

A Study of the Relationships among Supply Chain Integration Drivers, Barriers, Integration Degrees and Performance

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ABSTRACT

Due to globalization, today's marketplace is more fiercely competitive than ever before. The day is coming when companies will no longer compete against other companies, supply chains will compete against other supply chains for market supremacy. The purpose of this study, therefore, is to investigate the relationships among supply chain integration drives, supply chain integration barriers, degree of integration, and performance. Drawing from the supply chain literature, we proposed a conceptual framework and related hypotheses. Data was collected from the top 2000 manufacturing companies in Taiwan, and a total of 146 usable samples were collected. Analysis of the data was conducted using SPSS Statistics Version 12 and AMOS18. The results of the study indicated that there is a positive relationship between supply chain integration drives and degree of integration. Furthermore, supply chain integration barriers will have a negative impact on degree of integration. On the other hand, no positive relationships were found between supply chain integration drives and performance, and no negative relationships were found between supply chain integration barriers and performance. We also failed to find a positive relationship between degree of integration and performance. Overall, manufacturing companies were doing a better job in internal integration than that of their suppliers and customers. Companies also performed better in quality and keep-schedule-on-time dimensions than in cost and flexibility dimensions. A discussion of the study findings, limitations and implications along with recommendations for future research were presented in the final section of this study.

Keywords : supply chain integration drives、supply chain integration barriers、degree of integration、performance

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