

## **The Customer Journey**

Demand Generation Model & Building the Sales Playbook

## Agenda

- Customer Journey Overview
- Top of Funnel: Awareness
- Middle of Funnel: Evaluation
- Bottom of Funnel: Customer Experience

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Sales Playbook

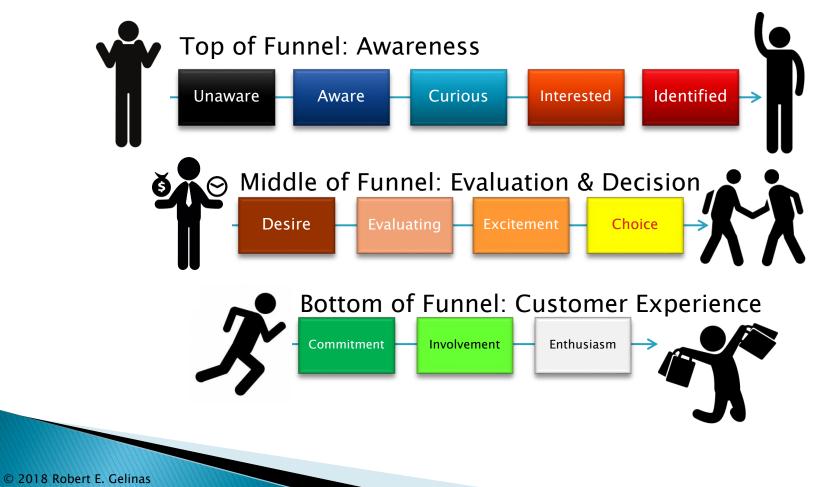
## From Stranger to Brand Promoter

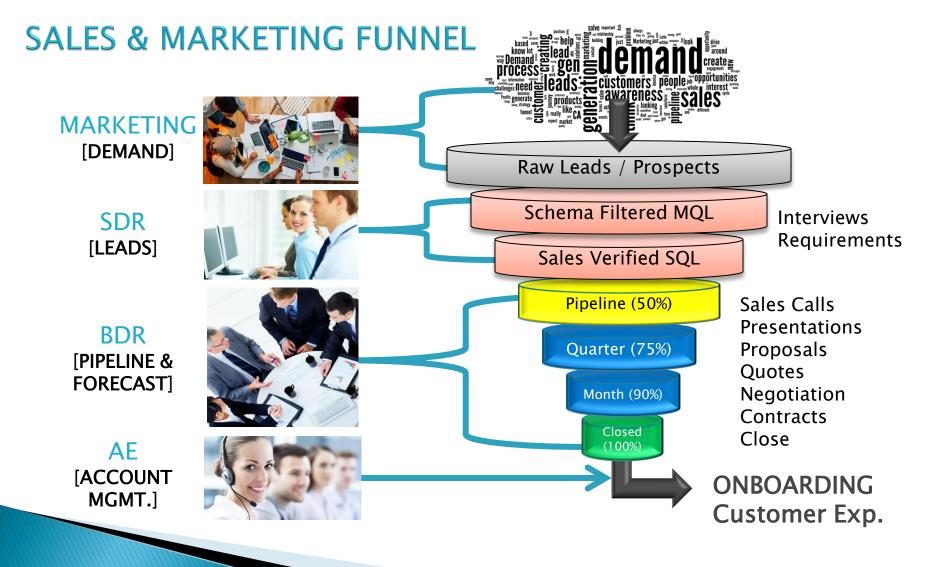
#### Top of Funnel: Awareness

- 1. Creating Awareness
- 2. Initial Engagement
- 3. Subscribers / Followers
- 4. Conversion: Prospect to Lead
- Middle of Funnel: Evaluation
  - 4. Sales Qualification: MQL to SQL
  - 5. Building Prospect Excitement
  - 6. Buyer Ascension: SQL to Customer
- Decision Event
  - 7. Commitment
- Bottom of Funnel: Customer Experience
  - 8. Monetization
  - 9. Customer Success
  - 10. Advocates and Promoters



## The Psychographic Journey





# TOP OF FUNNEL (TOF)

>>> Prospect AWARENESS

### **TOF Awareness: Creating Awareness**

#### Advertising

- PPC/SEM (Google & Bing)
- Print & Display
- Retargeting / Remarketing
- Social Media
  - LinkedIn, Facebook,
  - Twitter, YouTube,
  - Pinterest, Instagram

### Organic Search

- Website Content (SEO)
- Blog, White Papers
- Case Studies, PR,
- Infographics, Primary Research

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Aware

### **TOF Awareness:** Initial Engagement (Prospect's Investment of Time)

Curious

Interested

- <u>Ungated</u> Entry Point Offers (EPO) (in addition to Organic Search Content)
  - Blog Posts
  - Podcasts
  - Videos
- Retargeting Campaigns
  - Additional Touches to past visitors
- Anonymous Engagement
  - But not invisible (e.g. Visualvisitor.com)



#### Desire

### **TOF Awareness: Conversion**

#### • Gated Entry Point Offers:

- Interactive Engagement of Prospect's Time and/or Money
- Very Low \$ or High–Discount Introductory Offer
- Webinar / Podcast Active Participation
- Demo Participation
- Conversion of Raw Prospect (Suspect) to Warm Market Qualified Lead (MQL)
  - Prospect becomes Aware of Company Brand and Offerings
  - Company has Contact Info and Opt-in Interaction with Prospect
  - Sales Team Engagement

#### Channels

- Website, Landing Pages, Micro-sites, Referrals
- Email Campaigns, PPC/SEM, Social Networks
- Trade Events, Networking/Sponsored Events

#### CRM Capture

Opt-in Reply and Targeted Database



### **TOF** Awareness: Automation/Tools

### CRM

- Enterprise: Salesforce.com
- SMB: Zoho.com
- Startup: SugarCRM

### Marketing

- Enterprise: Pardot, Marketo
- SMB: Hubspot.com
- Startup: Zoho.com

### Target Database

Discoverorg.com

### Email Campaigns

- Mail Chimp
- Constant Contact

### Analytics & Optimization

- Google, Alexa
- Visual Website Optimizer
- Virtual Visitor

### Social Media

- Hootsuite.com
- Klout.com
- Meetedgar.com
- Vidiq.com



## MIDDLE OF FUNNEL (MOF)

### >>> Prospect EVALUATION



### **MOF Evaluation:** Sales Qualification

- SQL Qualification Schema (B2B) Weighted Score
  - Need/Pain-Point & Solution Fit Validation
  - Recruitment of an Inside Champion
  - Identification of:
    - Economic Decision Maker
    - Relevant Recommenders and Influencers
    - Relevant competitors, if applicable
    - Incumbent vendors, if applicable
  - Understanding of:
    - Project approval process within the organization
    - Funding process and available funding for the deal

### • Convert MQL to SQL

Lead becomes Opportunity/Deal in CRM







### **MOF Evaluation:** Building Excitement

### Objective:

- To create understanding and desirability of what the solution "OUTCOME" (AFTER) will be like, in contrast to the status quo (BEFORE)
- People don't buy products/services they buy desired *Outcomes*

### Education Tools:

 Reports, White Papers, Sales Collaterals, Case Studies/References, Handouts, Cheat Sheets, Resource Lists, Templates, Surveys, Assessments, etc.

#### Solution Design:

 Requirements Gathering, Proposals/Quotes, ROI/TCO Analysis, Trials/Demos/Pilots





### **MOF Evaluation: Buyer Ascension**

- Making the Core Offer
- Negotiation / Objection Handling
- Administrative Process
- Closing
- Onboard Initiation

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Choice

# Bottom of Funnel (BOF)

>>>

### The Post-Sales CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

### **BOF Customer Experience:** Monetization

- Contract Finalization
  - Legal review
  - Amendments
- Contract Execution
- Order Entry Process
- Customer Administrative Training
- Billing Process





Commitment

Involvement

### **BOF Customer Experience: Customer Success**

- Training & Education
  - Webinars, Videos, Infographics, User Manuals, Consultation, Tips, Cheat sheets
  - Newsletter, Best-Practices Campaigns
- Customer Support
  - Help Desk, FAQs, Knowledge Base
  - User Forum / Blog
  - Escalation Process
- Account Management
  - Regular Account Maintenance Touches
  - Upsell / Cross-sell Opportunities
  - ROI Report Card
- Mobile App

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• iOS (Apple) & Android (Google)



### **BOF Customer Experience:** Advocates and Promoters



- Passive, Reactive
- Testimonials, Case Studies, Blurbs, Videos
- Promotional Events, Referrals
- Growing Brand Promoters
  - Active, Proactive
  - Social Media Influencers, Industry Experts, Product Reviewers, Partnerships
  - Customer Loyalty Events
  - Customer Advisory Board (CAB)

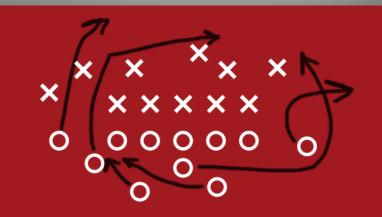






## SALES PLAYBOOK

Documented Sales Process, Standards, and Resources



## Sales Playbook Template

- 1. Company Overview
- 2. Products/Services
  - a. Pricing b. Use Cases
- 3. Sales Process
- 4. Personas / ICP
- 5. Multi-Touch Cadences

6. Messaging

- 7. Examples / Scripts
- 8. CRM Conventions
- 9. Selling Methodology
- 10. Compensation Plan
- 11. KPIs
- 12. Resources / Assets

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

#### Marketing

- Manager (Dir./VP)
  - Webmaster
  - Graphics / Creative
  - MarCom Manager / PR
  - Digital Marketing Manager
    - CRM / Automation
    - Analytics / Optimization
  - Campaign Manager(s)
  - Product Manager(s)
  - Writers
    - Technical
    - Content / Copy
  - Social Media Manager / Blog
  - Market Researcher(s)
  - Marketing Support / Events Coord.

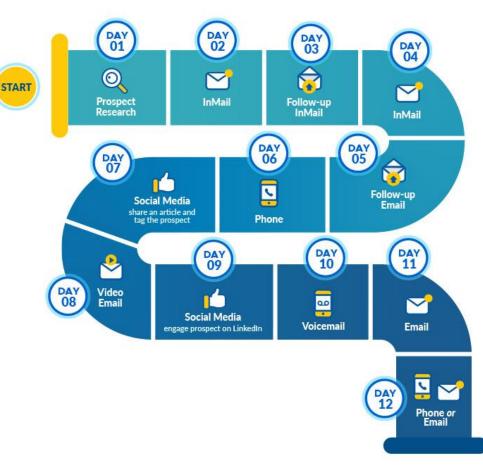
#### Sales

- Manager (Dir./VP)
  - Account Executives (AE)
  - Business Development Reps (BDR)
  - Sales Development Reps (SDR)
  - Channel Manager / OEM / Partners
  - Systems Engineers (SE)
  - Sales Support



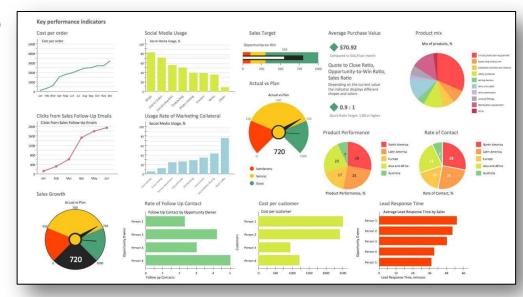
## Sample Sales Cadence: SDRs

- 12-Day Window
- 11 Touches
  - Email
  - LinkedIn InMail
  - Phone
  - Video Mail
  - Social Media
  - Voicemail
- Advance Research



### Sales Key Performance Indicators (KPI)

- Average Transaction Value (ATV) / Average Customer Value (ACV)
  - Can be interpolated to Lifetime Total Value (LTV)
- Average Sales Cycle (ASC) Time
- Raw Lead/Funnel Volume
- Ratio of Pipeline to Total Commit Forecast (Quarter and Month)
- Closure Rate of all Pipeline
- Win/Loss Rate of all Commit Forecast Revenue
- Closed Revenue & Percent of Total Team Quota attainment
- Team Productivity Ratio (number of sales team to gross revenue)



## Marketing KPIs

- Average Customer Value (ACV)
  - Top-line revenue & Gross Margin
- Cost of Acquisition (COA) or Customer Acquisition Cost (CAC)
- Volume and Growth Rate of TOF Suspects/Prospects
- Volume and Growth Rate of MQLs
- Campaign Revenue Attribution (CRA)
- Campaign Metrics
  - Click-through-Rate (CTR)
  - Convert to Purchase (CTP)
  - Bounce Rates
  - Visitor Time/Depth onsite (Stickiness)



## **Sample Qualification Factors**

- Is it an existing or new customer?
- Is there a defined need / pain point?
- What's the deal worth?
- Is there budget available?
- Is our solution a good fit & desirable outcome?
- What is the desired time frame for a solution?
- Who is the incumbent competitor, if any?
- Who is the primary decision maker and are we aligned with them?
- Is the educational burden in this opportunity high or low?
- What the best competitive strategy for this opportunity?
- What obstacles will we need to overcome in order to win this deal?



# Inbound Marketing to Account-Based Marketing (ABM) Synergy

- Persona / Avatar / Ideal Customer Profile (ICP)
- Use ICP to extract Highly Segmented and Accurate Target Database – Discoverorg.com
- > Design Email Offer Campaign (e.g. White Paper offer)
  - Email copy (Subject, Body)
  - Landing Page copy and download link to WP
  - CTA: Ungated, recipient link tracked on download
- Setup Campaign Cadence in Marketing Automation System – Hubspot.com
- Execute Campaign
- A/B & Multivariate Testing
  - vwo.com, unbounce.com, optimizely.com
- Analytics Assessment



"Not either/or, but both."

## Summary & Takeaways

- The Goal of Sales and Marketing is to produce satisfied happy customers
- The means of producing satisfied happy customers is to deliver an OUTCOME for a customer that:
  - Achieves a customer's desired goal
  - Solves a customer's problem / pain-point
  - Mitigates a customer's fear
- The key to successful Demand Generation is found in recognizing the Customer Journey and communicating the appropriate messaging and offers at the right time
- The key to successful Sales is executing a disciplined, documentable process of "Doing ALL the Right Things Right"
  - Unsuccessful Sales is either not knowing all the right things to do, or
  - Failure to execute the right steps correctly