

# Global New Product Introduction

**NPI Workshop**

**Munich**

**November 5, 2008**

**75** Years of  
Driving  
Innovation



**ROHDE & SCHWARZ**

# NPI Process Rationale

## ➤ **Why does R&S need to improve our New Product Introduction (NPI) process?**

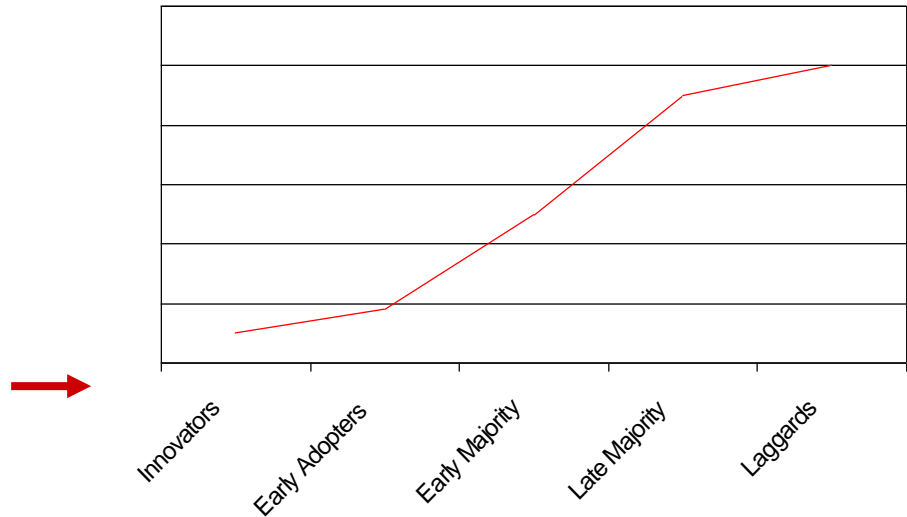
- ❖ Lower the risks associated with the introduction of new products
- ❖ Decrease product launch cycle time to better synchronize global introductions
- ❖ Ensure alignment of new products with company's objectives
- ❖ Apply proper focus of resources at the local level
- ❖ Maintain a strong competitive advantage in each of our markets
- ❖ Create sales velocity for our new products that maximizes profitability
- ❖ Meet the evolving needs of our customers

## ➤ **Coordination and Speed are key**

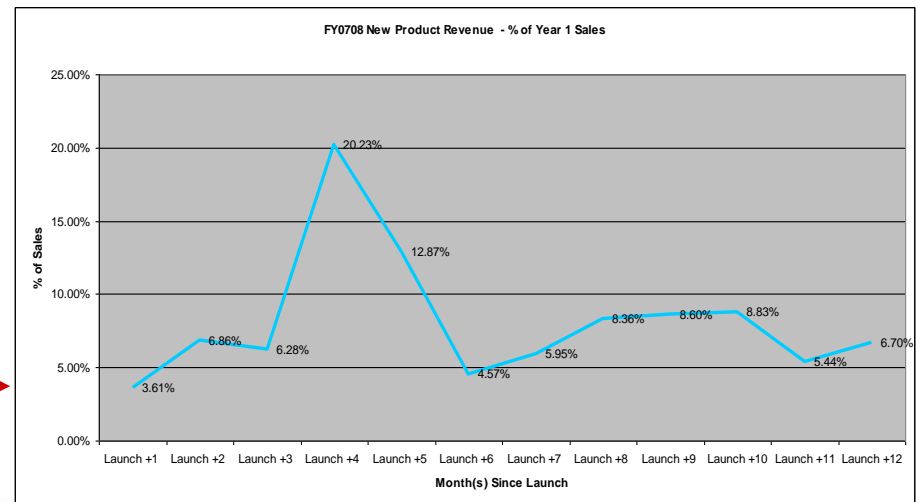
- ❖ We must set the pace in our industry for new product /feature introduction and improvement to meet competitive challenges
- ❖ This requires focused, decision-oriented, empowered, and accountable teams driven by Sales needs and coordinated by Product Marketing
- ❖ Building Sales Momentum or Market Velocity for new products requires a great deal of coordination and a quickness in getting our message out

# Product Launch Purpose – Build Momentum

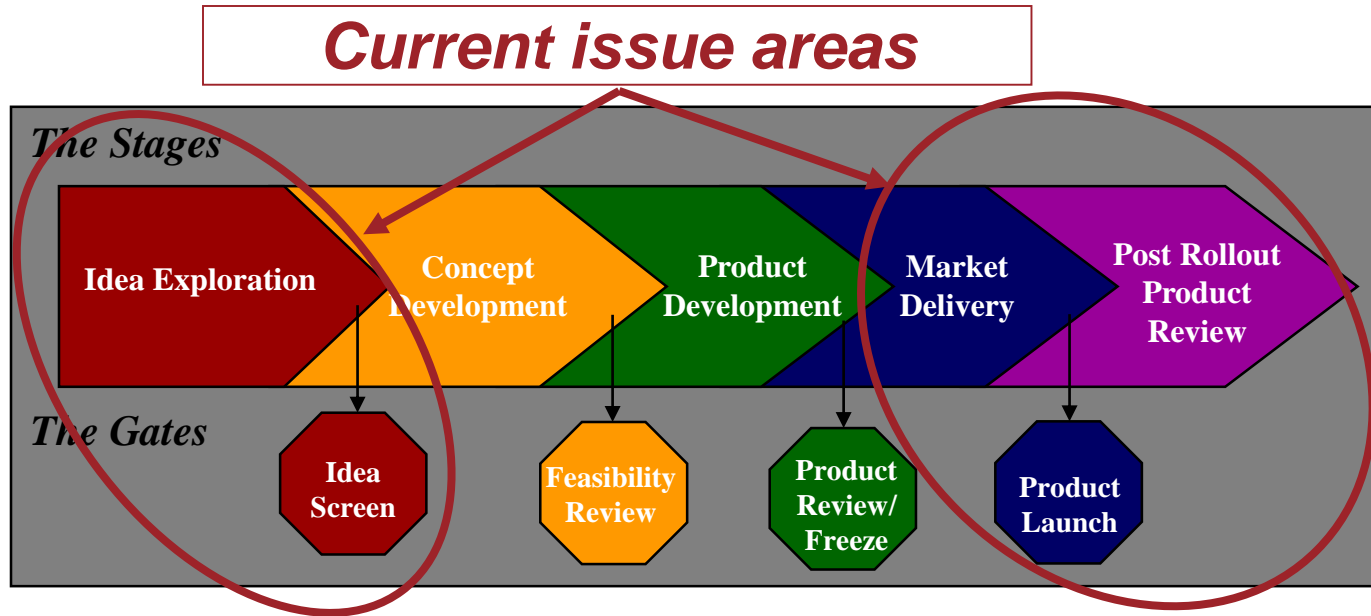
- **Over time, a post-launch revenue curve should show growth**
  - ❖ Product diffusion into our markets relies on large-scale adoption beyond the “early adopters”
  - ❖ Target sales velocity curve should look like this:



- **Most weak product launches show high initial sales volume and then a dramatic drop**
  - ❖ This results from Sales selling to those prospects who need the least effort to understand the product
  - ❖ It is often a result of lack of coordination in handoff between Development, Marketing and Sales
  - ❖ Based on RSA data we fit this exactly



# “Textbook” Stage-Gate NPDP



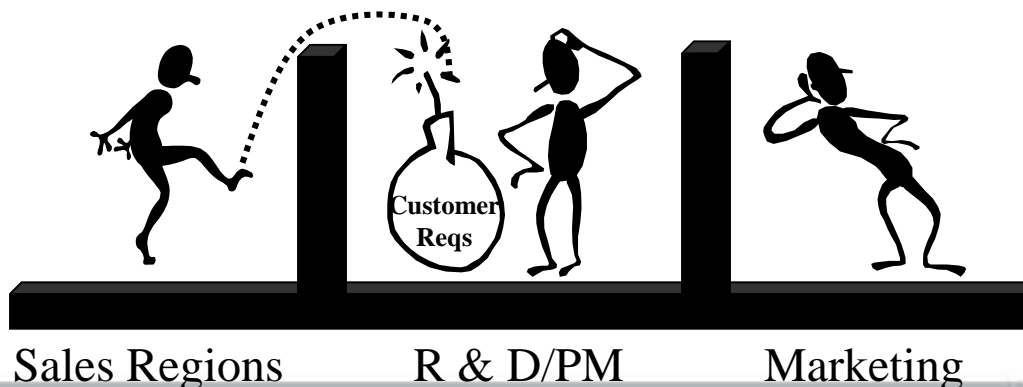
- Under this model the front-end idea exploration involves Sales and Marketing in a closed-loop process for developing product or feature requirements
- Further development of the concepts and the products themselves are primarily an R&D function
- R&S does the Product Development pieces of this very well
- Market Delivery stages insure alignment of the message and the hand-offs from R&D to Marketing to Sales

# Keys to Successful Product Launch

- **Match product capabilities to a market need**
  - ❖ Input from Sales with regional/HQ PM team tracking – closed-loop process required
  - ❖ Customers need to see themselves in our story – depends on marketing message
- **Effectively set the positioning of the product**
  - ❖ Confused buyers do not buy
- **Set clear launch Goals and Objectives**
  - ❖ # of units, revenue, specific customer penetration, etc. – determined cross-functionally with Development, PM, and Sales/Sales subsidiaries
  - ❖ Report on progress
- **Identify resistance to selling**
  - ❖ Sales may show resistance if significant change must occur or if they do not understand the marketing plans
- **Create some leverage in the market**
  - ❖ Inform sales teams as early as possible
  - ❖ Channel partners need to be informed ahead of launch
  - ❖ Industry analysts and the press
- **Product Management determines go-to-market strategy and Marcom executes**

# Current Situation

- **Communication before the product development process is lacking**
  - ❖ Product requirements are delivered “over-the-wall” rather than through bi-lateral communication
  - ❖ Sales and Marketing need to direct R&D but we need to provide good data
  - ❖ Fixing this is a longer-term objective of the process (let’s call it “Stage 2”)
- **Though some inter-departmental coordination takes place on market delivery there are still problems getting all regional teams aligned**
  - ❖ We must improve our coordination of the defined market introduction process from Type Approval 2 through launch
  - ❖ There are currently multiple processes running in parallel in Div1/7, Div9, Div5, etc. that we can integrate to improve our market delivery
  - ❖ A key factor in this is empowering the sales organizations (including those with local marketing) to own this part of the process and drive project activities with guidance from Munich
- **As a result Sales indicates they are not satisfied with our product launches and we are not developing the necessary momentum that is required to realize new revenue streams**



# Current NPI Process

- Product launch has been viewed as an event, not a process
- We treat launch simply as the end of the development process with no official hand-off from Development to Marketing to Sales
- Marketing's responsibility today is to work through a list of deliverables – not plan a full launch program



Subsidiaries' Focus Areas

# Where Do We Start to Improve?

- **Agree on the things we want to fix**
  - ❖ We don't have a standard R&D to Marketing to Sales information flow
  - ❖ Lack of involvement of Sales and Marketing in defining product requirements
  - ❖ A comprehensive launch plan for all new products
  - ❖ Setting goals and objectives to measure product launches
- **Build a set of communication flows and process controls to ensure**
  - ❖ ... a shared vision of how we do things
  - ❖ ... consistent criteria for decision making and project prioritization
  - ❖ ... accountability from all departments
  - ❖ ... tangible metrics for success
- **Eliminate the internal barriers that traditionally have led to problems in communication**
  - ❖ We need to balance the need for secrecy with the need to prepare ourselves better
- **Stage 2: Bring regional sales teams and product teams together on a process of idea exploration for identifying new product opportunities**
  - ❖ Make more educated decisions based on global market intelligence with all subsidiaries acting in concert



# Ideas for R&S Marketing

- **PM and Marcom need to focus more on helping the sales team understand the market and the buying cycle for new products and not just complete a list of deliverables**
  - ❖ Important axiom: Sales Support is helping one salesperson close one deal but Marketing is helping an entire sales channel close deals with a large group of buyers.
- **Sales velocity cannot be achieved if the product does not meet a market need**
  - ❖ Our R&D teams are pulled in many directions but often don't get the solid market intelligence that they need from us
  - ❖ Market-driven product development is key - but it is our responsibility to provide concrete market, competitive and buyer data that can help R&D prioritize
- **We need to work together to make product launches a process that starts well in advance of final development**
  - ❖ Learn about customers, develop positioning, understand market needs (- 120 days)
  - ❖ Understand the effect on the Sales team to recognize where resistance to sell may occur (- 120 days)
  - ❖ Develop awareness programs – products will not sell themselves, our sales people need to know about them (- 90 days)
  - ❖ Develop sales tools that fit the buying cycle for the product (- 90 days)
  - ❖ Create and conduct Sales Readiness training (- 60 to - 30 days)
  - ❖ Determine post launch measures and implement them (- 30 to + 365 days)

# NPI Task Force Formation

## ➤ Objective

- ❖ Create a global Marketing and Sales partnership to facilitate revenue growth from new products
- ❖ Represent the sales subsidiaries in the NPI process
- ❖ Share market information across regions and coordinate requirements
- ❖ Objectively evaluate product decisions
- ❖ **As a global sales team we should focus on generating ideas and carrying out market introductions – product decisions and development remain with the product divisions**

## ➤ Team coordination

- ❖ Div5 to own and manage the team (Schmitz/ Paul)
- ❖ Regional task force with NA, LA, Europe and Asia representatives from sales and/or marketing
- ❖ Product divisions and HQ marketing/PM teams should be represented in order to standardize throughout the company
- ❖ RSA model of PM within a sales subsidiary provides unique expertise to bridge both the front and back ends of the NPI – our tools should be ported and adapted for global implementation as applicable
- ❖ Only working together will we gain the acceptance that is needed to affect change in the global NPI



# Database Demonstration

## ➤ Lotus Notes NPI DB



# RSA's NPI Today

## ➤ **Successes**

- ❖ PM Team has worked with IT to re-launch a process that works the way we do
- ❖ Total cycle time has been reduced significantly
- ❖ Recent introductions such as SMB, CMW270 and FSG have (for the most part) worked the way we want them to and have had marketing campaigns
- ❖ Some in Munich have agreed to a marketing/sales input process to product development – but we have not taken any action to date

## ➤ **Barriers**

- ❖ There is a communication gap between sub-divisions, 1MA, Div9 and subsidiaries
  - A common system could aid in pricing differences, customer information, etc.
- ❖ Over-conservatism with information sharing has caused some delays with things like demos, pricing, etc.
- ❖ There is no real process for the marketing part of the introduction