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NAVIGATING CORPORATE BRAND CRISIS MANAGEMENT IN THE  
NETWORK ENVIRONMENT: AN IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS

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**Abstract.** This research immerses itself in Indonesia's dynamic network landscape during the transformative Internet era. Geographically centered, it provides nuanced insights into brand crisis management within the local cultural and regulatory context, utilizing big data analytics to explore public sentiment during brand crises through online channels. The temporal focus on 2023 allows a detailed analysis of crisis impacts and evolving management strategies in Indonesia. Real-time data collection ensures immediate scrutiny of post-crisis public responses on social media, illuminating sentiment dynamics within the local online ecosystem. While rooted in Indonesia, the research aims to contribute globally, offering insights applicable across regions and industries. Focusing on case studies from Chinese and Indonesian firms over the last five years ensures relevance, comparability, and a robust analytical foundation for effective brand crisis management.

**Abstrak** Penelitian ini mengeksplorasi ekosistem daring yang dinamis di Indonesia dalam era Internet transformatif. Penelitian berfokus secara geografis, memberikan perspektif berbeda mengenai manajemen krisis pada sebuah brand dalam konteks budaya dan peraturan lokal, memanfaatkan analisis *big data* untuk mengeksplorasi sentimen publik selama krisis brand terjadi melalui saluran daring. Fokus temporal pada tahun 2023 memungkinkan analisis rinci mengenai dampak krisis dan strategi pengelolaan yang berkembang di Indonesia. Pengumpulan data secara *real-time* memastikan pengawasan langsung terhadap tanggapan masyarakat pasca krisis di media sosial, sehingga memperjelas dinamika sentimen dalam ekosistem daring lokal. Meskipun penelitian ini berbasis di Indonesia, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk berkontribusi secara global dan memberikan wawasan yang dapat diterapkan di berbagai wilayah dan industri. Berfokus pada studi kasus perusahaan Tiongkok dan Indonesia selama lima tahun terakhir memastikan relevansi, komparabilitas dan landasan analitis yang kuat untuk manajemen krisis pada sebuah brand yang efektif.

## INTRODUCTION

In the dynamic global Internet era, enterprises encounter unprecedented challenges in brand management due to rapid technological advancements. The borderless market created by these changes intensifies brand management complexities in the face of diverse global competition. The pervasive influence of the Internet accelerates information dissemination, emphasizing the need for strategic and vigilant brand management to navigate the complexities of the digital landscape. This evolution also reshapes consumer expectations, emphasizing the importance of reputation, social responsibility, and transparency in brand management.

The rise of social media further transforms brand management dynamics, introducing real-time, two-way communication that necessitates active brand engagement. Social platforms act as powerful amplifiers for brand sensitivity, making it crucial for brands to maintain constant vigilance and authenticity. However, the digital age also brings challenges such as the dissemination of false information, posing risks to corporate brand credibility. This requires enterprises to prioritize cybersecurity measures, manage information authenticity, and establish robust brand crisis management mechanisms.

Brand crises, amplified by the pervasive influence of the Internet, arise from various sources, including product quality issues, management mistakes, and social responsibility shortcomings. Effective crisis management strategies are essential to navigate the intricate online landscape successfully. Furthermore, heightened consumer rights awareness in the information age emphasizes the need for enterprises to prioritize transparency, integrity, and personalized service experiences to meet evolving consumer expectations.

The overarching problem formulation revolves around the unprecedented challenges faced by brand crisis management in the new era. These challenges include the rapid dissemination of crises, the complexity introduced by social media, the rise of false information, and the need to enhance consumer rights awareness. Enterprises must adopt flexible crisis management mechanisms and break free from traditional frameworks to navigate these challenges effectively.

The purpose of this research is two-fold: firstly, to explore the current situation of brand crisis management in the network environment, considering the diverse and complex nature of crises, the significance of crisis early warning, the pivotal role of social media, and the heightened public participation. Secondly, the research aims to provide practical brand management strategies, addressing crisis management, emotional brand building, varied marketing strategies, and data security within the network environment.

The benefits of this research are directed towards improving brand resistance and reducing the negative impact of brand crises. This involves fortifying brand resilience through effective reputation management, internal cultural cultivation, social responsibility, crisis management teams, and crisis response manuals. Additionally, the research seeks to provide practical strategies for reducing the impact of brand crises through comprehensive crisis response planning, communication, remediation, monitoring systems, and brand repair.

The authenticity of this scientific research is grounded in the in-depth analysis of data, utilizing

big data technology to gain comprehensive insights into market trends, consumer behavior, competitor dynamics, and potential crises. The research employs a combination of qualitative and quantitative research methods to provide a more comprehensive and in-depth understanding of corporate brand crisis management in the network environment. This comprehensive approach aims to enhance the credibility and practicality of the research conclusions.

In summary, this research addresses the multifaceted challenges faced by enterprises in brand crisis management within the dynamic network environment of the Internet era. The goal is to provide valuable insights and practical strategies that contribute to the effective navigation of brand crises, ensuring sustainable development and competitiveness in the evolving digital landscape.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Brand Crisis Management

A crisis, as defined by scholars such as Coombs (2007) and Dean (2004), is a nonroutine, unexpected event that introduces uncertainty, jeopardizing an organization's priority goals. This unforeseen occurrence can lead to financial losses and reputational damage that routine procedures cannot resolve (Tsang, 2000). Crises, with potential physical, financial, or emotional harm to stakeholders (Coombs, 2007), extend their impact beyond the product sphere, causing a spillover effect that affects the entire corporation (Roehm & Tybout, 2006).

The Consumer Protection Agency of São Paulo (Procon SP) characterizes recall as a legal procedure for suppliers to retrieve defective products, emphasizing the need to prevent accidents caused by consumption (Matos & Veiga, 2003). Product crisis studies highlight factors influencing consumer responses, including familiarity with the product, brand, and company, alongside the company's reputation (Niraj Dawar & Lei, 2009; G. Siomkos et al., 2010). The media's role amplifies crisis visibility, influenced by the perceived risk and the relevance of the company (Cleeren et al., 2013; Greyser, 2009; Heerde et al., 2007; G. J. Siomkos & Kurzbard, 1994).

The company's positioning during the crisis dissemination and its response directly impact outcomes. Whether denying, being ambiguous, or admitting guilt, the clarity of the admission influences the crisis's negative impact on the brand and the company (Dawar & Pillutla, 2000). Greater efforts by the company to address the crisis enhance society's willingness to mitigate its effects (Dawar & Pillutla, 2000; Greyser, 2009).

Studies on recall campaigns in the automotive industry reveal that denial strongly impacts the manufacturer's image negatively. A voluntarily called recall has a significantly positive impact on the image, further enhanced when followed by a campaign to improve the product and process (Souiden & Pons, 2009). Brand and product-related elements influence how crises affect the brand and business, with leading brands suffering less due to greater consumer credibility (Greyser, 2009).

A crisis triggered by product harm leading to a recall affects the brand, the entire company, the category, and its competitors. The temporary product withdrawal can result in sales loss, decreased market share, and high recall campaign costs. Beyond financial implications, negative brand associations, reduced brand equity, and stock price depreciation occur (Dawar & Pillutla, 2000; Heerde et al., 2007). Exposure of the corporate brand to the problem creates a cross-effect between items under the same brand and the entire corporate portfolio (Cleeren et al., 2013; Heerde et al., 2007; Tsang, 2000). The crisis's impact on the category depends on the company's reputation and

problem extent. Competitors may gain volumes and consumers lost by the affected company, leading to increased competition and productivity (G. Siomkos et al., 2010; Tsang, 2000).

Interestingly, a well-managed crisis can enhance the corporation's image, portraying it as socially responsible (Tsang, 2000). Effective crisis management reduces recovery times, making the corporation resilient after the extreme experience (G. J. Siomkos & Kurzbard, 1994). However, a brand that has undergone a recall becomes more sensitive to future crises, with recurring negative effects (G. J. Siomkos & Kurzbard, 1994).

In conclusion, a product harm crisis extends beyond immediate consequences, affecting brand, company, category, and competitors. Effective crisis management requires a strategic response, balancing responsibility assumption and intensity of action, with potential long-term implications on brand perception and corporate resilience.

### **Social Media's Role in Brand Perception**

The ascent of social media marks a watershed moment in the history of communication, reshaping not only interpersonal dynamics but also fundamentally altering the landscape of brand management. In the era of the Internet, social media has transcended its role as a mere communication platform, emerging as a pivotal conduit for brand-consumer interaction with profound implications for brand image and reputation shaping.

The Internet's journey, dating back to 1969, saw a transformative shift in 1993-94 with the accessibility of browsers, making it an integral part of everyday life by 2016, with nearly 46% of the global population online (ITU, 2009; World Bank). This evolution laid the groundwork for the rise of social media, ushering in an era where digital conversations became a cornerstone of human interaction.

Shirky (2008) aptly captures this evolution, distinguishing between broadcast and communication media. Traditional mass media operated as a megaphone, amplifying one-way messages, while communication media, representing two-way conversations, underwent a paradigm shift with the advent of the Internet. This shift, described by González-Herrero and Smith (2008), transformed the communication model from 'one-to-many' to a dynamic 'many-to-many' conversation.

The genesis of social media lies in the confluence of Web 2.0 and User Generated Content (UGC) (Kaplan and Haenlein, 2010). Web 2.0, emerging in 2004, denoted a departure from an individual-centric approach to content creation and publication, emphasizing continuous modification by users in a participatory and collaborative manner. UGC, publicly created by internet end-users, became synonymous with the rise of social media, defined by Kaplan and Haenlein (2010) as internet-based applications building on the ideological and technological foundations of Web 2.0. These platforms, as described by Luttrell (2015), became hubs for communities to share information, knowledge, and opinions through conversational media, marking a shift towards many-to-many communication.

Facebook and Twitter, two behemoths born in the early 2000s, embody the ubiquity of social media. With over 58 million daily Tweets and Facebook's immense user base, these platforms have become integral to global communication (Luttrell, 2015). The convergence of personal and public communication, as noted by Meikle (2016), blurs traditional distinctions, creating a space where public media become personalized, and personal communication takes on a public dimension. For companies, the rise of social media presents a dichotomy of opportunities and challenges.

Cornelissen (2017) underscores the democratization of news production enabled by web

technologies, highlighting a powershift towards audiences. Social media, as a manifestation of these changes, demands that companies navigate a landscape where audiences are active contributors and critics.

In the realm of crisis communication, social media plays a dual role, acting both as a facilitator and a challenge for organizations. The platform facilitates the rapid and transparent dissemination of information, enabling organizations to address crises openly. Simultaneously, social media poses challenges by wresting some control over the narrative from organizations (Romenti et al., 2014). The spread of organizational crises on social media, likened to viruses by González-Herrero and Smith (2008), underscores the heightened communication power of the public.

Giddens' concept of late modernity, characterized by a recognition of the double-edged nature of science and technology, finds resonance in the realm of social media (Giddens, 1991). The ubiquity of social media presents both risks and opportunities for organizations, necessitating a nuanced approach to brand management. As social media amplifies consumer voices, facilitates direct interaction, and serves as a crisis communication conduit, strategic engagement becomes paramount.

Strategic brand engagement on social platforms is not merely an option; it is a vital component of effective brand management. The empowerment of consumers as potential brand evangelists redefines the traditional brand-consumer relationship. Unlike the one-way megaphone of traditional advertising, social media enables direct consumer influence through shared experiences, reviews, and visuals. Effective brand management, in this landscape, requires attentive engagement with and response to consumers' voices.

Moreover, social media facilitates immediate brand-consumer interaction, distinguishing itself from traditional methods reliant on advertising and customer service. Brands can forge stronger bonds by sharing compelling content, engaging in topical discussions, and promptly addressing user inquiries. The result is a brand-consumer closeness and affinity that was previously challenging to achieve through traditional means.

Most critically, social media serves as a crucial communication channel during brand crises. Dissatisfied consumers express concerns, and brands must respond with timely actions, transparent communication elucidating the crisis's cause, and proactive solutions. The immediacy of social media demands swift responses, showcasing accountability and minimizing negative impacts through decisive actions. Brands that navigate crises effectively on social platforms mitigate fallout on reputation.

In essence, social media significantly influences brand management by amplifying consumer voices, enabling direct interaction, and serving as a crisis communication conduit. The strategic deployment of brand engagement on social platforms becomes not only a means of fostering positive brand images through active participation but also a crucial aspect of adept crisis response. It ensures effective brand communication and the mitigation of potential crises in a landscape where the power dynamics between brands and consumers have undergone a profound shift. Brands that recognize and navigate this shift strategically are poised to thrive in the socially mediated reality of our contemporary world.

### **Brand Management Evolution from the Traditional to the Internet Era**

The seamless integration of traditional brand management with the evolving demands of the Internet era unfolds both challenges and opportunities for enterprises. Traditional approaches,

anchored in image shaping, advertising, and channel development, undergo transformative shifts in this dynamic landscape. Consequently, enterprises must proactively infuse online strategies into their brand management practices.

The Internet era necessitates an intensified focus on the construction and optimization of online channels. Unlike traditional reliance on retail outlets, the prevalence of online shopping demands the establishment of robust e-commerce platforms. This strategic shift not only caters to the shift in consumer behavior but also enables direct brand-consumer interaction, providing a seamless online shopping experience.

The advent of social media marks a revolutionary phase in brand management communication. Departing from traditional advertising-centric models, contemporary brand management prioritizes user-generated content and word-of-mouth communication on social platforms. With consumers actively sharing experiences and reviews, cultivating a brand presence on social media becomes imperative for companies, offering an avenue for amplified impact.

Crucially, the digital and data-driven nature of brand management in the Internet era mandates a departure from traditional approaches. The strategic use of big data analytics becomes instrumental in gaining comprehensive insights into consumer behavior and market trends. This not only facilitates the development of precise and targeted brand strategies but also enhances brand promotion significantly through accurate digital marketing methods.

In summary, the dynamic integration of traditional and Internet-era brand management highlights the paramount importance of online channel construction, social media communication, and digital marketing. These strategic elements empower enterprises to navigate effectively, ensuring the continued competitiveness and relevance of their brands in the ever-evolving landscape of the Internet era.

### **Navigating Brand Crisis: Lessons from Classic Cases**

Brand crises are inherent in business, demanding adept crisis management for reputation preservation. Examining classic cases provides insights into effective strategies, offering a nuanced understanding crucial for enterprises to navigate and mitigate reputational risks.

#### **China Moutai Wine Price Increase Crisis (2021)**

In 2021, China Moutai Liquor Company faced a severe backlash following a price hike. Swiftly responding, Moutai justified the increase, citing rising costs and future strategies. Implementing a phased price adjustment and emphasizing product quality through intensified promotion effectively pacified public sentiment, progressively restoring the brand's reputation.

#### **Indonesian Airlines Crash (2018)**

A fatal plane crash in 2018 prompted a prominent Indonesian airline to conduct a comprehensive investigation. Transparent communication, regular updates on safety improvements, and equitable compensation fostered public trust, facilitating the airline's brand image restoration amid the crisis.

#### **China's Huawei and the U.S. Trade Friction (2018)**

Huawei, amidst U.S.-China trade tensions in 2018, strategically communicated its global contributions, solidifying its position in China, and diversifying market channels internationally. These measures sustained Huawei's global competitiveness amid disruptions, showcasing effective crisis management.

#### **Data Leakage on Indonesian E-Commerce Platform (2020)**

In 2020, a prominent Indonesian e-commerce platform faced a data breach. Swift acknowledgment, technical enhancements, collaboration with law enforcement, and proactive public relations efforts, including compensation and security advice, successfully restored user trust, highlighting the platform's resilience in crisis management.

In essence, these classic cases underscore the significance of swift, transparent communication, strategic measures aligned with core values, and proactive efforts in mitigating brand crises. Enterprises can draw valuable lessons from these cases to fortify their crisis management frameworks and navigate challenges adeptly, safeguarding their brand reputation.

### **Brand Crisis Management Framework**

In the rapidly evolving digital landscape, enterprises grapple with intricate and diverse brand crises, necessitating the development of a robust crisis management framework. It is imperative to integrate traditional brand management theories with contemporary digital trends to ensure swift and effective crisis responses, thereby maximizing brand reputation protection in the face of evolving challenges.

#### **Crisis Early Warning and Monitoring**

The foundation of a comprehensive brand crisis management strategy lies in initiating an early warning system. In the digital age, leveraging advanced monitoring technology and data analytics across diverse channels, including social media and news, facilitates real-time tracking for timely crisis detection. This mandates the establishment of a robust monitoring team employing technological tools such as artificial intelligence and big data analytics for early brand crisis awareness. An agile monitoring system enables companies to grasp public sentiment, promptly identify adverse events, and take immediate corrective measures.

#### **Formulation of Crisis Response Strategies**

Upon detecting a potential crisis signal, the swift formulation of a crisis response strategy becomes imperative. This relies on a thorough risk assessment that considers various digital-era risks, including social media communication, misinformation dissemination, and cyber threats. The strategy must align with the company's core values and business strategy, ensuring coherence and transparency during crises.

#### **Crisis Communication and Transparency**

In the digital era, crisis communication and transparency emerge as pivotal components of effective crisis management. Establishing swift and transparent communication channels is essential to disseminate truthful information and prevent the propagation of falsehoods. Utilizing platforms like social media, company websites, and press conferences proves to be effective. Crisis communication teams must promptly offer accurate information and address public concerns to safeguard the brand's reputation. Transparency extends to disclosing internal management and crisis response processes, showcasing corporate integrity and accountability.

#### **Social Media Crisis Management**

Social media, a critical information dissemination channel, also serves as a key arena for crisis escalation. In a holistic brand crisis management approach,

enterprises must institute a dedicated social media crisis management team. This team monitors social media sentiments, promptly addresses user concerns, and adeptly guides public opinion through strategic social media maneuvers. Establishing a robust social media crisis response process, with swift responses and adaptive strategies, mitigates the adverse impact of crises on the brand.

#### Employee Training and Crisis Drills

A robust brand crisis management framework necessitates not just technical support but also cohesive internal collaboration. Employees, key brand advocates, play a pivotal role, and their crisis response directly impacts the brand's reputation. Regular employee training, focusing on brand values and crisis management, is essential. Crisis drills simulate scenarios, test teams and employees, identify and address issues, enhancing overall crisis coping capabilities.

In essence, a solid brand crisis management framework that integrates traditional brand management with digitalization trends equips businesses to face obstacles in the digital era. This collaboration allows for quick warning, effective response, and ongoing crisis management, thereby protecting business brands in the complicated and dynamic internet context.

#### Branding in the Digital Age

In the digital era, aligning branding with new media, technology, and consumer dynamics is crucial for brand prominence in a competitive market. Establishing a framework tailored to digital branding becomes particularly imperative in this context.

#### Social Media Branding

Social media stands as a pivotal brand-building platform, necessitating active enterprise engagement to interact with users and disseminate compelling content. This direct interaction fosters deeper user relationships, enabling brands to comprehend user needs firsthand. Collaborating with opinion leaders and industry experts on social media enhances brand promotion, elevating awareness and reputation.

#### Personalized Brand Experience

In the digital age, heightened consumer focus on personalized experiences demands enterprises employ digital technology to deliver customized products and services. Beyond personalized product design, this extends to tailored shopping experiences and after-sales services. A profound understanding of user needs fosters brand loyalty by surpassing user expectations.

#### Application of Virtual and Augmented Reality Technology

Virtual and augmented reality technologies offer novel avenues for brand building. By leveraging these technologies, companies can craft immersive brand experiences, allowing users to virtually try on clothes and experience product scenarios from home. This innovative approach enhances brand visibility in the competitive market, capturing increased user attention.

#### Data-driven Brand Building

In the digital era, data serves as a crucial catalyst for brand building and marketing. Through comprehensive analysis of big data, enterprises gain profound insights into user behavior and market trends, enabling the formulation of targeted brand-building strategies. Data-driven assessments facilitate timely strategy adjustments, augmenting the brand's market competitiveness.

#### Omni-Channel Marketing Strategy

In the digital age, consumer shopping behavior has diversified, necessitating enterprises to embrace an omni-channel marketing approach that seamlessly integrates online and offline channels. A cohesive online platform, physical stores, and mobile applications cater to diverse shopping habits, fostering user loyalty and elevating brand affinity through a consistent shopping experience.

#### Brand Story and Emotional Marketing

In the digital age, a brand transcends being a mere provider, evolving into a narrative entity. Articulating brand stories imbues brands with emotional resonance, evoking user empathy. This emotional marketing approach not only deepens user understanding but also forges a profound emotional connection, fostering heightened brand loyalty.

To construct a brand-building framework in the digital era, companies must align with contemporary trends, harness advanced technology, and employ innovative strategies. Active engagement on social media, personalized experiences, virtual and augmented reality applications, data-driven approaches, omni-channel marketing, brand storytelling, and emotional marketing collectively enhance brand value delivery and user retention in the digital landscape.

### **Foundations of Brand Crisis Management in the Digital Landscape**

Brand crisis management in the digital era hinges on a deep understanding of the unique characteristics defining this age. These foundational assumptions guide brand managers in crafting responsive strategies tailored to navigate the complex challenges presented by the online environment.

#### Inevitability of Crises

The acknowledgment of crisis inevitability serves as the starting point for online brand crisis management. With information dissemination accelerating and user engagement intensifying, the diversity and frequency of potential threats increase. Strategies must not only focus on crisis prevention but also emphasize swift and effective responses, minimizing impact in crisis management plans.

#### Social Media Sensitivity

In the realm of online brand crises, recognizing the centrality of social media is paramount. This assumption underscores the need for brand managers to keenly understand the sensitivity of this medium. Timely capture of user feedback and awareness of public opinion trends enable flexible and swift responses in the early stages, contributing to the formation of a positive brand image.

#### Evolution of Digital Technology

Enterprises engaged in online brand management must stay attuned to the dynamic landscape of digital technology. This assumption emphasizes continuous monitoring and adaptation to the latest advancements, including artificial intelligence, big data analysis, and blockchain. Upgrading crisis management tools ensures technological sophistication, enhancing the foresight and efficacy of crisis response efforts.

#### Consumer Rights Awareness Enhancement

In an evolving societal context, consumer expectations extend beyond products and services. This assumption urges brand managers to proactively cultivate a positive corporate image, emphasizing corporate social responsibility and values during ordinary times. This approach aims to garner consumer understanding and support when facing crises.

### Globalized Network Communication

Brand crises in the digital era transcend geographical limitations. To address this, companies should formulate crisis management strategies considering global information dissemination. Establishing a global crisis management team and maintaining brand image consistency through internationalized communication strategies are effective approaches in navigating challenges posed by globalized network communication.

### Data Privacy and Security

In the digital landscape, data privacy and security are paramount. This assumption underscores the need for brand managers to prioritize user data security, establishing robust protection mechanisms and ensuring compliance with privacy regulations. Transparent communication about data handling measures during crises is essential to maintain user trust and minimize negative impacts.

### Public Opinion Monitoring

Crucial to brand crisis management is the efficient monitoring of public opinion. Enterprises must establish an effective monitoring system, analyzing user feedback across platforms to detect crisis traces. Timely understanding of public opinion enables quicker and more precise crisis responses. Adhering to these foundational assumptions ensures that brand crisis management in the digital era is forward-looking, comprehensive, and adaptable, demanding tailored strategies for a resilient system.

## METHOD

### Place and Time of Study

This study delves into the dynamic network ecosystem of Indonesia, strategically chosen as a focal point for understanding brand crisis management within the intricate fabric of its cultural and regulatory context. The research, grounded in the year 2023, utilizes big data analytics to dissect public sentiment during brand crises, with a specific focus on online channels. The temporal scope aligns with the contemporary context, allowing for a comprehensive analysis of the crisis's enduring impact and the subsequent evolution of crisis management strategies in the Indonesian network environment. Real-time data collection facilitates an immediate examination of public responses on social media post-crisis, providing invaluable insights into sentiment dynamics within the local online ecosystem.

### Geographical Selection and Rationalization

Indonesia, chosen for its dynamic and evolving network environment, serves as an exemplary setting that mirrors the challenges and opportunities faced by enterprises navigating the globalized Internet era. The rich cultural tapestry, regulatory intricacies, and vibrant online engagement make Indonesia an insightful backdrop for investigating corporate brand crisis management.

**Cultural Specificity:** The study recognizes Indonesia's diverse cultural influences on online behaviors, highlighting the nuanced interplay between cultural nuances and brand crisis management.

**Regulatory Landscape:** Indonesia's regulatory environment adds complexity, reflecting challenges faced by enterprises globally. Understanding how brands navigate these regulations contributes to a comprehensive understanding of crisis management strategies.

Internet Adoption Dynamics: Indonesia's swift embrace of the Internet provides insights into the evolving nature of online engagement. The study explores how increasing connectivity influences brand interactions and crisis propagation.

While deeply rooted in Indonesia, the research methodology transcends geographical boundaries, contributing insights applicable to diverse regions and industries. By enriching the global understanding of brand crisis dynamics, the study aims to foster a broader conversation on effective crisis management in the networked era.

### **Diversity of Geographical Choices**

Acknowledging the global intricacies of the network environment, the research emphasizes the imperative of diverse geographical choices. Distinct regions exhibit unique online communication dynamics, cultural intricacies, and regulatory frameworks, pivotal for comprehending the multifaceted nature of online brand crises.

### **Reasonableness of Geographical Selection**

The rationale behind geographical selection is intricately linked to the research's generalizability. The research findings aim to be representative and possess generalizability applicable to diverse regions and enterprises. The reasonableness of this selection guarantees accessibility, reliability, scientific rigor, and impartiality, fostering a solid foundation for insightful and broadly applicable conclusions.

### **Suitability of Geographical Selection to Research Questions**

The choice of geography closely aligns with the research questions, recognizing potential differences in the online environment and brand crisis management situations across regions.

### **Relationship Between Geographical Choice and Global Online Communication**

Geographical selection is coordinated with the characteristics of globalized network communication. In the globalized network environment, information spreads globally in an instant. Geographical selection considers the global spreading path of network information, contributing to a better understanding of cross-regional spreading laws and trends of network brand crises.

### **Determination of Time Scope**

With the internet's popularization and the rise of social media, the selection of the time scope for corporate brand crisis management becomes more complex and sensitive. In this new network environment, crisis spreading speed is accelerated, demanding a forward-looking and sensitive choice of time range for a comprehensive analysis.

The research focuses on case studies from Chinese and Indonesian firms over the last five years, ensuring relevance, comparability, and a detailed analytical foundation for effective brand crisis management.

### **Research Types**

#### **Selection of Integrated Research Methods**

In this paper, the following research methods will be comprehensively applied in the research process:  
Literature Research Method

The literature research method delves into existing knowledge on the network environment, enterprise

brand crisis, and crisis management. By studying pertinent literature, this approach establishes a robust theoretical foundation for understanding the intricacies of crisis management in the complex online landscape. It forms the intellectual bedrock upon which this research builds its analyses and recommendations.

a. Summarization Method

The summarization method employs discursive analysis and logical reasoning to scrutinize, generalize, evaluate, and summarize materials. This process aims to achieve a macroscopic cognitive understanding of the current state of corporate brand crisis management in the network environment. The proposed countermeasures, arising from this analytical synthesis, are designed to exhibit practicality and universality, enhancing their real-world applicability.

## 2. Reasonableness of Case Studies

As an important comprehensive research method, case study has significant rationality in the research of enterprise brand crisis management. Through in-depth analysis of actual cases, we can better understand the challenges faced by enterprises in the online environment, the causes of crises and the effectiveness of management. The following is a detailed description of the rationality of the case study:

a. Empirical Nature of Case Studies

Case studies serve as a pivotal empirical research method, providing tangible data and facts. In the intricate network environment, where brand crises involve multifaceted situations and factors, case studies offer specific and empirical research results. The empirical nature of case studies adds a layer of authenticity, a crucial element in the study of corporate brand crisis management.

b. Comprehensiveness of Case Studies

Corporate brand crisis management encompasses various facets, including PR strategy, public opinion response, and social media management. Case studies, by their very nature, offer a comprehensive examination of these components. The analysis of multiple cases contributes to a nuanced understanding of the overarching patterns and principles governing crisis management in the network environment.

c. Depth of Case Studies

Case studies enable a detailed exploration of individual cases, unraveling intricate details and internal mechanisms. In the dynamic network environment, brand crises often unfold with complexity and layers. In-depth case studies facilitate a comprehensive understanding of the essence of crisis management, shedding light on the underlying reasons for actual responses. The depth of these studies is pivotal in dissecting corporate brand crisis management intricacies.

d. Timeliness of Case Studies

Recognizing the dynamic nature of the network environment, case studies provide timeliness. This approach reflects recent trends in corporate brand crisis management, surpassing the constraints of traditional theoretical research. The analysis of Chinese and Indonesian firms over the last five years ensures the research remains relevant, offering conclusions attuned to real-world scenarios.

e. Comparability of Case Studies

Focusing on case studies from Chinese and Indonesian firms in the last five years enhances comparability. This research strategy enables the identification of commonalities and differences in brand crisis management across similar environments. The detailed rationale underscores the crucial role of case studies in understanding and addressing brand crises effectively, providing a comprehensive and in-depth analytical basis for this research.

## CONCLUSIONS

In the intricate landscape of corporate brand crisis management within the network environment, this research emerges as a guiding beacon, deeply rooted in Indonesia's dynamic digital terrain. Utilizing big data analytics, the study offers nuanced insights into crisis management dynamics, considering the unique cultural and regulatory context. The temporal focus ensures a contemporary examination of crisis impacts and the evolution of management strategies, presenting a comprehensive understanding of brand resilience.

Indonesia serves as a microcosm of challenges faced by enterprises navigating the complexities of the digital era. Beyond its borders, the research aims to contribute globally, providing universally applicable insights derived from the analysis of case studies from Chinese and Indonesian firms. This approach enhances relevance, comparability, and a robust analytical foundation, culminating in practical strategies for effective brand crisis management.

In essence, this research delivers a holistic view of brand crisis management challenges, offering practical strategies for fortifying brand resilience and mitigating crisis impact. As businesses traverse the evolving digital landscape, these insights stand as invaluable tools for sustaining competitiveness and growth in the contemporary business ecosystem.

## SUGGESTIONS

In navigating the challenges of brand crisis management within the dynamic network environment, several strategic recommendations emerge. Firstly, the integration of advanced technologies, including artificial intelligence and machine learning, is advised to facilitate real-time sentiment monitoring and proactive crisis prevention. A comprehensive social media engagement strategy should be developed, emphasizing authentic interactions to foster a positive brand image amidst the influential landscape of social platforms.

Given the risks associated with misinformation, strengthening cybersecurity measures is imperative to verify and authenticate information, safeguarding the brand's credibility. Consumer education initiatives can enhance awareness of the complexities surrounding brand crises, emphasizing responsible online behavior. Agile crisis response planning, continuous team training, and empowerment are essential components to ensure a well-prepared and adaptive approach.

Establishing continuous monitoring systems, leveraging cross-industry insights, and fostering collaboration within the industry contribute to a collective front against potential crises. Emphasizing

long-term reputation building during stable periods enhances overall brand resilience during crises. By incorporating these recommendations, enterprises can develop a robust and adaptive corporate brand crisis management framework, aligned with the intricate challenges of the network environment in the Internet era.

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