

Services Marketing 5th Edition By Valarie A Zeithaml

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Handbook of Service Science Paul P. Maglio 2010-06-14 As the service sector expands into the global economy, a new science of service is emerging, one that is dedicated to encouraging service innovation by applying scientific understanding, engineering discipline, and management practice to designing, improving, and scaling service systems. Handbook of Service Science takes the first major steps to clarifying the definition, role, and future of this nascent field. Incorporating work by scholars from across the spectrum of service research, the volume presents multidisciplinary perspectives on the nature and theory of service, on current research and practice in design, operations, delivery, and innovation of service, and on future opportunities and potential of service research. Handbook of Service Science provides a comprehensive reference suitable for a wide-reaching audience including researchers, practitioners, managers, and students who aspire to learn about or to create a deeper scientific foundation for service design and engineering, service experience and marketing, and service management and innovation.

The Promotion and Marketing of Human Resource Management Dr. Arbab Akanda 2016-02-27 Human resource management as an applied support business discipline is responsible for the people management to contribute to the effectiveness of an enterprise and is also responsible for social change through organizations that act upon society, and this is the core theme of the book. HR must be seen as a partner to the social change, from a perspective that is wider than oneself and the organization. From the conventional wisdom, HR exists to serve the best interest of the organization, which cannot be argued. But the time has come where the HR professionals have matured with the passage of time, recognized as a key player, and acknowledged justly. The practitioner of this discipline has a responsibility toward the society, and as core socio-organizational function it is about time, to look at the big picture: society.

Advances in Corporate Branding John M. T. Balmer 2016-11-14 This prestigious edited collection of articles from the Journal of Brand Management discusses the impact of research on our understanding of corporate brand characteristics and corporate brand management to date. A wide range of topics are covered, including franchise brand management, co-creation of corporate brands, alliance brands, the role of internal branding in the delivery of employee brand promise, and the expansion into new approaches. Advances in Corporate Branding is essential reading for those undertaking a PhD programme or by upper level students looking for rigorous academic material on the subject and for scholars and discerning practitioners, acting as 'advanced introductions'.

Marketing Gary Armstrong 2014-02-04 The fifth Canadian edition of Marketing: An Introduction makes learning and teaching marketing more effective, easier, and more enjoyable than ever. Its streamlined approach strikes a careful balance between depth of coverage and ease of learning. Students will see how customer value—creating it and capturing it—drives every good marketing strategy. Note: If you are purchasing an electronic version, MyMarketingLab does not come automatically packaged with it. To purchase MyMarketingLab, please visit www.MyMarketingLab.com or you can purchase a package of the physical text and MyMarketingLab by searching for ISBN 10: 0133581586 / ISBN 13: 9780133581584.

Marketing Eric N. Berkowitz 2002 The fifth edition of Marketing is the result of a detailed and rigorous developmental process designed to provide customer value in several ways. First, we continue to use the active-learning approach that has been the foundation of our previous editions. Second, we have incorporated many new examples, tools and design elements that are consistent with the learning styles for today's students. Third, we have added, deleted and modified topics and content based on our own expertise and the advice of many knowledgeable reviewers. Overall, the fifth edition of Marketing represents our efforts to guarantee the high quality of previous editions and to continue our tradition of growth and improvement.

Management and Technology in Knowledge, Service, Tourism & Hospitality Ford Lumban Gaol 2014-04-29 Management and Technology in Knowledge, Service, Tourism and Hospitality contains papers covering a wide range of topics in the fields of knowledge and service management, web intelligence, tourism and hospitality. This overview of current state of affairs and anticipated developments will be of interest to researchers, entrepreneurs and students.
Dhaka University Journal of Business Studies 2008-12

Loose Leaf for Services Marketing Mary Jo Bitner 2017-03-13 Zeithaml's Services Marketing introduces readers to the vital role that services play in the economy and its future. Services dominate the advanced economies of the world, and virtually all companies view services as critical to retaining their customers. The seventh edition maintains a managerial focus by incorporating company examples and strategies for addressing issues in every chapter, emphasizing the knowledge needed to implement service strategies for competitive advantage across industries. New research references and examples in every chapter include increased coverage of new business model examples such as Airbnb, Uber, OpenTable, Mint/Intuit, and others, alongside greater emphasis on technology, digital and social marketing, Big Data, and data analytics as a service. View Table of Contents and Features below for more information.

Review of Marketing 1990 Valarie A. Zeithaml 2012-01-01

Exceptional Service, Exceptional Profit Leonardo Inghilleri 2010-04-14 Customer service experts Leonardo Inghilleri and Micah Solomon's anticipatory customer service approach was first developed at The Ritz-Carlton as well as at Solomon's company

Oasis, and has since proven itself in countless companies around the globe--from luxury giant BVLGARI to value-sensitive auto parts leader Carquest and everywhere in between. Their experience shows that the most powerful growth engine in a tight market--and best protection from competitive inroads--is to put everything you can into cultivating true customer loyalty. Exceptional Service, Exceptional Profit takes the techniques that minted money for these brands and reveals how you can apply them to your own business to provide the kind of exceptional service that nearly guarantees loyalty. Soon, you'll be reaping the benefits of loyal customers who are less sensitive to price competition, more forgiving of small glitches, and, ultimately, who are "walking billboards" happily promoting your brand. Filled with detailed, behind-the-scenes examples, this award-winning book unlocks a new level of customer relationship that leaves your competitors in the dust, your customers coming back day after day, and your bottom line looking better than it ever has before.

Forthcoming Books Rose Arny 2002

Marketing Channels Bert Rosenbloom 2012-07-25 Marketing Channels: A Management View, a market leader, is known to provide a management focus and managerial framework to the field of marketing channels. Theory, research, and practice are covered thoroughly and blended into a discussion that stresses decision making implications. This new edition reflects global, socio-cultural, environmental, and technological changes that have taken place within the industry. Important Notice: Media content referenced within the product description or the product text may not be available in the ebook version.

Services Marketing Valarie A. Zeithaml 1996

The Handbook of Technology Management, Supply Chain Management, Marketing and Advertising, and Global Management Hossein Bidgoli 2010-01-12 The discipline of technology management focuses on the scientific, engineering, and management issues related to the commercial introduction of new technologies. Although more than thirty U.S. universities offer PhD programs in the subject, there has never been a single comprehensive resource dedicated to technology management. "The Handbook of Technology Management" fills that gap with coverage of all the core topics and applications in the field. Edited by the renowned Doctor Hossein Bidgoli, the three volumes here include all the basics for students, educators, and practitioners

Services Marketing: Concepts, Strategies, & Cases K. Douglas Hoffman 2016-01-01 Readers examine the use of services marketing as a competitive tool from a uniquely broad perspective with Hoffman/Bateson's SERVICES MARKETING: CONCEPTS, STRATEGIES, AND CASES, 5E. Using a reader-friendly, streamlined structure, this book explores services marketing not only as an essential focus for service firms, but also as a competitive advantage for companies that market tangible products. A wealth of real examples feature a variety of businesses from industries both within and beyond the nine service economy supersectors: education and health services, financial activities, government, information, leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, transportation and utilities, wholesale and retail trade, and other services. Cutting-edge data addresses current issues, such as sustainability, technology, and the global market, giving readers valuable insights and important skills for success in business today. Important Notice: Media content referenced within the product description or the product text may not be available in the ebook version.

Profiting From Services and Solutions Valarie A. Zeithaml 2014-08-15 Designed for executives of companies that manufacture or sell products and students in an MBA program, this book outlines the challenges of launching a service and solutions business within a product-oriented organization. You might view services and solutions as a means to financial growth, reduced revenue volatility, greater differentiation from the competition, increased share of customer budget, and improved customer satisfaction, loyalty, and lock-in; but the authors visualize the transition from products sold to services rendered and identify the challenges that leaders will face during the transformation. Inside, the authors provide a framework—the service infusion continuum—to describe the different types of services and solutions that a product-rich company can offer beyond warranties, call centers, and websites that support customers in their use of products.

Rethinking the Sales Force: Redefining Selling to Create and Capture Customer Value John DeVincentis 1999-02-05 In today's markets, success no longer depends on communicating the value of products or services. It rests on the crucial ability to create value for customers. Sales forces need to retool current strategies by recognizing the customer's dominant power in today's economy and what that means for those who sell. Capitalizing on research into the practices of cutting edge companies, the authors show how the successful sales force breaks away from traditional thinking and transforms themselves into complex business processes with multiple sales approaches and selling models that meet the demands of today's sophisticated customers.

Service Quality Valarie A. Zeithaml 2004-01-01

Russell, Hugo & Ayliffe's Principles and Practice of Disinfection, Preservation & Sterilization Adam P. Fraiese 2008-04-15 Highly respected, established text – a definitive reference in its field – covering in detail many methods of the elimination or prevention of microbial growth "highly recommended to hospital and research personnel, especially to clinical microbiologists, infection control and environmental-safety specialists, pharmacists, and dieticians." New England Journal of Medicine WHY BUY THIS BOOK? Completely revised and updated to reflect the rapid pace of change in this area Updated material on new and emerging technologies, focusing on special problems in hospitals, dentistry and pharmaceutical practice Gives practical advice on problems of disinfection and antiseptics in hospitals Discusses increasing problems of natural and acquired resistance to antibiotics New contributors give a fresh approach to the subject and ensure international coverage Systematic review of sterilization methods, with uses and advantages outlined for each Evaluation of disinfectants and their mechanisms of action

Sport Marketing Windy Dees 2021-03-12 Sport marketing is more accessible than ever, with sport business professionals, companies, the media, athletes, teams, coaches, and fans connecting in new ways and with new experiences. Sport Marketing, Fifth Edition With HKPropel Access, presents a modernized, current-day approach to the dynamic industry of sport marketing. A full-color presentation brings this vibrant field to life with comprehensive coverage—balanced between theoretical and practical—to provide an understanding of the foundations of sport marketing and how to enhance the sport experience. Building on the legacy that Bernard Mullin, Stephen Hardy, and William Sutton established in the first four editions, a new author team, handpicked by their predecessors, draw from their modern experience in the field to add a fresh perspective to this essential text. They bring the sport industry directly to the reader through extensive industry examples, interviews of top sports executives, challenging case studies, and global perspectives from teams, leagues, and other agencies around the world. Reflecting the evolving landscape of sport marketing, the text will prepare students to stay on the leading edge with the following updates: A

focus on current and emerging technologies and how they have revolutionized the sport industry—ranging from mobile video streaming and fantasy sports to artificial intelligence and virtual reality Greater emphasis on data and analytics to make more informed business decisions In-depth examination of how social media and digital platforms serve as critical communication channels to drive sport marketing strategy and execution New content on target marketing, including understanding millennial sports fans and engaging with Generation Z Updated coverage of sales processes, addressing both traditional methods and new strategies for the mobile age Discussion of modern ticketing practices and the secondary ticket market, including how leagues partner with secondary ticket providers and the impact on pricing strategies Also new to the fifth edition are related online learning aids, now delivered through HKPropel, designed to engage students and test comprehension of the material. Exclusive video interviews with sport industry leaders offer insights into how they incorporate marketing strategies into their daily work. Discussion questions and activities for each chapter guide students to apply core concepts, and web search activities provide opportunities for students to compare strategies found on sport organization websites and other online locations. In addition, chapter objectives, an opening scenario, sidebars highlighting key concepts, and Wrap-Up, Activities, and Your Marketing Plan sections at the ends of chapters offer students additional learning tools as they explore how fans, players, coaches, the media, and companies interact to drive the sport industry. With Sport Marketing, Fifth Edition With HKPropel Access, students will develop valuable marketing skills and prepare for a successful career in the competitive world of sport marketing. Note: A code for accessing HKPropel is not included with this ebook but may be purchased separately.

Southern Economist 2010

Marketing: The Basics (second Edition) Karl Moore 2009-12-04 ‘...a punchy, stripped-down version of what marketing is all about.’ – The Times Higher Education Supplement If you have a product you’re looking to market, or you’re seeking to learn more about the potential of online marketing, Marketing: The Basics tells you everything you need to know about the techniques marketers use to push their product to the ‘tipping point’. The essentials of e-commerce are explored and explained, along side more traditional marketing approaches in this revised and updated new edition. This book: Explains the fundamentals of marketing and useful concepts such as the Long Tail Includes an international range of topical case studies, such as Obama’s presidential campaign, Facebook, and Google Also includes a glossary of terms, guides to further reading and critical questions to assist further thinking and study This lively and user-friendly introduction is perfect for professionals seeking to learn more about subject, and recommended for sixth-form, first-year undergraduate and MBA students.

Decision Analysis for Management Judgment Paul Goodwin 2014-05-12 Decision Analysis for Management Judgment is unique in its breadth of coverage of decision analysis methods. It covers both the psychological problems that are associated with unaided managerial decision making and the decision analysis methods designed to overcome them. It is presented and explained in a clear, straightforward manner without using mathematical notation. This latest edition has been fully revised and updated and includes a number of changes to reflect the latest developments in the field.

Principles of Marketing Gary M. Armstrong 2018 An introduction to marketing concepts, strategies and practices with a balance of depth of coverage and ease of learning. Principles of Marketing keeps pace with a rapidly changing field, focussing on the ways brands create and capture consumer value. Practical content and linkage are at the heart of this edition. Real local and international examples bring ideas to life and new feature 'linking the concepts' helps students test and consolidate understanding as they go. The latest edition enhances understanding with a unique learning design including revised, integrative concept maps at the start of each chapter, end-of-chapter features summarising ideas and themes, a mix of mini and major case studies to illuminate concepts, and critical thinking exercises for applying skills.

Strategic Marketing Management - The Framework, 10th Edition Alexander Chernev 2019-01-01 Strategic Marketing Management: The Framework outlines the essentials of marketing theory and offers a structured approach to identifying and solving marketing problems. This book presents a strategic framework to guide business decisions involving the development of new offerings and the management of existing products, services, and brands.

Global Marketing Management Masaaki (Mike) Kotabe 2016-12-01 The 7th Edition of Global Marketing Management prepares students to become effective managers overseeing global marketing activities in an increasingly competitive environment. The text’s guiding principle, as laid out concisely and methodically by authors Kotabe and Helsen, is that the realities of international marketing are more “multilateral.” Suitable for all business majors, the text encourages students to learn how marketing managers work across business functions for effective corporate performance on a global basis and achievement of overall corporate goals. Global Marketing Management brings timely coverage in various economic and financial as well as marketing issues that arise from the acutely recessionary market environment.

EBOOK: Services Marketing: Integrating Customer Focus Across the Firm Alan Wilson 2016-01-16 European economies are now dominated by services, and virtually all companies view service as critical to retaining their customers today and in the future. In its third European edition, Services Marketing: Integrating Customer Focus across the Firm provides full coverage of the foundations of services marketing, placing the distinctive gaps model at the center of this approach. Drawing on the most recent research and using up-to-date and topical examples, the book focuses on the development of customer relationships through quality service, outlining the core concepts and theories in services marketing today. New and updated material in this new edition include: - - New content on the role of digital marketing and social media has been added throughout to reflect the latest developments in this dynamic field - - Increased coverage of Service dominant logic regarding the creation of value and the understanding of customer relationships - - New examples and case studies added from global and innovative companies including AirBnB, IKEA, Disneyland, Scandinavia Airlines, and Skyscanner

Marketing Information Products and Services Abhinandan K. Jain 1999 Marketing Information Products and Services

Sports Marketing Michael J. Fetchko 2018-10-09 Highly practical and engaging, Sports Marketing equips students with the skills, techniques, and tools they need to be successful marketers in any sporting environment. The book combines scholarly theory with the perspectives of those who have been actively involved in the sports business. A worldwide range of examples from all levels of sports, as well as insider expertise, strongly ties classroom learning to real-world practice, and assures students that the theory is relevant. New material includes: • Expanded coverage of marketing analytics and the use of market-driven tactics showing students how to strengthen customer relationships and maximize profits • Greater attention to the impact of new technologies on customer relationships, such as social media, content marketing, ticketing strategies, and eSports, ensuring

students are exposed to the latest advancements in marketing for sports • A stronger global focus throughout the book, including several new cases from outside the U.S., as well as coverage of international sporting organizations, such as FIFA and the ever popular English Premier League • Six new "You Make the Call" short cases to offer opportunities for analysis and decision making in sectors of sports marketing including sports media, experiential events, and eSports These popular "You Make the Call" cases and review questions stimulate lively classroom discussion, while chapter summaries and a glossary further support learning. Sports Marketing will give students of sports marketing and management a firm grasp of the ins and outs of working in sports.

Marketing Strategy Odies Collins Ferrell 2012-12-20 MARKETING STRATEGY, 6e, International Edition edition emphasizes teaching students to think and act like marketers. It presents strategy from a perspective that guides strategic marketing management in the social, economic, and technological arenas in which businesses function today--helping students develop a customer-oriented market strategy and market plan. Its practical approach to analyzing, planning, and implementing marketing strategies is based on the creative process involved in applying marketing concepts to the development and implementation of marketing strategy. An emphasis on critical thinking enables students to understand the essence of how marketing decisions fit together to create a coherent strategy. Well-grounded in developing and executing a marketing plan, the text offers a complete planning framework, thorough marketing plan worksheets, and a comprehensive marketing plan example for students to follow. Service Management Cengiz Haksever 2013 Includes bibliographical references and index.

EBK: Services Marketing: Integrating Customer Service Across the Firm 4e Alan Wilson 2020-10-07 Successful businesses recognize that the development of strong customer relationships through quality service (and services) as well as implementing service strategies for competitive advantage are key to their success. In its fourth European edition, Services Marketing: Integrating Customer Focus across the Firm provides full coverage of the foundations of services marketing, placing the distinctive Gaps model at the center of this approach. The new edition draws on the most recent research, and using up-to-date and topical examples, the book focuses on the development of customer relationships through service, outlining the core concepts and theories in services marketing today. New and updated material in this new edition includes: • New content related to human resource strategies, including coverage of the role of robots and chatbots for delivering customer-focused services. • New coverage on listening to customers through research, big data, netnography and monitoring user-generated content. • Increased technology, social media and digital coverage throughout the text, including the delivery of services using mobile and digital platforms, as well as through the Internet of Things. • Brand new examples and case studies added from global and innovative companies including Turkish Airlines, Volvo, EasyJet and McDonalds. Available with McGraw-Hill's Connect®, the well-established online learning platform, which features our award-winning adaptive reading experience as well as resources to help faculty and institutions improve student outcomes and course delivery efficiency.

Creating and Delivering Value in Marketing Harlan E. Spotts 2014-11-06 ??Founded in 1971, the Academy of Marketing Science is an international organization dedicated to promoting timely explorations of phenomena related to the science of marketing in theory, research, and practice. Among its services to members and the community at large, the Academy offers conferences, congresses and symposia that attract delegates from around the world. Presentations from these events are published in this Proceedings series, which offers a comprehensive archive of volumes reflecting the evolution of the field. Volumes deliver cutting-edge research and insights, complimenting the Academy's flagship journals, the Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science (JAMS) and AMS Review. Volumes are edited by leading scholars and practitioners across a wide range of subject areas in marketing science. This volume includes the full proceedings from the 2003 Academy of Marketing Science (AMS) Annual Conference held in Washington, D.C., entitled Creating and Delivering Value in Marketing.?

Business to Business Marketing Management Alan Zimmerman 2017-09-25 Business to business markets are considerably more challenging than consumer markets and as such demand a more specific skillset from marketers. Buyers, with a responsibility to their company and specialist product knowledge, are more demanding than the average consumer. Given that the products themselves may be highly complex, this often requires a sophisticated buyer to understand them. Increasingly, B2B relationships are conducted within a global context. However all textbooks are region-specific despite this growing move towards global business relationships – except this one. This textbook takes a global viewpoint, with the help of an international author team and cases from across the globe. Other unique features of this insightful study include: placement of B2B in a strategic marketing setting; full discussion of strategy in a global setting including hypercompetition; full chapter on ethics and CSR early in the text; and detailed review of global B2B services marketing, trade shows, and market research. This new edition has been fully revised and updated with a full set of brand new case studies and features expanded sections on digital issues, CRM, and social media as well as personal selling. More selective, shorter, and easier to read than other B2B textbooks, this is ideal for introduction to B2B and shorter courses. Yet, it is comprehensive enough to cover all the aspects of B2B marketing any marketer needs, be they students or practitioners looking to improve their knowledge.

Marketing Pharmaceutical Services Harry Alcide Smith 1992 Marketing Pharmaceutical Services discusses nearly every aspect of pharmacy patronage, the quintessential element of a successful community pharmacy practice. With recent trends showing availability and quality of both traditional and professional pharmacy services as key factors in patronage of a pharmacy, there is a greater need for understanding types of services customers desire in their community pharmacies. This anthology of research, gleaned from journals published over the past decade, with helpful interpretative comments by Smith and Coons, is the most complete resource available on marketing services. This unique volume provides data from which practicing pharmacists can develop a service program designed for its patrons and marketing strategies for promoting those services. Whether chain or independent drug stores, managers above the store level will find practical, relevant marketing hints in this one convenient source. Special topics covered include: defining and classifying patronage factors and motives characterizing consumers as related to pharmacy patronage assessing consumers' attitudes and perceptions concerning pharmacists' roles in counseling patrons on their use of drugs, private consulting with patrons, and prescription price strategizing marketing for special markets, such as elderly in housing communities and long term care facilities The variety of topics covered will interest all involved in the field of pharmacy from graduate and advanced undergraduate students and professors, to marketing and sales specialists, especially managers in the wholesale industry.

Market-Led Strategic Change Nigel F. Piercy 2012-05-04 The third edition of Market-Led Strategic Change builds on the massive

success of the previous two editions, popular with lecturers and students alike, presenting an innovative approach to solving an old problem: making marketing happen! In his witty and direct style, Nigel Piercy has radically updated this seminal text, popular with managers, students, and lecturers alike, to take into account the most recent developments in the field. With a central focus on customer value and creative strategic thinking, he fully evaluates the impact of electronic business on marketing and sales strategy, and stresses the goal of totally integrated marketing to deliver superior customer value. "Reality Checks" throughout the text challenge the reader to be realistic and pragmatic. The book confronts the critical issues now faced in strategic marketing: · escalating customer demands driving the imperative for superior value · totally integrated marketing to deliver customer value · the profound impact of electronic business on customer relationships · managing processes like planning and budgeting to achieve effective implementation At once pragmatic, cutting-edge and thought-provoking, Market-Led Strategic Change is essential reading for all managers, students and lecturers seeking a definitive guide to the demands and challenges of strategic marketing in the 21st century.

International Encyclopedia of Hospitality Management 2nd edition Abraham Pizam 2012-06-25 The International Encyclopedia of Hospitality Management is the definitive reference work for any individual studying or working in the hospitality industry. There are 185 Hospitality Management degrees in the UK alone. This new edition updates and significantly revises twenty five per cent of the entries and has an additional twenty new entries. New online material makes it the most up-to-date and accessible hospitality management encyclopedia on the market. It covers all of the relevant issues in the field of hospitality management from a sectoral level (lodging, restaurants/food service, time-share, clubs and events) as well as a functional one (accounting and finance, marketing, strategic management, human resources, information technology and facilities management). Its unique, user-friendly structure enables readers to find exactly the information they require at a glance – whether they require broad detail that takes a more cross-sectional view across each subject field or more focused information that looks closely at specific topics and issues within the hospitality industry today.

Services Marketing: People, Technology, Strategy (Ninth Edition) Jochen Wirtz 2021-10-15 Services Marketing: People, Technology, Strategy is the ninth edition of the globally leading textbook for Services Marketing by Jochen Wirtz and Christopher Lovelock, extensively updated to feature the latest academic research, industry trends, and technology, social media, and case examples. This book takes on a strong managerial approach presented through a coherent and progressive pedagogical framework rooted in solid academic research. It features cases and examples from all over the world and is suitable for students who want to gain a wider managerial view. Supplementary Material Resources: Resources are available to instructors who adopt this textbook for their courses. These include: (1) Instructor's Manual, (2) Case Teaching Notes, (3) PowerPoint deck, and (4) Test Bank. Please contact sales@wspc.com. Key Features:

Consumer Behaviour Brajendra Gupta

Delivering Quality Service Valarie A. Zeithaml 2010-05-11 Excellence in customer service is the hallmark of success in service industries and among manufacturers of products that require reliable service. But what exactly is excellent service? It is the ability to deliver what you promise, say the authors, but first you must determine what you can promise. Building on seven years of research on service quality, they construct a model that, by balancing a customer's perceptions of the value of a particular service with the customer's need for that service, provides brilliant theoretical insight into customer expectations and service delivery. For example, Florida Power & Light has developed a sophisticated, computer-based lightning tracking system to anticipate where weather-related service interruptions might occur and strategically position crews at these locations to quicken recovery response time. Offering a service that customers expect to be available at all times and that they will miss only when the lights go out, FPL focuses its energies on matching customer perceptions with potential need. Deluxe Corporation, America's highly successful check printer, regularly exceeds its customers' expectations by shipping nearly 95% of all orders by the day after the orders were received. Deluxe even put U.S. Postal Service stations inside its plants to speed up delivery time. Customer expectations change over time. To anticipate these changes, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company regularly monitors the expectations and perceptions of their customers, using focus group interviews and the authors' 22-item generic SERVQUAL questionnaire, which is customized by adding questions covering specific aspects of service they wish to track. The authors' groundbreaking model, which tracks the five attributes of quality service -- reliability, empathy, assurance, responsiveness, and tangibles -- goes right to the heart of the tendency to overpromise. By comparing customer perceptions with expectations, the model provides marketing managers with a two-part measure of perceived quality that, for the first time, enables them to segment a market into groups with different service expectations.