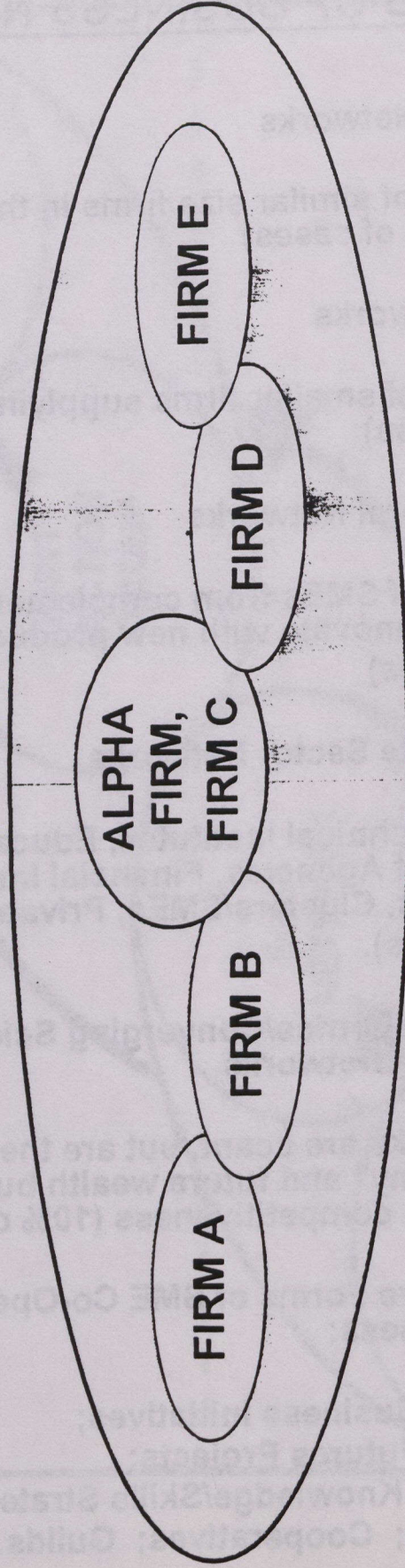


## KNOWLEDGE-BASED FIRMS IN HORIZONTAL BUSINESS NETWORKS

A number of SMEs, led by an alpha firm, usually in the same cluster, combine to achieve greater scale, scope and speed through participation in projects-in-common



such as purchasing, skills development, technology development / sharing, complex engineering, joint processing/manufacturing, new product development / commercialization, marketing, or export development.