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EDITORIAL PREFACE: IDENTIFY AND MITIGATE THE RISKS OF GLOBAL IT OUTSOURCING

S. E. Goodman, Georgia Institute of Technology

Rob Ramer, Aeritae Consulting Group

While information security risks certainly exist in a single organization or domestic outsourcing, offshoring introduces new forms of risk by opening more opportunities for incursion, accident, or exposure. JGITM advisory editor Sy Goodman and Rob Ramer call for increased awareness, careful assessment and effective mitigation of these risks. They point out that there are risks specific to offshoring and ignoring or exaggerating these to fit a particular agenda does not help anyone. They advocate an intelligent approach to managing these risks.

ARTICLES:

SOCIAL TIES IN GLOBALLY DISTRIBUTED SOFTWARE TEAMS: BEYOND FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS

Julia Kotlarsky, The University of Warwick, United Kingdom

Ilan Oshri, Rotterdam School of Management Erasmus, The Netherlands

Leslie Willcocks, London School of Economics, United Kingdom

This article explores the process through which social ties in globally dispersed software development teams are created and renewed. It argues that because face-to-face (F2F) meetings and ICT are limited in providing support for the build-up and renewal of social ties in long, complex globally distributed projects, other activities should be introduced before and after F2F meetings. Based on case studies carried out at SAP and LeCroy, the paper concludes that globally distributed teams (GDTs) should be “re-socialized” to ensure that interpersonal ties do not fade away and collaborative work is not hampered.

A METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH TO ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY OF ERP IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Capaldo Guido, University of Naples Federico II, Italy

Raffa Lelio, University of Naples Federico II, Italy

Rippa Pierluigi, University of Naples Federico II, Italy

This article sets out to assess the feasibility of implementation strategies in Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems. The methodological approach takes into consideration both technical and organizational aspects involved in ERP implementation. The methodology aims at supporting IS management to reduce risks and handle the implementation process in a holistic and integrated way, highlighting the critical interaction between technical and organizational issues. It provides useful information for companies, and can be considered as an assessment instrument capable of predicting and managing the risk in implementing ERP systems in firms all over the world.

NORWEGIAN INTERNET SHOPPING SITES: AN APPLICATION & EXTENSION OF THE TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTANCE MODEL

Katrina Savitskie, University of Memphis, USA

Marla B. Royne, University of Memphis, USA

Elif S. Persinger, Eastern Michigan University, USA

Marko Grünhagen, Eastern Illinois University, USA

Carl L. Witte, Roosevelt University, USA

The purpose of this research was as follows: 1) To apply, examine, and test the technology acceptance model (TAM) in the context of Internet shopping sites; 2) To understand the relationship between the TAM, involvement, and affinity with the computer in the context of Internet shopping sites; and 3) to examine these constructs and relationships in an international environment. For this study, 292 Norwegians responded to a survey regarding Internet shopping. While most of our hypotheses were supported, two conflicting results indicate additional research is needed regarding the validation and usefulness of TAM in an international setting.

**THE EXPERT OPINION: MARIO LEONE VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER,
FEDERAL-MOGUL CORPORATION**

Conducted by Paul S. Licker, Oakland University, USA

The senior executive Mario Leone discusses the role of IT in their business, its internationalization, challenges in global IT applications, and issues with transborder data flows. His advice to senior IT leader is to build a compelling argument for business transformation at the executive level. IT or IS can only become a strategic asset for the company if a “burning platform” is established to facilitate company efforts to achieve global profitable growth.

BOOK REVIEW: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND SMALL BUSINESSES: ANTECEDENTS AND CONSEQUENCES OF TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION.

Author: By Andrea Ordanini

Reviewed by Roberto Vinaja, Texas A&M University—Commerce, USA

This book fills a gap in research for IT adoption in small and medium enterprises (SME). Ordanini focuses on the factors affecting the adoption and the impact of IT among SMEs. The book has three distinctive parts, the first part focuses on the antecedents or pre-adoption, the second part focuses on the consequences or post-adoption and the last part discusses implications and suggestions.

For copies of the above articles, please check for the Journal of Global Information Technology Management (JGITM) in your institution's library.

MISSION: The mission of the Journal of Global Information Technology Management (JGITM) is to continue to be the premier journal on Global Information Technology Management. It is a refereed international journal supported by global IT scholars from all over the world. JGITM publishes articles and reports related to all aspects of the application of information technology for international business. For example, it will report on information resource management, managerial and organizational concerns, educational issues, and innovative applications related to global IT. Very important to the journal is its emphasis on quality and relevance. The journal disseminates this knowledge to researchers, practitioners, academicians, and educators all over the world on a timely basis. Finally, the journal is international in all respects: content, article authorship, readership, and the editorial board.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE: The journal's scope is multidisciplinary. It publishes research, applied, and educational articles from all areas of MIS as well as functional IT applications that have international focus. The journal also entertains a variety of methodological approaches. It encourages manuscript submissions from authors all over the world, both from academia and industry. In addition, the journal will also include educational cases and reviews of MIS books that have bearing on global aspects. Practitioner input will be specifically solicited from time-to-time in the form of industry columns and CIO interviews.

Articles in the journal include, but are not limited to the following areas: Frameworks and models for global information systems (GIS), Development, evaluation and management of GIS, Electronic Commerce, Internet related issues, Societal impacts of IT in developing countries, IT and Economic development, IT Diffusion in developing countries, IT human resource issues, DSS/EIS/ES in international settings, Organizational and management structures for GIS, Transborder data flow issues, Electronic data interchange, Telecommunications, Distributed global databases and networks, Cultural and societal impacts, Comparative studies of nations, and Applications and case studies (both educational and research).

The 9th annual Global Information Technology Management Association (GITMA) World Conference will be held in Atlanta, USA on June 22, 23 & 24, 2008. The submission deadline is November 15, 2007. For more information, please visit our web site: <http://www.gitma.org>