E-Waste Management Practices in Developing Countries: A SWOT Analysis

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ABSTRACT

The amount of e-waste is growing day by day in India as well as in many developing countries. Informal practices followed by collectors, dismantlers and recyclers of e-waste are also growing, which are very harmful for environment and human health. The aim of this paper is to investigate the e-Waste situation in various developing countries. This study presents an analysis of the implementation of the e-waste management, presenting Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat (SWOT) as well as challenges and opportunities encountered in each phase. Thus the paper aims to develop sustainable e-waste management system in developing countries.

Keywords: Dismantling, Refurbishing, e-Waste Management, SWOT, Developing Countries.

AL FOAA'H Dates Factory: Looking Forward-(Case study)

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ABSTRACT

This case study based on a primary data/information outlines the strategic marketing, and organizational issues facing the marketing of Dates of Al Foaa'h Dates Factory (AFDF) in Al-Ain city / the United Arab Emirates (UAE), as it is considering the development of products in the information domain, which encompasses many opportunities of disruptive innovations to market to new or underserved customers and to suggest effective marketing strategies that management can use in communicating the environmentally friendliness of the Dates products. A survey of 19 Heads of Departments involved in decision making process (19 Departments) was made to gather the information of the study.
AFDF management needs to think what new products they want to move into such as flavoring Yogurt with Dates syrup), the technology they need which is relevant to Dates industry to enhance their reputation in the marketplace.

Keywords: Marketing of Dates, Marketing Strategies, Uncertainty, Segmentation, UAE.

Organisationl Change Management
(It's relevance to B School Students & Research Scholars)

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ABSTRACT

The subject of 'Organizational Change Management' has been occupying a focused area for business managers as well as Management Gurus since the beginning of 'Industrial Revolution.' Research work done by experts such as Peter Drucker, Maslow, Vroom have lived their effective time-zones moving over to cross National (Beyond Global Considerations) management of changes in view of extremely diversified aspects of economical, political, technological and most importantly cross cultural aspects. Majority of the situations today including the Global Warming Vs Sustainability issues are obviously created by human factors.

In conventional aspects the organization change management was referred to as "A process of bringing about relatively enduring transitions / transformations / alterations in a given state of an organization in totality or in parts with an objective to achieving greater viability in the context of emerging business environmental developments" (Ref.SBM by Johnson & Striekland. Mcgraw hill)

The paper attempts to analyze each of the implicit and explicit meaning and their relevance to the present day volatile environmental situations across the globe threatening to change the very fundamental definitions of growth and sustainability in Business Management. It is also necessary that the students of MBA studies (who unfortunately are not conversant with the changing business environment as up-to-date on account of their adherence to the syllabi and examination oriented approach of our present day education systems.)

The paper also attempts to emphasize on the real and correct understanding of various definitions of strategic change management in B-School level studies. Today's complexity of business environments is whipped around by constant attacks from socio-political and socio-economical (Including technology) and ever growing consumerism across all perceptions of understanding

the dimensions of market forces. It is therefore inevitable that we as educators and reformers of the younger breed of managers firstly understand for ourselves their complexity and endeavor to bring in 'clarity' and 'reality' in our professing 'change management' aspects to the students of management studies.

The authors have adequate exposure both in the academic and business environments and through this paper attempting to bringing in appropriate understanding of 'Management of Change' in all aspects of Business Management across the globe as of today, in the curriculum for MBA studies.

Even though presenting all aspects of change management is very difficult in a short write up such as this paper, attempt is being made to touch upon relevant and important aspects of 'Management of Change.'

Keywords: Change Management, Strategic Management.

Agile Failure Assessment in Project Management

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ABSTRACT

Agile focuses on early and fast workable code using iterative and incremental development of software. The well appreciated Agile method no doubt has areas of concern regarding its suitability for different environments, experiences and situations. This paper attempts to briefly outline the journey of Agile followed by graphical analysis of causes of failures while using Agile. This paper also examines scenarios of failures due to lack of understanding in core assumptions of agile implementations.

Keywords: Agile manifesto, Agile Development, Waterfall Model, Failure, Barriers.

An Empirical Study on an Investment Pattern of Individual Investors in Pune City

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ABSTRACT

The diversification of the financial services sector has provided the individual investor with a wide range of opportunities to invest. Savings are the mantras that any investment advisor will recite. Savings are the difference between the amount investor earns and the amount investor spends. One reason could be that there are certain materials goals that they want to save for. Indian investor's behavior has been changing drastically in the post-economic reforms era in investment activity, preferences in selecting various financial instruments, evaluating and in analyzing the investment avenues. The objective of the study was to understand investment pattern among the investors of Pune (India). The data was collected through structured questionnaire distributed to 770 peoples from different Socio Economic Classes in Pune. It was found from the analysis there is significant difference into safer investment and riskier investment avenues. Analysis has been done through One Way ANOVA. It was propounded here that the most preferred investment options are Insurance and bank deposits and most of the factors influencing investment decisions were high returns, tax benefit and safety.

Keywords: Investment Pattern, Investment Objectives, Guiding Factors, Sources of Information.

Literature Review: Proprietary Software Versus Open source Software and Role of Open Source Software in Education System

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ABSTRACT

Online Learning is becoming an important tool to allow the flexibility and quality requested by learning process. The Internet has brought learning "online" and offers many advantages. Online learning is convenient way of teaching as well as learning, as it is available at any time of the day, and can be accessed nearly anywhere in the world. Availability and convenience of education gets increased tremendously because of online learning. Online content like digital audio, digital video, animated images and sharable content object reference model can be created with the help of variety of authoring tools and software's.

Now days, there is great movement in higher education leading from proprietary software to open source, for online learning. Open source software (OSS) development can provide the necessary flexibility to combine languages, scripts, learning objects and lesson plans effectively without the cost and rigidity of proprietary software. In recent years, numerous open access LMS software's have emerged as feasible alternatives to costly proprietary and commercial products. Open source Learning Management System (OSLMS) are gaining lot of popularity.
This study presents an overview of software models, proprietary software versus open source software (OSS), role of OSS in education sector.

Keywords: Freeware, shareware, proprietary software, public domain software, free software, open source software (OSS).