Tesla 4-wheeler Go-to-market strategy

Submitted By: Priya Singh, a third-year undergrad at

IIT Kanpur

Email: priyasi20@iitk.ac.in

Contact: 7024990837

Industry overview

Key Success factors in EV industry



Credit

Getting access to scalable and competitive line of credit



Generating Demand

Winning B2B collaborations and creating enough consumer



Technology

Leveraging data and software to increase operational efficiency by matching supply to demand



Key Partnerships

Striking key partnerships with the EV ecosystem

EV value chain key personas



Responsible for the production of the individual cells from raw materials like Lithium, Cobalt, Nickel, etc



Charging Point Operator Usually represents individual locations such as station owner, kirana shops acting as a charge point



Battery assembler

Responsible for assembling the entire battery pack from all the individual cells along with the BMS



Charging Network Operator Represents the CPO aggregators and managers



OEM

Responsible for putting together the entire vehicle along with all its HW and SW components



Financier

Act as source of financing for the end customer



Dealer

Responsible for selling the vehicles to the end customers



Vehicle owner

End persona who owns the vehicle - individual, fleet aggregator, logistics company, etc

Current challenges for EV adoption in India



Lack of good vehicles available Given the software aspect coupled with India specific problems, a lot of R&D is required to build a good vehicle suited for the country. This is now changing with the likes of Ather, Euler, Ola Electric bringing in good vehicles in the market



Component manufacturer

Most of the components (outside of battery pack) of an EV have a dependency on China. This makes it harder for OEMs to claim available subsidy that requires Indian components to be used in the vehicle.



EV Infrastructure Lack of charging infrastructure leads to "range anxiety" which is more of the fear of not finding chargers vs running out of charge \rightarrow Lower Sales of EVs \rightarrow Not having enough vehicles on ground \rightarrow Less attractive for infrastructure companies to setup charging



Lack of financial options

There have not been enough vehicles sold to create a secondary market which would created enough data for the underwriters to understand and quantify risk

Current landscape of major players













OEM Mobility & Logistics (Ride Sharing / Fleets Leasing)









Tesla EV 4-wheeler Awareness strategy

Awareness strategy



BRAND POSITIONING

- Tesla focuses on innovation and technology in its products
- Positioning the brand as "a new way of living" – into the world of autonomous driving for Indian customers
- Focus on creating value in the life of the stakeholders of the brand such as customers, OEMS, fleet operators, battery charging station owners, etc



ADVERTISING BY SEO

- Use Search Engine Optimization to make Tesla appear at the top when user search with keywords such as "EV vehicles", "4-Wheeler EV", etc.
- Redirect to the EV Guide Tesla has created when people search for more details about Electric vehicle



FINDING THE RIGHT BUYER

- Find the target customer segment by AI/ML – using demographics, user behaviors, studying motivations of users and creating user personas using this data
- Finding the early adopters for EV who will mostly be people who are tech savvy and who care about the environment



TARGETTED ADVERTISING

- After identifying the right buyer using demographic and behavior study -> create a list of emails of these potential customer and send targeted emails for advertising your product
- Practice push marketing for target segment to reduce spam reports and decrease customer acquisition cost



CREATE EV GUIDE

- Create resources on EV such as latest deals, **charging station maps**, functionalities, calculations explaining **Total Cost of Ownership**, etc. for customers to know more about the product and its benefits.
- Create blogs, websites and YouTube videos to create awareness about the same.



SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING

- Create pages on social media for users to talk about EV and Tesla
- Create buzz words and hashtags and use these hashtags while sharing post.
- with celebrities on **Instagram** and Facebook to promote EV-4 wheeler and create awareness

Initiatives and action plans for 2023 to achieve target sales

Shaping the charging ecosystem

Be early to provide a seamless charging experience



Public charging infrastructure

- Partner with local municipalities and infrastructure provider to understand and improve their electricity distribution capacity to charging stations
- Help retailers, offices and landowners setup charging stations easily at low cost



Easy access to charging points

- Create end-to-end charging ecosystem with single access points to customers
- Try to partner with builder to install wall box charging system to charge at home
- Educate electricians in installing charging systems and provide customer support
- Tie-up with IT parks and office spaces to install smart charging solutions



Charging points for intercity commuters

Setting up charging stations at highways could make electric vehicles a good solution for ola,
uber intercity and all those customers that travel between cities

Massive reskill and refocus the sales force

Incentivising and training EV dealers and sales executives to make the best sales pitch

EV-promote dealers



- **Removing biases** in the mind of EV dealers with the help of **training and test drives** to drive up the sales to customers who are open to both EVs and ICEs
- Incentivizing EV dealers through **higher margins and after-sales revenues** as only then dealers might go out of their comfort zone to make an EV sales pitch and sales force



Performance linked incentives

- To deliver an optimal EV sales pitch, OEMs and third-party dealers should monitor performance
- OEMs should train sales executives in integrated EV-mobility bundles online and in-person to develop deep EV expertise to address all customer concerns

Increase visibility and partnerships



- OEMs could encourage dealers to **contact taxi companies and mobility providers** to attract more EV buyers **increase B2B partnerships**
- OEMs should make sure all showrooms prominently display the entire EV portfolio (including wallbox and charging solutions) and allow customers to explore them digitally

Strategy to compete with traditional players

E-mobility the new style of moving

Offer the product in a bundle



- Initially customers are more concerned about the entire ecosystem hence the company should focus on selling the product and maybe help setup the charging system at home through wall box
- Provide additional services such as **customer support**, **on-call assistance**, **training** about charging and other 4-wheeler related details

Focus on communication



- Launch digital campaigns using personalized and targeted marketing over social media to educate and increase community engage regarding EV
- Focus on finding right customer segments to target such as tech-savvy, environment conscious customers to create a group of early adopters
- Work on referral incentives to increase word-of-mouth marketing

Initiatives for Quick adoption

Quick adoption strategies

Product innovation



- Price point is one of the major pain-point for a customer while thinking of buying an EV vehicle in India and therefore innovation in terms of battery or other parts can help reduce cost and thus increase adoption due to increased affordability; better financing can be another alternative
- **Bundle the cars with innovative features** such as phone sensing unlock through a digital key, voice control, geofencing alert and tamper alert to customers paying a premium for the car

Provide full ecosystem



- Companies are now going beyond manufacturing and distribution, and **selling directly to** consumers, setting up charging infrastructure and providing financing option for customer
- The full-stack approach will be a big part of getting enough EVs on Indian roads to reach a critical mass. However, OEMs might start to specialise by giving the business of charging to a separate company in partnership with other strategic partners to establish charging infrastructure.

Total cost of ownership



- Sales executive must **pitch electric car buyers with the concept of Total ownership cost** which is not the same as traditional IC vehicles. **Total cost of ownership (TCO)** includes purchase price, fuel/charging, and maintenance costs after resale value which must be communicated to customer
- A TCO comparison four-wheeler EVs with traditional IC vehicle shows that it is 50% cheaper over their lifetimes and this must be communicated well to the customers
- A lower premium for EV four-wheelers will improve the TCO

Thank you!