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Tokio Marine & Nichido Fire Insurance  
Board Member RJ Kiln  
***(Best quote from the passage)***

I joined Toki Marine & Nichido Fire Insurance Company on my graduation from university and worked in the division handling reinsurance. I looked at how much risk a company can take and to what extent we should hedge risks through this work. As a result, I became aware of needs to widen my knowledge about management. Later on, I moved to a division planning projects related to overseas insurance and I felt more needs to sort out my thinking process about management and strategies. I decided to take an MBA course in order to learn the basis for that.

I decided to take an MBA course myself and there was no backup from my company. I was not thinking of leaving the company, so naturally I chose to take a part-time MBA course. I also thought I would be able to use the logical thinking gained through the MBA course in my current work. There were more part-time MBA courses in Europe than in the USA when I was looking for my MBA course. I chose MBS for its course contents, reputation and user-friendliness over many other schools.

The course met my objective of building a basis for logical thinking about management. I had to write a large volume of essays for my MBA course. Contents were important, of course, but structures and frameworks were also carefully evaluated. It helped me to improve my skills. The course requires attendance to workshops and I participated in workshops held in Hong Kong 3-4 times a year. I could interact with other students studying for the same course and it was one of the major attractions of this course.

Tokio Marine & Nichido Fire Insurance Company bought RJ Kiln and I am sent to RJ Kiln as board member. I needed knowledge and capability to understand all aspects management in the buying process and for participating in the management afterward. It was very useful that I already had necessary knowledge and experience through my MBA. There is a certain level of ambiguity accepted in Japan, but in Europe and the US we need skills of thinking and explaining in a logical manner. I feel that I gained those skills from my MBA courses too.

Participants in Hong Kong workshops were different each time and I did not have opportunities to build networks with them. I could have contacted MBS alumni, but I did not have a chance to do so because I had to move to London during the course. If I go back to Japan, I would like to make contact with Japanese alumni.

It is my career goal to be a management specialist. I need abilities to apply what I have learnt from my MBA course. What you can learn from MBA courses is essential but not enough on its own to fulfill my goal. Having said that, we need a basis in order to apply what we have learnt, and my MBA course was extremely useful to create this basis.

I graduated from Hitotsubashi University. MBA courses at my university were not conducted in English. They had Japanese companies in mind and the themes they used were not global. For these reasons, I did not consider taking a Japanese MBA course.

This is a distance learning programme and there is a certain level of flexibility. On the other hand, there were deadlines for submission of essays and scheduled examinations and it was good to me. The dates for workshops were fixed and it gave a good balance with the flexibility of distance learning.

Japanese people are not good at logical thinking. As it is difficult to gain just by reading books, I would recommend this course to students in Japan. You are forced to output your thinking by sitting at examinations and writing essays, and it helps to acquire logical thinking. Another benefit of this course is to have opportunities to interact with other students with international perspectives through workshops. Part-time MBA study is suitable to gain practical skills and knowledge. You can apply what you have recently learnt in your current work, and on the other