

STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT

STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT SERVICES HAVE BECOME INDISPENSABLE FOR ORGANIZATIONS SEEKING TO OPTIMIZE THEIR OPERATIONS, EXPAND THEIR MARKET REACH, AND ENHANCE OVERALL PERFORMANCE. THESE CONSULTANTS BRING A WEALTH OF EXPERTISE AND STRATEGIC INSIGHT, ENABLING BUSINESSES TO NAVIGATE COMPLEX CHALLENGES AND SEIZE NEW OPPORTUNITIES. THIS ARTICLE DELVES INTO THE ROLE OF STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS, THEIR KEY SERVICES, METHODOLOGIES, AND THE IMMENSE VALUE THEY ADD TO ORGANIZATIONS. BY UNDERSTANDING THE LANDSCAPE OF STRATEGIC CONSULTING, BUSINESSES CAN MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS ABOUT ENGAGING THESE EXPERTS.

IN ADDITION, WE WILL EXPLORE THE QUALIFICATIONS THAT MAKE AN EFFECTIVE STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT, THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF CONSULTING SERVICES AVAILABLE, AND HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT CONSULTANT FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION. THIS COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW IS DESIGNED TO EQUIP BUSINESS LEADERS AND DECISION-MAKERS WITH THE KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO LEVERAGE CONSULTANCY SERVICES EFFECTIVELY.

- UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS
- KEY SERVICES OFFERED BY STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS
- METHODOLOGIES USED BY STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS
- QUALIFICATIONS OF AN EFFECTIVE STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT
- TYPES OF STRATEGY CONSULTING SERVICES
- HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT
- CONCLUSION

UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE IN THE MODERN BUSINESS LANDSCAPE. THEIR PRIMARY GOAL IS TO HELP ORGANIZATIONS DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES THAT ALIGN WITH THEIR LONG-TERM GOALS. THIS OFTEN INVOLVES CONDUCTING THOROUGH MARKET ANALYSIS, EVALUATING INTERNAL CAPABILITIES, AND IDENTIFYING AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT. CONSULTANTS ACT AS TRUSTED ADVISORS, PROVIDING OBJECTIVE INSIGHTS THAT CAN LEAD TO TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGES WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION.

THESE PROFESSIONALS POSSESS A DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF VARIOUS INDUSTRIES AND MARKETS, ALLOWING THEM TO OFFER TAILORED SOLUTIONS THAT ADDRESS SPECIFIC CHALLENGES. THEY WORK CLOSELY WITH EXECUTIVE TEAMS AND STAKEHOLDERS TO ENSURE THAT THE STRATEGIES DEVELOPED ARE NOT ONLY ACTIONABLE BUT ALSO SUSTAINABLE IN THE LONG RUN. BY LEVERAGING THEIR EXPERTISE, ORGANIZATIONS CAN IMPROVE THEIR COMPETITIVE EDGE AND ACHIEVE MEASURABLE RESULTS.

KEY SERVICES OFFERED BY STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS PROVIDE A WIDE ARRAY OF SERVICES DESIGNED TO SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS IN ACHIEVING THEIR BUSINESS OBJECTIVES. SOME OF THE KEY SERVICES INCLUDE:

- **STRATEGIC PLANNING:** DEVELOPING COMPREHENSIVE PLANS THAT OUTLINE THE ORGANIZATION'S VISION, MISSION, AND LONG-TERM GOALS.
- **MARKET RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS:** CONDUCTING THOROUGH RESEARCH TO UNDERSTAND MARKET TRENDS, CUSTOMER PREFERENCES, AND COMPETITIVE DYNAMICS.

- **OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENT:** IDENTIFYING INEFFICIENCIES IN PROCESSES AND RECOMMENDING IMPROVEMENTS TO OPTIMIZE PERFORMANCE.
- **FINANCIAL ADVISORY:** OFFERING INSIGHTS INTO FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, BUDGETING, AND FORECASTING TO ENHANCE PROFITABILITY.
- **CHANGE MANAGEMENT:** ASSISTING ORGANIZATIONS IN MANAGING CHANGE INITIATIVES EFFECTIVELY TO MINIMIZE DISRUPTION AND MAXIMIZE ACCEPTANCE.
- **INNOVATION STRATEGY:** HELPING BUSINESSES FOSTER A CULTURE OF INNOVATION AND DEVELOP NEW PRODUCTS OR SERVICES THAT MEET MARKET DEMANDS.

THESE SERVICES ARE NOT ONLY ABOUT PROVIDING ADVICE; THEY ALSO ENCOMPASS HANDS-ON IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT, ENSURING THAT RECOMMENDATIONS ARE EFFECTIVELY EXECUTED AND LEAD TO TANGIBLE OUTCOMES.

METHODOLOGIES USED BY STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS EMPLOY VARIOUS METHODOLOGIES TO ANALYZE BUSINESS SITUATIONS AND DEVELOP EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES. SOME COMMONLY USED METHODOLOGIES INCLUDE:

- **SWOT ANALYSIS:** IDENTIFYING STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND THREATS TO INFORM STRATEGIC DECISION-MAKING.
- **PORTER'S FIVE FORCES:** ANALYZING INDUSTRY COMPETITION AND MARKET DYNAMICS TO UNDERSTAND THE COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE.
- **BSC (BALANCED SCORECARD):** UTILIZING PERFORMANCE METRICS TO ALIGN BUSINESS ACTIVITIES WITH THE ORGANIZATION'S VISION AND STRATEGY.
- **LEAN SIX SIGMA:** APPLYING PRINCIPLES OF WASTE REDUCTION AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT TO ENHANCE OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY.
- **AGILE METHODOLOGY:** IMPLEMENTING FLEXIBLE PROJECT MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES THAT ALLOW FOR RAPID ADAPTATION TO CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES.

BY INTEGRATING THESE METHODOLOGIES INTO THEIR CONSULTING PRACTICES, STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS CAN PROVIDE DATA-DRIVEN INSIGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS THAT ARE GROUNDED IN RIGOROUS ANALYSIS.

QUALIFICATIONS OF AN EFFECTIVE STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF A STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT IS LARGELY DETERMINED BY THEIR QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE. KEY QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDE:

- **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** A STRONG ACADEMIC FOUNDATION IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT, ECONOMICS, OR A RELATED FIELD IS ESSENTIAL.
- **INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE:** PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WITHIN THE RELEVANT INDUSTRY ALLOWS CONSULTANTS TO UNDERSTAND SPECIFIC CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES.
- **ANALYTICAL SKILLS:** EXCEPTIONAL ANALYTICAL ABILITIES ARE NECESSARY FOR INTERPRETING DATA AND DEVELOPING ACTIONABLE INSIGHTS.

- **COMMUNICATION SKILLS:** EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION IS VITAL FOR CONVEYING COMPLEX IDEAS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO STAKEHOLDERS.
- **PROJECT MANAGEMENT SKILLS:** THE ABILITY TO MANAGE PROJECTS EFFICIENTLY AND LEAD TEAMS IS CRUCIAL FOR SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIES.

CONSULTANTS MAY ALSO HOLD CERTIFICATIONS FROM RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS, FURTHER VALIDATING THEIR EXPERTISE AND COMMITMENT TO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

TYPES OF STRATEGY CONSULTING SERVICES

STRATEGY CONSULTING ENCOMPASSES VARIOUS SUB-DISCIPLINES, EACH FOCUSING ON DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF BUSINESS STRATEGY. THE PRIMARY TYPES OF STRATEGY CONSULTING SERVICES INCLUDE:

- **CORPORATE STRATEGY:** FOCUSING ON LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLANNING AT THE CORPORATE LEVEL, INCLUDING MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS.
- **BUSINESS UNIT STRATEGY:** DEVELOPING STRATEGIES SPECIFIC TO INDIVIDUAL BUSINESS UNITS OR PRODUCT LINES TO ENHANCE PERFORMANCE.
- **FUNCTIONAL STRATEGY:** ADDRESSING SPECIFIC FUNCTIONS WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION, SUCH AS MARKETING, OPERATIONS, OR HUMAN RESOURCES.
- **DIGITAL STRATEGY:** GUIDING ORGANIZATIONS IN LEVERAGING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES TO IMPROVE CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY.
- **SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY:** HELPING BUSINESSES DEVELOP STRATEGIES THAT PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

EACH TYPE OF CONSULTING SERVICE IS TAILORED TO THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF THE ORGANIZATION, ENSURING THAT STRATEGIES ARE RELEVANT AND EFFECTIVE IN ACHIEVING DESIRED OUTCOMES.

HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT

SELECTING THE RIGHT STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT IS CRUCIAL FOR ENSURING SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES. ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING FACTORS WHEN MAKING THEIR CHOICE:

- **EXPERTISE:** LOOK FOR CONSULTANTS WITH SPECIFIC EXPERTISE RELEVANT TO YOUR INDUSTRY AND THE CHALLENGES YOU FACE.
- **TRACK RECORD:** EVALUATE THE CONSULTANT'S PAST PERFORMANCE AND SUCCESS STORIES TO GAUGE THEIR EFFECTIVENESS.
- **APPROACH:** UNDERSTAND THE CONSULTANT'S METHODOLOGY AND HOW IT ALIGNS WITH YOUR ORGANIZATION'S CULTURE AND NEEDS.
- **CLIENT REFERENCES:** REQUEST REFERENCES FROM PREVIOUS CLIENTS TO GAIN INSIGHTS INTO THE CONSULTANT'S WORKING STYLE AND RESULTS.
- **COST STRUCTURE:** CONSIDER THE PRICING MODEL AND ENSURE IT ALIGNS WITH YOUR BUDGET AND EXPECTED RETURN ON INVESTMENT.

BY CAREFULLY ASSESSING THESE FACTORS, ORGANIZATIONS CAN SELECT A CONSULTANT WHO NOT ONLY MEETS THEIR NEEDS BUT ALSO FOSTERS A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP THAT DRIVES STRATEGIC SUCCESS.

CONCLUSION

ENGAGING A STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT CAN BE A TRANSFORMATIVE DECISION FOR ORGANIZATIONS AIMING TO ENHANCE THEIR STRATEGIC CAPABILITIES AND ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH. WITH THEIR EXPERTISE, THESE CONSULTANTS PROVIDE INVALUABLE INSIGHTS, TAILORED STRATEGIES, AND IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT THAT EMPOWER BUSINESSES TO NAVIGATE CHALLENGES AND SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES. BY UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE, SERVICES, METHODOLOGIES, AND SELECTION CRITERIA FOR STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS, ORGANIZATIONS CAN MAKE INFORMED CHOICES THAT LEAD TO LONG-TERM SUCCESS.

Q: WHAT IS A STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT?

A: A STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT IS A PROFESSIONAL WHO PROVIDES EXPERT ADVICE TO ORGANIZATIONS ON DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE BUSINESS STRATEGIES AIMED AT ACHIEVING SPECIFIC GOALS AND IMPROVING OVERALL PERFORMANCE.

Q: WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF HIRING A STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT?

A: HIRING A STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT CAN LEAD TO ENHANCED DECISION-MAKING, IMPROVED OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY, ACCESS TO SPECIALIZED EXPERTISE, AND THE ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT BEST PRACTICES THAT DRIVE GROWTH AND PROFITABILITY.

Q: HOW DO STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS ANALYZE A COMPANY'S PERFORMANCE?

A: STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS ANALYZE A COMPANY'S PERFORMANCE THROUGH VARIOUS METHODS, INCLUDING SWOT ANALYSIS, MARKET RESEARCH, FINANCIAL ANALYSIS, AND PERFORMANCE METRICS TO IDENTIFY STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT.

Q: WHAT INDUSTRIES CAN BENEFIT FROM STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTING SERVICES?

A: STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTING SERVICES CAN BENEFIT A WIDE RANGE OF INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING HEALTHCARE, FINANCE, TECHNOLOGY, MANUFACTURING, RETAIL, AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, AMONG OTHERS.

Q: HOW LONG DOES A TYPICAL CONSULTING ENGAGEMENT LAST?

A: THE DURATION OF A CONSULTING ENGAGEMENT CAN VARY SIGNIFICANTLY BASED ON THE COMPLEXITY OF THE PROJECT BUT TYPICALLY RANGES FROM A FEW WEEKS TO SEVERAL MONTHS, DEPENDING ON THE SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTING SERVICES.

Q: WHAT QUALIFICATIONS SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN A STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT?

A: WHEN SELECTING A STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT, LOOK FOR QUALIFICATIONS SUCH AS RELEVANT EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND, INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE, STRONG ANALYTICAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS, AND A PROVEN TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESSFUL CONSULTING ENGAGEMENTS.

Q: CAN STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS HELP WITH DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION?

A: YES, MANY STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANTS SPECIALIZE IN DIGITAL STRATEGY AND CAN ASSIST ORGANIZATIONS IN LEVERAGING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY, ENHANCE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCES, AND DRIVE INNOVATION.

Q: WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN STRATEGY CONSULTING AND MANAGEMENT CONSULTING?

A: WHILE BOTH STRATEGY CONSULTING AND MANAGEMENT CONSULTING FOCUS ON IMPROVING ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE, STRATEGY CONSULTING SPECIFICALLY DEALS WITH LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLANNING AND POSITIONING, WHEREAS MANAGEMENT CONSULTING OFTEN ADDRESSES OPERATIONAL ISSUES AND EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS.

Q: HOW CAN ORGANIZATIONS MEASURE THE SUCCESS OF A STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT'S WORK?

A: ORGANIZATIONS CAN MEASURE THE SUCCESS OF A STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT'S WORK THROUGH KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIs) SUCH AS REVENUE GROWTH, MARKET SHARE IMPROVEMENT, OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY GAINS, AND OVERALL RETURN ON INVESTMENT.

Q: IS IT NECESSARY FOR A STRATEGY BUSINESS CONSULTANT TO HAVE INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE?

A: WHILE NOT STRICTLY NECESSARY, HAVING INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE CAN SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCE A CONSULTANT'S EFFECTIVENESS, AS IT ALLOWS THEM TO PROVIDE MORE RELEVANT RECOMMENDATIONS AND INSIGHTS TAILORED TO THE UNIQUE CHALLENGES OF THAT INDUSTRY.

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strategy business consultant: *Strategy Consulting* Jeroen Kraaijenbrink, 2020-08-27 Strategy consulting is one of the most highly respected and at the same time deeply detested jobs on this planet. Despite all the attention and controversy, though, there is surprisingly little written about it specifically. To address this void, this Element provides a comprehensive overview of this fascinating and emerging profession. Relying on existing research and the author's practical experience, it describes what strategy consulting is, where it comes from, how to effectively practice it and where to take it into the future. Taking the position of the individual strategy consultant, it offers an insightful perspective that is useful for scholars, students, consultants and clients of strategy consulting. In doing so it moves away from the dominant corporate practice of analytical strategy consulting. Instead, it offers an idealized whole-brain and whole-person view on what strategy consulting could and should be like in order to fully live up its promise as a profession contributing to society.

strategy business consultant: Client-Centered Business Consulting Federico Addimando, 2023-09-20 This book explores the psychology behind effective business consulting. We dive into the various factors that shape client behavior and decision-making, and we provide insights into the most effective techniques and strategies for building rapport, establishing trust, and delivering value. Whether you are a seasoned consultant looking to refine your skills, or a new consultant seeking to build a solid foundation, this book is designed to provide you with the tools and knowledge you need to succeed in the dynamic and demanding world of business consulting.

strategy business consultant: *Enterprise Growth Strategy* Dharendra Kumar, 2016-05-06 Even during economic downturns businesses have to grow to survive and compete in domestic and international markets. There is always a need to plan for future growth. Enterprise Growth Strategy presents the total process of a growth strategy. Dr Kumar is an engineer who entered the academic world following a long career in manufacturing business and has since taught almost every aspect of business and management. The 'growth strategy' concept he has developed is comprehensive and manifestly practical. Dr Kumar describes mechanisms by which businesses can gain market share; develop, modify, or upgrade products; acquire new or expand existing businesses; transform resources to increase revenue and profitability; reduce cycle time; and empower business associates. Quality concepts - market growth, financial and core competency - are outlined and a variety of growth strategy tools presented. The relationship between continuous improvement metrics and business growth metrics is explained and their relevance to financial performance examined. Examples and case studies are presented to illustrate how different business areas such as Sales and Marketing; Product Development; Operations; Support Services; and the Finance function, contribute. Leadership responsibilities, employee participation in the execution of growth strategy, culture and change issues are also discussed. Business leaders, managers and consultants, academics and teachers, as well as higher level students on business-related courses will find enormous value in this book. It is unusual, if not unique, in presenting the total process from vision to mission, to development of a growth strategy, implementation of initiatives, use of tools, and measurement of both operational and financial outcomes.

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successfully.

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New topics covered in this edition include: e-business consulting; consulting in knowledge management; total quality management; corporate governance; social role and responsibility of business; company transformation and renewal; and public administration.

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Pragmatism is enjoying a renaissance in management studies and the social sciences. Once written off as amoral, relativist and opposed to the ideals of Truth, Reason and Progress, it is now regaining influence in public policy, international relations and business strategy. But what can pragmatism teach us about strategy? How can pragmatic strategies help businesses to succeed? This innovative book presents a pragmatic framework for shaping and solving strategic problems in a practical, creative, ethical and finely balanced manner. To achieve this, the authors draw from Confucian teaching, American pragmatism and Aristotelian practical wisdom, as well as business cases across industries and nations, particularly from emerging economies. With significant theoretical depth, direct practical implication and profound cultural sensitivity, the book is useful for executive managers, public administrators, strategy researchers and advanced students in the search for pragmatic strategies in an interconnected, fast-moving world.

strategy business consultant: The Practice of Behavioral Strategy T. K. Das, 2015-10-01
Behavioral strategy continues to attract increasing research interest within the broader field of strategic management. Research in behavioral strategy has clear scope for development in tandem with such traditional streams of strategy research that involve economics, markets, resources, and technology. The key roles of psychology, organizational behavior, and behavioral decision making in the theory and practice of strategy have yet to be comprehensively grasped. Given that strategic thinking and strategic decision making are importantly concerned with human cognition, human decisions, and human behavior, it makes eminent sense to bring some balance in the strategy field by complementing the extant emphasis on the "objective" economics-based view with substantive attention to the "subjective" individual-oriented perspective. This calls for more focused inquiries into the role and nature of the individual strategy actors, and their cognitions and behaviors, in the strategy research enterprise. For the purposes of this book series, behavioral strategy would be broadly construed as covering all aspects of the role of the strategy maker in the entire strategy field. The scholarship relating to behavioral strategy is widely believed to be dispersed in diverse literatures. These existing contributions that relate to behavioral strategy within the overall field of strategy has been known and perhaps valued by most scholars all along, but were not adequately appreciated or brought together as a coherent sub-field or as a distinct perspective of strategy. This book series on Research in Behavioral Strategy will cover the essential progress made thus far in this admittedly fragmented literature and elaborate upon fruitful streams of scholarship. More importantly, the book series will focus on providing a robust and comprehensive forum for the growing scholarship in behavioral strategy. In particular, the volumes in the series will cover new views of interdisciplinary theoretical frameworks and models (dealing with all behavioral aspects), significant practical problems of strategy formulation, implementation, and evaluation, and emerging areas of inquiry. The series will also include comprehensive empirical studies of selected segments of business, economic, industrial, government, and non-profit activities with potential for wider application of behavioral strategy. Through the ongoing release of focused topical titles, this book series will seek to disseminate theoretical insights and practical management information that will enable interested professionals to gain a rigorous and comprehensive understanding of the subject of behavioral strategy. The Practice of Behavioral Strategy contains contributions by leading scholars in the field of behavioral strategy research. The 9 chapters in this volume cover a number of significant topics that speak to the practice perspectives on behavioral strategy, covering diverse topics such as M&A decision making in the high-tech sector, scenario thinking, business modeling, project-based organizations, fair trade market certification, and the movie and insurance industries. The chapters include empirical as well as conceptual treatments of the selected topics, and

collectively present a wide-ranging review of the noteworthy research perspectives on the practice of behavioral strategy.

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strategy business consultant: Management Consulting Matthias Kipping, Lars Engwall, 2002-06-20 This volume makes an important contribution to the growing literature on management consulting. It brings together international contributors from a wide variety of backgrounds and draws on recent empirical research from a diverse range of countries, consultancy firms, and client companies. The analysis focuses on three key areas. The first part of the book looks at the emergence and development of the consulting industry in different countries and time periods. The interplay between national systemic context and outside influences is stressed, and the efforts of consultants to become recognized as 'legitimate' knowledge carriers by their clients is highlighted, in competition — and sometimes cooperation — with other suppliers of management knowledge, notably academia. The volume goes on to consider the generation, management, and validation of consulting knowledge by consultancy organizations and management gurus, showing how these activities are influenced not only by the consultancies' own characteristics in terms of size, structure, and national origin, but also by the (national and cultural) context in which they are operating, and by the role of 'gatekeepers', such as book publishers or journalists. The third part of the book focuses on the nature and dynamics of the consultancy-client relationship, focusing especially on the ways in which consultants convince managers of the need to hire outside advisors; on the reaction of those concerned in the client organization towards the consultants' recommendations; and on the methods used by the consultants to overcome the possible reluctance and resistance from within the organization. From a more theoretical point of view, the chapters in this volume also show that research on management consulting has to take into account different levels of analysis: the consulting industry as a whole and its position relative to other knowledge providers such as academia; the specific consultancy organization and its relationships with internal and external sources of knowledge; and the particular consultancy project and notably the interplay between the consultants and the various stakeholders within and outside the client organization.

strategy business consultant: Competitive Intelligence, Analysis and Strategy Sheila Wright, 2014-07-10 The Holy Grail for most organisations is the successful attainment, and retention, of inimitable competitive advantage. This book addresses the question of how to leverage the unique intangible assets of an organisation: its explicit, implicit, acquired and derived knowledge. The refreshingly innovative concept of Intelligence-Based Competitive Advantage© is one which will eclipse the cost-driven and resource-reduction attitudes most prevalent in the first decade of this century. Tomorrow's organisation will need to derive IBCA© through the expert execution of bespoke competitive intelligence practice, unique analytical processes, pioneering competitive strategy formulation, and timely execution of all three, if they are to succeed. This volume consists of insights from Competitive Intelligence practices at both country and organisational level, Competitive Analysis processes within the firm and within challenging sector and economic

environments and Competitive Strategy formulation in profit, non-profit, real and virtual world contexts. It is essential reading for anybody wishing to gain a formal understanding of the practical and intellectual challenges which will face organisations in the future as they strive to achieve strategic foresight and Intelligence-Based Competitive Advantage. This book was originally published as two special issues of the Journal of Strategic Marketing.

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