

# Strategic Management Journal

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## Author Guidelines

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The *Strategic Management Journal* seeks to publish the highest quality research with questions, evidence and conclusions that are relevant to strategic management and engaging to strategic management scholars. We receive manuscripts with a diverse mix of topics, framings, and methods, and our acceptances reflect this diversity.

More specifically, the *Strategic Management Journal* seeks to publish papers that develop and/or test theory, replicate prior studies, explore interesting phenomena, and evaluate the many methodologies used in our field. *SMJ* also publishes studies that demonstrate a lack of statistical support in a particular sample for specific hypotheses or research propositions. We welcome a diverse range of researcher methods and are open to papers that rely on statistical inference, qualitative studies, conceptual models, computational models and various kinds of mathematical models.

The *SMJ* Co-editors assign submitted manuscripts to Associate Editors based on the expertise of editors and the need to balance workload among the editors.

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### *Reporting Results of Statistical Analyses*

*SMJ* no longer accepts papers for publication that report or refer to cutoff levels of statistical significance (p-values). In statistical studies, authors should report either standard errors or exact p-values (without asterisks) or both, and should interpret these values appropriately in the text. Rather than referring to specific cutoff points, the discussion could report confidence intervals, explain the standard errors and/or the probability of observing the results in the particular sample, and assess the implications for the research questions or hypotheses tested.

*SMJ* also now requires in papers accepted for publication that authors explicitly discuss and interpret effect sizes of relevant estimated coefficients.

As of January 1, 2016, new submissions that do not conform to these policies will be returned to the authors for revision prior to review. The *SMJ* editorial on “Creating Repeatable Cumulative Knowledge in Strategic Management” (2016, available online at the *SMJ* Wiley Online website prior to publication) provides more detailed explanation of these policies.

### *Replication Studies and Studies that Report “Non-results”*

*SMJ* publishes and welcomes submissions of replication studies. Additional guidelines will be provided in the *SMJ* special issue on replication.

*SMJ* publishes and welcomes submissions of studies with non-results. These types of studies demonstrate a lack of statistical support in a particular sample for specific hypotheses or research propositions. Such hypotheses or propositions should be straightforward and logical. Studies should be conducted rigorously and assess the robustness of the non-results, such as robustness to alternative measurement, statistical specifications and estimation methodologies.

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*SMJ* strongly supports research that seeks to address interesting and important questions in strategic management that involve complicated causal processes. *SMJ* recognizes that statistical analyses relevant to these questions may raise the issue of endogeneity. If relevant, authors should acknowledge this issue in submitted manuscripts, and make a good faith effort to address it. In some cases, causal inference may be impossible, but statistical correlations, especially if used to rule out some alternative hypotheses or mechanisms, may still be of interest. The *SMJ* editorial on “Quantitative Empirical Analysis in Strategic Management” (2014, volume 35: 949-953) provides more detailed explanation.

### *Data Snooping and P-hacking*

*SMJ* strongly disapproves of data snooping and p-hacking practices in empirical research. Authors of submitted papers should not search databases for statistically significant coefficients with the intention of subsequently formulating hypotheses that fit the significant coefficients. Authors also should not adapt experimental designs with the primary intention of producing statistically significant results. In addition, authors of submitted papers should address the material significance (magnitude) of the results, in addition to statistical significance.

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Recognizing the importance of research transparency and data sharing to cumulative research, *SMJ* encourages authors to share the data supporting the results in their study by archiving them in an appropriate public repository. In partnership with the non-profit Center for Open Science (COS), *SMJ* will award qualifying authors an Open Practice badge recognizing their contributions to the open science movement.

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## **General Style:**

The suggested limit for paper size is 35 pages, which includes figures and tables and no more than **40 pages in total length**. References should be single-spaced to conserve manuscript space. The language of the journal is American English. Please be sure that your paper is double-spaced and uses a 12-point readable font and 1-inch margins on all sides. Your text, including titles of sections, must be left-justified. **Research notes should not be over 20 pages in length** including title page and abstract, text, figures, tables and references.

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- Do not number sections.
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- En dashes (–) rather than hyphens (-) are used to denote a range, for example, 1996–2000; pages 124–155.

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## Examples of correct referencing style:

### Books:

Badaracco JL. 1991. *The Knowledge Link: How Firms Compete Through Strategic Alliances*. Harvard Business School Press: Boston, MA.

Bleeke J, Ernst D (eds). 1993. *Collaborating to Compete: Using Strategic Alliances and Acquisitions in the Global Marketplace*. John Wiley & Sons: New York.

### Book Chapters:

Bowman EH, Singh H. 1990. Overview of corporate restructuring: trends and consequences. In *Corporate Restructuring*, Rock L, Rock RH (eds). McGraw-Hill: New York; 1–16.

Collis D. 1996. Organizational capability as a source of profit. In *Organizational Learning and Competitive Advantage*, Moingeon B, Edmondson A (eds). Sage: London, U.K.: 139–163.

### Journal Articles:

Bagozzi R, Phillips L. 1982. Representing and testing organizational theories: a holistic construal. *Administrative Science Quarterly* **27**(3): 459–489.

Grant, RM. 1996. Toward a knowledge-based theory of the firm. *Strategic Management Journal*, Winter Special Issue **17**: 109–122.

Jensen M, Zajac EJ. 2004. Corporate elites and corporate strategy: how demographic preferences and structural position shape the scope of the firm. *Strategic Management Journal* **25**(6): 507–524.

### Working Papers:

Cohen MD, Nelson RR, Walsh JP. 2000. Protecting their intellectual assets: appropriability conditions and why U.S. manufacturing firms patent (or not). NBER working paper 7552, National Bureau of Economic Research, Cambridge, MA. Available at: <http://www.nber.org/papers/w7552>.

Child J, Yan Y. 1999. Predicting the performance of international alliances: an investigation in China. Working paper, Chinese Management Centre, University of Hong Kong.

### Papers Presented at Meetings:

D'Eredita M, Misiolek N, Siow J. 2005. States of mind as stages of team development: making sense of strategies for building a virtual team. In *Proceedings of the 5th Annual Hawaii International Conference on Business*, Honolulu, HI. Available at: <http://www.hicbusiness.org>.

Misiolek N. 2003. Knowledge management and the corporate university: insights from the knowledge-based view of the firm. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Academy of Management, Seattle, WA.

### Periodicals:

*BusinessWeek*. 2005. All that glitters. 16 October: 22–24.

### Online Sources:

Van Brundt J. 2001. The many facets of co-development. *Signals Magazine* 19 May: 1-6.  
<http://www.signalsmag.com/signalsmag.nsf> [6 June 2005].