

**The extent of application of the process management principles in relation to the legal form of the business and the business activity in the period of economic crisis in small and medium sized enterprises**

Monika Maříková (University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Czech Republic)

Ladislav Rolínek (University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Czech Republic)

Jana Kubecová (University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Czech Republic)

Jaroslav Vrchota (University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Czech Republic)

In this time of constant change, globalizing environment and increasing possibility of risk occurrence, a process driven company is more capable of responding better to new conditions and of preventing crisis situations. It also has enough of organizational resources and procedural options to minimize the impact of the crisis and is able to better cope with critical situations (Hora, 2010). The process management is a relatively new trend in the field of organization of business companies. The enterprises, which operate under the principles of the process management, have, according to McCoy, Sinur and collective (2007), a competitive advantage over the others.

This particular piece of writing presents the extent of application of the process management principles at small and medium-sized enterprises in the Czech Republic in relation to their legal form and business activity. The MPP Indicator (Truneček, 2003; Rolínek et al., 2012) is used in the analysis. For the purposes of the research, the data gained on the basis of structured interviews carried out in 187 small and medium-sized enterprises were used.

Based on the Chi-square test, it can be argued that there is a relationship between the extent of implementation of the process management principles and the legal form of the business. In the examined sample, it was also successfully proved through the Chi-square test that there is a relationship between the application of the process management principles and the business activity of the enterprises. The principles mostly apply in companies, which operate in the field of engineering production, followed by services, including transport and construction companies.