

EDITORIAL PREFACE

DIGITAL DIVIDE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. by **Ming-te Lu**, Global Associate Editor, Lingnan University, Hong Kong
The Associate Editor examines the Digital Divide between developed and developing countries in terms of disparities in opportunity to access the Internet and the information and educational/business opportunities tied to this access.

ARTICLES

GLOBAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER: A FRAMEWORK FOR ANALYSIS:

AUTHORS : Mary Helen Fagan, University of Texas at Tyler, USA.

ABSTRACT: Effective application of information technology (IT) is considered a requirement for organizations that wish to compete in the global marketplace of the future. However, a review of IT transfer research finds that few models incorporate the factors which research indicates are critical to global IT transfer success. This article develops a framework that categorizes global IT transfers based on their scope (intra-organizational vs. inter-organizational) and connectivity (standalone vs. networked). Then this global IT transfer framework is used to compare and contrast global IT applications, to classify global IT research literature, and to identify some factors that could be incorporated into existing IT theories and models to ensure that their conclusions are valid for global applications. Finally, specific suggestions are given for future research in global IT transfer.

INFORMATION SHARING IN GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN SYSTEMS

AUTHORS : Barry Shore, University of New Hampshire, USA

ABSTRACT : With increasing frequency the effective management and coordination of supply chains requires the sharing of a wide range of data. But the challenge, both technically and socially, to share information increases when customers and suppliers are spread throughout the geographic regions of the world. It is this challenge that is addressed here. First a conceptual framework is built. This framework classifies the

stages of information sharing within a supply chain and proposes seven variables that affect the flow of information between customers and their suppliers. These variables include industry, market and competitive environment, national culture, corporate IT culture, size, IT infrastructure, and country IT support. The results are generalized and summarized in a Supply Chain IT Linkage Capability Model. Case studies of four organizations are presented and analyzed to validate the role of these variables in data sharing strategies. The paper concludes with several implications for global information technology supply chain management systems.

IT PLANNING EFFECTIVENESS IN A DEVELOPING COUNTRY

AUTHORS: Adel M. Aladwani, Kuwait University, Kuwait

ABSTRACT: This paper sheds light on information technology planning in a developing country. Specifically, it examines the influence of some contextual factors on information technology planning effectiveness in Kuwait. Our analysis reveals some expected results and a few unexpected findings. Consistent with past information technology planning research, we found that management involvement, informed information technology management, and liberal government policies are related positively to information technology planning effectiveness. Inconsistent with previous research and with our postulation, we found no support for a positive relationship between information technology penetration, user involvement, and adequacy of financial resources and information technology planning effectiveness. A discussion of these results in light of the cultural differences between developed and developing countries and suggestions for practice and future research are advanced.

THE EXPERT OPINION

An Interview with **Abha Kumar**, Business Technology Director and VP Technology, Dow Jones & Company. Interview was conducted by Aditya Haharia, Fordham University, New York, USA. The interview discusses the strategies and problems in the application of Information Technology in the global operations of Dow Jones & Company.

THE BOOK REVIEW

Written by **Edward M. Roche**. He reviews "Place to Space: Migrating to eBusiness Models", by Peter Weill and Michael R. Vitale. The book provides several atomic eBusiness models and creates more comprehensive eBusiness models, and provides strategies for companies in this new environment.

