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Assessing the performance of a vertically disintegrated chain by the DEA approach—a case study of Taiwanese semiconductor firms

Wen-Min Lu & Shiu-Wan Hung

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results indicate that the IC design firms perform better than IC fabrication and IC

packaging/testing firms. Overall, semiconductor firms in Taiwan still have room for performance improvement. In addition, the empirical results suggest that an IC company's scale of size does play an important role in influencing its operating efficiency. One can increase performance by consolidating with other smaller units to achieve an optimal size. In addition, an analysis of operating performance by DEA can provide a semiconductor firms' operations with insights into resource allocation competitive advantages, and help with strategic decision-making, especially regarding operational styles under an intense competitive environment.

Keywords:

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