Foreword

Collaboration, characterized by globalization, information technology and sustainable acquisitions and sharing of information, is a main concern for organizations to enhance their business performance and gain competitive advantage. As emphasized by 2013 China government report, the Chinese Prime Minister Mr. Hu, has advocated an open strategy with sharing mechanism. According to Mr. Hu’s view, collaboration at global level will promote the innovation creations and enhance market share of Chinese products at international level.

This book addresses an interesting subject and uses an original data set. It has built a rational theoretic model to understand how and to what extent Inter-organizational collaboration affects business performance. This research focuses at organizations have involved in local and international collaboration. The book addresses three major issues:

• Examining the practices of Inter-organizational collaboration in Wenzhou electrical industry of China and investigating the variations in collaboration and business performance.
• Developing a theoretical model and framework based on e-business diffusion theory and trust theory.
• Dividing the business performance influencers into four constructs, which are Trust, Organizational capacities, E-business Diffusion and Collaboration.

This book appropriately demonstrates how collaboration around the globe is approaching such issues with significant degree of success. It brings a good investigation on Inter-organizational collaboration and its findings are valuable to improve business performance.

Jin Chen
Tsinghai University, China
Jin Chen is a professor of Department of Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Strategy in Tsinghua SEM. He received his Bachelor in chemical process control in the Department of Chemical Engineering from Zhejiang University in 1989, and Ph.D. in Management Engineering in the Department of Management also from Zhejiang University in 1994. Dr. Chen Jin went to MIT Sloan School of Management in 1998 as a visiting scholar. In 2000, he went to SPRU of Sussex University as a visiting fellow. Dr. CHEN Jin has been awarded Special Government Allowance from the State Council of China, and the Huo Yingdong Youth Teacher Prize and the Third “Young university teachers award” from the Ministry of Education of China. He awarded the Outstanding Youth Fund in 2002 by National Science Foundation of China. In 2009, he was selected for the China’s National Talents Project. Dr CHEN worked as the Executive Vice Dean of the Undergraduate School and the Chu Kechen Honors College before joined Tsinghua SEM. His research and teaching mainly focuses on management of technological innovation. Dr. Chen is a member of the Education Committee of CAE (the Chinese Academy of Engineering), the member of the division of management science in council for technology and science of Minister of Education, and vice chairman of the Chinese Association for Science of Science and S&T Policy. He serves as the chief editor of “Journal of Knowledge-based Innovation in China” and “Review of Evolutionary Economics and Economics of Innovation”, the associate chief editor of “International Journal of Technology Marketing”, “Journal of Knowledge Management Studies”, “Journal of Foresight and Innovation Policy” and “Journal of Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management” and Executive Associate Editor of “Chinese Journal of Engineering Design”. Dr. CHEN Jin also serves as the member of editor committee of “International Journal of Technology Management”(SSCI Journal), “Science: Journal of Zhejiang University”(SCI Journal), “International Journal of Innovation and Technology Management”, “International Journal of Technological Learning, Innovation and Development” and “Journal of Chinese Culture and Management”, and the guest editor of “International Journal of Manpower”(2004). He is the member of editor committee of “Studies in Science of Science”, “Science Research Management”, “Journal of Systems Engineering”, “Systems Engineering-Theory & Practice”, “R&D Management”, “Journal of Management”, “Technology Economics”, “Science & Technology Progress and Policy” and “Science and Technology Management Research”.