Sebastian Neumann

The Expectations Of Targeted Customer Segments Towards Food-Logistics-Services For Online Grocery Shopping. An Empirical Analysis with Recommendations for Action

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Bibliographic information published by the German National Library:

The German National Library lists this publication in the National Bibliography; detailed bibliographic data are available on the Internet at http://dnb.dnb.de .

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Imprint:

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by

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Hochschule Rhein-Waal Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences Faculty of Communication and Environment

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A Thesis Submitted in
Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements of the Degree of

Bachelor of Science in Mobility & Logistics

by Sebastian Neumann

Submission Date: 17.08.2018

Abstract

In recent years, the food retail sector in Germany entered the market with a new business model, which can be called "online-grocery-shopping". Unlike in other European countries, this business model is still at its beginning and encounters some challenges to develop and scoop its potential entirely. The research status mostly seems to consider just the trader, but little to no emphasis is on the transport service provider. Especially the processes of them must ensure that sensitive groceries are handled and delivered with maximum care until the goods reach the final customer. Also, the German population is a sophisticated customer base, due to their high expectations regarding quality and service. Furthermore, the younger people are represented by high internet affinity, and they count as one of the present and future purchasing powers. This thesis utilizes a questionnaire to study 18-35-year old people regarding their expectations towards the transportation of groceries to contribute to the development of this business model. An assessment by the participants helps to identify the essential expectations. Since Germans are tough customers, an ordinal logistic regression contributes to examine the identified expectations further. This reveals which properties of the customer, whether these are of demographic or fundamental nature, are affecting the expectations. Further, cross-pair comparisons of these properties are executed to crosscheck, how exactly is a property affecting an expectation. After this, based on the results, recommendations for action are stated as specific as possible to help the transport service provider compensate the identified expectations.

Keywords: Transport Service Provider, German Food Retail, Online-Grocery-Shopping, E-Commerce, Ordinal Logistic Regression

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List of Abbreviations

A2A Administration-to-Administration

A2B Administration-to-Business

A2C Administration-to-Customer

B2A Business-to-Administration

B2B Business-to-Business

B2C Business-to-Customer

C2A Customer-to-Administration

C2B Customer-to-Business

C2C Customer-to-Customer

Co2 Carbon Dioxide

FMCG Fast Moving Consumer Goods

HACCP Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point

VIF Variance Inflation Factor