Title: A Critical Review of " Suppliers' Contributions to Product Development: An Exploratory Study" -2

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Abstract: A paper titled "Suppliers' Contributions to Product Development: An Exploratory Study" is critically reviewed in this individual report.

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EMP-P9765

Hypothesis 4- Increasing the supplier's perceived contributions to product development increases project overall technical success.

Most of the respondents to the survey were design engineers, engineering or product development managers of buyer firms in various assembly industries.

Categorical measures were used for the selected independent variables and a continuous measure was used for the control variable (degree of component change), but the results showed a categorical distribution. Continuous measures were used for "supplier's perceived contributions to product development" and "overall project technical success".

For low and high component change groups, ANOVA was used to test Hypotheses 1-3, and linear regression was used to test relation between the "supplier's perceived contributions to product development" and "overall project technical success" .

Only the first hypothesis, "early involvement of supplier..", was supported by for both low and high degree of component change groups by the analysis, and the last hypothesis, "increasing supplier involvement increase project success", was supported only for the low degree of component change group.

Based on the analysis results, it was concluded that early involvement of supplier would increase their contributions to the product development for two main reasons: The supplier's ideas would be well integrated into the development project and supplier would be more committed to development since they would "feel like a part of the team". Another conclusion is that shifting component design to supplier would not increase the supplier's contribution. The reason that no relationship was found between communication frequency and the supplier contribution was explained with the lack of a measure for the content of the communication.

EMGT 520- Management of Engineering and Technology

Individual Paper

Evaluation of the Research Paper:

"Suppliers' Contribution to Product Development: An Exploratory Study"[1]

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