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**Systematic Knowledge Management Audit Methodology - Empirical Analysis  
from Pump Manufacturing Cluster in South India****R.Sujatha\* & Dr.R.Krishnaveni\*\***

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**Abstract**

*The growing importance of knowledge as a critical business resource has compelled organizations to examine the knowledge underlying their business, giving rise to Knowledge Management initiatives. But, this discipline lacks methods for auditing the knowledge management practices. Knowledge audit is agreed by most researchers to be one of the most important and even considered as the first step of knowledge management. This paper proposes a knowledge management audit methodology to assist organizations to understand the extent of knowledge management practices and the strategies to review and refine the practices. Manufacturing industry is the backbone for any country and India's emergence as a low-cost manufacturing hub increased its presence in world market. The pump manufacturing firms are located as clusters in and around major cities, including Coimbatore in South India. The indigenous knowledge that has accumulated over the decades in these clusters has to be managed to build the capacity of the workforce. Hence this research gains significance to be conducted in this part of the region which would boost the economy. The practical application of the knowledge management audit methodology is illustrated in the manufacturing cluster and brainstorming intervention was used to discuss the implications of audit methodology.*

**Keywords :** *Manufacturing Cluster, Knowledge Management, Knowledge Management Audit, Brainstorming*

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