A Research in Application and Roles of Information Technology Use in the Supply Chain Management for Small and Medium Sized Business in Malaysia

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ABSTRACT

Today, a new economy is characterized lesser by tangible goods whose value can be pegged to a cost of materials, but more by intangible goods whose value is a function of a particular combination of information services, timely delivery, popularity within a vertical segment, brand name, and other factors that have no basis in cost of materials. The payoff for successful ventures promises to be huge, but the complexities of the environment create pitfalls to success.

The description of analysis area for the Research Question: The project is analysis the small and medium business with the IT resources. The IT resources in the defined as information technology system that software can help the corporation manage the business process.

The sharp focus of the Research Question: From the research the data, and analysis the question, finally will produce the IT resource planning for the small business. How the suitable IT resources planning will come out, and what kind of the data (primary data or secondary data) the author need to research and collected?
The interesting of the Research Question and why choose this Research Question: For the middle and large size of the cooperation, someone already do this research question, and usually middle and large business have the integrated IT resources system. The IT resources can help to create competitive advantage for the small business, and from this question research author will provide IT resources planning for the small and increase the knowledge from the question research.

The central Problem for the Question Research areas: First the small businesses have much type of the corporations, typical examples include: convenience stores, bakery, hairdressers, tradesmen, restaurants, guest houses, photographers, lawyers etc. Even same type of business also have different business mode. Second the IT resources also have much type of system or software, typical examples include: backup, email, firewall, information technology, IT security, Microsoft, networking, Smartphone, Anti-virus, Windows operating system etc. According the different business need, different small business will choose the different IT resources. Some small business also not use any of the IT resources, because the cost of the install, operate and maintenance of the IT resources.