FACTORING: A DYNAMIC FINANCIAL TOOL IN WORKING CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

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I must sincerely admit that this project paper nevertheless contain its deficiency and error. Therefore, any criticism both supportive and constructive are most welcomed.

ABSTRACT

Tight liquidity is a common problem faced by most firms. Thus, short-term financing will have to be sought to fund working capital. Amongst the short-term financing facilities in Malaysia, factoring is probably the least understood and most ignored. Factoring is essentially a combination of services for it includes administering credit on behalf of the client, maintaining the book-keeping of client's credit sales, collection of remittances and advancing cash on receivables which are yet to mature. In this context, factoring is actually the transferring of responsibility for the control of investment in trade debtors for a fee. It is not for mere financing but as an inducement in transferring risk of bad debts.

This project paper seeks to clarify and explain factoring as an innovative tool in the financing of working capital both from the theoretical and practical point of view. The mechanics of it is discussed based on typical example from a local factor. Merits and demerits are discussed so as to give a better insight of factoring. The Malaysian experience is added to highlight the present state of the industry in the country.