Unexpected events have taken place during recent years causing tremendous global changes. Huge technological developments and the crisis in world economy have caused an uncertain and challenging business environment, both in industrial manufacturing and in service sectors, especially towards global managers running businesses all over the world. Moreover, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has been the detrimental and influential force in managing modern, multinational and worldwide organizations.

What kind of the sustainable competitive operations and technology and knowledge strategies we should have when the world economy is in a dynamic change for different reasons? Evidently, the sustainable operations and technology strategies need to be more and more situational and require therefore dynamic capabilities within all the resources the businesses utilize. How can we indicate the dynamic capabilities? How we will be able to react to them in a flexible and agile manner by practical actions? We could wonder if we should even speak more and more about a new strategic intent – how to indicate and benefit from dynamic capabilities – in the new strategic architectures?

The recent studies on Global Manufacturing Strategies have created separate results to be integrated into resource allocations to implement strategies even if we cannot be at all sure about the long term business environment. The competitive categories e.g. like prospector, analyzer, defender and reactor written about by Miles & Snow (1978) and Takala (2007), should be integrated into resource allocations according to their influence to Cost, Time, Quality or Flexibility performance. The knowledge required build dynamically operations strategy varies a lot according to the technology and knowledge (T/K) ranking – as the importance of different technology levels, basic, core and spearhead, how they affect strategy implementation (Takala et al., 2003, 2013, 2014) – versus their effect to performance, and versus the acceptable operative sustainable competitive advantage level and especially versus the risk level (defined probability % by which the operations strategy has to be essentially changed in the near future) the managers want to take in the businesses.

Studies to be published in a timely manner in this issue of MPER journal will be basing on case studies and surveys from broad perspectives, ranging from traditional to high tech industries and production related knowledge intensive services. As such, it will be possible to find out a preliminary and working model for the technology and operations strategies preferred. Anyhow, we should be able to seek answers to the questions of what risk levels we should take and bear to be strong and resilient enough all the time, against different turbulent challenges?

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