

Strategy for Emerging Industries...

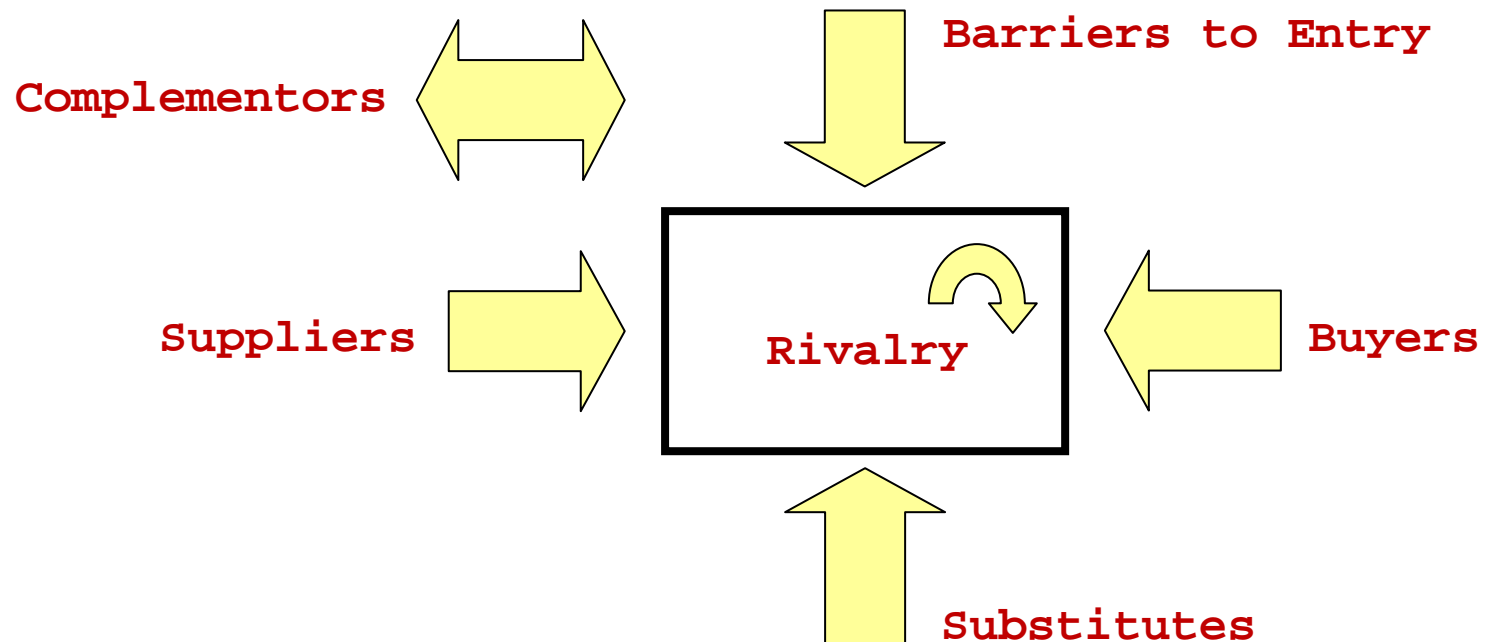
Reference:

Competitive Strategy

M. Porter

Strategy:

Offensive or defensive action to create a defensible position against the six competitive forces



- **Positioning**
 - Assume industry structure is a given and match company's strengths & weaknesses to it.
- **Influencing the balance**
 - Strategy aimed at altering the cause of market forces
- **Exploiting change**
 - Anticipating shifts in the factors underlying the market forces and choosing a strategy appropriate to the new competitive balance before rivals.

- **Overall cost leadership**
 - Industry low cost position effective against all market forces
 - Usually requires high market share
- **Differentiation**
 - Perceive industry-wide as unique (features, technology, brand)
 - Usually not a high market share position
- **Focus**
 - Serve a particular, narrow target better than rivals

Structural Environment of Emerging Markets

- **Technological Uncertainty**
 - What will best product configuration be? Best production technology?
- **Strategic Uncertainty**
 - No clear “right” strategy. Poor information about competitors, customers, and industry conditions.
- **High Initial Costs but Steep Cost Reduction**
 - Low volume & new processes lead to high costs. Initial high labor contents may rapidly reduce with learning. Rapid cost decline as scale & learning grow.

Structural Environment of Emerging Markets

- **Embryonic Companies & Spin-Offs**
 - High concentration of new companies and spin-offs.
- **First Time Buyers**
 - Marketing task of inducing substitution or getting buyer to purchase new product over something else
- **Short Time Horizon**
 - Expedient handling of problems. Industry conventions often born out of chance.
- **Subsidy**

Early Entry Barriers in Emerging Markets

- **Proprietary technology**
- **Distribution channel access**
- **Access to raw materials**
- **Access to technical talent**
- **Cost advantage due to experience**
- **High risk**

Problems Constraining Emerging Industry Development

- **Inability to obtain raw materials and components**
- **Period of rapid escalation of raw material prices**
- **Absence of infrastructure**
- **Absence of product or technical standardization**
- **Perceived likelihood of obsolescence**
- **Customer confusion**
- **Erratic product quality**

Problems Constraining Emerging Industry Development

- **Image and credibility with financial community**
- **Regulatory approval**
- **High costs**
- **Response of threatened entities**

- **Nature of benefit**
 - Early market is usually performance driven
 - Late market is cost driven
- **Performance advantage**
 - How large is advantage? Is it obvious?
 - Is the advantage a pressing need for the buyer?
 - Does it help the buyer's competitive advantage?
 - How strong is competitive pressure to change?
 - How price sensitive is the buyer?

- **Cost advantage**
 - How large is the advantage? Is it obvious?
 - Can lasting advantage be gained through lower cost?
 - How much competitive pressure is there to change?
 - How cost oriented is the buyer's business strategy?
- **State of the art required to yield significant benefits**
 - Rudimentary vs sophisticated product requirements

- **Cost of product failure**
 - Riskier for integrators and buyers with lower resources
- **Switching costs**
 - Retraining employees
 - Ancillary equipment
 - Write-off of existing equipment
 - Capital required to changeover
 - Engineering and R&D cost to changeover
 - Modifying interrelated stages of production

Early & Late Emerging Markets

- **Support service availability**
- **Cost of obsolescence**
- **Asymmetric government, regulatory, or labor barriers**
- **Resources to change**
- **Perception of technological change**
- **Personal risk to decision maker**

Strategic Choices in Emerging Markets

- **Highest degree of freedom during emergent period**
- **Shaping industry structure**
 - Opportunity to set rules of game (product, marketing, pricing)
- **Externalities in industry development**
 - Conflict between need to foster industry cooperation (standardization) and serve self interest of firm (unique products)

Strategic Choices in Emerging Markets

- **Changing role of suppliers and channels**
 - Suppliers and channel will become more receptive to industry's needs
- **Shifting mobility barriers**
 - Quick erosion of early mobility barriers and replacement by new ones
 - Requires new ways to defend position
 - Nature of entrants may change (large companies attracted to new industry)

Timing Entry in Emerging Markets

- **Early entry good when...**
 - Pioneer image is important to buyer
 - Learning curve is important & experience is hard to imitate
 - Customer loyalty will be great
 - Absolute cost advantage from early commitment of suppliers and distribution channel

Timing Entry in Emerging Markets

- **Early entry risky when...**
 - Early competition & market segmentation basis will change significantly later (firm develops wrong skills)
 - Costs of opening market are great and benefit is not proprietary
 - Costly competition with small, new firms that will be later replaced with formidable competition later.
 - Technology changes will make early investments obsolete and give advantage to new entrants

Timing Entry in Emerging Markets

- **Tactical moves:**
 - Get early commitments of suppliers to give favorable priority in times of shortage.
 - Financing can be timed to take advantage financial market excitement

Coping with Competitors in Emerging Markets

- **Pioneers may expend large resources defending high market share against competitors who don't become market forces in long run**
- **Best efforts are spent building own strengths and developing the industry.**
- **Rarely feasible or profitable to defend a near monopoly in a rapidly growing industry**

Entry Through Internal Development

- **Can analyze joint ventures similar to internal development.**
- **Firm must directly confront two entry barriers:**
 - Structural entry barriers (brand, technology, etc)
 - Expected reaction of incumbent firms
- **Entry decision balances costs & benefits:**
 - Investment cost to be in new business
 - Additional investment to overcome barriers like tech.
 - Expected cost from incumbents retaliation
 - Benefit of cash flow from being in industry

Entry Through Internal Development

- **Effect of new entrant on industry supply-demand**
- **Retaliation likely from competitors with:**
 - Slow growth industries
 - Commodity products
 - High fixed costs
 - High industry concentration (low fragmentation)
 - High strategic importance to business position
 - Long established incumbents

Identifying Targets Industries for Internal Entry

- **Rarely pays to enter an industry in equilibrium (higher costs from structural barriers & retaliation)**
- **Industry in disequilibrium**
 - New industries with above-average profits long enough to justify investment
 - Quickly rising entry barriers (move first & facilitate rising barrier costs-common in new industries)
 - Poor/wrong information about entry cost and expected profits

Identifying Targets Industries for Internal Entry

- **Slow or ineffectual retaliation**
 - Incumbents' cost of effective retaliation outweigh benefits
 - Paternal dominant firm
 - Response cost great compared to need to protect existing business
 - Entrant can exploit conventional wisdom

Identifying Targets Industries for Internal Entry

- **Lower entry costs**
 - Overcome structural entry barriers more cheaply than competitors
 - Expect less retaliation costs

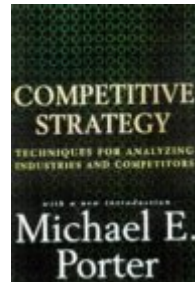
Identifying Targets Industries for Internal Entry

- **Distinctive ability to influence industry structure**
- **Positive effect on existing business**
- **Generic entry concepts**
 - Reduce product costs (process, scale, technology, sharing costs with other businesses)
 - Buy in (use low price to gain share)
 - Broad superior product
 - New niche
 - Marketing innovation
 - Piggybacked distribution

- **Profitable if...**
 - Low floor price from seller's alternative of keeping
 - Imperfect market doesn't eliminate above average return
 - Buyer has a unique ability to operate the acquired business
- **Height of the floor price low for**
 - Estate problems
 - Capital constraints
 - Weak management

- **Imperfections in the market for companies**
 - Buyer has superior information
 - Low number of bidders
 - Bad economic conditions
 - Sick selling company
 - Seller has objectives besides maximizing the price

- **Unique ability to operate the acquisition**
 - Buyer has distinctive ability to improve operations
 - Buy into an industry that meets criteria for internal development
 - Acquisition will help in buyer's position in other businesses
- **Irrational bidders**
 - Bidder sees unique way to improve acquisition
 - Acquisition will help existing business
 - Goal other than maximizing profit



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