A Comparative Institutional Analysis of Taiwan's Organizational Strategy for IT

Doctoral Dissertation 2004

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List of Tables Used in this Dissertation (Total = 105 Tables)

5 New Contributions of this Doctoral Dissertation

1. 72 New Interviews in Japan, Taiwan and China: Interviews with corporate insiders, industry or university experts and government officials were conducted and used as direct references throughout this study. This allowed the author the chance to add completely new material and insights in order to verify facts and get a direct interview survey of the IT industry in Taiwan and Japan.

2. 16 New Case Studies that Utilize First Hand Original Data: 16 completely new case studies using original sources from Chinese, Japanese and English publications. Japanese Company studies are not included because they are readily available in many languages but references to many Japanese studies are referenced and quoted often. Because OEM case studies are very hard to find for Taiwan Companies, This study puts together a new set of 16 studies including Studies 1-13 plus Studies A, B, and Section 1.5.

3. Wide Use of Chinese, Japanese and English Sources: After reading through hundreds of books and articles on this topic over the last 5 years, I have found few in English that take full use of Chinese and Japanese sources so I focused on including a full range of sources as a new contribution.

4. New Type of Analysis: This research contributes to the analytical richness of institutional approaches. As discussed earlier, the existing paradigms in explaining development and organizational strategies, the statist approach in particular, have been criticized due to their ambiguous explanation about the causal linkage between structure and outcomes such as economic performance. By analyzing the effects of structure upon institutional settings, and again by explaining how changed institutional settings affect the actions and reactions of the key actors in the state and society, this study sheds light on the causal relations between structure, individual behavior, and political economic outcomes.

5. New Theoretical Contributions: This study makes a few important contributions to the study of development. First of all, the existing literature deals with the state in East Asia either as a dominant actor (a leader) in economic management or a supporter (a follower) of the market factors. The uniform application of either the statist or the market-oriented approaches, that is, the dichotomization of the role of the state in development, is no longer appropriate in explaining development. The institutional settings in which the state and societal actors interact have been well established as developments proceed, and thereby they affect the behavior of core actors in the policy-making process rather differently. Thus those who intend to study development have to look at the complex interplay between the state and society under the changing institutional environment. The recent democratization that Taiwan and Japan have undergone is particularly important in this regard because it will change the ways that interests are represented in the two societies though the process may be gradual.