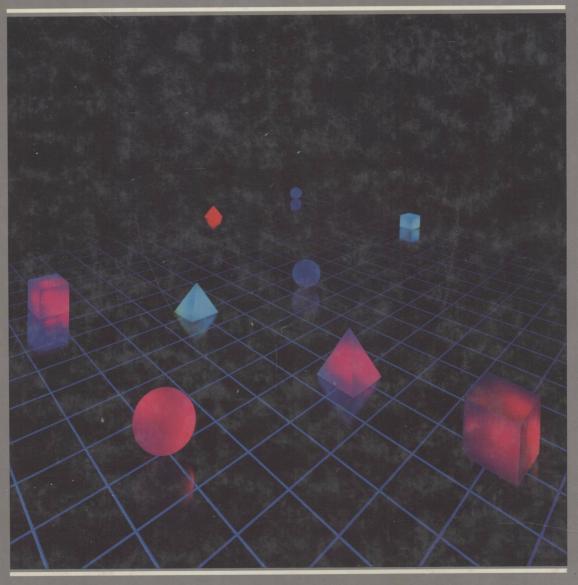
# STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

Analysis and Action



Kenneth J. Hatten/Mary Louise Hatten

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# STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT Analysis and Action

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#### To Meredith, Sydney, and Toby

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# **Preface**

A Preface normally tells readers how to use the book and what they will learn from reading it. We will depart from this tradition and begin by telling you what we have learned while writing the book.

Of course, we've learned that writing a strategy text is a formidable undertaking—the valuable research of this field has rarely been cataloged and then mostly on a piecemeal basis. We've learned that linking the traditions of the field with its modern literature is complex and difficult, because the modern research tradition is science-based whereas the field itself is anchored strongly in general management practice. We've learned that there are substantial gaps in the current research thrusts of the field: Certain topics are amenable to statistical research, while others are by their nature more qualitative. It is the former that are receiving attention in the literature, while the others may indeed be more valuable to management practice.

We have attempted to communicate what the field knows about strategy formulation and implementation. Of necessity, the book separates the two activities, although we know that managers have to engage in both virtually simultaneously.

One objective of this book is to present an integrated perspective of the field, drawing upon our personal experiences of policy research, the different research traditions at Purdue and Harvard as well as the social-issue thrusts of research at Boston University and Boston College and the administrative perspective of Simmons College. Unifying these different perspectives is a common administrative point of view that is critical to effective management. It is the administrative point of view that makes the combination of text and cases so powerful in the classroom.

Strategic management is a pragmatic field, influenced by practice and the administrative point of view as well as science. Ultimately founded in judgment, it is enriched by many academic contributions and conceptual frameworks.

Strategic management has more to do with structuring problems as opportunities to create value than with problem-solving *per se*. It is about what is feasible more than it is about what is right, because it is a field where results matter more than initial decisions—where making things work is more important than knowing you are right.

Strategic management is about analysis and action, and in practice the two are inseparable. Of course, you cannot learn analysis and action by reading about it—you must practice. To help you, we have selected cases that illustrate a broad range of strategic management issues in a wide variety of settings, such as small businesses, large corpora-

tions, manufacturing and service firms, and not-for-profit organizations. In all these situations, strategic management can be used to improve organizational performance.

As you will see, strategic management encompasses many concepts. Each case is an opportunity to develop your experience in the use of these concepts. Learning which ones are most productive for you in a particular situation requires familiarity with a wide range of approaches. Each person may find different concepts more helpful. Each concept is like the side of a many-faceted prism—a tool that lets each of us see something new about a particular situation. But remember, ours is only one view of reality; we must learn to use the analytical tools to sharpen our initial view of a situation and learn to use discussion to benefit from the views of others.

We hope that this book will enrich readers whose experience is at various stages of development. For those new to strategic thinking, it offers structures, including functional analysis, industry analysis, and competitive analysis to facilitate strategy identification, evaluation, and improvement. For academics and executives familiar with strategic management, it offers our interpretation of the strategic management literature. Rather than being encyclopedic, we have been selective and stressed contributions to the field that are fundamental and most relevant in the classroom and current management practice. We believe that the analytical structures provide a powerful framework for corporate and industry analysis and, therefore, a foundation for successful strategy formulation and implementation in the organization. We believe that strategic management literacy is an important aid to successful professional education and self-development.

Ultimately, our most important objective for this book is to help you help yourself develop the skills to select from the various concepts and experiences of this book, your education, and life, those that will work best for you in particular situations. As you accumulate experience in using these resources, you will probably, increasingly and selectively, abbreviate analytical processes in the interests of efficiency. Moreover, we will be surprised if you don't quickly synthesize a strategy on some occasions as you size up a situation and then selectively use analysis to test your strategy before advocating its merits. However, on some occasions, relatively exhaustive fundamental analysis may be needed before you begin to see what to do.

We recommend viewing the book as a "resource in the whole." You may consider skimming the whole text so that you know what is in it and where particular ideas are discussed. Focus on particular ideas that interest you and appear useful in a specific context—perhaps a particular case—while being careful to remember the administrative point of view. In doing so, you will be acting more like senior executives and administrators who generally have to deal with all aspects of their organizations and their environments concurrently, rather than approaching issues in a piecemeal fashion.

The book is built upon our professional and personal backgrounds, and we want to acknowledge the many colleagues who have played critical roles in our professional development. Dan Schendel and Arnold Cooper of the Krannert Graduate School of Management at Purdue University introduced us to strategic management. At Harvard, the former Dean, Lawrence Fouraker, and the current Dean, John McArthur, as well as Frank Aguilar, Norman Berg, Joe Bower, Neil Churchill, John Matthews, Bill Poorvu, Malcolm Salter, Howard Stevenson, Tom Raymond, Hugo Uyterhoeven, and also Mark Teagan and the late Jack Glover have influenced our lives in important and subtle ways. Dan Thomas, Ken Hatten's colleague at Harvard, who later taught at Stanford before

founding his own consulting firm, was particularly helpful in the development of initial teaching plans for some of our cases, both at Harvard and Stanford. The late Bill Glueck of the University of Georgia was influential in attracting our attention to the pedagogical value of some of the cases we've included here.

At Boston University, Deans Henry Morgan and John Russell as well as Ken Hatten's department chairmen, Fred Foulkes and later Ted Murray, provided him with welcome professional assignments that gave us the opportunity to develop the text and the teaching plans that accompany the book. Boston University colleagues Bob Dickie, Liam Fahey, John Mahon, Jim Post, and Jules Schwartz have each contributed insights to the refinement of the text and teaching material. Special thanks are due to Tim Edlund for his careful and constructive comments on the text as well as to the people who reviewed the manuscript for Prentice-Hall. At Boston College, Dean John Neuhauser was remarkably supportive of Mary Louise Hatten's concurrent efforts as department chairwoman and author, and Walter Klein reacted to the social issues discussed in the text. Deans Margaret Hennig and Anne Jardim at Simmons College provided Mary Louise with an hospitable and encouraging environment in which to complete the manuscript. By influencing our thinking and writing, all these people, as well as our students in graduate, undergraduate. and executive classes at Boston University, Simmons, and Boston College, as well as Vanderbilt, Harvard, and Purdue have played a critical role in the development of this material.

Special thanks are due to Audrey Barrett of Harvard's Division of Research for her gracious help in clearing the cases for publication. The word processing staff at Boston College, particularly Joanne Brennan and Tricia Thomas, provided cheerful help with the manuscript.

To conclude, our families deserve our personal thanks for the values they instilled and for the "don't quit" attitude: Books can't be finished if you stop too soon. To our children Meredith, Sydney, and Toby, thanks for being so terrific through the stresses and tribulations that make textbook writing such a memorable experience for all of us. To Pam Wilder, thanks for sounding as if you believed us when we began every conversation with, "We've got to get this thing out of here." It's out!

Kenneth J. Hatten Mary Louise Piccoli Hatten

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# What Is Strategy?

#### **DEFINITIONS AND AN EXAMPLE**

Strategic management is the process by which an organization formulates objectives and is managed to achieve them. Strategy is the means to an organization's ends; it is the way to achieve organizational objectives.

A strategy is a route to a destination; an objective is the destination. Picking a destination is the choice of an objective. Selecting a route represents a decision. Driving along it is the implementation of that decision. Of course, both decision and implementation are necessary if you are to reach your strategic objective.

Strategic management is an artful blending of insightful analysis and learning used by managers to create value from the skills and resources which they control. Let us use a brief example to see how management, with an appreciation of the resources it controls, attempts to find an opportunity to create value and sustain the growth of a company. In 1969, senior management at Philip Morris, a major US cigarette manufacturer, explained to its shareholders:

Inevitably our [Philip Morris's] domestic cigarette business will level off as our market share increases and growth in consumption stabilizes around one to two percent per year. Our cash flow will increase dramatically at that time and we need growth businesses in which to invest this cash flow. . . [However] it's hard to find another business that is as good as this one. . . . Beer probably comes closest to matching our skills with a market opportunity. (Philip Morris, Annual Report, 1970, p. 25)

In May, 1969, Philip Morris purchased 53 percent of Miller Brewing. Twelve months later Philip Morris increased its shareholding to 100 percent of Miller and shortly thereafter management said:

We believe the long-range potential of Miller will be best served by increasing its share of the growing premium beer market rather than by emphasizing short-term profit goals. (Philip Morris, Annual Report, 1970, p. 25)

Strategies and objectives evolve as problems and opportunities are identified, resolved, and exploited. Philip Morris's strategy was to enter the brewing industry by acquisition. This decided, it first tried one route, Canadian Breweries. When a better

opportunity, Miller, presented itself, the first was allowed to die and the second seized. Recognizing the inconsistency of its objectives with the interests of Miller's minority shareholder, the DeRance Foundation (which wanted dividends for the Miller family and the foundations which the family funded), Philip Morris took time to gain complete control and then defined its objectives for Miller: growth before short-term profit.

Miller's management developed a strategy which encompassed a program of massive advertising, product development, and capacity expansion. Miller's image was changed from the "Champagne of Bottled Beers" to "Miller Time" as the reward at the end of a day of hard work. The former champagne of beers was sold in a wider range of packages, bottles, and cans than ever before. Miller Lite, a low-calorie beer similar to those which the Rheingold and Meister Brau companies had introduced unsuccessfully as diet beers for women, was reformulated to taste like Coors and promoted to appeal to the heavier-drinking males. As sales rose, new, larger breweries were built to meet the growing demand.

Strategies and objectives exist and have relevance at all levels of management. At Miller, specific strategies and objectives at the product level were made to fit with higher-level strategies at the brewing business level. Miller's management, in turn, had to develop strategies and objectives which were consistent with Philip Morris's corporate strategies, objectives, and resources. While the overall thrust of Philip Morris's entry into the brewing business was determined at the top, much of the impetus for change at the product level came about because of the actions and insight of specific people, often middle managers.

Other companies' histories can also illustrate the link between objectives and strategy. When Coca Cola bought Taylor Wine, its objective was to own a nationally known vintner. Under Coke's aegis, Taylor's strategy shifted from producing New York State wines with heavy East Coast distribution to include producing nationally distributed California wines with a new brand name, Taylor California Cellars. Polaroid wanted to revolutionize instant photography and establish new patents to protect its business from competitors. To do so, it developed the new SX-70 camera and film and manufactured them itself rather than contract production to Timex and Kodak as it had done previously.

Interlocking objectives and strategies characterize the effective management of organizations; they bind, coordinate, and integrate the parts into a whole. Effective organizations are tied by means-ends chains into a purposeful whole (in our terminology, means refers to strategy, and ends are objectives). Indeed, a high-level manager's strategy to achieve corporate goals can itself provide objectives for lower-level managers. For example, Miller's top management could have seen the introduction of Lite beer as a strategy to boost Miller's market share growth, but it was the task of Lite's product managers to develop the product and the promotional strategy necessary for the success of Lite beer.

#### **KEY STRATEGIC CONCEPTS**

To design successful strategies, there are two key rules:

- 1 Do what you do well.
- 2 Pick competitors you can beat.