Brand Strategy and Implementation

New Offerings Deliver Differentiated Customer Experience
CASE STUDY
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Executive Summary

Andrew Reise Consulting was engaged by a large telecommunications provider to assist in the implementation of a new brand and go to market strategy with customer-centric offerings that would further differentiate the company from their competitors as a customer experience leader. The new offerings addressed common pain points for wireless customers, such as billing overage, replacing subsidized phones or being locked into a contract. The program also introduced the industry’s first rewards program where customers could use points for faster phone upgrades and free applications, accessories and ring tones. Andrew Reise contributed to this complex program, including Strategy Development, Program Management and Project Management of multiple initiatives involving cross-functional teams from Brand, Marketing, Customer Service, Sales Operations, Information Services, Human Resources and multiple vendor partners.

Business Challenge

Our client faced numerous strategic threats and opportunities that challenged them to bring new offerings to the market to maintain and grow market share.

1. Competitive Landscape: Wireless competitors were growing their customer base at a much faster pace and threatened to take an increasing percent of the market share. Our client decided to differentiate themselves by providing the best customer experience in the industry, rather than trying to compete through capital expenditures with larger competitors.

2. Market Conditions: Wireless penetration in the United States was over 90% and projected to exceed 100% by 2012. A key component of future growth was to keep existing customers and attract new customers from competitors. During this time, consumer frustrations with wireless providers created an environment ripe for change.

3. Customer Service Leadership: Already established in the marketplace as a leader in customer service, the company’s churn rates were among the lowest in the industry. Key competitors, however, had made strides in customer service and were closing the competitive gap.

4. Brand Recognition: Our client was the 6th largest wireless provider with only 2% market share, competing against Verizon and AT&T with over 66% market share combined and significant advertising budgets. They needed to bring something different to the market that would resonate with customers and bring their brand to the forefront of the wireless industry.
Andrew Reise was engaged to help lead the implementation of the program. Andrew Reise consultants served in multiple roles across the program for over two years. Throughout the implementation, our consultants kept the customer and associate impacts top of mind when making recommendations and decisions. Andrew Reise played a significant role in the following areas:

1. **Strategy Development**: In conjunction with our client, Andrew Reise facilitated the strategy creation with a cross-functional team of executives and consumer research firms. The team developed a strategy of customer offerings and enablement programs. The plan was shared with and approved by the most senior leaders. Key activities included:
   - Validating brand promise
   - Collecting customer feedback/perspective
   - Mapping the customer lifecycle
   - Identifying initiatives and strategic themes
   - Aligning initiatives and enablement programs to the brand promise
   - Developing business cases
   - Creating a strategic roadmap

2. **Program Management**: Our consultants worked closely with the Senior Program Director to stand up and operate the Program Management Office. Responsibilities included stakeholder management, maintaining budget, managing scope/change controls, resource planning, driving resolution of issues/risks, resolving critical dependencies, providing executive status and reporting and managing the timeline.

3. **Project Management**: Andrew Reise consultants served as the Project Managers for several critical projects with significant customer and internal impacts. This included managing scope, schedule and issue resolution for all program impacts to web and IS, project managing the phone replacement, incentive compensation and customer engagement projects, and working closely with the client team responsible for training, communications and front line change management.

**RESULTS ACHIEVED**

The program was successfully launched on schedule in Q4 2010. It was one of the largest and most complex programs ever implemented by the client, yet there were minimal issues post implementation. Due to the nature of the initiatives and the grassroots word of mouth approach, results were not expected to be immediate and targets were set at a two year forecast.

- **03** Years Duration
- **9K** Thousand Employees
- **6M** Customers
We speak Customer.

It’s a language we know very well. We’re Andrew Reise, a recognized global thought leader who specializes in improving both sides of the company/customer relationship.

Our unique approach consists of our own methodology and a group of distinctly selected consultants – who are all veterans in customer experience. Our process is proven and our people boast a ‘do it all’ no-nonsense approach and are empowered to do the right thing even if that means going above and beyond the original scope of work.

The Andrew Reise mission: Bettering the lives of our clients, colleagues, and communities.