

**STRATEGIC MARKETING** 

Theory and applications for competitive advantage

### Chapter 5: IDENTIFYING AND TARGETING ATTRACTIVE MARKET SEGMENTS



### Learning outcomes

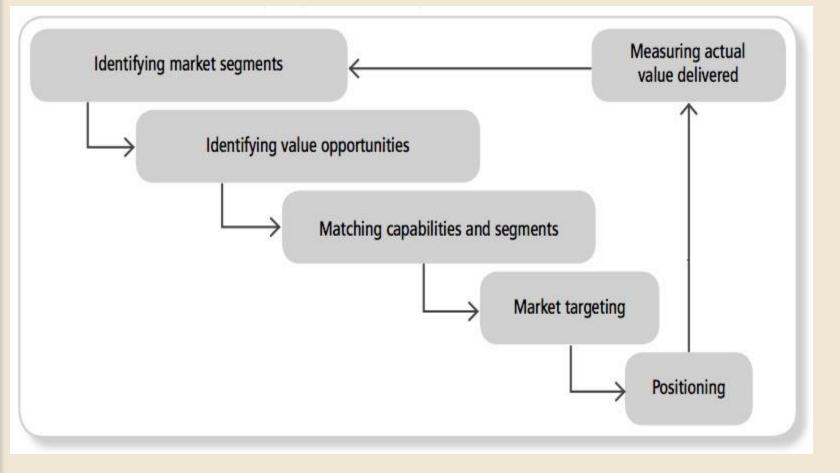
After reading this chapter, you should be able to:

- Explain the importance of segmentation, targeting and positioning
- Differentiate between the different approaches to market segmentation
- Evaluate and make recommendations with regards to segmentation, targeting and positioning decisions.





## Segmentation, targeting, and positioning (STP) as a process





#### Source: Cravens & Piercy (2006)

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# What is a "good" market segmentation?

- It identifies the product-market segments that are most worthwhile to pursue
- It recognises the dynamic nature of markets
- It helps the organization to figure out what products to place before the consumers most likely to purchase it.





### Types of market segmentation

- Needs-based segmentation
- Demographic segmentation
- Geographic segmentation
- Segmentation by product, service or channel
- Psychographic segmentation
- Behaviouristic segmentation.





### **Business market segmentation**

Kind of relationship	<ul> <li>Loyalty (weak → strong)</li> <li>Sourcing strategy (single → multiple vendors)</li> <li>Relationship distance ('arm's length' → close)</li> <li>Reciprocity (none → complete)</li> </ul>
Type of customer	Manufacturer, government, retailer, not-for-profit, military
Demographics	<ul> <li>Geographical location</li> <li>Size of the business (number of employees, turnover)</li> <li>Primary industry or type of business</li> <li>Number of facilities (e.g. branches)</li> </ul>
Product uses	<ul> <li>Installations, components, accessories, raw materials, supplies, professional services</li> </ul>
Type of buying situation	<ul> <li>Centralised → decentralised</li> <li>Single buyer → multiple buying influences</li> <li>Straight rebuy → modified rebuy → new task buying</li> </ul>
Purchasing methods	<ul> <li>Vendor analysis, purchasing specifications, Internet bids, negotiated contracts, long-term contracts, e-commerce web sites</li> </ul>

Source: Perreault & McCarthy (2005)





### The market segmentation process

- Defining the market and scope of segmentation
- Deciding on an approach to segmentation o A priori
  - o Hypothesised segmentation
  - o Bottom-up segmentation
- Identifying and profiling segments.



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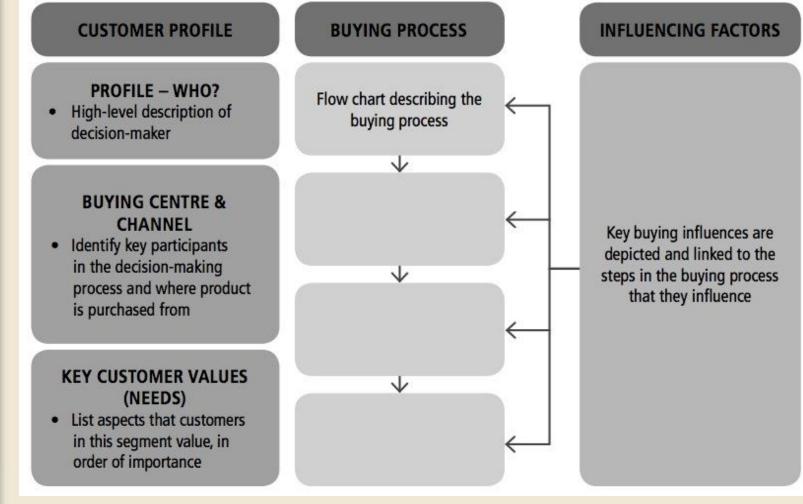
# Identifying and profiling market segments

- Internal knowledge
- Qualitative research
- Quantitative research.





## An example of a segment buying pro forma



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### Business buying centre role players

- Gatekeepers
- Influencers
- Deciders
- Buyers.





### Barriers to segmentation

- Infrastructure barriers
- Process barriers
- Implementation barriers
- Conceptual reasons

o Excessive focus on customers' identities
o Too little focus on customer behaviour
o An obsession with technical detail of segmentation.



# II.

### Developing a targeting strategy

- Assessing segment attractiveness

   Identify segment attractiveness factors (SAFs)
   Weight SAFs
   Define SAF evaluation parameters
   Rate segments
- Assessing relative competitive positioning o Identify critical success factors (CSFs) o Weight CSFs
   Rate segment competitors on CSFs
- Determining market targets.





#### Assessing segment attractiveness – an example

SAF	Weight	Soccer moms (rating)	Soccer moms (weighted average)	Lone riders (rating)	Lone riders (weighted average)	Eco-warriors (rating)	Eco-warriors (weighted average)	First-time buyers (rating)	First-time buyers (weighted average)
Market growth	0,4	4	1,6	2	0,8	9	3,6	6	2,4
Profit potential	0,3	3	0,9	6	1,8	9	2,7	4	1,2
Barriers to entry	0,3	8	2,4	6	1,8	9	2,7	3	0,9
Total	1,0	15	4,9	14	4,4	27	9,0	13	4,5

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# Assessing relative competitive positioning – an example

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CSF	Weight	Rating	WxR	Rating	WxR	Rating	WxR	Rating	WxR
Running costs	0,3	9	2,7	5	1,5	3	0,9	9	2,7
Safety	0,2	4	0,8	8	1,6	5	1,0	1	0,2
Reliability	0,2	3	0,6	10	2,0	6	1,2	6	1,2
Initial cost	0,2	4	0,8	4	0,8	7	1,4	9	1,8
Brand	0,1	1	0,1	9	0,9	6	0,6	6	0,6
Total	1,0		5,0		6,8		5,1		6,5



### Selecting segment strategies

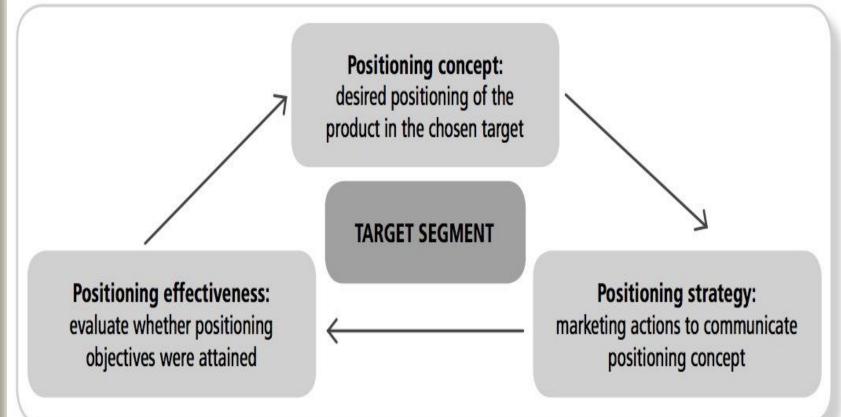
ESS	HIGH	<ul> <li>Build selectively:</li> <li>Specialise around limited strengths</li> <li>Seek ways to overcome weaknesses</li> <li>Withdraw if indications of sustainable growth are lacking</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>DESIRABLE POTENTIAL TARGET</li> <li>Invest to build:</li> <li>Challenge for leadership</li> <li>Build selectively on strengths</li> <li>Reinforce vulnerabilities</li> </ul>	DESIRABLE POTENTIAL TARGET Protect position: Invest to grow at maximum desirable rate Concentrate on maintaining strengths				
SEGMENT ATTRACTIVENESS	MEDIUM	<ul> <li>Limited expansion or harvest:</li> <li>Look for ways to expand without high risk, otherwise minimise investment and focus operations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Manage for earnings:</li> <li>Protect existing strengths</li> <li>Invest to improve position only in areas where risk is low</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>DESIRABLE POTENTIAL TARGET</li> <li>Build selectively:</li> <li>Emphasise profitability by increasing productivity</li> <li>Build up ability to counter competition</li> </ul>				
	LOW	<ul> <li>Divest:</li> <li>Sell when possible to maximise cash value</li> <li>In the interim, cut fixed costs and avoid further investment</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Manage for earnings:</li><li>Protect position</li><li>Minimise investment</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Protect and refocus:</li> <li>Defend strengths</li> <li>Seek ways to increase earnings without accelerating market decline</li> </ul>				
		LOW	MEDIUM	STRONG				
		RELATIVE COMPETITIVE POSITION						



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### Developing positioning strategy







## **Positioning dimensions**

- Product features
- Product benefits
- Parentage or heritage
- Manufacturing process
- Ingredients
- Endorsements by customers, intermediaries or celebrities
- Competitive comparisons
- Environmental friendliness
- Price or quality.



## Positioning strategy

Product and brand management strategies

- o Product range
- o New products and services
- o Product and service mix and bundling
- o Product packaging
- o Branding
- Channel management strategies
  - o Mix of channels to use
  - o Location
  - o Design of channels
  - o Design of value chain





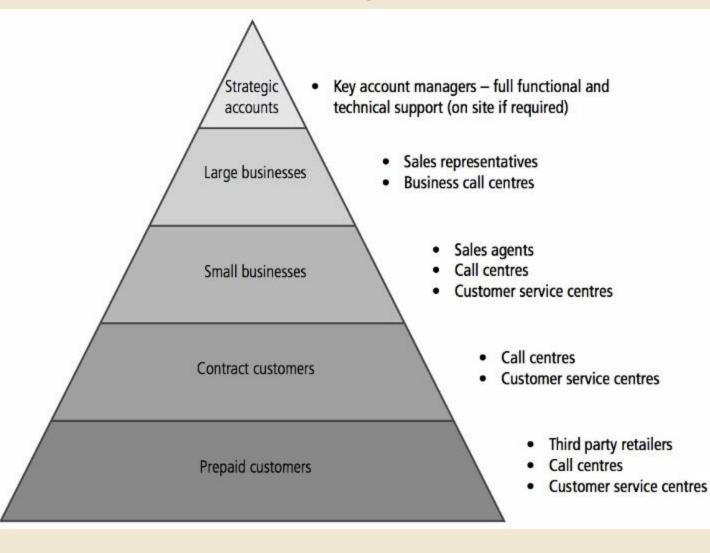
## Positioning strategy (cont.)

- Promotional strategy
  - o Above-the-line
  - o Below-the-line
  - o Through-the-line
- Pricing strategy
  - o Fixed price
  - o Price range
  - o Variable pricing
- Customer relationship management strategies.





### CRM strategies for different segments – an example



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## Perceptual mapping

Step 1: Determine the product-market segment

Step 2: Design perceptual map

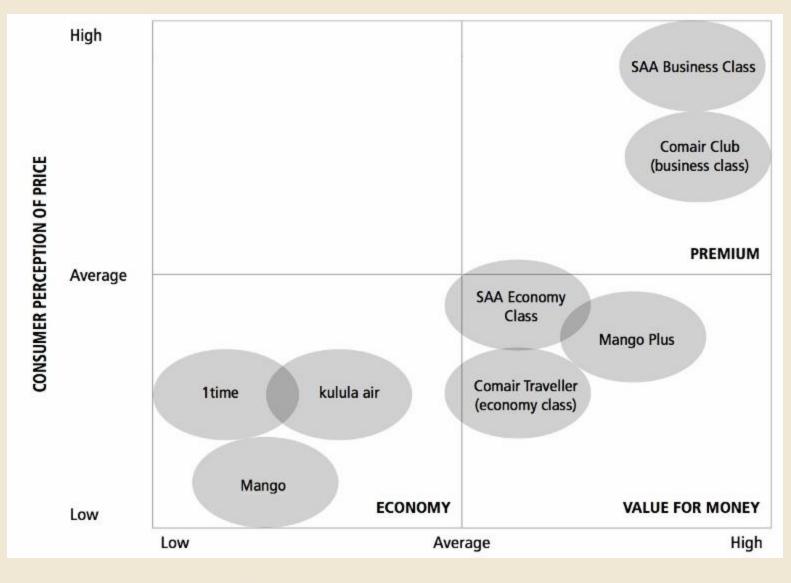
Step 3: Identify competing products or brands

Step 4: Plot all competitors on the map.





### Perceptual mapping (cont.)



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