

CHAPTER 1

Strategic Management

Management of Strategy
Concepts and Cases

Michael A. Hitt • R. Duane Ireland • Robert E. Hoskisson

## **KNOWLEDGE OBJECTIVES**

Studying this chapter should provide you with the strategic management knowledge needed to:

- 1. Define strategic competitiveness, strategy, competitive advantage, above-average returns, and the strategic management process.
- Describe the 21st-century competitive landscape and explain how globalization and technological changes shape it.
- 3. Use the industrial organization (I/O) model to explain how firms can earn above-average returns.
- 4. Use the resource-based model to explain how firms can earn above-average returns.

## KNOWLEDGE OBJECTIVES (cont'd)

Studying this chapter should provide you with the strategic management knowledge needed to:

- 5. Describe vision and mission and discuss their value.
- 6. Define stakeholders and describe their ability to influence organizations.
- 7. Describe the work of strategic leaders.
- 8. Explain the strategic management process.

## **Important Definitions**

- Strategic Competitiveness
  - When a firm successfully formulates and implements a value-creating strategy.
- Strategy
  - An integrated and coordinated set of commitments and actions designed to exploit core competencies and gain a competitive advantage.
- Competitive Advantage
  - When a firm implements a strategy that its competitors are unable to duplicate or find too costly to try to imitate.

# Important Definitions (cont'd)

## Risk

 An investor's uncertainty about the economic gains or losses that will result from a particular investment.

## Average Returns

 Returns equal to those an investor expects to earn from other investments with a similar amount of risk.

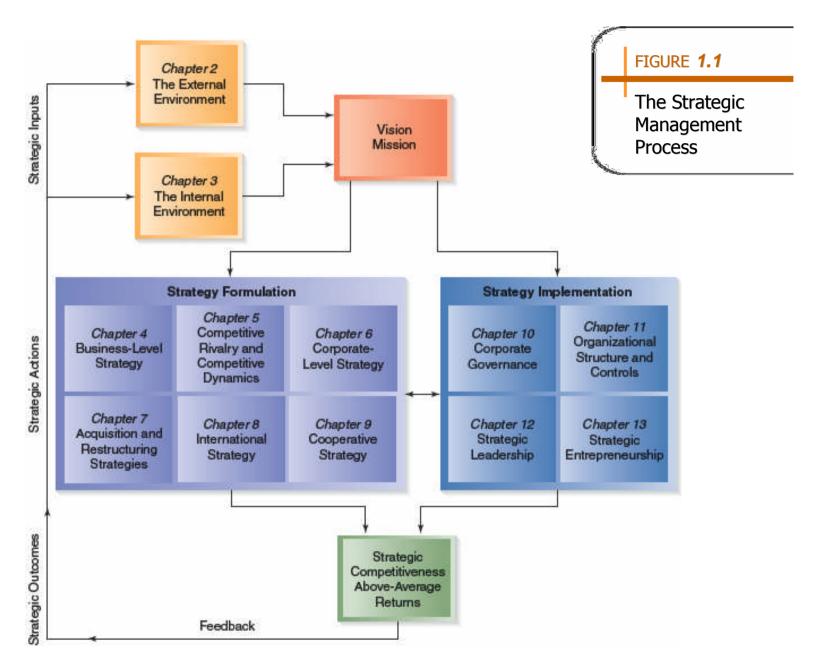
## Above-average Returns

 Returns in excess of what an investor expects to earn from other investments with a similar amount of risk.

# Important Definitions (cont'd)

- Strategic Management Process
  - The full set of commitments, decisions, and actions required for a firm to achieve strategic competitiveness and earn above-average returns.





## The 21st-Century Competitive Landscape

- A Perilous Business World
  - Rapid changes in industry boundaries and markets
  - Conventional sources of competitive advantage losing effectiveness
  - Enormous investments required to compete globally
  - Severe consequences for failure
- Developing and Implementing Strategy
  - Allows for planned actions rather than reactions
  - Helps coordinate business unit strategies

## The Competitive Landscape



# Hypercompetition

A condition of rapidly escalating competition based on:

- Price-quality positioning
- Competition to create new know-how and establish first-mover advantage
- Competition to protect or invade established product or geographic markets

# **Global Economy**

- The Global Economy
  - Goods, people, skills, and ideas move freely across geographic borders.
  - Movement is relatively unfettered by artificial constraints.
  - Expansion into global arena complicates a firm's competitive environment.
    - Short-term: Where is the fastest growth likely to occur?
    - Long-term: Where will sustainable growth occur?

# Global Economy (cont'd)

- The March of Globalization
  - Increased economic interdependence among countries—the flow of goods and services, financial capital, and knowledge across country borders
    - Higher performance levels—quality, cost, productivity, product introduction time, and operational efficiency
  - Increased range of opportunities for companies competing in the 21st-century competitive landscape
    - Liability of foreignness—the risks of participating outside of a firm's domestic country in the global economy
    - The amount of time required for firms to learn how to compete in markets that are new to them.

## Technology and Technological Changes

- Technology Diffusion
  - The speed at which new technologies become available
- Disruptive Technologies
  - Technologies that destroy the value of existing technology and create new markets
- Perpetual Innovation
  - The rapidity and consistency with which new, information-intensive technologies replace older ones

# Technological Changes

- The Information Age
  - The ability to effectively and efficiently access and use information has become an important source of competitive advantage.
  - Technology includes personal computers, cellular phones, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, massive databases, electronic networks, internet trade.



# Technological Changes (cont'd)

- Increasing Knowledge Intensity
  - Knowledge as a critical organizational resource for creating an intangible competitive advantage
  - Strategic flexibility: the set of capabilities used to respond to various demands and opportunities in dynamic and uncertain competitive environments
  - Organizational slack: slack resources that allow the firm flexibility to respond to environmental changes
  - Organizational capacity to learn

# I/O Model of Above-Average Returns

- Dominance of the External Environment
  - The industry in which a firm competes has a stronger influence on the firm's performance than do the choices managers make inside their organizations.
- Industry Properties Determining Performance
  - Economies of scale
  - Barriers to market entry
  - Diversification
  - Product differentiation
  - Degree of concentration of firms in the industry

## Four Assumptions of the I/O Model

- External environment imposes pressures and constraints that determine strategies leading to above-average returns.
- Most firms competing in an industry control similar strategically relevant resources and pursue similar strategies.
- Resources used to implement strategies are highly mobile across firms.
- Organizational decision makers are assumed to be rational and committed to acting in the firm's best interests (profit-maximizing).

## FIGURE 1.2

The I/O Model of Above-Average Returns

- Study the external environment, especially the industry environment.
- Locate an industry with high potential for aboveaverage returns.
- Identify the strategy called for by the attractive industry to earn aboveaverage returns.
- Develop or acquire assets and skills needed to implement the strategy.
- Use the firm's strengths (its developed or acquired assets and skills) to implement the strategy.

#### The External Environment

- · The general environment
- · The industry environment
- · The competitor environment

### An Attractive Industry

 An industry whose structural characteristics suggest aboveaverage returns

#### Strategy Formulation

 Selection of a strategy linked with above-average returns in a particular industry

#### Assets and Skills

 Assets and skills required to implement a chosen strategy

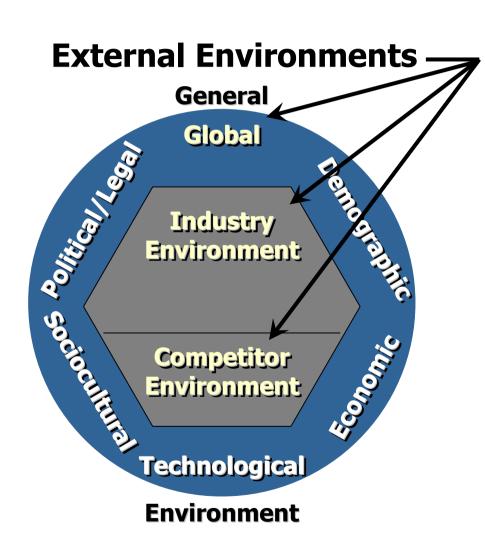
#### Strategy Implementation

 Selection of strategic actions linked with effective implementation of the chosen strategy

## **Superior Returns**

Earning of above-average returns

# I/O Model of Above-Average Returns



- 1. Strategy is dictated by the external environment of the firm—what opportunities exist in these environments?
- 2. Firm develops internal skills required by external environment—what can the firm do about the opportunities?

## The External Environment

- 1. Study the external environment, especially the industry environment:
  - Economies of scale
  - Barriers to market entry
  - Diversification
  - Product differentiation
  - Degree of concentration of firms in the industry

The External Environment

**Attractive Industry** 

2. Locate an attractive industry with a high potential for above-average returns.

Attractive industry:
One whose structural
characteristics suggest
above-average returns.

The External Environment

**Attractive Industry** 

**Strategy Formulation** 

3. Identify the strategy called for by the attractive industry to earn above-average returns.

Strategy formulation: Selection of a strategy linked with above-average returns in a particular industry.

The External Environment

**Attractive Industry** 

**Strategy Formulation** 

**Assets and Skills** 

4. Develop or acquire assets and skills needed to implement a chosen strategy.

Assets and skills: those assets and skills required to implement a chosen strategy.

## Five Forces Model of Competition

- Industry Profitability
  - The industry's rate of return on invested capital relative to its cost of capital
- An industry's profitability results from interaction among:
  - Suppliers
  - Buyers
  - Competitive rivalry among firms currently in the industry
  - Product substitutes
  - Potential entrants to the industry

## Five Forces Model of Competition (cont'd)

- Firms earn above-average returns by:
  - Cost leadership
    - Producing standardized products or services
  - Differentiation
    - Manufacturing differentiated products for which customers are willing to pay a price premium



# The Resource-Based Model of Above-Average Returns

## Model Assumptions

- Each organization is a collection of unique resources and capabilities that provides the basis for its strategy and that is the primary source of its returns.
- Capabilities evolve and must be managed dynamically.
- Differences in firms' performances are due primarily to their unique resources and capabilities rather than structural characteristics of the industry.
- Firms acquire different resources and develop unique capabilities.

## FIGURE 1.3

The Resource-Based Model of Above-Average Returns

- Identify the firm's resources. Study its strengths and weaknesses compared with those of competitors.
- 2. Determine the firm's capabilities. What do the capabilities allow the firm to do better than its competitors?
- Determine the potential of the firm's resources and capabilities in terms of a competitive advantage.
- Locate an attractive industry.
- Select a strategy that best allows the firm to utilize its resources and capabilities relative to opportunities in the external environment.

#### Resources

Inputs into a firm's production process

## Capability

 Capacity of an integrated set of resources to integratively perform a task or activity

## **Competitive Advantage**

 Ability of a firm to outperform its rivals

## An Attractive Industry

 An industry with opportunities that can be exploited by the firm's resources and capabilities

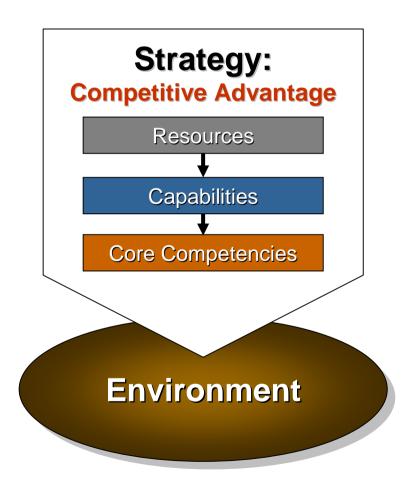
## Strategy Formulation and Implementation

 Strategic actions taken to earn aboveaverage returns

## **Superior Returns**

Earning of above-average returns

# Resource-Based Model of Above-Average Returns (cont'd)



- 1. Strategy is dictated by the firm's unique resources and capabilities.
- 2. Find an environment in which to exploit these assets (where are the best opportunities?)

## Resources and Capabilities

- Resources
  - Inputs into a firm's production process:
    - Capital equipment
    - Skills of individual employees
    - Patents
    - Finances
    - Talented managers

- Capabilities
  - Capacity of a set of resources to perform in an integrative manner
  - A capability should *not* be:
    - So simple that it is highly imitable.
    - So complex that it defies internal steering and control.

Resources

Resources: inputs into a firm's production process

1. Identify the firm's resources strengths and weaknesses compared with competitors

Resources

Capability

Capability: capacity of an integrated set of resources to integratively perform a task or activity.

2. Determine the firm's capabilities—what it can do better than its competitors.

Resources

Capability

**Competitive Advantage** 

Competitive advantage: ability of a firm to outperform its rivals.

3. Determine the potential of the firm's resources and capabilities in terms of a competitive advantage.

Resources

Capability

**Competitive Advantage** 

**Attractive Industry** 

Attractive industry: an industry with opportunities that can be exploited by the firm's resources and capabilities.

4. Locate an attractive industry.

Resources

Capability

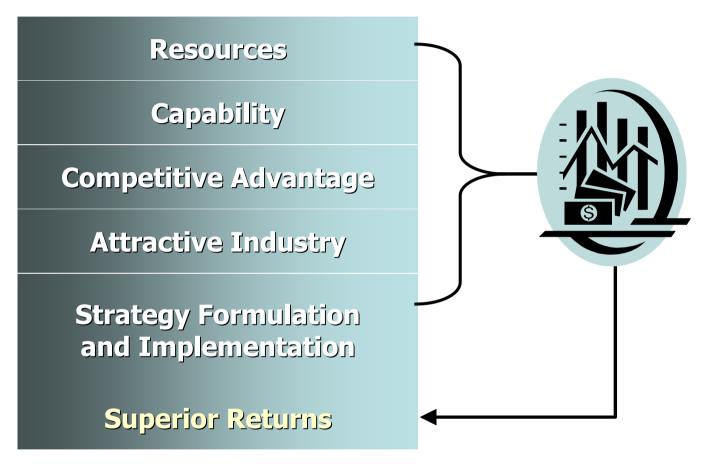
**Competitive Advantage** 

**Attractive Industry** 

Strategy Formulation and Implementation

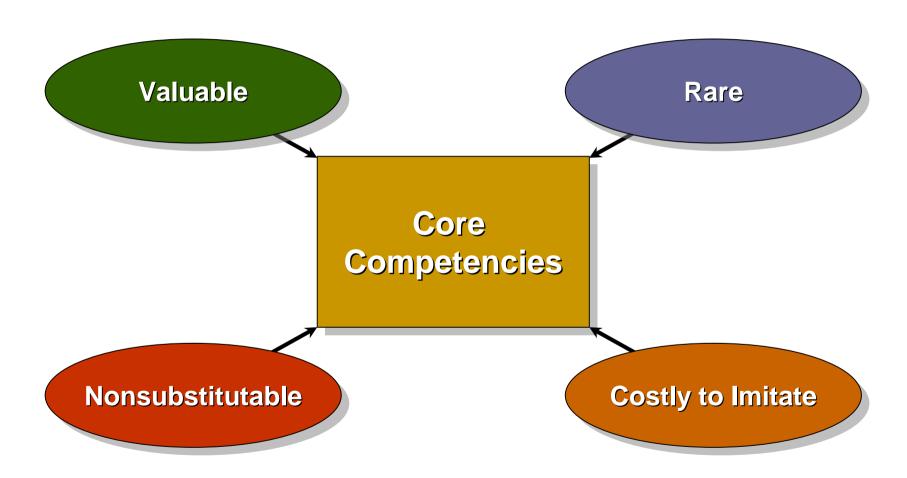
Strategy formulation and implementation: strategic actions taken to earn above average returns.

5. Select a strategy that best allows the firm to utilize its resources and capabilities relative to opportunities in the external environment.



Superior returns: earning above-average returns

#### <u>Criteria for Resources and Capabilities That</u> <u>Become Core Competencies</u>



# How Resources and Capabilities Provide Competitive Advantage

**Valuable** Allow the firm to exploit opportunities or

neutralize threats in its external environment

**Rare** Possessed by few, if any, current and

potential competitors

**Costly to imitate** When other firms cannot obtain them or

must obtain them at a much higher cost

**Nonsubstitutable** The firm is organized appropriately to obtain

the full benefits of the resources in order to

realize a competitive advantage

### **Core Competencies**

- When the four key criteria of resources and capabilities are met, they become core competencies.
- Managerial competencies are especially important.
- Core competencies serve as a source of competitive advantage, create value, and provide the opportunity for above-average returns.

### Why Two Models?

- Industrial Organization
   Resource-Based (I/O) Model
  - Focuses on the environment outside the firm.
- Model
  - Focuses on the inside of the firm

Successful strategy formulation and implementation actions result only when the firm properly uses both models.

### Vision and Mission

#### Vision

- A enduring picture of what the firm wants to be and, in broad terms, what it wants to ultimately achieve.
  - Stretches and challenges people and evokes emotions and dreams.
- Effective vision statements are:
  - Developed by a host of people from across the organization.
  - Clearly tied to external and internal environmental conditions.
  - Consistent with strategic leaders' decisions and actions.

### Vision and Mission (cont'd)

#### Mission

- Specifies the business or businesses in which the firm intends to compete and the customers it intends to serve.
- Is more concrete than the firm's vision.
- Is more effective when it fosters strong ethical standards.
- Above-average returns are the fruits of the firm's efforts to achieve its vision and mission.

#### **Stakeholders**

- Individuals and groups who can affect, and are affected by, the strategic outcomes achieved and who have enforceable claims on a firm's performance.
  - Claims on the firm's performance are enforced by the stakeholder's ability to withhold participation essential to the firm's survival.
  - The more critical and valued a stakeholder's participation, the greater a firm's dependency on it.
  - Managers must find ways to either accommodate or insulate the organization from the demands of stakeholders controlling critical resources.

### Stakeholder Involvement

- Two issues affect the extent of stakeholder involvement in the firm:
  - How to divide returns to keep stakeholders involved?
  - How to increase returns so everyone has more to share?



#### FIGURE 1.4

#### The Three Stakeholder Groups

Stakeholders People who are affected by a firm's performance and who have claims on its performance

#### **Capital Market Stakeholders**

- Shareholders
- Major suppliers of capital (e.g., banks)

#### **Product Market Stakeholders**

- Primary customers
- Suppliers
- Host communities
- Unions

#### **Organizational Stakeholders**

- Employees
- Managers
- Nonmanagers

### **Stakeholders**

Capital Market
Stakeholders

#### **Capital Market Stakeholders**

Shareholders Major suppliers of capital

- Banks
- Private lenders
- Venture capitalists

### Capital Market Stakeholders

- Shareholders and lenders expect the firm to preserve and enhance the wealth they have entrusted to it.
  - Want the return on their investment (and, hence, their wealth) to be maximized.
  - Expect returns to be commensurate with the degree of risk to the shareholder.
- Management must balance the interests of shareholders and lenders with its concerns for the firm's future competitive ability.

### Stakeholders (cont'd)

**Capital Market Stakeholders** 

Product Market
Stakeholders

#### **Product Market Stakeholders**

- Customers
- Suppliers
- Host communities
- Unions

#### Product Market Stakeholders

- Customers
  - Demand reliable products at low prices
- Suppliers
  - Seek loyal customers willing to pay highest sustainable prices for goods and services
- Host communities
  - Want companies willing to be long-term employers and providers of tax revenues while minimizing demands on public support services
- Union officials
  - Want secure jobs and desirable working conditions

### Stakeholders (cont'd)

Capital Market
Stakeholders

Product Market Stakeholders

Organizational Stakeholders

## Organizational Stakeholders

- Employees
- Managers
- Nonmanagers

### Organizational Stakeholders

- Employees
  - Expect a dynamic, stimulating and rewarding work environment.
  - Are satisfied by a company that is growing and actively developing their skills.



### **Strategic Leaders**

- Strategic Leaders
  - People located in different parts of the firm who are using the strategic management process to help the firm reach its vision and mission.
- Prerequisites for Effective Strategic Leadership
  - Hard work
  - Thorough analyses
  - Honesty
  - Desire for accomplishment
  - Common sense



### Strategic Leaders (cont'd)

- Organizational Culture
  - The complex set of ideologies, symbols, and core values that are shared throughout the firm and that influence how the firm conducts business.
- The Value of a Functional Organizational Culture
  - Supports effective delegation of strategic responsibilities
  - Provides support for strategic leaders
  - Encourages social energy
  - Fosters of respect for others

### <u>Predicting Outcomes of Strategic Decisions:</u> <u>Profit Pools</u>

- Profit Pool
  - The total profits earned in an industry at all points along the value chain
- Identifying the components of a profit pool:
  - Define the pool's boundaries.
  - Estimate the pool's overall size.
  - Estimate size of each value-chain activity in the pool.
  - Reconcile the calculations—which activity provides the most profit potential?

#### Strategic Management Process

- Study the external and internal environments.
- Identify marketplace opportunities and threats.
- Determine how to use core competencies.
- Use strategic intent to leverage resources, capabilities and core competencies and win competitive battles.
- Integrate formulation and implementation of strategies.
- Seek feedback to improve strategies.