

**THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN IT RELATED TRAININGS
AND IT INVESTMENTS IN MALAYSIA**

By

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to examine whether there are association between IT related trainings and IT investment in the Malaysian technology based companies. This study uses two types of IT related trainings namely intermediate IT trainings, advanced IT trainings which have never been tested with IT investments in previous studies. The data were collected via annual reports in 2010 from 104 technology based companies listed in Bursa Malaysia. Univariate and multivariate such as independent sample test and linear regression were utilized to analyze the data. Results from univariate test show that IT based companies are actively involved in IT investments compared to engineering based companies. Result for intermediate IT trainings from linear regression shows, non significant but result for advanced IT trainings is significant but with a weak association. Thus, result for second hypothesis it is partially supported, but weak association with IT investments. From the same regression, result for third hypothesis also can be concluded that advanced IT trainings are significant but weak association with IT investments.

Keywords: ICT, IT, Information Technology, Investment, Training

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PERMISSION TO USE	ii
DISCLAIMER	iii
ABSTRACT	iv
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
LIST OF TABLES	viii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	ix

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1	Background of the Study	1
1.2	Problem Statement	4
1.3	Research Question	6
1.4	Research Objective	6
1.5	Significance of the Study	7
1.6	Limitation of the Study	8
1.7	Organization of the Chapter	9

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1	Concept of Information Technology	10
2.2	Definiton of Training	11
2.3	Definition of IT Trainings	12
2.4	The Association Between IT Related Trainings and IT Investments	14

2.5	The Importance of IT Related Trainings to Employees	16
2.6	The Implications of IT Related Trainings on IT Investment	19
2.7	Hypotheses Development	21
2.8	Research Framework	29

CHAPTER 3: METHOD

3.1	Data Collection	30
3.2	Population and Sample	31
3.3	Selection of Measures	34
3.4	Data Analysis	37

CHAPTER 4: RESULTS AND FINDINGS

4.1	Descriptive Statistics	39
4.2	Independent Sample Test	42
4.3	Correlation	43
4.4	Linear Regression	45
4.5	Summary of Findings	48

CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION

5.1	Overview of the Research	49
5.2	Implications, Recommendation and Concluding Remarks	51
	References	52
	Appendices	68

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE	TITLE	PAGE
Table 3.1	Classification of Listed Companies of Malaysian Public Listed Companies in 2010	33
Table 3.2	Classifications of Malaysian Technology Companies	34
Table 3.3	Types of IT Trainings	36
Table 3.4	Types of Variables	37
Table 4.1	Descriptive Statistics of Dependent and Independent Variables	40
Table 4.2	T-Test of Two Sample Assuming Unequal Variances	43
Table 4.3	Correlation Between the Variables in the Year 2010	44
Table 4.4	Summary Output of Linear Regression for the Year 2010	47
Table 4.5	Summary of Findings	48

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

NCIA (IT)	Net Cash Investing Activity in IT
TA	Total Assets
ROA	Return on Assets
SUB (IT)	IT Subsidiaries
IIT	Intermediate IT Training
AIT	Advanced IT Training
IIT RATIO	Intermediate IT Training Ratio
AIT RATIO	Advanced IT Training Ratio

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The purpose of this study is to examine the association between IT related trainings and IT investments. IT is very important to many business organizations, as in organizations. Survival and ability to achieve the goals of business strategy is difficult if the execution is not supported by an extensive use of information technology in today's environment. Due to that situation, many organizations decided to make investments in IT since it may contribute a lot of benefits to the company in the long run. This statement is supported by several literatures by saying that there are some reasons why organizations in particular invested in IT (Strassman, 1990; Brynjolfsson, 1993, 1994; Ashrafi and Murtaza, 2008). Apart of a need to create wealth for organization, improve output levels in production and service delivery, IT investments also opens up opportunities to them to produce quality products and services and to control communication activities in order to achieve their customer satisfaction. Business organizations invest in information technology because they are necessities of doing business and these necessities are driven by industry level changes (i.e. rapid changes information and stiff competition). Besides that,

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