

# Office Hours



#### Welcome to Office Hours

- A relaxed, informal, free mentoring program
- Held every Monday at Noon Pacific Time
- The recording will be available online, along with many previous week's recordings
- All recordings will be archived in our member's area



### Agenda

- In depth discussion of a business success principle
- Closing remarks, special offers, and invitation for next weeks session
- Open Q&A



# Today's Topic:

 Keep Pace with Technology – or Go the Way of the Dinosaurs!



# The Key Performance Areas

MARKETING

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONS & ADMINISTRATION

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

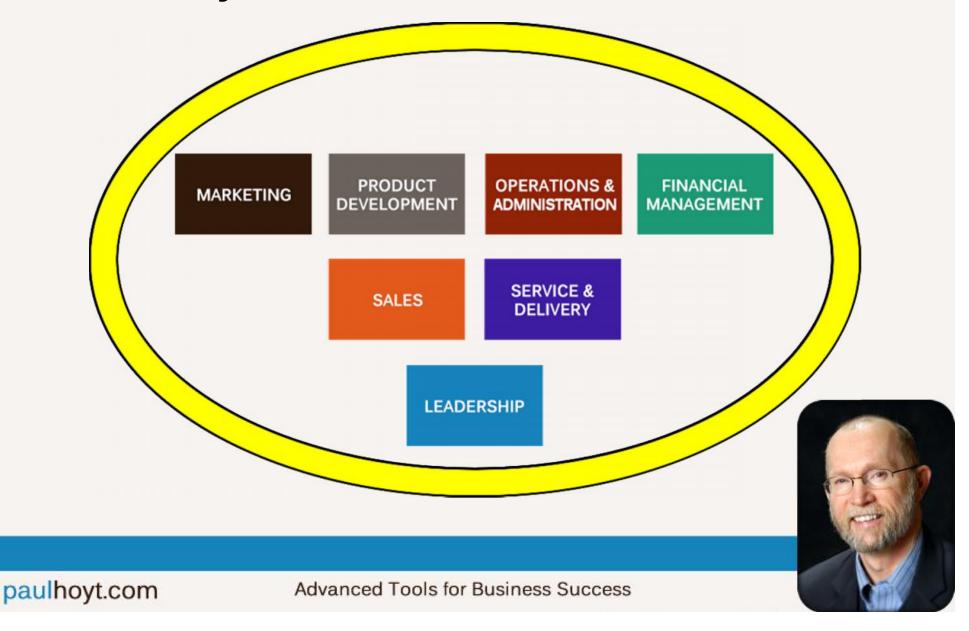
**SALES** 

SERVICE & DELIVERY

**LEADERSHIP** 



# The Key Performance Areas

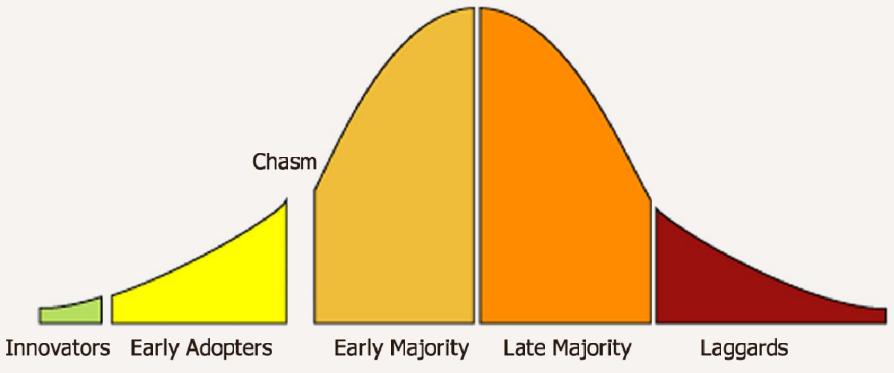


# Agenda

- The Technology Adoption Life Cycle
- Technology Trends



# **Technology Adoption Life Cycle**

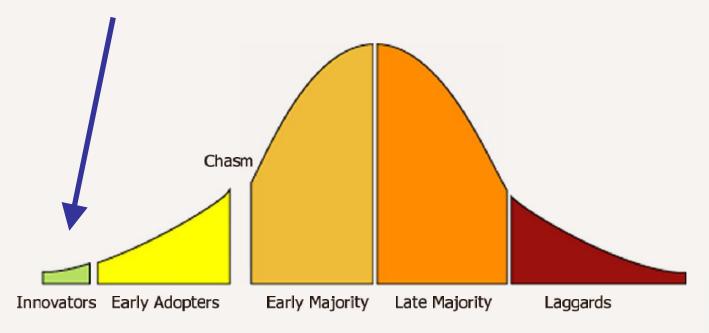


From "Crossing The Chasm" by Geoffrey Moore (1991)



#### **Innovators**

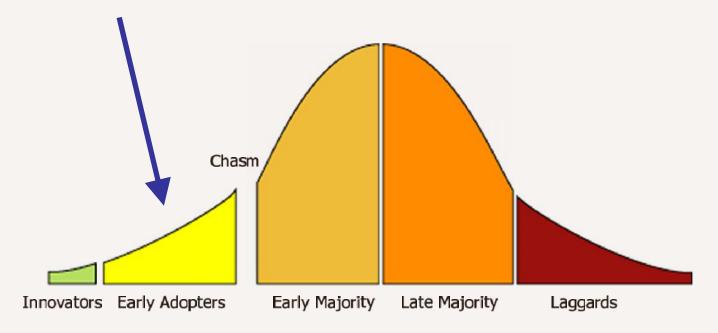
 Enthusiasts who love new technology, even when it doesn't yet have a purpose.





# **Early Adopters**

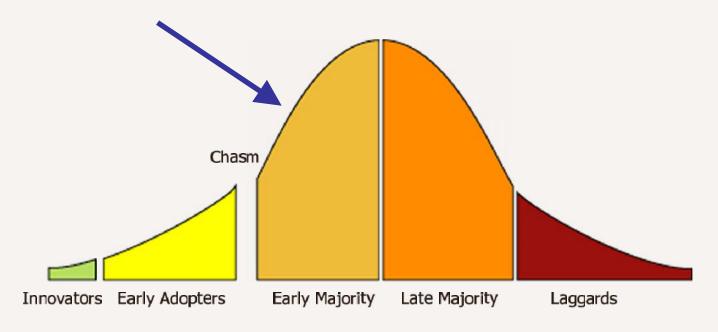
 Visionaries who see how a technology can be used to solve a problem.





# Early Majority –

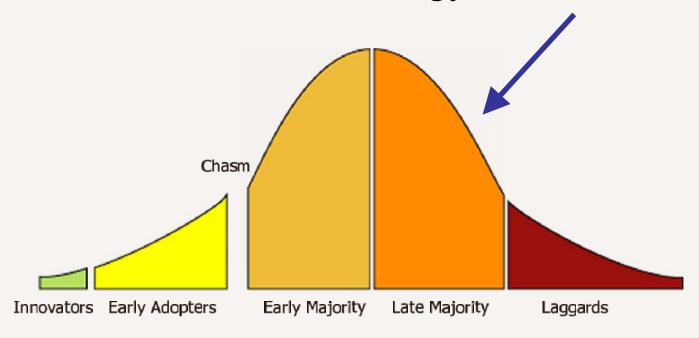
 Pragmatists who want social proof that a technology has value before adopting it.





# Late Majority

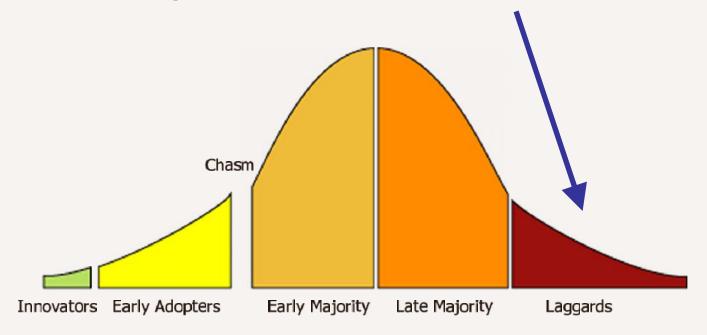
 Conservatives who prefer old technology until its clear a new technology dominates.





# Laggards

 Skeptics who avoid adopting new technologies at all costs





### Advantages at Each Phase

- Innovators: Possible competitive advantages, always "cool"
- Early Adopters: Less risk, proven applications, and many of the advantages of the Innovators
- Early Majority: Further reduced risk, lower cost, dependable and practical
- Late Majority: No risk, lower cost, Common Off The Shelf (COTS)
- Laggards: No risk, commodity pricing



# Internal and External Application

- Internal: the way you adopt new technology and use it to your advantage
- External: the way you develop and position your products and services



#### Be Flexible!

- You don't have to always be an Innovator
- You can be a Laggard sometimes, much to your advantage
- Example: cars
- Example: upgrading software
- Principle: be consistent with your brand and your positioning



# **Technology Trends**

- Software as a Service (SaaS)
- Smartphones and Tablets
- Social Media and Online Marketing
- Information Overload
- Virtual Offices and Companies
- Online, Real-time Collaboration
- Video Meetings and Messages
- Authenticity and Transparency



# Software as a Service (SaaS)

- Office productivity

   (e.g., Google Docs, Office 365)
- Project management (e.g., Smartsheets)
- Digital storage and data transfer (e.g., Google Drive, Dropbox / Hightail)
- Customer Relationship Management (CRM) (e.g., Infusionsoft, 1Shopping Cart, Constant Contact)

# **Smartphones and Tablets**

- Replacing desktops and laptops as the primary interaction devices
- More smartphones and tablets sold than there are people in the world
- Constant connectivity, unlimited bandwidth is (almost) here
- Voice recognition, cameras, geo-sensing, remote physical interaction, are common place
- Texting preferred by many

# Social Media and Online Marketing

- Your website is a given and has to be frequently updated
- Selling online is a given
  - Credit cards, Paypal, recurring / installment payments are the norm
- Social Media presence required
  - Facebook
  - LinkedIn
  - Twitter



#### Information Overload

- Typical digital environment:
  - Hundreds of email messages each day
  - Dozens of interruptions if you allow them
  - Hundreds or thousands of ads each day
- Very brief attention span and capture time
- Technology Induced Attention Deficit Disorder
- Requires many more contacts to get attention and establish a relationship



# Virtual Offices and Companies

- SaaS and video technology have totally empowered the digital office
- Some companies don't have a physical office
  - Meet at conferences
  - Sometimes only twice or once a year
- Enables the solopreneur or the microbusiness to be cost effective
- See "Free Agent Nation" Daniel Pink, (2001)



### Online, Real-time Collaboration

- Project Management
- Collaborative, real-time document and spreadsheet creation
- Virtual whiteboards



# Video Meetings and Messages

- Common even when there is a physical office
- The world loves video they love to look someone in the eye and have a face-to-face connection
- Lots of tools:
  - GoToMeeting, GoToWebinar, GoToTraining
  - Google Hangouts
  - Skype
  - Many other smaller players



# **Authenticity and Transparency**

- A direct response to marketing hype
- People want access and relationships
- Our Phoniness / B.S detectors are well tuned
- Getting harder to fake it these days
- Increased self-awareness, too



# Challenges I Still See

- No email address
- No cell phone
- No voice mail
- No social media presence
- No camera
- Dial up Internet
- Very poor writing skills



#### Homework / Exercise

- Review your use of technology internally and externally
- Ask Yourself: Are you at a competitive advantage (or disadvantage) because of the way you are (or are not) employing technology in your marketing and /or products and services?
- Ask Yourself: Internally, are you less efficient than you could be?



# Open Q & A – in a minute

- Comments and questions on the topic of the day
- Any other issues



# **Closing Remarks**

- Invitation to join "Paul's Tribe"
  - a Skype Group
  - Skype Address: paulhoyt
  - Information is private



# Study!

- Watch the Business Survival Boot Camp
  - Learn key survival strategies
  - Learn about Business Complexity Profiles
  - ... and much more
- Watch other Office Hours recordings
- Then purchase and study
   Beyond Business Survival



# **Beyond Business Survival**

- Critical small business owner training
- "What you need to know when you're the CEO"
- Helps you:
  - make good decisions
  - avoid mistakes that will slow you down or shut you down
- This program can save you \$10,000, \$20,000, \$50,000 or more!



#### Services

- Available for group coaching, private mentoring, strategic plans, business plans, and financial models
- Available for radio interviews, webinars, teleseminars, with a very generous affiliate program in place



### Forum Prep

- Next CEO Space forum is Dec 8 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- Still time to get a lot accomplished before the next Forum
- Overall strategy
- Business overviews
- Presentation preparation
- Business Plan



#### The New Year is Almost Here!

- We are in the last half of the last quarter of 2013
- Think about:
  - Strategic / Annual planning
  - Goal Setting
- Can be from one hour to a couple of days, depending on your stage of business and budget

#### Kind Words

- ... are greatly appreciated!
- Give me a shout-out on Facebook, LinkedIn, and/or Google+
- Send an email to paul@paulhoyt.com



# **Next Monday**

- Topic is: Cash Flow Secrets Managing the Ins and Outs of your Money!
- Let me know what topics you would like for me to address: www.PaulsSurvey.com
- Watch Business Survival Boot Camp in the mean time
- Do your homework



### Open Q & A

- Comments and questions on the topic of the day
- Any other issues
- Survey: www.PaulsSurvey.com

Contact Me at <a href="mailto:paulhoyt.com">paul@paulhoyt.com</a>

call or text: 415.997.8001





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