

**THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
PRACTICES AND TURNOVER INTENTION IN A MANUFACTURING  
COMPANY: THE MEDIATING EFFECT OF EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT**

By:

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## ABSTRACT

Employee turnover is crucial to be received considerable attention by organizations since it has proven to be one of the most costly that could diminish an organization's morale and budget. The purpose of this study was to examine the mediating effect of employee engagement between Human Resource Management (HRM) practices (training and development, career development, rewards and recognition and performance appraisal and achievements) and turnover intention. Besides that, it also investigated the relationship between HRM practices and turnover intention as well as the relationships of employee engagement and turnover intentions. There has existed a lack of information about the relationship between HRM practices, employee engagement and turnover intention and the mediating effect of engagement among these variables.

A total of 180 survey questionnaires were distributed to the respondents in company X and 150 sets of questionnaires returned were used for the further analyses. The data analyzed by "Statistical Package for Social Science" (SPSS Window) Version 16.0. The study utilized the reliability analysis, descriptive statistics, independent-samples T-test, One-way ANOVA, Pearson Correlation and multiple regression analysis to examine relationships between human resource management practices, employee engagement and turnover intention.

From the findings, the Cronbach's Alpha values for dependent variable, independent variables (HRM practices) and mediating variable (employee engagement) were considered acceptable. Independent-samples T-test revealed that there is no significant difference in turnover intention reported by male and female respondents. Besides that, One-way ANOVA indicated that turnover intentions differ with the aged groups and also academic qualification. The findings of the study found that the relationship of turnover intention with both of rewards and recognition and performance appraisal and achievements generally support the presented hypothesis as well as the mediation effect of employee engagement on those relationships. Some suggestions has been recommended for practitioners and academicians and future research needs to include more diversified samples and broaden the scope of current research by examining other human resource practices dimensions and including other types of industry.

**Keywords:** Human Resource Management practices, Mediating Effect of Employee Engagement, Turnover Intention

## ABSTRAK

Penggantian pekerja adalah penting untuk diberi perhatian oleh organisasi kerana ia telah terbukti menjadi salah satu kos yang paling mahal yang boleh mengurangkan semangat dan bajet organisasi. Tujuan kajian ini adalah untuk mengkaji kesan mediasi keterlibatan pekerja antara amalan pengurusan sumber manusia (latihan dan pembangunan, pembangunan kerjaya, ganjaran dan pengiktirafan dan penilaian prestasi dan pencapaian) dan keinginan untuk meninggalkan sesebuah organisasi. Begitu juga, hubungan antara amalan pengurusan sumber manusia dengan keinginan untuk meninggalkan sesebuah organisasi, serta hubungan keterlibatan pekerja dengan keinginan untuk meninggalkan sesebuah organisasi akan disiasat. Terdapat kekurangan maklumat mengenai hubungan antara amalan pengurusan sumber manusia, keterlibatan pekerja dan keinginan untuk meninggalkan sesebuah organisasi serta kesan mediasi keterlibatan pekerja di antara hubungan tersebut.

Sebanyak 180 soal selidik telah diagihkan kepada responden dalam syarikat X dan 150 soal selidik telah dikutip untuk analisis selanjutnya. Kajian ini menggunakan perisian "Pakej Statistik untuk Sains Sosial" (*SPSS Window*) Versi 16.0. Kajian ini menggunakan analisis reliabiliti, statistik deskripsi, ujian-T sampel bebas, ANOVA satu jalur, Korelasi dan analisis regresi untuk mengkaji hubungan antara amalan pengurusan sumber manusia, keterlibatan pekerja dan keinginan untuk meninggalkan sesebuah organisasi.

Hasil kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa nilai Alpha Cronbach bagi pembolehubah bersandar iaitu keinginan untuk meninggalkan sesebuah organisasi, pembolehubah bebas (amalan pengurusan sumber manusia) dan pengantara ubah (keterlibatan pekerja) dianggap boleh diterima. Ujian-T sampel bebas menunjukkan tiada perbezaan yang signifikan dalam keinginan untuk meninggalkan sesebuah organisasi yang dilaporkan oleh responden lelaki dan perempuan. Selain itu, ANOVA satu jalur menunjukkan bahawa keinginan untuk meninggalkan sesebuah organisasi adalah berbeza dengan kumpulan umur dan juga kelayakan akademik. Analisa regresi menunjukkan bahawa terdapat hubungan negative di antara keinginan untuk meninggalkan sesebuah organisasi dengan kedua-dua ganjaran dan pengiktirafan dan penilaian prestasi dan pencapaian. Kesan mediasi keterlibatan pekerja ke atas hubungan tersebut telah menyokong hipotesis yang dikemukakan. Beberapa cadangan telah disyorkan bagi pengamal-pengamal dan ahli akademik. Penyelidikan pada masa hadapan memerlukan lebih banyak jenis sampel dan meluaskan skop penyelidikan seperti memeriksa amalan-amalan pengurusan sumber manusia yang lain dan melibatkan pelbagai jenis industri.

Kata Kunci: Amalan Pengurusan Sumber Manusia, Kesan Mediasi Keterlibatan Pekerja, Keinginan untuk Meninggalkan Sesebuah Organisasi

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## **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 BACKGROUND OF STUDY**

Organizations are facing revolutionary trends in the global competition stage due to changes in technology, acceleration of products, changes in demographic and competition for the best talents. The vision, mission, philosophy and company's goals should align with the global trends to create a strong background in order to survive in the market. The strong company background drives the organizational culture in term of effective leadership style, group dynamics and strong teamwork among the employees. As a result, the employees' performance, satisfaction, motivation and commitment will increase.

Human capital is considered the greatest asset of any organization and it is important for the organization's operation. Human capital is the workforce in the organizations. They transform manpower resource into productive resource in the workplace. Several researchers (Arthur, 1994; Pfeffer, 1994; MacDuffie, 1995; Delery & Doty, 1996) argued that human resources are critical component in the organizations to achieve competitive advantage over its rivals and it has positive impact of HRM practices on organizational performance. Employee plays the role in the business process and helps organizations to achieve their goals and maximizes the profits.

Turnover intention is the behavior of employee's intention to leave the organizations. According to Cotton and Tuttle (1986), turnover is predicted as an individual's possibility of leaving or staying in the organization. Similarly, Hom and Griffeth (1991) defined turnover intentions as an individual's intent with relative strength to voluntarily withdraw from an organization. Therefore, turnover intention could lead to

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