

The Multinational Subsidiary

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The Multinational Subsidiary

**Management, Economic Development
and Public Policy**

Neil Hood



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Foreword © Stephen Young 2003

The original publication of the chapters in this book is shown in the on-page footnotes on chapter-opening pages and in the Acknowledgements on pp. x–xi.

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First published 2003 by
PALGRAVE MACMILLAN
Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 6XS and
175 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10010
Companies and representatives throughout the world

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ISBN 978-1-349-51196-9 ISBN 978-0-230-51080-7 (eBook)
DOI 10.1057/9780230510807

This book is printed on paper suitable for recycling and made from fully managed and sustained forest sources.

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
Hood, Neil.

The multinational subsidiary : management, economic development and public policy / Neil Hood.

p. cm.

"The main body of the present volume presents a selection of his [i.e. the author's] articles, published in diverse journals"—Intord.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

1. Subsidiary corporations. 2. Subsidiary corporations—Management.
3. International business enterprises—Management. 4. Investments,
Foreign. 5. Economic development. I. Title.

HD62.3.H66 2003

338.8'8—dc21

2003053275

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
12 11 10 09 08 07 06 05 04 03

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Foreword

It is my very great pleasure to introduce this volume, which colleagues and I have initiated and edited as a tribute to Professor Neil Hood. The core of the book presents a selection of Professor Hood's academic papers. Neil is an outstanding academic researcher in the area of international business and MNE subsidiaries, who, throughout his career, has also continued to work at top level in both business and government service. The academic, business and public policy dimensions of Neil's work have been highly synergistic, providing enrichment, reinforcement and balance. Thus his involvement as an adviser and director of MNE subsidiaries and other internationalising companies, plus his work as director of an inward investment agency and other government service, provides a breadth and depth of experience which is perhaps unrivalled around the world. These experiences and insights have informed academic research, and Neil's work on the multinational subsidiary is characterised by its conceptual and empirical strength allied to and conditioned by business and policy realism.

The articles presented here are united by Neil's deep and genuine interest in enquiry and knowledge and especially in its application in terms of scholarship, management practice and policy-making. They are also united by his concern for the Scottish economy – its people and its economic performance.

Neil and I have been friends and academic colleagues for many years, and it is therefore an especial pleasure for me to write this Foreword. This volume represents only a small part of the output of a very prolific author. Neil's writings, moreover, encompass much more than his academic work: in 2002 he published *Whose Life is it Anyway?* (Authentic Lifestyle), and in 2003 *God's Payroll – Whose Work is it Anyway?* (Authentic Lifestyle), one of a planned series on practical Christian living. They reflect Neil's strong commitment to the Christian faith, which is evidenced in a busy preaching and teaching schedule, his involvement with Christian ministries and in his chairmanship of Send the Light Ltd.

Despite his seemingly boundless energy, Neil would be the first to admit that he could not have achieved all that he has done without considerable support. In particular, I am sure Neil would like me to thank two people who in very different ways have been critical to his

success in handling a huge portfolio of activities. First is his wife, Anna, who has been enormously supportive, encouraging and loving and patient (and who has shown great kindness to me and other colleagues over the years). Second, is his Personal Assistant, Irene Hood, who provides the organisational skills, commitment to quality, calmness and determination to enable Neil to juggle his competing demands and busy schedule.

And from me, a very personal, sincere and warm thanks.

We commend this volume to you.

STEPHEN YOUNG

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Acknowledgements

The author and publishers are grateful to the following for permission to reproduce copyright material:

Academy of Management Review for J. Birkinshaw and N. Hood, 'Multi-national Subsidiary Evolution: Capability and Charter Change in Foreign-Owned Subsidiary Companies', 23(4) (1998), 773–95.

Harvard Business Review for J. Birkinshaw and N. Hood, 'Unleash Innovation in Foreign Subsidiaries', in March (2001), 131–7. Copyright © 2001 by Harvard Business School Publishing Corporation. All rights reserved.

International Business Review for N. Hood and T. Truijens, 'European Locational Decisions of Japanese Manufacturers: Survey Evidence on the Case of the UK', 2(1) (1993), 39–63; N. Hood, S. Young and D. Lal, 'Strategic Evolution within Japanese Manufacturing Plants in Europe: UK Evidence', 3(2) (1994), 97–122. © 1994 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

Journal of Common Market Studies for N. Hood and S. Young, 'Inward Investment and the EC: UK Evidence on Corporate Integration Strategies', 26(2) (1987), 193–206. The views expressed in the paper are personal and are not to be construed as reflecting government policy.

Journal of International Business Studies for J. Birkinshaw and N. Hood, 'Characteristics of Foreign Subsidiaries in Industry Clusters', 31–1 (2000), 141–54. This paper benefited greatly from seminars given at the Institute of International Business and the Invest in Sweden Agency, and a presentation at the Academy of International Business annual meeting, Monterey, Mexico, October 1997. Thanks to Örjan Sölvell, Rod White, Alan Rugman and Don Lessard for their comments and advice.

Management International Review for J. Birkinshaw and N. Hood, 'An Empirical Study of Development Processes in Foreign-Owned Subsidiaries in Canada and Scotland', 37(4) (1997), 339–64. © Gabler Verlag 1997.

Regional Studies for P. Haug, N. Hood and S. Young, 'R&D Intensity in the Affiliates of US-Owned Electronics Companies Manufacturing in Scotland', 17(6) (1983), 383–92; S. Young, N. Hood and S. Dunlop, 'Global Strategies, Multinational Subsidiary Roles and Economic Impact in Scotland', 22(6) (1998), 487–97. The views expressed in this paper are personal and should not be construed as reflecting UK government policy; S. Young, N. Hood and E. Peters, 'Multinational Enterprises and Regional Economic Development', 28(7) (1994), 657–77. See the Website of *Regional Studies* at <http://www.tandf.co.uk>.

Scottish Journal of Political Economy for N. Hood and S. Young, 'US Investment in Scotland – Aspects of the Branch Factory Syndrome', 23(3) (1976), 279–94. The authors would like to thank the editors for their comments on an earlier draft of this paper. Thanks are also due to R. Mowbray.

Strategic Management Journal for J. Birkinshaw, N. Hood and S. Jonsson, 'Building Firm-Specific Advantages in Multinational Corporations: The Role of Subsidiary Initiative', 19(1998), 221–41. © John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. The authors are grateful for comments from Gunnar Hedlund, Jonas Ridderstråle, Örjan Sölvell, Udo Zander, Jan Johanson and other members of the Institute of International Business and University of Uppsala. Earlier versions of this paper were presented at the Academy of Management and Academy of International Business meetings in 1996 and a conference at the Australian Graduate School of Management, 1997.