# **Software Vendors**

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COSS B03

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### Agenda

- 1. Products and vendors
- 2. Projects vs. product firms
- 3. Business functions
- 4. Core business processes
- 5. The income statement
- 6. Vendor life-cycle
- 7. Example business models

# 1. Products and Vendors

#### The Main Types of Industry Players (Recap)

- Standard product providers
  - (Independent) software vendors (ISVs)
    - Produce software products ("standard software" or "commercial off-the-shelf software")
  - Software service providers (e.g. "Internet companies")
    - Operate any form of software (and hardware)
- Software consulting firms
  - Development services firms
    - Produce custom software
  - Implementation services firms
    - Configure software products for use by customers
- Regulatory bodies
  - Regulate the industry

#### Core, Basic, and Whole Product (Recap)

- Core product =
  - Core software + additional functions
  - Complementary artifacts
  - Self-help services
- Basic product = core product +
  - Fitness for use / certification
  - Indemnification
  - Support services
- Whole product = basic product +
  - Training
  - Consulting
  - Operations

# 2. Product vs. Project Firms

### **Enterprise Software Products and Projects**

Software Vendor

**Product** 

Consulting Firm

**Project** 







High performance. Delivered.



Widget Corp. BI Impl. 2008





















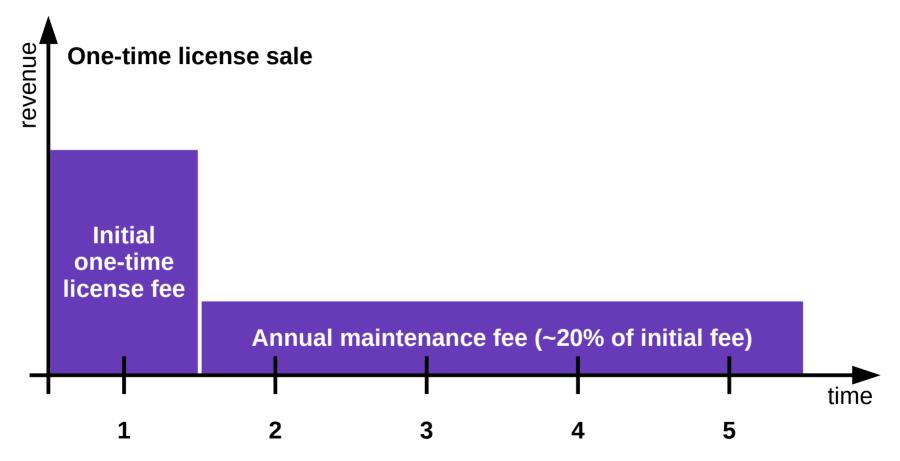
Continental Stages 2010



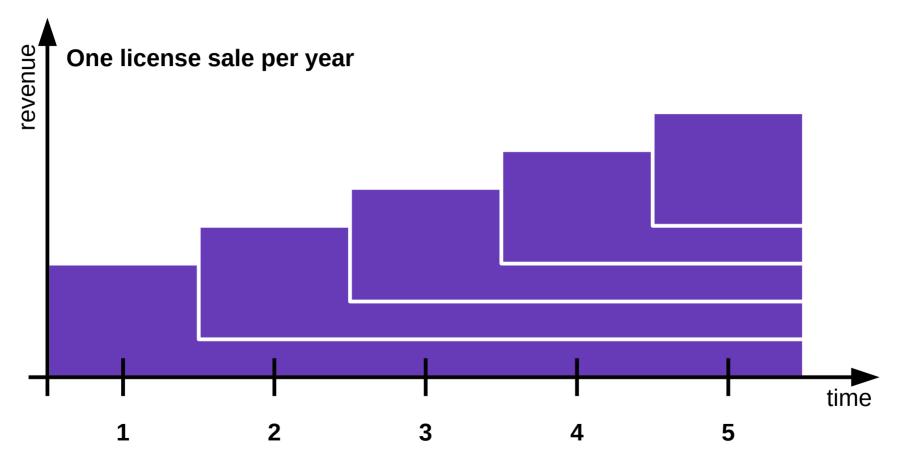




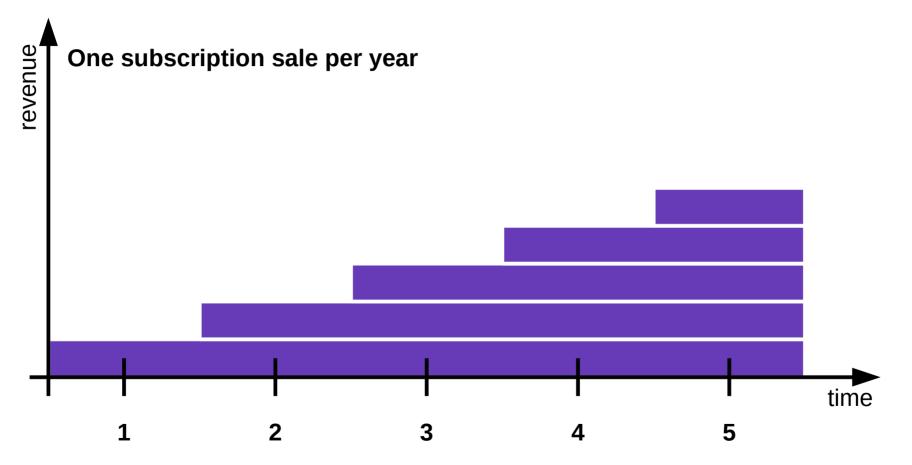
#### **Software Product Revenue**



### Accumulating Traditional Software Product Revenue



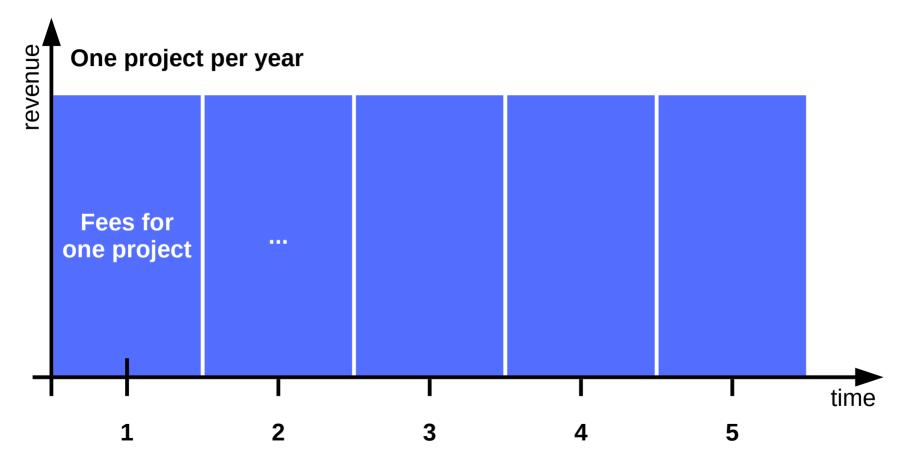
#### **Accumulating Software Subscription Revenue**



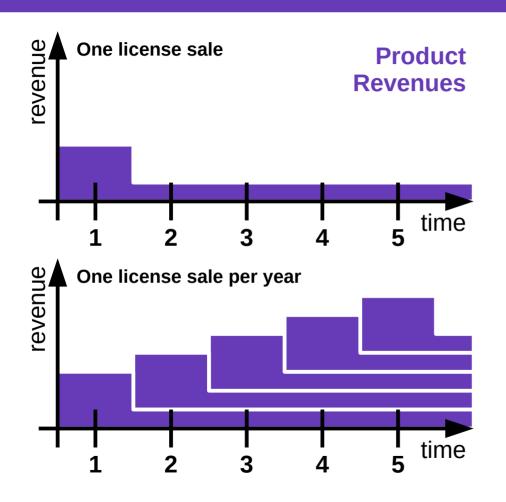
#### **Software Projects**

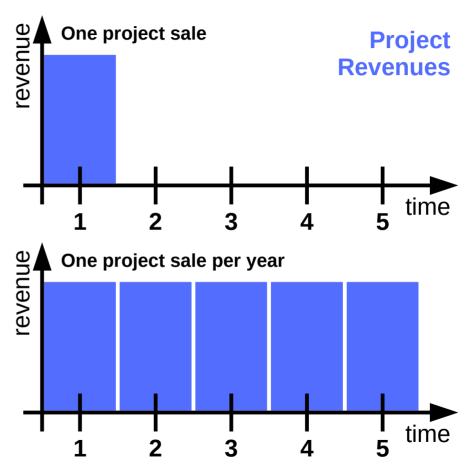
- A project is an undertaking that
  - Has a process with a defined start and a defined end
- A software project is a project where
  - Revenues correlate with performed labor
    - Fixed price vs. actual labor
  - Accounted for as revenue and expenses
- Some examples projects
  - Bachelor and Master theses
  - Customizing SAP for a customer

### **Software Project Revenue**



#### Software Product vs. Project Revenue





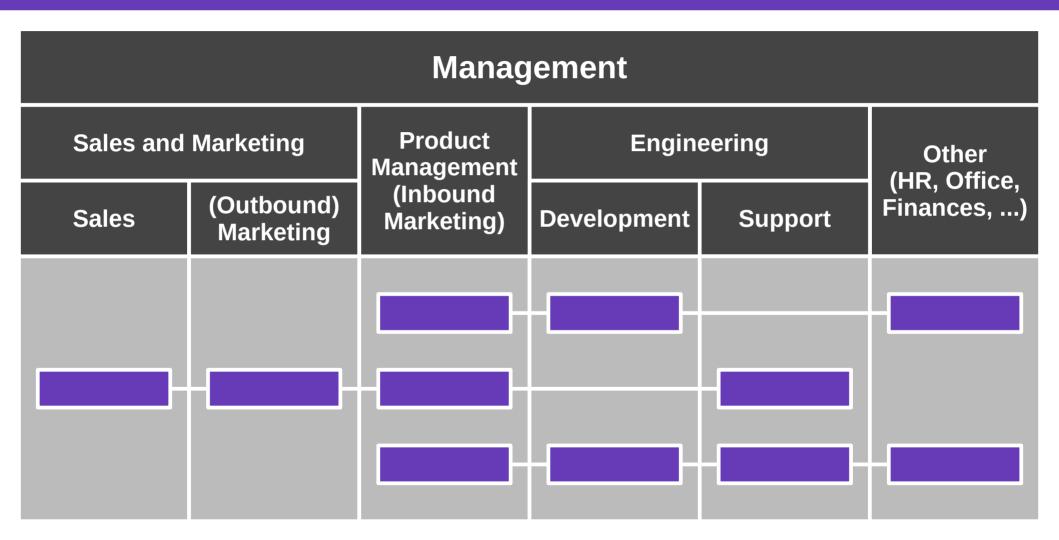
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### Software Product vs. Project Firms

#### Software vendor **Consulting firm** Stable revenue Not capital intensive Can be started easily High multiples **Advantages** Hard to get started Somewhat fragile revenue Requires investment Less long-term stability **Disadvantages** May be slow to react High business volatility Most fail, few survive Limited scalability

# 3. Business Functions

### **Organizational Hierarchy**



#### **Profit Center vs. Cost Center**

- Profit center
  - Generates revenue ("makes money")
  - Reason why company exists
- Cost center
  - Costs money
  - Hygiene factor

#### Product Management (Business Functions 1 / 5)

- Roles / titles
  - Strategic product manager
  - Technical product manager (e.g. Scrum product owner)
- Responsibilities
  - Identify and justify new business opportunities
  - Define product vision, roadmap, features

#### **Development (Business Functions 2 / 5)**

- Roles / titles
  - Developer
  - Software architect [1]
  - Engineering manager
- Responsibilities
  - Design, implement, and evolve product
    - May also operate product
  - Provide third-level support

#### **Support (Business Functions 3 / 5)**

- Roles / titles
  - Support engineer
  - Support manager
- Responsibilities
  - Respond to support requests

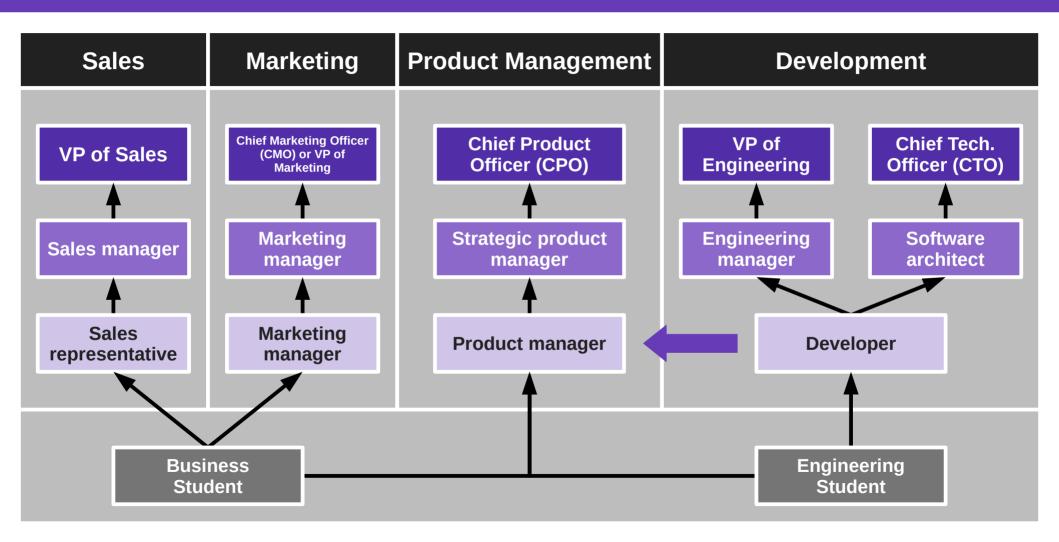
#### Marketing (Business Functions 4 / 5)

- Roles / titles
  - (Marketeer)
  - Marketing manager
- Responsibilities
  - · Generate leads, qualify them
  - Make product known (campaigns, webinars, etc.)

#### Sales (Business Functions 5 / 5)

- Roles / titles
  - Sales person / representative
  - Sales manager
  - Account manager
- Responsibilities
  - Turn leads into customers

#### **Titles and Careers in a Software Company**

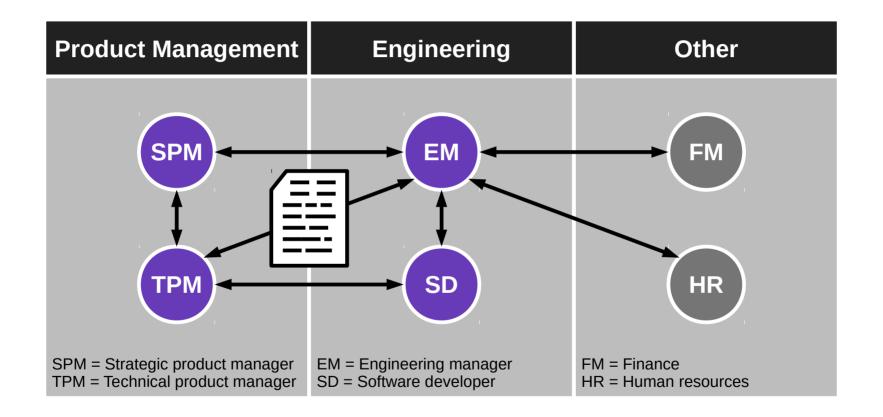


## 4. Core Business Processes

#### **Core Business Processes**

- 1. Product development
- 2. Customer acquisition
- 3. Product operations
- 4. Product support

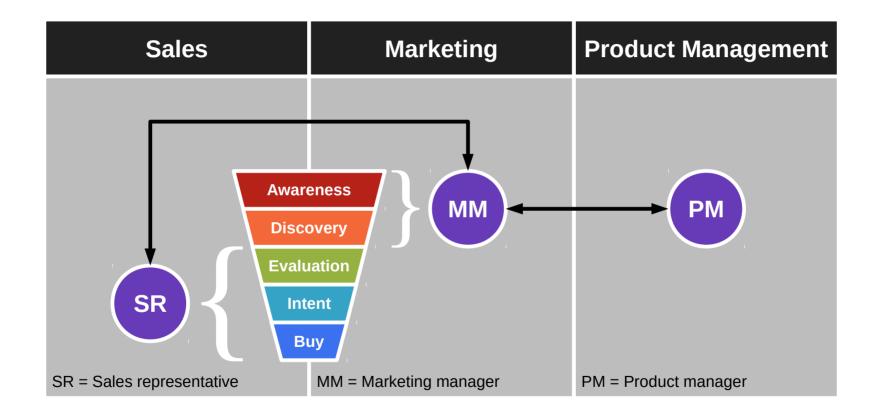
#### **Product Development (Business Processes 1 / 4)**



#### **Problems and Solutions to Product Development**

- Technical product managers are nowhere to be found
  - The engineering manager usually takes this role
- The IT department gets stuck to product development
  - Just say no (you can't be both a cost and a profit center)

#### **Customer Acquisition (Business Processes 2 / 4)**



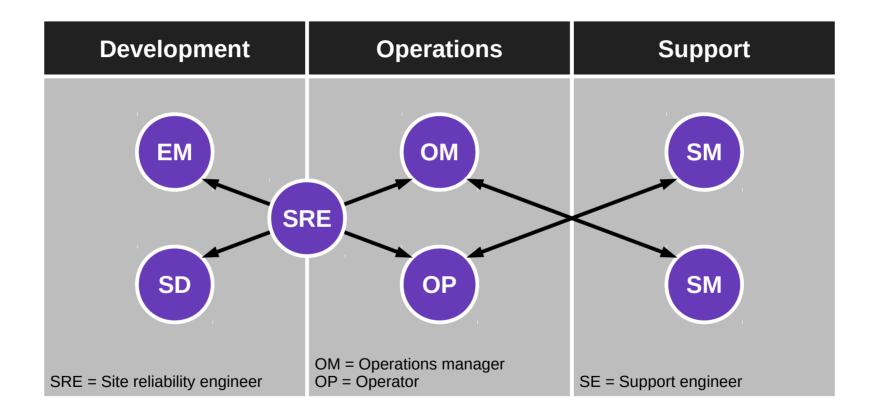
#### **The Sales Funnel**



#### **Problems and Solutions to Customer Acquisition**

- Marketing people don't generate leads
  - Strategic product manager reviews segments and channels
- Sales people don't understand the new product
  - Explain better, provide stronger incentives, split org. unit
- Sales people keep selling the old product
  - Change incentives, split org. unit

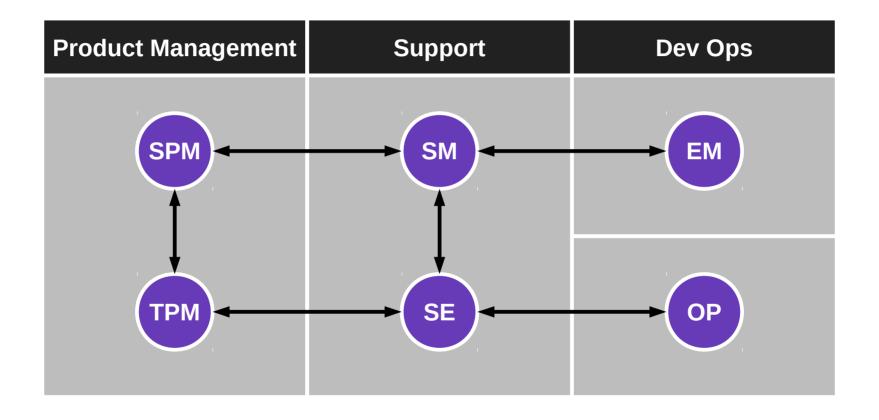
#### **Product Operations (Business Processes 3 / 4)**



#### **Problems and Solutions to Product Operations**

- Your service simply does not meet reliability requirements
  - In engineering, hire differently
    - Hire for cloud computing skill set
    - Hire for site reliability engineering skill set

#### **Product Support (Business Processes 4 / 4)**



# **5. The Income Statement**

#### The Three Statements of Financial Accounting

- Balance sheet
  - A summary (annual) statement of assets, liabilities, and equity
- Income statement
  - A summary (annual) statement of revenues and expenses
- Cash-flow statement
  - A summary (annual) of flow of cash (and cash equivalents)

#### **The Income Statement**

- Basic vocabulary
  - Revenues = income
  - Expenses = costs
  - Profit = revenues expenses
  - Loss = negative profits

Revenues	\$1.657	100%
Subscription and Support	\$1.551	94%
Professional Services etc.	\$106	6%
Cost of Revenues	\$324	20%
Subscription and Support	\$208	13%
Professional Services etc.	\$116	7%
Gross Profit (and Gross Margin)	\$1.333	80%
Operating Expenses		
Research and Development	\$188	11%
Sales and Marketing	\$792	48%
Sales and Marketing	•	
General and Administrative	\$256	15%
		15% 74%
General and Administrative	\$256	

2011 (\$m)

**Percentage** 

Source: Michael A. Cusumano. Reflecting on the Facebook IPO. CACM 10, 2012.

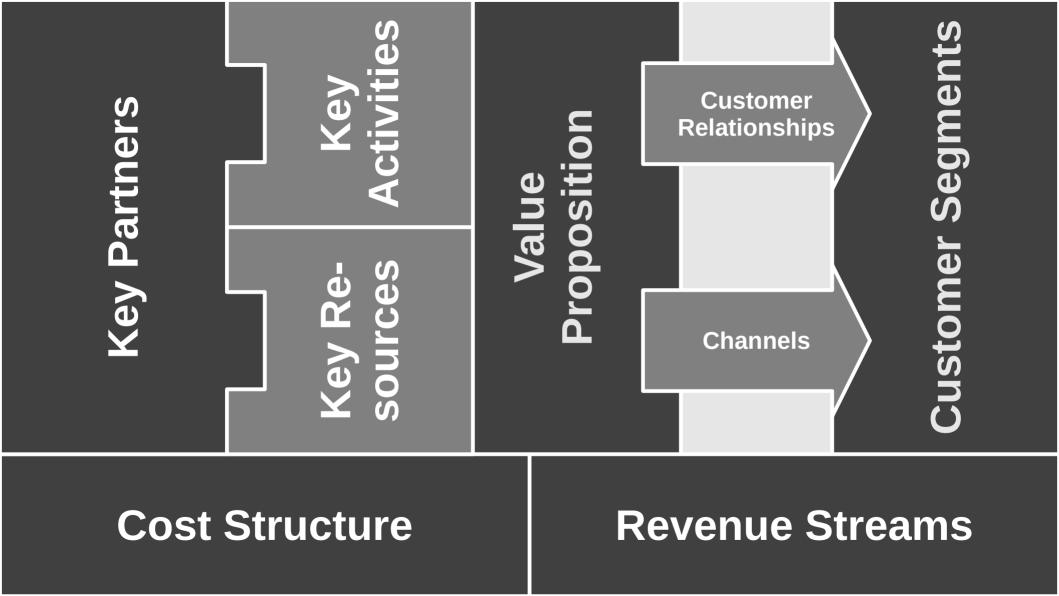
# 6. Vendor Life-Cycle

ewinr	n-und-Verlust-Rechnung	Q1/2013	Q2/2	013	Q3/2013	Q4/2013	Q1/2014	Q2/2014	Q3/2014	Q4/2014	Geschäftsjahr 2013		Geschäftsjahr 2015
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	Dienstleistungen		0 €	300 €			1.500 €	0 €					3.600
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# 7. Example Business Models

#### **Business Model**

- A business model
  - Is a summary description (model) of how a business' elements and their relationships interact to help the business achieve its strategic goals
  - Example elements are products, partners, people, positions, etc. and example relationships are the processes that govern their interaction



#### **Summary**

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# Thank you! Questions?

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