

EDITORIAL PREFACE: GLOBAL IT THEORY AND FRAMEWORKS

Choton Basu & Anil Kumar

While the interest in the field of Global IT has continued to grow, the diversity of topics researched on the subject can be traced to various fields including, international business, traditional MIS, operations management and more social subjects, such as culture. As researchers in this area it is imperative that we assess our progress from time to time. The special issue editors discuss the need for theory and frameworks in Global IT. They invited researchers to present their viewpoints on the overall field and topics within it.

ARTICLES

TOWARD A DEEPER EXAMINATION OF GLOBAL IT THEORY AND FRAMEWORKS

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In this paper, we examine the field of global information technology (global IT) and attempt to answer the following four questions: (1) Have we established a theory or theories, which enable us to generate a clear set of definitions that define this field? (2) Do we have a level of consensus on what we are trying to measure while we conduct research in this area? (3) What are (if any) the common threads of research in the global IT area and is there continuity in the research being conducted? (4) What are the future implications for researchers in this area and are there any concepts that need to be integrated with existing frameworks that would help define this area of research?

**GLOBAL IT MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATIONAL ANALYSIS:
RESEARCH ISSUES**

AUTHORS: **Ana R. del Águila**, University of Málaga, Spain; **Sebastián Bruque**, University of Jaén, Spain; **Antonio Padilla**, University of Málaga, Spain

There are numerous studies in the management literature that analyze specific aspects of the implementation of information technology (IT) in organizations. Meanwhile, the global IT management area has emerged as a dynamic field of investigation of IT impact in a global environment. However, after reviewing the management /international business literature and the global IT literature, we detect the need to integrate the theoretical frameworks of both streams in order to advance in this field. As a result, we connect the areas of advance in IT general management with the main lines of research in global IT management. The synthesis of both fields allows us to suggest new areas of research that we discuss in the final section.

GLOBAL IT ARCHITECTURE: WHO CALLS THE TUNE?

AUTHOR: Sharm Manwani, Henley Management College, England

A Global Information Technology Architecture (GITA) is an important organisational enabler for the implementation of an international business strategy. Specifically, hardware and software standards will guide the development of the information technology (IT) infrastructure platform. Prior research shows that the selection of IT standards in a large multi-business company is influenced by the corporate management style. The desire to integrate operations and the need to be responsive to local conditions are factors that have been demonstrated to influence the organisational form of multinational enterprises (MNEs). In turn, researchers have shown that the organisational form of the IT function often reflects the MNE organisational form. Hence in exploring the GITA, it is necessary to understand the mechanisms by which IT is managed.

THE EXPERT OPINION

An Interview with **Forrest Moore**, CIO & V.P.Information Technology, R.F.Micro Devices Inc. RF Micro Devices, Inc. (Greensboro, NC) designs, develops, manufacture and market proprietary radio frequency integrated circuits (RFICs) primarily for wireless communications products and applications. Forrest Moore talks about global IT initiatives at R.F. Micro, and the various challenges and issues in managing information technology.

**BOOK REVIEW: THE QUEST FOR GLOBAL DOMINANCE:
TRANSFORMING GLOBAL PRESENCE INTO GLOBAL COMPETITIVE
ADVANTAGE**, by **Vijay Govindrajan & Anil Gupta**

Review written by **Choton Basu & Anil Kumar**. This book identifies worldwide market opportunities, considers global culture and geographic diversity, reinvents the rules of the global game, and provides recommendations to convert global presence into competitive advantage.