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CENTRE FOR TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT (CTD) IN SYRIA

SYRIA

Technical report: introduction of strategic, structural technology transfer and marketing concepts*

Prepared for the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, acting as executing agency for the United Nations Development Programme

Based on the work of Steven M. Sweid Consultant in commercialization of the results

of R + D activities

Backstopping officer: Mikhail Boutoussov, Institutional Infrastructure Branch

United Nations Industrial Development Organization Vienna

^{*} This document has not been edited.

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

CURRENCY

The Syrian Pound has the official value of approx 45 Syrian Pounds to the US dollar.

TECHNICAL TERMS

CTD: Centre for Technology Development.

SSRC: Scientific Studies and Research Center

Incubation center: Consists of a physical and organisational structure that provides the appropriate support and environment to a given technology and the manpower involved in this technology to help it develop a commercially viable product. Science parks, a technology parks represent some of the various types of incubation centers. Moreover, every company has some form of incubation facility to enable it to develop and launch new products.

Commercialisation: Is the process of transforming R&D know how into commercially viable products, including also the transfer of technology to the commercial sector, ie industry.

Technology transfer: Is the process of transferring a given technology along the different development phases, is research, development, design, manufacturing ,marketing etc... It also refers to the transfer of a given know how (license) from a given source to a recepient. There are many ways to transfer technology, eg through people movement, licenses, products, equipment, training, subcontract manufacture, etc.

Innovation: Is the process of creating new products, usually referring to commercially successful products.

Module (In the framework of the CID project): Can be characterised as a self supporting, comparatively small group of well educated and experienced staff comprising specialists in a given field of science/technology (Project of the module) and necessary supporting team specialised in information services, marketing, technology transfer, prognostics and industrial relations.

ABSTRACT

This two weeks long assignment in Syria, and which is described in this report, makes part of a joint program aimed at developing the Centre for Technology Development (CTD) in Syria, whereby this centre will serve as a vehicle providing assessment, transfer, adaptation and commercialisation of various novel technologies relevant to the country. In view of the achievements of the Scientific Studies and Research Centre (SSRC) in the field of optical instrumentation, ie project DP/SYR/86/011, it was deemed reasonable to base the activities of CTD, at least partially, on such achievements. Initially, the focus will be placed on simple optical microscopes and other devices for medical and educational purposes, which represent the stage 1 of the optical project module.

Furthermore, it is stipulated that the commercialisation of technology should proceed gradually, ie subcontract manufacture of mechanical parts in the initial phase, followed possibly by the same for the optical parts (lenses), and ultimatly the set up of an assembly operation in the private sector.

The objective of this assignment was to introduce to the specialists of SSRC the basics of technology transfer, marketing and management relevant to the fast and efficient start-up of manufacturing of designed devices.

Preparation for the visit was in the form of research and interviews covering a number of industrialised and developing countries. This up to date and relevant backup data was used to produce the presentation material for the above topics.

In Syria, presentation and discussion sessions were organised with SSRC, in addition to visits to the different workshops at SSRC, and to a few private sector companies. These sessions were used to work out details, models, and guidelines pertaining to the specific product range and the local market.

In consideration of the overall situation at SSRC and the local market, it was found that with the integration of the proper market oriented attitude and organisation at SSRC the above endavour for commercialisation of technology has a very good chance for success, even in the foreseable future. The clear commitment of SSRC to technology development and manufacturing, and their strong willingness to implement the commercialisation process, need to be coupled with the proper business mentality throughout their organisation and activities.

A set of practical recommendations has been produced in collaboration with the SSRC team. This should help in the buildup of the initial momentum of the commercialisation process. Emphasis was placed on guidelines in the form of success criteria, and the need to introduce even at this early stage a marketing activity within SSRC. Eventually, these activities which relate to commercialisation, could be shifted over to CTD.

INTRODUCTION

The assignment described in this report is part of a joint program aimed at developing the Centre for Technology Development (CTD) in Syria, whereby this centre will serve as a vehicle providing assessment, transfer, adaptation and commercialisation of various novel technologies relevant to the country. These technologies may be indigenous, foreign or jointly elaborated.

For a realistic and successful launch of the CTD project, it was earlier deemed reasonable to base the activities of CTD, at least partially, on the achievements of the Scientific Studies and Research Centre (SSRC) in the field of optical instrumentation; this in view of the successful performance of the project DP/SYR/86/011.

A modular approach to the implementation of this commercialisation project is being undertaken, whereby the optical instrumentation would represent the first module (with simple optical microscopes and other devices for medical and educational purposes representing the stage 1), and with subsequent modules being introduced one at a time.

The objective of this assignment is to introduce to the specialists of SSRC the basics of technology transfer, marketing and management relevant to the fast and efficient start-up of manufacturing of designed devices. The main purpose is seen in breaking the psychological barrier linked with commercialisation, by presenting different case studies, guidelines and success criteria.

Preparation for the project included extensive research and interviewing in different industrialised and developing countries, with the aim to extract up to date, relevant and essential information. This feedback was used to prepare the presentation material, which was then delivered in a sequence of workshop type lectures at SSRC (in the form of transparencies).

Apart from the presentation sessions, a number of seperate discussions took place with the SSRC team to assess their specific situation, and to work out targeted recommendations and solutions, certainly in relation to the stage 1 products, ie microscopes, educational and medical optical devices. This activity was supported by a series of visits to the SSRC departments and some local manufacturers.

It is worthwhile pointing out that the consultant appointed for this job is also familiar with the local market in Syria. Therefore, despite the short length of the assignment (2 weeks in Syria), it was possible to work out quite detailed and concrete suggestions in collaboration with with the SSRC team.

In this report only extracts from the presentation material are included (in the Annex). Full copies of the transparencies have been supplied to SSRC, UNDP, and UNIDO.

MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

(Detailed justifications are included in the arnex.)

- * SSRC (CTD) ought to involve also in the market introduction and entry phases of the developed new products prior to transfering the full technology package to the private sector: This will speed up the process of commercialising the technology.
- * Project manager should involve also in strategic activities (ie overall pathfinding) which relate to product/market interface and commercialisation considerations, and should overview regularly marketing issues. He should gradually allocate more time (approx 50%) to such activities, which are as important as the technological aspects.
- * Appointment even at this early stage of a suitable marketing man, on a fulltime basis, to support different commercialisation aspects. Ideally, this man will report to project manager (Mr Moussoulli). Marketing man will also involve in marketing the idea of tech-transfer to the private sector, including the screening and selecting of suitable companies. Eventually, this department could be transferred to CTD.
- * Production know-how should be fully established at SSRC before embarking on transfering the technology to the private sector: avoid transfering semi-finished licenses.
- * Production: Internal and external support should be provided to SSRC in assessing the different production techniques: eg for volume production, ie what is the suitable technique for a given output capacity? This should include costing aspects and testing methods for volume production. Feedback from marketing on expected quantities will be essential. A member of the team should evolve gradually into a production manager.
- * To widen the range and categories of companies to be screened in the private sector as technology receivers: To include agents (importers) of scientific equipment for instance, manufacturers of multicomponent products, known top businessmen.... ie not to limit range to producers of parts only. The main purpose is to find the suitable and most promising customer for the technology.
- * To choose the right people: One can never overstress the importance of choosing the right people. This also applies to the choice of the private sector partner or subcontract manufacturer: People are the key to success: Choose carefully.
- * CID office downtown: CID office for public relation, promotion and marketing of the SSRC projects should be ideally located downtown, among the private sector businesses, and not at SSRC present location.
- * To use a soft approach with the private sector: Let them come forward to SSRC or CID, rather than the other way around. This should make them more comfortable with the idea of cooperation, at least initially

- * To involve trade or industry associations such as the chambers of commerce or industry in Damascus, as a third party in the mediation with the private sector, and the promotion of CID activities: eg, initial meetings between SSRC (or CID) and the private sector could take place on the neutral grounds of such organisations.
- * SSRC (or CID) as magnets for foreign companies: SSRC (or CID) is very well placed to attract foreign companies to produce in the private sector in Syria. Exploit this aspect soon
- * To use the parallel approach in the general operation, ie different activities and considerations simultanuously, throughout the project, rather than a serial approach. For instance R&D, manufacturing and marketing should be coupled all the way through right from the start. Individual weights should be adjusted at each step.
- * To apply the discussed success criteria as much as possible to secure success of the commercialisation process, or at least to reduce the risk of failure, and to avoid wastage in time, effort and money.
- * Selfreliance: SSRC should attempt to push ahead with the commercialisation process with the present conditions and the tools at its disposal now; SSRC should not wait for the ideal global situation to emerge, and the comprehensive government support program. Initially, all difficulties and obstacles could be overcome with practical thinking and common sense. However, while learning from experience, SSRC should propose to suitable government departments the type of supportive measures which will make things easier and quicker, or even feasible when the scale of the program becomes wider.
- * To prepare a timetable for the commercialisation process, together with breakdown of tasks or project phases: This would be extremely useful as a guide and a tool to assess progress. Producing such a timetable is a very enlightning exercice in itself. A preliminary timetable could be produced now.

Since the CTD project has not yet taken off, the continuous support and frequent coaching of UNIDO, UNDP, remain crucial, until a given critical momentum is reached by the project.

I. REPORT

This report includes the main findings, recommendations, and activities related to the assignment in Syria. In addition, an annex section has been incorporated to elaborate on specific items and to attach copies of specific documents, eg job description... The full content of the material presented during the workshop sessions is not included, but copies thereof have been supplied separately to SSRC, UNIDO, and UNDP. Some extracts could be found in the annex.

MAIN FINDINGS

A. DURING THE RESEARCH PHASE (Interviews and research prior to the trip to Syria)

In the developed countries, successful companies or R&D institutions involving in innovative high tech products generate their product ideas from the market, eg customer. Their products are market oriented, and their operation is business oriented rather than technology oriented. Even academic or government research bodies are gradually having their R&D projects generated by the industry, ie industrial partner. The notion that R&D generates the product ideas, which then have to be matched to the market, has been proven a failure in the majority of cases (Unless one is talking of a revolutionary idea). In brief, the trend worldwide is for R&D to serve the needs of the community and the industry, and the goal is originally set by the market.

The trend worldwide is now towards more applied research and less basic research. Basic research is seen as a luxury, which only rich countries can afford. Applied research results also in many spinoff ideas.

There are many incubation centres in the developed countries, ie science parks, technology parks, etc. Some are more successful than others. In the UK for instance, the cambridge park has been going on for about ten years. It is found that science parks do encourage more academics to start their own business. On the other hand, the experience shows that businesses run by scientists in the parks perform less successfully than others.

It is now clear that to maximise the benefits from incubation centres different criteria have to be fulfilled. In brief, by establishing an incubation centre around an R&D house does not automatically lead to success. Each company has also its incubation structure, geared towards introducing new products regularly. Basically, if the product idea is market generated, and the management is also business oriented, then the chances for success are much greater.

In the majority of advanced countries governments are now insisting on the collaboration between government R&D institutions and the industry. Furthermore, governments fund R&D programs in consortia of companies mainly, and they encourage pre-competitive research for strategic technologies. Many supportive schemes relate also to start up of companies, together with special networks to facilitate technology transfer and use of R&D results.

In all the developed countries, including those which grew very quickly, eg Korea and other S E Asian countries, the government supportive and financing role is essential.

There are some recommendations for R&D in small countries (The issues appear in the presentation material.)

B. At SSRC (In Syria)

Assessment of manufacturing capability at SSRC:

It is understood that the centre is committed to the manufacturing phase, ie to produce lenses and other optical products. This commitment would be essential for the success of the technology transfer to the local industries. It is also found that SSRC shows a strong interest and willingness to commercialise. This is an important ingredient for success.

Junior microscope (100X max)

Following a discussion with Mr Moussoulli at SSRC it is understood that the prototype for this device will be completed most likely by the end of 1991. Documentation for the specs of all parts could be ready by that time too. However this does not imply that they will be ready to manufacture by them. They will try hard to work on the pilote production and production know how. The main thrust now is on the large microscope.

The optics for the junior microscope are already available. They are working on the mechanics mainly. Actually the whole design is geared towards production, ease of use and low cost. Probably, the main body part would have to be cast (Aluminum) to make it more expression, with the possibility of coating, for protection and appeal.

Large microscope (1000X max)

The main thrust now is on developing the know how and prototype for this device. The reason for this priority is the importance of this device from a technological point of view, providing strong know how in optics and the mechanics involved. SSRC hopes to finish the prototype by the end of 1991, but this won't be the design for production. Different adjustments changes would have to be introduced to make the product marketable, eg they might have to include binoculars.

Production of lenses

In relation to the manufacturing step, consideration of different manufacturing techniques have still to be evaluated, in conjunction with different output capacities or types of lenses, eg should one use high speed polishing or standard abrasive method, or what are the trade-offs of molding the lenses first..etc. Practical experience is also required in the area of quality control (Testing) for volume production, when required. The aspect of production costing has to be treated for each part and process step; initial costing exercices have already been initiated at SSRC.

Other simple optical related products

The issue of simple optical products has been elaborated together with the SSRC team, including members of the Chinese support team. It was indicated by SSRC that the commercialisation support program could also incorporate consumer or educational products, which are simple to produce, similar magnifying glass, or light concentrators, simple plastic lenses etc. This would be very attractive to manufacturers of parts, who could combine the lense with other parts to have a simple finished product. A simple telescope is also possible.

Market considerations.

One of the objectives of this mission is to assist SSRC or CTD in formulating marketing policies and creating the adequate management structures. It is clear at this stage of the project that the acquisition and development of the optical technology at SSRC has top priority. Commercialisation will be implemented gradually. This activity will involve different marketing directions, one involving the marketing of products produced at SSRC to the local market, the other involves the promotion and marketing of the SSRC technology (License) to the private sector, and another the promotion and marketing of SSRC capability to foreign companies. Other indirectly related market activities would involve the selection of the appropriate partners in the private sector.

Furthermore, market analysis is essential in the selection of the appropriate new product ideas and estimating the potential market size and hence the required production capacity. In actual fact, successfull product ideas originate from market considerations. One cannot overstress the important role of the market in a commercially oriented R&D operation.

If CTD is to operate successfully, it has to integrate marketing as an essential part into its system. Without rethinking in marketing terms, commercialisation will not work.

C. ABOUT THE LOCAL MARKET AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Different features make the private sector in Syria attractive as a technology recipient: the spirit of entrepreneurship is available, innovative thinking coupled with copying is present, competition thrives in all product types, and local production even of technical goods is now perceived as the sensible way to go. On the other hand quality remains a weak factor.

Through different discussions with the SSRC team, and through other expectations, it is found that access to the private sector is not straightforward: There could be a reluctance on the part of a private company to deal with a government sector, where SSRC or CTD could be perceived as such. No company would like to have big brother watching over their shoulders and books! These findings are important in relation to commercialisation, and to defining the type of approach to be chosen.

Recent policies in Syria are encouraging investments in industry and collaboration with foreign firms in joint ventures. This and other new political factors could create a healthy environment and climate for the CTD project.

ACTIVITIES

A. Overall about the activities during the project period:

Prior to the start of the project preparations included research into the areas of innovation management, commercialisation of P&D, incubation centres, technology transfer, present trends in R&D worldwide, type of government support in developed countries, and the local market in Syria. The research included the review of up to date articles on the subjects, as well as many interviews on a worldwide level. For instance, many known incubation centres were contacted in Europe, as well as many well known research, venture capital, and consulting finms. This exercice was aimed at obtaining an up to date overview on the subject, at learning from experience of others, and at narrowing down the list of success criteria. The bulk of this information served the purpose of producing the presentation material.

Furthermore, an appraciable number of brochures and pamphlets were collected from different government R&D commercialisation departments, incubation centres, and R&D and tech transfer firms, to provide SSRC with concrete examples and actual guidelines.

The presentation material is divided into different topics, with the main part having been prepared prior to the trip.

During the briefing visit in Vienna, new items were included in the presentation material. Furthermore, the library at the UN building was used to elaborate on some issues. A preliminary agenda for the visit in Syria was also produced in Vienna.

In Syria, the activities included the preparation of a visit agenda. A sequence of lectures was presented during the first week of visit in the morning. Discussions with the team at SSRC have taken place usually following the presentation sessions, and during the second week. These included also the assessment of the manufacturing capability at SSRC, and one session for the selection of the second CTD module. Different new materials and organisational models resulted from such discussions. Conclusions and recommendations were also discussed with the SSRC team.

Visits were also organised within the different departments and workshops at SSRC, as well as of a few private sector companies. The latter served to assess some useful factors relating to cooperation with this sector.

Briefing meetings were also organised with the Director General of UNDP in Damascus, as well as with the Director General of SSRC.

Finally, activities included briefing with UNIDO in Vienna, and the preparation of the final report.

OVERALL WORK PROGRAM

DATES	ORGANISATION/ITEM	PEOPLE
25.6.91	Arrival in Vienna	
26-28.6.91	UNIDO-Meeting and briefing for the trip to Syria	Mr M Boutoussov Mrs K Liedl
29.6.91	Dep. Vienna to Damascus	
30.6-13.7.91	SSRC, UNDP- Mission in Syria	See details
14.7.91	Return to Vienna	
15-17.7.91	Briefing on mission	M. Boutoussov
18.7.91	Return to London	

C. <u>DETAILED WORK PROGRAM IN SYRIA</u>

DATES	ORGANISATION/ITEM	PEOPLE
Sum 30.6.91	Arr. 4.30 AM Damascus UNDP:Tel contact SSRC: Tel contact	Ms Nadia Kossak Mr Moussoulli
Mor. 1.7.91	UNDP-8AM meeting: Official papers SSRC 9 AM meeting Introduction to SSRC Agenda for the visit	Ms Nadia Kallas Mr Alloush Mr F Moussoulli Dr Murayatti Ms M Kallas
Tue 2.7.91	SSRC: Presentation 9.30-12.30 Mngement of commercial Innovation SSRC: Visits of labs Optics, Environmental Solar energy	Many attendees incl: Mr Moussoulli Mr Armanazi Mr Fawwaz Mr Rafii Mr Haider
	SSRC : Discussions on tech- transfer	Mr Moussoulli

DATES	ORGANISATION/ITEM	PEOPLE
Wed 3.7.91	SSRC: 2nd presentation session:Tech-transfer, incubation,start up 9.30-12.00	Same attendees as previously
	SSRC: Discussions	Mr Moussoulli & team
Thu 4.7.91	UNDP 12.00 Tlx to Vienna	Ms Kossak
Fri 5.7.91	Holiday	
Sat 6.7.91	SSRC:Presentation 3rd session Marketing,Role of gov in R&D	Same attendees
	Some discussions on selection of 2nd module	Mr Moussoulli
Sur. 7.7.91	SSRC: Assessment of manufacturing and tech-transfer capability at SSRC 9.30-2.00 Detailed discussion	Mr Moussoulli & members of team
Mor. 8.7.91	CTD,SSRC:Presentation 4th session: Recap incubation, R&D policies in diff countries, R&D commercialisation policies. in relation to CTD potential services	Mr Moussoulli Mr Armanazi Mr Rafii Ms Kallas
	CTD: Selection of 2nd module: Elaboration on the criteria proposed by Mr Boutoussov, and use of the matrix to compare the different options	Same as above
Tue 9.7.91	SSRC:Recap of all issues preparation and discussion of of recommendations: List	Mr Moussoulli
	Supply of a full copy of the presentation material and some sample brochures	
Wed 10.7.91	SSRC-private sector Visit of two workshops for injection moulds, and injection moulding service Assessment of diff cooper.	Mr Moussoulli & colleagues
	possibilities	

DATES	ORGANISATION/ITEM	PEOPLE
Thu 11.7.91	UNDP:Meeting and briefing	Mr Hla Mr Allouch Mr Hagona Ms Kossak
Sat 13.7.91	SSRC:Final discussion and recap, also CTD Discussion with other dept. on incubation	Mr Moussoulli Ms Kallas
	SSRC: 11.30 meeting and briefing with director gen. of SSRC	Dr W. Shahid Mr Moussoulli Mr Armanazi Ms Kallas
Sum 14.7.91	Return to Vienna 12.30 AM	

IV.

OUTPUT

A. Presentation material:

One of the objectives of the job was to introduce to SSRC the different marketing and commercialisation aspects related to the CTD project. The material was prepared on overhead transparencies, and was delivered in the form of a sequence of lectures at SSRC. Copies of the full package was then provided as a reference material to the SSRC team. This material consisted of a general coverage of the issues as well as items specifically relating to the optical project and CTD. The main thrust was on identifying the success criteria, experience and organisational and technology transfer models.

In broad terms, the presentation sessions were organised according to the the following topics:

- 1. Innovation and management of innovation
- 2. Role of marketing in innovation business, and marketing of innovation.
- 3. R&D worldwide, role of governments, and case studies
- 4. Aspects of business incubation and tech transfer
- Commercialisation details relating to SSRC and optical project.

B. Commercialisation models and organisational structures:

In the course of discussion with the SSRC team, a set of models for commercialisation and management were proposed to SSRC. Such models were included in the presentation material, with different samples being included in the annex of this report.

C. Criteria for the selection of the next CTD module:

Based on information and guidelines supplied by UNIDO, and which related to selection criteria of technology project in Korea mainly, a matrix was proposed to SSRC, to be used as a tool to compare the different options for the selection next module. A weighting factor for each criteria was also suggested. A copy of this matrix is included in the a nex.

V. GENERAL IMPRESSIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- * CTD project and team are in a good position to succeed, providing that specific criteria are followed. There is no lack in the commitment to the technology, and the willingness to involve in the commercialisation process.
- * A very important factor for success is the need for strong market orientation by SSRC, ie R&D responding to market needs and conditions and not the other way around: Market knowledge and activities are as important as the technology. The market ingredient is crucial for the success of commercialisation.
- * Hurdles and problems linked with the commercialisation process could be overcome initially through practical, businesslike, and case by case considerations, without the need for a major government support scheme. Obviously, such support would be essential if the program has to be implemented on a wider scale in the future. Constant support from UNIDO, UNDP, and the top management at SSRC is indispensible for the implementation of the initial phases.

ANNEXES

APPENDIX A1

JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: Consultant in Commercialization of the Results of R&D

Activities

DURATION: 3 weeks

DUTY STATION: Damascus (Syria)

DUTIES:

1. To introduce to the specialists of the Scientific Studies and Research Centre (SSRC) which are responsible for the design and small-batch manufacturing of optical microscopes for medical and educational purposes, the basics of the marketing activities which should precede an introduction of the high-tech products to the internal and foreign markets. To outline the role of marketing as of a significant component of the commercialization process.

2. To perform, with an assistance of relevant local specialists, the study of the manufacturing capabilities of SSRC as well as potential capacities of local small industries concerning optical instrumentation.

3.To asess the optimal structure of the cooperation between SSRC and local industries having in mind manufacturing of optical instruments on the basis of subcontracting and technology incubators. To introduce the idea of technology business incubator to national counterparts and to discuss the ways of its implementation.

4.<u>To advise upon the structure and operational</u> modalities of the specialized module within the forthcoming Centre for Technology Development responsible for the commercialization of the R&D through local and international markets.

5.<u>To prepare</u> the final report including basic findings, suggestions and recommendations, not only providing the main results of the mission but also applicable as a separate draft chapter of the future project document "Centre for Technology Development".

QUALIFICATIONS: Substantial practical experience in advising for small companies in commercialization of the R&D results through proper management, marketing and technology transfer during start-up activities working in the field of high technologies.

LANGUAGE: English

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Scientific Studies and Research Centre (SSRC), Damascus was substantially strengthened in the course of the on-going project DP/SYR/86/011 and became the insitution capable to lead in the design, technology transfer and manufacturing of optical instruments quite relevant for the country, such as:

-optical education kits,

-optical microscopes for educational purposes,

-medical optical microscopes and others.

At the same time, the qualified staff of SSRC and equipment delivered along with the project, cannot, by themselves, cover all the needs of the country in the devices mentioned above and spin-off of the relevant knowledge and skills is required.

That is why the incorporation of the local small and medium industries into the process of manufacturing, under the guidance of SSRC, of the above mentioned relevant devices is strongly recommended. This goal can be attained if the results of R&D activities performed by SSRC are effectively transferred to the local industries. In order to do this, the SSRC staff responsible for manufacturing of optical instruments, should also be trained in activities related to any efficient start-up activities in the manufacturing of high-tech products, such as marketing, management and relations with local contractors.

APPENDIX A2

RECOMENDATIONS: DETAILS AND JUSTIFICATIONS

* SSRC (CTD) ought to involve also in the market introduction and entry phases of the developed new products prior to transfering the full technology package to the private sector: This will speed up the process of commercialising the technology.

Justification: This measure will prove that the product has a demand in the market, with further indication of potential clients. For any potential receiver of the technology this aspect is crucial. Furthermore, this will help SSRC get some feedback from the market and adjust specs accordingly. This exercice is very important to SSRC, without which SSRC won't take the matter of market orientation seriously, and hence the product won't be developed satisfactorly. The introduction of products provides SSRC with the important experience it lacks in the market.

* Project manager should involve also in strategic activities which relate to market considerations, and should overview marketing issues. He should gradually allocate more time to such activities, which are as important as the technological aspects.

<u>Justification</u>: As discussed during the presentations, the involvement of top management in such activities is indispensible for the success of the product innovation.

* Appointment even at this early stage of a suitable marketing man, on a fulltime basis, to support different commercialisation aspects. Ideally, this man will report to project manager (Mr Moussoulli). Marketing man will also involve in marketing the idea of tech transfer to the private sector, including the screening and selecting of suitable companies.

Justification: As discussed during the presentations, the marketing parameter and input is as important to the success as the technology. The input from the market should be at an early stage. A lot of market data is still required on the optics. The marketing man will ensure that the market component in the overall operation is available.

* Production know-how should be fully established at SSRC before embarking on transfering the technology to the private sector: avoid transfering semi-finished licenses.

Justification: As a developing country, the local industries do not have the R&D capability to develop a given unfinished know-how. The license should be well worked out and ready for production in order to be used in Syria. Even small details have to be dealt with, since any deficiencies will surface later at the private sector partner, resulting in technical problems or lower quality. This will mean even more involvement on the part of SSRC to remidy the situation. So it is preferable for SSRC to finish the whole thing first, rather than waste much more effort later. Also, developing the technology under one roof is much more efficient.

Production: Internal and external support should be provided to SSRC in assessing the different production techniques: eg for volume production, ie what is the suitable technique for a given output capacity? This should include costing aspects and testing methods for volume. Feedback from marketing on expected quantities will be essential. A member of the team should evolve gradually into a production manager.

<u>Justification</u>: Since SSRC will involve in actual production, it will require the necessary support in this field. Actually, SSRC will be transfering production know how to the private sector.

* To widen the range and categories of companies to be screened in the private sector as technology receivers: To include agents (importers) of scientific equipment for instance, manufacturers of multicomponent products, known top businessmen.... ie not to limit range to producers of parts only.

Justification: The choice of the right partner is wry important for the success of commercialisation. If the wrong partner takes the project, he will fail. It is the duty of SSRC to choose the type of partner who will succeed with the project. Good knowledge of the market (eg scientific equipment) by the partner in the private sector would be one of the strong choice criteria.

* To choose the right people: One can never overstress the importance of choosing the right people. This also applies to the choice of the private sector partner or subcontract manufacturer: People are the key to success: Choose carefully.

<u>Justification</u>: This is to emphasise the importance of people. This is a combination of factors and skills. One deals with people and not with company blocks!

* CID office downtown: CID office for public relation, promotion and marketing of the SSRC projects should be ideally located downtown, among the private sector businesses, and not at SSRC present location.

<u>Justification</u>: Though SSRC (or CTD) are independent institutions, it is most likely that they are seen through the eye of the private sector as government research departments. A promotion office integrated physically with the industrial community makes interaction much easier.

* To use a soft approach with the private sector: Let them come forward to SSRC or CID, rather than the other way around. This should make them more comfortable with the idea of cooperation.

Justification: This relates again to the previous point. At least in the initial phases, and until the community feels familiar with the program, a soft approach would be desirable. Companies should not feel obliged to take on the technology!

To involve trade or industry associations such as the chambers of commerce or industry in Damascus, as a third party in the mediation with the private sector, and the promotion of CTD activities: eginitial meetings between SSRC (or CTD) and the private sector coul! take place on the neutral grounds of such organisations.

Justification: The private sector is familiar with above organisations since they deal with them on a regular basis. Their involvement could be required initially only.

* SSRC (or CID) as magnets for foreign companies: SSRC (or CID) is very well placed to attract foreign companies to produce in the private sector in Syria.

<u>Justification</u>: Foreign companies would be very happy to have a partner who helps them in training the local staff, recruit management, and oversee quality (Guarantee), and who can help even on the technology side.

To use the parallel approach in the general operation, ie different activities and considerations simultanuously, throughout the project, rather than a serial approach. For instance RaD, manufacturing and marketing should be coupled all the way through. Individual weights should be adjusted at each step.

Justification: This emerges as a result of the management of change and innovation. Without a parallel approach there is no commercial success and no efficiency. SSRC will have to apply this structure in order for it to transfer this experience to the private sector.

* To apply the discussed success criteria as much as possible to secure success of the commercialisation process, or at least to reduce the risk of failure, and to avoid wastage in time, effort and money.

Justifications: The criteria have been discussed in the presentation material (Some points a pear in this annex). Strategic involvement of top management is one of them, and coupling between marketing and R&D is another etc.. It should be remembered that a combination of criteria have to applied for success. If one main parameter is missing, there is very limited success or no success at all. SSRC should also transfer such criteria to the private sector.

* Selfreliance: SSRC should attempt to push ahead with the commercialisation process with the present conditions and the tools at its disposition; SSRC should not wait for the ideal global situation to emerge, and the comprehensive government support program. Initially, all difficulties and obstacles could be overcome with practical thinking and common sense. However, while learning from experience, SSRC should in the meantime propose to suitable government departments the type of supportive measures which will make things easier and quicker, or even feasible.

Justification: The ideal situation will take long to materialise. Moreover, the whole thing is a learning process too and a dynamic thing. The main thing is to get started on a limited scale, test things and gain experience, and then try to expand on stable foundations.

* To prepare a timetable for the commercialisation process, together with breakdown of tasks or project phases: This we extremely useful as a quide and a tool to assess progress. Produce such a timetable is a very callightning exercice in itself. A preliminary timetable could be produced now.

Justification: To break the overall goal into well defined and scheduled tasks is an indispensible step for the implementation of the project. Once a detailed and realistic plan of action is initiated, the whole thing becomes more visible, feasible and organized. Such a time table should be discussed and reviewed regularly.

* Since the CTD project has not yet taken off, the continuous support and coaching of UNIDO, UNDP, remain crucial, until a given momentum is reached by the project.

Justification: The presence of a sponsor role is very important for a project to take off. The least a sponsor can do is to encourage and motivate. The support of an advisor acts as a lubricant for start up.

APPENDIX A3 MATRIX OF CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF THE SECOND MODULE.

	WEIGHING (Example)	RATINGS		
CRITERIA	(IMMIPIE)	PRJCT 1	PRJCT 2	PRJCT 3
1- FITNESS TO NAT.RAD STRIG.	10			
High tech stratgic role Exstrace of core technics				
Subtotal				
2- NATIONAL ECON ASPECTS	30			
Impact on GNP Export contribution Import substitution Capital intensiveness Addit. job creation Added values achieved				
Subtotal				
3- TECHNOLOGY ASPECTS	10			
Creativeness Comp. exist. technolgs Marketability Subtotal				
4- COMMERCIALISATION	30			
Devel. capability Marketin; Research resources Prdct commerc. infrast. Subtotal				
5- CONTINUITY WITH 1st MODULE	20			
TOTAL	100			

Remark: Project 1..... Non destructive testing

Project 2..... Precision machining Project 3..... Precision casting

Each weighting factor appearing in the table should be divided among the underlying subcriteria, again according to judgement. The weighting factors appearing in this table are suggestions only. They could be modified, depending on the relative importance of each criteria.

The weighting factor represents the maximum value for the given criteria. The rating will be a given percentage of this value.

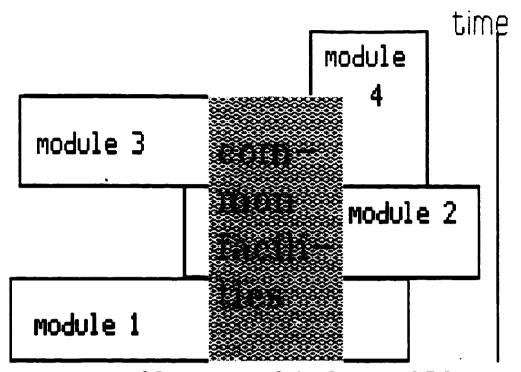
DETAILS

- .CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF THE OPTIMAL FIELD OF RED ACTIVITIES.
- 1. Fitness to national R&D strategies.
- -high tech role in strategic fields;
- -existence of core industrial technologies capable to cover excessive risk.
- 2.National economical aspects.
- -impact on GNP , if any;
- -export contribution/import substitution;
- -capital intensiveness;
- -job creation;
- -added values achieved as a result of commercialization;
- Technology aspects.
- -creativeness;
- -competition with existing technologies;
- -marketability.
- 4.Commercialization.
- -development capability (manpower, willingness, managerial skills);
- -marketing(world market demand, domestic demand, market share);
- -research resources (easiness of equipment import, technology transfer- any problems?, funding);
- -product commercialization (industrial environment, stability, growth rate).
- 5. CONCLUSION.

It is evident that the problem of optimal development of CTD and SSRC is MULTICRITERIAL OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM.

In order to solve it successfully, SYNERGETIC APPROACH is the best solution.

EXFERIENCED CONSULTANTS, UNDP AND UNIDO STAFFMEMBERS, NATIONAL SPECIALISTS AND INDUSTRIAL/GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES should undertake a chain of extensive joint efforts during the short time span given.



modular concept of development of R&D centre

APPENDIX A4

LIST OF MAIN TOPICS COVERED DURING THE PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION SESSIONS

A. GENERAL TOPICS

Successful management of innovation business Keys to success of innovative products Strategy setting in the innovation business Role of generalists: Coupling of knowledge Successful innovation structure Parallel approach in innovation Managing technology Case studies in innovation

What is the market
Type of products and marketplaces
The importance of the local market
Marketing of licenses
Objectives of marketing research
Tools used for market assessment
Objectives of the business plan and format
Cutting cost and marketing
The marketing man

Role of SSRC as business incubator

Aim of business incubators
Facts about business incubators
Recommendations for business incubators
Success criteria of technology transfer
Models for the interaction of system houses and component houses

Role of governments in successful economies
Trends in R&D worldwide
R&D expenditures in different countries
Role of governments in promoting R&D
Actions by governments to improve tech transfer
Recommendations for new technologies in small countries

Case studies of government role and R&D models: Korea, Japan, China, Germany, UK, France

B. SPECIFIC TOPICS:

Market related:

Important aspects of the local market
Marketing of technology in the local market
Marketing of SSRC capability to foreign firms
How to cut cost of product and production
How to market the product in the local market
How to conduct market research
Factors to improve introduction of technical products
Characteristics of the marketing man
Duties and tasks breakdown of the marketing man at SSRC

Tech transfer, commercialisation, and organisation:

Effective subcontract project
Criteria for success of technology transfer through subcontract
manufacture in Syria, and terms of contract.
Important points on subcontract manufacturers
Organisation: Departments at SSRC
Important departments at CTD
Duties of managers
Different models for cooperation with the private sector
Advantages of the local market in Syria
Special role of SSRC: The third party
SSRC as magnet for foreign technology

External and internal support required by SSRC in manufacturing and marketing

Government support that might be required for the project Government role in R&D in many countries: case studies Recommendations for R&D and new technologies in small countries Models for technology transfer services How to approach potential companies in the private sector Relationship between innovation and free enterprise

APPENDIX A5

ELABORATION ON SOME DISCUSSION TOPICS: TECH TRANSFER, MARKETING

Strategy first, and then structure.

Strategic inputs are more important than cash injection alone.

The duty of the top management is to couple the different functions together, ie marketing and R&D. Otherwise, such functions tend to fight with each other.

The duty of top management is to set a common and clear overall objective for the operation, and not to leave this task to any given department. Otherwise, each department will set a different objective, and which will be conflicting.

A successful commercial innovative operation is an open system, ie in constant interaction with the world outside (Markets, technologies)

For maximum interaction, it is better to have all innovation development activities under one roof, and to encourage informal open communications in all directions, to collaborate rather than compete, and to get rid of the fear of mistakes, all with the goal of fostering synergy, of encouraging new ideas, and bringing problem to the open at an early stage.

The R&D man should also interact with the customer.

The customer and his needs should be seen as an integral part of the R&D.

Divide the overall plan in clear assignment, and review such on a regular basis.

Produce a plan of action on a weekly basis for each member of the staff, and review performance on a weekly basis, ideally at the end of the week. every member should also spend 10 minutes at the end of every day putting an action plan (list) for the next day, in a priority order, and not to delay this task to the next morning. When implementing the action plan, finish the important task first, and then go to the next one.

Without innovation, including the innovation in improving quality and reducing cost, private enterprise has no meaning.

Innovation capability is a skill that could be tought and reinforced similar to other skills.

For any given product, project, or activity, select the people who are in a position to innovate. It is useless to give people a product which is too advanced for them to innovate in. If this does not apply, select a lower level product where innovation will be possible.

Market consideration should start prior to the innovation process.

Knowledge of the market is essential for success. Even the most sophisticated product fails without this knowledge. This includes the knowledge of the customer. One should know the customer even better than the product.

One sells benefits and not technology. Also, one sells to people and not to companies.

The worst thing is to make the wrong assumptions about a given market. Test the assumptions constantly.

The worst thing is to address the wrong customer for a given product. One should spend ample time and effort in pinpointing the most suitable type of customer. This will speed up success and will save much time and effort later.

Producing a good promotional package is most important. Benefits of the product should be highlighted in this package.

The business plan is the backbone of a commercial operation.

Cutting cost, adding value, and improving quality are crucial objectives in a commercial activity

Quality assurance should serve as an important promotional marketing tool for SSRC. This is especially important when approaching foreign companies, for local assembly in Syria.

For technology transfer through subcontract manufacture, the following is recommended:

Gradual release of types of parts to be manufactured: Not in one go SSRC to prove production viability first before release of know how SSRC to keep over 50% of production capacity inhouse Start with one subcontract manufacturer first Quality control (Final) always at SSRC SSRC to supply input material initially Collaboration basis with subcontract manufacturer Open communication plus detailed documentation Initially samples should be supplied prior to delivery of quantities

No contract, and no equipment transfer until subcontractor can prove capability at production plants of SSRC: Following training at SSRC.

Every contractor gets a specific production quota

Guidelines and documentations of tech transfer and procedures, etc., should be clear, detailed, simple to follow, and well organised: Use many graphs for illustration.

Production manager at SSRC is best suited to deal technically with subcontract manufacturers. He acts as the liaison man.

Apply different criteria for the selection of the subcontract manufacturer.

Help manufacturers also to produce simple finished optical products.

There is a possibility for SSRC to cooperate with known businessmen in the transfer of the whole assembly package, since those have int'l experience, as well as manufacturing capability, and most importantly, they have experience in dealing with governmental bodies. Briefly, they could provide the full business ingredient required.

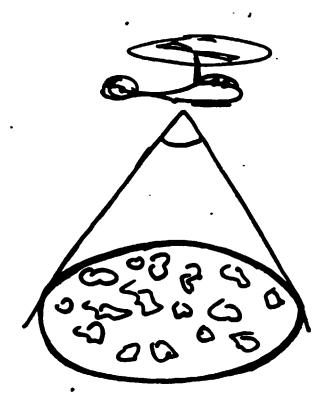
Government support is crucial for the longterm success of commercialisation. Only government support can widen the scope of activities of CTD on a national level. The support is in the form of logistical , promotional, mediation, protection, removing bureaucratic barriers, financial, incentive buying, organisational, and int'l aspects.

However, in the initial shorttern phase, only limited support would be required, eg involvement of chambers of commerce in promotion, logistical data, and encouragement by buying the products for government departments. In the initial phase it is worthwhile for SSRC to depend on its own efforts in the commercialisation attempt. Once the intricacies are known and some experience is gathered, then a more effective and wide scale government support program can be proposed.

SAMPLE COPIES FROM THE PRESENTATION MATERIAL

* Since the copies are made directly from the transparencies, the quality of the copies has suffered.

ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IN SUCCESSFUL ECONOMICS



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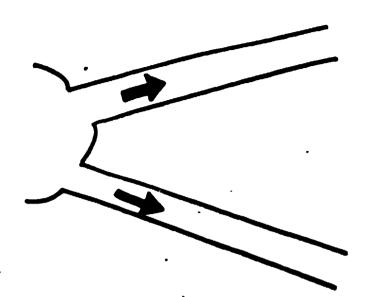
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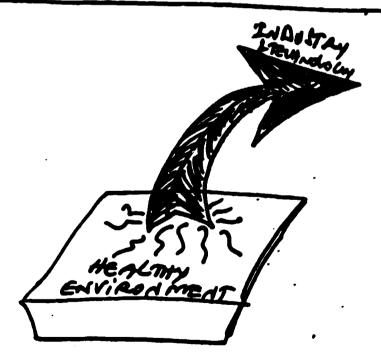
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- 14 REDUCE BUREAUCRATIC PROVEDURES: MARTINE OR GUINEST.

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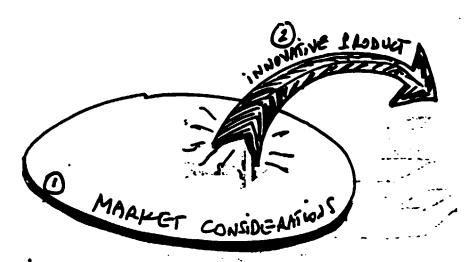
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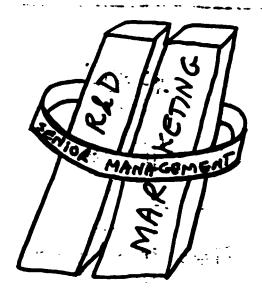
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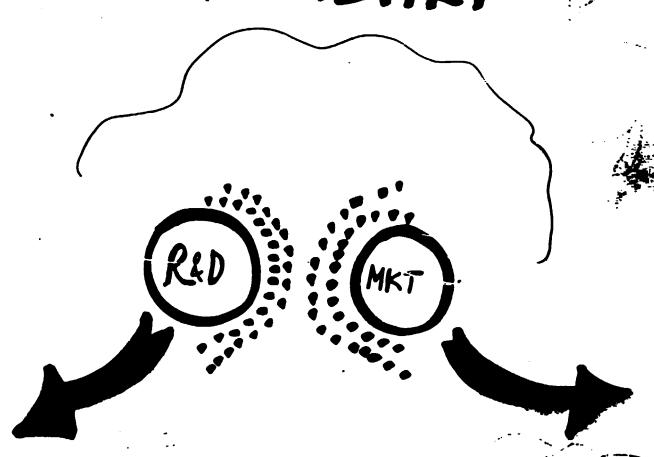
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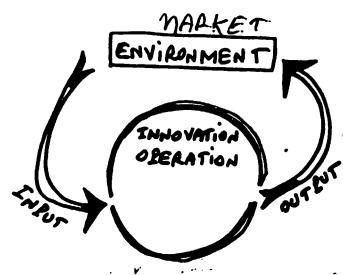
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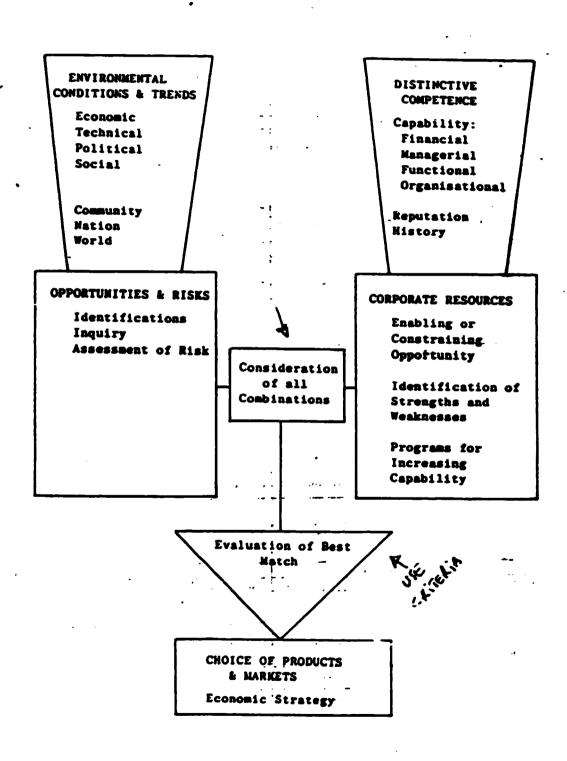
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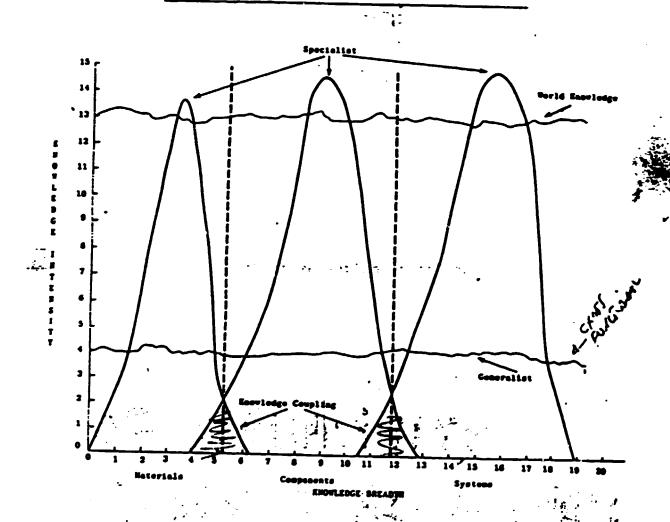
14,

DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGY



ROLE OF THE GENERALIST: COUPLING OF KNOWEDGE

SPECIALIZATION AND COUPLING OF KNOWLEDGE



Source: J A Morton "Organizing for Innovation", McGraw-Hill (1971) pl6

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[i] The Xerox Corporate Research Group has been trying out ways of speeding the transfer of technology from research to com-mercial application. In this approach, colled the Express Project, representatives of research, development, manufacturing, mar-

r all get involved every step of the wes The relative sizes of their roles change at each stage. For a ictoria; (vallow) plays a m

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MARKETING OF CONTRACT DEVELOPMENT & PRODUCTION

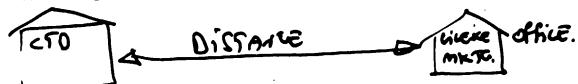
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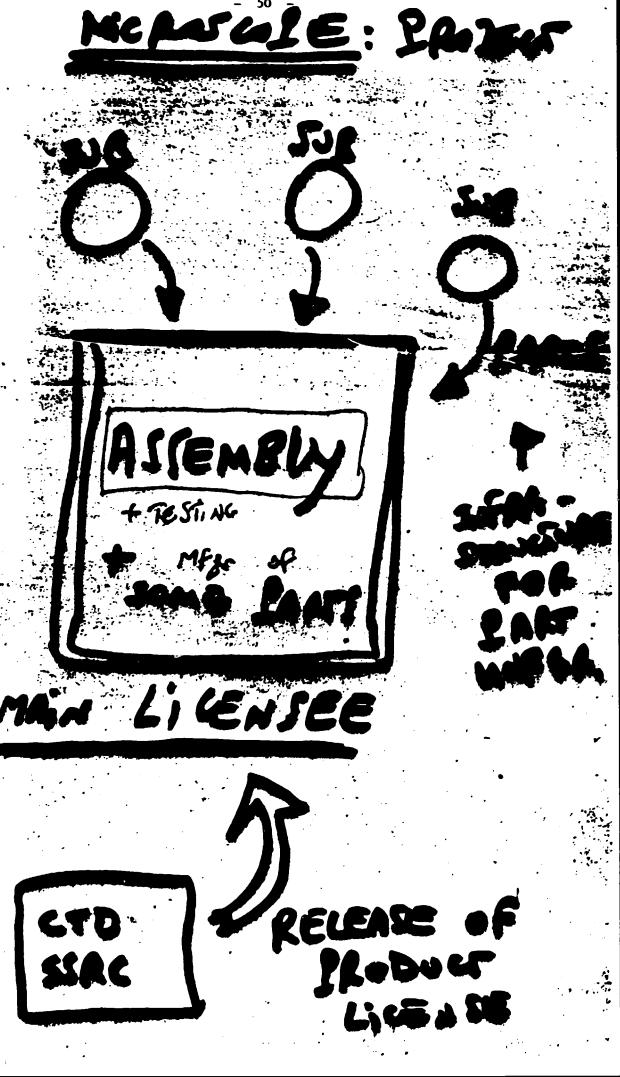
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- 2) HAVE A WORKING PROTYLE FOR DEMONSTRATION
- 3 FIND THE ADDRESSES OF ALL LOSSIBLE WISHMERS: School - FACTORIES-LARS-HOSLITALS.... DAMASCUS AND REGIONAL
- 4 PIND OUT NAMES OF TOL MAN IN EACH ONE OF THE CUSTOMER ORGANISATION.

HAVE SOME INITIAL IDEA ABOUT EACH COMLANY: WHAT THEY DO

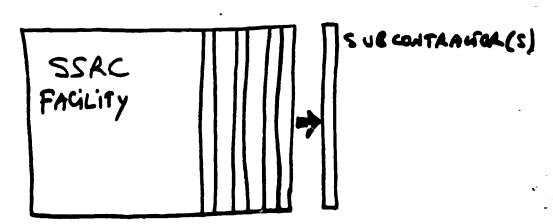


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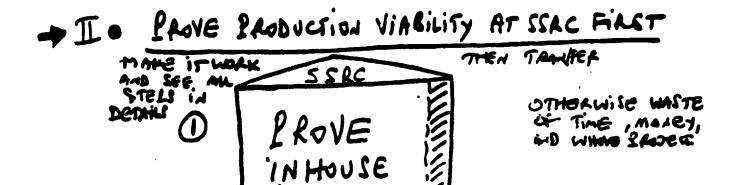
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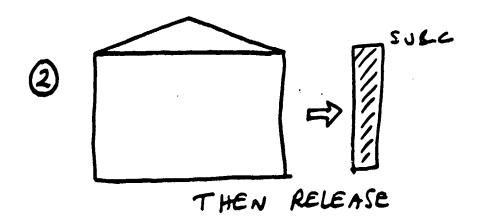
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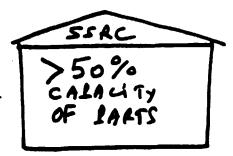


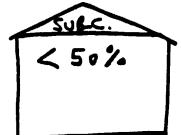
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I KEEL ALWAYS >50% CALACITY AT SSRC

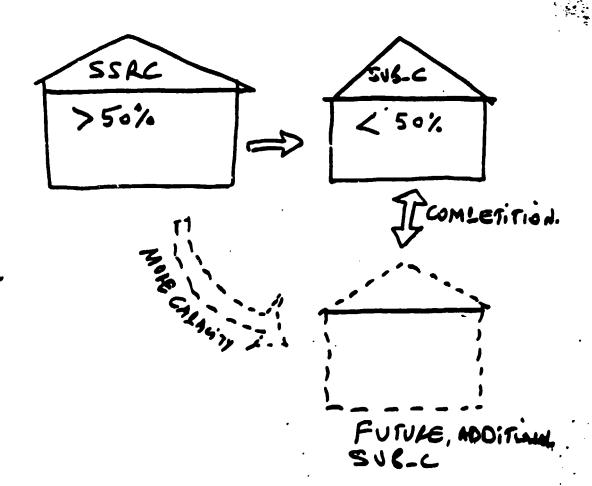
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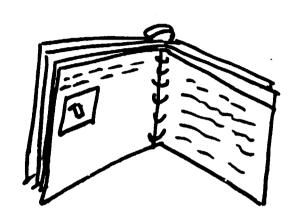
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TO GAIN EXECUTENCE IN PROCEDURE L



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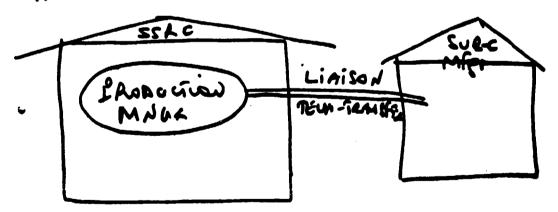
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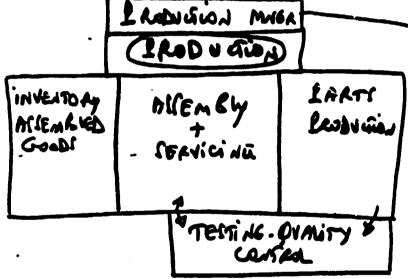
General management

Accounts Learner









Persivence of the part of the

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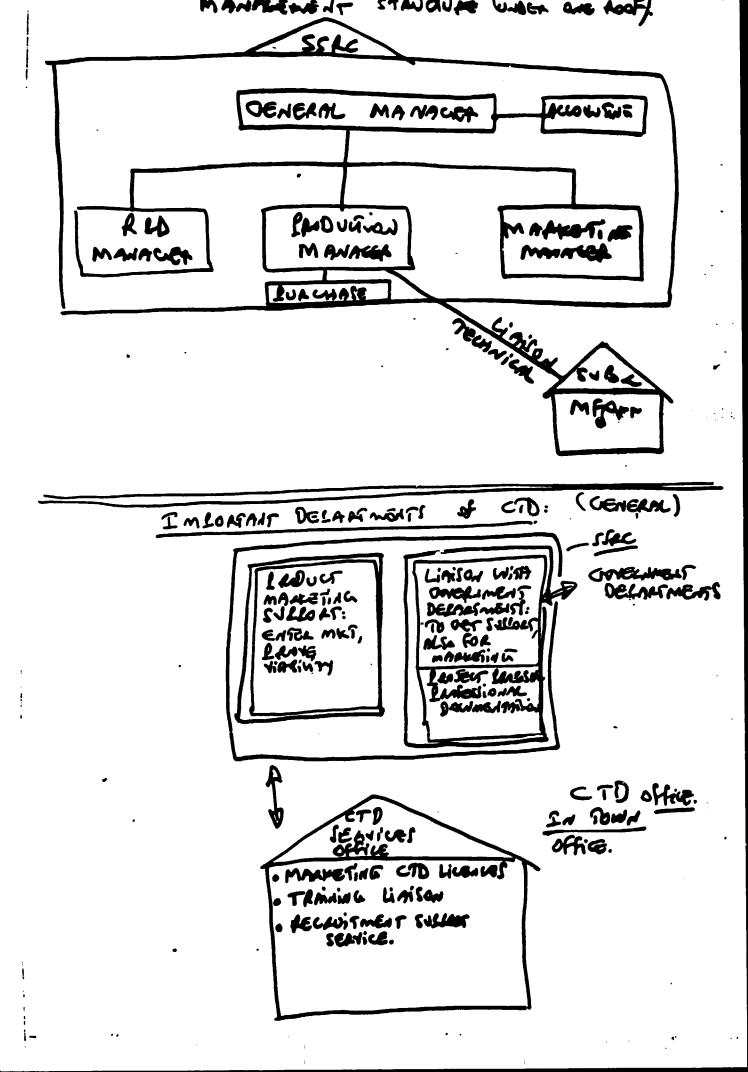
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- constantly mantions abilitims
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IMPORTANT POINTS ON SUBCONTRAT-MANUFACTURE:

K.

- . RUN By A COMPLETENT EN CHARER : WHO CAN TRAIN
- Someone with experience in Production

 (Userisng assumption)
- . WHO CAN ASSOLG FUSURE MORE DIFFICUL DESIGNS
- Standarm aradhats and timup.
- . LERICHARY FIRMAINLY COMMITTED: PREFERRICY
- . DETAILED COMMUNICATION PANCEDUAE
- · PERSONAL LEREQUEAT COMMUNICATIONS: LEDINITY.
- . EACH TAIK VERY WELL UNDERSTOOD
- . QUALITY CONTROL SHOULD DEM MIN WITH SSRC (+ ENSEGGION)
- . CAN LAY-BAYE EQUIPMENT? LOXIGHTY
- . Papel and also be fold exemple
- . LIAISON MAN AT SSRC: FOR SLEED
- · SET UL MODE THAN ONE SUBCONTRAT MFGR: COMLETITION, OR 1/2 AT SSEC
- · GRADUAL TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY TO MICKA.
- · A SPECIFIC QUARTRY COMMITTED BY STRC.
- · CONTINUOUS TRAINING



EXTERNAL OR INTERNAL SULLOAT REQUIRED FOR THE OLTICAL PROJECT TILL THE END OF 1991:

(TO SULLOAT MANUFANING & COMMER CINUSMICA)

LOGISTICS OF PRODUCTION
IN VOLUME: WHAT ARE THE
REST METHODS I TECHNIQUES?
WHAT ARE THE BEST TEST
METHODS? PRAGICAL ESTENCE

MARKETING INLUTS:
WHAT ARE THE
PLANNED PRODUCION
QUANTITIES: CARCINES!

CORE
ACTIVITY OF STACE
PREPARATION OF
THE PROTOTYLES
LIMITADYENEATS
(REMOY END 11?)

MARKETING IN 2 UT:
WHO ARE THE MOIN
COMPETITUS, THEIR
LAND UNT. WHO ARE
THE LORENTIAL BUYER

ADEQUATE COSTING METHODS FOR PRODUCTION MANNET IN EUT NEW LADDUCT 106AS

MARKET INLUT:
WHO MAG LOTERING
SILUMIANCE MEGT.
A TECH-AECEVERS

GOVBRAMENT SULLAT: CHAMRERS OF COMMERCE L INDUSSAY

PARALLEL APPROACH.

FOR THE COMMERCIOUSMIND OF THE OLTICAL PROSECT: AT SSRC

- MARKETING INTERICENCE ABOUT THE LOCAL MARKET:
 MARKET DATA, IMPORTS, GASUMETIONS, SUFFICERS, REBUTIAL
 BUYERS...
- LOVE OF MEDIATION (THIRD PARTY) OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY IN PINLOINTING AND CONTACT MANIFACTURE PATENTIAL SUBGENTACT MANIFACTURES & FECTIVELS OF TECHNOLOGY.
- THROUGH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCIALISATION OF RED
- OF THE PROCESS.
- OF TECHNOLOGY.
- HIGHER TANKS TO ENGURACE WEAR PRODUCION:

 AT LEAST FOR A SHORT RELIED
- GOVERAMENT DESTAMMENTS AS CUENTS:
 TO ENCOURAGE IN THE 'HITIM' SHALL SOLLOW A
- INISIAN, TO ENCOURAGE EXPASS.

CATURE - MATAL Film. (UK) CASE

PECOMMENDATIONS ON STALS. UL:

> START UR IS A High Risk Bulinell. TO WIMBERSATE FOR THE RISK THEY SEEK:

1- * HICH QUALITY MANAGEMENT TEAM

2-4 WITH PROVEN TRACK-ABORD IN BUSINESS ITARS UL ESLEGAMY.

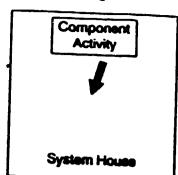
3. * HAS TO GE A TEAM

MODELS FOR THE INTERACTION OF SYSTEM HOUSES AND COMPONENT HOUSES

Interaction Details

- Vertical Structure
- Component activity not a profit centre: system house pays all
- Open communication Channels
- Component activity supplying in house only

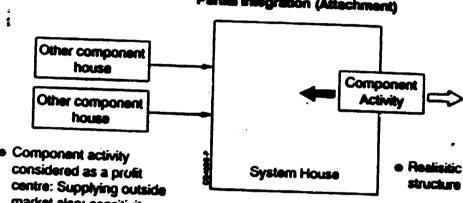
CASE 1 Full integration



Pros and Cons

- Full trust
- Ideal for component innovation: clear objectives, technology driven
- e Ideal for setting component standards: set by system need, volume oriented
- This situation is not always possible

CASE 2 Partial Integration (Attachment)



- Realisitic compromise
- Innovation level depends on financial support of system house
- Innovation level depends on type of communication
- If system house has its say, this case is effective for setting component standards

Component activity

market also: sensitivity

to profits

 System house buying some components outside