

Call for papers: Special Issue of Journal of Information Technology Theory and Application (JITTA, an AIS Journal)

Special Issue Topic: Information Technology Global Services and Sourcing

Overview

Information technology (IT) services and related sourcing decisions are important considerations in strategy of firms to improve efficiencies and performance. Firms are transitioning to a service based on-demand model of IT to create increased flexibility and to enhance their ability to scale. With this trend, there is recognition of the service dominant logic that is evolving into the discipline of service science. Indeed, the globalization of services to tap innovation and growth opportunities is a priority for firms. In addition, governments are quickly adopting IT services to enhance citizen service, support democratization and reduce cost of delivery. More recently, Public-Private partnerships are being explored as an option for executing service delivery models. These developments present opportunities for researchers to advance the understanding of the emerging models of services.

We invite papers that provide insights into all aspects of IT services and sourcing. Papers that include empirical, analytical, and conceptual approaches that develop or extend theory are welcome. Co-authored papers with practitioners are particularly encouraged.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

IT Services

- Global service disaggregation of IT and IT-enabled services (i.e. through the Global Delivery Model – GDM)
- Compliance, Risk and Security Management in GDM
- Aligning Business and IT through Service Management
- Diffusion of IT Service Innovations
- Managing IT Service Value and Delivery
- IT and Service Science
- Impact of service globalization on jobs and wages around the globe
- Coordination and Delivery models for services
- Models for IT service life cycle, both from the perspectives of consumer and supplier
- Enterprise vs. best-of-breed IT services
- Service oriented business models for IT
- Evaluation of current supplier strategies
- Evolution of standard IT services, such as payment services and governmental services

Sourcing

- Decision Making in sourcing
- Managing and Monitoring Suppliers in Sourcing arrangements
- Managing Intellectual Property issues in sourcing relationships
- All aspects of GDM (i.e. off-shoring, near-shoring, rural sourcing and multi-sourcing)
- IT capability development: in-sourcing, outsourcing, and back-sourcing
- Knowledge creation, acquisition, sharing, and loss in IT outsourcing
- Preserving and Managing organizational knowledge in outsourcing arrangements
- Impact of outsourcing at individual, firm, and national levels
- Structuring IT outsourcing agreements
- IT outsourcing in global supply chain management
- Impact of service-oriented architectures on IT outsourcing
- IT outsourcing-enabled business transformation and new inter-organizational forms
- Social, ethical, and regulatory implications in IT outsourcing
- Emerging trends in IT outsourcing
- Evolution of service markets, internal as well as external

- Impact of service orientation on total cost of ownership (TCO)
- Implications of switching costs and standards

Key Milestones for the Special Issue:

- March 15, 2011: Submission Deadline
- April 15, 2011: First round of reviews and decisions sent to authors
- June 7-8, 2011*: Development Workshop at Stockholm University for authors invited to revise; authors are expected to bring a revised version based on first round of reviews
- June 20, 2011: Submission deadline for second round submission
- August 1, 2011: Decisions on second round of review sent to authors
- October 1, 2011: Camera ready papers due

*The workshop dates are conveniently set for those interested in attending ECIS from June 8-9.

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About JITTA

The *Journal of Information Technology Theory and Application* (JITTA) is a peer-reviewed research journal published by the Association for Information Systems (AIS). JITTA welcomes articles from a broad spectrum of research approaches. JITTA aims to publish articles with short publication cycle times, attract a portfolio of very exciting and high quality research contributions, and maintain highest quality standards. The journal welcomes research papers (research agenda papers, interpretive or exploratory papers, speculative research, state-of-research reviews, or full research papers), research essays, and application papers (normative papers or case studies).

Mission

To be the outlet of choice for articles from the most interesting and important IS research efforts.

Critical Success Factors

- Publish with short publication cycle times.
- Attract a portfolio of very exciting, very high quality research contributions.
- Maintain the highest quality standards.

What JITTA will publish

To accomplish its objectives, *JITTA* encourages the submission of manuscripts in the areas of research papers, essays, and application papers. Suitable submissions in these categories include:

Research papers

1. **Research agenda paper.** The authors review literature, develop new theory, develop research questions and objectives, and set agenda for research, their own and/or others, to accomplish these objectives.
2. **Interpretive or exploratory paper.** The author uses qualitative or interpretive research methods, such as case studies, ethnographic studies, or focused group interviews, to develop or test theory or to draw qualitative or tentative empirical inferences.
3. **Speculative research.** The author uses methods such as metaphor, history, mathematics, graphics, or thought experiments to develop new concepts.
4. **State-of-research review.** In this type of paper an author reviews several new papers in a research stream that contain new theory, research results or make other contributions that should be made available to the IS research community quickly. Typically, such a review might result from the

confluence of several papers presented in a conference or workshop, the output of a substantial research project, or the confluence of papers around a theme or problem written by several researchers. The paper should describe the research in sufficient detail so that readers can understand the research objectives and contribution of each paper reviewed, its methodology, and its results well enough to refer to them in subsequent research, as reported in the review paper. The paper may draw inferences across the group of papers and suggest new research lines or extensions. Authorship may or may not be by one or more of the reviewed papers.

5. **Full research papers.** Traditional full research papers of any length are welcomed; the journal is open to all suitable research paradigms, including, but not limited to positivist and interpretivist research, quantitative and qualitative methods, action research, design science, etc. *Essays*

6. **Research essays.** Papers about the nature of IS research, research methods, the IS discipline or other matters of interest and importance to the research community. Such papers should be of particular interest because they contain novel and important ideas or arguments.

Application papers

JITTA is very interested in publishing the best application articles in information systems. Application articles published in *JITTA* must create new knowledge. Papers that are inappropriate for *JITTA* include those that describe the use of IT in an industry, papers that report on exciting new features (developed by someone else) of a technology and discuss how they might be used in business at a functional level, tutorials and primers, and papers that summarize a technology for the managers.

7. **Normative papers.** The authors provide managers with models, methods, procedures, or advice about practical, successful IS practices, based on theory, experience, and/or empirical study.

8. **Case studies.** Studies in which there are novel application, events, or behavior involving IS from which the authors draw inferences about IS practice or management.

Contribution

Research, essay, and application articles must be:

1. **Substantial and interesting.** The paper's contribution to research, management, or practice should be clear and substantial. It should be of considerable importance and interest to researchers and or managers.
2. **Novel.** An acceptable paper creates new knowledge, rather than simply repeating knowledge available in other sources. This new knowledge may be created through integration or interpretation of research theory, experience, empirical study, grounded research, or other means.

Quality

Submissions will be evaluated on their contribution and in terms of

1. **Audience.** Papers should be of high interest to a defined audience, whether broad or narrow.
2. **Presentation.** Papers must be well presented in English.
3. **Credibility.** The paper should present adequate evidence and appropriate reasoning to support any recommendations and conclusions.
4. **Integrity.** Authors of application papers are expected to observe the high standards for citing other's work and obtaining permission to use other's work where appropriate.
5. **Methodology.** The research methods must be appropriate to accomplish the paper's objectives.
6. **Execution.** The paper should be properly developed to meet its objectives.

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