

## **Expanding Product Accessibility with Primary Market Research Techniques**





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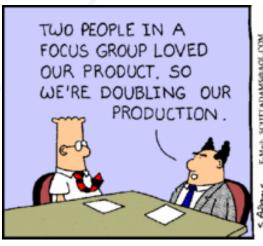


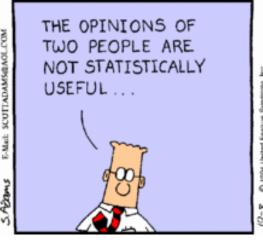




### Voice of the Customer

- Overview of Paper
- Key Points
- Resources









## **Key Point 1**

- You MUST understand your customer's needs!
  - Manufacturers and service providers
    - Customer = End User/Consumer

- R&D staff/ academics
  - Customer = Manufacturer

Academics can bring end user/consumer needs to a manufacturer, but the information must meet the manufacturer's own needs.



# **Example Glucose Meter Specifications**

The reliable Glucose Monitoring System (GMS) is able to

- A. Correspond with doctor's lab reports
  - 1. Within 10%
- B. Should have control solutions low range and high range
- C. Shouldn't have to change batteries often
  - 1. Last at least 3 months
- D. Controls the amount of blood going onto the strip
- E. Doesn't break when it's dropped
  - 1. Should withstand 5 to 6 feet drop onto a concrete floor
  - 2. Ability to travel with it
- F. Works for children when fasting
- G. Guarantees privacy and complies with HIPAA
- IV. The GMS should be able to be used in
  - A. Anywhere
    - 1. Kitchen
    - 2. Bathroom
    - 3. Outside
    - 4. In an automobile



## Meeting the Manufacturer's Needs

## FORTUNE 500 Project

Improvements in Usability and Accessibility Features in Mainstream Consumer Products



University at Buffalo The State University of New York

#### Consumer Requested Design or Functional Feature

Black & Decker Digital Advantage Toaster/Convection Oven Features

6 slice toaster capacity No knobs or dials to turn Pressure sensitive button controls Non-stick baking chamber for easier clean Easier to clean == Easier crumb clean-up Slide out crumb tray Large handles Larger non-slip handles Cool outer shell to prevent burns \_\_\_\_\_ 'Thermal-Guard' outer shell Electronic Toast control Better temperature control = Temperature settings more precise Digital settings from 200° to 450° F for baking & 1-7 for toasting Heat more evenly Heating elements on top & bottom and convection oven setting Functions include defrost, preheat, toast, bake, broil Defrost button = Baking pan included, muffin pan available Cooking accessories >=> Automatic shut off Auto-off timer after 90 minutes Signal Bell/Power indicator/Auto off beeper Auditory cue when finished



## **Key Point 2**

Use methods recognized as rigorous by industry standards

Problematic Approach	Rigorous Approach
Single focus group	Multiple groups
End users only	Include other stakeholders
Inexperienced moderator	Trained knowledgeable moderator
Inadequate facilities	Accessible, state-of-the-art facilities
Lengthy report	Top line summary, concise function listing, appendices



### Resources

- Primary Market Research Training Module
  - Sampling and recruitment
  - Focus groups
  - Surveys
  - Outsourcing considerations
- Evaluation Resource Guide
  - Basic concepts
  - Case studies
  - Sample Instruments



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## Thank you!

Any Questions?

