In this timely book, Dr. Gottschalk cogently tackles important subjects such as electronic business, strategic planning, sourcing of IT services, outsourcing, and IT governance. This book adds substantial knowledge from the author’s expertise. The chapters are well-structured, interesting, and group ideas in a logical and appealing way. The model that is introduced for strategic planning (the Y model) is useful and well done. Many illustrations make the reading even more interesting.

This book provides a good and thorough overview of important aspects in IS/IT management and governance. It is very suitable as an excellent e-business textbook, and it appears very helpful for managers.

From the humble beginnings of a decade ago, e-business, sourcing, and governance have today become critical issues in strategic IT management in both private and public organizations all over the world. But are the organizations ready for this challenge? Some organizations might succeed, while others might fail — if they do not choose an approach that is suited for the maturity and the situation of each organization.

The resource-based theory of the firm is a useful entrance to the topics of e-business strategy, sourcing, and governance. The resource-based theory argues that performance differences across firms can be attributed to the variance in the firms’ resources. Resources that are unique, non-transferable, non-imitable, non-substitutable, combinable, exploitable, and valuable are classified as strategic resources.
Strategic resources are required to succeed in selecting and implementing appropriate e-business models. Strategic IT resources are obtained in sourcing situations. Strategic resources are applied in IT governance arrangements. The availability and smart application of strategic resources can distinguish success from failure in organizations.

Many fail to understand that what, where, when, and how to outsource, how to select e-business model, and how to implement governance, are among the most demanding, vital and essential executive skills needed for a company’s success. Executives and IT professionals are still failing to grasp what makes for a good e-business strategy, sourcing, and governance.

This book answers the entire range of above questions in a lucid yet exhaustive way. It covers both opportunities and threats. Towards the end, it makes a very interesting contribution of showing how IT governance has to change because of IT outsourcing.

All in all this book is a most comprehensive guide on all aspects of e-business, strategy, sourcing, and governance, and is highly commendable for practitioners, researchers, policy makers, and consultants alike.

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