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Sources of shareholders' wealth gains from asset sales

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Abstract

This paper uses an event study approach to examine the performance improvements

accruing to those IIK firms making assets sales in a single divestiture. It is found that a

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Richard Baker, Ephraim Ciark, Jo Danboit, Konan Poweii, Bili Kees, Kichard faffler, Andy

Stark, Bob Wearing and seminar participants at the University of Essex. The usual caveat nevertheless applies.

Notes

suggest

The total value of the transaction in the divestiture market is about £108 billion while in the merger market the total value is about £262 billion (for the period 1985–1994). Source: Acquisitions Monthly.

See Saadouni et al. (1996).

The characteristics of those firms that engage in asset sales have been examined but the study does not investigate the source of any gains that may accrue (Maksimovic and Phillips, 2001).

Efficiency: Jain (1985), Hite et al. (1987), Makismovic and Phillips (2001); Focus: John and Ofek (1995), Berger and Ofek (1999); Financing: Shleifer and Vishny (1992) and Lang et al. (1995) for the USA and for the UK Afshar et al. (1992), Lasfer et al. (1996).

R $_{it}$ is $In(P_{i,t}/P_{i,t-1})$ and R $_{m,t}$ is $In(FT_{m,t}/FT_{m,t-1})$ where FT $_{m,t}$ stands for the FT All Share market index on day t.

The Acquisitions Monthly publication defines a divestiture as a firm announcing the divestiture of either a subsidiary of the firm or a division or unit of the company (i.e.

any segi X t date of the The con divestitu require shareho egal process or after determine. The c has been vhen final recel sale and e annound When th adjustment

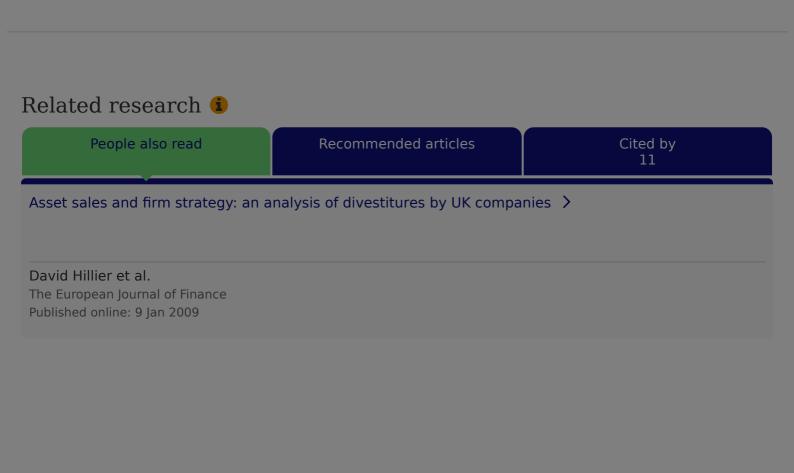
0.81% (z = 3.97) and for day 1 was -2.08% (z = -3.27).

ent day was

For comparison, Afshar et al. ($\underline{1992}$) have reported that on the announcement day, the shareholders' gain was 0.85% (t = 5.23) while Jain ($\underline{1985}$) reported 0.45% (t = 5.95).

For $(t-1, t_0)$, the cumulative abnormal return was 0.66% (t = 1.72) with the market model 1.04% (t = 3.09) with the index model.

The R-squared values are low by conventional standards but not unusual in regressions that use abnormal returns as the dependent variable.





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