

Business Marketing

A Managerial Approach Sixth Edition

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To my Loving and Understanding Family, Janet, Amie, Christopher, Robin, and Timothy

Preface

Back in 1935, the McGraw-Hill Book Company published what may have been the first academic textbook on business and industrial marketing. The text was titled *Marketing Industrial Equipment* and its author, Bernard Lester, focused primarily on what was involved at that time in selling and promoting heavy and light industrial equipment. Today, there are a number of fine textbooks in the area, and their scope of coverage has expanded considerably. No longer does business or industrial marketing imply only production equipment, nor do the terms involve only the selling and promoting function. Business marketing has come a long way since its early days.

This text was first published in 1976 under the title of *Industrial Marketing Management*. This title was retained until 1992 when its fifth edition was titled *Business Marketing Management* to better reflect the changing nature of marketing to organizations. The use of the term *business marketing* to supplant the older term *industrial marketing* reflects that movement. In this edition, the title has been changed to *Business Marketing: A Managerial Approach* because the use of the term *management* in the previous edition caused the text to be identified sometimes as a marketing management text rather than as a business marketing book. Hopefully, the new title will alleviate that problem. Regardless of the title change, the text is devoted exclusively to the study of marketing to organizations in a complex and changing environment.

When the text was first published in 1976, there were two other texts in the area of business and industrial marketing. Neither of those texts is being published today. At the time of writing, however, there are now a number of very fine books, and this increase also reflects how the area has changed in importance in academic America. At the time of the first edition, there were very few articles on business and industrial marketing in the major marketing journals. Today, there are three academic journals that exclusively publish articles in various fields of business and industrial marketing. These are *Industrial Marketing Management*, the *Journal of Business-to-Business Marketing*, and the *Journal of Business & Industrial Marketing*. In addition, the Institute for the Study of Business Markets (ISBM) at the Pennsylvania State University also fosters research in this vital area of overall marketing. Truly, business and industrial marketing has grown significantly in importance in the marketing curricula in colleges and universities.

The basic philosophy of previous editions remains unchanged, which helps account for this text's longevity. This text focuses on advancing the basic principles of marketing to the specific area of business and industrial marketing. For students, this permits easy transition from what has been learned in their marketing principles courses to courses involving marketing to organizations. Although the basic format of previous editions is maintained, significant changes have been made. More emphasis is placed on the global nature of business marketing as it has been impacted by such developments as the European Community (EC), the decentralization of Eastern Europe, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and the informal trading block in the Far East headed by Japan. As the world opens up more and more to free trade, much of it will come in the form of business goods and services, and this text integrates those changes. Also, there is more emphasis on the electronic developments that are changing the area and renewed emphasis on such things as JIT (just-in-time), strategic alliances and partnerships, and the increased sophistication of organizational buying. There are twenty-five cases at the end of the text, seven of which are new to this edition. Cases have been selected to better reflect changes taking place in contemporary business marketing.

The author wishes to thank all the authors whose cases are included in this edition. Their contributions have greatly helped make this text the success that it has been and will continue to be. Finally, thanks are given to those who reviewed this text. Their careful analyses and recommendations have also helped greatly in this revision.

My sincerest hope, once again, is that this new edition will continue to stimulate students to develop interests in business and industrial marketing. Hopefully, this will lead to more and more marketing students seeking careers in business marketing organizations. When that happens, the area should also continue to grow in prestige and stature in the nation's colleges and universities.

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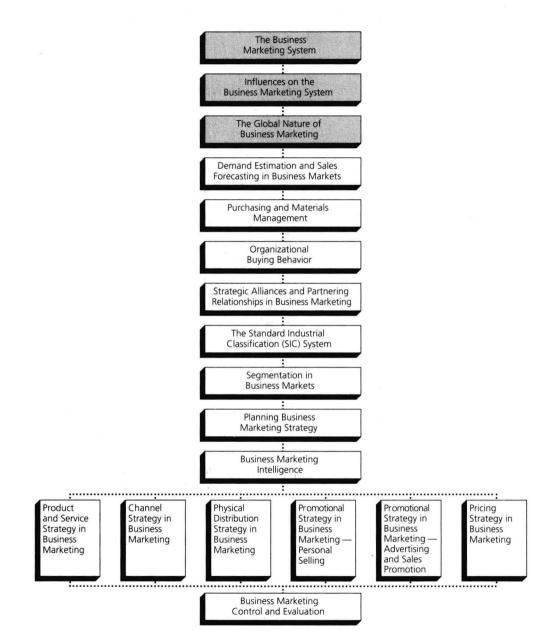
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