UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

CORPORATE TURNAROUND STRATEGIES AND MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING REORIENTATION OF MALAYSIAN COMPANIES

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Thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Faculty of Accountancy

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AUTHOR’S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the results of my work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as reference work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other institution or non academic institution for any other degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

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ABSTRACT

Market erosion and maladaptive management decisions have been the causes for declining financial performance of firms at some point of the organizational life cycle, which resulted to a situation of organizational decline. In this context, this research was undertaken to examine the causes of corporate decline and the strategies that could be employed to turnaround the organizations. Exploring the role and utility of management accounting practices as effective organizational strategies to face the challenges of decline is the central focus of the study. A research design of a review of the relevant literature, followed by a quantitative survey among Malaysian companies, which have experienced organizational decline and the case study of the management accounting practices of Lighting Company in Malaysia was adopted to achieve the objectives of the study. Based on the review of the literature the study concludes that internal organizational factors as compared external environmental factors are more responsible for causing organizational decline. The findings from the survey reveal that internal organizational factors like poor management and high cost structure are the main causes of decline. Inadequate control, macroeconomic factor like inflation, product competition and high overhead costs were the other causes found by the study, which may lead organizations to the decline stage. The study concludes that improvements in planning, change in the top management, strengthening financial control and cost cutting and improved marketing strategies are some of the management, cutback and growth and restructuring strategies for turning around a company from the decline stage. Based on the case study of the chosen organization, the study suggests the utility of management accounting practices such as financial planning, standard costing, inventory modeling and capital investment analysis as corporate turnaround strategies.
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