



### **International Sales Process**

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## Dr. Saara Julkunen,

#### Associate Professor in International Sales, Head of Business School

#### **Education:**

**Doctor of science** (Econ. & Bus. Adm.). The University of Eastern Finland. Major subject: Management in small and medium size companies. (2010).

Master degrees of Social Sciences. The University of Kuopio. Major subject: Entrepreneurship and management. (1999).

Certification of qualified teacher status. JAMK University of Applied Sciences Teacher Education College, Finland. (2012).

Kindergarten teacher, Kindergarten teacher college of Helsinki. Degree conferred: (1990).

#### Work experience:

Deputy Head of Business School at the University of Eastern Finland (since 2012).

University Researcher (tenure track, since 2014).

**Head of the VIBE / EU-program** (Finnish partner) "New Vision on International and Business –related Education" (2014-2017).

Sales Trainer (since 2011)

Head of the Academic Board, (2013-2014). MBA program, University of Eastern Finland.

University Lecturer (since 2010). Undergraduate, graduate and doctoral levels. Entrepreneur/Partner (Head of the Board). Real Estate (2010-2015). Hypermarket retailer (1996-2008).

Kindergarten Teacher and Second Head of the Kindergarden (1990-1996)



### Dr. Saara Julkunen,

#### **Associate Professor in International Sales, Head of Business School**

#### Research e.g. on

- Buyer & seller relationships in B2B sales
  -> relationship processes, relationship development
- Culture & consumer-seller interaction in B2C sales
- Salesforce motivation
- Sales Training and Education
- International New Ventures
- Interorganizational Collaboration
- Publications e.g. in Industrial Marketing Management, Simulation & Gaming, Cogent Business and Management, Journal of Relationship Marketing



## Sales approaches

### **B2C** = Business to consumer markets

- *Consumer* purchases products and services for his/her own needs
- Purchasing motives are personal

### **B2B** = Business to business markets

- •Company (*Customer*) purchases products and/or services from another company
- -> DMUs professional buyers
- •Processes of buying and selling, role of decision making







## Differences between sales and marketing -Discussion



- Sales role in companies?
  - Sales role in marketing or marketing role in sales?

Sales role in university?





Sales and Profit success

Prospecting

Implementing sales and marketing strategies

Salesperson's responsibilities

Database and knowledge management

Self management

Providing service

Relationship management

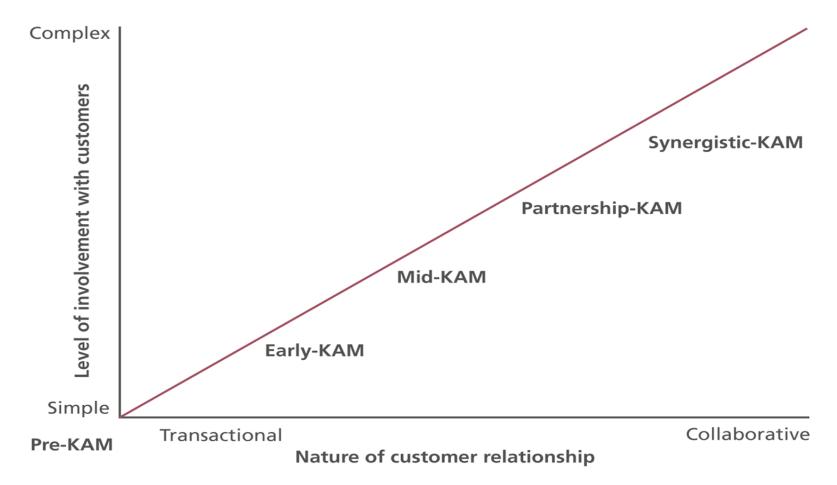
Handling complaints

### How to meet a customer in sales?

How to build a relationship in sales



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Key account relational development model (Millman & Wilson, 1995)

Successful selling is associated with...

- Asking questions,
- Providing product information, making comparisons, opperinf evidence to support claims,
- Acknowledging the customer's viewpoint,
- Agreeing with the customer's perceptions,
- Supporting the customer,
- Releasing tension,
- Having a richer, more detailed knowledge on customers,
- Increasing effort, and
- Confidence in one's own ability.

(see Jobber & Lancaster 2009, 249)



# Sales Process



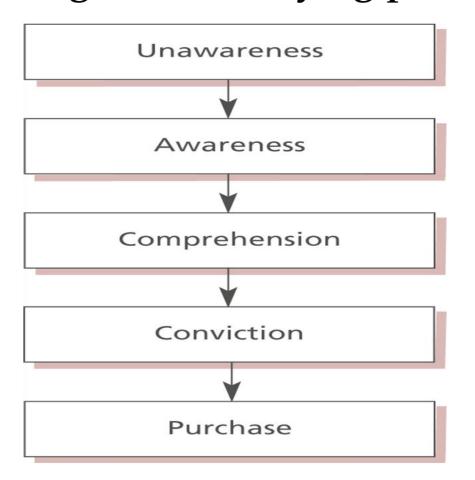
Sales Planning

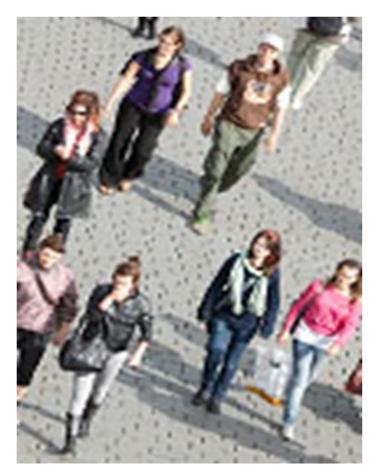
Collaboration



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## Stages in the buying process (Jobber & Lancaster 2009, 66)





# Adaptive selling

- "The practice of adaptive selling is defined as the altering of sales behaviors during a customer interaction or across customer interactions based on perceived information about the nature of the selling situation" (Weitz, Sujan, and Sujan 1986).
- Adaptive selling behaviors should improve the performance of salespeople, since each customer interaction represents a unique selling situation requiring the salesperson to adapt his/her sales message to the customer. (Weitz, 1981).



## Groups

•Small groups (3-4 persons in a group).

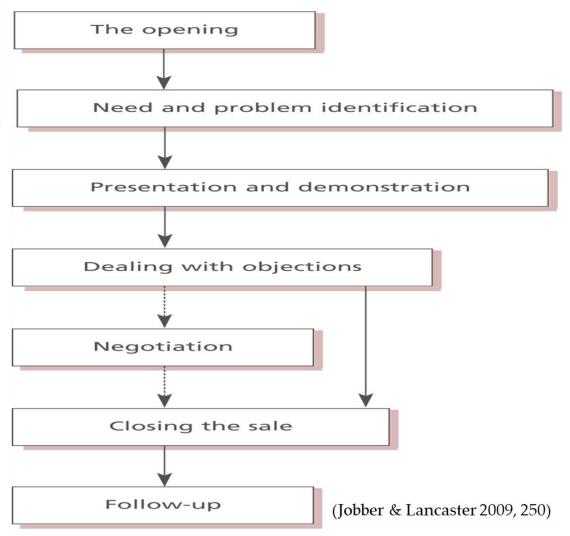
- Get familiar with two different sales processes described in handout.
- Compare these sales processes in a group.

• Build the sales process based on your own perspective What elements are typical for B2C or B2B sales processes?

Sales process



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# **Opening**

- Take contact
- Create trust
- Create good first impression and feeling
- Never sell anything

-> First impression



# Need and problem identification

- Information part
  - Focus on customer's problems and needs
  - Write notes
- Listen
- Discuss; ask, agree and answer
- Types of questions
- Strengthen trust and good feeling with the customer
- Remember a background work!



## Presentation and demonstration

- Based on the information on a customer's needs
- Strengthen trust and good feeling with the customer
- Be clear
- Practice and practice before presentation
- The level of purchase intention!
  - Use references
  - Demonstrate, selling points!



### Presentation and demonstration skills

- Adapt your presentation style to a customer's needs. Avoid delivering the same "canned" presentation to all customers.
- Demonstrate only the products based on customer's needs and interests.
- Discuss with the customers and ask questions.
- Explain the benefits of the product from various viewpoints.
  - ...which means that...
  - ...which enables you to...

# **Argumentation skills**

#### • Logic

- Sellers need reasoned arguments.
- Facts: research findings etc.
- Explaining causes and effects (consequenses)
- Experiences

#### Emotion

- Focus on customer's needs, wishes, values, and beliefs
- Try to predict customer's objections.

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# Negotiation

- Price
  - Your limitations, customer's limitations
- Timing
- Payment method
- Advice/support service
- Supplementary products and services
- Strengthen the customer satisfaction



# Closing the sale

- Main goal is to take a moment!
  - Right timing, notice level of buyer's purchase intention
- Better presentation, dealing with objections, and negotiations shorter closing
- You have nothing before closing
- Types of closing the sale



# Follow-up

- Contacts with customer after the selling
  - Feedback on your selling
  - Advice service, education service
  - Season greetings
- Take care of customers' satisfaction (Main goal)
  - Possibly to take more sale later



# Self management in Sales

- How do you manage yourself?
  - Timetable
  - Whole process of selling
  - Key account manage
  - Task manage
  - Keep in planning
  - Skills for deciding
  - Feedback understanding
  - Profit understanding
  - Re-evaluating and controlling



### References

#### **Books:**

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