

INTRODUCTION

The book presents modern methods for analyzing and modelling knowledge resources in a company.

The methods discussed are specifically oriented towards big international enterprises (networking companies).

Many of these knowledge methods also facilitate the process of knowledge application in SME (small and medium enterprises) which, in many cases, create cooperation networks for big companies referred to in the hereby book as “firm-integrator”.

Materials used in this book are partly based on Polish edition of the book by Kazimierz Perechuda, *Dyfuzyja wiedzy w przedsiębiorstwie sieciowym. Wizualizacja i kompozycja* [Knowledge Diffusion in a Networking Company. Visualization and Composition], Wydawnictwo Akademii Ekonomicznej we Wrocławiu, Wrocław 2007, pp. 185-224.

The book entails also many new knowledge models and methods. In the last years many books and papers in the research field named Knowledge Management (KM) have been published. Also many conferences, seminars and workshops about KM have been organized.

Companies are permanently transformed into knowledge organizations. At the macro level we speak about knowledge economy, knowledge society etc.

In every business university KM is one of the most important research fields and is included into teaching courses.

The theoretical background of KM has been published in many books, papers and periodicals. But still there is lack of publications which are concentrated on modern instruments, models, methods and techniques of knowledge management. This book should reduce this publishing gap.

The material presented in the book is especially oriented towards consulting companies, knowledge officers and managers in networking enterprises.

It is also very useful for the teachers and students of the universities of economics and management colleges.