

Review of: "Developing a Framework for Cost Reduction Strategies through Process Automation in SMEs: A United States Perspective"

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The topic is very current and interesting, and could offer some points for reflection. The way of writing is simple, clear, and fluent, and this is a strength that invites the reader to continue reading. However, there are 3 main critical points that make the article weak:

1) The literature analysis is resumed in the table of themes, presented in the Framework development section: how was this literature analysis conducted? On which database? What are the inclusion or exclusion criteria? On what basis were the themes chosen? The literature analysis completely lacks transparency and reproducibility.

2) The framework (Figure 1) is rather obvious and deductive. Its validity is not supported by numbers, but by narratives of companies' experiences. It is difficult to verify its scientific validity.

3) There is no correlation between what is presented in the abstract and what is actually done: we are expected to find an empirical model that is actually non-existent.

Overall, I think that the article should be improved.