

# SEMINAIRE DE LA FONDATION FRANCE-JAPON DE L'EHESS

## How to keep manufacturing capabilities at home? An approach in terms of Design-Based Comparative Advantage

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Vendredi 14 mai 2010, 11h-13h

EHESS, Salle des Lombard  
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### □ SUMMARY

In this paper, we propose an architecture-based hypothesis of comparative advantage, which predicts that a good “fit” between “organizational capacities of manufacturing” — that companies have built up over their histories — and product-process architecture (i.e., basic design concepts for product function, structures and processes), tends to result in international competitiveness. This hypothesis is supported by an empirical analysis. It suggests the possibility of a new development direction in international trade theory.

### □ ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Takahiro FUJIMOTO is professor at the Faculty of Economics, University of Tokyo and Director of the Manufacturing Management Research Center. Professor Fujimoto's long-term research objectives have been technology and operation management, especially in three areas: production management, product development, and suppliers' management. He is a worldwide recognized specialist of the Toyota Productive System and the author of numerous books and articles, among others: *The Evolution of a Manufacturing System*.

### PROCHAINEMENT

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Séminaire d'**Yves Tiberghien** (University of British Columbia)  
Discutant: Ryo Kambayashi (Université Hitotsubashi et OCDE)  
18 mai, 16h-17h30

Dans le cadre du séminaire EPCI

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