

**A STUDY OF ACCOUNTING INFORMATION SYSTEM
ADOPTION IN THE SMALL AND MEDIUM COMPANIES
IN LIBYA: A TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTANCE MODEL
APPROACH**

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ABSTRACT

The small and medium sized companies in Libya are fast growing industry in Libya and there is a lot of potential and opportunities in this area from investment perspective. Due to uncertainty and geographic location in the region the SME's in Libya are providing very limited performance and mostly the Libyan economy is depending on Oil production. SME's are largest proportion of economics pillar in a country and it need to contribute through their small business efforts. In many countries, SME's has important role in creating employment and supporting economic growth. On the other hand these companies are lacking behind in term of adopting accounting information system among the SME's. The study is based on perceive ease of use, perceive usefulness and intention to use influencing dependent variable as AIS adoption among the SME's. Secondly the SME's are not satisfied, with the technology or the tool which is use to monitor accounting methods, as SME's adoption of AIS is one of the important factor that can influence companies performance and fulfill the audit requirements. Due to all the above reason these SME's are needed to find the ways to strategies there accounting base activities through AIS, as there is very limited research has been prevailed by Libyan SME's to improve their financial operational through AIS. The Libyan companies need strategic leaders who can create organization culture to influence to implement AIS practices and in the end of the day these SME's can have better performance. This study is unique as there are very few studies on Libyan SME's to measure adoption of AIS and this research have been never conducted on Libyan SME's before. This study will add value by providing a significant contribution towards adoption of AIS practices among the Libya SME's.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Fundamentally, identifying why and how firms adopt technological innovations and more specifically information technology is fundamental for ensuring a successful adoption process (Swanson and Wang, 2005). For the many years, a research stream has identified variables that can explain why firms adopt information technology with different intensities and speeds (e.g., Premkumar et al., 1997; Mehtens et al., 2001; Teo and Pian, 2003). However, there has been little research on the factors inducing small and medium-sized firms (SMEs) to introduce information technology (Premkumar, 2003; Riemenschneider et al., 2003; Morgan et al., 2006).

The SMEs sector is the engine of the economies of many countries. For instance, in the United States, small businesses create two-thirds of the new jobs, produce 39% of the gross national product (GNP), and generate more than half of the technological innovation (Kuan and Chau, 2001). In Europe, 99.8% of the firms are SMEs, responsible for two-thirds of the turnover and business employment (Carayannis et al., 2006). In Southern Europe, the importance of SMEs in the total employment is even higher. For instance, SMEs generate 70% of the employment in Spain (European Commission, 2005).

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