

# Using Data Envelopment Analysis to Evaluate the Influence of Innovation Capital Investments on Operating Performance: Taiwan Case Study

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## ABSTRACT

This study investigated the operation efficiency of Taiwan IC design industry from 2002 to 2004. This study selected innovation capitals investments such as R&D expense, R&D designers and the number of patents and trademarks, to be the inputs items. The outputs items included gross profit, market capitalization, market share and labor productivity. The data envelopment analysis (DEA) is utilized to measure the effectiveness of IC design companies and provide specific suggestions to inefficient distribution centers via slack variable analysis. Then through Tobit regression method, other major factors that will affect the operation performance of IC design companies can be discovered. With this efficiency evaluation result, it can provide an important reference and basis to manager to improve deficiency and to serve as a future operation direction. The result of the actual proof shows that: (1) the average overall efficiency is 59.1%, indicating that there are about 40% inefficiencies. Moreover, the evidence shows that most of the inefficiencies come from pure technical inefficiency.(2) through DEA it can be known that the major reason of causing inefficiency in operation comes from inefficiency in pure technical and most of the decision units (DMU) are in a scale return gradual increase stage. This demonstrates that the operation scales of various IC design companies are too small and increase of scale is required.(3) IC design companies with constant returns to scale have higher efficiencies than those with either increasing returns to scale or decreasing returns to scale.

Keywords : Innovation Capitals, Operating Efficiency, Data Envelopment Analysis, Tobit Model

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