# A Study of Hypermarket on Ownership and Entry Mode of Taiwanese Enterprises in China

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Mainland China is the most promising and vigorous market of the world in the 21st century. When the worldwide spotlight aims at this super economic area, the global investors find the new chance and flood into it. With Mainland China's economic reforms, the rapid growth in industrial and commercial development, and the improvement of living standard, both the personal income and expenses are increasing. The hypermarkets in Taiwan stepped into the maturity stage in the year of 2000. The maturity stage featured with the saturated market, the slow growth of opening hypermarkets, the deterioration of profits in each store, the scarcity of competitive advantages for the smaller chain stores, the drastic rivalries and so on. To maintain profits, more and more Taiwanese enterprises suffer from the great stress. Under the present policy of the domestic retail market in Mainland China, only the joint ventures with foreign investors can be allowed. Under such circumstances, the choice of entry mode plays an important role in the early investment for Taiwanese hypermarkets in China. Thus, it becomes our first motivation of the research. In 1992, Deng Xiao-Ping made an important statement in his southern trip. He claimed the open policy for the foreign investors to take part in the domestic market in exchange of technology. Thus, our second motivation goes to what developments there are for Taiwanese hypermarkets in Mainland China. So far, the economic development of China appears the jumping growth. The retail business didn 't follow the orderly development of supermarkets, convenience stores, hypermarkets and shopping malls. Instead, all above business run simultaneously. How to make a correct choice of the entry mode is our third motivation. The interview and case study are adopted in the research to disclose the facts and what the firms most concern. Through the literatures discussion, the conceptual framework is made. After the case study, the conclusions are proposed. Our framework consists of the enterprises ' resources, the factors in the industry and home country. According to it, we further presume the problems that those Taiwanese enterprises might encounter. We hope the previous cases and experiences could be a reference or a lesson for the investors overseas. The major conclusions in business strategy can be listed as follows: 1. If Taiwanese enterprises adopt the sole venture or the plurality shareholder in China, the location choice will be a top priority. The consideration includes the policy of early open market, the economic district with relaxed policy, and the cities along the coast with the smaller obstacles to plurality shareholder than the inland cities. 2. As to the transfer of the core competence, the more favorable resources can be provided, the more advantages can be obtained. Above all, the operation technology and finance are highly advantageous. 3. According to the existing regulations, the hypermarkets belong to the third industry and must follow the business mode of joint venture. The Chinese partners can be divided into the nation-owned, country-owned (town-owned), or private-owned enterprises. All of them bring to the distinct results. Furthermore, both parties might not cooperate successfully subject to the complementary resources. Therefore, to choose a suitable partner is a key factor as well. 4. There are lots of troubles in sales due to joint venture. Also, with the fewer shares, Taiwanese enterprises sense the more annoying troubles. For the moment, most Taiwanese enterprises complains about the poor administrative efficiency, incomplete laws, scarcity of the local elites, and inefficiency of obtainable information. All of above factors could be preventive in advance for Taiwanese enterprise in Mainland China.

Keywords: Taiwanese Enterprises; China; Hypermarket; Ownership; Entry Mode

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