REFEREE'S REVIEW

Program:	MITIM
Student:	Ekaterina Abrakhova
Title of thesis:	Decisive factors affecting a government organization's cloud computing adoption: a case study of Sakha Republic government

Justification of the topic choice. Accuracy in defining the aim and objectives of the thesis. Justification of the topic choice; accuracy in defining the aim and tasks of the thesis; originality of the topic and the extent to which it was covered; alignment of the thesis' topic, aim and objectives.	5	_4_	3	2
Structure and logic of the text flow. Logic of research; full scope of the thesis; alignment of thesis' structural parts, i.e. theoretical and empirical parts.	5	_4_	3	2
Quality of analytical approach and quality of offered solution to the research objectives. Adequacy of objectives coverage; ability to formulate and convey the research problem; ability to offer options for its solution; application of the latest trends in relevant research are for the set objectives.	5	_4_	3	2
Quality of data gathering and description. Quality of selecting research tools and methods; data validity adequacy; adequacy of used data for chosen research tools and methods; completeness and relevance of the list of references.	5	_4_	3	2
Scientific aspect of the thesis. Independent scientific thinking in solving the set problem/objectives; the extent to which the student contributed to selecting and justifying the research model (conceptual and/or quantitative), developing methodology/approach to set objectives.	5	4	_3_	2
Practical/applied nature of research. Extent to which the theoretical background is related to the international or Russian managerial practice; development of applied recommendations; justification and interpretation of the empirical/applied results.	5	4	_3_	2
Quality of thesis layout. Layout fulfils the requirements of the Regulations for master thesis preparation and defense, correct layout of tables, figures, references.	5	_4_	3	2

Each item above is evaluated on the following scale, as applicable: 5 = excellent, 4 = good, 3 = satisfactory, 2 = poor

Additional comments:

The objective of this work is important and topical: to analyze decisive factors affecting the Sakha Republic e-Government's cloud computing adoption. The work consists of Introduction, 4 chapters, list of references and 4 appendixes. The case organization is the Regional center of Sakha Republic e-Government IT-infrastructure which is considering to adopt the cloud technology. To reveal decisive factors series of interviews were held by Ekaterina with case study participants. The main risks and benefits associated with project were discussed using modified DEMATEL approach. The title and research objectives are clearly stated. The structure of the work is mostly logical. Theoretical part has alignment with the practical one. The Master Thesis is a completed research, contributing to development both theoretical study of cloud computing and managerial practice of e-government's cloud computing adoption.

Data selection and preparation, selecting research tools and methods, justification and interpretation of the empirical results are fulfilled at satisfactory professional level, but unfortunately, there are a number of omissions.

1. Author described e-Government initiatives in different countries from EU up to New Zealand but left only two sentences for Russia (p.25) and missed the Federal Program "Information Society 2011-2020" with "E-Government" project. Desktop virtualisation does not correspond to the main e-Government services to be implemented for the Russian Federation e-Government.

2. There is no appropriate analysis of the actual/future Sakha Republic e-Government cloud computing ecosystem. Author discussed the case using methodology Misra and Mondal (2010) with limited analysis of ecosystem and without modelling its corresponding Return on Investment.

3. In Chapter 1 author is using references on several secondary resources about cloud computing not paying attention on the main "classical" definitions and taxonomies from NIST Cloud Computing Reference Architecture (http://www.nist.gov/itl/cloud/index.cfm).

4. Some references are not proper formatted and could not be found. For example, the reference work A.Mikhailov (2010).

5. Security is both included in benefits and risks of cloud computing (Figures 3-4).

Master thesis of Ekaterina Abrakhova meets the requirements of MITIM program, and deserves a "good" grade in case of successful defense, thus the author can be given the desired degree.

22/06/2012

Referee: *Asc. Professor Sergey Yablonsky*