



RESPOND → PLAN → RETURN STRONGER

#### Marketing Strategy: Positioning to Win

PRESENTED BY Tim Manning, Founder, GrowthShift



#### Tim Manning



- Marketing strategist with 30+ years leading marketing
- Fortune 100 startup
- 8 B2B tech startups one textbook exit
- Industry agnostic, growth-focused
- Finance-trained; marketing impassioned
- 63 years old young in mind!
- Married 36 years. 4 Children. 1 Grandson.
- Athletic yet aged: cycling, skiing, teaching karate to kids
- Growth Evangelist & Founder GrowthShift (est. 2016)
- linkedin.com/in/tmanning

### Marketing = Growth



"What makes these failures particularly painful is not just the economic damage done to individual employees, companies, and investors; they are also a colossal waste of our civilization's most precious resource: the time, passion, and skill of its **people**."

- Eric Ries, The Lean Startup



"What is exciting is to see startups succeed and change the world. The passion, energy, and vision that **people** bring to these new ventures are resources too precious to waste. We can and must do better."

— Eric Ries, The Lean Startup



Or is marketing more fundamental?

"The purpose of business is to create a customer... and the enterprise has two basic functions; marketing and innovation."

Ē

— Peter Drucker

#### Positioning

F

"The heart of every good marketing strategy is a good **positioning** strategy."

— Regis McKenna



#### What is **positioning**?



Ē

"Positioning is not what you do to a product, it's what you do to a customer's mind."

— Al Ries, Jack Trout

#### Why is positioning important?

"Positioning is the single largest influence in the buying process."

— Geoffrey Moore

F



#### What is **category**, why is it important?



"Customers cannot buy unless they know what category of solutions to look under."

— Geoffrey Moore



# How do I **apply** to my business?

For (target customer) who (statement of the need or opportunity), the (product name) is a (product category) that (statement of key benefit – that is, compelling reason to buy). Unlike (primary competitive alternative), our product (statement of primary differentiation).

— Geoffrey Moore

#### Why bother with **positioning**?

• Increase revenue

- Raise capital faster
- Beat competition
- Attract and retain talent



Ē

### Marketing = Growth

F

"I believe marketing is the most powerful force available to people who want to make a change."

– Seth Godin

#### Recommended reading:

- Positioning: The Battle for your Mind. Al Ries, Jack Trout
- The Brand Flip. Marty Neumeier
- Building a Story Brand. Donald Miller
- How Clients Buy. Tom McMakin, Doug Fletcher

## Shift your thinking. **shift** growth.

www.growthshift.com