

Annex 5: Smart SMEs - Think small first

References

- 17/06/2011_EU Trade in Electronics
http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2011/july/tradoc_148053.pdf
- Study on internationalisation and fragmentation of value chains and security of supply_Within the Framework Contract of Sectoral Competitiveness studies ENTR/06/054_Second Interim Report_September 2011 <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise>
- Amongst others, Hölzl, Peneder and Silva-Porto (2008) show that the distribution of individual enterprises according to employment growth is “tent shaped.” The vast majority of enterprises show a moderate growth of employment. Then there is the group of enterprises that do not grow or even lose employment. At the other end there is the group of fast-growing enterprises. Verhoeven et al. (2008) present data on high growth enterprises (HGEs). In that study, HGEs are defined as enterprises in the non-financial business economy employing between 50 and 1,000 people, and having experienced 60% or more employment growth within three years. Their numbers are expressed as percentage(s) of the total number of enterprises with 50 to 1,000 occupied persons. As far as the EU is concerned, the study is confined to Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom (these countries account for 58% of the total number of medium-sized enterprises in EU-27). It appears that on average between 1998 and 2005, the share of HGEs in the total number of enterprises (with 50 to 1,000 employed persons) varies between 8% in The Netherlands, and as high as 23% in Italy; the weighted average of the countries under consideration is 12%. These figures tend to be fairly stable over the before-mentioned period. On average, HGEs in the countries under consideration have experienced total employment growth of 115% between 2002 and 2005; non-HGEs have seen their employment decline by 6% over the same period.
- It should be noted that in Japan, the share of HGEs in the stock of enterprises with between 50 and 1,000 employed persons is fairly low at about 2%; the corresponding figure for the USA is 18%. (First Section of the Annual Report on EU Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, EIM Business and Policy Research, David Audretsch Rob van der Horst Ton Kwaak Roy Thurik Zoetermeer, January 12, 2009)
- http://www.silicon-saxony.de/en/Silicon_Saxony_-_The_Association_of_Companies/Network_thinking_-_growing_together/142561.html