value-added offering. MKT_2 refers to the application of an ambidexterity strategy for competitive pricing. MKT_3 places on using the catalogues in running the advertising campaigns. MKT_4 establishes the long-term relational coordination for traction based on intense interaction. MKT_5 focuses on the effective customer evaluation for inventory management through product portfolios.

272 ORB – Organizational behavior

Organisational behaviour is the learning of the PHB company to gain from internal and external pressures (Holt & Ghobadian, 2009). ORB₁ indicates the capacity to reposition to enhance the control. ORB2 utilises of information technology compatible with prefab technology. ORB₃ places emphasis on the knowledge sharing for improvement in products and processes driven by experiences. ORB₄ demonstrates human resource development by providing opportunities for training and a safe workplace. ORB₅ refers to the engagement of customers based on quick feedback. ORB₆ highlights the adoption of entrepreneurial cognition for innovation.

280 **Performance dimensions of KPIs**

281 The performance dimensions of the KPIs are associated based on the interrelated domains of process, technology, people, and product (Nadim & Goulding, 2011), considering the PHB SC as design, 282 283 manufacturing, and construction (Goulding, Pour-Rahimian, Arif, & Sharp, 2015). The Cost 284 performance dimension indicates the management of incurred expenses and overheads. The KPIs which improve the cost performance are STM₁, REP₅, BST₄, BST₇, MKT₁, MKT₅, and ORB₄. The *Quality* 285 286 performance dimension is about the management of the conformance measures as per specifications. 287 These KPIs are classified under this dimension, STM₂, LOG₅, BST₂, BST₃, BST₈, and ORB₃. Features 288 performance dimension is linked with the management of product competing attributes considering design, manufacturing (and or assembly), and onsite operations. STM₃, STM₆, STM₇, REP₂, LOG₁, 289 290 BST₆, BST₉, MKT₄, ORB₂ and ORB₅ are linked to this dimension. The *Delivery* performance dimension 291 demonstrated the shortened lead time with logistic adequacy. Relevant KPIs are REP₃, REP₄, LOG₂, 292 LOG_4 , LOG_6 , and BST_1 . The *Flexibility* performance dimension refers to the balancing the 293 standardisation and customization for product and processes. STM₅, STM₈, LOG₃, MKT₂, and ORB₁ 294 are identified under this dimension. The Innovation performance emphasis on the adoption of new ways 295 to improve practices. This dimension covers KPIs as STM₄, REP₁, REP₆, BST₅, MKT₃, ORB₆.

296 KPIs for SCM processes

297 There are eight SC processes in the organisational context of the PHB company. The customer 298 relationship management process helps in developing and maintaining the customers' relationships 299 (upstream). KPIs for this process are REP₁, REP₂, REP₄, and MKT₄. The Supplier relationship 300 management process supports the development and maintenance of the suppliers' relations 301 (downstream). KPIs for this process are REP₃, REP₆, ORB₃. Customer service management process 302 ensures compliance through by the administration of agreements for products and services. KPIs for 303 this process are STM₇, LOG₃, LOG₅, BST₁, BST₄, and BST₇. The *Demand management* process focuses 304 on the demand and supply balance and synchronisation through variability reduction and flexibility 305 enhancement. KPIs for this process are STM₂, STM₄, STM₅, LOG₄, BST₆, and BST₉. The Order 306 fulfilment process maintains order continuity by addressing the customer requests and providing crossfunctional feedback through extended network. KPIs for this process are STM₆, MKT₃, MKT₅, and 307 308 ORB₅. The *Manufacturing flow management* process obtains, implements, and manages flexibility in 309 production through decoupling and configuration. KPIs for this process are STM₈, REP₅, LOG₆, BST₂, 310 BST₃, BST₈, ORB₂, and ORB₄. Product development and commercialisation process places on the 311 developing and bringing market-focused products to market. KPIs for this process are STM₁, STM₃, 312 MKT₁, MKT₂, and ORB₆. The *Returns management* process is linked with developing reverse product 313 flow efficiently for avoiding returns and reusability. KPIs under this process are LOG₁, LOG₂, BST₅, 314 and ORB₁.

315 EVALUATION OF INTEGRATED PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

316 This section reports the key findings of the study.

317 Understanding of SCM

Participants were asked about their perceptions of the definition of the SCM in the context of PHB companies. All the participants agreed on the mentioned definition, which indicates a general understanding of SCM practices. Further, participants were asked about the common KPIs used in practice. The most common KPIs reported by participants, in ascending order, were lead time, product 322 cost, and quality. Two participants mentioned "DIFOT", which is defined as "delivered in full on time".

323 This concept demonstrates the high modularity of the products.

324

< Table 03 >

325 Ranking of KPIs by PCBs

The Cronbach's α value was 0.88 > 0.6, demonstrating the internal reliability of the IPF. In STM, STM₁ 326 327 "Early involvement" has been ranked first. However, STM₅ "Supply capacity", STM1 "Intellectual property" and STM₄ "Virtual organization structure" are ranked 2, 3, and 4 respectively, having RII 328 329 above 0.8. STM₃ "social responsive" ranked 5 and STM₆ "order fulfilment" ranked 6 with above 0.7 RII. Only STM₂ "code compliance" above 0.6 RII is ranked 7. The lowest rank "8" is STM₈ "Supplier 330 331 driven strategy". In REP, REP3 "Collaborative network" and REP1 "Collaborative relations" are ranked 332 at first and second position, with relatively high RII scores. Interestingly, REP₂ "Horizontal 333 collaboration" ranked at 3 followed by REP 4 "Strategic partnership", having same RII but slightly vary 334 SD. Remaining REP₆ "industry linkage" is at 5 but REP₅ "Outsourcing" is at 6. In LOG, LOG₄ 335 "schedule optimization" and LOG₆ "Geographical proximity", both ranked first with same RII score and SD, followed by LOG₁ "Re-organizing onsite logistics". The bottom two ranks are LOG₂ "Third-336 337 party logistics" and LOG₃ "Postponement strategy". In BST, BST₈ "quality assurance" is ranked one. BST₄ "Value streaming", BST₅ "Circular business" and BST₇ "Smart contracting" are ranked at 2, 3 338 and 4 with similar RII scores but vary SD. BST3 "design digitalization" and BST6 "Automated 339 planning" are ranked at 5 and 6, with same RII scores but vary SD. BST₂ "information integration" and 340 341 BST₉ "Design adaptation" are ranked at 7 and 8 with same RII score but vary SD. The lowest ranked 342 KPI is BST₁ "process synchronization". In MKT, the top rank is MKT₄ "Relationship marketing", 343 followed by MKT1 "customer focus" and MKT5 "Sales management" at 2 and 3. The bottom two KPIs 344 in this PCB are MKT₂ "Competitor initiative" and MKT₃ "Advertising". In ORB, ORB6 345 "Entrepreneurial cognition" is ranked first. However, ORB₂ "Technology integration" and ORB₅ 346 "Client engagement" are ranked at second position in this PCB, having same RII and SD values. ORB4 347 "HR Development" is ranked 3 and ORB₁ "Organizational structure" is ranked 4, having similar RII 348 score but vary SD. The lowest ranked KPI in this PCB is ORB₃ "Organizational learning".

349 **Overall Ranking of KPIs**

350 All KPIs score above 0.6 RII except STM8 ("Supplier driven strategy"). However, overall, all the 351 identified KPIs are validated through industry consultation and agreed upon as critical to the 352 performance of PHB companies. 40 KPIs are ranked in 30 positions considering RII and SD scores. There is no single PCB having KPIs with high scores. However, in several instances, KPIs are ranked 353 354 at same level. STM₇ and REP₃ are ranked first. BST₈ is ranked second, followed by STM₅ and ORB₆ in third. Both LOG₄ and LOG₆ are ranked fourth. STM₁, MKT₄, and BST₄ are ranked fifth, sixth, and 355 seventh. However, both REP₁ and BST₅ are ranked eighth. STM₄ is ranked ninth but both LOG₁ and 356 BST₇ are ranked tenth. Similarly, ORB₂ and ORB₅ got dual position at eleventh. MKT₁ and MKT₅ are 357 ranked at twelve and thirteen, respectively. BST₃ and ORB₄ are at the same rank of fourteenth. The 358 359 fifteenth rank goes to STM₃. There are three KPIs at rank sixteen, REP₂, BST₆, and ORB₁. REP₄ and MKT₂ are positioned seventeenth. However, REP₆ and BST₂ are at eighteenth and nineteenth, 360 361 respectively. Later, the KPIs have individual positioning as ORB₃ (20), BST₉ (21), MKT₂ (22), LOG₂ 362 (23), STM₆ (24), BST₁(25), LOG₃ (26), REP₅(27), LOG₅ (28), STM₂(29) and STM₈ (30).

363 **DISCUSSION**

364 In this study, a performance framework has been designed based on theoretical intervention and 365 evaluated through industry consultation. Research in the PHB discipline on SCM focuses on project 366 context SCM. However, with the adoption of the OSM strategy the role of prefab supply entities (Hsieh, 367 1997), referred to as PHB companies, is enhanced and becomes critical eventually. These companies have the potential to apply business process re-engineering (Childerhouse, Lewis, Naim, & Towill, 368 2003) to improve the total SC with more control (Iwashita, 2001). The performance framework, having 369 applied nature (easy to implement), helps in keeping the PHB companies competitive enough to survive 370 in the dynamic markets. Previous performance frameworks have not used the core SCM theory, but 371 specific integrated SCM theories or elements were investigated. 372

SCM originated from manufacturing industry and application in OSM needs research for adaptation of
 practices, due to inherent incompatibilities (Luo, Zhang, & Sher, 2021). Hence, the SCM practices in

manufacturing research need to be investigated for compatibility for OSM. Similar to developing a
 performance framework based on empirical studies.

377 PCBs of SCM are pillars of the theory. However, the body of knowledge is expanding through empirical 378 research in SCM and PCBs need to be reviewed for each discipline (Soni & Kodali, 2011). The current 379 framework used PCBs to establish the context of SCM intervention for PHB from an organizational 380 perspective. The number of KPIs identified based on the recurring themes of SCM in PHB research, 381 coverage in ascending order, are BST, STM, REP, LOG, ORB and MKT. More coverage goes to BST 382 due to intervention of Construction 4.0 technologies in managing SC of PHB company to attain 383 industrialisation in true means. However, the role of STM is less important as the PHB company needs 384 to establish a strategic business orientation in the niche market. The role of REP and LOG are equally significant. The least addressed PCB was MKT, as this has not been covered extensively in PHB 385 386 research. The study significance lies in untapping the general SCM theory from organizational 387 perspective for PHB companies, who played significant role in project supply chain using prefab 388 products.

389 The KPIs in the performance framework are measured on a qualitative scale of implementation. This 390 has been proposed considering the extensive need for data and information for quantitative measures 391 (Halman & Voordijk, 2012). Furthermore, there are forty KPIs in the current framework with coverage 392 of SCM theoretical elements extensively. However, few performance studies has lower coverage as 12 393 constructs (J Lessing, 2006) eight subcategories (Yashiro, 2014), six resource based aspects (Goh 394 & Loosemore, 2017) and seven components (Pan et al., 2023). This framework demonstrates 395 relevance of KPIs by performance dimensions which has not been addressed in previous studies. This 396 study reports the effectiveness of KPI in improving one of the core performance dimensions but these 397 dimensions are interrelated. Further, single SC process is not portraying the overall performance of 398 PHB companies (S. Zhang et al., 2022) but this framework demonstrated the linkage with all SCM 399 processes. The industry consultation to validate the framework is a crucial stage, and the participation 400 of relevant practitioners is essential. There is ambiguity in SC elements and SC processes in determining the performance of PHB companies (Pan et al., 2023), that has been addressed in this study by 401

integrating the SC processes and performance dimensions (Rehan Masood et al., 2023). The ranking of
the KPIs for each PCB and overall framework determines their significance at the micro and macro
levels.

405 The theoretical contribution of this study is using general SCM theory, based on well-established PCBs, 406 to develop the performance framework for PHB companies. This study is pioneering in addressing the 407 organizational performance of PHB companies through SCM lens. The practical contribution of this 408 study is to provide a performance framework, based on qualitative measures, to PHB companies that 409 opt manufacturing/assembly as business strategy, to remain competitive in dynamic market. It is 410 essential to identify the right KPIs with proper theoretical foundation to avoid overcomplications in 411 performance assessment and maximize the prefabrication benefits from SCs to projects (Masters, Drover, & Patel, 2023, September). However, the same KPIs could be used to determine the 412 413 performance in comparison to competitors. The framework addresses the OffsiteNZ vision (OffsiteNZ, 414 2023) to facilitate the current and prospective companies joining and surviving in the prefab sector. On the other hand, an increase of 10%-20% OSM focused on public projects (CCNZ, 2022) will potentially 415 416 change the market dynamics and performance of PHB companies, will be critical for the success of the 417 projects using prefab products.

418 CONCLUSION

419 Improving the SC within PHB organizational boundaries helps in integration well with project SC 420 (Dainty et al., 2001). This study introduces SCM intervention in the organizational performance of PHB 421 companies. This study used frequent elements of SCM under six PCBs within PHB research. The best 422 practices were then derived from these elements as reported in empirical studies. Forty KPIs were 423 designed based on the best practices and classified by six PDs and eight SCPs. The KPIs were scaled 424 for measurement based on the level of implementation. The framework was validated for thematic 425 relevance with experts. An industry survey was conducted to validate the application of the proposed framework. The internal consistency was found significant and only one KPI scored relatively low RII 426 427 but still within acceptance range.

428 LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE RESEARCH

429 This study has limitations that need to be reported. PCBs used for the framework were developed based 430 on the systematic review of SCM within PHB research from an organizational perspective, as general 431 SCM is not applicable to OSM. Further, empirical studies were considered to develop the KPIs based 432 on best practices as survey or conceptual studies still need to be validated. The key assumption is 433 consideration of overlapping and related concepts of SCM with organizational performance theories. 434 Researchers used similar concept without acknowledging the relevance to SCM theory (Tennant & 435 Fernie, 2014). Authors ensure the selected SCM PCBs and KPIs are relevant to SCM within PHB research and proven empirically. Another assumption for framework development is the PHB 436 437 company's involvement in all key stages of SC, including design, manufacturing, and construction. 438 However, PHB companies are not truly vertically integrated. So, the KPIs should be selected based on 439 their involvement in SC processes. The participants for the validation survey represent the offsite construction community in New Zealand, having affiliation with OffsiteNZ. However, there is a 440 possibility of non-participatory prefab practitioners as non-members to industry association. 441

442 In operation research, improving organizational SCM helps in improving the organizational 443 performance (Gandhi et al., 2017). It was hypothesized that it is true for PHB industry which is 444 amalgamation of manufacturing and construction industries. This study has proven that identified SCM 445 elements and relevant KPIs are potentially applicable to measure the performance and industrialization 446 (Costa, Carvalho, Pimentel, & Duarte, 2023) of the PHB companies. The developed framework will be 447 tested for PHB companies in any type of prefab and integrated upstream and/or downstream, shaping 448 several business models. This is the succeeding objective of this study: to report the effectiveness of the 449 framework using case study research method. In case study context, PHB companies need to be 450 involved in different prefab technologies by product and material. There is potential to investigate the 451 interrelationship of the KPIs and PCBs to develop the performance models for PHB companies using SEM. This study set the foundation for further exploration of different PCBs of SCM to determine their 452 relevancy to offsite construction environment. 453

454 DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

455 All data, models, and code generated or used during the study appear in the submitted article.

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