Operations management, Politecnico di Milano

EX-SET#2 - YIELD MANAGEMENT

Exercise 1

Marcus, a famous British automaker, is going to propose to the market a new super-car model, limited edition. The company decided to produce only 250 cars of this model.

Marcus, to give exclusivity to its new model, made a contract with the well-known English circuit of "Brands Hatch" flat-rate fee of $700 \, €$ / service package, to allow the prospective customer to access, on certain dates, the circuit. This means that, when Marcus requires access to the circuit, he will pay the discounted rate of $700 \, €$. Marcus established that the margin associated with this service is $200 \, €$ / package (customers will pay Marcus € 900 to access the circuit).

Moreover, because Marcus participates in the FIA "Le Mans Series" championship, the organizer reserved to Marcus the right to buy the tickets for the opening race in Monza at a privileged price of \in 60 each. Marcus intends to take the opportunity because he is sure to sell all the tickets at \in 100 each.

Finally, the company set to give the car keys in a precious box of brier-root, with the symbol of Marcus, prepared in advance for all 250 cars.

The sales function decided to sell the car and all the services (access to "Brands Hatch" circuit and ticket for the "Le Mans Series" opening) at the discounted price of $150,000 \in$ to customers that book the vehicle ahead of its official launch at the London Motor Show. The production cost of the vehicle, regardless if it is sold at discounted or at full price, is $70,000 \in$.

The price of bookings that will be made after this event will be \in 170,000, services not included. Customers will have the opportunity to separately buy the services. It is estimated that the services will be purchased by 70% of this customer base.

It is also estimated that the demand for cars at full price, following the presentation at the show, can be described by a normal distribution with a mean of 150 and a variance of 15. After 3 months, the effect of the London Motor Show is finished and unsold cars have to be sold through another channel, which requires an additional cost of $30,000 \in /$ car. The selling price and the opportunity to get additional services to remain unaffected.

The Marcus costs structure is specified in the table below.

London Motor Show participation	10.000 €
Stand preparation	50.000 €
Staff (hostess, steward)	15.000 €
precious box of brier-root	100€/box
Opening "Le mans series" ticket	60 €/ticket
Access to "Brands Hatch" circuit	700 €/access
Advertising banner	200 €/banner
registration "Le Mans Series" championship	20.000 €
gadget e merchandising for events	5.000 €

- a) Is it correct to set a protection level for after the London motor show booking? How many cars?
- b) How much does the protection level change if the distribution of after London motor show demand is described as a normal distribution with a mean of 150 and probability of sell between 110 and 190 cars equals 76%?

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Exercise 2

The Astoria-Hotels is a chain of luxury hotels.

Engineer Bianchi, Head of Operations at the Villa Reale Hotel in Milan, has noted that in some days many rooms of the hotel remained empty. It is strange because the hotel receives so many reservation requests that it partially refuses. That's why he asked the engineer Cantu to reconsider the optimal level of overbooking.

Customers of the Villa Reale Hotel can book by phone or internet and at the time of booking, they have to pay the entire booking price. This amount is not refundable under any circumstances. There is a single rate of 145 € per room per night, the total number of rooms of the Villa Reale Hotel is 120 and Engineer Cantu estimates that the No-show rate is about 10%.

The cost structure of the Villa Reale Hotel is shown in Figure 1

staff	1.500€/day
breakfast**	15€/meal
newspapers***	3€/room
Bedsheets and towel washing****	5€/set

^{**}breakfast is included in the booking rate (145€). There is not the possibility to have lunch or dinner.

FIGURE 1

When a customer that bought a reservation arrives at the Villa Reale Hotel and she finds it full the operators at the reception try to find an alternative solution.

In 60% of cases, it is possible to find a free room in another hotel, Futura Hotel, belonging to the Astoria-Hotels chain, the remaining 40% of cases receptionist should contact other hotels.

For customers who go to Futura Hotel, it is paid the taxi to the hotel (average travel cost of $15 \in$) and a dinner at the Golf Club Milano restaurant that costs $70 \in$. In addition, the Villa Reale Hotel has to pay $25 \notin$ /day to Futura Hotel.

For customers who go to a hotel not belonging to the Astoria-Hotels chain, Villa Reale Hotel pays the taxi to the hotel (but in this case the average travel rate is $20 \, \text{\ensuremath{\in}}$) and offers the same dinner whose cost is $70 \, \text{\ensuremath{\in}}$. Usually, these hotels belong to the same class of Astoria-Hotels. The price of accommodation in these hotels is directly paid by Villa Reale Hotel and it is on average $120 \, \text{\ensuremath{\in}}$. In any case, the sum of $145 \, \text{\ensuremath{\in}}$ for the reservation is not refunded to the customer.

- a) Compute the optimal overbooking level (number of reservations that should be accepted by the Villa Reale Hotel).
- b) How does the overbooking level change considering the cost of loss of image because the hotel doesn't guarantee the room that the customer has booked? (estimated loss of image cost 250 €)

Attached 1

Binomial distribution parameters n and p, n = hotel capacity (120 rooms) e p = probability of success (in this case 0.9 because of 10% of no-show).

Q=120 rooms p=0,9

#acc.boo	k 120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145
P(X<=Q)	1	1	1	1	1	1	0,99	0,98	0,95	0,91	0,85	0,77	88,0	0,58	0,47	0,37	0,28	0,21	0,15	0,1	0,07	0,04	0,03	0,02	0,01	0

The number of reservations to accept is related to the probability resulted from marginal analysis.

^{***}It is included in the booking rate.

^{****}The set is cleaned only if the room is used. Washing is given in out-sourcing.