Technology Transfer : A Study of the Basic Concept and Developments International and Domestic

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Technology transfer is being studied from a variety of angles, giving rise to an equal diversity of concepts of the subject. This paper examines the basic structures and processes involved in order to gain an understanding of technology transfer as a unified concept. A further purpose is to perform an empirical examination of technology transfer in terms of what is involved in both its international and domestic forms. The paper itself comprises five chapters.

Entitled "The Concept of Technology Transfer: Basic Structures," Chapter One presents a three-dimensional structural model of transfer vectors: (1) transfer from one interested party to another (inter-party), (2) transfer from one phase to another (inter-phase), and (3) transfer from one application to another (inter-application).

Entitled "Basic Processes of Technology Transfer," Chapter Two presents a three-tiered model of technology transfer: (1) conversion to technology information, (2) transfer of technology information, and (3) reproduction of technology.

Entitled "China: A Specific Case of International Technology Transfer in Progress," Chapter Three considers actual trends and changes in policy in an attempt to gain an understanding of new developments in international technology transfer taking place in China.

Entitled "Japan: A Specific Case of Domestic Technology Transfer in Progress I," Chapter Four takes a look at policies for the promotion of patent distribution and TLO in the context of technology transfer taking place internally in Japan.

Entitled "China: A Specific Case of Domestic Technology Transfer in Progress II," Chapter Five examines China's so-called "scientific and technological reforms" to see what this tells us of the issues involved in domestic technology transfer.

The empirical studies contained in Chapters Three through Five shed light on the validity and otherwise of the models presented in chapters One and Two. Also revealed is the possibility that such a study can be developed to embrace MOT research.