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## 2014 EDITION | PRIDE & FERRELL MARKETING

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To Nancy, Allen, Mike, Ashley, and Charlie Pride

To Linda Ferrell

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preface



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## MARKETING IN A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

The importance of marketing has continued to increase as dynamic changes in the environment evolve. As students prepare for careers in a globally competitive digital world, they will need to gain marketing knowledge that will prepare them to be successful. This new edition of Pride & Ferrell *Marketing* has been revised to engage students and provide the frameworks, concepts, and approaches to decision making that ensure comprehensive understanding of marketing. Our perspective goes beyond learning terminology and concepts to provide decision-making experiences for students through the use of cases, exercises, debate issues, and new themed role-play cases. As students prepare for the new digital world, they also need practice in developing communication skills, especially effective teamwork.

Pride & Ferrell *Marketing* has been developed to make sure that students receive the most comprehensive overview of marketing available. This means that students using this book should develop respect for the importance of marketing and understand that learning marketing requires in-depth knowledge and the mastering of essential concepts. Therefore, key concepts like digital marketing and social networking, services marketing, branding and packaging, and social responsibility and ethics in marketing all receive standalone chapters. We also provide numerous ancillary materials to aid in student comprehension of marketing concepts as well as for increasing instructor resources for teaching this important material. Online materials include quizzes, PowerPoint presentations, videos, and flashcards. Our marketing video case series enables students to learn about how real-world companies address marketing challenges. Our Interactive Marketing Plan Worksheets and video program provide students with practical knowledge of the challenges and the planning process of launching a new product. Together these revisions and additional materials will assist students in gaining a full understanding of pertinent marketing practices.

Online social networking has become an increasingly powerful tool for marketers. Most discussions about marketing today bring up issues like how digital media can lower costs, improve communications, provide better customer support, and achieve improved marketing research. All elements of the marketing mix should be considered when using digital media and social networking. We discuss how digital media and social networking tools can create effective digital marketing strategies that can enhance marketing efforts. In addition, the entire book integrates important digital marketing concepts and examples where appropriate.

We have paid careful attention to enhancing all key concepts in marketing and have built this revision to be current and to reflect important changes in marketing. Our book is a market leader because students find it readable and relevant. Our text reflects the real world of marketing and provides the most comprehensive coverage possible of important marketing topics.

Specific details of this extensive revision are available in the transition guide in the *Instruc-tor's Resource Manual*. We have also made efforts to improve all teaching ancillaries and student learning tools. PowerPoint presentations continue to be a very popular teaching device, and a special effort has been made to upgrade the PowerPoint program to enhance classroom teaching. The *Instructor's Manual* continues to be a valuable tool updated with engaging

in-class activities and projects. The authors and publisher have worked together to provide a comprehensive teaching package and ancillaries that are unsurpassed in the marketplace.

The authors have maintained a hands-on approach to teaching this material and revising the text and its ancillaries. This results in an integrated teaching package and approach that is accurate, sound, and successful in reaching students. The outcome of this involvement fosters trust and confidence in the teaching package and in student learning outcomes. Student feedback regarding this textbook is highly favorable.

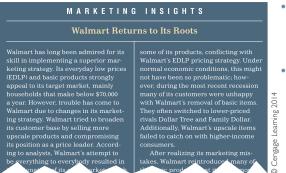
## WHAT'S NEW TO THIS EDITION?

Our goal is to provide the most up-to-date content, including concepts, examples, cases, exercises, and data, possible. Therefore, in this revision there are significant changes that make learning more engaging and interesting to the students. The following highlight the types of changes that were made in this revision.

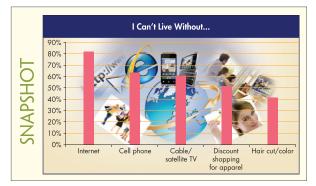
- **Foundational content.** Each chapter has been updated with the latest knowledge available related to frameworks, concepts, and academic research. These additions have been seamlessly integrated into the text. Many examples are new and a review of footnotes at the end of chapters will reveal where new content has been added. Many of the new examples and content changes have been updated to 2012.
- End-of-Part exercises. At the end of each part, there is a new roleplay case exercise. These eight new case exercises involve team participation where students engage in a discussion of the dilemma and provide a solution. The class breaks into teams and reaches decisions that relate to the short-term, intermediate-term, and long-term. Each team member is assigned a role and should take on that role in team decision making. The case dilemmas are disguised but are based on real-world marketing situations. All information, including the background section and the roles, are in the text. See the *Instructor's Manual* for more guidance on these exercises.







- **Opening vignettes:** *Marketing Insights.* All of the chapter-opening vignettes are new or updated. They are written to introduce the theme of each chapter by focusing on actual entrepreneurial companies and how they deal with real-world situations.
- **Boxed features.** Each chapter includes new or updated boxed features that highlight green marketing, marketing entrepreneurs, emerging trends in marketing, or controversial issues in marketing. The majority of the boxed features are new to this edition; a few have been significantly updated and revised to fit the themes of this edition.
- New Snapshot features. Many of the Snapshot features are new and engage students by highlighting interesting, up-to-date statistics that link marketing theory to the real world.
- **New research.** Throughout the text we have updated content with the most recent research that supports the frameworks and best practices for marketing.



Source: BIGResearch-American Pulse Survey of 5,015 adult consumers, December 2010, www.stores.org/STORES%20 Magazine%20February%202011/adjusting-new-normal.



The growth in popularity of e-readers has lead to a greater direct distribution of magazines, newspapers, and books.

- **New illustrations and examples.** New advertisements from wellknown firms are employed to illustrate chapter topics. Experiences of real-world companies are used to exemplify marketing concepts and strategies throughout the text. Most examples are new or updated to include digital marketing concepts as well as several new sustainable marketing illustrations.
- **End-of-chapter cases.** Each chapter contains two cases, including a video case, profiling firms to illustrate concrete application of marketing strategies and concepts. Many of our video cases are new to this edition and are supported by current and engaging videos.

## FEATURES OF THE BOOK

As with previous editions, this edition of the text provides a comprehensive and practical introduction to marketing that is both easy to teach and to learn. Marketing continues to be one of the most widely adopted introductory textbooks in the world. We appreciate the confidence that adopters have placed in our textbook and continue to work hard to make sure that, as in previous editions, this edition keeps pace with changes. The entire text is structured to excite students about the subject and to help them learn completely and efficiently:

- An *organizational model* at the beginning of each part provides a "road map" of the text and a visual tool for understanding the connections among various components.
- *Objectives* at the start of each chapter present concrete expectations about what students are to learn as they read the chapter.
- Every chapter begins with an opening vignette. This feature provides an example of the real world of marketing that relates to the topic covered in the chapter. After reading the vignette, the student should be motivated to want to learn more about concepts and strategies that relate to the varying topics. Students will learn about topics, such as mystery shopping, the rise in gluten-free foods, the benefits of marketing ethics, and electronic book pricing. Students will also be introduced to such companies as The Melt, Legoland, Four Seasons, Bass Pro Shops, and Salesforce.com.
- Boxed features—*Emerging Trends in Marketing* and *Going Green* capture dynamic changes in marketing. These changes are influencing marketing strategies and customer behavior. Strong feedback from adopters indicated the need for coverage in these areas.

#### **Emerging Trends**

#### The Growing Trend of Eco-Friendly Funeral Services

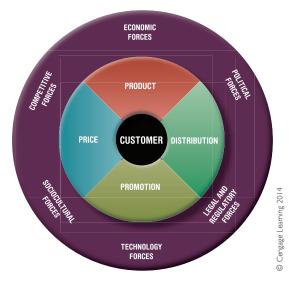
The \$12 billion funeral industry faces a dilemma: it is running out of burial space. In Europe cemeteries are reaching their maximum capacity. Cermations are being criticized due to the large amount of carbon emissions crematoriums release. These difficulties combined with a growing interest in environmentally friendly practices are inspiring more funeral companies to offer green burial services.

This emerging trend is reinventing the concept of funeral services. Green funerals not only help to solve the problem of decreasing land availability and pollution, but they also tend to cost less than traditional funerals. This is because many of the more costly services, such as embalming the body or buying a metal coffin, can be bvaassed. Consumers can choose from many different "green" options, and companies are rushing to meet demand with their own solutions. For instance, Creative Coffins creates themed coffins that are biodegradable and Creative Reefs adds human ashes to an artificial reef ball placed on the ocean floor.

Not everyone is happy about green funerals, however. Some towns have blocked the creation of green cemeteries because residents fear that bodies buried without coffins could potentially contaminate groundwater. Other green funeral processes are thought to degrade human dignity. The topic of green burials has strained community relations in certain areas, a fact that funeral companies must keep in mind when marketing green funeral services.<sup>b</sup>

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The *Emerging Trends* boxes cover such marketing phenomena as digital and interactive billboards, QR codes in marketing, weather-watching for inventory planning, mobile applications, virtual games, and branded stores. Featured companies include Netflix, Stage Stores, Clorox, Panera, and Zipcar.



- The *Going Green* boxes introduce students to such topics as green mobile applications, electric vehicles in China, LED light bulbs, reverse channels for recycling, greenwashing, and congestion pricing. Featured companies include General Electric, Samsung, Ikea, IBM, Chipotle, and Costco.
- In every chapter, there are two mini-features: *Marketing Debate and Entrepreneurship in Marketing*.
- The *Marketing Debate* marginal feature discusses controversial issues related to marketing, such as the relationship between marketing and value, the marketing of genetically modified seeds, the ability of consumers to opt out of online tracking, the practices of credit card companies, the marketing of brands on college campuses, and the pricing transparency of travel services.

#### Entrepreneurship in Marketing

#### iModerate Takes a New Approach to Market Research

Entrepreneurs: Joel Benenson and Carl Rossow includin Business: Moderate Founded: 2004 | Denver, Colorado Success: Moderate's clients have included 32 Fortune 100 companies, and 80 percent of initial clients return for additional projects. result, in Internet surveys are a popular marketing research Path<sup>™</sup>

method due to their ease and flexibility. However, entrepreneurs Joel Benenson and Carl Rossow saw something missing. They noticed that many Internet surveys do not provide enough information for each respondent. To solve this problem, they created the market research company iModerate. The company soon began making a name for itself in online market research, with clients including Kaiser Permanente, Business Roundtable, and Showtime. Rather than simply surveying consumers, iModerate moderators also conduct one-on-one online discussions with consumers. Since its founding, the company has conducted more than 100,000 of these discussions. As a result, it has devised a unique framework called Thought-Path™ to discover what consumers want. ThoughtPath™ combines the concepts of perception, identity, and experience to understand how consumers interpret a brand and view themselves in regard to the brand. This framework is used to provide meaningful consumer insights for iModerate clients. iModerate is an example of a company using evolving technologies to create more detailed methodologies for marketing research.<sup>3</sup>



- The *Entrepreneurship in Marketing* feature focuses on the role of entrepreneurship and the need for creativity in developing successful marketing strategies by featuring successful entrepreneurial companies like Skullcandy, Second City, Pixability, Quadlogic Controls, Tumblr, Kickstarter, Scentsy, and Warby Parker.
- *Key term definitions* appear in the margins to help students build their marketing vocabulary.
- Figures, tables, photographs, advertisements, and Snapshot features increase comprehension and stimulate interest.
- A complete *chapter summary* reviews the major topics discussed, and the list of important terms provides another end-of-chapter study aid to expand students' marketing vocabulary.

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- Discussion and review questions at the end of each chapter encourage further study and exploration of chapter content, and application questions enhance students' comprehension of important topics.
- Additional application questions have been included to help students quantify and apply marketing strategies. These questions have been developed with higher-level Bloom's thinking in mind and for the sole purpose to guide students from basic knowledge of marketing concepts to application, analysis, and synthesis of marketing activities. Specific questions are intended to help students think through developing a marketing plan and are identified by the MP icon.
- An *Internet exercise* at the end of each chapter asks students to examine a website and assess one or more strategic issues associated with the site. This section also points students toward the various learning tools that are available on the text's website.
- Developing Your Marketing Plan ties the chapter concepts into an overall marketing
  plan that can be created by completing the Interactive Marketing Plan activity found at
  www.cengagebrain.com. The Developing Your Marketing Plan feature allows students
  to explore each chapter topic in relation to developing and implementing a marketing
  campaign.

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- Two *cases* at the end of each chapter help students understand the application of chapter concepts. One of the end-of-chapter cases is related to a video segment. Some examples of companies highlighted in the cases are Trek, Starbucks, Caterpillar, Dale Carnegie, Axe, Taza Chocolate, L.L.Bean, RogueSheep, New Belgium Brewery, Wyndham, and Standard Renewable Energy.
- A *strategic case* at the end of each part helps students integrate the diverse concepts that have been discussed within the related chapters. Examples include Apple Inc., Marriot, Chevrolet, GameStop, and Indy Racing League.
- A role-play case exercise at the end of each part encourages students to engage in a discussion of a marketing dilemma and provide a solution.
- Appendixes discuss marketing career opportunities, explore financial analysis in marketing, and present a sample marketing plan.
- A comprehensive *glossary* defines more than 625 important marketing terms.
- An online *Career Transitions* site will provide resources where students can search for marketing careers that meet their career goals, and search for suitable internships and full-time positions.

Caree Transitions	Ether.
GET A NEW JOB	Dake a tour of Gareer Transitions
SEARCH JOBS, INTERNSHIPS, & MORE	
Job Title	City, State, or Zip Code
WRITE A RESUME WRITE A COVER LETTER Create a resume to send to potential employers send with your resume	TIPS 6 ADVICE INTERVIEW SIMULATION Get tips about resumes, Prepare for job interviews applying, and interviews with our interview simulation
DISCOVER A NEW CAREER	
ASSESS YOUR CAREER INTERESTS	MATCH EXPERIENCE TO BEARCH SCHOOLS & PROGRAMS
Daily <b>Leap</b>	FEATURED VIDEOS
Four Interview Topics to Keep in your Back Pocket In a recent Daily Leap post we recommend that you have a curre resume ready at all times. This is excellent active for the reason detailed in the post Just as important as keeping a current resur handy are topics that can be used in an interview. When you are. Browse more blog articles	s 🕒 🖉 🖉

## **TEXT ORGANIZATION**

We have organized the eight parts of *Marketing* to give students a theoretical and practical understanding of marketing decision making.

#### Part 1 Marketing Strategy and Customer Relationships

In **Chapter 1**, we define marketing and explore several key concepts: customers and target markets, the marketing mix, relationship marketing, the marketing concept, and value-driven marketing. In **Chapter 2**, we look at an overview of strategic marketing topics, such as the strategic planning process; corporate, business-unit, and marketing strategies; the implementation of marketing strategies; performance evaluation of marketing strategies; and the components of the marketing plan.

#### Part 2 Environmental Forces and Social and Ethical Responsibilities

We examine competitive, economic, political, legal and regulatory, technological, and sociocultural forces that can have profound effects on marketing strategies in **Chapter 3.** In **Chapter 4**, we explore social responsibility and ethical issues in marketing decisions.

#### Part 3 Marketing Research and Target Market Analysis

In **Chapter 5**, we provide a foundation for analyzing buyers with a look at marketing information systems and the basic steps in the marketing research process. We look at elements that affect buying decisions to better analyze customers' needs and evaluate how specific marketing strategies can satisfy those needs. In **Chapter 6**, we deal with how to select and analyze target markets—one of the major steps in marketing strategy development.

#### Part 4 Buying Behavior, Global Marketing, and Digital Marketing

We examine consumer buying decision processes and factors that influence buying decisions in **Chapter 7.** In **Chapter 8,** we explore business markets, business customers, the buying center, and the business buying decision process. **Chapter 9** focuses on the actions, involvement, and strategies of marketers that serve international customers. In **Chapter 10**, we discuss digital marketing, social media, and social networking.

#### Part 5 Product Decisions

In Chapter 11, we introduce basic concepts and relationships that must be understood to make effective product decisions. We analyze a variety of dimensions regarding product management in Chapter 12, including line extensions and product modification, new-product development, and product deletions. Chapter 13 discusses branding, packaging, and labeling. In Chapter 14, we explore the nature, importance, and characteristics of services.

#### Part 6 Distribution Decisions

In **Chapter 15**, we look at supply-chain management, marketing channels, and the decisions and activities associated with the physical distribution of products, such as order processing, materials handling, warehousing, inventory management, and transportation. **Chapter 16** explores retailing and wholesaling, including types of retailers and wholesalers, direct marketing and selling, and strategic retailing issues.

#### Part 7 Promotion Decisions

We discuss integrated marketing communications in **Chapter 17**. The communication process and major promotional methods that can be included in promotion mixes are described. In **Chapter 18**, we analyze the major steps in developing an advertising campaign. We also define public relations and how it can be used. **Chapter 19** deals with personal selling and the role it can play in a firm's promotional efforts. We also explore the general characteristics of sales promotion and describe sales promotion techniques.

#### Part 8 Pricing Decisions

In **Chapter 20**, we discuss the importance of price and look at some characteristics of price and nonprice competition. We explore fundamental concepts like demand, elasticity, marginal analysis, and break-even analysis. We then examine the major factors that affect marketers' pricing decisions. In **Chapter 21**, we look at the six major stages of the process marketers use to establish prices.

## A COMPREHENSIVE INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE PACKAGE

For instructors, this edition of *Marketing* includes an exceptionally comprehensive package of teaching materials.

#### **Instructor's Manual**

The instructor's manual has been revamped to meet the needs of an engaging classroom environment. It has been updated with diverse and dynamic discussion starters, classroom activities, and group exercises. It includes such tools as:

- Quick Reference Guide
- Purpose Statement

- Integrated Lecture Outline with features and multimedia (e.g., PowerPoint call-outs) incorporated
- Discussion Starter recommendations that encourage active exploration of the in-text examples
- Class Exercises, Semester Project Activities, and Chapter Quizzes
- · Suggested Answers to end-of-chapter exercises, cases, and strategic cases
- Guide to teaching Role-Play Team Exercises.

## Test Bank

The test bank provides more than 4,000 test items including true/false, multiple-choice, and essay questions. Each objective test item is accompanied by the correct answer, appropriate Learning Objective, level of difficulty, Bloom's level of thinking, main text page reference, and AACSB standard coding. Instructors are able to select, edit, and add questions, or generate randomly selected questions to produce a test master for easy duplication. This test bank has been updated by Dr. Phylis Mansfield, Pennsylvania State University–Erie.

## American Marketing Association Professional Certified Marketer<sup>®</sup>

The American Marketing Association has recently started offering marketing graduates the opportunity of adding the AMA PCM<sup>®</sup> credentials to their undergraduate or MBA degree, which can serve as a symbol of professional excellence that affirms mastery of marketing knowledge and commitment to quality in the practice of marketing. Certification, which is voluntary, requires passing a rigorous and comprehensive exam and then maintaining your certification through continuing education. Earning your AMA PCM certification demonstrates to employers, peers and clients that you:

- Have mastered essential marketing knowledge and practices.
- Go the extra mile to stay current in the marketing field.
- Follow the highest professional standards.

The AMA recommends Pride and Ferrell *Marketing* as a suggested resource for AMA PCM students to utilize as they prepare for taking the AMA PCM Certification exam, and the text was used as a source to design the course and as a source for suitable examination questions.

Now, more than ever, you need to stand out in the marketplace. AMA's Professional Certified Marketer (PCM<sup>®</sup>) program is the perfect way to show-case your expertise and set yourself apart.

To learn more about the American Marketing Association and the AMA PCM exam, visit www.marketingpower.com/Careers/Pages/ ProfessionalCertifiedMarketer.aspx.

## **PowerPoint Slides**

PowerPoint continues to be a very popular teaching device, and a special effort has been made to upgrade the PowerPoint program to enhance classroom teaching. Premium lecture slides, containing such content as advertisements, Web links, and unique graphs and data, have been created to provide instructors with up-to-date, unique content to increase student application and interest.



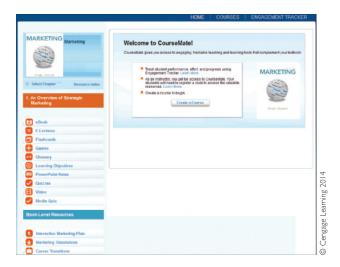
## **Discussion Point**

Netflix alienates its target market

- Netflix revolutionized the video streaming and DVD rental business
- Netflix shocked customers when it announced price increases
- Over 82,000 angry comments were soon posted on the company's blog
- ? Who is Netflix's target market?
- ? Have you ever provided feedback on a product through social media resources?

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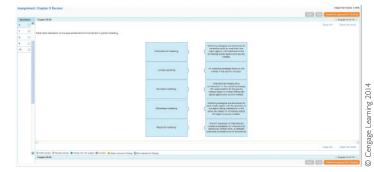


## Cengagenow (For WebCT<sup>®</sup> and Blackboard<sup>®</sup>)

Ensure that your students have the understanding they need of marketing procedures and concepts they need to know with CengageNOW. This integrated, online course management and learning system combines the best of current technology to save time in planning and managing your course and assignments. You can reinforce comprehension with customized student learning paths and efficiently test and automatically grade assignments.

## **CourseMate**

Interested in a simple way to complement your text and course content with study and practice materials? Cengage Learning's Marketing CourseMate brings course concepts to life with interactive learning, study, and exam preparation tools that support the printed textbook. Watch student comprehension soar as your class works with the printed textbook and the textbook-specific website. Marketing CourseMate goes beyond the book to deliver what you need! Marketing CourseMate includes an interactive e-book as well as interactive teaching and learning tools including quizzes, flashcards, homework video cases, simulations, and more. Engagement Tracker monitors student engagement in the course.



## **Marketing Video Case Series**

This series contains videos specifically tied to the video cases found at the end of the book. The videos include information about exciting companies, such as New Belgium Brewing, TOMS Shoes, Starbucks, Dale Carnegie, and Vans.

## Author's Website

The authors also maintain a website at http://prideferrell.net to provide video resources that can be used as supplements and class exercises. The videos have been developed as marketing labs with worksheets for students to use on observing the videos. Some of the videos are



accessible through links, and there is also information on where some of the videos can be obtained.

## **Interactive Marketing Plan**

The Marketing Plan Worksheets have been revamped and reproduced within an interactive and multimedia environment. A video program has been developed around the worksheets, allowing students to follow a company through the trials and tribulations of launching a new product. This video helps place the conceptual marketing plan into an applicable light and is supported by a summary of the specific stages of the marketing plan as well as a sample plan based on the events of the video. These elements act as the 1-2-3 punch supporting the student while completing his or her own plan, the last step of the Interactive Marketing Plan. The plan is broken up into three functional sections that can either be completed in one simple project or carried over throughout the semester.

## SUPPLEMENTS TO MEET STUDENT NEEDS

The complete package available with *Marketing* includes support materials that facilitate student learning. To access additional course materials, including Marketing CourseMate, please visit www.cengagebrain.com. At the CengageBrain.com home





page, search for the ISBN of your textbook (from the back cover of your book) using the search box at the top of the page. This will take you to the product page, where the following resources can be found:

- Interactive teaching and learning tools, including:
  - Full-color e-book—Allows you to highlight and search for key terms.
  - Quizzes
  - Flashcards
  - Videos
  - An Interactive Marketing Plan
  - And more!

## YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ARE VALUED

As authors, our major focus has been on teaching and preparing learning materials for introductory marketing students. We have traveled extensively to work with students and to understand the needs of professors of introductory marketing courses. We both teach this marketing course on a regular basis and test the materials included in the book, test bank, and other ancillary materials to make sure they are effective in the classroom.

Through the years, professors and students have sent us many helpful suggestions for improving the text and ancillary components. We invite your comments, questions, and criticisms. We want to do our best to provide materials that enhance the teaching and learning of marketing concepts and strategies. Your suggestions will be sincerely appreciated. Please write us, or e-mail us at **w-pride@tamu.edu** or **OCFerrell@mgt.unm.edu**, or call 979-845-5857 (Bill Pride) or 505-277-3468 (O. C. Ferrell).

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## Marketing Strategy and Customer Relationships

PART 1 introduces the field of marketing and offers a broad perspective from which to explore and analyze various components of the marketing discipline. CHAPTER 1 defines *marketing* and explores some key concepts, including customers and target markets, the marketing mix, relationship marketing, the marketing concept, and value. CHAPTER 2 provides an overview of strategic marketing issues, such as the effect of organizational resources and opportunities on the planning process; the role of the mission statement; corporate, business-unit, and marketing strategies; and the creation of the marketing plan.



- 1: An Overview of Strategic Marketing 2
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ECONOMIC FORCES



CUSTOMER

PRICE

PROMOTION

TECHNOLOGY Forces

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chapter 1

## An Overview of Strategic Marketing

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#### OBJECTIVES

- 1. To be able to define *marketing* as focused on customers
- 2. To identify some important marketing terms, including target market, marketing mix, marketing exchanges, and marketing environment
- To understand the relationship between marketing and value
- 4. To become aware of the marketing concept and market orientation
- 5. To understand the importance of building customer relationships
- 6. To recognize the role of marketing in our society

#### Walmart Returns to Its Roots

Walmart has long been admired for its skill in implementing a superior marketing strategy. Its everyday low prices (EDLP) and basic products strongly appeal to its target market, mainly households that make below \$70,000 a year. However, trouble has come to Walmart due to changes in its marketing strategy. Walmart tried to broaden its customer base by selling more upscale products and compromising its position as a price leader. According to analysts, Walmart's attempt to be everything to everybody resulted in the alienation of its core market, which has likely contributed to its two years of declining U.S. sales.

To appeal to a higher-income market, Walmart began offering trendier items such as fashionable clothing and organic food. In the process, it removed items such as fishing tackle that were popular with its target market. The move resulted in higher prices for some of its products, conflicting with Walmart's EDLP pricing strategy. Under normal economic conditions, this might not have been so problematic; however, during the most recent recession many of its customers were unhappy with Walmart's removal of basic items. They often switched to lower-priced rivals Dollar Tree and Family Dollar. Additionally, Walmart's upscale items failed to catch on with higher-income consumers.

After realizing its marketing mistakes, Walmart reintroduced many of the basic products that it had removed and returned to its EDLP strategy. It even closed its fashion office in New York to return to its Bentonville, Arkansas, roots. However, many former Walmart shoppers have expressed their belief that Walmart no longer offers the best prices. It may take time for Walmart to regain domestic market share and get back to its roots.<sup>1</sup>



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This chapter introduces the strategic marketing concepts and decisions covered throughout the text. First, we develop a definition of *marketing* and explore each element of the definition in detail. Next, we explore the importance of value-driven marketing. We also introduce the marketing concept and consider several issues associated with its implementation. Additionally, we take a look at the management of customer relationships and relationship marketing. Finally, we examine the importance of marketing in global society.

## **DEFINING** MARKETING

If you ask several people what *marketing* is, you are likely to hear a variety of descriptions. Although many people think marketing is advertising or selling, marketing is much more complex than most people realize. In this book we define **marketing** as the process of creating, distributing, promoting, and pricing goods, services, and ideas to facilitate satisfying exchange relationships with customers and to develop and maintain favorable relationships with stakeholders in a dynamic environment. Our definition is consistent with that of the American Marketing Association (AMA), which defines *marketing* as "the activity, set of institutions, and processes for creating, communicating, delivering, and exchanging offerings that have value for customers, clients, partners, and society at large."<sup>2</sup>

#### **Marketing Focuses on Customers**

As the purchasers of the products that organizations develop, price, distribute, and promote, **customers** are the focal point of all marketing activities (see Figure 1.1). Organizations have to define their products not as what the companies make or produce but as what they do to satisfy customers. The Walt Disney Company is not in the business of establishing theme parks;



marketing The process of creating, distributing, promoting, and pricing goods, services, and ideas to facilitate satisfying exchange relationships with customers and to develop and maintain favorable relationships with stakeholders in a dynamic environment

customers The purchasers of organizations' products; the focal point of all marketing activities

Appealing to Target Markets Marvel provides online entertainment to satisfy its customers.

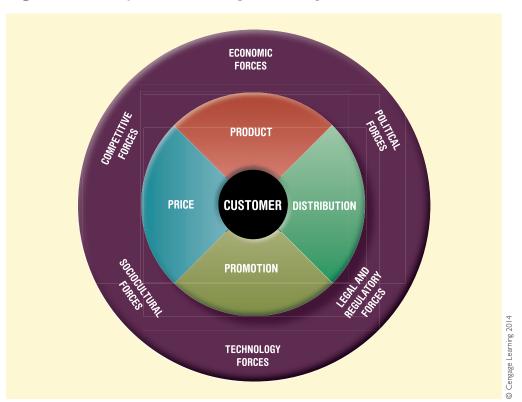


Figure 1.1 Components of Strategic Marketing

it is in the business of making people happy. At Disney World, customers are guests, the crowd is an audience, and employees are cast members. Customer satisfaction and enjoyment can come from anything received when buying and using a product.

The essence of marketing is to develop satisfying exchanges from which both customers and marketers benefit. The customer expects to gain a reward or benefit greater than the costs incurred in a marketing transaction. The marketer expects to gain something of value in return, generally the price charged for the product. Through buyer–seller interaction, a customer develops expectations about the seller's future behavior. To fulfill these expectations, the marketer must deliver on promises made. Over time, this interaction results in relationships between the two parties. Fast-food restaurants such as Taco Bell and Subway depend on repeat purchases from satisfied customers—many often live or work a few miles from these restaurants—whereas customer expectations revolve around tasty food, value, and dependable service.

Organizations generally focus their marketing efforts on a specific group of customers, called a **target market**. Marketing managers may define a target market as a vast number of people or a relatively small group. For instance, marketers are increasingly interested in Hispanic consumers. Within the last decade, Hispanics made up more than half of the population gains in the United States. The buying power of Hispanics is estimated to reach \$1.5 trillion by 2015. Procter & Gamble is one of many companies trying to capitalize on this trend. Procter & Gamble is hoping to court more Hispanic shoppers with Spanish labeling and products customized toward Hispanic tastes, such as lavender-scented Downy detergent.<sup>3</sup> Other companies target multiple markets with different products, promotions, prices, and distribution systems for each one. Vans shoes targets a fairly narrow market segment, especially compared to more diverse athletic shoe companies such as Nike and Reebok. Vans targets skateboarders and snowboarders between the ages of 10 and 24, whereas Nike and Reebok target most sports, age ranges, genders, and price points.<sup>4</sup>

target market A specific group of customers on whom an organization focuses its marketing efforts

#### **Emerging Trends**

#### Netflix Alienates Its Target Market

Even popular companies make mistakes in serving their target market. Netflix, a company that revolutionized the video streaming and rental business, did just that. In 2011 Netflix shocked customers when it announced price increases for its rental and streaming plans. In the case of one popular streaming and DVD plan, Netflix raised the price from \$9.99 to \$15.98 per month.

Price is a flexible but sensitive element of the marketing mix. While it is easy for a company to lower prices, it is harder to raise prices without customer dissatisfaction. This is why many organizations choose to raise prices gradually. Netflix's large price increase was an unwelcome surprise for many loyal customers. Approximately 82,000 angry comments were soon posted on the company's blog. In September 2011, CEO Reed Hastings's announcement that the company was going to split into two entities, one for the DVD rental services and one for the streaming services, upset customers even more. Investors disliked the idea, causing the price of Netflix stock to decrease. Pressure finally caused Netflix to scrap its intention of splitting services.

Customer satisfaction is difficult to achieve, and a company must coordinate the marketing mix of product, price, distribution, and promotion. Netflix, which became successful because of its marketing concept, experienced a serious reaction from customers. It is working hard to restore customer and investor confidence.<sup>a</sup>

## Marketing Deals with Products, Distribution, Promotion, and Price

Marketing is more than simply advertising or selling a product; it involves developing and managing a product that will satisfy customer needs. It focuses on making the product available in the right place and at a price acceptable to buyers. It also requires communicating information that helps customers determine if the product will satisfy their needs. These activities are planned, organized, implemented, and controlled to meet the needs of customers within the target market. Marketers refer to these activities—product, pricing, distribution, and promotion—as the **marketing mix** because they decide what type of each element to use and in what amounts. Marketing creates value through the marketing mix. A primary goal of a marketing manager is to create and maintain the right mix of these elements to satisfy customers' needs for a general product type. Note in Figure 1.1 that the marketing mix is built around the customer.

Marketing managers strive to develop a marketing mix that matches the needs of customers in the target market. For example, REI targets consumers who are serious about the outdoors. Although they charge higher prices than discount stores, REI offers a broad range of quality products for a number of outdoor activities. REI stores also offer lifetime memberships for a \$20 membership fee, which allows members to receive part of the company's profits based upon their purchases during the year.<sup>5</sup> Marketing managers must constantly monitor the competition and adapt their product, pricing, promotion, and distribution decisions to create long-term success.

Before marketers can develop a marketing mix, they must collect in-depth, up-to-date information about customer needs. Such information might include data about the age, income, ethnicity, gender, and educational level of people in the target market, their preferences for product features, their attitudes toward competitors' products, and the frequency with which they use the product. For instance, when Ursula Burns became CEO of Xerox, she knew that the company would have to change its focus. Consumers, particularly the younger generation, were choosing to use digital technology over photocopiers and traditional printers. On the other hand, research showed that offices still required services such as printing. By offering to manage these services for companies, Xerox has created a profitable business in which approximately half of its

marketing mix Four marketing activities—product, pricing, distribution, and promotion that a firm can control to meet the needs of customers within its target market revenue comes from its service business.<sup>6</sup> Armed with market information, marketing managers are better able to develop a marketing mix that satisfies a specific target market.

Let's look more closely at the decisions and activities related to each marketing mix variable.

#### **The Product Variable**

Successful marketing efforts result in products that become part of everyday life. Consider the satisfaction customers have had over the years from Coca-Cola, Levi's jeans, Visa credit cards, Tylenol pain relievers, and 3M Post-it Notes. The product variable of the marketing mix deals with researching customers' needs and wants and designing a product that satisfies them. A **product** can be a good, a service, or an idea. A good is a physical entity you can touch. Oakley sunglasses, Seven for All Mankind jeans, and Axe body spray are all examples of products. A service is the application of human and mechanical efforts to people or objects to provide intangible benefits to customers. Air travel, education, haircutting, banking, medical care, and day care are examples of services. Ideas include concepts, philosophies, images, and issues. For instance, a marriage counselor, for a fee, gives spouses ideas to help improve their relationship. Other marketers of ideas include political parties, churches, and schools.

The product variable also involves creating or modifying brand names and packaging and may include decisions regarding warranty and repair services. For example, the lawn care company TruGreen was originally branded as "Chemlawn." The company adapted its branding and products to provide a healthier and "greener" product offering.

Product variable decisions and related activities are important because they are directly involved with creating products that address customers' needs and wants. To maintain an assortment of products that helps an organization achieve its goals, marketers must develop new products, modify existing ones, and eliminate those that no longer satisfy enough buyers or that yield unacceptable profits.

#### **The Distribution Variable**

To satisfy customers, products must be available at the right time and in convenient locations. Subway, for example, locates not only in strip malls but also inside Walmarts, Home Depots, Laundromats, churches, and hospitals, as well as inside Goodwill stores, car dealerships, and appliance stores. There are more than 35,950 Subways in 98 different countries, surpassing McDonald's as the world's largest chain.<sup>7</sup>

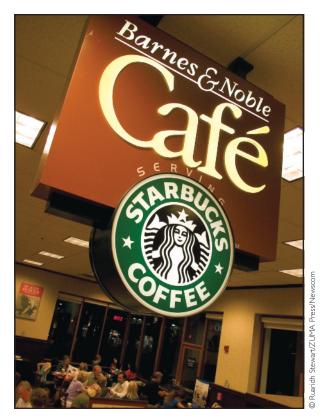
In dealing with the distribution variable, a marketing manager makes products available in the quantities desired to as many target-market customers as possible, keeping total inventory,

product A good, a service, or an idea

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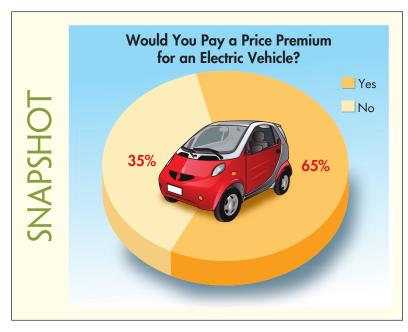


Vizio produces 3D technology, a tangible good, to allow consumers a differentiated product experience, while Verizon provides an intangible product through its cellular services.



#### Distribution

Starbucks increases its distribution channels by offering its coffee products through retail organizations, such as Barnes & Noble.



Source: "Global Consumers Not Plugging into Electric Vehicles: Deloitte Survey," October 4, 2011, www.deloitte.com/view/en\_GX/global/86cc3bd8e9fc2310VgnVCM3000001c56f00aR CRD.htm (accessed May 16, 2012).

transportation, and storage costs as low as possible. A marketing manager also may select and motivate intermediaries (wholesalers and retailers), establish and maintain inventory control procedures, and develop and manage transportation and storage systems. The advent of the Internet and electronic commerce also has dramatically influenced the distribution variable. Companies now can make their products available throughout the world without maintaining facilities in each country. Apple has benefitted from the ability to download songs and apps over the Internet. Since the introduction of iTunes, 16 billion songs have been downloaded from its stores.<sup>8</sup> The company has supported growth and global success beyond the presence of physical Apple stores selling phones, computers, iPads, and accessories. We examine distribution issues in Chapters 15 and 16.

#### The Promotion Variable

The promotion variable relates to activities used to inform individuals or groups about the organization and its products. Promotion can aim to increase public awareness of the organization and of new or existing products. Adidas, for example, wanted to increase awareness of its brands among teenagers. The company released television and Internet commercials featuring famous athletes promoting its brands. Its online commercial contained links to Facebook and Twitter for more up-to-date information on its products.<sup>9</sup>

Promotional activities also can educate customers about product features or urge people to take a particular stance on a political or social issue, such as smoking or drug abuse. For example, the National Highway Safety Traffic Administration released an ad campaign to deter drunk driving during the holiday season. The campaign carried the message that cops "would see you before you see them." In the advertisement, a transparent cop watches drunk

> teenagers as they leave a party, only to have them arrested as they are driving home.<sup>10</sup>

> Promotion can help to sustain interest in established products that have been available for decades, such as Arm & Hammer baking soda or Ivory soap. Many companies are using the Internet to communicate information about themselves and their products. Campbell's Kitchen provides a diverse array of recipes, coupons, and discussion boards online to support the sales of their soups.<sup>11</sup>

#### **The Price Variable**

The price variable relates to decisions and actions associated with establishing pricing objectives and policies and determining product prices. Price is a critical component of the marketing mix because customers are concerned about the value obtained in an exchange. Price is often used as a competitive tool, and intense price competition sometimes leads to price wars. High prices can be used competitively to establish a product's premium image. Waterman and Mont Blanc pens, for example, have an image of high quality and high price that has given them significant status. Other companies are skilled at providing products at prices lower than competitors. Amazon uses its vast network of partnerships and cost efficiencies to provide products at low prices. Brick-and-mortar retailers have not been able to offer comparable products with prices that low, providing Amazon with a considerable competitive advantage.

The marketing-mix variables are often viewed as controllable because they can be modified. However, there are limits to how much marketing managers can alter them. Economic conditions, competitive structure, and government regulations may prevent a manager from adjusting prices frequently or significantly. Making changes in the size, shape, and design of most tangible goods is expensive; therefore, such product features cannot be altered very often. In addition, promotional campaigns and methods used to distribute products ordinarily cannot be rewritten or revamped overnight.

### **Marketing Creates Value**

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Value is an important element of managing long-term customer relationships and implementing the marketing concept. We view value as a customer's subjective assessment of benefits relative to costs in determining the worth of a product (customer value = customer benefits – customer costs). Consumers develop a concept of value through the integration of their perceptions of product quality and financial sacrifice.<sup>12</sup> From a company's perspective, there is a trade-off between increasing the value offered to a customer and maximizing the profits from a transaction.<sup>13</sup>

Customer benefits include anything a buyer receives in an exchange. Hotels and motels, for example, basically provide a room with a bed and bathroom, but each firm provides a different level of service, amenities, and atmosphere to satisfy its guests. Hampton Inn offers the minimum services necessary to maintain a quality, efficient, low-price overnight accommodation. In contrast, the Ritz-Carlton provides every imaginable service a guest might desire. The hotel even allows its staff members to spend up to \$2,000 to settle customer complaints.<sup>14</sup> Customers judge which type of accommodation offers the best value according to the benefits they desire and their willingness and ability to pay for the costs associated with the benefits.

Customer costs include anything a buyer must give up to obtain the benefits the product provides. The most obvious cost is the monetary price of the product, but nonmonetary costs can be equally important in a customer's determination of value. Two nonmonetary costs are the time and effort customers expend to find and purchase desired products. To reduce time and effort, a company can increase product availability, thereby making it more convenient for buyers to purchase the firm's products. Another nonmonetary cost is risk, which

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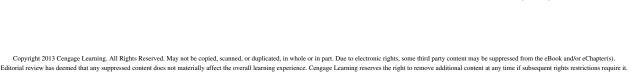
assessment of benefits relative to costs in determining the worth of a product

Value-Driven Marketing

price point.

Cadbury provides a high-quality chocolate bar that satisfies customer desires at a premium

Slatter/Alamy



value A customer's subjective