

Watanabe

Managing Innovation in Japan

The Role Institutions Play in Helping or Hindering how Companies Develop Technology

This book summarizes highlights of the investigation of “An Elucidation of the Role of Institutional Systems in Characterizing Technology Development Trajectories – A Global Comparative Analysis of Manufacturing Technology and Information Technology in the Enhancement of Business Practice” supported by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (S) by Japan’s Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology/Japan Society for Science Policy over the period 2002–2006. Background and objectives of the investigation are summarized as follows: (a) Japan ranks far below the level of the USA with respect to the development and utilization of information technology (IT) in the information society that emerged in the 1990s. (b) This can be attributed to a vicious cycle between Japan’s non-elastic institutions, insufficient utilization of the potential benefits of IT, and economic stagnation. (c) The source of such a vicious cycle can be derived from the fundamental differences of the characterizing process of technology between manufacturing technology (MT) and IT during their diffusion processes. This investigation attempted to elucidate this mechanism. Noteworthy findings obtained include: (a) MT has been developed largely by the supply side and its functionality is established during the stage of its supply to the market. In contrast, IT is strongly driven by the demand side and its functionality is created through diffusion in a self-propagating way. This contrast can be clearly observed in the dramatic advancement of Japan’s mobile phone industry in the late 1990s.

Why do some country’s hi-tech firms innovate better than others? Why did hi-tech firms from the United States outperform such Japanese companies in the 1990s? Through a wealth of empirical evidence, the book compares the development trajectory of manufacturing technology and information technology both between Japanese companies and between companies based in the US, Europe, Australia, India and China. This book shows that institutional systems such as culture, tradition, consumers and local business practices play key roles in how companies develop technology. These factors also influence the very characteristics of the products that the hi-tech firms produce. With a number of case studies the author demonstrates how the most successful and innovative companies recognize these roles and incorporate them into their practices.



106,99 €

99,99 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9783540892717

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-3-540-89271-7

Verlag: Springer Berlin Heidelberg

Erscheinungstermin: 12.03.2009

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: 2009

Produktform: Gebunden

Gewicht: 1210 g

Seiten: 247

Format (B x H): 160 x 241 mm

