

William Demant



# Operational excellence in Retail

Niels Wagner  
President, Retail



# Niels Wagner

President, Retail

## Curriculum

- Born in 1971
- Cand. Oecon, Aarhus University
- President, Retail in William Demant Holding since 2007
- Vice President, Retail, GN ReSound, 2006-2007
- Sales Director, Synoptik, 2003-2006
- General Manager, Oticon Australia, 2000-2003



# Retail – an integrated part of Group strategy

First major retail acquisition completed in 2000 (Hidden Hearing in the UK)



Gaining market share

Protecting existing distribution points and gaining new ones with a profitable and attractive business model



Getting closer to the end user

Better understanding of the end-user journey and challenges for end-users and dispensers



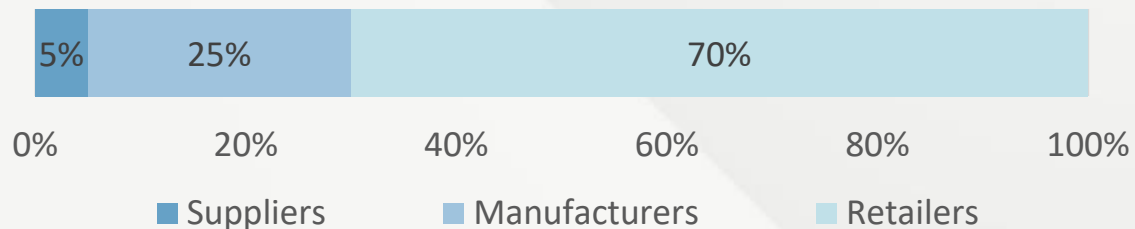
New technologies across retail and wholesale

Technology for optimising fitting flow and efficiency as well as ensuring right product development and innovation

# Tapping into a valuable part of the value chain

- Hearing aid retail represents the largest part of the value chain
  - Significant distribution costs reflect the need for marketing, counselling and after-sales service
- Global hearing aid retail market characterised by continued consolidation for two decades but remains highly fragmented:
    - Independent retailers remain the single-largest distribution channel
    - Few global retail players

Value capture across value chain (%):



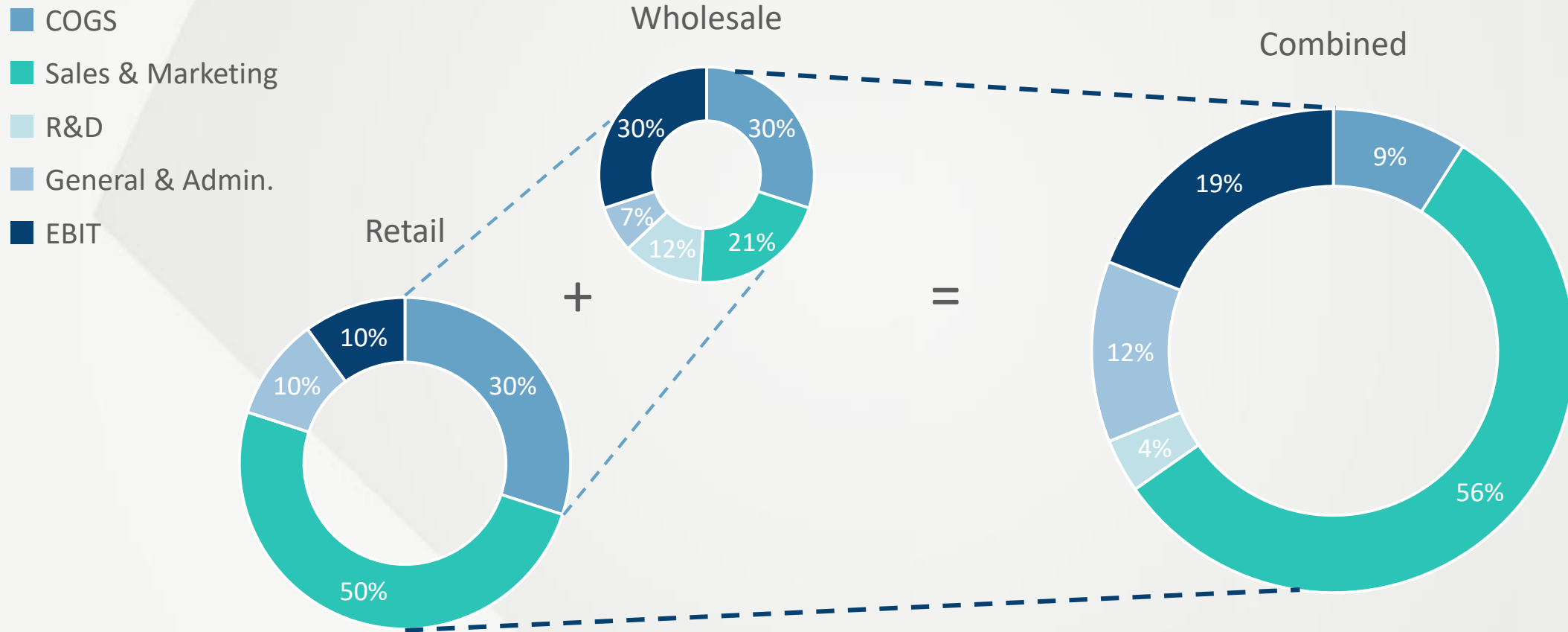
Value capture across value chain (USD billion):



Note: Company estimates



# Retail adding scale to Group



Note: The illustration above is a mechanical example, showing percentage of revenue without possible synergies etc.

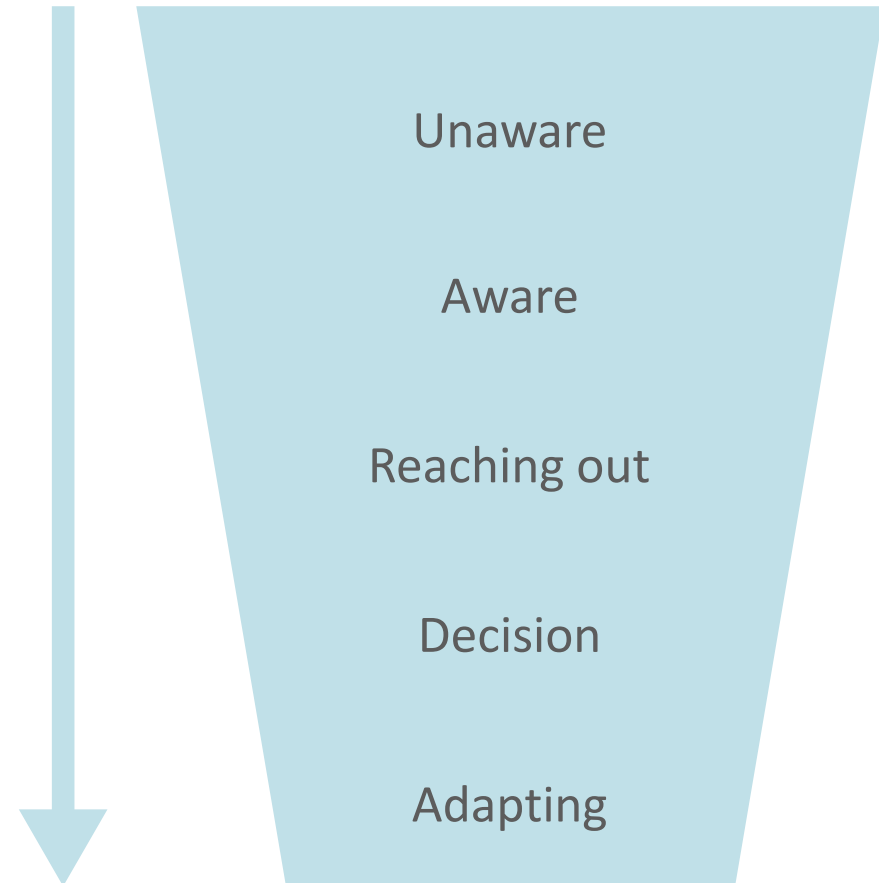
# Approach to managing retail has evolved

- 1 Consolidation of acquisitions in chains
- 2 Rebranding
- 3 Association of own retail with William Demant Group
- 4 Centralisation
- 5 One company approach – several names

# Audika movie

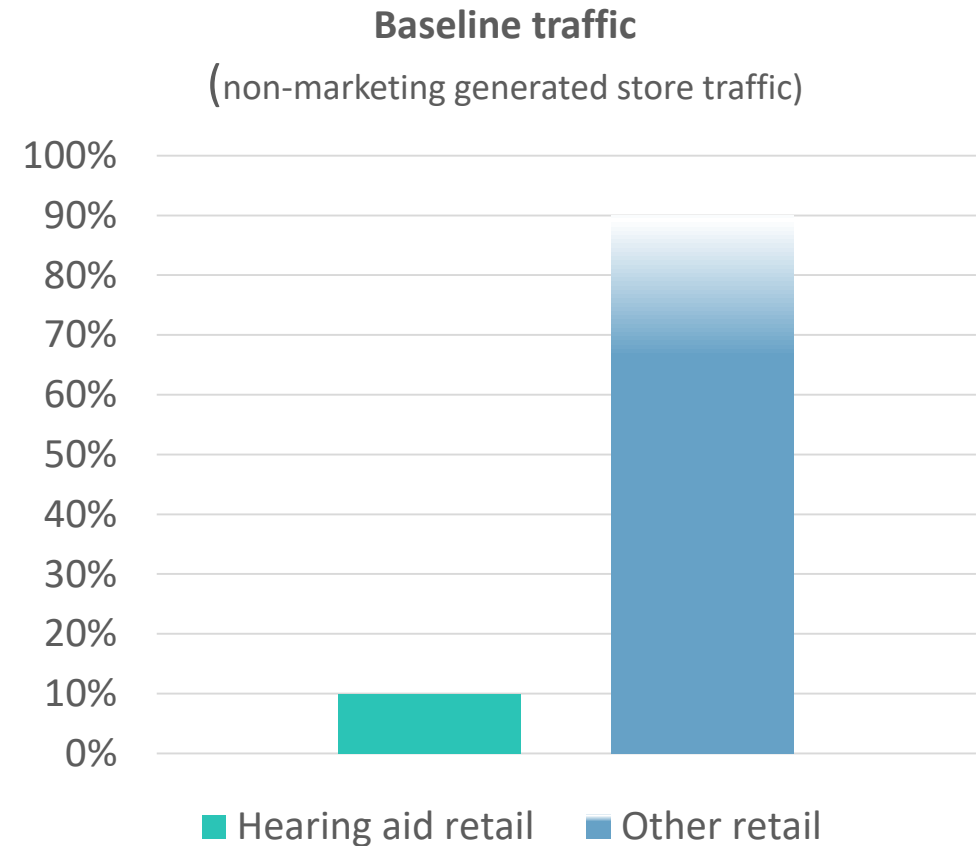
# Moving customers through the sales funnel

- Moving customers through the sales funnel is expensive in hearing aid retail
  - Stigma
  - Denial
  - Reluctance
- Overall market potential is significant and the ability to generate and convert leads is key
- Retailers often create their own market rather than steal customers from competitors



# Very low baseline traffic compared to other retail

- Hearing impaired are in denial and not actively looking to purchase – and very few drop-by customers
- Marketing is needed to drive traffic and the cost of generating a lead is typically material

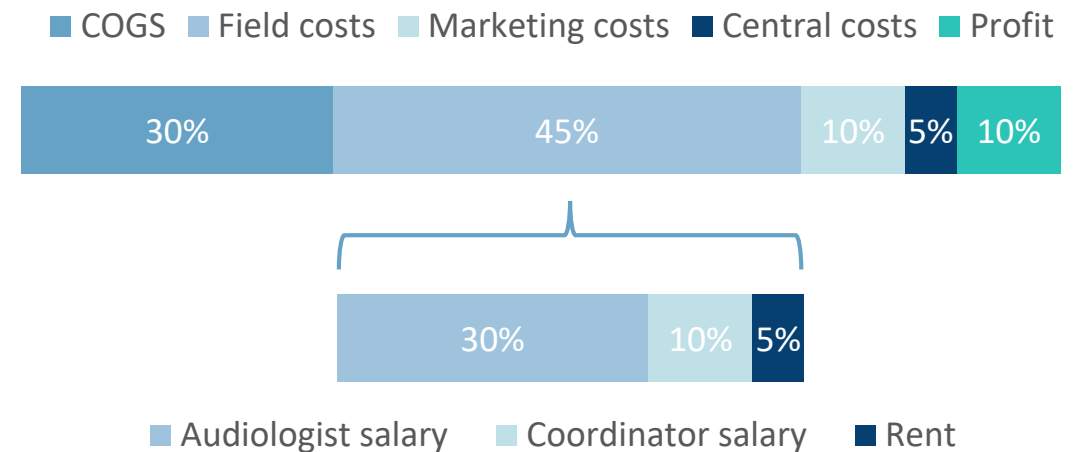




# Salary of an audiologist is main cost driver in retail

- Time of audiologist is in limited supply
- Step-wise expansion
- Characteristic of fixed capacity in terms of an audiologist's time in any given geography is similar to airline, hotel and restaurant businesses
- Schedule management is crucial in order to increase efficiency

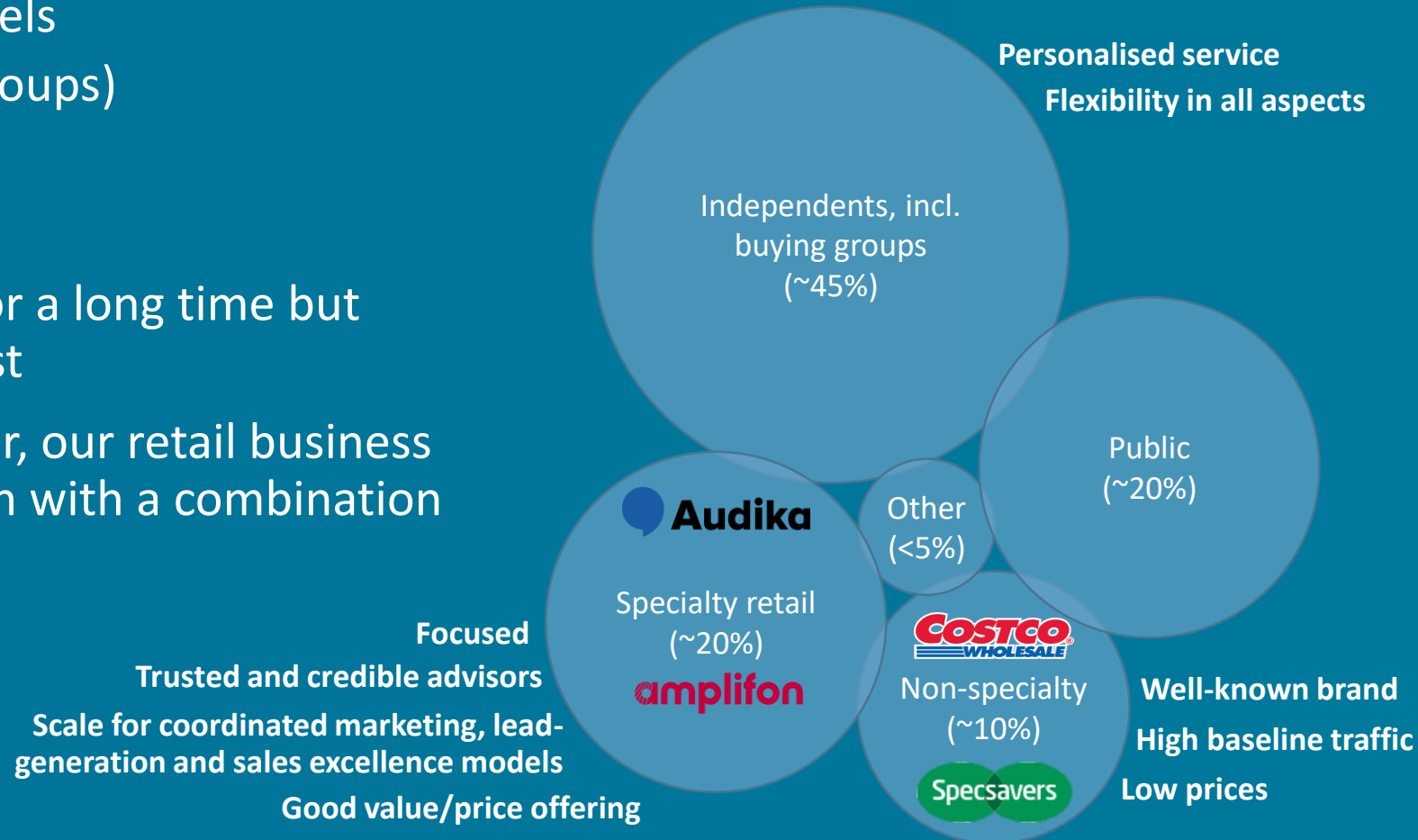
## Example of audiologist salary in total cost structure (for indicative purposes):



*Note: Round numbers for illustrative purposes (standalone retailer)*

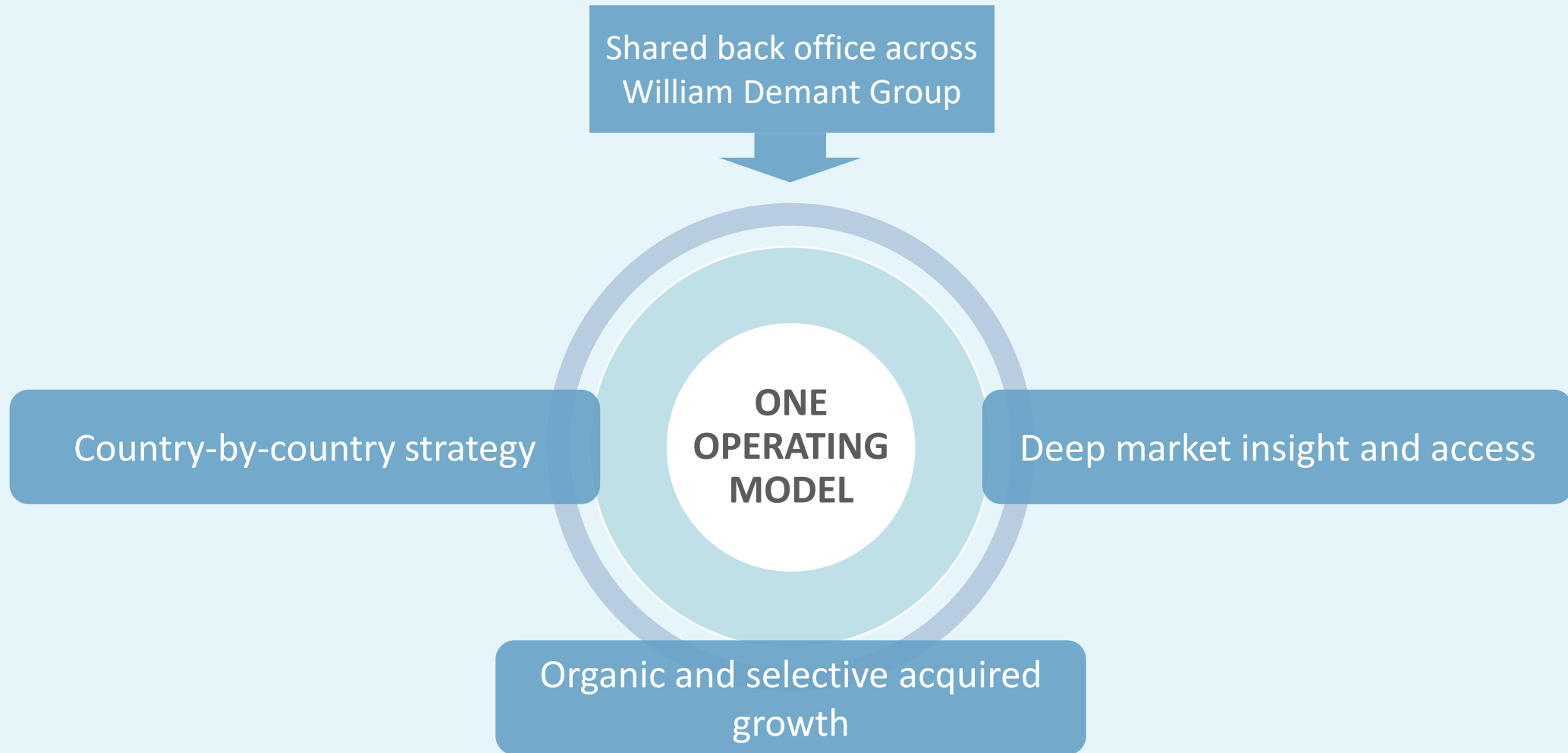
# Different sales channels with different positioning

- Three major private sales channels
  - Independents (incl. buying groups)
  - Specialty retail
  - Non-specialty retail
- Consolidation has taken place for a long time but channels will continue to co-exist
- As a specialty hearing aid retailer, our retail business has an attractive market position with a combination of focus, credibility and scale



*Note: Percentages are company estimates of respective channel's share of overall market (volume)*

# Retail strategy



# One operating model: Core capabilities

Focus on establishing one operating model across our retail organisation to support effective marketing, lead conversion, training, relationship with end-users etc.

## Three core capabilities:



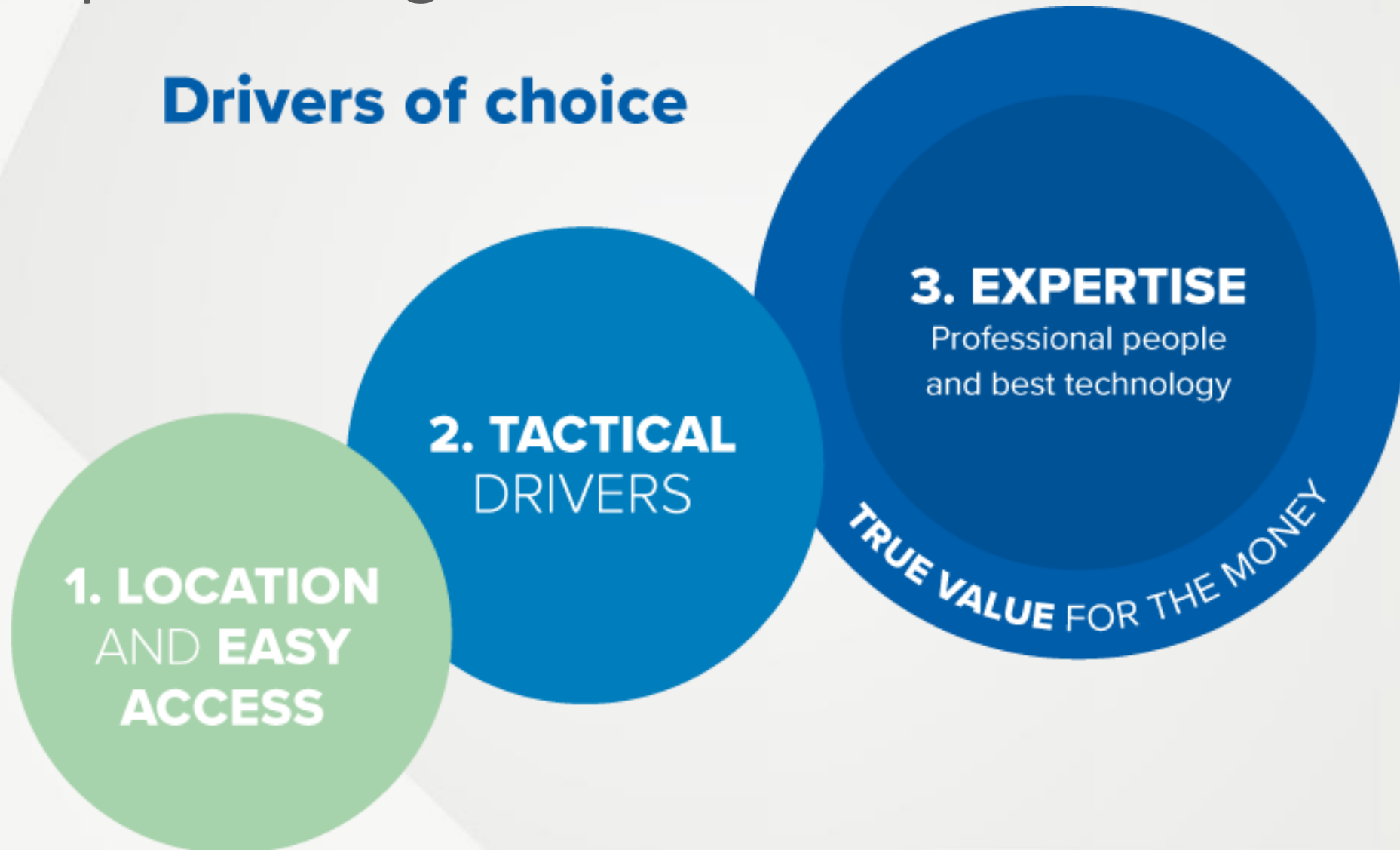
People: Brand, leadership and culture

Marketing: Digitalisation of consumer journey

Systems: IT business systems and new digital technology

# Brand positioning

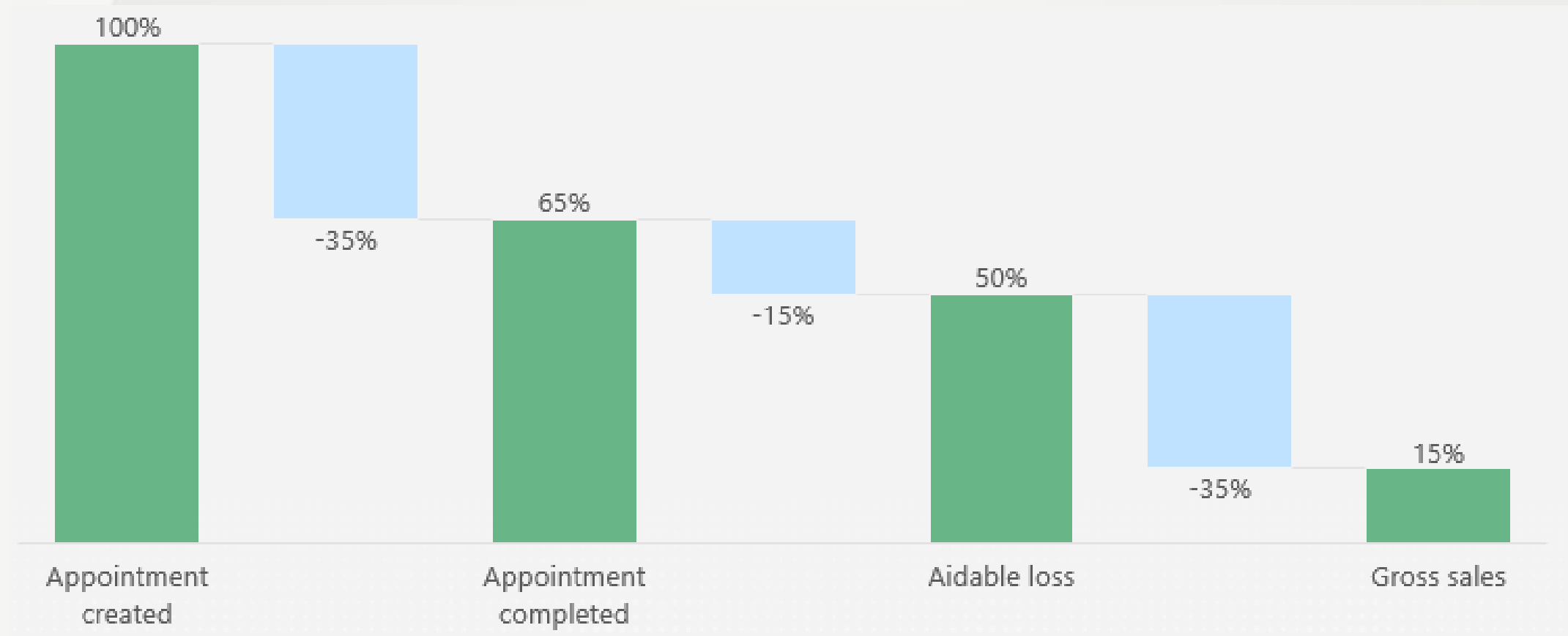
## Drivers of choice



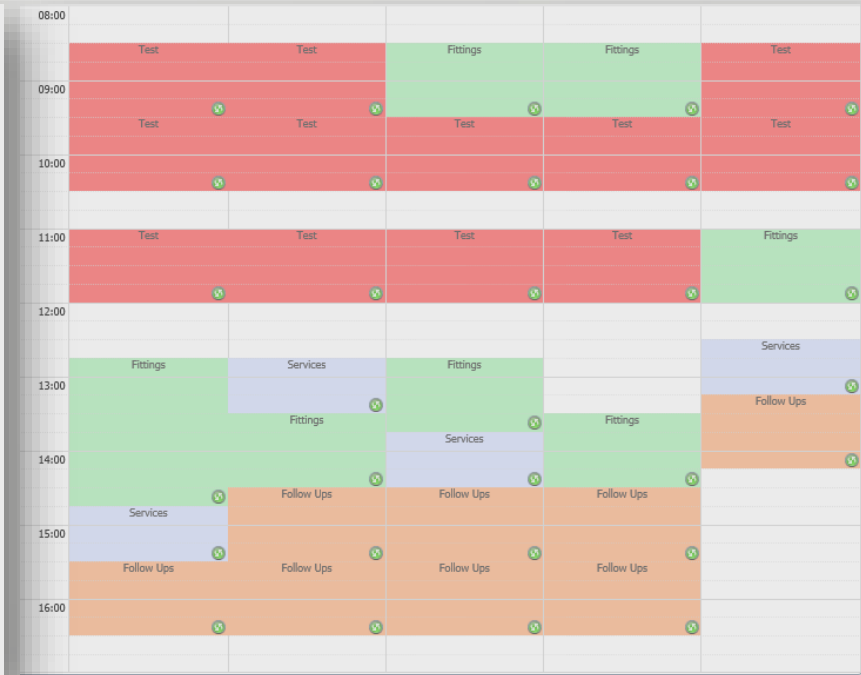
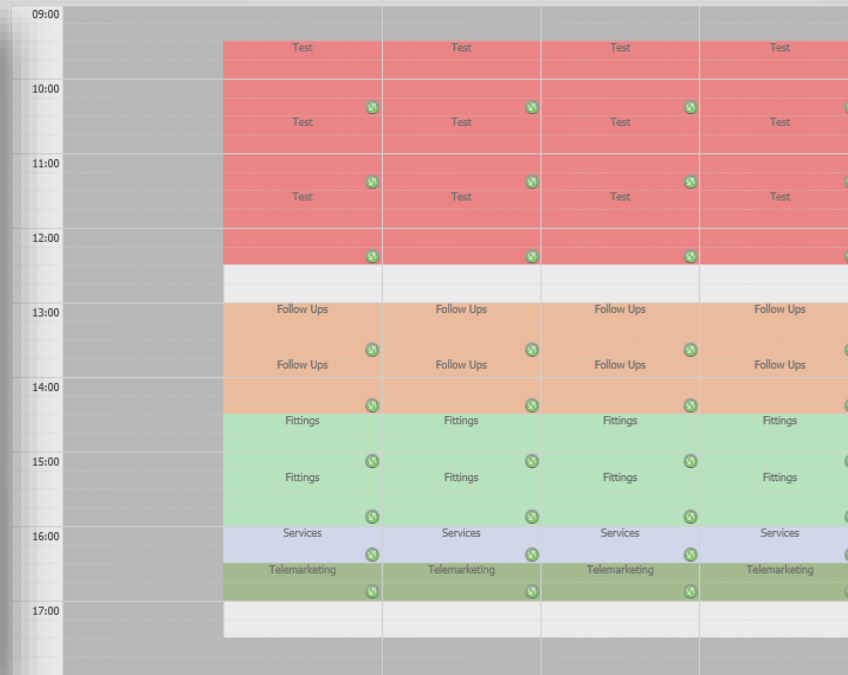


# Focus on conversion rates through the sales funnel

For illustrative purposes – sales funnels vary between markets



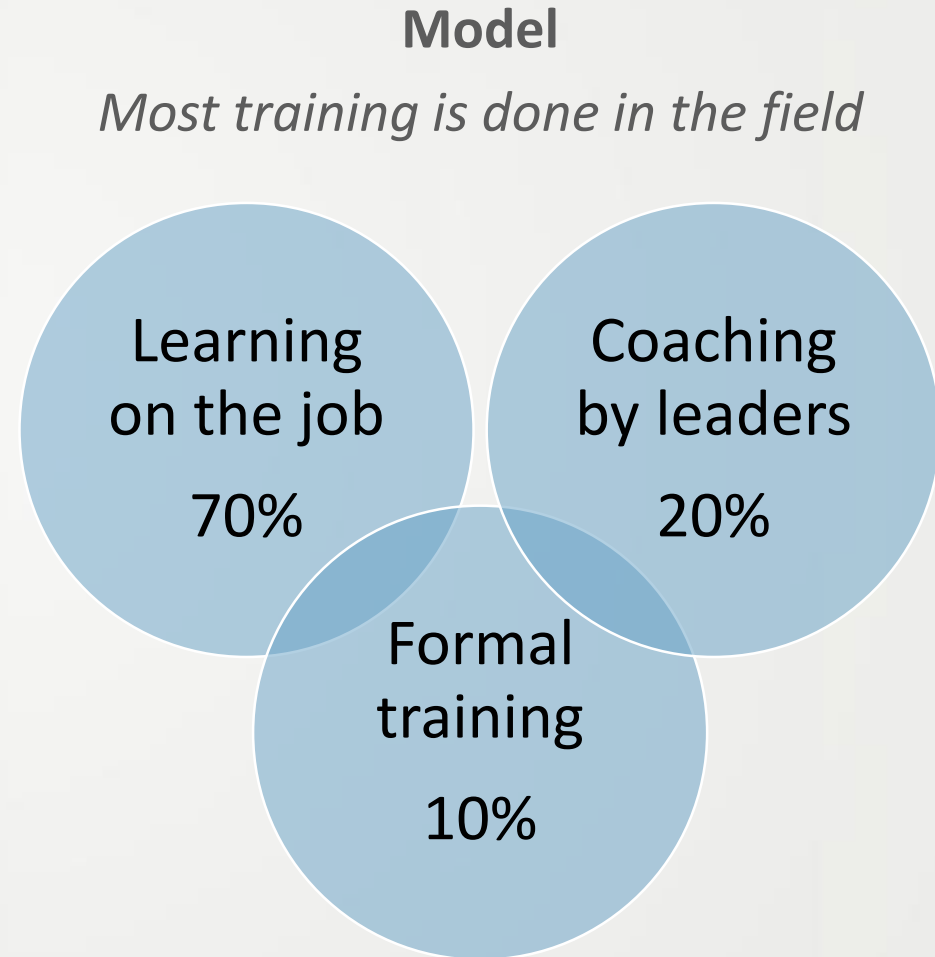
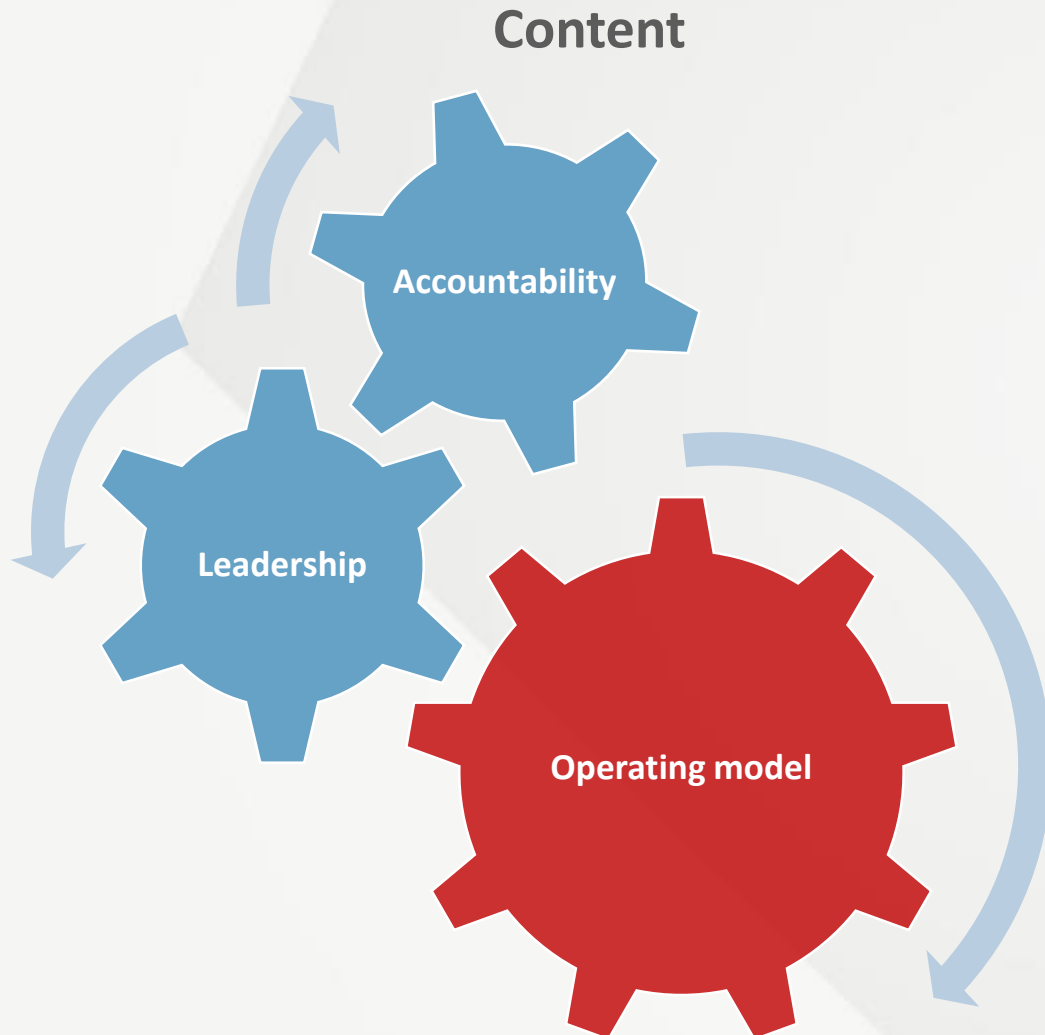
# Efficient schedule management



Schedule management is important due to audiologists' time being a scarce resource

Scheduling varies between countries due to differences in sales funnel drop-outs

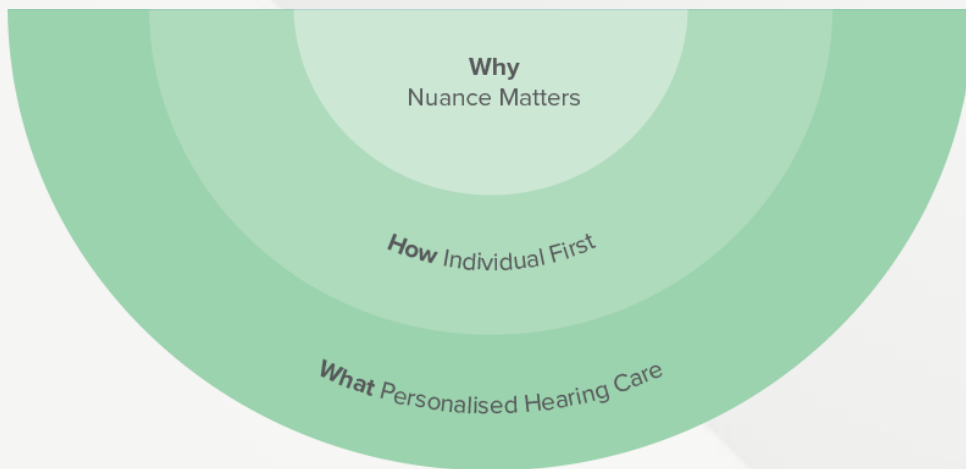
# Training academy and leadership development



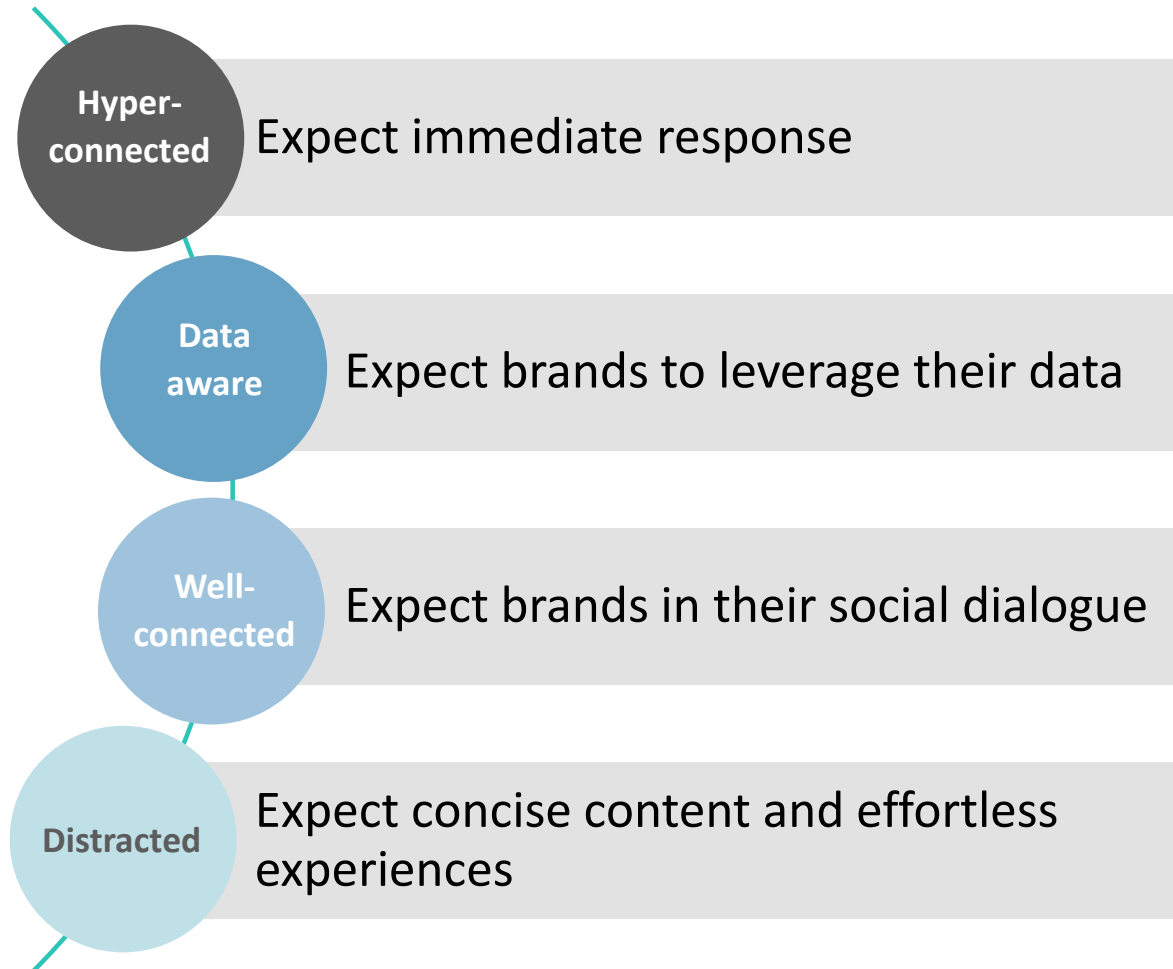
A strong culture is critical for success

# Strategy Culture

“*Culture eats strategy for breakfast*”



# Our consumers are changing: The modern senior





# The marketing model is changing

*New digital opportunities and changing consumer expectations are driving a change in the marketing model*

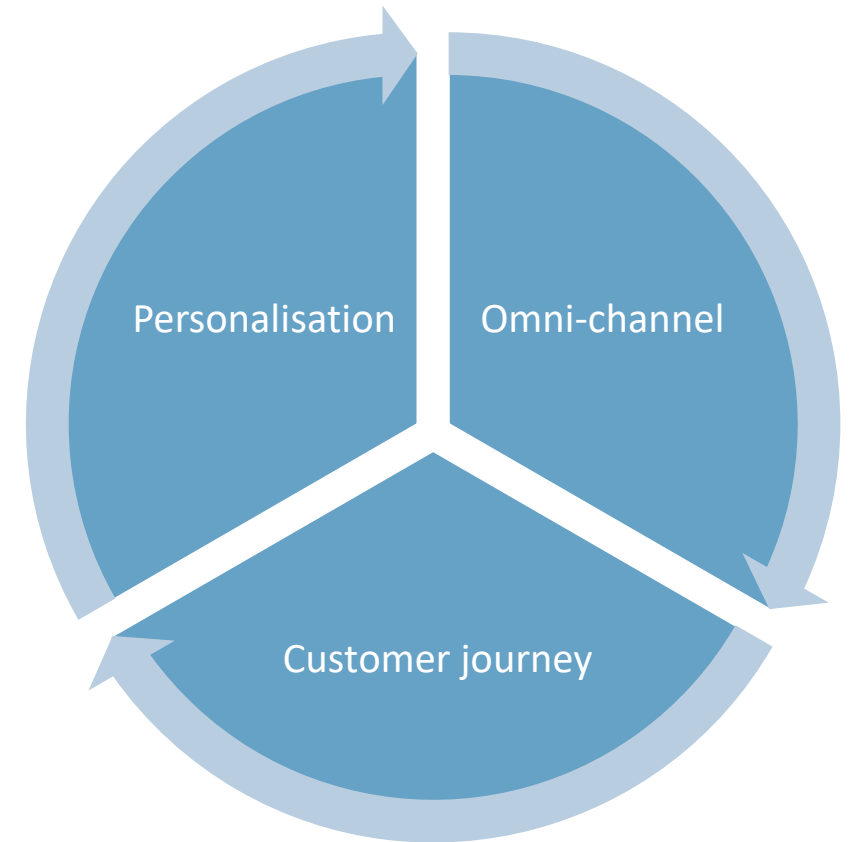
## Then

Long lead time
Mass-market approach
Broad campaigns
Low frequency
Imprecise timing

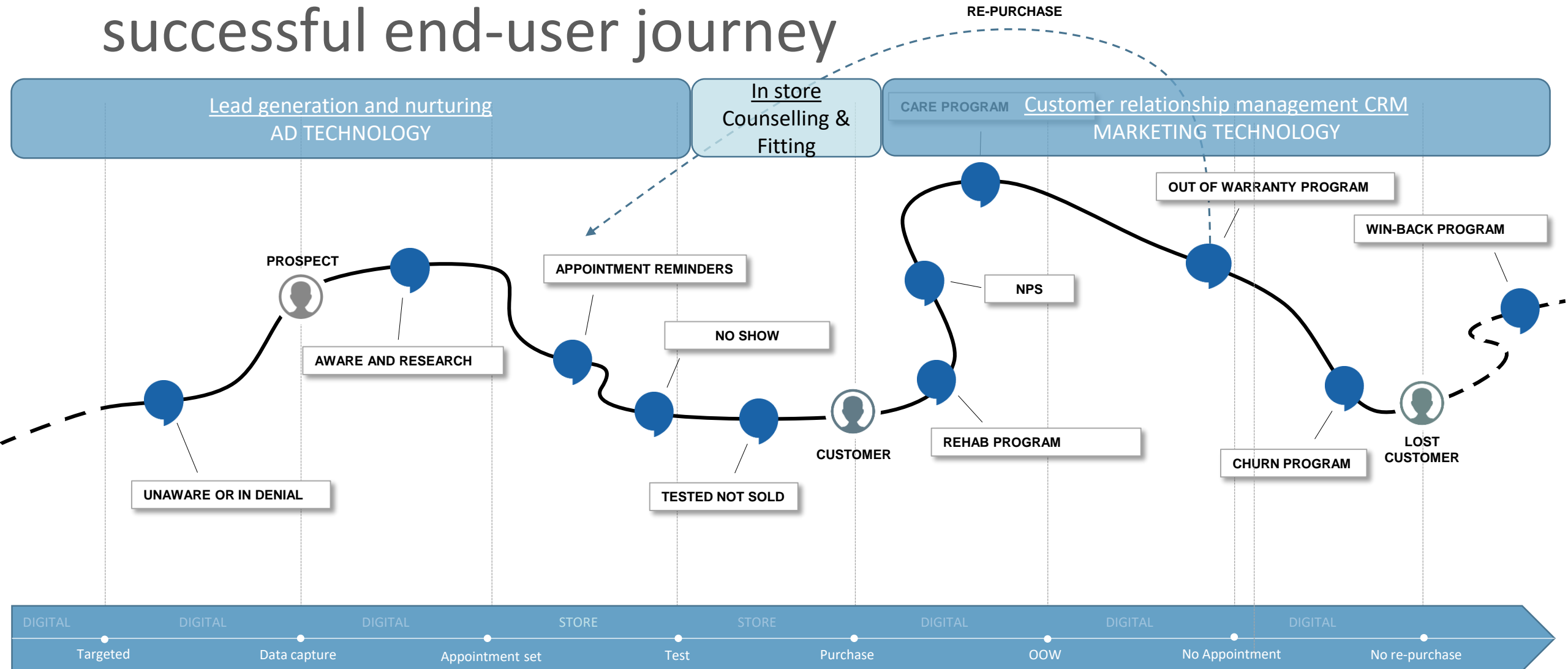


## Now

Fast and adaptive
Personalised approach
Targeted campaigns
High frequency
Precise timing



# Leveraging digital technology to support successful end-user journey



# How: "A Good Start" welcome programme

## WHAT

Fully automated, personalised cross-channel program

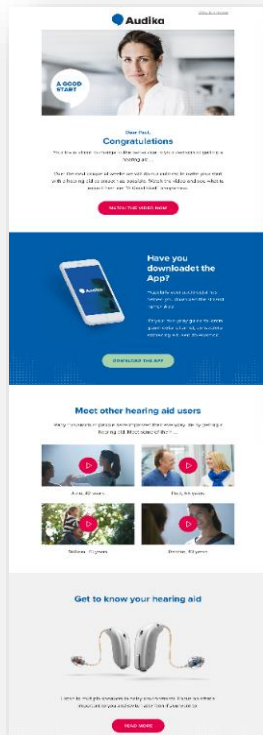
## WHY

Helping the new user adapt – and getting the most out of the hearing aid

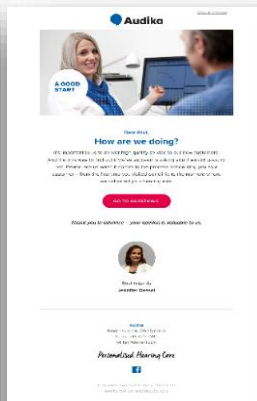
## HOW

Guides the customer through the crucial first five weeks with a hearing aid

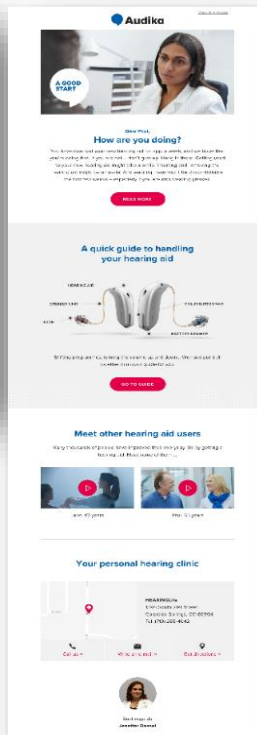
### Welcome



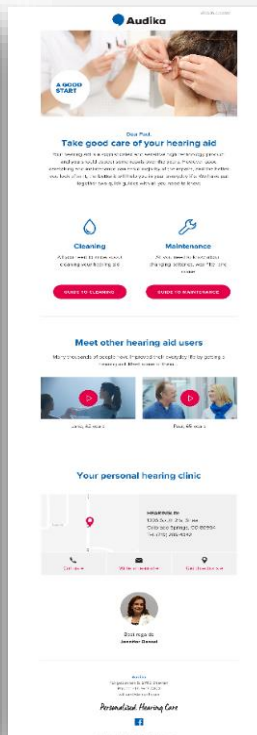
### NPS



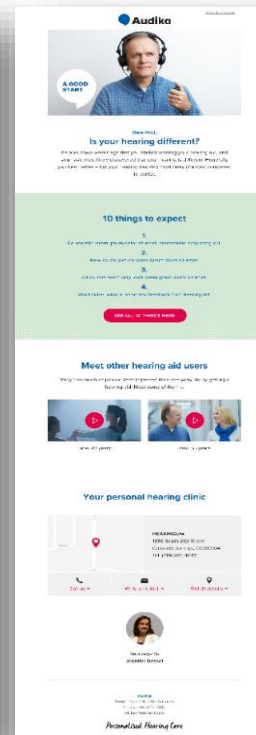
### Comfort 1



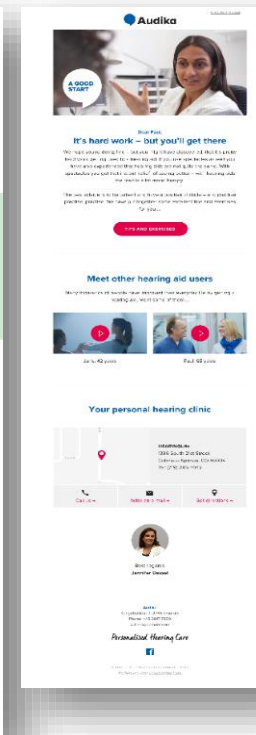
### Comfort 2



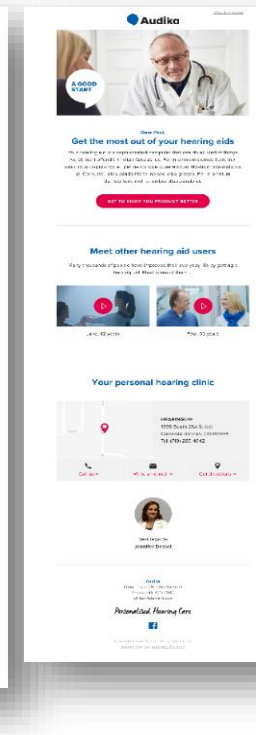
### Audiological 1



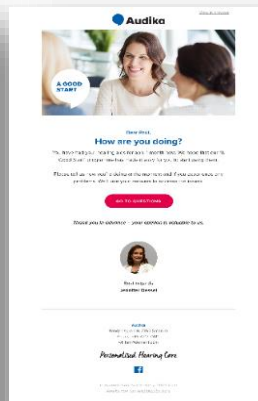
### Audiological 2



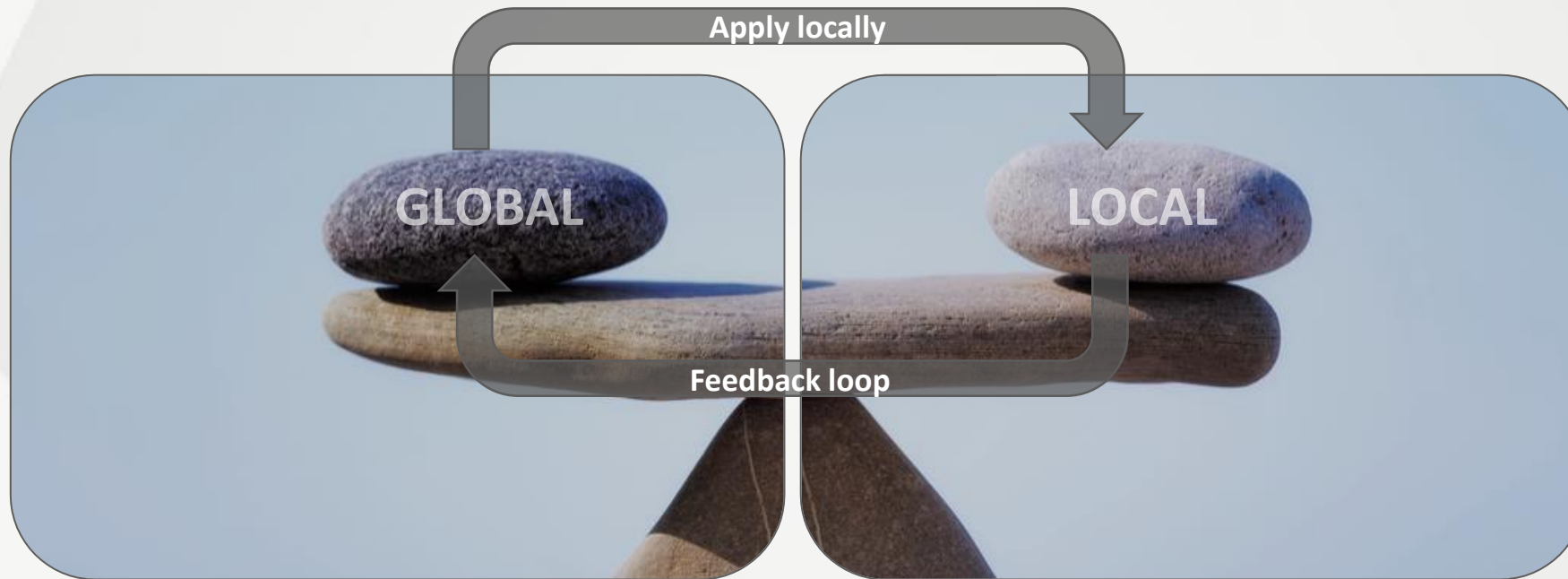
### Tech & pairing



### NPS + Survey



# Global marketing excellence with local execution



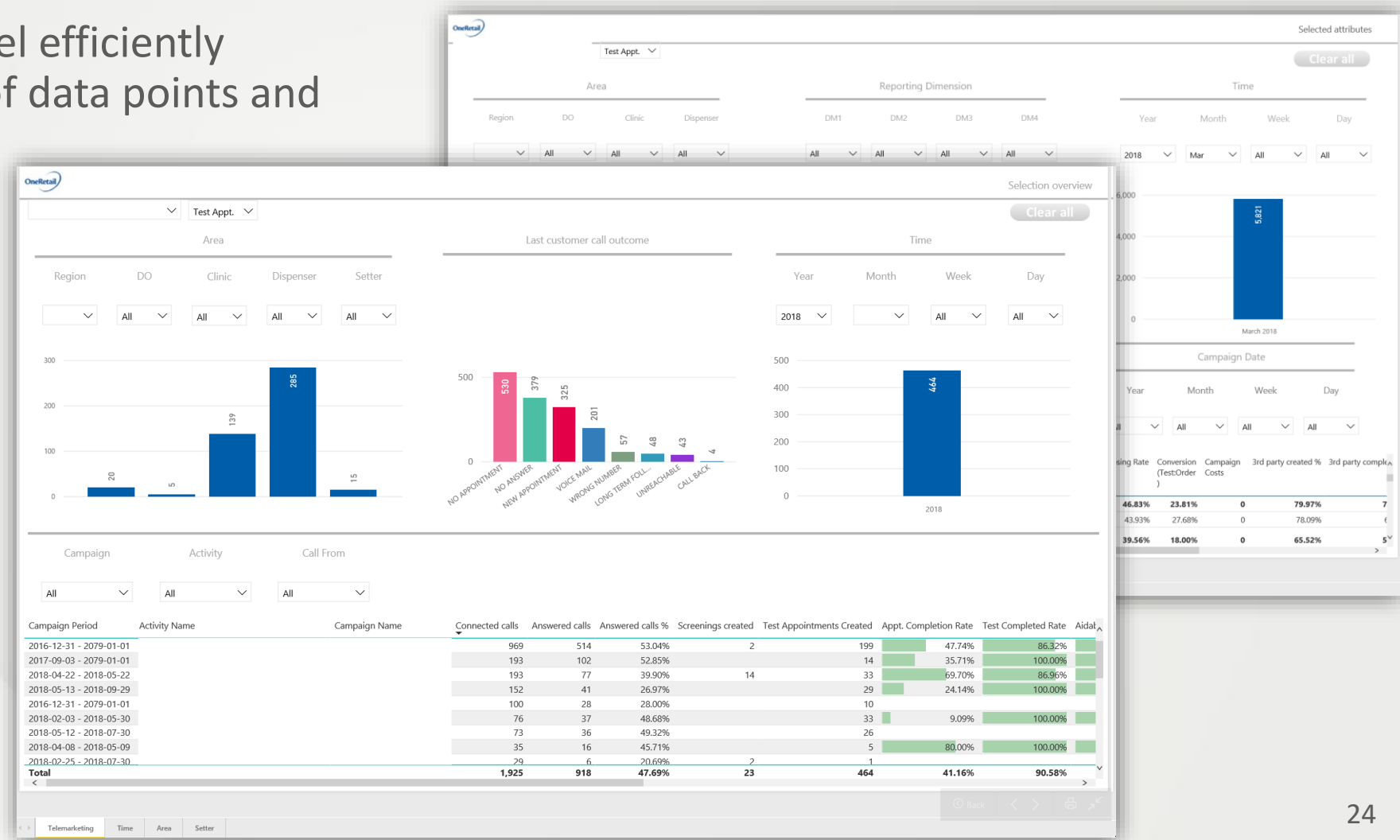
Single platform and technology  
Scale and knowledge  
Programmatic buying

Cultural relevance  
Customer connection  
Market differences

# Business systems and technology

Managing the sales funnel efficiently requires large amounts of data points and the right IT systems

- Performance data
- Behaviour data
- Consumer data







denken – umsetzen – lernen

# AUDIKA POLE POSITION

**How to build a strong brand and business**  
*Audika Switzerland*



**Elmar B. Götz**



## **Elmar B. Götz (56)**

- Diplom-Kaufmann (MBA), German
- Experience in wholesale, retail, venture capital, start-ups
- Industries: FMCG, Optical, Hearing Aids, Elderly Care
- CEO, Synoptik AB, Sweden
- Group VP Channel Solutions, Sonova Holding AG, Switzerland
- CEO, Casa Reha Holding GmbH, Germany
- GM, Audika AG, Switzerland

# Hearing aid retail market in Switzerland

Size, regulatory, competitive landscape



Market size

**83,000 units**  
(estimate 2017)

Government  
reimbursement

Type	IV (workers)	AHV (retirees)
Monaural	CHF 840	CHF 630 (= 75% of IV)
Binaural	CHF 1,650	CHF 630 (1,237.50 as of July 2018)

Key players



# Development of Audika Switzerland

A young company with legacy



Foundation of HZ  
Hörmittelzentralen  
AG by Swiss hearing  
impaired association

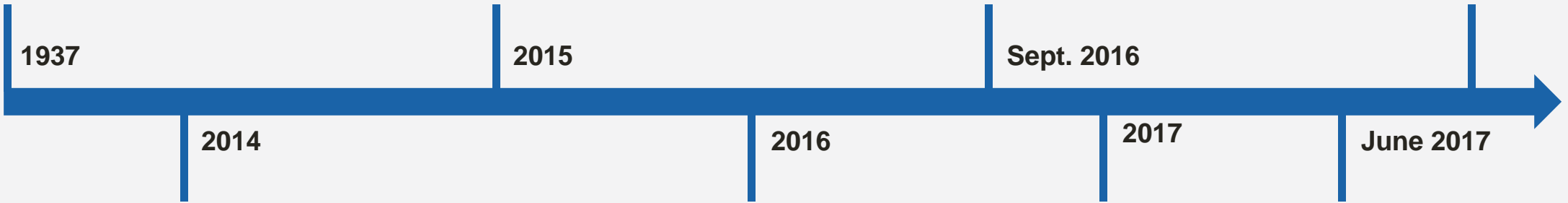


Take over of three  
single companies



Audika Switzerland  
= merger of several  
major/minor companies

**80 clinics in 3 language  
areas, approx.  
200 employees**



William Demant

Take-over of  
25 HZ clinics by  
William Demant  
(WDH)

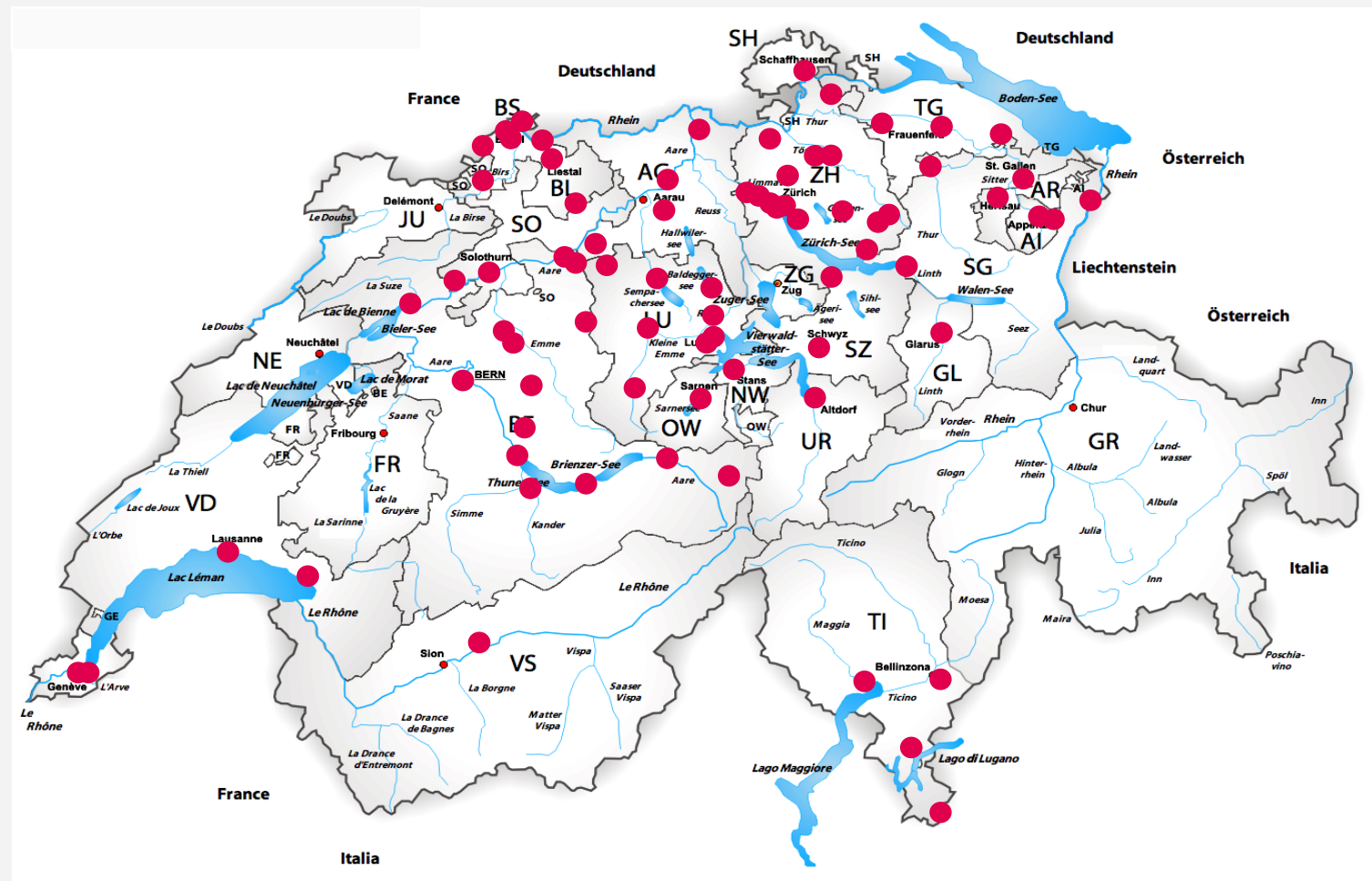


New GM:  
Elmar B. Götz

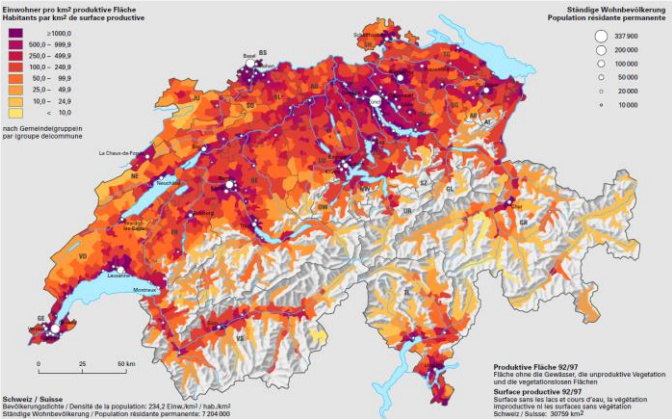


# Audika coverage

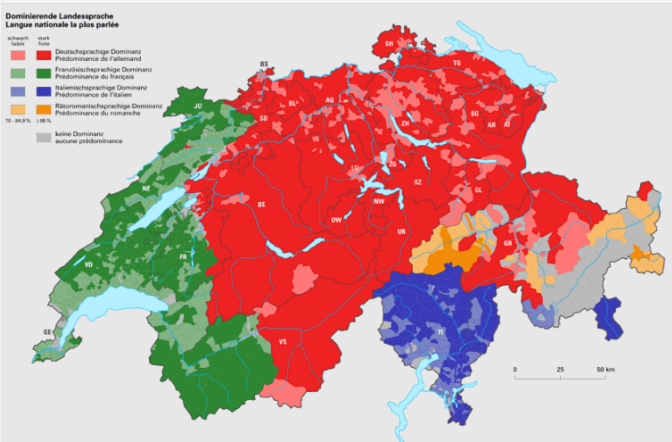
Current locations



Distribution of population



Language areas



# How to get in POLE POSITION?

Audika 2018

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## ONE Audika



# How to get in POLE POSITION?

The journey



AMBITION	DEFINITION
POLE POSITION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Better business results (compelling place to shop)</li><li>• Employer of choice (compelling place to work)</li><li>• Top company reputation (compelling place to invest)</li></ul>
DNA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New vision</li><li>• New mission</li><li>• New company values</li></ul>
ONE AUDIKA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Standardised labour agreements</li><li>• Standardised work processes (QM)</li><li>• Standardised systems infrastructure (IT/audiology)</li><li>• Digitisation of company</li><li>• New market appearance/shop design</li><li>• Scalable high-performance organisation</li></ul>

## Core capabilities:

- People
- Marketing
- Systems



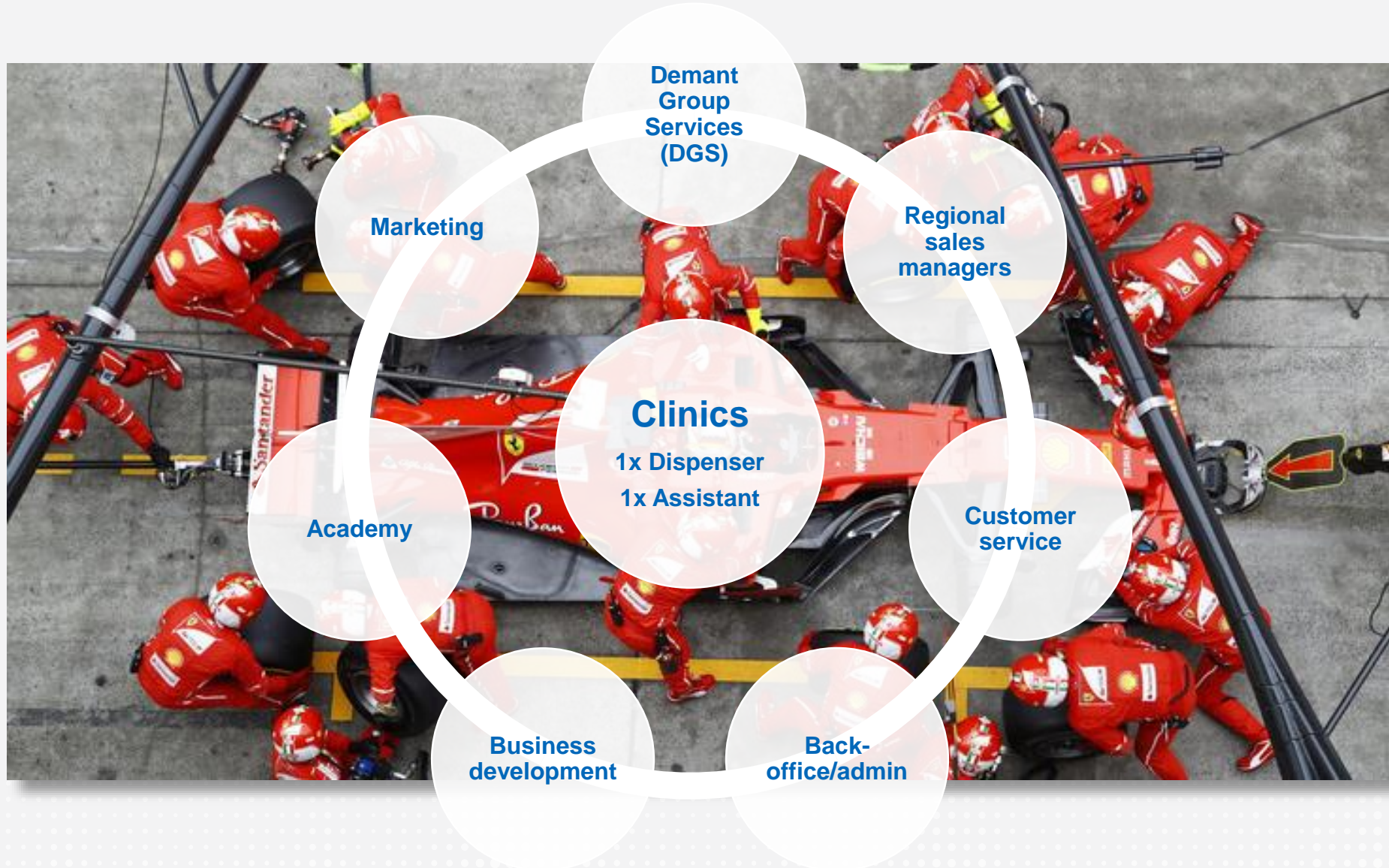
# People





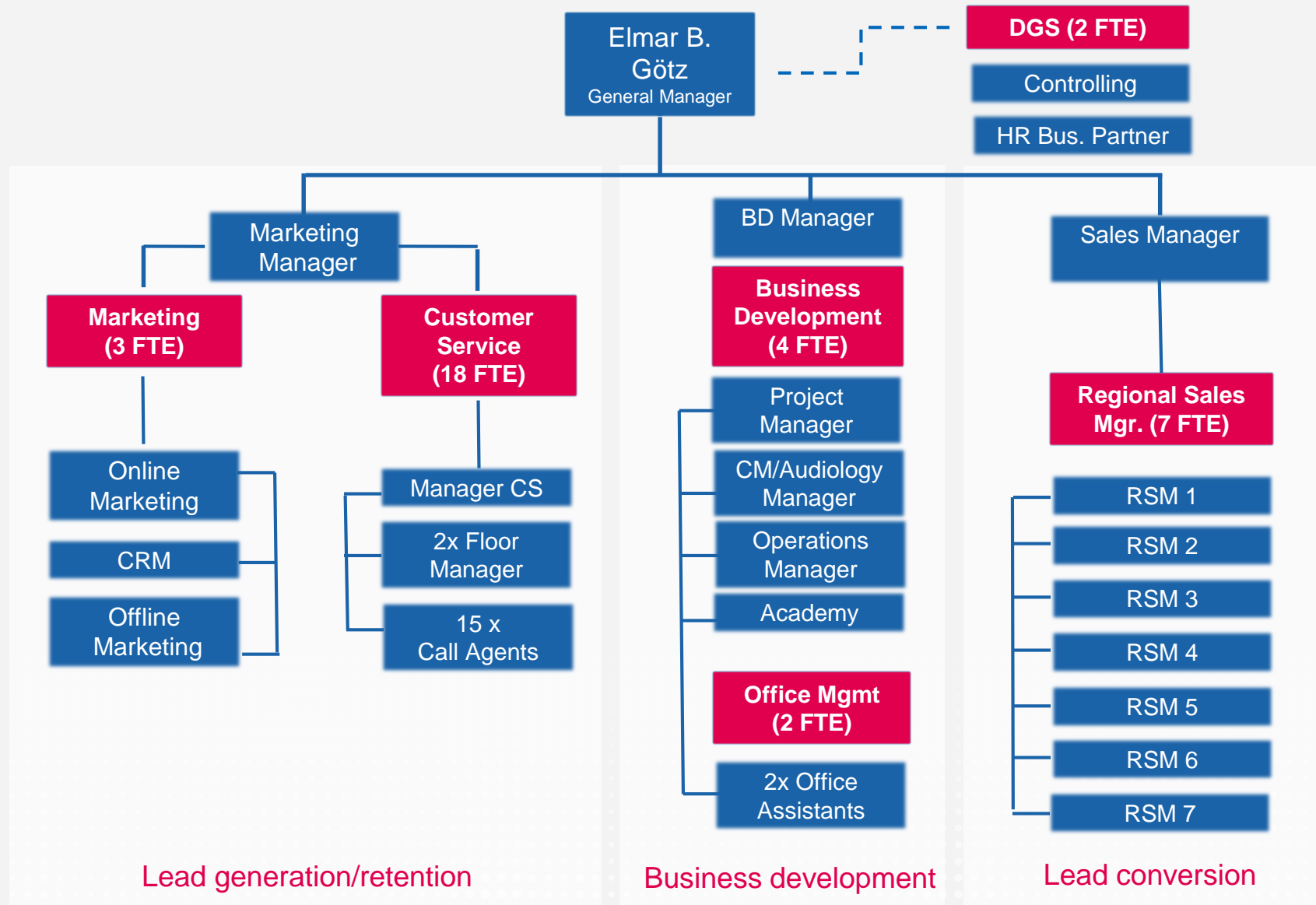
# Building block 1: A strong Audika organisation

High-performing team



# Organisation Audika Switzerland

HQ Urdorf

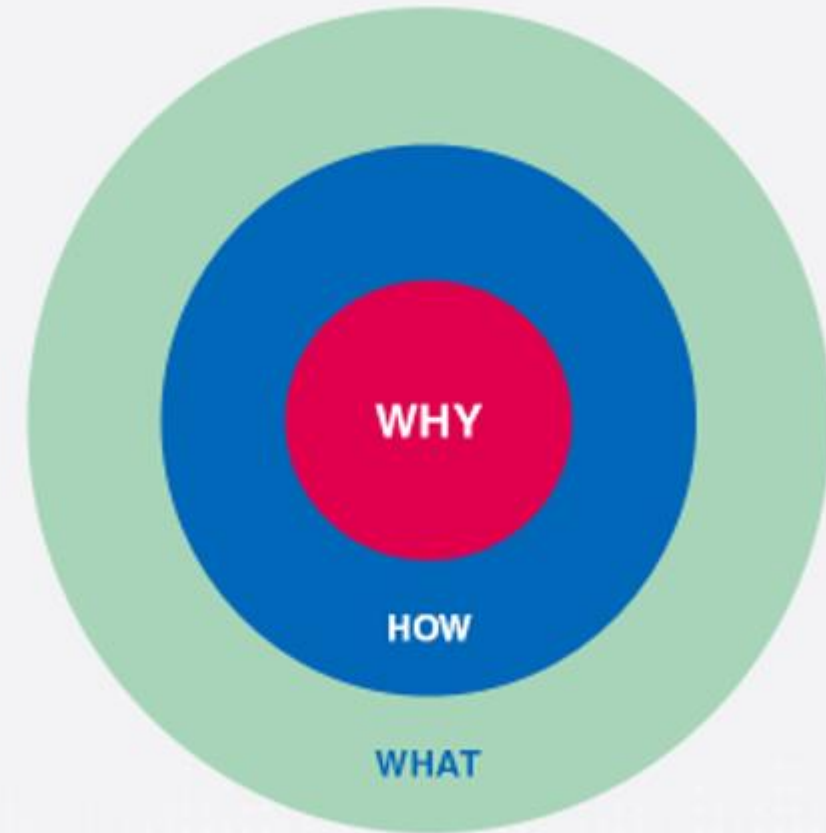


# Building block 2: Vision, mission, values

How to have motivated and highly engaged employees

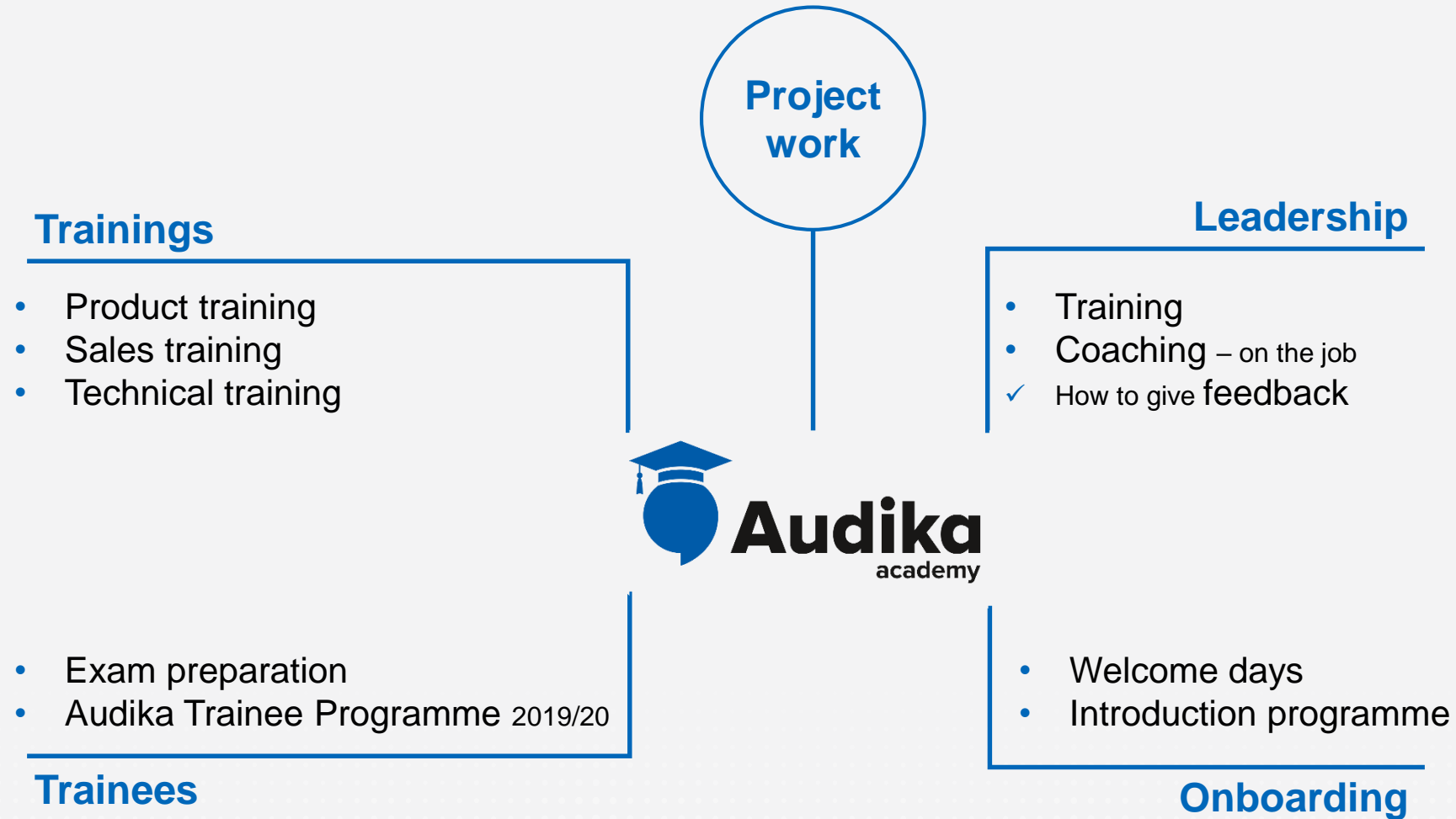


**Our Vision:**  
**«Help more people  
hear better»**



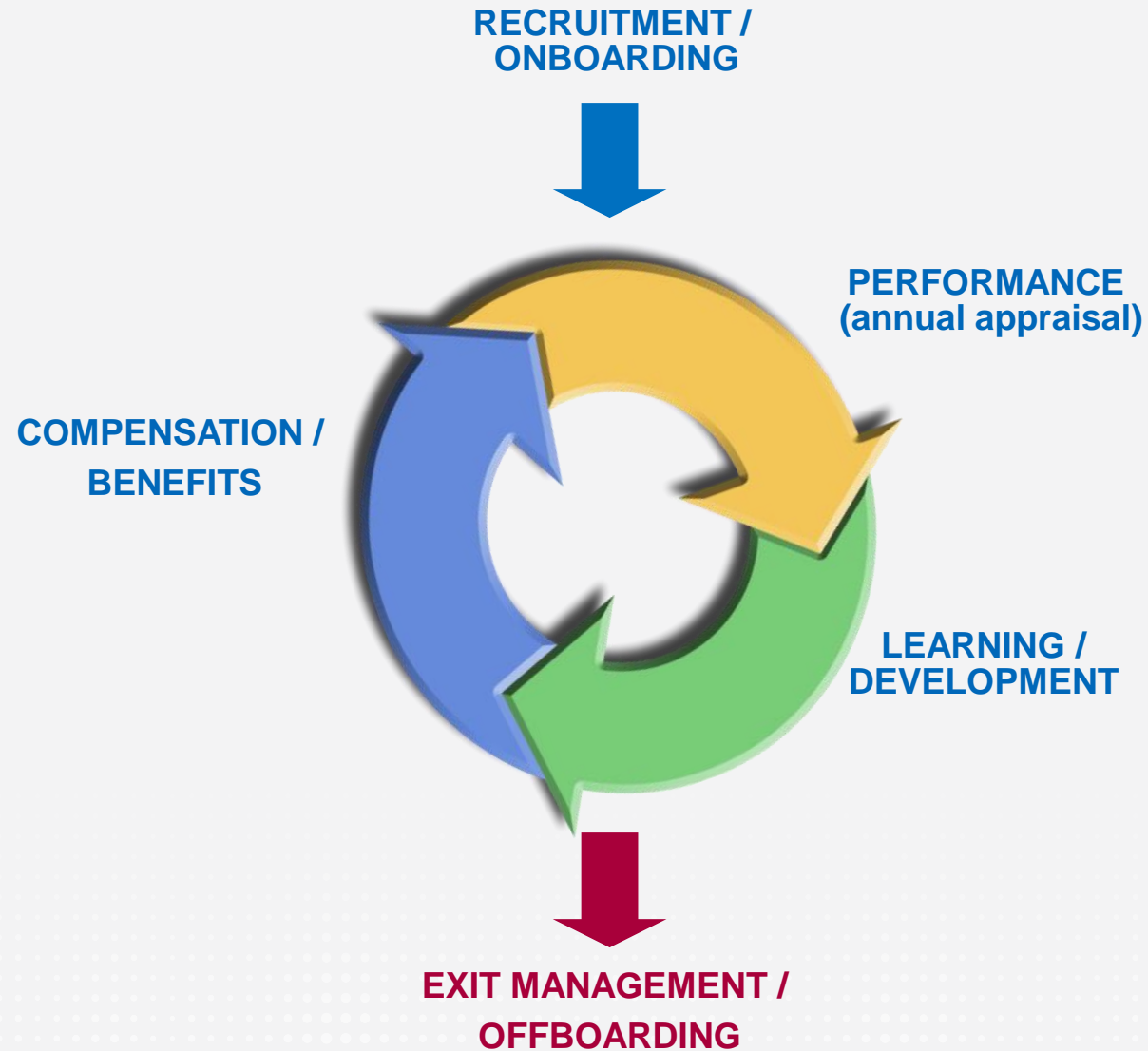
# Building block 3: Academy

How to develop core competencies



# Building block 4: HR cycle

How to build organisational capacity and HR systems



# Building block 5: Culture and leadership style

Communication by the General Manager



**Dispersed organization  
(80 clinics + HQ + DGS)**

Regular roadshows in all regions

Monthly store visits

**Three operating  
languages**

Monthly update letters/  
feedback systems

**DemantPulse**

William Demant engagement programme

**Personal  
appreciation**

Personal handwritten birthday card

Thank you/kudo cards



# Marketing

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# Building block 6: Lead generation

Holistic campaigns/multi-channel approach



## Holistic Campaign: 'Hear again how .... Sounds... '

Print

Store sticker

Facebook ad

Website

Wieder **hören**,  
wie *FREUDE* klingt?

www.audika.ch

**Hörtest gratis?  
Und Reise gewinnen?**

Von den Audika Hörtest-Tagen im März profitieren Sie diesmal gleich doppelt:

- Ihr Hörtest ist kostenlos und unverbindlich - Anmeldung gleich unter: **056 688 04 75**
- Unter allen TeilnehmerInnen verlosen wir 3 Reisen nach Hamburg - Flug, Hotel, Konzert in der Elbphilharmonie! [www.audika.ch/hamburg](http://www.audika.ch/hamburg)

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80 Hörcenter in der Schweiz

Wieder **hören**,  
wie *FREUNDSCHAFT* klingt?

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**Audika Switzerland**  
Gesponsert ·

Seite gefällt mir

Gewinnen Sie eine Reise für 2 Personen nach Hamburg inkl. Flug, Hotel und Hörerlebnis in der Elbphilharmonie im Wert von CHF 1'400. Jetzt mitmachen & gewinnen!

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Gefällt mir Kommentieren Teilen

Mehr dazu

**Audika**

Wieder hören, wie *FREUNDSCHAFT* klingt?

**Jetzt Hörtest gratis!**

Von den Audika Hörtest-Tagen im März profitieren Sie diesmal gleich doppelt:

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Wieder hören, wie *VERTRAUTHIT* klingt?

**Kontaktieren Sie uns!**

**Wir sind Audika**  
80 Hörcenter in der Schweiz

**Kontaktieren Sie uns!**  
Telefon: 056 688 04 75  
E-Mail: [info@audika.ch](mailto:info@audika.ch)

**Über Audika**  
Hörtests | Hörberatung | Modernste Hörgeräte & Zubehör



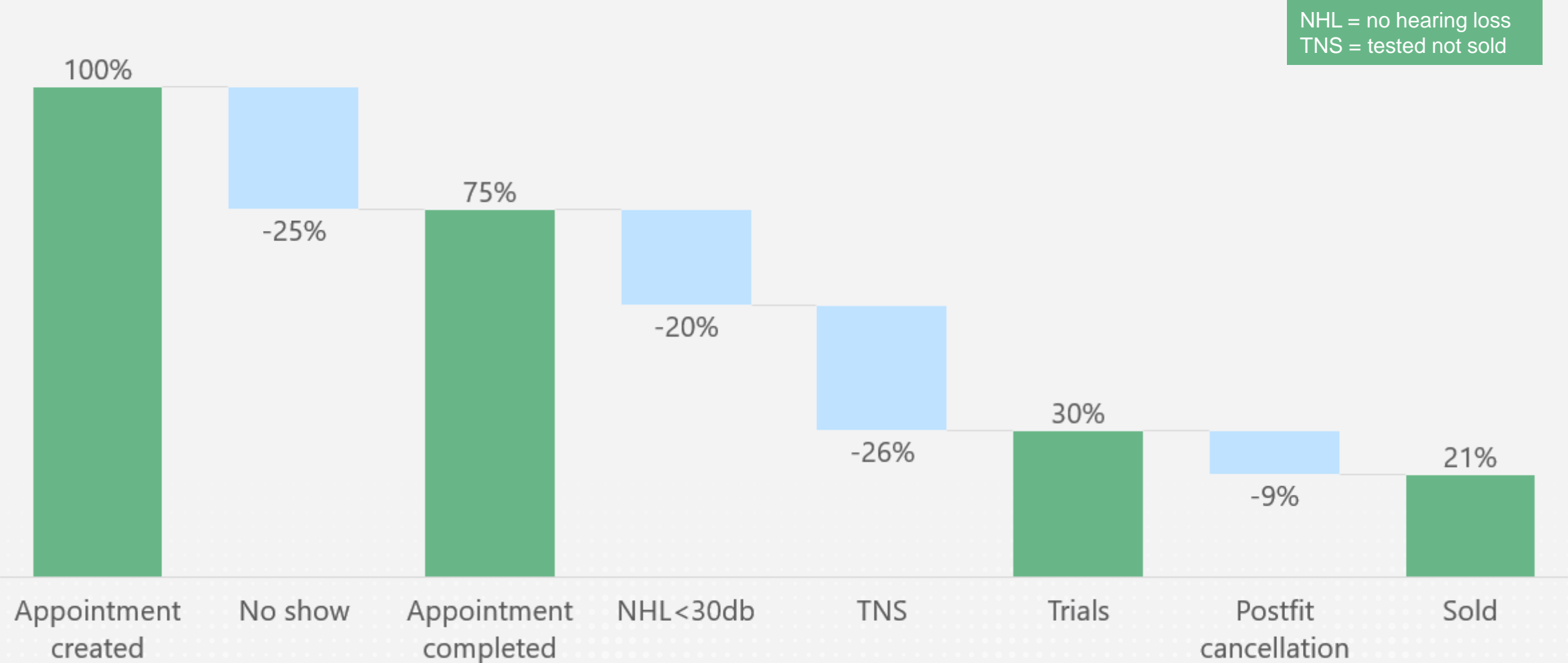
# Building block 7: In-store excellence

How to win in-store



# Building block 8: Lead conversion

Sales funnel



# Building block 9: Innovative assortment

Private label «Audika»



# Building Block 10: Outreach programmes, regional activities

Local tool-box

- ✓ 9 different tools which can be leveraged by local teams
- ✓ Central support by marketing team
- ✓ Focus on generating leads locally and bond with the local community

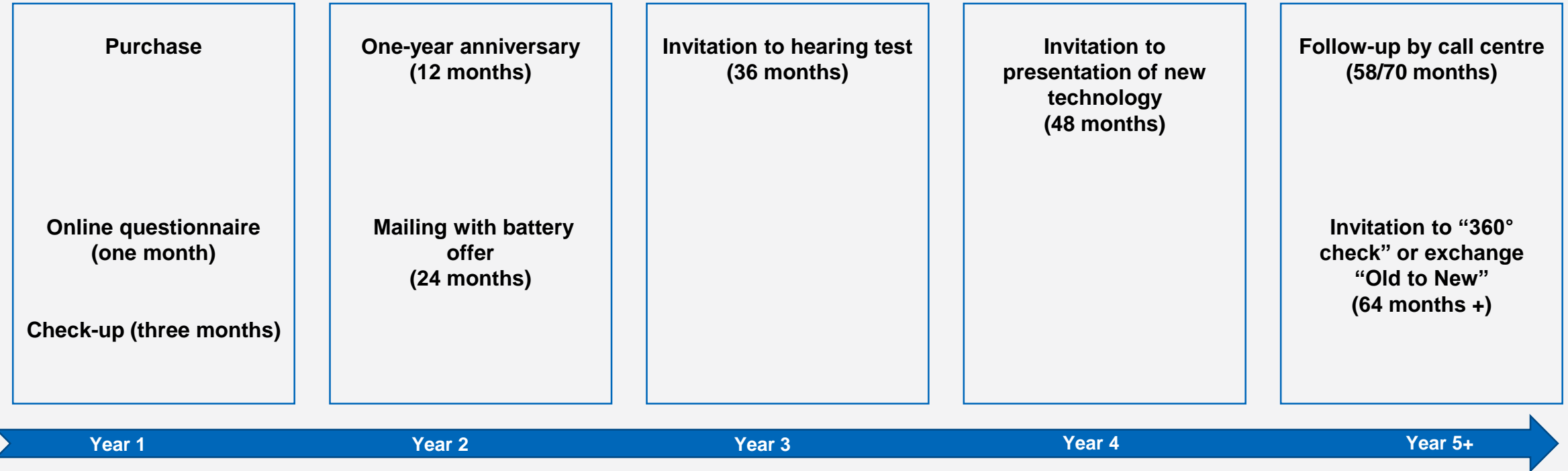






# Building block 11: Customer journey for hearing aid users

Customer retention/renewal



# Systems

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# Building block 12: IT systems

Digitisation of operations



**ERP/CRM**

OPACC (ERP)

MS Dynamics CRM (Marketing)

**Back-office**

BasWare (Finance)

PeopleCentral (HR)

**Audiology**

Affinity (audiometer)

Noah



# Building block 13: Cloud retail CRM

Automated lead generation, prospect nurturing, customer retention



# Operational excellence: A continuous journey

Wrap-up



Significant progress in operations...

- People
- Sales & Marketing
- Systems

...and work on key focus areas:

- Drive employee engagement further
- Roll-out of key sales excellence initiatives
- Implement new and improved ERP-system

Win with the brand and the business behind continuous operational improvements.





# Questions at the end of retail presentation

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# Maturity of our retail varies across markets

- The performances of our retail businesses in various markets are closely correlated with their level of maturity, e.g. in terms of
  - Quality of IT systems and processes
  - Number of operating brands
  - Organisational structure and stability
- The process of establishing and implementing new initiatives takes time but we have the necessary tools in our One Operating Model
- Pace of change also dependent on level of ongoing bolt-on acquisitions

Indicative relative maturity of our retail markets:



# US retail: Building a business in our largest market

In our largest retail market, the US, we are on a journey to build a coherent business based on a large number of acquisitions completed in recent years

## People

- Improved regional sales management structure
- Started brand harmonisation from approx. 80 brands

*Completed*  
*Started*

## Marketing

- Building central organisation and capabilities 1.0
- Launching digital marketing automation

*Completed*  
*Started*

## Systems

- New POS, schedule management and CRM system now across all shops
- New call center technologies and marketing technologies

*Completed*  
*Started*

# Continued bolt-on acquisitions in retail

- Overall, we continue our strategy of making bolt-on acquisitions on a selective basis
- Our acquisitions are mostly re-active by nature with the seller often initiating the transaction
- We focus on acquisitions in specific geographies, primarily the US and France
- Acquisition prices differ significantly between markets and are driven by
  - Value as a stand-alone company including sales uplift (in mature markets) from leveraging brand and marketing activities
  - Synergies from additional supply of wholesale products





# Q&A

