EARNING EXPECTED BENEFITS OF ERP FOR INSURANCE ORGANIZATIONS IN SRI LANKA: IMPLEMENTATION PERSPECTIVE

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DECLARATION

I declare that this is my own work and this thesis does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a Degree or Diploma in any other University or institute of higher learning and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where the acknowledgement is made in the text.

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ABSTRACT

During the study of the research gap it was found that there are many complain in sustainability of benefits in insurance ERP implementation projects. These complain are due to not meeting expected benefits from the implementations or declining the initially acquired benefits. There is very little study done in this area and in fact, any study in Sri Lankan context could not be found. Consequently this research has three main aims. First is to identify important factors that influence gaining sustainable value from ERP implementations in insurance organizations. The second is to identify the degree of criticality of such factors for post implementation success and value addition. The third and the final is to formulate a framework or guidance with such factors to facilitate ERP implementations for insurance organizations in Sri Lanka

The study was based on the data collected from insurance professionals in Sri Lankan insurance industry representing various capacities. There were 24 semi-structured interviews conducted. The analysis of findings was formed into 32 arguments and a questionnaire was submitted to same respondents and few additional professionals to identify the criticality of derived factors. In addition the information from two real life projects concluded recently was included. The final results were further analyzed with previous literature and developed a guidance using 20 important factors to consider in depth in order to get sustainable benefits from the insurance ERP implementation projects.

The outcome of this thesis has achieved a guidance to acquire sustainable benefits from insurance ERP implementations, which in also reflect to facilitate as a mitigation plan for insurance ERP project implementation risks. This would be an interesting information for prospective project managers those who expect to implement other insurance information systems too.

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ABREVIATIONS

BPR Business Process Reengineering

CEO Chief Executive Officer

CIO Chief Information Officer

CRM Customer Relationship Management

ERP Enterprise Resource Planning

GL General Ledger

GWP Gross Written Premium

HRM Human Resources Management

IBSL Insurance Board of Sri Lanka

ICT Information & Communication Technology

IFRS International Financial Reporting Standards

IS Information Systems

IT Information Technology

MI Management Information

MIS Management Information Systems

OLTP On-Line Transaction Processing

ROI Return on Investment

SME Small & Medium Enterprises

SMS Short Message Services

SOA Service Oriented Architecture

SaaS Software as a Service

UAT User Acceptance Testing