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Multiplicity of contingency factors in the modern recycling business

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Abstract

This study is founded on the contingency theory which derives from the organization theory, and it examines the structural problems of the modern Japanese recycling business through J. D. Thompson's model of the contingency theory. Based on the results of our interviews conducted with 16 companies, we argue that there are multiple contingency factors in the modern Japanese recycling business, and that these factors increase uncertainty and reduce the stability of business as a result. This paper proposes that in developing high sub-technology, recycling business created as diversifications of major companies will eventually reduce the multiplicity of the contingency factors.

Keywords: Contingency factor, Recycling business, Sub-technology