

Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns in Meiji Japan

Tom Nicholas and Hiroshi Shimizu

Intermediary Functions and the Market for Innovation in Meiji and Taishō Japan

Japan experienced a transformational phase of technological development during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. We argue that an important, but so far neglected, factor was a developing market for innovation and a patent-attorney system that was conducive to rapid technical change. We support our hypothesis using patent data and we also present a detailed case study on Tomogorō Ono, a key developer of salt-production technology who used attorneys in connection with his patenting work at a time when Japan was still in the process of formally institutionalizing its patent-attorney system. In accordance with Lamoreaux and Sokoloff's 1999 influential study of trade in invention in the United States, our quantitative and qualitative evidence highlights how inventors and intermediaries in Japan interacted to create a market for new ideas.

Few episodes in modern business history can match the scale and significance of Japan's economic reversal from relative economic backwardness during the feudal Tokugawa period to Meiji era modernization. At the heart of this transformation was a concerted push by the new Meiji government to nurture industrial development.¹ New institutions, such as legal frameworks permitting limited liability businesses to be established and a banking system to channel finance into industry, created a radically different economic environment for development. Technological innovation was prioritized by the government. Notably,

The authors thank Teresa Amabile for providing funding via Harvard Business School's Division of Research and two referees for very helpful comments and suggestions. They owe special thanks to Jean-Pascal Bassino, Kyoji Fukao, Ralph Paprzycki, Tokihiko Settsu, and Tangjun Yuan for providing prefecture-level GDP estimates and to Fabian Driscoll for providing prefecture-level population estimates.

¹For a summary of this literature, see Hiroyuki Odagiri and Akira Goto, *Technology and Industrial Development in Japan: Building Capabilities by Learning, Innovation and Public Policy* (Oxford, 1996).

Business History Review 87 (Spring 2013): 121–149. doi:10.1017/S0007680513000160
© 2013 The President and Fellows of Harvard College. ISSN 0007-6805; 2044-768X (Web).

Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan [D. Eleanor Westney] on thejosiabagglecompany.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying.thejosiabagglecompany.com: Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns in Meiji Japan (): D. Eleanor Westney: Books.Gary G. Hamilton, "Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan. D. Eleanor Westney," American Journal of.Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan. Front Cover. D. Eleanor Westney. Harvard University.Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan. Front Cover. D. Eleanor Westney. Harvard University Press, - Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan. By D. Eleanor Westney. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard.The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan some time in their history attempted to imitate the organizations of other societies, but until now .Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan. By D. Eleanor Westney. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.Westney, D. Eleanor. Imitation and Innovation. The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan. HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS., English, Book, Illustrated edition: Imitation and innovation: the transfer of Western organizational patterns to Meiji Japan / D. Eleanor Westney. Westney.Imitation and innovation: the transfer of Western organizational patterns to Meiji Japan / D. Eleanor Westney. Book Japan -- History -- Meiji period, Book Reviews: D. Eleanor Westney: Imitation and Innovation. The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan , Cambridge, MA: Harvard.Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Pp. viii.thejosiabagglecompany.com: Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan () by D. Eleanor Westney and a great.Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns in Meiji Japan Organization Theory and the Multinational Corporation. List View Grid.By Kenji Imatsu; D. Eleanor Westney, Imitation and Innovation:The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan.Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan. Cambridge, MA & London: Harvard University Press, First Edition.Imitation and innovation: the transfer of Western organizational patterns to Meiji Japan. by Westney, D. Eleanor. Publication date Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan by D Eleanor Westney. our price , Save Rs. Buy Imitation and.Page 1. Page 2. Page 3.Imitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan: D. Eleanor Westney: Books - thejosiabagglecompany.comImitation and Innovation: The Transfer of Western Organizational Patterns to Meiji Japan. by D Eleanor Westney. eBook. English. s.l.: Harvard University Press.