

Chapter Six

Business Markets and Business Buying Behavior

Business Markets

Business buyer behavior refers to the buying behavior of the organizations that buy goods and services for use in production of other products and services that are sold, rented, or supplied to others.

Business buying process is the process where business buyers determine which products and services are needed to purchase, and then find, evaluate, and choose among alternative brands

Business Markets

Market Structure and Demand

Fewer and larger buyers

Derived demand

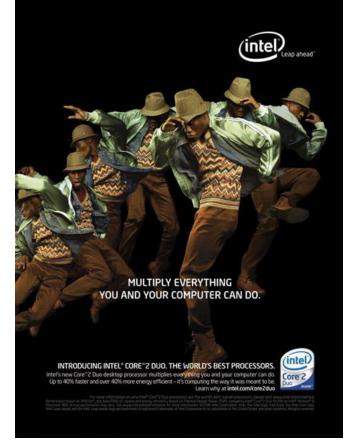
- Inelastic demand
- Fluctuating demand





Business Markets Decision Process

- More complex
- More decision participants
- More professional purchasing effort





Business Markets

Decision Process

Supplier development

systematic development of networks of supplier-partners to ensure an appropriate and dependable supply of products and materials that they will use in making their own products or resell



The Model of Business Buyer Behavior

Environmental

Economic developments
Supply conditions
Technological change
Political and regulatory developments
Competitive developments
Culture and customs

Organizational

Objectives

Policies

Procedures

Organizational structure

Systems

Interpersonal

Authority

Status

Empathy

Persuasiveness

Individual

Age

Income

Education

Job position

Personality

Risk attitudes

Buyers



Major Types of Buying Situations

Straight rebuy is a routine purchase decision such as reorder without any modification

Modified rebuy is a purchase decision that requires some research where the buyer wants to modify the product specification, price, terms, or suppliers

New task is a purchase decision that requires thorough research such as a new product



Major Types of Buying Situations

Systems selling involves the purchase of a packaged solution from a single seller



Participants in the Business Buying Process

Buying center is all of the individuals and units that participate in the business decision-making process

- Users
- Influencers
- Buyers
- Deciders
- Gatekeepers



Participants in the Business Buying Process

- Buying center provides a major challenge
- Who participates in the process
 - Their relative authority
 - What evaluation criteria each participant uses
 - Informal participants





Participants in the Business Buying Process

Users are those that will use the product or service

Influencers help define specifications and provide information for evaluating alternatives

Buyers have formal authority to select the supplier and arrange terms of purchase

Deciders have formal or informal power to select and approve final suppliers



Gatekeepers control the flow of information

Major Influences on Business Buyers



Price

Service



Emotion



Major Influences on Business Buyers Environmental Factors

Demand for product

Economic outlook

Cost of money

Supply of Materials

Technology

Culture

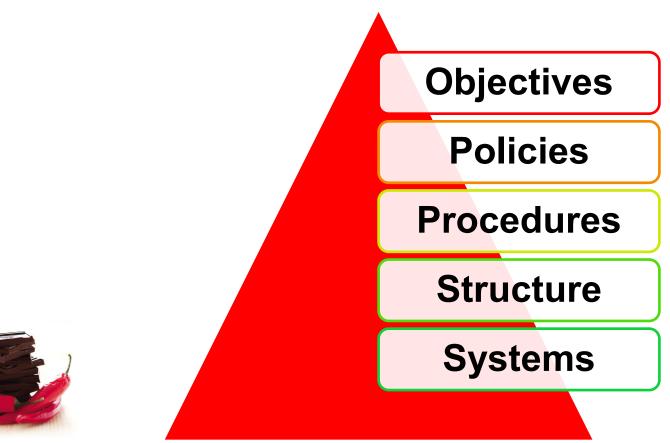


Politics

Competition



Major Influences on Business Buyers
Organizational Factors



Major Influences on Business Buyers Individual Factors

Motives

Perceptions

Preferences

Age

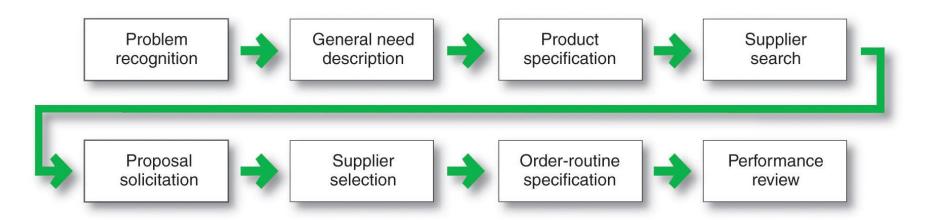
Income

Education



Attitude toward risk

The Buying Process





The Buying Process

Problem recognition occurs when someone in the company recognizes a problem or need

- Internal stimuli
 - Need for new product or production equipment
- External stimuli
 - Idea from a trade show or advertising

The Buying Process

General need description describes the characteristics and quantity of the needed item

Product specification describes the technical criteria

Value analysis is an approach to cost reduction where components are studied to determine if they can be redesigned, standardized, or made with less costly methods of production



The Buying Process

Supplier search involves compiling a list of qualified suppliers

Proposal solicitation is the process of requesting proposals from qualified suppliers





The Buying Process

Supplier selection is the process when the buying center creates a list of desired supplier attributes and negotiates with preferred suppliers for favorable terms and conditions

Order-routine specifications is the final order with the chosen supplier and lists all of the specifications and terms of the purchase

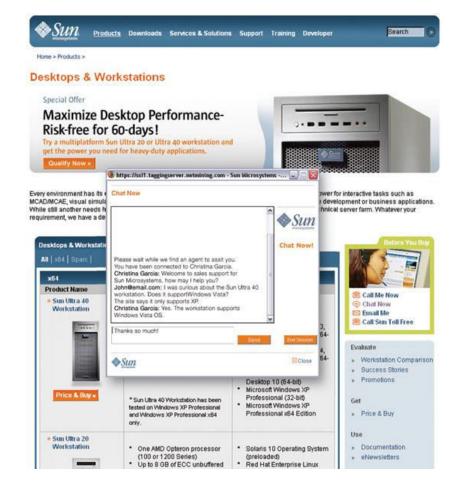
The Buying Process

Performance review involves a critique of supplier performance to the purchase terms



E-Procurement

- Online purchasing
- Company-buying sites
- Extranets





E-Procurement

- Advantages
 - Access to new suppliers
 - Lowers costs
 - Speeds order processing and delivery
 - Shares information
 - Sales
 - Service and support
- Disadvantages
 - Can erode relationships as buyers search for new suppliers
 - Security

Institutional and Government Markets

Institutional markets
consist of hospitals,
nursing homes, and
prisons that provide
goods and services to
people in their care

Characteristics

Low budgets "Captive" audience



Institutional and Government Markets

Government markets

tend to favor domestic suppliers and require suppliers to submit bids and normally award to the lowest bidder

- Affected by environmental factors
- Non-economic factors considered
 - Minority suppliers
 - Depressed suppliers
 - Small businesses

