## Life time value of a customer

#### What is it?

• Most basic formula:

Total Customer Revenue X Number of Loyal Years X Company Profit Margin

Why is it so important?



Deeper commitment Higher dependency Specific product Single purchase



In general, customers want to be on the right, and companies want to be on the left.



### Examples?

- Xerox
- Halliburton

Who has the power, buyer or seller?



Costs of switching?

System Benefits

• e.g., compatibility

## What is the customer like?



Who has the longer time horizon?

Who takes on more risk?

Who has more loyalty?

• Companies have "loyal" customers" but customers don't always have loyal companies

## What's most important?

The Spectrum

Relationship buyer

Transaction buyer

Technical and product direction (strategy)

Vendor stability

Product features

Price

Delivery & availability

## Marketing approaches

### Success

Relationship marketing Relationship buyer

Transaction marketing — Transaction buyer

#### Failure

Relationship marketing

Transaction marketing



Relationship buyer

Transaction buyer

### Real accounts



Most companies are somewhere in the middle and have customers on the whole spectrum

# Real relationship marketing

#### Continuous benefits

- Compatibility
- Should have a fundamental impact on how the company works - R&D
- Embedded?