EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is of cardinal importance to accept that failure is a fundamental part of every day life. The difference is however, that one does not only need to learn from one’s own failures, but also from others’ failures. This is similar to the situation of not working harder, but working smarter. There are several factors within the project environment that can cause a project to fail, but once these factors have been identified the project manager can implement “preventive maintenance” to ensure that these factors do not affect the project. Further investigations on a recently failed project and questionnaires set-up by the author confirm the factors contributing to project failure as discussed in the literature case study. One way to manage these factors is by means of proper project management and risk management, which is a sub-set of project management. This dissertation highlights certain problem areas that can hinder project success and provides recommendations to achieve project success.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author of this dissertation would like to thank Arup for providing her the necessary guidance and information about the “Recently failed” project.

Furthermore, the author would also like to thank all the project managers that took the time in completing the questionnaires and providing the author with useful information regarding their working environment and day-to-day activities.

Last but not least the proofreader for spending hours reading this document. It is much appreciated.