

Principles of Marketing (Kotler)

Chapter 18 - Marketing in the Digital Age

Learning Goals

- Be able to identify the major forces shaping the new digital age.
- Understand how companies have responded to the Internet with e-business strategies.
- Be able to describe the four major e-commerce domains.
- Understand how companies use e-commerce to profitably deliver greater value to customers.
- Realize the promise and challenges that e-commerce presents for the future.

Case Study Amazon.com

- Started in July 1995 selling books
- One of the best known names on the Web
- Profitability has been a challenge
- Customer-driven company which strives to design the best customer experience on the Web
- The first to use collaborative filtering technology for customer recommendations
- With its slow earning, can its business model make it the Wal-Mart of the Web?

Major Forces Shaping the Digital Age

- Digitalization and Connectivity

- The flow of digital information requires connectivity
- Intranets, Extranets, and the Internet

- The Internet Explosion

- Key driver of the digital age
- Using the Web to find information on major life decisions

- New Types of Intermediaries

- The click-and-mortar business model has been highly successful

- Customization

- Firms are individualizing their products, services, messages and media
- True customization is when a consumer designs their own offering or product

Marketing Strategy in the Digital Age

- E-business:

- Uses electronic means and platforms to conduct business.

- E-commerce:

- Buying and selling processes supported by electronic means.

- E-marketing:

- Includes efforts that inform, communicate, promote, and sell products and services over the Internet.

E-commerce benefits both buyers and sellers

- Buyer Benefits of E-Commerce:

- Convenience
- Easy and private
- Greater product access/selection
- Access to comparative information
- Interactive and immediate

- Seller Benefits of E-Commerce:

- Relationship building
- Reduced costs
- Increased speed and efficiency
- Flexibility
- Global access, global reach

E-Commerce Domains

E-Marketing Domains

| | Targeted to consumers | Targeted to businesses |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Initiated by businesses | <i>B2C</i> | <i>B2B</i> |
| Initiated by consumers | <i>C2C</i> | <i>C2B</i> |

Major Domains

>>B2C

Online consumers

- Now more mainstream and diverse
 - Has created new e-commerce targeting opportunities
 - Online behavior differs by age
- Online consumers differ from traditional off-line consumers
 - They initiate and control the exchange process
 - Value information highly

>>B2B

B2B sales far exceed B2C sales

B2B sales are estimated to reach \$4 trillion in 2005

Open trading networks

E-marketspace bringing sellers and buyers together

Private trading networks

Links sellers with their own trading partners

>>C2C

C2C web sites help consumers exchange goods or information

eBay is one example

Blogs

Allows interchanges of information for special interest groups
Highly credible for advertisers

>>C2B

Allow consumers to search out sellers, learn about offers, initiate purchase, or dictate purchase terms

Ex: Priceline.com

Some sites facilitate the feedback process between customers and companies

Ex: Planetfeed.com

Conducting E-Commerce

- Click-Only-Competitors

E-tailers, search engines and portals, ISPs, transaction sites, some content sites, enabler sites

- Dot.coms failed for many reasons

Lack of planning and research

Did not develop marketing strategies and spent lavishly off-line on mass marketing

Overemphasis on acquisition vs. retention

Low margins

- Click-and-Mortar Companies

Channel conflict was initially a concern

E-commerce often created new customers, rather than cannibalizing existing ones

Many firms now enjoy greater success than their click-only competition

Trusted brand names, greater financial resources, larger customer base, industry knowledge, and strong supplier relationships were key advantages

Setting up for E-Marketing

- Creating Websites

Corporate websites

Build goodwill and relationships; generate excitement

Marketing websites

Engage consumers and attempt to influence purchase

Website design

7 C's of effective website design

Conducting E-Commerce

Context

Content

Community

Communication

Connection

Commerce

Customization

- Placing online ads and promotions

Online forms of ads and promotions

- Banner ads/tickers
- Skyscrapers
- Interstitials
- Content sponsorships
- Microsites
- Viral marketing

Future of online ads

- Creating or using Web

Web communities allow members with special interests to exchange views

- Social communities
- Work-related communities

Marketers find well-defined demographics and shared interests useful when marketing

- Using e-mail

E-mail marketing

- Key tool for B2B and B2C marketing
- Clutter is a problem
- Enriched forms of e-mail attempt to break through clutter
- Spam is a problem

Promise and Challenges of E-Commerce

- The Promise of E-Commerce

- Online marketing will become a successful business model for some companies
- The question is “how,” not “whether,” to deploy Internet technology
- The Internet should be used as one approach or tool in the fully integrated marketing mix

- Challenges: The Web’s Darker Side

- Few B2C companies are profitable
 - Limited exposure, skewed demographics
 - Navigating the Web is often problematic

- Challenge: Legal and Ethical Issues

- Online privacy and security concerns
- Internet fraud, the digital divide, access by vulnerable or unauthorized groups