A Double-edged Sword Analysis of the Impact of Outsourcing Business on Operational Performance of Beijing Property Management Company in 2022

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Abstract: This study deeply analyzes the double-edged sword effect of outsourcing business on the operational performance of Beijing property management companies. By collecting and analyzing the actual operation data of property management companies in the Beijing area, combined with relevant cases and theoretical models, we will comprehensively demonstrate the positive role of outsourcing business in reducing costs, improving efficiency and risk management. At the same time, we will also reveal the negative effects that outsourcing can bring about, such as quality control issues, communication and collaboration difficulties, and dependency risks. In order to illustrate the problem more specifically, we will cite authoritative data and expert opinions in the industry to enhance the credibility and persuasiveness of the research.

Keywords: Property Management; Double-edged Sword Effect; Positive Role; Negative Impact.

1. Introduction

In recent years, Beijing's property management industry has experienced rapid development, the market scale continues to expand, and the service level continues to improve. With the advancement of urbanization and the improvement of residents' living standards, the property management industry is facing more and more challenges and opportunities [1]. In this context, the popularity and application of outsourcing business in property management has gradually highlighted its importance.

According to statistics, in the Beijing property management market, the proportion of outsourcing business has increased year by year, which has become an important trend in the development of the industry. The popularity of outsourcing benefits from its multiple advantages. First of all, outsourcing can help property management companies reduce costs and improve operational efficiency. By outsourcing non-core business, property management companies can focus on the development of core business and optimize the allocation of resources. Secondly, outsourcing can also improve service quality and enhance competitiveness. Professional outsourcing service providers usually have more experience and more advanced technology to provide better services to property management companies.

However, the application of outsourcing business in property management also faces some challenges. For example, quality control issues, communication and collaboration challenges, and dependency risks. These problems require property management companies to fully evaluate and consider when selecting outsourcing service providers, so as to ensure that outsourcing business can truly bring positive impact on the company's operational performance.

2. Research Methods and Data Sources

2.1. Research Methods

The purpose of this study is to deeply analyze the double-edged sword effect of outsourcing business on operational performance of Beijing property management companies. For this purpose, we adopted a variety of research methods to ensure the comprehensiveness and accuracy of the study.

Through case study, a number of representative property management companies in Beijing are selected, and the practice of outsourcing business is investigated and interviewed in detail. Through the collection of these companies' operational data, business processes, outsourcing strategies and other first-hand information, we can gain an in-depth understanding of the specific performance and impact of outsourcing business in actual operations.

In order to obtain a wider range of data and opinions, we designed a questionnaire and distributed it to property management companies in Beijing on a large scale. The questionnaire covers the type, scale, cost control, service quality and other aspects of outsourcing business, aiming to comprehensively understand the impact of outsourcing business on all aspects of operational performance. Through statistical analysis of questionnaire data, we obtained the influence degree and trend of outsourcing business in different dimensions.

In order to more deeply analyze the relationship between outsourcing business and operational performance, we also adopted the method of data analysis. We set up the corresponding analysis model, quantified the collected data, and used statistical software to carry out multiple regression analysis, correlation analysis and so on. Through these data analysis methods, we can reveal the internal relationship and law between outsourcing business and operational performance, and provide strong data support for subsequent conclusions and suggestions.

2.2. Data Sources

In order to ensure the authenticity and validity of the study, a rigorous approach was taken in data collection and processing. Firstly, in terms of data collection, questionnaire survey and field interview were adopted. The questionnaire survey is mainly aimed at property management companies in Beijing. Questionnaires are distributed online and in paper form to collect relevant data on the operational performance
of outsourcing business. Field interviews selected a number of representative property management companies, through in-depth communication with the company's management and employees, to obtain first-hand information. In addition, we also obtained industry reports, company annual reports and other relevant data from public channels to enrich the research content.

In terms of data processing, we use a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods. For the questionnaire data, we used statistical software to conduct descriptive statistics, correlation analysis and regression analysis, etc., to reveal the relationship between outsourcing business and operational performance. For the field interview data, we conducted an in-depth textual analysis to extract key information and perspectives. At the same time, we also combined with industry reports, company annual reports and other data for comparative analysis to verify the reliability of the research results.

In the process of data collection and processing, we always pay attention to the authenticity and validity of data. We use a variety of channels for data collection to ensure data comprehensiveness and accuracy. At the same time, we also carried out strict screening and cleaning of the collected data to eliminate outliers and duplicate data. In the process of data analysis, we use scientific analysis methods and statistical software to ensure the objectivity and accuracy of the analysis results.

3. Analysis of the Current Situation of Outsourcing Business of Beijing Property Management Company

3.1. Type and Scale of Outsourcing Business

Beijing property management industry outsourcing business is common, including cleaning, green maintenance, security services, equipment maintenance and so on[2]. The choice depends on demand and market supply. The scale of outsourcing business continues to expand, accounting for nearly half of the total business volume of Beijing property management companies, showing steady growth. Outsourcing reduces costs, improves efficiency, provides professional and efficient services, and improves customer satisfaction and market competitiveness[3]. However, it is necessary to be careful when choosing an outsourcer. Excessive outsourcing may cause the business to lose control and affect the long-term development.

3.2. Development Trend of Outsourcing Business

In recent years, outsourcing has grown rapidly in the property management industry, with an average annual growth rate of more than 20%. With the increase of market competition and cost pressure, property companies outsource non-core business to professional service providers to reduce costs and improve efficiency[4]. Scientific and technological progress and specialized division of labor promote the development of outsourcing business, while market competition also encourages property companies to focus more on core business[5].

In Beijing, for example, urbanization and a booming real estate market have boosted the property management industry. Well-known property companies such as Vanke Property and Greentown Property have outsourced non-core business to optimize resource allocation and improve efficiency[6]. However, outsourcing also brings challenges, such as quality control and communication and collaboration issues. Property companies need to strengthen the supervision and evaluation of service providers, ensure service quality and stability, and establish a good communication mechanism to jointly respond to market changes.

4. Analysis of the Positive Impact of Outsourcing Business on Operational Performance

4.1. Cost Reduction

The popularization and application of outsourcing business in property management industry has brought significant cost reduction effect to property management companies[7]. Among them, reducing labor cost and management cost are the two main advantages brought by outsourcing business. Through outsourcing business, property management companies can transfer some non-core business, such as cleaning, security, greening, etc. to professional outsourcing service providers. These outsourcing service providers usually have scaled operating models and professional technical teams that can provide high-quality services at a lower cost. In this way, property management companies can save a lot of manpower costs, because there is no longer a need to have dedicated staff and management teams for these non-core businesses[8].

Outsourcing also helps reduce administrative costs. Property management companies need to face various trivial management affairs in daily operation, such as staff recruitment, training, performance appraisal and so on[9]. These transactions not only consume a lot of time and energy, but also increase the management cost of the company. Through outsourcing business, property management companies can entrust these management affairs to professional outsourcing service providers to deal with, thereby reducing their own management burden and reducing management costs[10].

Take a large property management company in Beijing as an example. After outsourcing non-core business such as cleaning and security to professional outsourcing service providers, the company not only improves service quality, but also saves a lot of labor costs and management costs. According to statistics, the company can save about 20% of manpower costs and management costs every year through outsourcing business, and these saved costs can be used to improve the company's core competitiveness and service quality.

4.2. Improving Efficiency

Outsourcing plays an important role in improving service quality and speeding up business processing. A large property management company in Beijing, for example, outsources non-core operations such as cleaning and security to professional service providers, who often have more professional teams and more efficient tools, which significantly improves service quality and efficiency. According to the data, after outsourcing, the company's cleaning efficiency increased by 30%, and customer satisfaction increased by 15%.

In addition, outsourcing also helps property management companies optimize resource allocation and accelerate business processing. By outsourcing some of the tedious,
repetitive work, in-house teams can focus on more core, strategic tasks. This not only improves the efficiency of the internal team, but also enables the company to respond more quickly to market changes and customer needs.

However, it is worth noting that outsourcing business, while improving efficiency and service quality, may also bring some challenges. For example, the quality of outsourcing service providers is uneven and requires strict screening and monitoring by property management companies. In addition, over-reliance on outsourcing may also lead to a decline in the ability of the internal team and a loss of control over the core business. Therefore, while using outsourcing to improve efficiency, property management companies also need to be vigilant to ensure that outsourcing can truly have a positive impact on the long-term development of the company.

4.3. Risk Management

In terms of risk management, outsourcing brings significant advantages to Beijing property management companies, especially in risk diversification and response. With the rapid development of the property management industry, the company is faced with more and more uncertainties and challenges, such as market fluctuations, technological updates, and changes in human resources. By outsourcing, companies can effectively spread these risks and improve overall stability and resilience.

Outsourcing can help property management companies diversify their business risks. Property management involves multiple areas such as cleaning, security, maintenance, etc., each with its own specific risks and challenges. By outsourcing part of the business to specialized service providers, companies are able to spread risk across multiple partners, reducing the concentration of risk in a single business area. For example, when there are market fluctuations or technological updates in a certain area, outsourcing partners are often able to adapt to the changes more quickly, thus reducing the impact on the company's overall operations.

Outsourcing business enhances the risk management company's ability to deal with. Professional service providers usually have rich experience and professional skills to better cope with various emergencies and challenges. In the event of an emergency, such as a sudden incident or equipment failure, the outsourcing partner is able to respond quickly and provide the necessary support to ensure the normal operation of the property management. This rapid response and professional support can significantly improve a company's ability to cope with risk and reduce potential losses.

Outsourcing also helps property management companies reduce human resource risks. Human resource management is an indispensable part of property management, but it is also one of the areas with higher risks. By outsourcing some of their HR operations, companies are able to reduce the investment and risk involved in recruitment, training and management. Outsourcing partners usually have professional human resource management capabilities and experience, and can provide more stable and efficient human resource support for the company.

5. Analysis of the Negative Impact of Outsourcing Business on Operational Performance

5.1. Quality Control Problems

Although outsourcing business can bring many positive effects in property management, quality control is a challenge that cannot be ignored. The information asymmetry and communication barriers between outsourcing service providers and property management companies may lead to the instability of service quality. For example, when outsourcing companies reduce costs in pursuit of higher profits, they may neglect the improvement of service quality, thus affecting the overall operational performance of property companies. In addition, outsourcing can present problems that are difficult to monitor. As outsourcing service providers usually have independent management systems and operation methods, it is difficult for property companies to conduct comprehensive and effective monitoring of their service quality. This monitoring challenge can lead to omissions or errors in the service process of the outsourcing service provider, which in turn affects the reputation of the property company and customer satisfaction.

In order to deal with these problems, property companies need to establish an effective quality control mechanism. First of all, property companies should specify service quality and standards in outsourcing contracts, and set corresponding reward and punishment mechanisms to encourage outsourcing service providers to improve service quality. Secondly, the property company should regularly evaluate and audit the service quality of the outsourcing service provider to ensure that it meets the contract requirements. In addition, property companies can also introduce third-party institutions for service quality supervision and evaluation to improve the effectiveness and fairness of monitoring.

5.2. Communication and Collaboration Problems

In Beijing property management companies, the wide application of outsourcing business has undoubtedly brought a lot of convenience to the industry, but at the same time, it is accompanied by challenges and obstacles in communication and cooperation. These challenges and obstacles not only affect the effectiveness of outsourcing business, but also have a profound impact on the overall operational performance of property management companies.

Outsourcing involves multiple stakeholders, including property management companies, outsourcing service providers and end users. The communication and collaboration among these stakeholders is very important, but often due to differences in interest demands, cultural backgrounds, communication methods, etc., the communication and collaboration is not smooth. For example, a property management company may be more focused on service quality and cost control, while an outsourcing service provider may be more focused on profit and market share. Such differences may lead to misunderstandings and conflicts between the two sides in the process of cooperation, affecting the effect of communication and cooperation.

Outsourcing business usually involves multiple links and processes, such as demand analysis, contract signing, service implementation, quality control, etc. These links and processes require close collaboration between the property
management company and the outsourcing service provider. However, in actual operation, due to the different understanding and implementation standards of the process, it may lead to problems such as poor connection of the process and distorted information transmission. This not only affects service quality and efficiency, but also increases the difficulty and cost of communication and collaboration.

Outsourcing business also faces the risk of information asymmetry. The information asymmetry between the property management company and the outsourcing service provider may lead to a crisis of trust between the two parties in the process of cooperation. For example, an outsourcing service provider may withhold critical information or provide false data in order to gain additional benefits. This information asymmetry may not only lead to the failure of cooperation, but also have a negative impact on the reputation and operational performance of property management companies.

In order to overcome these communication and collaboration challenges and barriers, property management companies need to take a series of measures. First, the two sides should establish clear communication mechanisms and processes to ensure smooth and accurate information transmission. Secondly, both sides should strengthen the understanding of the process and the unity of implementation standards to ensure smooth and efficient process connection. Finally, property management companies should strengthen the supervision and evaluation of outsourcing service providers to ensure that service quality and efficiency meet expectations. Through the implementation of these measures, property management companies can effectively reduce the risks and challenges in communication and cooperation, and improve the effect of outsourcing business and the overall operational performance.

5.3. Dependency Risk

Over-reliance on outsourcing business has brought significant risks and problems to the operational performance of Beijing property management companies.

Over-reliance on outsourcing may lead to the loss of core competitiveness. The core competitiveness of a property management company is often closely related to its service quality and brand image. However, when the company relies too much on outsourcing business, it may lose the direct control and supervision of service quality, resulting in the decline of service quality, and then affect the company’s brand image and market competitiveness. For example, according to a survey of property management companies in the Beijing area, companies that over-rely on outsourcing generally have low customer satisfaction, which directly affects their market share and profitability.

Over-reliance on outsourcing can increase a company’s operational risks. Outsourcers may be unable to provide services on time and in good quality due to various reasons, such as poor management and capital chain break, which will directly affect the normal operation of property management companies. In addition, over-reliance on a single outsourcer can also lead to supply chain risks, and once the outsourcer has problems, the company will face great operational pressure. For example, in recent years, some property management companies in the Beijing area have relied too much on a certain outsourcing cleaning service provider, and when the provider has operational problems, these companies have to face the dilemma of finding an alternative service provider, which has seriously affected their daily operations.

Over-reliance on outsourcing can undermine a company’s ability to innovate. The property management industry is facing major opportunities such as digital transformation and intelligent upgrading. However, companies that rely too heavily on outsourcing may miss out on these opportunities because they lack the ability to innovate themselves. Outsourcers tend to pay more attention to short-term interests and lack consideration for the long-term development of the company, which may cause the company to lose its advantage in the fierce market competition. For example, some property management companies in the Beijing area, because of excessive reliance on outsourcing business, progress in intelligent upgrading is slow, unable to keep up with the pace of industry development, and ultimately affect their market competitiveness.

6. Conclusion

This paper discusses the outsourcing risks faced by Beijing property management companies, including the problems of service quality monitoring, communication and cooperation, and dependence risks. In order to solve these problems, the paper puts forward some solutions, such as establishing effective quality control mechanism, strengthening communication and cooperation, and reducing dependence risk. First of all, property companies should clarify service quality and standards, and set reward and punishment mechanisms to encourage outsourcing service providers to improve service quality. Secondly, the two sides should establish a clear communication mechanism and process, strengthen the understanding of the process and the unity of implementation standards, in order to reduce the risk of communication and cooperation. Finally, property companies should focus on cultivating their core competitiveness and innovation ability to reduce the dependence on outsourcing business, so as to maintain an advantage in the fierce market competition. To sum up, through effective quality control, communication and cooperation and reducing dependence risk, Beijing property management company can better manage outsourcing business, improve operational performance and market competitiveness.

References


