

Dominant Personalities in Board Committees, Company Characteristics, and Internet Environmental Disclosure by Malaysian Listed Companies

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ABSTRACT

This paper investigates the determinants of internet environmental disclosure (IED) amongst Malaysian listed companies. Ten variables have been tested using data collected from 170 Malaysian listed company websites, namely, dominant personalities in the audit committee, chairman of audit and nomination committees, dominant personalities in the audit and nomination committees, internationality, leverage, foreign shareholders, level of technology, firm age, number of shareholders, and listing status. It was found that internationality, foreign shareholders, level of technology, firm age, number of shareholders, and listing status are significantly affected by the level of IED. However, dominant personalities in the audit committee, chairman of audit and nomination committees, dominant personalities in the audit and nomination committees, and leverage did not show a significant relationship with the level of IED in Malaysia. The study provided some evidence to support signaling theory, shareholder accountability theory, and cost and benefit hypothesis in relation to internet disclosure.

Keywords: Determinants; internet environmental disclosure; listed companies.

ABSTRAK

Artikel ini mengkaji penentu-penentu bagi pendedahan maklumat persekitaran melalui internet dalam kalangan syarikat-syarikat Malaysia yang tersenarai. Sebanyak sepuluh pemboleh ubah telah dianalisa dengan menggunakan data daripada 170 laman web iaitu personaliti dominan dalam jawatankuasa audit, pengerusi jawatankuasa audit dan perlantikan, personaliti dominan dalam jawatankuasa audit dan perlantikan, keantarabangsaan, leverage, pelabur luar, tahap teknologi, usia syarikat, bilangan pemegang saham dan status penyenaaraian. Daripada kajian ini didapati bahawa faktor keantarabangsaan, pelabur luar, tahap teknologi, usia syarikat, bilangan pemegang saham dan status penyenaaraian mempengaruhi tahap pendedahan maklumat persekitaran melalui internet secara signifikan. Bagaimanapun personaliti dominan dalam jawatankuasa audit, pengerusi jawatankuasa audit dan perlantikan, personaliti dominan dalam jawatankuasa audit dan perlantikan serta leverage tidak mempunyai perhubungan yang signifikan dengan pendedahan maklumat persekitaran melalui internet. Dapatan kajian ini menyokong teori pemberitahuan, teori kebertanggungjawaban pemegang saham dan hipotesis kos dan faedah berkaitan dengan pendedahan melalui internet.

