



Goals and Objectives of this Meeting, Introductions

IBM Thought Leaders Forum
Paris, October 29, 1999



Goals and Objectives

- Establish a community of interests among practitioners, observers and scholars
- Develop a dialog among them on the important issues of the day
- Discuss and prioritize these issues so as to set an agenda for the industry
- Facilitate effective and productive research efforts among the community to add to our knowledge of the industry and to encourage optimal decisions by practitioners

Agenda

- **Welcome:** J. Bartman
- **Goals, Objectives, Introductions** D. Sweeney
- **Keynote presentations**
 - **Galleries Lafayette: Technology for Change** P. Lemoine
 - **The IBM Value Chain Vision** C. Nivoix
 - **The Distribution Industry Challenge of Change** N. Kumar
- **Report on Advance Survey** D. Sweeney
- **Breakout Sessions** All
- **Report of Groups** Facilitators
- **Summary and Next Steps** C. Nivoix

Introductions

- Name
- Affiliation
- That is all!



Second Keynote Address

The IBM Value Chain Vision

Christian Nivoix

General Manager ,
Distribution Industries,
The IBM Company

A stylized world map in a light blue color, centered on the Atlantic Ocean, serving as a background for the text.

Advance Survey of Participants

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Thanks to all who participated

- Thoughtful responses
- Creative contributions



Most challenging issues facing the distribution industry

- #10. Increased competitive saturation
 - #9. Managing in a global market
 - #8. Technology management
 - #7. Brand management
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Most challenging issues facing the distribution industry: *A close race for fifth place.*

- #6. ** Meeting increased demand for customer service
- #5. ** Developing and retaining effective leadership talent

* One point differences between items

Most challenging issues facing the distribution industry: *A close race for second place.*

- #2.* Increased competitive concentration
- #3.* Electronic disintermediation
- #4.* Leveraging supply chain management requirements

* One point differences between pairs

Most challenging issues facing the distribution industry: *The clear first choice.*

- #1. Developing an effective e-business strategy



Most pressing unanswered questions facing the industry for the coming 5 years:

- **Organized 25 suggestions into six broad categories. No rank order is implied**
 - **E-business: impact and management**
 - **Customer service and service levels**
 - **Logistics and supply chain**
 - **Finance and expense management**
 - **Human resources**
 - **Marketing**
- **Subject to the analyst's interpretations and grouping logic**

The e-business questions

- What will be the role of e-commerce in retailing and what will be the value of individual market segment data?
- How will individual consumer e-commerce orders be fulfilled?
- What will be the Internet impact in \$'s and SKU's on store P&L's?
- What will be an effective business model for e-retailers?
- How can a bricks and mortar retailer leverage e-technology to enhance the customer experience?

The e-business questions (cont'd)

- How will the industry tame the legal nightmare of cyberspace with no geo-political boundaries?
- To what extent will or should trading partners collaborate or compete in a networked economy?
- Will the impact of non-technical decision-makers on the purchasing of technology help or hinder the quality, speed and effectiveness of e-business implementation?
- How will consumer behavior change with the Internet?

The customer service questions

- Can a retailer have a differentiated customer offer and what is the role of service?
- How does the hi-tech industry react to the service needs of a global market?

The logistics / supply chain questions

- How should we design activities to optimize the conversion of distribution channels?
- How should we best optimize total channel efficiency for the consumer?
- How can manufacturers and technology vendors retain effective links with their customers?
- The need for trans-European third party logistics providers ... fourth party?

The finance and expense questions

- What further expense management reductions can be wrung out of systems and how?
- What will be the impact of "dot.com" valuations on the capitalization of conventional retailers?
- Will reductions in transaction costs overcome the increased logistics expenditures for home delivery?

The human resources questions



- How can retailers attract and retain the best and brightest talent for present and future leadership?
- How can the industry contribute to improved education and training of the workforce in an increasingly complex systems environment?

The marketing questions

- How will retailers create a synergistic balance among multiple channels?
- How common should be brand image, pricing, customer support, merchandising etc. across multiple channels?
- What will be the relative balance between store and national brands?
- How can retailers optimize overall category sales across all items?

Summary excerpts from the morning

- **What will be the business model for the multi-channel retailer of the future ?**
 - **Strategy**
 - Consumer markets
 - Competitors
 - Collaborations
 - **Tactics**
 - Marketing
 - Branding
 - Pricing
 - Merchandising
 - Logistics
 - **Financial**
 - Capitalization
 - Productivity (e.g. inventory turns)
 - Profitability
 - **Management Systems**
 - Leadership
 - Governance
 - Performance metrics

Summary excerpts from the morning (cont'd)

- What will be the business model for the multi-channel retailer of the future ?
- What will this "consumer driven collaborative value net" actually look like?
 - Aggregations
 - Convergences
 - Alliances
 - Partnerships
 - Branding

Summary excerpts from the morning (cont'd)

- Increased consumer sophistication and product knowledge, continued inefficient markets
- Consumer-centric organizations and build-to-order markets
- Education requirements for knowledge workers in retail
- Changing roles and requirements for "in-store" service workers
- Convergence / aggregation and massive inventory reductions on a global scale
- Physical infrastructure constraints on speed and breadth of e-business
- Alliances, joint ventures, partnerships, consolidation and brand leverage

Summary excerpts from the morning (cont'd)

- Capitalization constraints on conventional retailers
- Impact of knowledge based systems on competitive advantage and education requirements
- In an area of alliances, joint ventures how does a company define and leverage its core competence?
- Who will win during this period of radical change: Incumbents or Innovators?
- What factors will determine the share of penetration of internet sales by various product categories?

Group breakout sessions

- **Structure**
 - Four groups
 - Facilitator, Scribe / Presenter
- **Goals**
 - Review, discuss issues from morning
 - Dialog from three viewpoints
 - Prioritize the most important issues
- **Deliverables:** The three most pressing unanswered questions for further research