HOW COULD WE ENCOURAGE START-UPS? THE CASES AT IWATE PREFECTURE IN JAPAN (SUMMARY)

Shingo Igarashi
Kyushu University, igarashi@qrec.kyushu-u.ac.jp

Noriko Taji
Hosei University

Recommended Citation
Igarashi, Shingo and Taji, Noriko (2011) "HOW COULD WE ENCOURAGE START-UPS? THE CASES AT IWATE PREFECTURE IN JAPAN (SUMMARY)," Frontiers of Entrepreneurship Research: Vol. 31: Iss. 17, Article 12.
Available at: http://digitalknowledge.babson.edu/fer/vol31/iss17/12
HOW COULD WE ENCOURAGE START-UPS? THE CASES AT IWATE PREFECTURE IN JAPAN

Shingo Igarashi, Kyushu University, Japan
Noriko Taji, Hosei University, Japan

Principal Topic
There are 40 spin-offs from 1 plant of the company. Almost all of them survive. The region is not high-tech cluster, but a developing region in Japan, which’s GDP and the unemployment rate is in the worst 10 in Japan. Why were so many start-ups founded from 1 plant? The entrepreneurial opportunity recognition in the entrepreneurial process is due to Individual. The founders should have experienced similar situation there compared with the person in the other companies. How could the founders find out each Entrepreneurial Opportunity?

Method
I could interview in structural with 23 founders in 40 spin-offs, for example, about his education, his career, reason why they launched and his process for start-upping so on.

Results and Implications
The spin-offs were established in two periods, around 1993 and 2002. Both in them, all the founders did not need to leave the company. There are differences between two periods. In the first, most of founders were manufacturing worker and have three or more work experience in the line. They found out their entrepreneurial opportunity (E.O.) easily because he could know the potential of market. So, they launched original design manufacturer. On the other hand, in the second, most of the founders worked as engineers. They would establish manufacturing companies that had own product. They need to look for own E.O. It means they wanted to create E.O. rather than to find out. They needed to spent a couple of year for developing own product. When they just start their venture after successful product development, they could be supported by the first period spin-offs network. The two groups are complementary to each other. And they were sharing the same work in the same plant; they could trust each other immediately.

CONTACT: Shingo Igarashi; igarashi@qrec.kyushu-u.ac.jp; (T): +81-92-642-4011; (F): +81-92-642-4015; Kyushu University, 6-10-1 Hakozaki Higashi-ku Fukuoka 812-8581 Japan.