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The Influence of Feedforward Control on Enterprise Performance and Its Mechanism

前饋控制對企業績效的影響及其機制研究

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by

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August 2018 二零一八年八月 傳統的企業管理通常以"從計劃到控制"為重點,即從戰略計劃制定到經營管理執行,再到作業系統控制為層級而構建的管理體系(Koontz,1958)。這種反饋控制雖然能夠起到"事後補救"的效果,但它也是一種延遲性控制,當解決方案拿出來時,偏差可能已經大到無法解決了(Koontz & Bradspies,1972)。所以,我們需要採取一種面向未來的管控措施。由於過去是無法改變的,有效的管控應當着眼於阻止在計劃中可能發生在現在或未來的偏差,這就是前饋控制(Koontz,1958)。前饋控制作為一種管理思想和智慧,其實在中國古已有之。它要求採取措施獲取外部信息並加以預測,在事件出現問題之前就發現問題、分析問題、解決問題,以最終達到糾偏的目的(閻耀軍、薛岩松,2009)。

本研究首先基於逆境管理理論探討了前饋控制的緣起、內涵、特徵、準則、及其在實踐中的應用。逆境管理理論認為,企業可以依照管理預警信息,對管理失誤與波動進行主動的預防控制並糾正其錯誤,從而促成管理過程在非均衡狀態下的自我均衡(佘廉,1999)。然後,本研究基於資源基礎理論進一步探討了前饋控制對企業績效的影響及其作用機制,包括組織彈性的中介效應和領導應對行為的調節效應。資源基礎理論認為企業是異質資源的組合,這種異質性資源恰好是競爭優勢的來源,企業只有把特殊資源的功能和效用發揮好,就能依靠這種競爭優勢確保企業長盛不衰(Wernerfelt,1984)。前饋控制作為一種新型的控制管理方式,它可被視為企業內部的一種特質性資源,從而為企業帶來超額的利潤和收益,推動企業績效持續提升。本研究以99家房地產及相關企業為研究樣本,進行了問卷調查。研究的結論如下:

(1) 前饋控制正向影響企業績效; (2) 前饋控制正向影響組織彈性,組織 彈性進而又正向影響企業績效,組織彈性也在前饋控制與企業績效之間具有

中介作用;(3)領導應對行為對前饋控制與組織彈性之間和對前饋控制與企

業績效之間的關系均具有負向調節作用;(4)領導應對行為與前饋控制的交

互作用透過組織彈性間接影響企業績效。

本研究的理論意義在於基於逆境管理理論和資源基礎理論探討了前饋控

制對企業績效的影響機制。另外,研究還探討了對實踐的指導意義,如注重

企業的前饋控制制度建設、多管齊下增強組織彈性,以及加強領導管理應對

能力培養和學習等。

關鍵字:前饋控制 組織彈性 領導應對行為 企業績效

Abstract

Traditional business management usually emphasize on "from plan to control", that is a management system from the strategic planning to the implementation of management, and then to building operating system control for level (Koontz, 1958). Although the feedback control is a "post-remedy" effect, which is also a kind of delayed control. The deviation may have been too large to be correct when the solution been proposed (Koontz & Bradspies, 1972). Therefore, we need to take a future-oriented control measures. As the past cannot be changed, effective control should focus on preventing possible deviations in the present or future in the plan, which is feedforward control (Koontz, 1958). Feedforward control as a management thought and wisdom, which in ancient China in fact. It requires people to take measures to obtain external information and make forecast, find the problem, analyze the problem, solve the problem before the event occurs, then achieve the purpose of rectifying eventually (Yan Yaojun, Xue Yansong, 2009).

Based on the theory of adversity management, this paper explores the origin, connotation, characteristics and criteria of feedforward control, and its application in practice. Adversity management theory suggests that enterprises can take the initiative to prevent and control management errors and volatility, and correct those mistakes follow the early warning information of management, thus that contributing to the management process be self-equilibrium under the unbalanced state (She Lian, 1999). Then, based on the basic theory of resources, this paper further discusses the influence of feedforward control on enterprise performance and its mechanism, including the mediating effect of organizational flexibility and the moderate effect of leadership coping behavior. The basic theory of resources suggests that the enterprise is a combination of heterogeneous resources, this heterogeneous resource is just the source of competitive advantage, only to play well the function and utility of the special resources, the enterprise can rely on this competitive advantage to ensure business continuity (Wernerfelt, 1984). As a new type of control management, feedforward control can be regarded as a kind of

special resources within the enterprise, to bring excess profits and benefits to the enterprise, and promote the continuous improvement of enterprise performance. In this study, we conducted a questionnaire survey with 99 real estate and related enterprises as the research samples. The results are as follows: (1) Feedforward control affects enterprise performance positively; (2) Feedforward control affects organizational elasticity positively, organizational elasticity has positive impact on enterprise performance, and organizational flexibility plays a mediating role between feedforward control and enterprise performance. (3) Leadership coping behavior has a negative effect both on the relationship between feedforward control and organizational elasticity and the relationship between feedforward control and firm performance; (4) interactions between leadership coping behavior and feedforward control indirectly affect organizational performance through organizational resilience.

The theoretical significance of this study is exploration on the impact of feedforward control on corporate performance mechanism based on the theory of adversity management and resource-based theory. In addition, the study also explores the significance of the practice, such as focusing on the construction of enterprise feedforward control system, taking multi-pronged ways to enhance organizational flexibility, and strengthening leadership management coping ability training and learning.

Keywords: feedforward control, organizational elasticity; leadership coping behavior; enterprise performance

目 錄

| 搪 | 喓 | | i |
|----|-------|-----------------------------------|-----|
| ΑŁ | ostra | act | iii |
| O | แลไร่ | fying Panel and Examination Panel | V |
| 致 | | 謝 | |
| | | | |
| | | 4 | |
| 表 | 目金 | 绿 | xi |
| 1 | 緒計 | 스 때 ······ | 1 |
| | 1.1 | | 1 |
| | 1.2 | 逆境管理與前饋控制 | 2 |
| | 1.3 | 研究的問題 | 3 |
| | 1.4 | 研究意義 | 5 |
| | 1.5 | 文章結構 | 7 |
| 2 | 文牘 | 默綜述 | 9 |
| | | | |
| | | 2.1.1 企業逆境的內涵和成因 | 10 |
| | | 2.1.2 企業逆境管理理論的觀點 | 12 |
| | | 2.1.3 企業逆境管理理論的功能 | 14 |
| | | 2.1.4 關於逆境管理理論研究的述評 | 15 |
| | 2.2 | 資源基礎理論 | 16 |
| | | 2.2.1 資源基礎理論的起源 | |
| | | 2.2.2 資源基礎理論的內容 | |
| | | 2.2.3 資源基礎理論的流派 | |
| | | 2.2.4 關於資源基礎理論研究的述評 | |
| | | 相關理論的研究述評 | |
| | 2.4 | 前饋控制文獻綜述 | |
| | | 2.4.1 前饋控制緣起 | |
| | | 2.4.2 前饋控制的內涵 | |
| | | 2.4.3 前饋控制的特徵 | |
| | | 2.4.4 前饋控制的準則 | |
| | | 2.4.5 前饋控制的實踐應用 | |
| | | 2.4.6 關於前饋控制研究的述評 | |
| | | 組織彈性文獻綜述 | |
| | | 領導應對行為文獻綜述 | |
| _ | | 整體研究述評 | |
| 3 | | 究模型與理論假設 | |
| | | 研究模型 | |
| | 3.2 | 研究假設 | |
| | | 3.2.1 前饋控制對企業績效影響主效應 | 46 |

| 3.2.2 組織彈性的中介效應 | 48 |
|---------------------|-----|
| 3.2.3 領導應對行為的調節效應 | 53 |
| 4 研究設計與數據分析 | 57 |
| 4.1 研究一: 前饋控制量表 | |
| 4.1.1 房地產企業的環境動蕩性分析 | 57 |
| 4.1.2 前饋控制的測量內容 | 58 |
| 4.1.3 内容分析信度與內容效度比 | 59 |
| 4.1.4 探索性因素分析 | 60 |
| 4.1.5 信度分析 | 64 |
| 4.2 研究二:正式研究設計 | 65 |
| 4.2.1 數據獲取 | 65 |
| 4.2.2 測量工具 | 70 |
| 4.3 假設檢驗 | 73 |
| 4.1.1 描述性統計 | 73 |
| 4.1.2 回歸分析 | 76 |
| 5 研究結論與未來展望 | 89 |
| 5.1 研究結論 | |
| 5.2 研究貢獻和不足 | |
| 5.2.1 理論貢獻 | 91 |
| 5.2.2 實踐啟示 | |
| 5.2.3 研究局限性和未來展望 | |
| <u>參考文獻</u> | |
| | |
| 附錄 調查問券 | 106 |

圖目錄

| 圖 2-1 | 研究邏輯圖 | 10 |
|-------|----------------------------|----|
| 圖 2-2 | 前饋控制過程圖 | 28 |
| 圖 3-1 | 研究模型 | 46 |
| 圖 4-1 | 領導應對行為對前饋控制與組織彈性關係的調節作用示意圖 | 83 |
| 圖 4-2 | 領導應對行為對前饋控制與企業績效關係的調節作用示意圖 | 86 |

表目錄

| 表 2-1 企業競爭優勢的來源 | 18 |
|----------------------------------|----|
| 表 4-1 前饋控制量表的測量題項 | 59 |
| 表 4-2 預測試樣本人口與統計學分析 | 62 |
| 表 4-3 前饋控制量表的因素載荷矩陣 | 64 |
| 表 4-4 前饋控制量表 CITC 分析 | 65 |
| 表 4-5 董事長樣本人口與統計學分析 | 67 |
| 表 4-6 CEO 樣本人口與統計學分析 | 68 |
| 表 4-7 核心部門主管樣本人口與統計學分析 | 69 |
| 表 4-8 企業規模人口與統計學分析 | 69 |
| 表 4-9 本研究量表的 Cronbach α 係數 | 71 |
| 表 4-10 前饋控制量表的驗證性因素分析 | 72 |
| 表 4-11 領導應對行為量表的驗證性因素分析 | 72 |
| 表 4-12 組織彈性和企業績效量表的驗證性因素分析 | 73 |
| 表 4-13 研究變量的均值、標準差和相關係數矩陣 | 74 |
| 表 4-14 前饋控制對企業績效的回歸分析 | 76 |
| 表 4-15 前饋控制對組織彈性的回歸分析 | 77 |
| 表 4-16 組織彈性對企業績效的回歸分析 | 78 |
| 表 4-17 組織彈性的中介效應回歸分析 | 80 |
| 表 4-18 領導應對行為對前饋控制與組織彈性關係的調節作用分析 | 81 |
| 表 4-19 領導應對行為對前饋控制與企業績效關係的調節作用分析 | 83 |
| 表 4-20 組織彈性的被中介的調節效應回歸 | 88 |