

Preface

H.C.W. Lau and C.K.M. Lee

Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering,
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University,
Hungghom, Hong Kong
E-mail: mfhenry@inet.polyu.edu.hk
E-mail: mfcarman@inet.polyu.edu.hk

Enterprises nowadays need to increase their competitiveness edge to face the changing business environment. All enterprises would like to find the best way to improve their business process and find the critical success factors for sustaining business growth. Apart from adopting total quality management, business process reengineering, and benchmarking, enterprises also seek out the latest developments in IT/IS areas in order to streamline their business process, thereby leveraging the efficiency of the entire value chain.

This special issue is intended to include the latest research and concepts in implementing best practices and to address the most current issues and challenges in relevant fields, aiming to transform enterprises to cope

with the increasingly competitive marketplace. It includes the latest research results and efforts at quality improvement based on distributed sensing and information technology, formulating strategy and leveraging performance using the information systems planning approach, application of new Apriori algorithm for yield improvement, using enterprise knowledge with knowledge-based engineering, and development of a flexible information management system for supporting manufacturing activities.

We wish to express our gratitude to all authors who participated in this special issue. Their research results have shown what is possible nowadays in the field of business process management.