

Factors Affecting Knowledge Sharing in Thai SMEs

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Abstract

SMEs are business entities which currently drive the Thai economy. However, SMEs are facing problems of financing, technical know-how, efficient management, and the lack of other resources. Knowledge sharing by individuals in those companies could enhance the organization competitiveness, increase efficiency, and reduce the strain on financial and human resource. The question is- are those individuals sharing their knowledge and what are the factors which could influence their knowledge sharing activities? In this study, hypotheses were developed and surveys and interviews were conducted to study the influence that "soft" factors (age, gender, position, education, length of service, and expected length of service) have on the knowledge sharing behavior of individuals in SMEs. Empirical results are discussed and finally, conclusion and recommendations are given.

Key words: SMEs, Knowledge Management, Tacit Knowledge, Explicit Knowledge, Knowledge Sharing, Barriers to Knowledge Sharing, Thailand