



Handbook of Cost Accounting Theory and Techniques

By Ahmed Riahi-Belkaoui

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Clearly organized and readable, this work is a good introduction to cost accounting for someone with little prior course work or experience in the field. Most chapters include a list of suggested readings. Good index. Most appropriate for community college or public library collections. *Choice*

In response to the expanding roles of accountants in all types of organizations, cost accounting is becoming increasingly multidimensional, relying not only on traditional accounting principles, but also on behavioral, organizational, decisional, and other foundations. These conceptual foundations and their applications to cost accounting practices form the basis of this handbook, which offers both accounting students and professionals a comprehensive review and interpretation of cost accounting techniques and theories. By treating both traditional and newer dimensions of the discipline, the book defines a new scope and boundary that presents cost accounting in a multidimensional framework.

Ahmed Belkaoui presents his material from three different perspectives. First, he shows how the fields of cost accounting, economics, behavioral science, operations research, statistics, and mathematics provide the tools as well as the concepts necessary for the classification, accumulation, and reporting of relevant data for internal decision making and for the interpretation and evaluation of resulting decisions. Second, he demonstrates how standard cost accounting techniques can be complemented by other possible approaches to problems, stressing not only the descriptive but also the normative solutions to cost accounting problems. Finally, he examines how cost accounting techniques affect the planning and control of routine and nonroutine decisions, inventory valuation and income determination. Among the major new developments addressed are variance analysis, learning phenomena in cost estimation, flexible manufacturing systems, and behavioral considerations in cost allocation. This work will be especially valuable for professional accountants and graduate students preparing for an accounting career, and an important resource for academic and public libraries.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Although labeled a "handbook," this volume more closely resembles a cost accounting textbook without the usual end-of-chapter questions and problems. Belkaoui expresses his belief "that this book defines an expanded scope and new boundaries of cost accounting by presenting a multidimensional framework for the discipline." This involves primarily the inclusion of organization theory (Chapter 1), microeconomic analysis (Chapter 2), and a brief discussion of behavioral considerations in cost allocation (Chapter 17). Overall, coverage is much the same as in a typical cost accounting textbook, but with more quotations and citations than is usually found in a text. Clearly organized and readable, this work is a good introduction to cost accounting for someone with little prior course work or experience in the field. Most chapters include a list of suggested readings. Good index. Most appropriate for community college or public library collections."-Choice

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About the Author

AHMED RIAHI-BELKAOUI is Professor of Accounting at the University of Illinois at Chicago. His 13 previous books with Quorum include *Judgement in International Accounting* (1990), *The Coming Crisis in Accounting* (1989), and *Behavioral Accounting* (1989).

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