

Information Systems Offshoring

Co-editors: William R. King, University of Pittsburgh
Reza Torkzadeh, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Submission Deadline: September 1, 2006

Background

Information technology offshoring has been the most talked about phenomena in IS in recent years, influencing academics and practitioners alike. The extent of offshoring of information technology-related services has been significant and the trend seems likely to continue in the foreseeable future.

Yet, there has been little in-depth study of information technology offshoring and its apparent impact on the nature of work, career options, and the management of information systems function. Although domestic outsourcing has been prevalent for 15 or more years, there is scant research related to these issues in that context as well. These new realities present information systems executives with legal, cultural and managerial challenges that are not yet fully understood and educators with questions concerning appropriate curricula for the new environment.

The goal of this special issue is to provide a forum for generating a broad perspective on research related to information systems offshoring and develop a better understanding of the opportunities and challenges that are offered to the information systems profession.

Sample of topics that are of interest for the special issue:

- Social and economic impacts of offshoring IS
- Management of IS offshoring
- Business logic for offshoring IS activities
- Risks in offshoring IS activities
- Nature of work and career options in the new reality
- Legal, cultural, and other challenges of IS offshoring
- Long-term outlook and the impact of IS offshoring on the ability to remain innovative

- Reengineering of business processes for effective IS offshoring
- Antecedents of offshoring success
- Strategies for IS offshoring success
- Evaluation metrics and methodologies for IS offshoring
- Barriers and incentives to IS offshoring
- Educational requirements and curriculum implications of IS offshoring
- Impacts of offshoring in countries where it is an emerging industry

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Empirical studies are encouraged. Review articles that provide historical perspective to evaluate existing insights and chart a course of action for future research on IS offshoring are also welcome. Curriculum-oriented papers must provide rigorous support and ideally would involve empirical data analysis. Of course, papers dealing with “foreign sourcing,” whether to vendors or to subsidiaries will also be considered.

Submissions to the special issue will be screened by the Special Issue Co-editors to insure that they conform to the quality standards of the *MIS Quarterly*. Papers that do not pass this initial screening will be immediately returned to the authors. Associate editors and reviewers will apply those standards in forming recommendations for acceptance, revision, or rejection. The review process will be accelerated requiring reviewers to adhere to a 3-month review cycle and authors to adhere to a 3-month revision cycle. A maximum of two revisions will be invited. Papers that miss the required revision cycle or that are not deemed acceptable after two revisions will be removed from consideration. The submission deadline is **September 1, 2006**.

Submissions should be e-mailed to the Special Issue Co-Editors:

William King

University Professor of Business Administration
222 Mervis Hall
Katz Graduate School of Business
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
Phone: (412) 648-1587
Email: billking@katz.pitt.edu

Reza Torkzadeh

Professor and Chair
Department of MIS
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 Maryland Parkway
Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-6034
Phone: (702) 895-3796
Email: rezat@unlv.nevada.edu

Special Issue Associate Editors

Susan Brown, University of Arizona
Erran Carmel, American University
Wendy Currie, University of Warwick
Varun Grover, Clemson University
Rudy Hirschheim, Louisiana State University
Kate Kaiser, Marquette University
Prabhudev Konana, University of Texas,
Austin

Mary Lacity, University of Missouri, St. Louis
Mihir Parikh, University of Central Florida
Alain Pinsonneault, McGill University
Prem Premkumar, Iowa State University
Peter Seddon, University of Melbourne
Mani Subramani, University of Minnesota
James Thong, Hong Kong University of
Science & Technology