

# Beginning and Maintaining a Customer-Centric B2B Culture

Lori Laflin and Chris Paddock



# Lori Laflin



## Digital CX



- Lori draws on over 25 years of work in the opinion research and customer experience arenas, holds a master's degree from the University of Minnesota and certifications from the CXPA and Insights Association.
- Throughout her career, she has worked with organizations large and small to help them understand their customers, consumers, and other stakeholders





# Chris Paddock



## Director of User Experience Cherwell Software

## cherwell®

- Director of Cherwell's inaugural User Experience team
- Over 20 years of experience in user experience and digital strategy
- Designed applications, websites, and tools for startups, not-for-profits, and Fortune 500 companies
- Built teams and led projects for Bank of America, Fidelity Investments, Sallie Mae, and Virgin Pulse

# cherwell

- Founded in 2004
- Privately Held
- Headquartered in Colorado Springs, CO
- Global Operations in US, EMEA, and APAC

### • Mission: Make Work Flow Transforming the way you work, allowing you to automate, monitor, and measure across your business.

# Cherwell Service Management (CSM)

- IT Services Platform
  - IT service management
  - HR service management
  - Facilities management
  - More . . .
- Low-to-no code development
- Workflow automation
- Mergeable applications

#### cherwell

## Agenda

Beginning and Maintaining a Customer-Centric B2B Culture



- Part 1: CX Challenges for B2B Orgs
- Part 2: Leadership Buy-In
- Part 3: Customer Journey Maps
- Part 4: Taking Action

PART 1

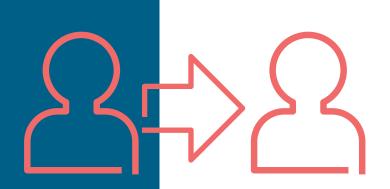
## CX Challenges for B2B Organizations

cherwell®

Chris Paddock

## The B2B Model

- One person selling to one person, or small group
- Decision-maker is often not an end-user
- Business needs are over-prioritized
- Future and current business can rely on primary business contact
- End-users do not have a voice in the process

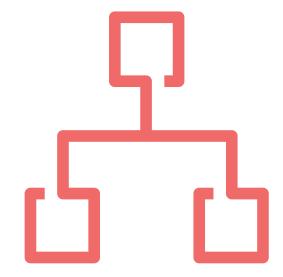


## The Challenge

## B2B model does not value the end-to-end customer experience

- Over-privileges prospecting, sales
- Focused on decision-maker, small group of influencers
- Less-sophisticated approach to loyalty, retention
- Non-existent or unempowered CX resources

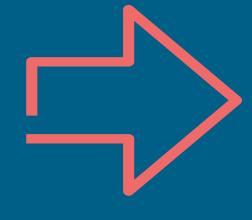
## Still: Product/service satisfaction will be driven by the end-user



## Case Study: Cherwell

- Cherwell has uncommon access to our customers
  - User groups
  - o Support
  - Professional services
  - Product
  - Engineering

But most of these customers manage our product, they do not use it



#### New Focus on End User

- Recalibrated product backlog
- Leveraging in-house SMEs as user proxies
- "Flattered" by competitors
- Analyst community is noticing

## The Opportunity

#### Shift focus from your org to your customer

- Don't forget about the end user
- Build trust by becoming expert on your end user
- Identify executive influencers, focus on cost savings (or potentially lost)
- Demonstrate the cost of a poor end-user experience
  - o Development churn
  - o More training, documentation
  - High support volume
- Competitive advantage
  - o CX not valued among competitors
  - o Fodder for sales, marketing



PART 2

## Getting Leadership Buy-In



Lori Laflin

Customer Experience (CX)Understanding what customers value,delivering on that better than anyone elseand getting paid for it.

## **Customer Focus Should be Win-Win**



Based on the Thomas-Kilmann Conflict Modes Model

"Profit in business comes from repeat customers; customers that boast about your product and service, and that bring friends with them."

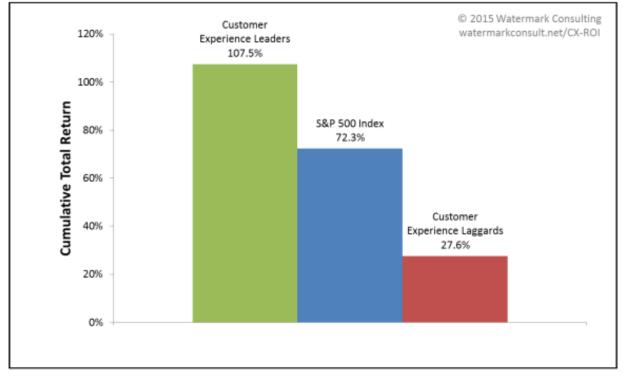


**W. Edwards Deming** 



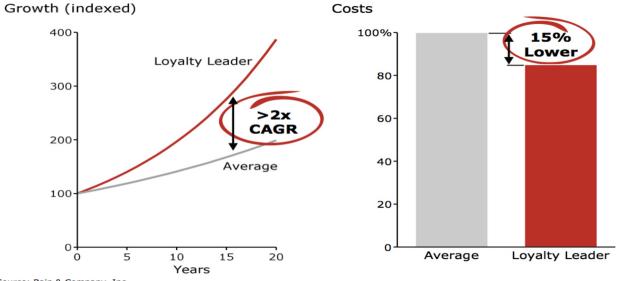
### **Customer Experience Leaders Outperform the Market**

8-Year Stock Performance of Customer Experience Leaders vs. Laggards vs. S&P 500 (2007-2014)



Watermark defines Customer Experience Leaders and Laggards as the top ten and bottom ten rated public companies in Forrester Research's 2007-2015 Customer Experience Index studies. Comparison is based on performance of equally-weighted, annually readjusted stack partfalios of Customer Experience Leaders and Laggards relative to the S&P 500 Index.

## **B2B Loyalty Leaders** tend to grow 4 to 8 percentage points above their market's annual growth



2014 Source: Bain & Company, Inc.



Customers with stronger relationships are 5 times more likely to buy additional products and services

Kantar TNS



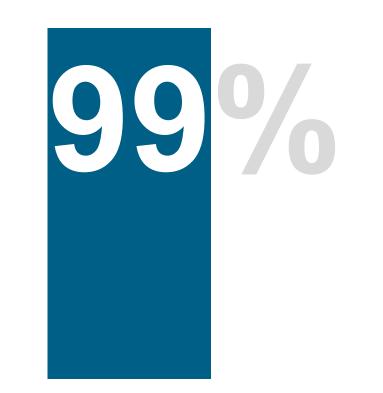
A customer who is fully engaged represents an average 23% premium in terms of share of wallet, profitability, revenue, and relationship growth compared with the average customer

Gallup



40% of loyal customers said they were willing to pay 10% or more to continue buying from companies that delivered great experiences

Strativity



I was getting a whole lot of roadblocks, not a lot of options:

I want to hear, "Okay, I understand what you want, here are 5 ways to solve your problem," rather than, "It's a 90 day lead time; it's a 90 day lead time; it's a 90 day lead time."





gill, Incorporated. All rights reserved.

# B2B Journey Maps

# cherwell®

Chris Paddock

## Customer Journey Maps

#### Critical for CX success (according to you)

- 80% feel a journey-based approach is critical for improving customer sat, retention, brand perception, and CLV
- 53% feel lack of understanding a journeybased approach is their greatest CX blocker

\* Pointillist: The State of Customer Journey Management and CX Measurement

Survey of over 700 CX, marketing, and analytics professionals

Percentage of Respondents That Agree or Strongly Agree That a Journey-Based Approach Has a Positive Impact on the Following:

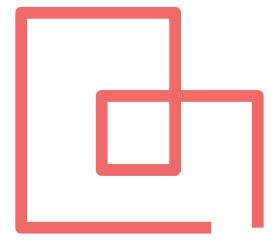


# Why Journey Maps?

#### **Benefits:**

- Wholistic view of your customer
- Identify pain points and opportunities
- Manage consistency and satisfaction
- Increase revenue, loyalty
- Put focus on your customer, not your business

But who takes the journey in a B2B organization?



## **B2B** Challenges

- It starts with personas, but who?
  - Relationship manager?
  - Procurement manager?
  - Project manager?
  - o Business owner?
- Cross-functional goals compete with customer goals
- Internal goals compete with internal goals:
  - o Sales
  - o Marketing
  - o Product
  - o Support
- Customer Experience





"What's important to remember is that **customer journeys aren't created; they're discovered**. When we try to create journeys, we fall into one of these two traps: we either hallucinate customer needs or throw away the customer experience playbook altogether and focus on the needs we know intimately: our own.

Jake Sorofman, formerly of Gartner Research

cherwell

## **Best Practices**

### Marriage of customer and business goals

- Detailed persona(s) of customer
  - Separate journey for the end-user?
- Create their entire journey, not just where you want to make money
- Where are customers interacting with you?
  - Analytics/Usage, CRM, VOC, Search Logs, Billing, Point of Sale
- Build trust with stakeholders to create buy-in . . .
  - $\circ\ \ldots$  and measure their KPIs
- Leverage SMEs for expertise (Support, UX, etc)



PART 4

## Taking Action on Your CX Plan



Lori Laflin

## Develop Plans

- Make the research come alive (real people, real stories)
- Specific task
- Permission for big thinking
- Constraints breed creativity: time
- Positive framing
- Thinking differently
- Right-sized cross-functional teams
- Push



I am a positive, creative person and promise never to say "we already tried that" or "that will never work here"

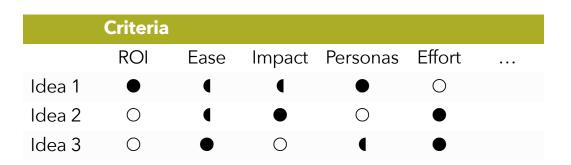
# You have your ideas...now what?

- Select
- Perfect
- Effect



## Select

Impact	High impact Low effort Embrace	High impact High effort Explore
	Low impact Low effort Review	Low impact High effort Ignore
Effort		



Just plain voting also works



## Perfect

What are you really proposing?

What are the must haves?

Details: timing, resources, KPIs



## **Effect** Get leadership buy-in with ROI

- Retention
- Loyalty
- Share of wallet
- Word of mouth
- Productivity
- Lower turnover

"If we can increase just x%..."

