





Customer Loyalty -A Key to Business Sustainability

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History of Loyalty Programs or Do You Remember When?



- Trading Stamps & Carlson Marketing
 - Started in 1896, 1950's 2 out of 3 American families collected some form of trading stamps
- The Rise of Frequent Flyer & "Stayer" Programs
 - 1981 by American Airlines, Marriott started its Honored Guest program in 1983
- Supermarket Loyalty Programs
 - Shaws 1995 Merchandise Credit Rewards and others
- Branded Credit Cards
 - Points for purchases redeemable for most anything

These programs were focused on the more you spend, the greater your reward. However, That's not enough in today's economy!



The Importance of Customer Loyalty today



•Acquisition costs for a new customer are 5-8 time more than keeping an existing customer – how many times do you have touch a prospect before they become a customer?

•Loyal customers can:

- Generate an upward value spiral through increased profits
- Help you have more predictable cash flow when as they buy regularly
- Reduce servicing costs
- Provide you with a competitive advantage
- Provide more referrals for your business
- Forgive you for ⁽²⁾mistakes **not too many times though** ⁽²⁾!
- Loyal Customers establish a relationship with you and your employees





Customer Loyalty Two Perspectives



 Interaction of the People in your organization with customers



 Organizational environment required to foster and sustain customer loyalty







Creating Customer Loyalty "Establishing Trust"





Establishing trust with every customer at every point of connection

Action Steps

- Customer interests ahead of yours
- Be yourself
- Figure out who the customer is
- Give customer undivided attention
- Knowledgeable and honest of products and services
- Only promise what you can deliver
- Don't put off dealing with an upset customer
- "Customers won't know how good your organization is until you make a mistake" – Unknown



Creating Customer Loyalty "Creating an Emotional Tie"





Creating an emotional tie with your Customer at every Point of Connection

Action Steps

- Read the customer emotions
- Know and manage your own emotions to achieve and maintain a positive customer experience
- Recognizing emotions of others for team collaboration
- Influencing relationships
- Conflict Management "The more arguments you win, the fewer friends you'll have." – Anonymous
- Remember Most Buying Decisions are based on emotion rather than need



Creating Customer Loyalty "Using Empathy"





Strengthen Customer Relationships through Empathy

Action Steps

- Develop a self-awareness
- Need to understand the two types of empathy
 - "Affective empathy" responding to others' emotions
 - "Cognitive empathy, / perspective taking," ability to identify and understand other peoples' emotions
- Understand the linkage between your feelings and what you think, do and say



Customer Loyalty "Achieving It In Your Organization"



Measuring Customer Loyalty

- Customer Acquisition and Retention
- Customer Activity (\$ Spent, Types of Purchases, Frequency)
- Follow-up on "Lost Customers"
- Willingness of Customers to refer friends / associates /etc.
- Good relationships are founded on listening
- CRM, Customer Relationship Management Systems, can provide in depth analytical tools



Customer Loyalty Understanding Customer Satisfaction



<u>Measuring Customer Satisfaction – Net Promoter Score (NPS)</u>

- Net Promoter Scoring Answering the question of:
 - On a Scale of 0 to 10
 - "How likely is it that you would recommend our company/product/service to a friend or colleague?"

• Types of customer Responses

- Promoters (loyal enthusiasts) Score of 9 or 10
- Passives Scores of 7 and 8
- Detractors (Unhappy Customers) Score of 0 to 6

• NPS is calculated by:

 subtracting the percentage of customers who are Detractors from the percentage of customers who are Promoters. A positive NPS is considered good while a score of +50 is excellent.



Customer Loyalty Organizational



Organizational environment required to foster and sustain customer loyalty



Leaders know where the business is going and how to get there *Wayne Gretsky* – *"I skate to where the puck is going to be"*

Company culture for **empowering employees**



Customer Loyalty Summary



Customer Loyalty is driven by:

People

- Empowered and committed staff who have direct customer contact (relationship building)
- Consistent two-way communication with customer
- Effective and Responsive Customer Conflict Resolution

Products and Services

- Viable products and services delivered consistently
- Customer recognition of Value / Pricing

Organizational Strategy & Alignment

- Supporting Organizational Culture and Values
- Effective and supporting Leadership through strategy, vision policies and systems
- Supporting Metrics

Listening, Listening, Listening, Listening......





Customer Loyalty – Closing Thoughts



Do You Know/Understand How Loyal Your Customers Are?

If Not.....

What are you going to do about it?



Listen to Customer Loyalty Schemes on the "Making Headway" show with John King and Jeri Quinn on the URBusiness Network. http://urbusinessnetwork.com/customer-loyalty-schemes/