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A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ACTIVITY BASED COSTING AND TRADITIONAL COSTING AS A FRAGMENT OF PRICING

Mahesha V*

*Lecturer.

Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Commerce, Kuvempu University, Shankaraghatta, Karnataka, INDIA

Email id: maheshmcom69@gmail.com **DOI:** 10.5958/2319-1422.2022.00006.6

ABSTRACT

To support compliance with financial reporting requirements, a company's traditional cost-accounting system is often articulated with its general ledger system. In essence, this linkage is grounded in cost allocation. Typically, costs are allocated for either valuation purposes (i.e., financial statements for external uses) or decision-making purposes (i.e., internal uses) or both. However, in certain instances costs also are allocated for cost-reimbursement purposes (e.g., hospitals and defense contractors). Activity-based costing (ABC) which has become an important aspect of manufacturing/service organizations can be defined as a methodology that measures the cost and performance of activities, resources and cost objects. It can be considered as an alternative paradigm to traditional cost-based accounting systems. The objective of this paper is to illustrate an application of Activity Based Costing method and to compare the results of ABC with traditional costing methods. However an attempt has made to study the importance of activity based costing in present competitive business environment to exercise minimum control over on the cost.

KEYWORDS: Activity-Based Costing, Cost Drivers, Overheads, Traditional Costing

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