Case study: Moving to agile at scale across International Marketing

Situation

- A global parcel logistics leader was losing share in its core International markets because it was not able to quickly develop new products and invest to keep up with demand in ecommerce and other new industries (e.g., ecommerce a core priority for 5+ years but very limited progress)
- The innovation and product development processes were slow and the organizational structure reduced the flexibility to invest in the major priorities

Approach

Enacted the largest change to marketing in 40 years:

- Created dedicated marketing areas around core International priorities: New Themes with dedicated VP and resourcing to cut across traditional regions and functions to develop and launch breakthrough products
- Moved to agile way of working across all International marketers: Squads and chapters in International and around the world for product development, campaigning and pricing
- Built capability centres in new areas, accessible throughout the world: Digital, data/analytics and innovation hubs with world-class talent staffed to all regions
- Implemented new commercial strategy process to invest behind priorities: Rigorous commercial strategy process to identify and invest behind major commercial priorities across International
- Created new innovation and product development lanes to speed up local and regional innovation: Clear lanes for local and regional innovations to speed up launch, reduce overgovernance and enable better partnerships with third parties

Impact

- Significant new investments in cross-cutting priority areas – real resources behind priority areas with dedicated VP
- New-world capability pilots machine learning approach to targeting customers for cross-sell, and digital journey design
- Faster and more local product development – significantly increased capacity for on-demand always-on content marketing for social and digital marketing
- More empowered local marketers

 faster decision making, closer to customers (while maintaining brand standards)