In today’s economic environment, it is advantageous for technology organizations to be cognizant of prevalent influences on success and failure and to incorporate this knowledge into their business and innovation strategies. Although, no organization contains the ideal mix of culture and ideological emphases, some have amassed impressive track records of prolific success.

Internet questionnaires, primarily employing Likert item based questions, were used to identify, quantify, and document the salient influences on success or failure among 15 very successful technology organizations. These companies were chosen from Inc. Magazine’s Inc. 5000, a list of the 5000 fastest growing companies in America. Technology organizations were defined as those in the business of created competence, which is expressed in terms of entities consisting of devices, procedures, and acquired human skills (Clarke, 2005). Individual technology organization success, the dependent variable in the statistical analyses, was assigned a rank according to its annual revenue growth and direct new job creation relative to the other organizations within the sample set. As a check, three open-ended questions were used to verify that no consensus crucial elements were omitted within the Likert item based question section of the questionnaire.

A model that depicted technology organization growth as a function of influences was created from the relevant literature. Statistical analyses on the questionnaire results were used to confirm or refute the model as appropriate. Recommendations were made to those technology organizations aspiring towards elite levels of success.

Major: Industrial Engineering

Educational Career:
Bachelor’s of Electrical Engineering, BS, 2004, University of Florida
Master’s of Industrial and Systems Engineering, MS, 2008, University of Florida

Committee in Charge:
Ahmad Elshennawy, PhD, Chair, Industrial Engineering & Management Systems
Stephen Sivo, PhD, Department of Educational and Human Sciences
Luis Rabelo, PhD, Industrial Engineering & Management Systems
Yasser Hosni, PhD, Industrial Engineering & Management Systems
Thomas O’Neal, PhD, Office of Research & Commercialization

Approved for distribution by Ahmad Elshennawy, PhD, Committee Chair, on February 19, 2013.

The public is welcome to attend.