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Information Risk Management and IT Executives' Structural Status in a Top Management Team

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Research Background & Motivation

- # Information as a critical asset in a firm
- # Legislative Compliance Requirements
 - Section 404 of SOX,GLBA and HIPAA

The Final Responsibility for Information Risk Management rests with Top Executives

- IT executives on enterprise-wide collaboration for deploying controls across all functions
- Fair authority, compensation and membership in a TMT as a key ingredient for information risk management

Research Model H1a, H1b IT executives Involvement in a TMT Compensation Structure **Information Risk** IT executive H2a, H2b Management Compensation Information H3a,H3b Breaches Pay Difference IT Internal Control H2c, H3c Contract Type Weakness (Salary vs. Incentive) H4a,H4b IT Strategy Continuity IT executive Turnover • Control variables: firm performance and IT intensity of industries

Hypotheses

- **# IT executive involvement in a Top Management Team** (TMT)
 - H1a and H1b: IT executives' direct membership in a TMT decreases information breaches & IT Internal Control Weaknesses
- **# Compensation Levels**
- H2a and H2b: The higher compensation, The higher performance in information risk management.
- H2c: A salary-based contract with task uncertainty of information risk has a larger positive effect on information risk management.
- **# Pay Difference as Strong motivation**
 - *H3a and H3b*: When IT executives' compensation levels are larger than those of non-IT executives within a firm, a firm's performance in information risk management increases.
 - *H3c*: Pay difference in an Incentive-based contract has a larger positive effect on information risk management.

Turnover

• *H4a and H4b*: High IT executive turnover may disrupt organizational continuity of IS strategy and hurt firm performance in information risk management.

Data Collection

Measuring Firms' Performance in Information Risk Management

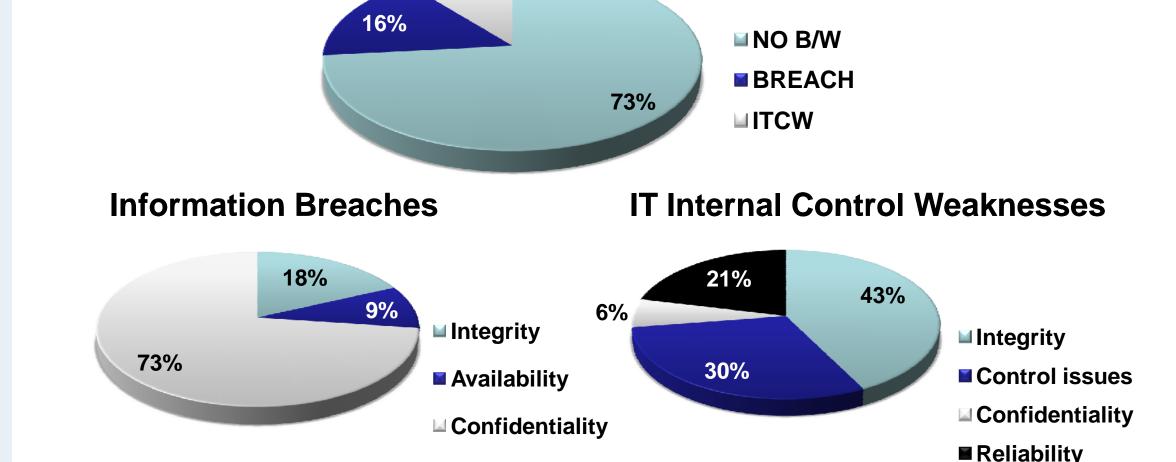
- Information breach incidents (2003 ~ 2008)
 - ✓ Public firms' 232 breaches among 577 incidents
 - ✓ Newswires Lexis/Nexis, Cnet, Zdnet
- IT internal control weaknesses (2004 ~ 2008)
 - ✓ Audit Analytics in WRDS (Section404)
 - √153 IT Internal control weaknesses in public firms

Executive compensation and other information

■ ExecuComp in WRDS for the S&P 1500

Descriptive Statistics

Firms' Breaches and ITICW



Research Method: Logistic Regressions

Variables	Description	Value	Source
BREACH	Information Breaches	1 or 0	Leixs/Nexis, CNet,&ZDNet
ITCW	IT internal controls weakness	1 or 0	Audit Analytics
ITEXT	IT Executive Involvement	1 or 0	ExecuComp
COMP	Compensation	Continuous	ExecuComp
TYPE	salary or incentive contracts	1 or 0	ExecuComp
DISP	Pay Difference between IT and non IT executives	Continuous	ExecuComp
TURNOVER	IT executive turnover	Continuous	ExecuComp
ITINT	IT Intensity: Industry	Continuous	BEA
FVALUE	ROA	Continuous	ExecuComp

IT executive involvement : Model (1)

 $\operatorname{logit}(P_j(y_{i,t}=1)) = f_j(\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 ITEXE_{i,t-1} + \gamma_1 FVALUE_{i,t-1} + \gamma_2 ITINT_{i,t-1})$ $i=1,\dots,n$ firms at year t

Compensation Structure and Turnover

Conditional Logit : Model(2)

logit
$$(Pr_j(y_{ik,t} = 1) / \sum_k Pr_j(y_{ik,t} = 1)) =$$

 $= f_j(\beta_1 COMP_{i,t-1} + \beta_2 BDISP_{i,t-1} + \beta_3 ODISP_{i,t-1} + \beta_5 TURNOVER_{i,t-1})$

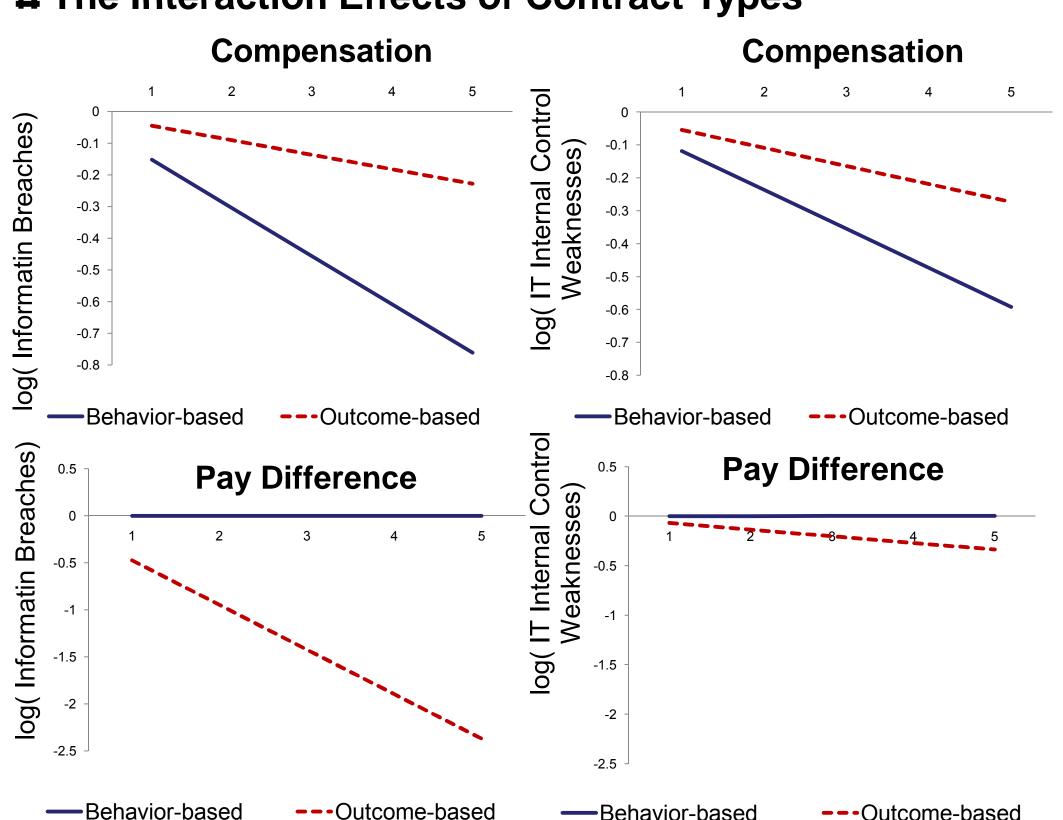
• Unconditional Logit : Model(3)

 $\log \text{it} \left(Pr_{j}(y_{i,t}=1)\right) = f_{j}(\beta_{0} + \beta_{1}COMP_{i,t-1} + \beta_{4}DISP_{i,t-1} + \beta_{5}TURNOVER_{i,t-1} + \\ \delta_{1}COMP_{i,t-1} * TYPE_{i,t-1} + \delta_{2}DISP_{i,t-1} * TYPE_{i,t-1} + \gamma_{3}FVALUE_{i,t-1} \\ + \gamma_{4}ITINT_{i,t-1})$

Results

IT executive involvement in TMTs		Model(1)			
Н1а	Information breaches	_	Supported	-0.366** (0.215)	
H1b	IT internal control weakness	_	Supported	-0.725** <i>(0.317)</i>	
IT executive Compensation Model (2) and (3)					
Н2а	Information breaches	_	Supported	-10.67 _{**} <i>(5.10)</i>	
H2b	IT internal control weakness		Supported	-6.37*** <i>(1.737)</i>	
Н2с	Salary-based contracts	>	Supported	-10.67** (5.10) -6.37*** (1.737)	
Pay Difference between IT and non-I7 executives					
P		non-I7	- Model (2	2) and (3)	
H3a		non-17 	Model (2 Supported	2) and (3) -47.41** (15.29)	
	executives	non-17	wodei (2	-47.41*** (15.29) -6.76** (3.648)	
НЗа	executives Information breaches	non-17	Supported	-47.41*** (15.29) -6.76**	
H3a H3b	Information breaches IT internal control weakness	_	Supported Supported	-47.41*** (15.29) -6.76** (3.648) 47.36*** (15.29) 6.81** (3.663)	
H3a H3b	Information breaches IT internal control weakness Salary-based contracts	_	Supported Supported Supported	-47.41*** (15.29) -6.76** (3.648) 47.36*** (15.29) 6.81** (3.663)	

The Interaction Effects of Contract Types



Conclusion

- # The positive effect of IT executives' direct relationship with top executives
- The lager effect of IT executive compensation in a salary-based contract with task uncertainty of information risk.
- # The lager effect of pay difference between IT and non-IT executives in an Incentive-based contract with task uncertainty of information risk
- The importance of organizational continuity of IS strategy in information risk management





