

INDUSTRIAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL MARKETING

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To my wife, Lois, and my saintly mother

PREFACE

The discipline of marketing has grown in many diverse directions over the past two decades. There are now courses, seminars, books, and journals devoted to high-tech marketing, nonprofit marketing, social marketing, international marketing, sports marketing, health care marketing, and financial services marketing, among others. Many of these represent new fields, or new applications of marketing. One of the most rapidly growing areas, however, is the field of industrial marketing, or marketing to organizations. This is an interesting development, because industrial marketing has been around for quite a long time. Yet, many business schools have only recently added industrial marketing courses, and some have yet to create such a course.

Why has industrial marketing come of age? One of the leading reasons involves industrial companies themselves. Marketing has traditionally been underemphasized by the managers of these firms, while technical and production-related concerns have received priority. Marketing was equated with personal selling and sales promotion. But the challenges and opportunities confronting these organizations have undergone great change in recent times, and with this has come a general recognition of the important contributions modern marketing has to offer.

These times are exciting for those who work with industrial products/services and markets. The rate of new product and service introduction is high, as companies rush to implement the latest technologies. Entirely new markets are appearing and old ones are being redefined. Meanwhile, industrial firms are devoting more resources to finding customers, studying customer needs, communicating with customers, and keeping customers satisfied. Many are creating marketing departments, appointing marketing vice-presidents, developing marketing plans, and implementing marketing strategies. At the same time, new concepts and tools are being developed to aid the efforts of the industrial marketer.

The purposes of this book are threefold: to provide an introduction to the distinctive nature of the marketing task when the customer is an organization; to provide an appreciation for the growing role of marketing within industrial companies; and, to provide insights into ways in which a number of marketing principles, concepts, and techniques can be used by the industrial marketing manager. The book is intended for undergraduate students who have completed at least a basic

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marketing principles course, as well as for M.B.A. students with some background in marketing.

ORGANIZATION

The book is structured around five major sections, and includes fourteen chapters and nineteen case studies. The five sections represent the rudiments of the marketing management process.

Part I introduces the reader to industrial marketing. The marketing philosophy is explained as it relates to the rapidly changing environment of industrial firms. Differences between consumer and industrial marketing are analyzed. Detailed attention is given to the nature of industrial products and markets, including international markets, and an overview of the procurement practices of organizations is presented.

Part II focuses on how to examine or analyze the industrial marketplace. This includes a detailed assessment of organizational buying behavior, industrial marketing research, demand analysis (including sales forecasting), and market segmentation. The abilities and insights of the marketer in each of these four areas often represent the difference between market success and failure, because they determine his or her ability to identify and serve customer needs.

Part III investigates the development of marketing strategies and tactics. Each component of the marketing mix is covered. Separate chapters are devoted to strategic marketing, product development, pricing, advertising, personal selling, and distribution. Importantly, these chapters build on the market analysis foundation established in Part II.

Part IV discusses the need to monitor, evaluate, and adjust marketing programs after they have been implemented. A number of problems and approaches are reviewed. Also included here are some of the ethical issues that industrial marketers continually face in managing the marketing mix.

The final section, Part V, consists of a variety of case studies. These cases require the student to analyze actual company situations and develop marketing solutions that address the opportunities and/or threats confronting the firms.

Rather than simply focus on identifying, defining, and providing examples of key concepts, this text attempts to integrate these concepts into a logical managerial process. A process approach is used to explain many of the major subject areas, including buyer behavior, marketing research, segmentation, strategic planning, product development, pricing, advertising, sales management, distribution channel management, and control. Approaching the management of such key areas as a process provides the student with a practical framework that can then be applied to industrial products, markets, and firms of all types in the real world.

HIGHLIGHTS

Some of the distinctive features of *Industrial and Organizational Marketing* include the following:

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A detailed and systematic breakdown of how industrial markets differ from consumer markets, including a mini-situation that challenges students to cite the differences;

treatment of some of the newer technological developments in organizational purchasing and production, including just-in-time inventory, electronic data interchange, materials requirement planning, and flexible manufacturing systems;

two comprehensive chapters on the buying behavior of the industrial customer, including an extensive treatment of the buying center concept and simplified versions of the leading buying models;

a discussion of marketing intelligence systems and decision support systems as they relate to the traditional marketing research function in organizations;

a cost-benefit method for segmenting markets and targeting customers, based on a comprehensive set of managerial criteria;

a separate chapter devoted to industrial marketing strategy, types of strategies, and the meaning of a *strategic orientation* for industrial firms;

an examination of the role of marketing in corporate entrepreneurship;

contribution analysis as a marketing tool is stressed throughout the book, encouraging students to incorporate profit considerations in their analyses of marketing decisions;

a value-based approach to pricing; extended discussion of probabilistic bidding and transfer pricing;

emphasis on the two-way dyadic relationship in sales management;

detailed treatment of the importance of marketing control, and of techniques which can be used to monitor marketing performance, including spreadsheets; nineteen real-life cases covering a wide range of products (including high-tech and defense-related) and services, and a variety of markets (including governmental, nonprofit, and international).

Also, the book includes chapter-by-chapter objectives, chapter summaries, end-of-chapter discussion questions, and an index of names as well as a subject index. Most chapters contain two or three exhibits that include real examples of successful marketing practices, examples of industrial advertisements or promotional materials, and summaries of the findings of major research projects on industrial marketing-related issues.

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PART I INTRODUCTION

The initial section of the book, consisting of the first two chapters, provides an overview of the nature and scope of industrial marketing and the industrial market-place. A foundation is laid for understanding the diverse set of institutions and activities involved, and the challenging tasks confronting the marketing manager in today's industrial environment. An attempt is also made to dispel some of the common misconceptions regarding industrial markets—such as the belief that they consist primarily of declining smokestack industries, or that the technical nature of the products being sold means that little marketing is required.

Chapter 1 defines industrial marketing and illustrates how the task of the industrial marketer differs significantly from that of the consumer goods marketer. This chapter sets the tone for the entire book, in that many of the key points introduced here are emphasized and elaborated upon throughout the subsequent chapters. The chapter also establishes the basic philosophy of the book; namely, that marketing is a creative, managerial process that serves to enhance the *value* that a firm is able to provide to customer organizations.

Chapter 2 introduces the reader to the many different types of goods and services sold by industrial marketers, and the wide array of customers who purchase these items. Ways are suggested for grouping industrial products and markets so that better insights can be drawn regarding how both can best be managed. Because the customer is an organization, usually with a formal procurement operation, some basic purchasing practices and procedures are also introduced in this chapter.



CHAPTER **1**THE BASICS OF INDUSTRIAL MARKETING

Key Concepts

Characteristics of industrial demand Customer orientation (Marketing concept) Customer value Environmental turbulence Exchange process Industrial marketing Information revolution

Marketing mix
Marketing myopia
Organizational environment
Product attribute bundle
Production chain
Product life cycle
Product orientation
Technological orientation

Learning Objectives

- 1. Define industrial marketing and the industrial marketing mix.
- 2. Establish the critical need for industrial firms to adopt a customer orientation.
- 3. Describe the size and importance of the industrial marketplace.
- 4. Discuss the dynamic environment facing industrial marketers.
- 5. Identify key differences between consumer and industrial marketing management.