Abstract:
The Digital age, cyber hoarding, continues to create an ocean of digital clutter that is saved on mobile devices (i.e., tablets, mobile phones, personal computer, as well company media storages). Continuation of such habit will place a tremendous burden on knowledge management risks within organizations. In the United States, the data shows that two out of five people persist to house unused digital data. The proliferation of mobile devices, the eruption of data and the profusion of cheap storage have made it all too enticing for some people to accumulate emails, text messages, word documents, web pages, digital photos, computer games, music files, movies, home videos as well as complete television show seasons than could ever be use or tracked. Digital hoarding also referred as cyber hoarding is a behavior to collect material and data that is stored on an electronic device. Excessive storage is adding up to 27% of storage space on a mobile phone. A data survey shows that 82% of an organization’s Information Technology (IT) decision makers admitted to being digital hoarders which could pose significant financial, security and data management risks. Another company reported saving 52% of all the data created; this does not include best practices documents for knowledge management. Yet 57% of another organization’s decision-makers stated that they would not trust a data hoarder to turn in a project on time; this percentage is higher than the international average at 48 percent trust. Passive reluctance exists to delete information that hold no sufficient value. The problem is that over a period of time, behaviors change to expect and request larger storage devices to store additional digital artifacts with an unrealistic or irrelevant retention. Digital hoarding can (a.) make it more difficult to locate specific files stored amid extra irrelevant material, (b.) consume more hard drive space than necessary, and (c.) require the addition of extra digital storage to a computer or mobile phone. This presentation will provide a framework that provides a common language and systematic methodology for managing digital hoarding. By reading this text, leaders, academics, and practitioners will gain usable knowledge to reduce digital hoarding, reduce storage costs, improve performance and time costs, and reduce the possibility of cyber-hacks.

Key Words: digital hoarding, cyber hoarding, digital devices, ubiquitous technology, unused apps, strategy, digital chaos, digital clutter