

# Evolving Reality: The Modern Sales Professional





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### Agenda:

- 1. Our mission & purpose of HSMAI Foundation study
- 2. Historical Review of Sales
- 3. Impact of Changing Buyer Behavior on Sales
- 4. Moving Forward: The New Priorities
- 5. Moving Forward: Your Action Items





To grow business for hotels and their partners through sales, marketing and revenue optimization.

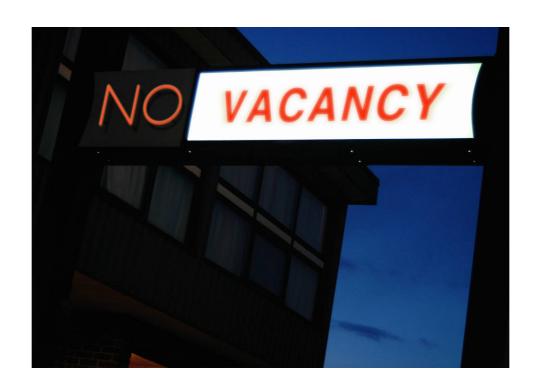




The HSMAI Foundation's mission is to develop knowledge and insights for the future to fuel sales, inspire marketing and optimize revenue



### **Historical View**





### Selling is:

 An action composed of multiple elements that encompass the full range of human emotions (intimacy, pressure, conquest, exhilaration, intuition), reasoning (insight, planning, coordination, measurement), and behavior (professionalism, public comportment, systems and processes).

	Manipulation		
Timeframe	1800 to present		
Primary Approach	Make the sale through any means even if premise is unethical, illegal or untrue		
Power	Seller		
Role of Prospect or buyer	To believe the impossible was true; to buy on faith		
Relationship	Sporadic occurrences; emotional based		
Sales Technique	Bait and switch Pressure (peer, status)		
Descriptors	Snake oil salesman, used car salesman		

	Manipulation	Control	
Timeframe	1800 to present	1920's to present	
Primary Approach	Make the sale through any means even if premise is unethical, illegal or untrue	Father knows best knowledge controlled by producer. To create needs	
Power	Seller	Seller	
Role of Prospect or buyer	To believe the impossible was true; to buy on faith	To listen and learn; to imagine what could be if they owned/used xxx	
Relationship	Sporadic occurrences; emotional based	Standardized interactions utilizing phone, conventions, drop-by, scheduled meetings, ads	
Sales Technique	Bait and switch Pressure (peer, status)	Product/service is the best way to solve the buyer's problems. Hunters and gathers.	
Descriptors	Snake oil salesman, used car salesman	Schmooze, wine and dine, charisma	

	Manipulation	Control	Consultation	
Timeframe	1800 to present	1920's to present	Late 1960's to present	
Primary Approach	Make the sale through any means even if premise is unethical, illegal or untrue	Father knows best knowledge controlled by producer. To create needs	Identify prospect/ buyer needs; connect to benefits of product	
Power	Seller	Seller	Seller	
Role of Prospect or buyer	To believe the impossible was true; to buy on faith	To listen and learn; to imagine what could be if they owned/used xxx	To seek advice, greater understanding of what the seller had to offer	
Relationship	Sporadic occurrences; emotional based	Standardized interactions utilizing phone, conventions, drop-by, scheduled meetings, ads	Salesperson as expert creating win-win situation for individual client	
Sales Technique	Bait and switch Pressure (peer, status)	Product/service is the best way to solve the buyer's problems. Hunters and gathers.	Structured for efficiency.  Demonstrate relationship between product benefits and buyer needs	
Descriptors	Snake oil salesman, used car salesman	Schmooze, wine and dine, charisma	Someone buyer likes to do business with	

	Manipulation	Control	Consultation	Collaboration
Timeframe	1800 to present	1920's to present	Late 1960's to present	Late 1990's to present
Primary Approach	Make the sale through any means even if premise is unethical, illegal or untrue	Father knows best knowledge controlled by producer. To create needs	Identify prospect/ buyer needs; connect to benefits of product	Solve problems; provide advice; work together
Power	Seller	Seller	Seller	Buyer
Role of Prospect or buyer	To believe the impossible was true; to buy on faith	To listen and learn; to imagine what could be if they owned/used xxx	To seek advice, greater understanding of what the seller had to offer	To take a broader perspective, find solutions to benefit organization
Relationship	Sporadic occurrences; emotional based	Standardized interactions utilizing phone, conventions, drop-by, scheduled meetings, ads	Salesperson as expert creating win-win situation for individual client	Complex exchange of advice, solutions, ideas. Mutual benefit. Long-term.
Sales Technique	Bait and switch Pressure (peer, status)	Product/service is the best way to solve the buyer's problems. Hunters and gathers.	Structured for efficiency.  Demonstrate relationship between product benefits and buyer needs	Integrated team approach to solving problems. Planning and analysis.
Descriptors	Snake oil salesman, used car salesman	Schmooze, wine and dine, charisma	Someone buyer likes to do business with	Insight, buyer- oriented



### Impact of Changing Buyer Behavior







#### **New facts:**

- 1. We no longer control the sale; we no longer control information
- 2. Process approach based on past reality...can influence buy can't form how buyer thinks
- 3. Buyer is more educated, engaged, knowledgeable, sophisticated, experiences.



#### Implication: A more educated buyer with....

- Global knowledge capacity
  - Comprehensive
  - Unlimited scope
- Does not <u>require</u> human interaction to obtain information
  - Price
  - Availability
  - -Booking
  - Evaluating



### The Challenge

**Rising Complexity** 

To meet the challenge

- Broader View of Client
- Less linear approach to buying

- Match approach to the reality of the client
- Identifying gaps in plan or process

Advances Strategic Position of Profession

Requires



### Moving Forward





# Sales Professional Must Move Far Beyond Being a:

- 1.Helper
- 2. Assistant
- 3. Satisfier
- 4. Controller





## The Science of Selling:

The Evolved Sell

Salesperson

Insight into client Focus on situations internal and external

### Reframe the discussion

- Are buyers asking the right questions
- •What should they be concerned with?
- Reveal needs they were unaware of



# Priorities of the modern sales professional

- 1. To be a strategic collaborator
- 2. To be a source of reliable analysis
- 3. To effectively manage demand to create value
- 4. To utilize a progressive development process



# Strategic Collaboration

- Internal: support of an integrated team
- External: current client may not be decision-maker
  - Source meaningful extensions of current demand
  - Extend connection with current clients
  - Source and value potential clients
  - All the while supporting mission of organization
- Requires superior listening skills, ability to negotiate, to think differently.



## Source of Reliable Analytics

- Produce and present timely, useful, creative information that provides ideas, trends, and facts to management, ownership, and client
- Requires critical, conceptual and creative thinking skills



## Manage Demand to Create Value

- Two aspects: for the client and for the company
- Revenue management is not only the role of the revenue manager; <u>Revenue Optimization</u> is the role of everyone. Requires financial management knowledge
- Develop in-depth customer insights; this entails extensive research, keen attention to detail, and strong analytical skills and full Team Collaboration



## Progressive Development Process

- Personal: Build new technical and behavioral skills
- Business: Shift strategic thinking; define value (added and expected)
- Requires ability to plan and build strategy
- Think of your company as a collaborative sales organization.
   To accelerate the entire sales experience, what actions, policies, traditions, practices would you stop doing, start doing, or continue doing?
- Applies to you AND your team



# Priorities of the modern sales professional

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# What are your action items and how can HSMAI help?







about hsmai hsmai foundation knowledge center membership

hospitality sales & marketing association international

The Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International (HSMAI) is committed to growing business for hotels and their partners, and is the industry's leading advocate for intelligent, sustainable hotel revenue growth. The association provides hotel professionals & their partners with tools, insights, and expertise to fuel sales, inspire marketing, and optimize revenue.

#### hsmai regions:





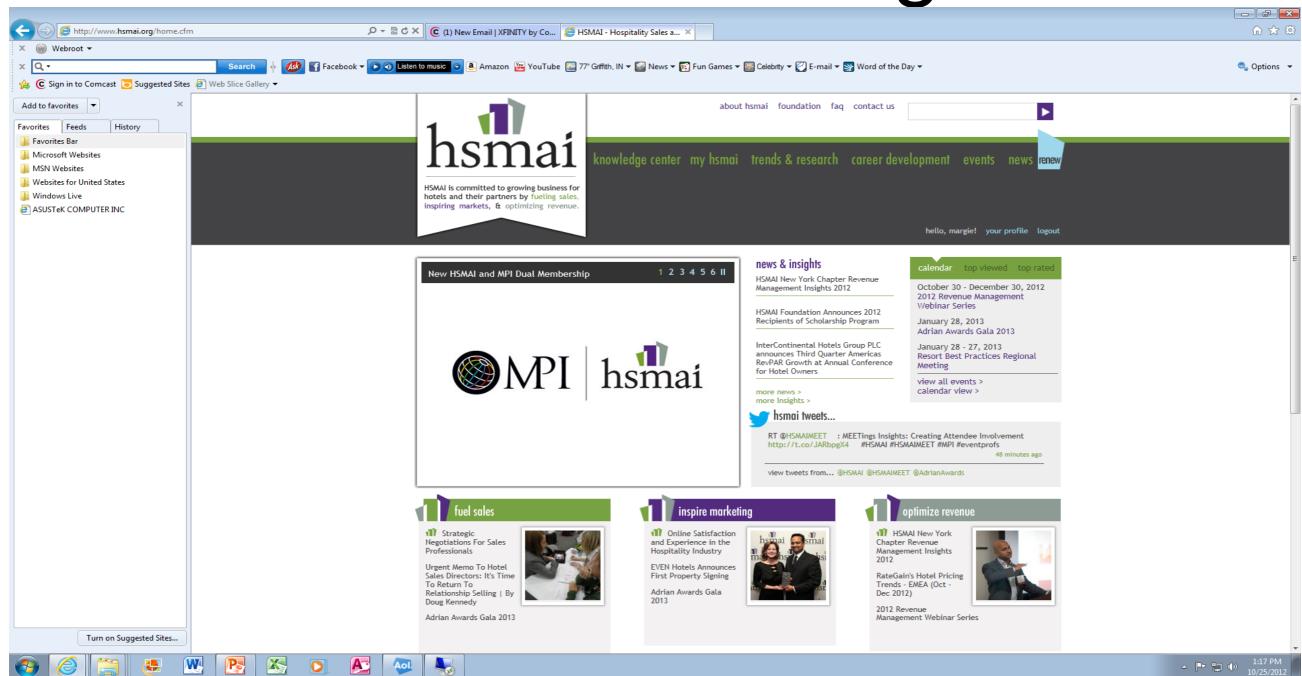




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## www.hsmai.org







Certified in Hospitality Business Acumen (CHBA)

#### AN AH&LA AND STR SPECIAL REPORT

# Distribution Channel Analysis: a Guide for Hotels







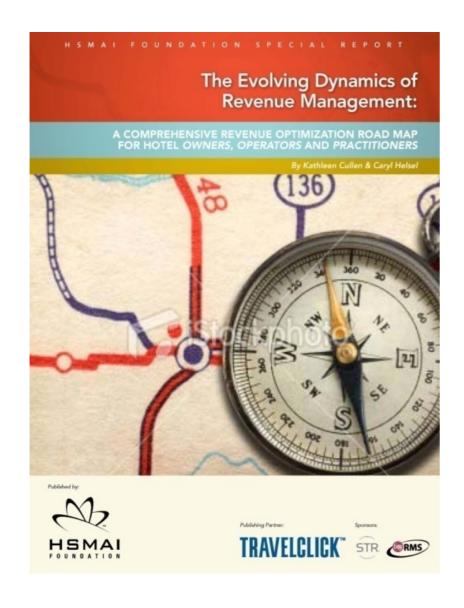














### Embrace Revenue Management and CRME



# Evolving Reality: The Modern Sales Professional





The full report will be available at <a href="www.hsmai.org">www.hsmai.org</a> later this fall

And if you are not a member, join today!





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