

CSR As A Component of Brand Strategy



What is Strategy?



- 1. Strategy is the most efficient way of achieving a company's Vision.
- 2. Strategy is the best possible fit between Structures, Systems, Style, Staff & Skills. (McKinsey)
- 3. Strategy in a business enterprise is only three things:
 - a) Cost Effectiveness
 - b) Differentiation
 - c) Niche Markets

(Michael Porter)



What is CSR?



- CSR is not philanthropy.
- CSR is a combination of the following:
 - 1) Citizenship Company is a good Corporate Citizen. It supports good causes and protects the environment.
 - 2) Governance Company is responsibly run. It behaves ethically, is open, and transparent in its business dealings.
 - 3) Workplace Company is an appealing place to work.



What is Brand



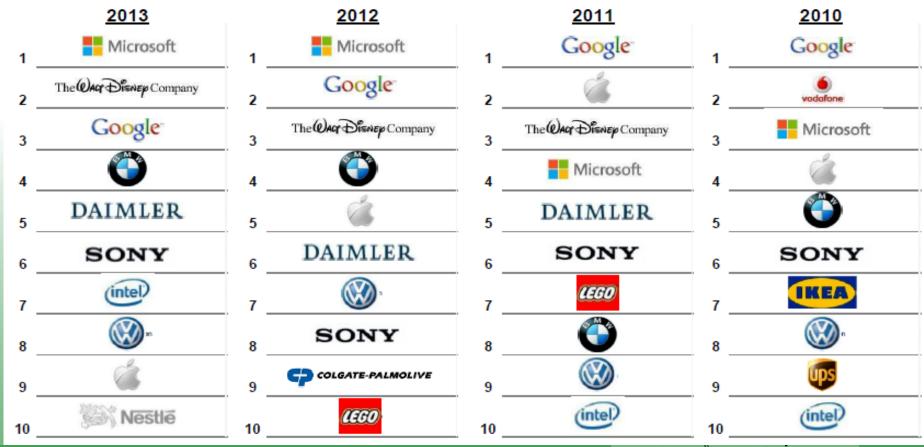
A brand is a name, term, sign, symbol, design or a combination of them intended to identify the goods and services of one seller or group of sellers and to differentiate them from competition.

American Marketing Association



Top Companies by repute in the last 4 years

- Repute measured by citizenship, governance & workplace.
- These brands are among top 100 brands of the world with respect to Brand equity



Why Should CSR be a component of Strategy?



Breakthrough study by Michael Porter & Mark Kramer. Strategy & Society. The link between Competitive Advantage & Corporate Social Responsibility, 2006.

- Stakeholders are increasingly willing to hold companies accountable for social issues with frightening financial results-Shell spent \$5 billion (£3.1 billion) on its Arctic Exploration programme (2012)
- Extensive consumer boycott of Nike in 1990 for abusive labor practices in Indonesia.
- Boycott of McDonald's in 2004 because of the documentary "Supersize Me."

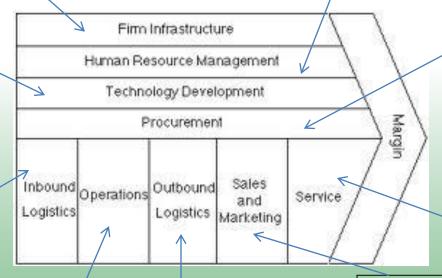
Porter's model for competitive advantage acros value chain

- Relationships with universities
- Ethical research practices
- Product Safety
- Conservation of raw materials
- Recycling

- Financial reporting practices
- Government practices
- Transparency
- Use of lobbying

- · Education & job training
- Safe working conditions
- Diversity & discrimination
- Health care
- Compensation policies
- Layoff policies

- Procurement & Supply chain practices (e.g. bribery &child labor)
- Uses of particular inputs(e.g. animal fur)
- Utilization of natural resources



- Transportation impacts (e.g. emissions.)
- Energy & Water use
- Worker safety
- Hazardous materials
- Packaging use & disposal (McDonalds)
- Transportation impacts

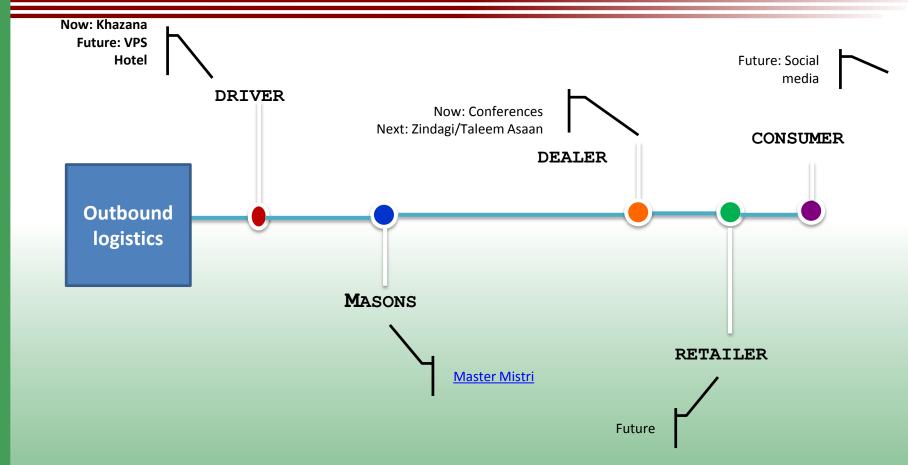
- Marketing & Advertising
- Pricing practices
- Consumer information

Disposal of obsolete products



CSR at Maple Leaf







Points to ponder



- In 1970 the economist and Nobel laureate Milton Friedman called corporate social responsibility "hypocritical window dressing" saying that businesspeople inclined toward it "reveal a suicidal impulse." How times have changed. Some executives still take a Friedmanesque view, but most accept social and civic responsibility as indispensable to doing good business; their enterprise wont survive if those responsibilities are ignored?
- Is CSR across the value chain real Branding?

