

- Competition policies
- International product and service marketers face special challenges
 - How to standardise or adapt their products and services for world markets
 - Packaging and labelling
 - Growth of global service companies – banking, airlines, professional services, etc.

Pricing Issues

- Price – amount of money charged for a product or service
- Factors affecting price setting
 - Internal
 - Company's marketing objectives
 - Survival – staying in business hoping conditions improve
 - Current profit maximisation – short-run > long-run
 - Market-share leadership – low prices to increase demand, volume and profit
 - Product quality leadership – niche strategy tends to push prices higher
 - Company's marketing-mix strategy
 - Position price then tailor other marketing mix decisions
 - Consistency within mix to support overall image
 - Costs – fixed/variable
 - Organisation for pricing
 - Small companies – top management
 - Large companies – divisional or product line managers
 - Industrial markets – negotiated between salespeople and customers
 - External
 - Market
 - Pure competition – pricing very important since products not differentiable
 - Monopolistic competition – pricing is less important since differentiable
 - Oligopoly – firms have market power, price can be easily manipulated
 - Pure monopoly – can set prices but overall revenue is limited by the ability/willingness of customers to pay
 - Demand
 - Price elasticity of demand (PED) = $\frac{\% \text{ change in quantity demanded}}{\% \text{ change in price}}$
 - ◆ ∞ perfectly elastic, >1 elastic
 - ◇ use advertising and promotional techniques to reduce elasticity

- ◆ = 1 unit elastic
- ◆ <1 inelastic, 0 perfectly inelastic
- Computation of PED
 - ◆ Midpoint – 2 points on demand curve

$$\text{PED} = \frac{[(Q_{D2} - Q_{D1}) \div (Q_{D2} + Q_{D1}) / 2]}{[(P_2 - P_1) \div (P_2 + P_1) / 2]}$$

- ◆ Point-price elasticity

$$\eta = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial P} \times \frac{P_0}{Q_0}$$

- Economic conditions
 - Key is to not cut prices but value for money
 - Consider other parties e.g. resellers and government
 - Social concerns
- Main pricing strategies
 - Customer value-based pricing – based on buyer’s perception of value rather than seller’s cost
 - Good-value pricing – combination of quality and good service at a fair price
 - Value-added pricing
 - Cost-based pricing
 - Cost-plus pricing

$$\text{Mark-up \% on Cost} = \frac{\text{Mark-up on Sale.}}{100\% - \text{Mark-up on Sale}}$$

$$\text{Mark-up \% on Sales} = \frac{\text{Mark-up on Cost.}}{100\% + \text{Mark-up on Cost}}$$

- Covers costs, steady profits
 - ◆ If all firms use this strategy, prices are similar and price competition is minimised
 - Not flexible does not consider demand, competitions, product life cycle, product’s image
 - Breakeven pricing and target-return pricing

$$\text{Break-even point in units (With target return)} = \frac{\text{Total fixed costs} + \text{Target profit}}{\text{Contribution margin per unit}}$$
- Competition-based pricing – based on competitors’ strategies, costs, prices and market offerings
 - Outprice competitors
 - However, giving customers superior value for price is more important
- New-product pricing strategies
 - Market-skimming pricing – high prices
 - High quality and image

- Costs of producing a small volume cannot be so high that they cancel the advantage of charging a higher price (diseconomies of scale)
 - Need high barriers to entry
 - Speed of skimming strategy – accompanied with same pace promotion
 - Rapid e.g. Apple
 - Slow e.g. Mercedes Benz
- Market-penetration pricing – low prices
 - Market must be highly price sensitive
 - Economies of scale
 - Low price must keep out competition
- Product-mix pricing
 - Product-line pricing – variations in price due to the different features each product offers
 - Optional product pricing – additional accessories to a main product
 - Captive product pricing – products that must be used along with a main product
 - e.g. printer cartridges, razor blades, staples, software