

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The completion of this research would not have been possible without the kind assistance and cooperation of a number of people.

My most profound gratitude goes to Mr. Chompon and Mrs. Sommai Khamyat, my parent, who have been given everything in my life and every academic support that conduct me to the successfulness for all of my life time.

My deeply thanks also go to Associate Professor Dr. Peerayuth Chansethikul, my research advisor. All through my study, Dr. Peerayuth has not only provided me with immense academic support, but he has also paved the way for me while I am on my quest for academic excellence. I also sincerely thank to Dr. Daniel Solow, Dr. Kamlesh Mathur and Dr. George Viraktarakis who take care me when I was at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. I gratefully thank my entire thesis committee members for kindly providing all of suggestions on this research.

I also wish to express my sincere appreciation and most deeply thanks to Miss Khwanchanok Chusatarn, my beloved person, who have been always giving me my inspiration of life for researching and helping me to pass the hardest time of my academic journey and beside me in my heart for all of my life time. My great successfulness of this doctoral degree is devoted to her for my everlasting love.

Chatpun Khamyat

August 2007