REFEREE'S REVIEW

Program:	Master in Management (MIM)
Student:	Pavel Tarabanov
Title of thesis:	Technique improvement of supply chain creation: storage service supplier selection

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.		4	
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.			
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.		4	
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.			
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 "Technique improvement of supply chain creation: storage service supplier selection", is clearly formulated and justified both from academic and practical point of view. The aim and objectives of research are clearly settled.

Structure and logic of the text flow.

The structure of the thesis is clear cut and fully reflects logic of research.

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

The research questions correspond to the main goal of the study. The author demonstrates the ability to analyze different research techniques and choose those which fit better to the problem. 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

The main goal of this research is technique improvement of storage service supplier selection and its application to case company. The general methodology includes both quantitative and qualitative approaches. Data quality is good.

Scientific aspect of the thesis.

From scientific point of view the author applied APIS method to solve storage service supplier selection problem.

Practical/applied nature of research.

Managerial applications, applied recommendations and interpretation of the technique are clear and important for managerial practice.

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>Pavel Tarabanov</u> meets the requirements of the <u>Master in Management</u> Program, and according to the reviewer's opinion deserves an "<u>excellent B</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