

Technology Transfer



Susantha Weerakoon

BSc (MIS), MBA (ISM),
MPhil (Development Economics),
PhD (Business Psychology)

Technology Transfer

Technology transfer refers to the process of sharing and disseminating knowledge, technologies, and innovations from one entity or organization to another for further development, commercialization, or societal benefit. This process typically involves transferring intellectual property rights, know-how, and expertise between universities, research institutions, government agencies, and industry.

Types of Technology Transfer

- International technology transfer,
- Regional technology transfer
- Cross-industry or Cross- sector technology transfer,
- Interfirm technology transfer
- Intrafirm technology transfer

International Technology Transfer

This type of transfer involves the exchange of technology, knowledge, and expertise between entities located in different countries. It can occur through various mechanisms, including licensing agreements, joint ventures, technology partnerships, and international research collaborations. International technology transfer is crucial for promoting global innovation, and economic development, and addressing shared challenges on a global scale.

International Technology Transfer

- **Smartphone Technology Transfer:**

Smartphones' development and widespread adoption involved international technology transfer. Companies like Apple, Samsung, and Huawei have leveraged technologies from various countries through collaborations, acquisitions, and licensing agreements to create innovative smartphones with advanced features and capabilities.

Regional Technology Transfer

Regional technology transfer focuses on the exchange of technology and knowledge within a specific geographical region, such as a city, state, or economic bloc. Regional technology transfer initiatives often aim to promote economic development, innovation ecosystems, and technology clusters within a particular region. These initiatives may involve partnerships between government agencies, universities, research institutions, and industry stakeholders to support local innovation and entrepreneurship.

Regional Technology Transfer

Silicon Valley in California, USA, is a prime example of regional technology transfer. The region serves as a hub for innovation, entrepreneurship, and technology transfer, with a dense network of startups, venture capital firms, universities, and research institutions collaborating to drive technological advancements and economic growth within the region.

Cross Industry Technology Transfer

This involves the transfer of technology and knowledge across different industries or sectors that may have distinct technological capabilities, expertise, and applications. For example, SpaceX's projects often involve cross-industry technology transfer, leveraging expertise and technologies from aerospace, engineering, materials science, and software development to innovate and disrupt traditional space exploration and transportation.

Cross Industry Technology Transfer

SpaceX, founded by Elon Musk, has revolutionized space exploration through cross-industry technology transfer. SpaceX's development of reusable rocket technology, adapted from the aerospace and automotive industries, has significantly reduced the cost of space launches and paved the way for commercial space travel and exploration.

Inter firm Technology Transfer

Inter-firm technology transfer refers to the exchange of technology, knowledge, and resources between different companies or organizations operating within the same industry or sector. This may include technology licensing agreements, technology partnerships, joint research and development projects, or supplier-customer relationships aimed at transferring or co-developing innovative technologies to enhance competitiveness and create value.

Inter firm Technology Transfer

IBM and Apple formed a strategic partnership to collaborate on enterprise mobile solutions. Through this partnership, IBM provided its expertise in business software and analytics, while Apple contributed its mobile technology and user interface design. The collaboration resulted in the development of enterprise-focused mobile apps for various industries, facilitating technology transfer between the two companies.

Intra firm Technology Transfer

Intrafirm technology transfer occurs within a single company or organization, involving the transfer of technology, knowledge, and best practices between different departments, divisions, or subsidiaries. This may include the sharing of proprietary technologies, expertise, and R&D resources to drive innovation, improve operational efficiency, and leverage synergies across different parts of the organization.

Intra firm Technology Transfer

Toyota Production System (TPS): Toyota's renowned production system, TPS, exemplifies intrafirm technology transfer. TPS incorporates principles of lean manufacturing, continuous improvement, and just-in-time production, which have been developed and refined within Toyota's own operations over decades. Toyota has transferred these best practices and methodologies across its global network of manufacturing facilities to improve efficiency and quality.

Mechanisms of Technology Transfer

Market oriented Transfer Mechanism

- Transfer take place due to market forces

Non-Market oriented Transfer Mechanism

- No influence of market forces

Phases of Technology Transfer

1. Recognizing the need for technology
2. Identifying the technology gap
3. Identification of Sources and options available
4. Selection of transfer Mechanism
5. Evaluation and Selection
6. Acquisition
7. Adaption



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