Chapter 9

ACHIEVING OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE AND CUSTOMER INTIMACY: ENTERPRISE APPLICATIONS

VIDEO CASES
Case 1: Sinosteel Strengthens Business Management with ERP Applications
Case 2: Ingram Micro and H&R Block Get Close to Their Customers
Instructional Video 1: Zara’s “Wearing Today’s Fashions With Supply Chain Management

Learning Objectives
• How do enterprise systems help businesses achieve operational excellence?
• How do supply chain management systems coordinate planning, production, and logistics with suppliers?
• How do customer relationship management systems help firms achieve customer intimacy?
• What are the challenges posed by enterprise applications?
• How are enterprise applications used in platforms for new cross-functional services?

Cannondale Learns to Manage a Global Supply Chain

• Problem – Managing parts in a constantly changing product line with suppliers in many countries
• Solution – Replace legacy MRPS with Kinaxis on-demand Rapid Response software service
  – Allows both Cannondale and suppliers to see up-to-date information; faster customer response; reduced inventory; reduced cycle and lead times
• Illustrates: Need for enterprise-wide system for coordinating supply chain
• Demonstrates: Use of cloud services as solution for implementing enterprise applications

Enterprise Systems
• Enterprise Systems
  – Also called “enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems”
  – Suite of integrated software modules and a common central database
  – Collects data from many divisions of firm for use in nearly all of firm’s internal business activities
  – Information entered in one process is immediately available for other processes
Enterprise Software
- Built around thousands of predefined business processes that reflect best practices
  - Finance/accounting: General ledger, accounts payable, etc.
  - Human resources: Personnel administration, payroll, etc.
  - Manufacturing/production: Purchasing, shipping, etc.
  - Sales/marketing: Order processing, billing, sales planning, etc.
- To implement, firms:
  - Select functions of system they wish to use
  - Map business processes to software processes
    - Use software’s configuration tables for customizing

Business value of enterprise systems
- Increase operational efficiency
- Provide firm wide information to support decision making
- Enable rapid responses to customer requests for information or products
- Include analytical tools to evaluate overall organizational performance

Supply chain:
- Network of organizations and processes for:
  - Procuring raw materials
  - Transforming them into products
  - Distributing the products

Upstream supply chain:
- Firm’s suppliers, suppliers’ suppliers, processes for managing relationships with them

Downstream supply chain:
- Organizations and processes responsible for delivering products to customers
### CUSTOMER INTIMACY: ENTERPRISE APPLICATIONS

**CHAPTER 9: ACHIEVING OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT**

#### FIGURE 9-2

This figure illustrates the major entities in Nike's supply chain and the flow of information upstream and downstream to coordinate the activities involved in buying, making, and moving a product. Shown here is a simplified supply chain, with the upstream portion focusing only on the suppliers for sneakers and sneaker soles.

#### FIGURE 9-3

Inaccurate information can cause minor fluctuations in demand for a product to be amplified as one moves further back in the supply chain. Minor fluctuations in retail sales for a product can create excess inventory for distributors, manufacturers, and suppliers.

#### Supply Chain Management Systems

- **Information and supply chain management**
  - Inefficiencies cut into a company's operating costs
    - Can waste up to 25% of operating expenses
  - Just-in-time strategy:
    - Components arrive as they are needed
    - Finished goods shipped after leaving assembly line
  - Safety stock
    - Buffer for lack of flexibility in supply chain
  - **Bullwhip effect**
    - Information about product demand gets distorted as it passes from one entity to next across supply chain

- **Supply chain management software**
  - Supply chain planning systems
    - Model existing supply chain
    - Demand planning
    - Optimize sourcing, manufacturing plans
    - Establish inventory levels
    - Identifying transportation modes
  - Supply chain execution systems
    - Manage flow of products through distribution centers and warehouses
Supply chain management systems

- **Push-based model (build-to-stock)**
  - Schedules based on best guesses of demand
- **Pull-based model (demand-driven)**
  - Customer orders trigger events in supply chain
- **Sequential supply chains**
  - Information and materials flow sequentially from company to company
- **Concurrent supply chains**
  - Information flows in many directions simultaneously among members of a supply chain network

Global supply chain issues

- Global supply chains typically span greater geographic distances and time differences
- More complex pricing issues (local taxes, transportation, etc.)
- Foreign government regulations

Internet helps companies manage many aspects of global supply chains

- Sourcing, transportation, communications, international finance

**The Bullwhip Effect**

The difference between push- and pull-based models is summarized by the slogan, "Make what we sell, not sell what we make."
Supply Chain Management Systems

- Business value of SCM systems
  - Match supply to demand
  - Reduce inventory levels
  - Improve delivery service
  - Speed product time to market
  - Use assets more effectively
  - Reduced supply chain costs lead to increased profitability
  - Increased sales

Customer Relationship Management Systems

- Knowing the customer
  - In large businesses, too many customers and too many ways customers interact with firm
- Customer relationship management (CRM) systems
  - Capture and integrate customer data from all over the organization
  - Consolidate and analyze customer data
  - Distribute customer information to various systems and customer touch points across enterprise
  - Provide single enterprise view of customers
**CUSTOMER INTIMACY:** ENTERPRISE APPLICATIONS

**CRM SOFTWARE CAPABILITIES**

The major CRM software products support business processes in sales, service, and marketing, integrating customer information from many different sources. Included are support for both the operational and analytical aspects of CRM.

**FIGURE 9-8**
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CUSTOMER LOYALTY MANAGEMENT PROCESS MAP

- Operational CRM:
  - Customer-facing applications
    - E.g. sales force automation, call center and customer service support, and marketing automation
  - Analytical CRM:
    - Analyze customer data output from operational CRM applications
    - Based on data warehouses populated by operational CRM systems and customer touch points
      - Customer lifetime value (CLTV)

- Business value of CRM
  - Increased customer satisfaction
  - Reduced direct-marketing costs
  - More effective marketing
  - Lower costs for customer acquisition/retention
  - Increased sales revenue
  - Reduce churn rate
    - Number of customers who stop using or purchasing products or services from a company.
    - Indicator of growth or decline of firm’s customer base
Enterprise Applications: New Opportunities and Challenges

• Highly expensive to purchase and implement
  – $3.5 million to over $12 million
• Technological changes
• Business process changes
• Organizational changes
• Switching costs, dependence on software vendors
• Data standardization, management, cleansing

• Next-generation enterprise applications
  – Move is to make applications more flexible, Web-enabled, integrated with other systems
  – Enterprise suites
    • Software to enable CRM, SCM, and enterprise systems work together and with suppliers and client systems
    • Utilize Web services, SOA
  – Open source & on-demand solutions
  – Mobile compatible; Web 2.0 capabilities
  – Complementary analytics products

ENTERPRISE APPLICATIONS MOVE TO THE CLOUD

Read the Interactive Session and discuss the following questions

• What types of companies are most likely to adopt cloud-based ERP and CRM software services? Why? What companies might not be well-suited for this type of software?
• What are the advantages and disadvantages of using cloud-based enterprise applications?
• What management, organization, and technology issues should be addressed in deciding whether to use a conventional ERP or CRM system versus a cloud-based version?

• Service platform:
  – Integrates multiple applications to deliver a seamless experience for all parties
    • E.g. Order-to-cash process
  – Portal software
    • Used to integrate information from enterprise applications and legacy systems and present it as if coming from a single source
ORDER-TO-CASH SERVICE

Order-to-cash is a composite process that integrates data from individual enterprise systems and legacy financial applications. The process must be modeled and translated into a software system using application integration tools.

FIGURE 9-11

FIGURE 9-11

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