INTERNATIONAL MARKETING Approaching and Penetrating the International Marketplace: A Case Study of Three Multinationals



Purpose of Presentation

Tonight, we will examine the international marketing strategies of three multinationals: Unilever. McDonald's, and Molson's. More specifically, we will highlight the marketing strategies of these three TNCs, with reference to a global based market.

Presentation Overview

- Purpose
- Introduction
 - **International Business**
 - Role of TNCs in international marketing
 - · What is marketing?
- Define key termsThe Marketing Mix: 4Ps
 - · International marketing

- Case Study One: Unilever
 Case Study Two: McDonalds
 Case Study Three: Molson Inc.

Introduction: International Business

- What motivates companies to seek international markets?
 - i) Saturation of domestic market
 - ii) Globalization of competition
 - iii) Lucrative markets
 - · Others include: economies of scale, international production, customer relationships, market
- In the past few decades, there has been a surge in the development of global products
 - · e.g. Fall of communism in Eastern Europe

Introduction: TNCs

- How does the structure of the TNC change to take advantage of a global market?
 - In order to be successfully global, the internal structure of a corporation has to change (Dicken).
 - Every TNC tackles this in a different manner depending on the *firm's specific history* home country embeddedness and its culture and administrative heritage and the nature and complexity of the *industry's environment*.

Introduction: TNCs

- According to Dicken, four basic organizational structures for TNC's exist:
 - i) Multinational
 - ii) International
 - iii) Global
 - iv) Integrated Network

Introduction: TNCs			
	i) Multinational	Overseas operations seen as portfolio of independent businesses	
	ii) International	Overseas operations appendages to central domestic corporation	
	iii) Global	- Overseas operational treated as "delivery of pipelines" to unified global market	
	iv) Integrated Network	Overseas operations consist of integral parts of complex networks of flows of components, products, resources, people, information among interdependent units	

Introduction: Relevance of TNC Structure to Global Markets

- Why is Organizational Structure Important to International Marketing?
- Generally, the organizational structure contributes to the method of marketing strategy used by the TNC globally.

Introduction: What is Marketing?

- Defined as 'the management process responsible for identifying, anticipating, and satisfying consumers requirements profitably' (UK Chartered Institution Of Marketing)
- Basic tenets of marketing: "satisfaction" and "exchange" (Curry)
- In essence, matching consumer wants with business needs (i.e. businesses require willing consumers in order to be sustainable)

Key Terms and Concepts

- Marketing Mix and the 4Ps (Bennet):
 - Product
 - Place
 - Price
 - Promotion

Key Terms and Concepts 2

- International marketing: simply marketing activities across state boundaries, retaining the basic marketing tenets of "satisfaction" and "exchange".
 - · But have to factor in a few things:
 - Cultural differences
 - Market segmentation
 - Remoteness of markets
 - Logistics of physical distribution and place decisions
- We will examine three multinationals based upon these four parameters.

The Four Elements of International Marketing

- We will now examine these four factors:
 - 1) Cultural factors and forces
 - 2) Market Segmentation based on Geography
 - 3) Remoteness of markets
 - 4) Logistics and place decisions

1) Cultural Factors and Forces

- Sensitivity to local market
 - · e.g. McDonald's take-away bags in 1994
- Communication tools may require adaptations or radical changes
 - e.g. Language differences
 - GM Nova: "Nova" means 'no go' in Spanish
 - e.g. Religious difference
 - Frying oil in McDonald's

2) Market Segmentation: Geography Based

- Markets can be segmented according to:
 - · Country or geographic region
 - Cultural characteristics
 - · Demographic and economic variables
- TNC's segmentation is important in a global market

3) Remoteness of Markets

- Makes monitoring and control more difficult
 - e.g. Following the trends of a consumer in London, England is much more difficult than the market in Toronto, Ontario if the head offices are situated there

4) Logistics and Place Decisions

- Affected by infrastructure differences in some overseas markets
 - · eg. Poor transportation networks in sub-Saharan Africa
 - e.g. Nestle and bottled water in Pakistan creating widespread inequalities

International Market Entry Strategies

- There are five basic strategies for entering foreign markets (Blythe):
 - 1) Keep product and promotion the same worldwide
- 2) Adapt promotion only
- 3) Adapt product only
- 4) Adapt both product and promotion
- 5) Invent new products

International Market Entry Strategies Advantageous because it 1) Keep Product and minimises entry costs Promotion the Same Advertisements are usually just Worldwide Drawback is that it takes no account of local customs 2) Adapt Promotion Product stays the same but promotion is adapted to local cultural norms Only - Enables more effective marketing while avoiding a redesign for the product itself





Case Study: Questions We will address the following questions: What is the structure of the TNC? What marketing strategy has each TNC adopted? How does each company advertise and appeal to place specific markets?

Unilever

- Unilever is a consumer goods company.
- Unilever consists of many different brands and companies including Knorr, Lipton, Hellman's, Dove, Axe, etc.
- As a result, Unilever is an complex integrated network of components, products, resources, people, and information.

Unilever

- "Unilever is a Multi-local Multinational"
- "Unilever is dedicated to meeting the everyday needs of people everywhere"
- "Our success depends on our companies keeping close ties to customers and being deeply rooted in the societies in which we operate"

(source: www.unilever.com)

Unilever: Branding of Products

 Of the 400 brands Unilever handles, there is a mixture of "global brands" and "local jewels" that are marketed to appeal to "particular local tastes and habits."



In Summary...Unilever

- Unilever adapts their products, their promotion, and creates 'new' brands according to geographic location.
- Unilever utilizes all 4 elements of International Marketing.
- For Unilever, diversity is key to their success.



McDonald's: Organizational Structure

- Franchising
 - Approximately 70% of McDonald's worldwide restaurants are owned and operated by franchisees.
 - · "Business format franchising"
 - About 85% of McDonald's are locally owned and operated

McDonald's: Marketing Strategy

- Mass Marketing Strategy
 - Displaces strategies which revolve around national, regional, and cultural differences
 Global Branding
- Homogeneous Product
 - Meanings of product vary between cultures, even if the product is exactly the same
- Adapting the Product Line
 - 1997: Success in the adaptation to local tastes





3) Molson

- "Vision is to become and remain one of the top producing beer companies in the world"
- Produces beer in Canada and Brazil
- Exports beer to the U.S., the U.K., Switzerland and Germany

Molson: Brazil

- Brazil main target of international growth strategy
 - 2000 acquired Bavaria S. A. brand
 - 2003 acquired Cervejarias Kaiser Brasil S.A.
 - · Marketing regulations in Brazil
 - forbid erotic content and explicit exhortations to drink

Molson: USA

- Repurchased 100% of the brand in 2001
- Marketing strategies:
 - "let your Molson do your talking"



Molson

- Adapts promotion Molson USA
- Keeps product and promotion the same -Brazil
- Within the US, a more international approach emerges; can be considered a multinational with regards to Brazil

In Summary...Molson

- Recognizes cultural differences
- Emphasizes market segmentation
- Acknowledges remoteness and place decisions
- Emerging with a more international approach to marketing in US, but maintain domestic brands in Brazil

Conclusion

- "I am a citizen not of Athens or Greece, but of the world." -Socrates
- International marketing takes a variety of forms.
- There is not a 'right' way to target global markets.
- Each place has natural advantages (comparative advantages) over other places in the production of certain goods
- Thus, international marketing creates a more efficient system.

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Questions?