

Dr. John Romagna

support for:

SPECIAL PROJECTS / SPECIAL OPERATIONS



Manila: +63 917 535 65888
Hong Kong: +852 9103 0466
Princeton: +1732 917 0108



drjohnr888@yahoo.com

UPDATE ON CURRENT ACTIVITIES AS OF 2017-2018

Current activities are still carried out under the auspices of Integrated Solutions Technology, Ltd. (IST), a “think tank” located in Makati, Philippines, owned by and focused on the business needs of the family of Dr. Tan Siu Lin, an Entrepreneur and Philanthropist from Hong Kong, and on the advanced system needs of Luenthai Holdings Ltd. John continues to lead IST.

**SNAFU?
FUBAR?
CLUFU?**

**Call the UN-FUer,
DrJohnR**

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clarity of mind
strength of will
breadth & depth of experience

*to help you choose and do
right things, the right way*

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*The right questions are more
important than the right answers to
the wrong questions. They are the
first step in the process of discovery
of 'what is' that it is.*



Dr. John Romagna
Strategy

I. CURRENT POSITION

John is currently the President of Integrated Solutions Technology, Ltd. (IST), a systems analysis and research and development consulting company located in Manila. He is also Executive Vice President for Systems and Information Technology for Luenthai Holdings, Ltd., a company listed in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. IST serves as a technical resource for Luenthai Holdings, an OEM on the HKSE.

II. CURRENT WORK

A. On-going project since August 2017: “Smart Factory”

John is currently designing and developing the “brain” of a “smart factory” in Cebu (“smart” being defined as an AI-assisted “Cyber Physical System” according to terminology of Industry 4.0). He took personal responsibility for overall design of technical approach and defining key mathematical aspects of the system using an eclectic set of conceptual and mathematical tools and IA algorithms. Factory just won adidas overall world-wide award for “best in digital manufacturing”.

B. January to July 2017: “Big data” Analysis

Worked on “big data” analysis and modeling of the functions and performance of a large fabric mill in Hanoi, Viet Nam. This involved sampling and data collection of some 85,000 transactions covering all aspects of product development, production, and delivery, especially explaining variance in relation to quality and efficiency targets. Heavy use was made of advanced mathematical techniques including “factor analysis” and casual modeling.

III. SELECT ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

John has a master’s degree in military strategy and systems analysis from Columbia University, and a Ph.D. degree in systems theory, philosophy of science, and systems analysis applied to war and international relations, also from the same university. He fulfilled his doctoral requirement for a second “foreign language” by passing a general examination in applied mathematics. He did post-doctoral research in General Systems Theory and analysis as a visiting faculty member at Princeton University. He is also the author of a study of technology planning, choice, and implementation in the international setting, which was funded by the Ford Foundation and published as a teaching case by Harvard Business School. As a doctoral student on full scholarship at Columbia University, John received the university’s most prestigious awards and fellowships, including the John A. Love Award for best research paper across the graduate faculties. This research involved the computation of a nuclear war with and without ballistic missile defense and emphasized the dangers of drawing policy conclusions from incomplete and mathematically indeterminate data.

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SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

John has also served as Corporate Vice President for Special Projects for the Luenthai group, where he played an important role in conceiving and implementing Luenthai’s R&R (Rethink & Renewal) Program, a major group-wide change initiative. He is also the author of Luenthai’s UPSRP (Unified Principles in Social Responsibility in Practice), and the designer of Luenthai’s SA8000 and ISO9000 certified integrated human rights and work practices management policies and system.

John has also been Executive Director of the Center for Supply Chain Systems Research and Development at Peking University, where he had a direct role in the research design and implementation of the center’s large scale research projects. John wrote the core theoretical and methodological chapter of their benchmark study of supply chain management practices in four industrial sectors in China (State of Supply Chain in China: Theory and Practice, PKU Press).

At Boston University, where he served as Assistant Provost and Vice President for External Programs, he was involved in the coordination and support of business and government supported research programs. He also worked directly on special projects including those with the Egyptian Ministry of Health and Cairo University Medical School. He was also Project Director for a \$15m project involving hybrid rice trials in the Nile Valley for the World Bank.

He has also served as “principal investigator” for other funded applied research and teaching projects, including a graduate degree program at the University of Denver in “Technology and Development Studies”, which received major grants from both Alfred P. Sloan and Ford Foundations. At the University of Denver, Korb Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, John taught courses in Systems Analysis/Operations Research, Research Design, American Foreign and Military Policy, and Military Strategy and Technology.

John continues to give lectures and seminars for academic and professional groups visiting Asia, including groups from American universities, corporations and public organizations (including the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, part of U.S. National Defense University).

Since leaving academia and government sponsored work and moving to Asia, John has worked as a senior consultant to some of the world’s best companies including the engineering divisions of Toshiba, Mitsubishi, Fujitech, to Amway’s manufacturing facility in China, to Huawei Technology Limited, and to Novartis (formerly Ciba-Geigy), and to GTE.

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SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

He has also been a consultant to international organizations including the Agency for Internal Development and World Bank. John had full time appointment as “social science advisor” to AID on development projects in the Middle East, with a home base at the U.S. Department of State (under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act, which enables him to retain faculty position at University of Denver). He worked on several funded health care related projects, including the development of a national health plan for the Moroccan Ministry of Health. He also served as a consulting manager, along with Vice Minister of State for Social Insurance Dr. Nabil Hakam, of a transformation project with the Egyptian Ministry of Social Insurance. This was later written up as a teaching case for Harvard Business School.

John also worked as a consultant to the International Statistical Programs Center, an interdepartmental center of the US Government on a project related to civil affairs in El Salvador, during which time he held a Top Secret security clearance. He also advised on general research design and analysis methods of the center, particularly related to data validation and reliability.

John’s business consulting has ranged from high technology telecommunications (Huawei Technology, GTE) to pharmaceuticals (Novartis) to construction (Gammon, Dragages, Aoki...), to consumer goods manufacturing. The common thread in across these and other projects has been strategy development (overall ends/means/approach), research design and implementation, tactical implementation advice, and sometimes, actually taking control of implementation. Most of this work was done as part of work of QSA-Mortiboys, a boutique Hong Kong consulting company, started by Ron Mortiboys, the principal author of ISO9000. John and consultants did a buyout of QSA and he became Managing Director.

First as consultant, and then later as part of a contract with QSA-Mortiboys, John served as Vice President for Manufacturing for Tristate Holdings Ltd., a publicly listed Hong Kong company. Here he designed and led a major manufacturing change program, principally focused on turning around a money losing garment manufacturing business in the Philippines. As a part of this project, new systems and procedures were put in place. New HR policies and practices designed and implements, and new values and behaviors fostered. The end result was the better output (rework dropping from 40-60% to 0-6% increased output (180K to over 200K tailored suits/dresses per month), all done with fewer workers (from nearly 6000 to just over 4000) in approximately one year’s time. The statistical process control system designed by John, an important factor in reducing rework and in increasing productivity, was recommended by Liz Claiborne to its worldwide supplier base.

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SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

While working in business rather than academia for the last twenty years, John continues to work on conceptual and applied learning as well as practical research studies. He is the principal investigator and author of:

Guidelines for Quality Management Systems, a combination of theory and practice published in a dual Chinese/English edition by the Chinese Manufacturer's Association of Hong Kong;

Guidelines for Quality System Implementation of the Hong Kong Construction Association;

Quality in Public Housing, a 2.6 million dollar study jointly sponsored by the Hong Kong Housing Authority and the Hong Kong Construction Association;

State of Quality, a study of the quality management practices of leading Hong Kong based manufacturers, paid for and published by the Hong Kong Industry Department.

John has also written cover story articles for Hong Kong Business and World Executive Digest, as well as various technical papers and monographs, including:

Data, Decisions, and Development: Strategy and Issues of Information Management, U.S. Agency for International Development;

Understanding and Executing Factory Analysis: An Interactive Approach, monograph and accompanying statistical package sold by The Computer Company of Richmond, VA

The Ministry of Social Insurance: A Case Study of Policy Analysis and Project Development, Parts I and II, published by Harvard Business School Case Services.

The State of the Supply Chain: Theory and Practice, a board based study of supply chain practices in four industries in China, published by Peking University Press in 2005 (jointly edited and written by John and Professor Tsao He Ping).

John continues to give lectures and seminars for academic and professional groups visiting Asia, including groups from American universities, corporation and public organizations (including the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, part of U.S. National Defense University).

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Addendum: Summary Note on John's Research Design, Implementation and Evaluation Activities

- Doctoral minor at Columbia University specializing in Philosophy of Science, Scientific Methodology, Research Methodology
- Qualifying exam in applied mathematics with detailed knowledge of mathematical methods in research
- Writing a commercially marketed principal component/factor analysis package with and without varimax orthogonal rotation
- Research on general systems theory and Liapouov conditions of stability in systems of differential equations (used in doctoral research)
- Teaching graduate course at University of Denver in Systems and Analysis and Operations Research (use and limitation of mathematical models including linear programming, statistical decision theory, econometric modeling.)
- Doing research design, conducting research, and writing up research conclusions for numerous projects mentioned above resume including:
 - Research study of effectiveness of OSHA programs on accident occurrence for the State of New Jersey Budget Bureau, jointly with Peter Silvia
 - Consultancy and advice on research design and methodology to numerous projects carried out by the International Statistical Program Center of the US Government
 - Research study on the management practices of Hong Kong Construction Companies
 - Design of research studies for the Egyptian Ministry of Social Insurance
 - Review of research studies and integration of results into Morocco National Health Plan, while under contract to USAID
 - Project Director of World Bank funded project for conducting hybrid rice trials in governorates of Menoufia and Sohag in the Nile Valley
 - Co-Director of the Center for Supply Chain Systems and Research at Peking University which conducted sample research of supply chain management practices in four major industrial sectors and is published by Peking University Press (2005).
- Co-Director, 70% of 2015 work time spent, of a \$1 million research and strategy development project of consumer preferences and practices regarding internet apparel purchase, conducted jointly by Luenthai International Group and Vivaldi Associates of New City in 2014-2015. Effort involved heavy and coordinated use of both qualitative (focus group and interview data) and quantitative data (multiple statistically significant large scale studies), and sophisticated analysis models and techniques.



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