**Case Title** 

Lexin: Building a Closed-loop Consumer Finance

Ecosystem

**Theme** 

# December 2019 Newsletter

**Purpose of Study** 

Exploring personal finance and the risks involved

Technological and model innovation	To8to.com: How to break into home improvement services online	To8to, a renovations platform, addresses the pain points of the traditional home improvement industry
	Pinduoduo: Origin and Prospect of a Social E-commerce Giant	The driving force behind the rapid rise of Pinduoduo and its potential development direction
	Puppy's Centralized Maintenance Mode	Innovations in service transformation of a manufacturer
Transformation and development of Traditional Firms	Lenovo: Time for Another Refresh?	Lenovo's strategic choices and implementation – successes and failures
	XCMG: The Path to Maturity for a Traditional SOE	How XCMG Group dug itself out of trouble
	JOMOO Kitchens and Bathrooms: Strategic Upgrading in the Smart Era	How JOMOO upgraded its development strategy to absorb online business practices
	Anta: Future sportswear and sneaker king?	Anta's strategic transformation and future possibilities
	Red Star Macalline: How to Transform a Home Furnishings Platform	Times are changing, and competition is growing. How does Red Star Macalline plan to transform itself to have the best chance of facing up to its challenges?
Social innovation and corporate social responsibility	Ant Forest: Online practices for environmental protection	Transformation and innovation of the traditional public welfare model by Internet technology
	Poverty Alleviation in Xinxian town, Henan Province	Exploring the roles of local government, social enterprises, and businesses in tackling poverty
	Delong Steel: How does the traditional steel industry practice philanthropy?	Environmental Charity Innovation at Delong Steel
	Huawei: Building an internet of everything	Exploring sustainable development practices in the ICT field.
	Forever Delta: A dream of environmental protection	How Delta achieved its corporate mission: "protect the environment, conserve energy, and love the earth"
	Zhonghe Rural Credit: innovative practices in financial poverty alleviation	In the context of inclusive finance, Zhonghe Rural Credit explores rural financial poverty alleviation models
	Ant Forest: "Have you planted a tree today?"	How Ant Financial lowers the environmental protection threshold via technology and gets people involved
	Yujing Capital: Patient capital with OCD	Solving social problems with impact investment
	For Farmers' Smiles: Exploring the TQLS poverty alleviation model	Exploring the poverty alleviation model of animal feed producer TQLS
	Change for mutual benefit at Tongwei Group	Tongwei Group's new "fishing and light integration" model
	CVTE - Dream Future	CVTE has been on the path to social innovation
Human Resource and Enterprise Culture	Spice World Hotpot: Acculturation and Project Organization	Spice World's incentive mechanism and Zhu Xingquan's acculturation methods
Globalization	One decade on: Fosun Group's acquisition of France's Club Med – wins and losses	Research into successes and failures eminated from Fosun's acquisition of Club Med, and a look at the company's future direction in the cultural and tourism sectors
Macro Economy	When will financial repression take a break	China is a major financial repressor, and future financial transformation depends on solving this difficult problem
	From "China Shock" to Harmonious Growth	Trade is generally conducive to the growth of overall welfare, but its cost may be borne by a small number of people
	Opening up the hills and forests for cultivation; lifelong striving	Professor Wu Jianzhong considers the purpose of higher education from various angles
	Is 6% growth realistic?	China's GDP growth rate has been falling in recent years. How should be think about the impact of this?
	Is there anything wrong with Chinese banks?	China's banks are profitable yet poorly valued. Is this down to investor oversight or is something going on with the banks that needs investigating?
	A big game	As early as the 1990s, China started a massive bailout of the banks.  Most of the government's goals were achieved in the end
	Different this time?	The repercussions of the last series of banking reform have not altogether faded, but a new banking problem has emerged
	The Libra shockwave hits the world economy	Bitcoin has been around for years now, but always on the periphery. Libra is brand new, but already having a major impact. What is the difference between the two?
	CKGSB Monthly Survey & BCI Reports	Compile and index to assess the operating conditions of private enterprises

#### Faculty Advisor: Prof. Zhu Yang Case Researcher: Yang Yan, Wei Yi The service chain for home improvements is complex and lengthy, with long operations cycles, reliance on labor and localization, lowfrequency transactions, high unit prices, high personalization requirements, and a strong need for professionalism. These features bring plenty

**Technological and model innovation** 

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Ouyang Hui

# of pain to the consumer experience. A number of web-based companies have arisen to try to solve this. They use web technology to bring together distributed home improvement resources and reduce "information asymmetry" in the industry. To8tu leads this new wave. This case

Pinduoduo: Origin and Prospect of a Social E-commerce Giant

Lexin: Building a Closed-loop Consumer Finance Ecosystem

To8to.com: How to break into home improvement services online

Case Researcher: Lin Rongchang

Faculty Advisor: Jing Bing Case Researcher: Mei Xinlei As competition in the e-commerce market enters a new phase in which big B2C platforms struggle with traffic growth and surging traffic acquisition prices, social media traffic has become a much-watched "blue ocean" of opportunity. Alibaba and JD.com, the giants of the sector, are as yet underequiped. Pinduoduo, born in the WeChat ecosystem, shows initial signs of success in social e-commerce, but faces sustainable development challenges following a period of explosive growth. This case will explore Pinduoduo's driving forces and its potential direction.

Making the most of China's E-commerce boom, Puppy has quickly grown into a well-known online vacuum cleaner retail brand. However,

the problem of after-sales service has likewise grown quickly. Should Puppy cooperate with traditional after-sales service providers, or forge

a new path? Its centralized maintenance model is an innovative solution to this problem, improving customer satisfaction, cost control, and

Chinese name. But Lenovo Group has lost the aura of unlimited connection, and no longer feels inspired. A granddaddy of Chinese private

business in China, Lenovo is also a high tech elder. Taking a 20-year timeframe however, Huawei has earned twice Lenovo's revenue. Baidu,

Alibaba, Tencent and JD.com (BATJ), China's looming internet giants, have now fully caught up. Lenovo represents technology as it was. Its

More worrying than its scale of operations is Lenovo's limited appeal in technological innovation. Its phone business has underperformed.

Forays into online education, e-commerce, and AI have failed to grow. Capital markets reflect public and investor disappointment: Lenovo

Group was listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange for just HKD 4.99 per share on October 31, 2018, a total market capitalization of HKD

60 billion, only a third of its peak market value. Its valuation has been left in the dust by BATJ. What happened to this once brilliant superstar?

Lexin is a fintech group. Five years from its establishment, Lexin encompasses an e-commerce personal finance platform called Fenqile, an

online investment platform for individual investors called Juzi Licai and an open source asset management platform called Dingsheng Assets.

Lexin now has all the makings of a closed-loop ecosystem. How was this created, and what risks and challenges does Lexin face?

explores how the internet can help companies break into the second, and the existing and potential bottlenecks in home improvement.

enterprises

### **Lenovo: Time for Another Refresh?** Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei Case Researcher: Zhu Yunhai "If we lose our shared aspirations, what will we become?" is classic advertising copy in China, neatly referencing the characters of Lenovo's

**Transformation and development of Traditional Firms** 

poor stamina for change has led to flat earnings of around RMB 300 billion for many years in a row.

Case Researcher: Yan Min

product, but this was the first story one was to attract such widespread attention. This hadn't happened for years.

Case Researcher: Zhu Yunhai

Red Star Macalline: How to Transform a Home Furnishings Platform

**Puppy's Centralized Maintenance Model** 

product quality at once.

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Zheng Yusheng Case Researcher: Yan Min

**XCMG: The Path to Maturity for a Traditional SOE** Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei Case Researcher: Zhu Yunhai

Can Lenovo make a comeback in the smart era?

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Teng Bingsheng

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Teng Bingsheng

discussion for you.

XCMG Group is a typical Chinese SOE, with a mighty past and correspondingly huge operational issues. To save itself, it has had to stoop low before. But now, XCMG is undergoing a revival and has found a healthy pace of growth. What is the secret to its performance turnaround? JOMOO Kitchens and Bathrooms: Strategic Upgrading in the Smart Era

A viral article published in 2015 entitled, "Going to Japan to buy a toilet cover" provoked widespread discussion online, and made a bestseller

of the product in question. This "toilet cover" was "smart", in the sense that it could be controlled via a phone app. It wasn't an entirely new

As with AI, the Internet of Things, cloud computing and other related technologies were developed in recent years. Many have embraced

the smart era in the same way that earlier people ushered in the electric era, followed by the information age. Can the smart bathroom usher

in a similar market boom? JOMOO Group has been deeply involved in home hardware and sanitary ceramics for many years. In 2018, it

ranked first among Chinese bathroom goods enterprises with sales of RMB 13 billion. Lin Xiaofa, chairman of JOMOO, stated his sales goal

of RMB 50 billion by 2025, and placed high hopes on the smart products for kitchen and bathroom and custom products. With cross-border

# competition for smart devices, can JOMOO win the smart-home battle? How does it support strategic upgrades in research and development, channels, and operations? This case focuses on the smart strategy of JOMOO.

**Anta: Future sportswear and sneaker king?** 

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei Case Researcher: Yang Yan, Lyu Ya

**Poverty Alleviation in Xinxian town, Henan Province** 

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Fan Xinyu Case Researcher: Yan Min

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Zhu Rui Case Researcher: Li Mengjun

A wave of consumption upgrading and developing awareness of the role of sport in society has increased the allure of Chinese sports apparel firms in the domestic marketplace. For 15 years now, Anta has stood out from the crowd of Chinese sports brands. By market value, Anta is already world number three. Anta's success stems from its grasp of several strategic opportunities and its control over its own operational capabilities. This case study examines Anta's successful strategic transformation and future development opportunities and challenges.

A leader in the home furnishings sector, Red Star Macalline entered the A-share market in 2018. Financial reports show that at the end of

2017, the company had 256 stores in 177 cities across China, with a total operating area of up to 15.14 million m2. These comprised 71

However, the competition the company faces is fierce. In 2018, competitor Easyhome opened stores at a massive rate of knots. Easyhome

independent stores and 185 franchised ones. In terms of both scale and market share, Red Star Macalline is a China leader.

now has 247 stores nationwide. More significantly, it raised RMB 13 billion in strategic investment funds from institutions including Alibaba. The situation facing Red Star Macalline has become even more serious, even without factoring in changes in industry condititions. Facing competition and changing times, Red Star Macalline sets out on the path to transformation. Social innovation and corporate social responsibility **Ant Forest: Online practices for environmental protection** Faculty Advisor: Prof. Huang Chunyan Case Researcher: Zhu Yunhai

In the traditional public welfare model, the relationship between the donor and the nonprofit organization is simple money gift. In addition to

that, the connection between them is very loose. This has caused many problems, including the difficulty of raising money, low transparency

and social influence of traditional public welfare. Represented by Ant Forest, the new environmental public interest model has made hundreds

of millions of people deeply involved in public welfare projects. This has not only promoted the implementation and development of public

welfare projects, but has also changed the daily behavior patterns of participants. How did Ant Forest do that? This case will make an in-depth

Over many years' of poverty alleviation, Xinxian has gained considerable experience in tackling poverty via tourism, education and industry.

As a classic case, the story of Xinxian has been presented on CCTV, in Henan Daily and in other national and provincial media. What roles

have the local government, social enterprises, and enterprises played here? The responses of all three are considered: training and migrant

work as the first forms of poverty alleviation, a new chapter begun by the joint work of Xinyang International Vocation Institute and Jixing

Company. Rural revitalization and rural tourism has been promoted by the local authorities, and seen many people escape from poverty. Now,

Steel mills are a heavily polluting industry, but at Delong Steel, an entire steel plant has been transformed into a national AAA-level scenic

spot, attracting tens of thousands of visitors a year. Delong has reformed its internal management system to bring major investment in

environmental protection, while staying top of the profit leaderboard in Hebei province. Delong's practice breaks the myth that environmental

protection and profit are mutually exclusive. This makes Delong worth learning from as an example of philanthropic innovation in traditional

as a way to confront poverty, a new route – developing the area in medicinal plant production - has driven up local incomes.

Delong Steel: How does the traditional steel industry practice philanthropy?

Fosun believes Club Med is an excellent "global resource", which is why it chose the brand as a takeover target. Has Club Med shown its value to Fosun in the past ten years? How has the Club Med, now in Fosun's territory, experienced and achieved results in the ten years since the initial agreement was reached? This case study provides in-depth analysis of these issues!

# **Macro Economy** When will financial repression take a break Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei Case Researcher: Gu Chongqing

Is 6% growth realistic? Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei Case Researcher: Gu Chongqing In the foreseeable future, how to deal with the pressure of various interest groups is likely be the biggest challenge for China's economy in a harsh climate. Discussions have not yet begun in earnest. The first step should be to these issues in an open and honest manner, and strive to prevent interest groups from "hijacking" public policies and interests.

China's banks are profitable yet poorly valued. Is this down to investor oversight or is something going on with the banks that needs

On the surface, the Sino-US trade war is about trade imbalances and other issues. In fact, for ordinary people, the key is interest coordination.

Harmony in development is impossible across the board. As one of the largest economies in the world, China's rapid rise will inevitably

be unbalanced to some extent, with negative effects felt among the people. Sometimes, running fast is not as good as running consistently.

Case Researcher: Gu Chongqing Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei

conditions of our banks may be worse than they looks. How much worse, no one has a clear picture. What should we do when these problems surface? The answer lies in corporate governance. We also need to reserve some resources for a future round of banking reforms, because doing so can at least prevent some things from happening and keep up our resolve.

The Libra shockwave hits the world economy Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei Case Researcher: Gu Chongqing Another negative effect of Libra on weak currency countries is the cross-border movement of currencies. In order to protect personal assets, residents of vulnerable countries may choose to repatriate their currency overseas through Libra for more secure protection. With the financial and economic systems of these countries inherently fragile, large capital flows may trigger another Southeast Asian financial crisis. Opening

lacking. To fill in the gap, we have compiled related indexes using data obtained from monthly questionnaire surveys among entrepreneurs in

could be a hot potato. The "thunderstorm" of Baoshang Bank and Jinzhou Bank may be caused by the after effects of the recent credit bubble, or by a shortcoming that has long plagued the development of China's banking sector - poor corporate governance. A big game

Ant Forest: "Have you planted a tree today?" Faculty Advisor: Prof. Zhu Rui Case Researcher: Li Mengjun with philanthropy. **Yujing Capital: Patient capital with OCD** Faculty Advisor: Prof. Zhu Rui Case Researcher: Li Mengjun ten years, Yujing Capital can fully appreciate its own unique impact investment logic and model. For Farmers' Smiles: Exploring the TQLS poverty alleviation model Faculty Advisor: Prof. Zhu Rui Case Researcher: Yan Wen, Li Mengjun Meanwhile, it promotes sustainable development of the business by way of the concept and practice of mutual benefit. Change for mutual benefit at Tongwei Group Faculty Advisor: Prof. Zhu Rui Case Researcher: Yan Wen, Li Mengjun Established in 1992, Tongwei Group has become a large multinational group company working in agriculture as well as new energy. Tongwei Group's "fishing and light integration" model operates in fisheries and photovoltaics to achieve differentiated development. **CVTE - Dream Future** Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei Case Researcher: Zhu Yunhai

From hardware manufacturer to smart display service provider, what developmental path has CVTE taken? Aside from growth, it has also been out to gain attention, with its comprehensive employee services including medical examination centers and kindergartens. Why has

Financial repression exists around the world, specifically referring to government use of various means to direct funds towards its own projects. By this way, the government directly or indirectly controls the financial system. With it comes inefficiency and distortion, and even increased financial risk. China is a major financial power and repressor. Just look at the role of the government in the banks. Everyone knowns that financial repression is a problem, but the key is how to reform.

From "China Shock" to Harmonious Growth

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei Case Researcher: Gu Chongqing

Banking crises, "unscheduled" and "unscrupulous", exists worldwide. Whenever they start to wreak havoc on the poor, the rich are also seriously injured. After the typhoon, there was a mess to clear up. Repairing the damage caused by the banking crisis not only involved a large amount of resources, but also a series of well-conceived and ingenious measures.

Case Researcher: Gu Chongqing We have thrown plenty for resources at the banks, and for the most part, it has worked good results. But beneath the surface, the actual

up free capital flows before proper preparation increases risk exposure in vulnerable currency countries.

industries. Huawei: Building an internet of everything Faculty Advisor: Prof. Zhu Rui Case Researcher: Li Mengjun As the world's leading ICT manufacturer serving more than 3 billion people worldwide, Huawei has also been exploring pathways to sustainable development. This case discusses how Huawei can use its own business advantages to address social issues, thereby contributing to society. Forever Delta: A dream of environmental protection Faculty Advisor: Prof. Zhu Rui Case Researcher: Li Mengjun Taiwan's Delta Electronics Group was established in 1971, growing to become a global leader in power and thermal management solutions. Its power supply products have the world's largest market share and have been included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index since 2011. Delta has had a strong environmental mission since the start, consistently practicing green operations together with its stakeholders. In order to better fulfill its mission, Delta has benchmarked the UN Sustainable Development Goals. **Zhonghe Rural Credit: innovative practices in financial poverty alleviation** Faculty Advisor: Prof. Zhu Rui Case Researcher: Li Mengjun Zhonghe Rural Credit was established by the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, with the aim of using commercial practices for welfare. It has become China's biggest microfinance institution focusing on rural grassroots services. How does Zhonghe use the power of microfinance to solve social problems? What is its business model and sustainable development plans. What is Zhonghe's wider significance? Ant Forest is part of Ant Financial's green finance strategy, which involves "going green by commercial means and moving towards the future with public interest in mind and a business approach." This case introduces the Ant Forest business model: business innovation combined From the start, Yujing Capital invested mainly in human practices of "eating, taking medicine, and low-carbon lifestyle." It has a clear social value orientation and does not invest in industries and projects with a negative impact on society and the environment. Now, after more than TQLS 1211, 1 + 8 combines the company's main business with poverty alleviation practices, so that farmers become a bigger part of the company's supply chain. This stimulates farmers' endogenous motivation, and help them achieve independence and a life of dignity.

For players in a labor-intensive service industry, what mechanisms are effective in motivating a large number of front-line staffs? How can business leaders build up corporate culture and effectively distill it to the front line? What value do the internal venture system and brand management platform have? Zhu Xingquan's Spice World provides a reference point on these questions. **Globalization** 

One decade on: Fosun Group's acquisition of France's Club Med - wins and losses

Case Researcher: Mei Xinlei

CVTE chosen this course of action, and what kind of setbacks has it encountered?

**Spice World: Corporate Culture and Internal Venture System** 

Case Researcher: Zhu Yunhai

**Human Resource and Enterprise Culture** 

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Zhang Xiaomeng

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei

## Opening up the hills and forests for cultivation; lifelong striving Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei Case Researcher: Gu Chongqing Confucious said, "The poor should live with dignity, the rich should better others." This quote gives a direction to efforts by intellecturals, and offers them a final shelter. In the author's opinion, Professor Wu has practiced this principle, working hard in his scientific research, but also

promoting the younger generation, giving the author food for thought.

Is there anything wrong with Chinese banks?

Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei Case Researcher: Gu Chongqing

Inclusive policies have to keep up.

investigating? There are already some disturbing signs in China's banking industry. On the surface, bank stocks are high quality and low price, but they

Different this time? Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei

**Monthly BCI Survey & Report** Faculty Advisor: Prof. Li Wei Case Researcher: Gu Chongqing

Although the private sector is the most dynamic force in the Chinese economy, an index to assess private enterprises operating conditions was