REFEREE'S REVIEW

Program:	Master in Management (MIM)
Student:	Pachin Stanislav
Title of thesis:	Risk Management in transportation companies: Russian and Finnish practices

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.			
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.			
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.			
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.		3	
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.			
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.		3	
Quality of thesis layout . Layout fulfils the requirements of the Regulations for master thesis preparation and defense, correct layout of tables, figures, references.			

Each item above is evaluated on the following scale, as applicable: 5 = the thesis meets all the requirements, 4 = the thesis meets almost all the requirements, 3 = a lot of the requirements are not met in the thesis, 2 = the thesis does not meet the requirements.

Additional comments:

Justification of the topic choice. Accuracy in defining the aim and objectives of the thesis.

Research topic, titled "Risk Management in transportation companies: Russian and Finnish practices", is relevant in both national and international contexts. The goal of the thesis is clearly stated. The objectives are consistent with the goal. However, is not clear managerial problem which the author wants to solve.

Structure and logic of the text flow.

The structure in general is logical. The methodology used is adequate for this type of study.

Quality of analytical approach and quality of offered solution to the research objectives.

The research questions correspond to the main goal of the study. In the literature review (chapter 2) author list some theoretical methods which can be used to solve research objectives, but does not explain the methods itself.

Quality of data gathering and description

It's not clear why the author does not consider statistical methods and tools in the empirical study of the research but use an expert method. Conceptual model is very general and based only on a few experts' responses.

Scientific aspect of the thesis

The methodology includes both quantitative and qualitative approaches, adequate the empirical data but is not unique for such type of research.

Practical/applied nature of research

Applied recommendations and interpretations of empirical results are only satisfactory because is not clear who are interested in these results.

Quality of thesis layout.

The layout of the thesis fulfils the requirements of the Regulations for master thesis preparation and defense. The layout of tables, figures, and references is also correct.

Master thesis of <u>Stanislav Pachin</u> meets the requirements of the <u>Master in Management</u> Program, and according to the reviewer's opinion deserves an "<u>good C</u>" grade, thus the author can be given the desired degree.

Date 02/06/2016

Referee: Maria Vladimirovna Fattakhova, Candidate of Physics and Mathematics, Associate professor Saint Petersburg University of Aerospace Instrumentation

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