

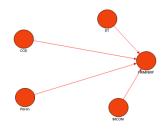
# **Environmental Hostility Contingencies on the Relationship between Knowledge Management Strategy and Firm Performance**

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#### Graphical abstract



#### **Abstract**

This study aims to investigate the environmental hostility contingencies on the relationship between knowledge management strategy and firm performance. Knowledge management strategies are classified into two dimensions: Codification and Personalization. These studies cover the 192 completed and usable questionnaires were received from respondents which comprises of large size Indonesian manufacturing firms. The result via smartPLS revealed that knowledge management strategies positively and significantly influence the Indonesian manufacturing firm's performance. Other findings display that environmental turbulences has only the contingency effect (the moderating effect) on the relationship between knowledge management strategy and manufacturing firm performance. Based on findings, the implications and future research also be discussed in this paper.

Keywords: Knowledge management strategy; firm performance; environmental hostility

#### Abstrak

Kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji kontingensi permusuhan persekitaran terhadap hubungan antara strategi pengurusan pengetahuan dan prestasi firma. Strategi pengurusan pengetahuan diklasifikasikan kepada dua dimensi: Kodifikasi dan Keperibadian. Kajian ini meliputi 192 soal selidik yang lengkap dan boleh digunakan yang telah diterima daripada responden yang terdiri daripada syarikat pembuatan bersaiz besar di Indonesia. Hasil analisis SmartPLS menunjukkan bahawa strategi pengurusan pengetahuan secara positif dan signifikan mempengaruhi prestasi firma pembuatan Indonesia. Penemuan lain menunjukkan pergolakan persekitaran hanya mempunyai kesan luar jangka terhadap hubungan antara strategi pengurusan pengetahuan dan prestasi firma pembuatan. Berdasarkan hasil kajian, implikasi dan penyelidikan masa hadapan turut dibincangkan dalam kertas ini.

Kata kunci: Strategi pengurusan pengetahuan; prestasi firma; perseteruan lingkungan

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## ■1.0 INTRODUCTION

In the era of globalization and knowledge economic, where James J. Schiro was an American businessman and a director of number of multinational companies stated that "business environment, knowledge and how it is managed for competitive advantage will be the number one corporate priority", and moreover, the main features and characteristics of knowledge economy can be defined through their key drivers such as: "information revolution, flexible organization, knowledge, skills and learning, innovation and knowledge networks, learning organizations and innovation systems, competition and production" [1]. Therefore, the companies will be successful in the era globalization and knowledge economic, they have to always

create their new knowledge through continuous learning for gaining their competitive advantage.

Scholars have proposed the varieties of theories which explain how organizations to adapt to their environment such as the theory of knowledge management and learning organization. Moreover this theory state that organizations adapt and survive to environmental changes by using offensive knowledge to improve the fit between themselves and their environment. Based on the MAKE research program, which consists of the annual Global MAKE have been studying the international benchmark for best practice knowledge organizations such as in the area of regional or national studies, including Asia, Europe, India, Indonesia, Japan and North America. It is noted by the annual Global MAKE, that many Asian companies could be categorized as the

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most admired knowledge enterprise, and they succeeded in application of knowledge management. Although scholars have suggested that knowledge management in general is critical to the company's performance in contemporary organizations, and very few studies on the extent to which specific knowledge management strategies affect performance<sup>[2]</sup>. Specifically for Indonesia, it is also shown very little study of the relationship between knowledge management strategy and manufacturing performance, as an example, Maya Irjayanti<sup>[3]</sup> have only been examined knowledge management in the banking industry. Furthermore they found that knowledge management systems have "the valuable contribution to secure employees' tacit knowledge through building of standard operating procedure. So then the company could perform with certain standard without rely on certain employees ability". As in the context of a manufacturing company, they are very vulnerable to environmental factors, so it needs to be investigated environmental contingencies on the relationship between knowledge management strategy and firm performance [4]. Therefore, it is also important to examine the influence of the environmental hostility contingency on the relationship between knowledge management strategy and firm performance, especially for Indonesian manufacturing firm. Therefore, this study will attempt to investigate the relationship between knowledge management strategy and firm performance, and environmental hostility as contingency variable.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. In the next section, the literature review and proposed model with hypotheses are discussed. Then, this study described the methodology, the sample and data collection, and the measurements of the constructs. This is followed by a test of a proposed model using SmartPLS-SEM model, where the reliability and validity of the measurement and the results of PLS-SEM are shown in this section. Finally, the discussion, conclusion and implications about the findings, and future studies are described in section four and five.

#### ■2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

This literature review describes theoretical background, knowledge management strategy, firm performance, and link knowledge management strategy and firm performance where environmental hostility as contingency factor (moderating factor).

## 2.1 Knowledge Management Strategy

McInerney says that there are two kinds of knowledge strategy. The first relates to "a supply-side strategy that tends to focus on the distribution and deployment knowledge of the current organization" and the second is "the demand side that focuses on meeting organizational needs for new knowledge". In other words, "the first strategy focuses on knowledge sharing and dissemination, and the second to the innovation of science and mechanics of each generation of knowledge"[5]. Furthermore, knowledge can be divided into two types: explicit and tacit knowledge. Both types of knowledge are significant to the organization. In most cases, "knowledge creation depends on the conversion between these types"[6];[7];[2]. Explicit knowledge management strategy can be categorized as codification strategy, in which focus to manage, use and store this corporate knowledge assets systematically (e.g., standards, procedures). Whereas, tacit knowledge strategies can also be categorized as personalization knowledge management strategy and it emphasis on "knowledge sharing through mutual interaction, dialogue that supports the sharing of knowledge by one-to-one connection and are manifested through social networking group or team work is used"<sup>[8]</sup>. Therefore, Hansen and Nohria investigated several management consulting firms and found two very different knowledge management strategies in place in these firms; a codification strategy and a personalization strategy<sup>[9]</sup>. The researchers argued that companies should seek either a codification strategy or a personalization strategy in isolation to utilize corporate knowledge most effectively.

## 2.1.1 Codification Strategy

Codification strategy indicates that knowledge is carefully codified and stored in databases and then accessed and used easily by anyone in the company. The benefits of codification strategy indicate that sharing of codified knowledge can improve task efficiency and also can improve task quality and signal competence to clients[10]. Faster response to customers and lower cost per knowledge transaction are main goals of this strategy. With this strategy, it is aimed to increase the codification capability of the firm, thereby, reducing the complexity of access and reuse of knowledge via information technologies. Firms using explicit oriented can achieve scale economies strategy organizational efficiency through reusing codified knowledge<sup>[11]</sup>.

#### 2.1.2 Personalization Strategy

Personalization strategy means that knowledge is closely tied to the person who developed that knowledge and is shared primarily through direct person-to-person contacts. In tacit oriented KM strategy or Personalization strategy context, the emphasize is on sharing knowledge through mutual interactions; dialogues that supports sharing knowledge by one-to-one connections and that eventuate through social networks occupational groups or teams are used<sup>[8]</sup>. Firms using this strategy protect themselves against being imitated by their rivals through keeping their strategic knowledge such as knowhow in tacit form<sup>[12]</sup>.

#### 2.2 Firm Performance

The company's performance can be defined as "the process of quantifying the efficiency and effectiveness of the actions of the past through the acquisition, collection, sorting, analysis interpretation, and dissemination of appropriate information"[13]. Performance of the company can be translated in several dimensions, as suggested by most of the literature in the past such as: higher profits, sales volume and market share<sup>[14]</sup>. In addition, sales, asset growth, sales volume and market share growth can be categorized as business performance, and it is the facts which are often found in studies by scholars. In addition, performance indicators can be classified in the form of tangibles and intangible indicators. In this research will be used dimensional manufacturing performance such as profitability, ROI, customer retention, and sales growth as proposed by Powell & Dent-Micallef<sup>[15]</sup>, therefore, these dimensions can also be classified as direct and subjective measures of financial and non-financial measurements.

#### 2.3 Knowledge Management Strategy and Firm Performance

In the empirical research on the relationship between knowledge management strategy and firm performance, in which Keskin<sup>[4]</sup> proposed a theoretical model, that classifies knowledge management strategies into two categories, namely explicit and

tacit knowledge management strategy. Furthermore, the study results show that tacit and explicit knowledge management strategies positively affect the firm performance. Furthermore, Keskin<sup>[4]</sup> also found that the impact of explicit knowledge is greater than tacit knowledge on firm performance.

Singh and Zollo[16] investigated the impact of tacit and codified knowledge accumulation strategies on the performance of corporate acquisitions. The authors showed that tacit-oriented knowledge management strategy had a positive influence on organizational performance if task characteristics are highly homogeneous or similar. However, Singh and Zollo<sup>[16]</sup> also found that codified knowledge management strategy appeared to be an important factor when task characteristics are categorized as low homogeneity. The study indicated that firms should align their knowledge strategies with their task characteristics. Then, Choi and Lee<sup>[17]</sup> stated that knowledge management strategies can be divided into two dimensions as declared by many researchers which focus on the system orientation and the human orientation. Furthermore, system orientations focused on codified knowledge through information technology, and try to share that knowledge formally. On the contrary, human orientation in knowledge management strategies, the emphasis focused on dialogue through social networks and person-to-person contact, so the acquisition of knowledge obtained through an experienced and skilled person, and seeks to share knowledge informally<sup>[17]</sup>. Choi and Lee<sup>[18]</sup> based on their study, said that the mix between system orientation and human orientation can produce better corporate performance. Furthermore, Mohamad Kazem Emadzade et al. stated that organizational structure, knowledge acquisition, knowledge application and knowledge protection were significantly related to organizational performance. This research also indicated that appropriate investments in knowledge management initiatives can enhance the Organizational performance. Then a recent study conducted by Jason F. Cohen and Karen Olsen<sup>[19]</sup>, found that codification and human capital knowledge management capability are independently associated with increased firm performance outcomes. Therefore:

H 1: the greater Knowledge management strategy, the greater firm performance.

Corollary Hypothesis:

- H 1.1: the greater codification strategy, the greater firm performance.
- H 1.2: the greater personalization strategy, the greater firm performance.

#### 2.4 Environmental Hostility as Contingency Factor

The possible relationships of contingency factors to manufacturing practices and performance can be classified as drivers, mediators, or moderators. The exact form may differ depending on the researcher's approach, and the empirical results determine the validity or invalidity of the research models<sup>[20]</sup>. Several researchers have studied the characteristics of the environment hostility that plays as moderator role in the relationship between manufacturing practices and operations

performance. Furthermore, the organization's environment is defined as contingency factors that are beyond the direct control of the company<sup>[21]</sup>. Atuahene et al.<sup>[22]</sup> and Keskin<sup>[4]</sup> argued that "competition in the market related to the markets in which the company operates, further it can be seen, in a weak intensity market competition, customers have little or no choice in products or services that offered by the company. But on other hand, in a high market competition, it is necessary for the company to be responsive to customer needs, so the companies need to adopt an orientation and repair their products and processes to prevent customers from switching to other more innovative competitors. Noordewier, John and Nevin<sup>[23]</sup> and Keskin<sup>[4]</sup> explained their findings that "turbulence can be identified as unexpected changes in environmental conditions. Obsolete developing products and processes on the market in a short time, the rapid turnover of products and processes, and changes in customer expectations and demands are basic indicators of environmental turbulence". Keskin<sup>[4]</sup> also found "that explicit- and tacit-oriented knowledge management strategies positively affect firm performance". Furthermore, both environmental turbulence and intensity of market competition also have moderating impact strongly on the relationship between explicit-oriented and tacit-oriented knowledge management strategies and firm performance. Liao Liefa et al.[24] stated that" different knowledge management strategy has different effects on organizations under different environments". Moreover, when the firms use the wrong type of knowledge management strategy they cannot get their benefit of learning aim and will affect their performance. Therefore:

H 2: the greater the environmental hostility, the greater the positive relationship between Knowledge management strategy and firm performance.

Corollary Hypothesis:

- H2.1: the greater the environmental turbulence, the greater the positive relationship between codification strategy and firm performance.
- H2.2: the greater the environmental turbulence, the greater the positive relationship between personalization strategy and firm performance.
- H2.3: the greater the intensity market competition, the greater the positive relationship between codification strategy and firm performance.
- H2.4: the greater the intensity market competition, the greater the positive relationship between codification strategy and firm performance.

#### ■3.0 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

## 3.1 Research Framework

The present research will develop a model in which the impact of organizational learning capability on firm performance as presented in Figure 1.

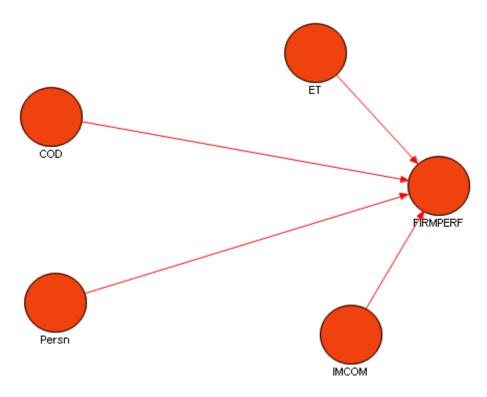


Figure 1 Conceptual framework

## 3.2 Population and Sample

This study used population of all large-sized companies in Indonesia. Furthermore, the target population for the study consisted of a manufacturing organization in ISIC code 26 (non-metallic mineral products), 27 (Primary Metals) 28 (Fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment), 29 (machinery and equipment), 30 (office, accounting and computing machinery), 31 (electrical machinery and apparatus nec), 32 (Radio, television and communication equipment and equipment), 33 (Medical, precision and optical instruments), 34 (motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers)<sup>[25]</sup>;.

## 3.3 Sampling Design

Organization is the unit of analysis of this study, according to Campbell, DT (1955) a good informant for the purpose of this research should be one that has access to all the issues under investigation. Therefore, the CEO is the single key informant. Type of sampling design is a limited probability sampling (random sampling technique) where the elements of the population has some probability of being selected as a sample subject. The sample of 1000 respondents drawn from a list of all the respondents in the population using computer generated random numbers.

#### 3.4 Construct Measurement

Knowledge Management strategies as independent variable is adopted from Choi and Lee<sup>[18]</sup>, and Keskin<sup>[4]</sup> construct. These dimensions are Codification strategy (cod), and Personalization strategy (persn). Moreover, firm performance (firmper) as dependent variable is adopted from Powell & Dent-Micallef<sup>[15]</sup>, the Tippin and Sohi<sup>[26]</sup> construct, Environmental hostility in this study was measured by two factors namely: Environmental Turbulence (et) and Intensity of Market Competition (imcom) are adopted form Atuahene-Gima, K<sup>[22]</sup>, Desphande *et al.*<sup>[27]</sup>, and Keskin<sup>[4]</sup>. All constructs above are measured by using five-point Likert scales

#### ■4.0 FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The Figures 2, 3 and 4 display the result of partial least squares equation modeling techniques by using SmartPLS. The reliability and validity of latent variables of this model is shown on the table below. Moreover, for the assessment of PLS\_SEM model, some basic element should be covered in this study as following:

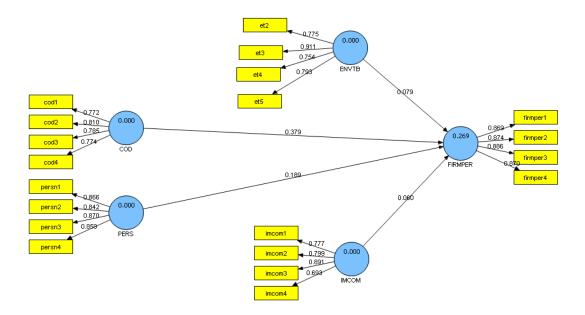


Figure 2 PLS-SEM result

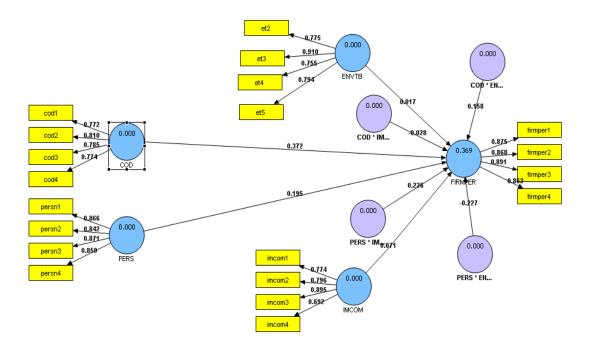


Figure 3 PLS-SEM result with moderating

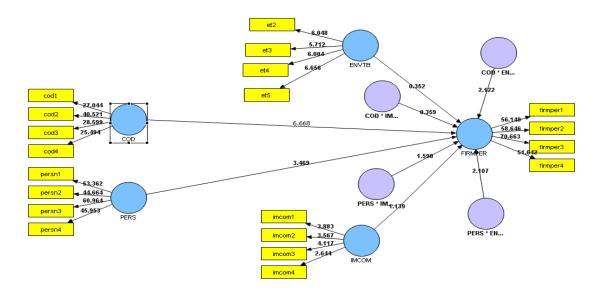


Figure 4 Structural path significance in bootstrapping

## 4.1 Indicator Reliability

The result of SmartPLS is presented in Table 1; indicate that all of the indicators have individual indicator reliability value that are much larger than the minimum acceptable level of 0.4 [28] and almost every item with ranging from .590 to .830. The indicator reliability value can be calculated by using the square each of the outer loading.

## 4.2 Internal Consistency Reliability

The internal consistency reliability traditionally can be measured

by using the cronbach's alpha. On other hand, the cronbach's alpha tends to provide the lower bound estimate reliability and conservative measurement in PLS-SEM, so that scholars have suggested the use of "composite reliability" as substitute [29]. Table 1 displays the values of composite reliability to be larger than 0,6, therefore the high levels of internal consistency reliability have been denoted among all five latent variables such as: codification strategy, personalization strategy, environmental turbulence, intensity market competition, and firm performance.

 Table 1
 Results summary for outer models

| Latent Variable                 | Indicator | Loading | Indicator Reliability | Composite Reliabilty | AVE   |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------|
| Codefication Strategy(COD)      | cod1      | 0.772   | 0.590                 | 0.866                | 0.620 |
|                                 | cod2      | 0.810   | 0.660                 |                      |       |
|                                 | cod3      | 0.785   | 0.620                 |                      |       |
|                                 | cod4      | 0.774   | 0.599                 |                      |       |
| Personalization strategy (PERS) | persn1    | 0.866   | 0.750                 | 0.919                | 0.739 |
|                                 | persn2    | 0.842   | 0.709                 |                      |       |
|                                 | persn3    | 0.870   | 0.757                 |                      |       |
|                                 | persn4    | 0.859   | 0.738                 |                      |       |
| Environmental Turbulences       | et2       | 0.775   | 0.601                 | 0.884                | 0.657 |
| (ENVTB)                         | et3       | 0.911   | 0.830                 |                      |       |
|                                 | et4       | 0.754   | 0.569                 |                      |       |
|                                 | et5       | 0.793   | 0.629                 |                      |       |
| Intensity Market Competition(   | incom1    | 0.777   | 0.604                 | 0.871                | 0.629 |
| IMCOM)                          | incom2    | 0.799   | 0.638                 |                      |       |
|                                 | incom3    | 0.892   | 0.796                 |                      |       |
|                                 | incom4    | 0.693   | 0.480                 |                      |       |
| Firm Performance                | Firmper1  | 0.869   | 0.755                 | 0.919                | 0.765 |
| (FIRMPER)                       | Firmper2  | 0.874   | 0.764                 |                      |       |
|                                 | Firmper3  | 0.886   | 0.785                 |                      |       |
|                                 | Firmper4  | 0.870   | 0.757                 |                      |       |

#### 4.3 Convergent Validity

In order to check convergent validity of the PLS\_SEM model above, the average variance extracted (AVE) each latent variable should be evaluated. Looking at Table 1, it shows that all of the AVE values are greater than the acceptable threshold of 0.5, so convergent validity is confirmed.

#### 4.4 Discriminant Validity

Discriminant validity of the measurement model with reflective indicators above can be assessed by measuring the construct cross loading. If the correlation between the constructs and measurement items is greater than the other latent constructs. Therefore this condition will indicate that the latent constructs

have the items measurement prediction is better than the items measurement prediction of the other latent constructs.

Another method for assessing the discriminat validity is to compare the value of the square root of average variance extracted (AVE) in each latent construct to the other correlation value among the latent constructs [30]. Moreover, if this value is larger than other correlation values among the latent construct, so this result indicate well established.

For example, Table 2 display the latent construct codification's AVE is found to be 0.620 hence its square root becomes 0.787. This number is larger than the correlation values in the column of Cod (0.501, 0.101, 0.032, and 0.483). Similar observation is also made for the other latent constructs such as Pers, Envtb, Imcom, and Firmper, and the results indicate that discriminant validities are well established.

Table 2 Analysis for checking discriminant validity

|         | COD   | PERS   | ENVTB | IMCOM | FIRMPER |
|---------|-------|--------|-------|-------|---------|
| COD     | 0.787 |        |       |       |         |
| PERS    | 0.501 | 0.859  |       |       |         |
| ENVTB   | 0.101 | -0.012 | 0.810 |       |         |
| IMCOM   | 0.032 | -0.008 | 0.162 | 0.793 |         |
| FIRMPER | 0.483 | 0.377  | 0.125 | 0.084 | 0.875   |

## 4.5 Explanation of Firm Performance Variance

In order to test the hypothesis that postulated a positive and significant relationship between all dimension of knowledge management strategy(personalization, and codification) and firm performance, the SmartPLS results can be analyzed to determine the variance of firm performance explained by the two dimension of knowledge management strategy (personalization, and codification) that displayed in Figure 3 and Table 3. Furthermore, the result indicates the coefficient of determination, R<sup>2</sup>, is 0,369 for endogenous latent variable. This means that the two dimension of knowledge management strategy (codification personalization strategy) and environmental (environmental turbulences and intensity market competition) jointly explained 36, 9% of the variance of overall firm performance. The SmartPLS results also indicate that the two dimensions of knowledge management strategy sequentially have path coefficient as follows: are 0.372 for the effect of codification strategy (cod), 0.194 for the effect of personalization strategy (pers), 0,017 for the effect of environmental turbulences (envtb), 0,071 for intensity market competition (imcom),0.158 for the interaction construct cod\*envtb, -0,027 for cod\*imcom, -0.226 for pers\*envtb, and 0.225 for pers\* imcom. This means that codification strategy has the strongest effect on firm performance.

Table 3 and Figure 4 also display structural path significance in bootstrapping. Furthermore, the path coeffisient of the inner model can be checked if they are significant or not by using a two-tailed t-test with significant level of 5 %. The results indicate the hypothesized path relationship between codification strategy (cod)and firm performance is statistically significant with a significant level of 1 % (the T-statistics is 6.668, this means the number is larger than 2.58), as well as to the hypothesized path

relationship between personalization strategy (pers) and firm performance is statistically significant with a significant level of 1 % (the T-statistics is 3.469, this means the number is larger than 2.58). Therefore, the main hypothesis and its corollary hypotheses (postulated a positive and significant relationship between all dimension of knowledge management strategy and firm performance) were all supported. On other hand, The results indicate the hypothesized path relationship between environmental turbulences (Envtb)and firm performance, and as well as path relationship between intensity market competition(imcom) and firm performance are not significant.

Table 3 also display, the interaction construct cod \* envtb and pers \* envtb have significant moderating effect on firm performance with a significant level of 5 %, but the The interaction construct cod \* imcom and pers \*imcom have not significant moderating effect on firm performance. Therefore, this study indicates that only environmental turbulence can be considered as moderating effect to the relationship between Knowledge management strategy and firm performance. The interaction constructs cod \* envtb has the same direction as hypothesized. While, the interaction construct pers \* envtb, showing a negative effect, has not the same direction as hypothesized. To assess, strong or weak moderating effect on this model, changes in R<sup>2</sup> in Figures 1 and 2 can be seen, so that f<sup>2</sup> can be calculated. Furthermore, the results of f<sup>2</sup> is 0.158, indicating that the moderating effect of environmental hostility on this model is medium. After reviewing the path coefficient for the inner model above, the T-statistic in the outer loading can also be checked as presented in Table 4. Therefore, all of T-statistics are large than 1, 96. So this study can be said that the outer model loadings above are highly significant.

Statistics Original Sample Standard Standard Hypotheses Sample (O) Deviation (|O/STERR|) **Tsting Results** Mean (M) Error (STERR) (STDEV) COD -> FIRMPER 0.372 0.339 0.056 6.668 \*\* 0.056 Supported COD \* ENVTB -> FIRMPER 0.158 0.136 0.074 0.074 2.121 \* Supported COD \* IMCOM -> FIRMPER 0.076 0.076 Rejected -0.0270.012 0.359 ENVTB -> FIRMPER 0.017 0.033 0.048 0.048 0.352 Rejected IMCOM -> FIRMPER 0.071 0.063 0.062 0.062 1.138 Rejected PERS -> FIRMPER 0.194 0.191 0.056 0.056 3.469\*\* Supported PERS \* ENVTB -> FIRMPER -0.226 -0.1820.107 0.107 2.106\* Supported

0.141

Table 3 Path Coefficients (Mean, STDEV, T-Value) and Hypotheses testing result

PERS \* IMCOM -> FIRMPER

#### 4.6 Discussion

Based on the findings of this study above, displayed that knowledge management strategy (Codification Personalization strategy) positively influences performance. These findings also show that Indonesian manufacturing firms use a symbiosis between codification and personalization strategy, where, codification strategy has the strongest effect on firm performance. Then it can be concluded that manufacturing firms of Indonesian show their knowledge management style are the system oriented style. Therefore, this finding fully supports the hypothesis (H 1) and its corollary hypotheses, and can be concluded that this finding is also in line with a study of Keskin<sup>[4]</sup>. But, according to Choi and Lee<sup>[18]</sup>, that manufacturing firms tend to use the knowledge managementhuman oriented style instead of using the knowledge management-system oriented style, so this contrast can be explained that the employees of Indonesian companies tend to use more manual or codified knowledge than their own experiences and networking relationships, or maybe other reason, because they more concerned with formalized and standardized business processes rather than knowledge sharing with the emphasis interpersonal interaction.

0.225

0.159

Furthermore, the findings of this study also indicate that only the moderating effects of environmental turbulence that strengthen the relationship between codification strategy and firm performance on a large scale manufacturing in Indonesia. But, the environmental turbulence weakens the relationship between personalization strategy and firm performance. The otherwise, it has no moderating effect of intensity market competition on the relationship between codification and personalization strategy and firm performance. Therefore, this finding shows that the hypothesis (H2) is only partially supported, and is not in line with a study of Keskin<sup>[4]</sup>. Where, Keskin<sup>[4]</sup> found that the greater the environmental hostility, the greater the relationship between knowledge management strategies (personalization codification knowledge strategy) and firm performance. In largescale manufacturing firms, especially in Indonesia in the face of high environmental turbulence, to maintain their business sustainability, they seem to consider more focused on the use of explicit -oriented level, which need the degree of codifying and storage of organizational knowledge, and so their employees more easily to use and access it [18]. On the contrary, the result of interaction between construct personalization strategy and environmental turbulence display a negative effect. That indicated, they attempt to reduce the orientation of the tacit knowledge, or means that they are attempting to reduce the acquisition and knowledge sharing through personal interaction, and more focus on strengthening the explicit knowledge they have previously mastered in case of turbulent environment.

On other hand, In the face of the intensity of market

competition, these findings demonstrate the manufacturing firms of Indonesian consistently use symbiosis between codification and personalization strategy, or in other words that market competition intensity has not effect on the strengthening of relationship between knowledge management strategies and firm performance.

1.590

Rejected

## 4.7 Implication

0.141

The implications of this study can be demonstrated through how managers can improve their company's performance through knowledge management strategy. In general, companies using the mixture of codified and personalized knowledge strategy. For example in the companies of a system-oriented style as represented in this study, managers should pay attention more intensely on the codified knowledge in their companies such as know-how, technical skill, or problem solving methods. Furthermore, this codified knowledge can be acquired easily through formal documents and manuals. As well as each the results of project meetings shall be neatly documented. Table 1 shows the each of indicator of the codification strategy with loading of 0.772, 0.810, 0.785, and 0.774 respectively, they are good indicators of codification strategy. Whereas for personalized knowledge strategy, managers must also pay attention on how knowledge can be easily obtained from experts and co-workers, or gain knowledge through face to face advice from experts, as well as through informal dialogue and meetings used to share knowledge. Further, knowledge can be acquired by one-to-one mentoring in their company. Therefore, Table 1 also shows the each of indicator of the personalization strategy with loading of 0.866, 0.842, 0.870, and 0.859 respectively, they are good indicators of personalization strategy

## **■5.0 CONCLUSION**

The objective of this study was to investigate the relationship between knowledge management strategy (codification and personalization strategy) and Indonesian manufacturing firm performance. The finding shows that knowledge management strategy positively affects Indonesian manufacturing firm performance, which means the hypothesis H1, is fully supported. Moreover, other findings show that only environmental turbulence strengthens the relationship between codification knowledge management strategy and the Indonesian manufacturing company performance. This means that the hypothesis H2 is only partially supported, or in other words Indonesian manufacturing firm put more emphasis on codified knowledge strategy in facing the environmental turbulence, in order to maintain the sustainability of their business. On other hand, in face of intensity market competition they consistently use the mixture of codified and personalized knowledge strategy.

<sup>\*\*</sup>p<1%, \*p<5%

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#### Appendix A

Items in : Knowledge management strategy scale, environmental hostility scale, and firm performance scale.

## Item in codification<sup>[18]</sup>

- Cod1. Knowledge (Know-how, Technical skill, or problem solving methods) is well codified in my company.
- Cod2. Knowledge can be acquired easily through formal documents and manuals in my company.
- Cod3. Results of projects meetings should be documented in my company.
- Cod4. Knowledge is shared through codified forms like manuals or documents in my company.

## Items in personalization [18]

- Persn1. My knowledge can be easily acquired from experts and co-workers in my company.
- Persn2. It is easy to get face-to-face advises from experts in my company.
- Persn3. Informal dialogues and meetings are used for knowledge sharing in my company.
- Persn4. Knowledge is acquired by one-to-one mentoring in my company.

## Firm performance [15]

- Firmper1. Over the past 3 years, we have been more profitable than our competitors
- Firmper2. Over the past 3 years, our return on investment has exceed our competitors
- Firmper3. Over the past 3 years, our sales growth has exceeded our competitors.
- Firmper4. Over the past 3 years, our customer retention has been outstanding.

## Environmental turbulence [22],[27] and[4]

- Et1. Competition in this product area is cut throat.
- Et2. There are many promotion wars in this product area
- Et3. Anything that one competitor can offer in this product areas, others can match readily
- Et4. Price competition is a hallmark in this area
- Et5. One hears of a new competitive move in this product area almost everyday

# Intensity of market competition [22],[27], and[4].

- Imcom1. Extremely aggressive competition
- Imcom2. Intense price competition
- Imcom3. Strong competitor sales, promotion or distributions system
- Imcom4. One or two dominant competitors