
ABSTRACTS**1. STATE VERSUS PRIVATE OWNERSHIP: A SHAREHOLDER'S WEALTH PERSPECTIVE**

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ABSTRACT

This paper provides empirical evidence on whether or not government ownership is detrimental to shareholders' wealth. I find that government ownership reduction is associated with higher cumulative abnormal returns than government ownership accumulation; and that the difference is more relevant for firms in common law countries, with domestic acquirers, and in more regulated industries. I also find weak evidence that investors perceive government, its departments and ministries worse than state-owned enterprises. The analysis of firm performance shows significant improvement in return on assets, and efficiency, and significant increase in leverage for firms where government releases part or all of its holdings.

Keywords: Government ownership, Privatization, Mergers and Acquisitions

2. COMPARING THE MARKET RESPONSES TO DIVIDENDS AND REPURCHASES: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines the market responses to four cash payout methods: regular dividend increases, special dividends, tender-offer repurchases and open market repurchases. We also investigate the reasons why firms choose one payout form over another. We use relative, and discounted relative, residuals as the unifying concepts whereby the market reaction is related to payout magnitude and likely recurrence as need be. With these measures, the responses to one-shot payouts and enduring dividends can be directly compared and integrated for testing purposes. Our results show that various forms of payouts can be equally effective provided the form is properly chosen, repurchases being more efficient for erasing larger stock undervaluation whereas dividends will best be chosen for mitigating agency problem.

Keywords: Relative Residuals; Signaling; Agency Theory; Regular Dividends; Special Dividends; Tender Offer Repurchases; Open Market Repurchases

3. ANALYZING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF RED FLAGS TO DETECT FRAUDULENT REPORTING

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ABSTRACT

This study examines how effective red flags are in detecting fraudulent reporting during audits of financial statements. A survey approach was used to determine the level of effectiveness of 42 individual red flags in determining fraudulent financial reporting. Questionnaires were sent to 2,000 auditors to determine the effectiveness of red flags in detecting fraud. A total of 228 usable surveys were received and used in the analysis. Respondents were asked a variety of questions dealing with red flags as they relate to detecting fraudulent reporting activities. The findings show that the effectiveness of fraud detection is influenced by

many factors including income, level of education, type of firm, years of experience and certifications. There are differences among what auditors feel influences their use of red flags. This study provides benchmarks upon which accounting firms can use to assist them in the detection of fraudulent financial reporting.

Keywords: Red Flags, Fraudulent Financial Reporting, Auditing and Financial Statements

4. THE EFFECT OF PHYSICAL STRUCTURE ON WORKING AND PERSONAL BEHAVIOR: AN INVESTIGATIVE CASE STUDY AT AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

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ABSTRACT

Changing business practices and global market demands are placing intense pressure for more intelligent buildings. Since employees are influenced by their physical and work place environment, the purpose of this research is to examine the effect and influence of a new 'intelligent' school building at a higher educational institution on working, and personal behavior. A 3 part questionnaire assessed the physical condition, working behavior, and personal behavior on end users. Results indicated that the perception of the end users towards the physical structure affected both working and personal behavior.

Keywords: Physical structure, intelligent building, working behavior, personal behavior

5. OUTSOURCING MULTICRITERIA DECISION MODEL BASED ON PROMETHEE METHOD

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ABSTRACT

The outsourcing is an important trend, studied by several authors nowadays. This article provides a decision model, exploring multicriteria methods in order to support outsourcing choices. An outsourcing decision problem is modeled and then solved with the use of PROMETHEE (preference ranking organization method for enrichment evaluations) method. A numerical application is also presented, and the PROMETHEE method is applied with the support of software.

Keywords: Management Science, Outsourcing, Multicriteria Methods, Operations Strategy, Service Operations Management

6. FDI, EXPORT AND INNOVATION PERFORMANCE OF CHINA'S HIGH-TECH PRODUCT INDUSTRY

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ABSTRACT

Since economic reform in 1979, China has sought to overcome its technology gap by absorbing foreign advanced technology via FDI. This paper investigates the impact of FDI via the channel of export on innovation performance of China's high-tech product industry for the period 1995 to 2006. By using generalized least squares, we confirm the hypothesis that FDI via export have a positive spillover effect on innovation performance of domestic firms. The importation of technology and local R&D activities of

foreign enterprises are found to be an important determinant of innovation performance of high-tech product industry in China as well. This provides evidence suggesting that China's domestic firms benefit from spillovers associated with FDI.

Keywords: FDI, Export, Innovation Performance

7. ETHICS AND NONPROFIT GOVERNANCE

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ABSTRACT

This paper discusses introduction of a case-based ethics component to a graduate-level Nonprofit Management course. The ethics component was developed to a) expose students to a variety of ethical theories; and b) to apply such theories to two landmark cases in the history of nonprofit organization management in the United States: The United Way America scandal of the early 1990's, and the American Red Cross and its handling of both money donations and blood storage/distribution post-September 11.

Keywords: Ethics and ethical theories, Nonprofit Management, United Way America, American Red Cross

8. COMPETITIVE DETERMINANTS OF CONSUMER SATISFACTION IN E-COMMERCE

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ABSTRACT

Along with the rapid development of internet technology, e-commerce is on the way of booming. A better understanding of e-consumers' behavior could help web dealers to enhance their on-line business. Our research studied Mainland and Hong Kong people's e-shopping data, explored the relationships between customer's satisfaction and the products or services that web retailers provided. Six variations were examined, including Web Experience, Post-Purchase Service, Brand Effect, Satisfaction, Confidence and Returned Purchase. Among them, Web Experience, Post-Purchase Service and Brand Effect were found more significant in stimulating repeating consumer behaviors. Brand Effect is the most important factor in increasing customer satisfaction. Additionally, Post Purchase Service is considered comparatively more crucial in establishing customer confidence. After theoretical analysis, managerial implications as well as suggestion were addressed on how could web dealers put efforts to improve their on-line business performance, particularly in Chinese cultural context.

Keywords: Compétitive Déterminants, E-Commerce, Consumer Satisfaction, Chinese Culture Context, Managerial Implications

9. THE CROSS-SECTIONAL BEHAVIOR OF TRADING VOLUME

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ABSTRACT

We examine the cross-sectional behavior of trading volume for an extended period from 1963 to 2004 on all stocks listed on NYSE/AMEX/NASDAQ markets. The cross-sectional analysis shows that trading volume is not linearly related to market capitalization and stock beta. Specially, an inverted U-shape relation represents the relation between stock turnover and market capitalization.

Keywords: *Trading Volume, Firm Size, Risk*

10. STOCK RETURN AND VOLATILITY IN THE EMERGING STOCK MARKET OF BANGLADESH

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ABSTRACT

Stock market volatility is an important issue of interest in capital market research. The purpose of this study is to investigate the time-varying risk return relationship within GARCH framework and the persistence of shocks to volatility in the emerging stock market of Bangladesh. The unique feature of this research is that it has been conducted on the daily data of Dhaka Stock Exchange over the period of 1986-2007. The non-normality of the return series is revealed by the positive skewness and excess kurtosis. The equity returns in Dhaka Stock Exchange show a positive and significant serial autocorrelation that signals market inefficiency. Using GARCH type models, it is found a significant relationship between conditional volatility and stock returns and the stock returns have increasing volatility persistence shock over time in the stock market of Bangladesh.

Keywords: *Stock Returns, Volatility, GARCH, Emerging Market*

11. CORPORATE BOARDS: THE NEW CORPORATE LEADERS

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ABSTRACT

The historic view that corporate leaders serving on company boards are merely the legal stewards of shareholders is no longer the best explanation for the role of directors. This stakeholder theory is too simplistic to explain the many differing and sometimes competing interests of inside and outside directors of corporations. Based on large-scale research, we conclude that company directors' roles have become more complex and require a sophisticated skill level to perform well. We find in longitudinal research from 2006-2008 that investors are looking for boards with a diverse set of talents and we speculate that leadership talent is a key ingredient for board success. Stakeholder theory of audit and oversight appears to have been replaced by the "Commitment Theory" where directors affiliate with firms for some intangible greater good of "wishing to contribute". This might indicate a closer and more deeply rooted connection with the outcomes and ideals of firms, and we explore the foundations for this commitment. We also identify a set of leadership skills which are likely to be required from company board directors, in order to

convert their enthusiastic commitment into practical relevance. We conclude that committed board directors are essential to establishing good leadership in companies.

Keywords: *corporate leaders, investors*

12. VALUE-ADDED PROGRAM ASSESSMENT USING NATIONALLY STANDARDIZED TESTS: INSIGHTS INTO INTERNAL VALIDITY ISSUES

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ABSTRACT

The objectives of the present research are (1) to investigate specific internal validity issues involved in implementing value-added assessment at the program level using nationally standardized tests as pretest and posttest measurements for students seeking a baccalaureate business degree, and (2) to present some value-added results we have estimated in our business program. We discuss challenges associated when using American College Testing (ACT) program composite scores as a measure of overall knowledge and skills upon entry and the Major Field Test (MFT) total score as a measure of discipline-specific knowledge and skills upon exiting a baccalaureate business program. Options for estimating the effects of, as well as reducing the impact of, some of these issues are discussed. Also discussed are significant predictors of MFT for business students at a regional comprehensive university between 1999 and 2004.

Keywords: *value-added approach, internal validity, higher education, assessment*
