ASSESSMENT OF CONTROLS OF INFORMATION SYSTEM FUNCTION IN AUDITING PERSPECTIVE IN ORGANIZATIONS OF SRI LANKA

By

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DECLARATION

I do hereby declare that the work reported in this project report was exclusively carried out by me under the supervision of Mr. Raj Prasanna, Department of Management of Technology University of Moratuwa. It describes the results of my own independent research except where due reference has been made in the text. No part of this project report has been submitted earlier or concurrently for the same or any other degree.

Date: 11/01/2007

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The research topic "Assessment of controls of information system function in auditing perspective in organizations of Sri Lanka" has three key terms which give specific meaning to the topic; Information system function; Assessment of the controls; Auditing perspective. In this research, activities come under the information system function and their necessary controls are to be identified and then auditors could be utilized to collect the relevant information to assess the controls of the information system function.

Today almost all the business organizations are driven on the base of the information systems and are highly dependent on the information system. They can use their information system as an essential technical tool to do their day-to-day business operations, and as a strategic tool to obtain a competitive advantage. But most of the organizations use their information system function only as an essential technical tool for transactions processing, and merely use as a strategic tool, and lees priority is given for enhancing the information system function, to obtain more competitive advantage. An essential activity of improving any system or function is to identify its strengths and weaknesses and consequently areas to be improved. The major problem that arises in improving an IS system is that most of the organizations do not have a good idea about the strengths and weaknesses of the information system function.

The goal of the research is to assess the controls in the organizational information system function and hence, to identify the strengths and weaknesses in the IS function and provide recommendations to improve the IS function, to use the IT resources efficiently and effectively. It has following objectives.

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- To identify the areas to be assessed under the information system function.
- To assess the controls of the information system function.
- To identify the strengths and weaknesses in the IS function.
- To provide recommendations to improve the IS function.

A 12-process model is used to identify the activities that come under information system function and use the same to assess the information system functions in the organizations. The outcome of the research can be used to identify the strengths & weaknesses of the information system function and hence that can be used to improve the IS function.

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AV	Availability of Resources for the Production Operation
CF	Configuration/Document Management
CM	Change Management
CP	Capacity Planning
DR	Disaster Recovery
GM	General/Integration Management
HT	Problem Management /Technical Support
PM	Procurement Management
PT	Performance Monitoring & Tuning
QC	Internal Auditing/Quality Management
SD	System Implementation (Acquisition and Development)
SM	Security Management
TS	Overall Performance