

Title of Article: Information Technology Profiles and Types of Architectural Firms

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Abstract: *This paper examines the information technology profiles as well as the types of architectural firms based on these profiles. It uses the notion of adoption to describe firm profiles. The types of firms are derived through a taxonomical process using the variables that describe the profiles. The study used data collected from 92 firms randomly selected from the cities where architectural firms are most concentrated. The results showed that there was a low level of adoption of IT. While the computer was highly available, the intranet and the internet were not. Only about a third of the firms had a website and used the internet to a high degree. The internet was used mainly for sourcing design information and administrative tasks. The internal factors which appeared to be strongly related to the adoption of IT were the ownership form of the firm, the leadership style of the principal and the performance of the firm. The external factor; clientele was also related to the adoption of IT. Two types of architectural firms emerged from the analysis and the adoption of the internet appeared to be the strong differentiating factor. The paper concludes by highlighting the implications of these results for the profession.*