

# An Empirical Study of Instant Messaging Users on the In-fluence of online Customer Relationship on Loyalty

賴麗慧、廖彩伶

E-mail: 9800859@mail.dyu.edu.tw

## ABSTRACT

In recent years as a result of the internet fast development, instant messaging is the hot topic in internet activities in Taiwan, and almost engages 90 percent of electronic commercial market. Understanding how a firm is receptive to relationships with instant messaging users is a key issue in a competitive electronic commercial market.

This study adopts the relationship marketing theory to the electronic commercial market, and investigates the relationship maintenance of instant messaging users, and gains the customer loyalty through the moderating effects of trust. The purpose of this study is to investigate the relationship among the maintenance of instant messaging users, trust and loyalty on instant messaging website.

After an empirical survey of 469 effective samples, the results are as follows: First, the relationship maintenance consists of eight dimensions, web site expertise, privacy emphasizing, customer relationship specific investment, customer expertise, social bonding, interaction frequency, termination costs, and interaction satisfaction. Second, three dimensions of relationship maintenance, including website, customer, and interaction significantly influenced trust. Third, trust influenced significantly loyalty. Finally, trust had positive impact of loyalty.

The results enable a firm to understand the factors of relationship maintenance and can guide those wishing to champion website marketing in their organization.

Keywords : relationship marketing、relationship maintenance、trust、loyalty

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