PERFORMANCE: A STUDY ON TRACTORS MALAYSIA HOLDINGS BERHAD

NORAFIZA BINTI ZUKELFALI

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons) International Business

FACULTY OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA, MELAKA

2007

LETTER OF SUBMISSION

16 May 2007

The Head of Program
Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons) International Business
Faculty of Business Management
Universiti Teknologi MARA
Kilometer 25, Jalan Lendu
78000 Alor Gajah
MELAKA

Dear Sir,

SUBMISSION OF PROJECT PAPER

Attached is the project paper titled "EFFECT OF PRODUCT DIVERSIFICATION ON FIRM PERFORMANCE: A STUDY ON TRACTORS MALAYSIA HOLDINGS BERHAD" to fulfill the requirement as needed by the Faculty of Business Management, University Technology MARA.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

NORAFIZA BINTI ZUKELFALI

2004334373

Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons) International Business

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Firstly, I would like to convey a special thanks to my respectable advisor, Mr.

Norazman bin Harun, for his professional guidance over the research process period.

A token of appreciation are hereby to my previous advisor, Mrs. Halimahton bte

Borhan, to the second examiner, Miss Najihah and to Mrs. Maheran binti Katan for

their enormous assistance in the data analysis

I also want to express a credit to my supervisor, Mr. Rusli bin Osman, manager of

Training Operations in Tractors Malaysia Training and Development Centre Sdn Bhd,

Puchong for relevant corporate information. A deep gratitude is for my beloved family

and supportive colleagues for their support that enable me to conduct the research

smoothly.

Lastly, I also want to thank the people that had helped me in the research.

Hopefully, this research paper will help the holdings to further growth with product

diversity that efficiently utilised available asset and enlighten both future researchers

and the government on the importance of the topic discussed.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

NORAFIZA BINTI ZUKELFALI

2004334373

Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons) International Business

iv

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT LIST OF TABLES LIST OF FIGURES ABSTRACT	iv vi vii viii
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	1
 1.1: Background of the Study 1.2: Problem Statement 1.3: Research Questions 1.4: Research Objectives 1.5: Theoretical Framework 1.6: Hypotheses 1.7: Significance of the Study 1.8: Scope of the Study 1.9: Limitations of Terms 	1 4 5 6 7 9 12 12 13
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	17
 2.1: Product Diversification Activities 2.2: Product Diversification Approach 2.3: Firm Performance Indicators 2.4: Assets Utilization 2.4.1: Excess Assets Utilization Ratio 	17 20 23 25 25
CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	27
3.1: Research Design3.2: Data Collection Method3.3: Data Analysis and Interpretation	27 27 27
CHAPTER 4: DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	30
4.1: Relationship between Product Diversification and	30
Firm Performance using Chi-Square Tests Analysis 4.2: Relationship between Product Diversification and Firm Performance with Assets Utilization using Multiple Hierarchical Linear Regression Analysis	38
CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	55
5.1 Conclusions 5.2 Recommendations	55 56
BIBLIOGRAPHY APPENDICES	58 63
Appendix I — Products Offered by the Holdings Appendix II — Secondary Data Appendix III — Ascending Scales Data	63 66 67

ABSTRACT

This research reveals the effect of product diversification on the performance of Tractors Malaysia Holdings Berhad from year 1996 to year 2005, in terms of accounting-based, market-based and value-based measures. The analysis is further conducted with an adjusted variable of assets utilization by the holdings to see its' influence onto the performance-diversity original direction effect.

The purpose of the research is to identify the relationship between product diversification and the holdings performance, and to examine the relationship with assets utilization. Recommendations for the holdings to accelerate the performance with the diversification and fully utilized assets in the present operation are highlighted. There are also suggestions for future researchers and the government.

The product diversification activities and the assets utilization efficiency level by the holdings with respect to the industry during the year of study are analysed to see their effects on the holding's performance. Data were collected from secondary sources and arranged according to the priority of need for the research. Raw data on the variables were analysed using SPSS application system (Statistical Package for Social Science) and interpreted into Chi-Square Tests and Regression output tables

The empirical finding shows a positive linear relationship between product diversification and the firm performance even though previous research found out that the relationship is in quadratic form. The principal that related international diversification on related product outperformed international diversification on unrelated product is met. However using econometric modelling which is regression, it is found that there is no correlation existed between product diversification and firm performance with assets utilization.