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## **WORKING PAPER**

# **STRATEGIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN FAMILY BUSINESS**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*The purpose of this special issue is to promote research on the role of family in nurturing entrepreneurial ventures as well as on the importance of strategic entrepreneurship in maintaining the strength and viability of established and multigenerational family firms. Two related research questions are at the heart of this inquiry: (1) In what ways does the influence of family matter to strategic entrepreneurship?; and (2) How can strategic entrepreneurship contribute to understanding and strengthening family firms? We begin this introductory paper by providing a brief overview of the contributions of each of the papers in this issue. We then develop a framework for addressing the role of family firms in strategic entrepreneurship that highlights the input-process-output nature of strategic entrepreneurship in family business and the contexts in which they occur. We conclude by outlining a research agenda for future research in this area along the themes relating to this framework. Copyright © 2011 Strategic Management Society.*