# **Writing Strategy Statements**



### Job to be done...

Writing strategy statements is tough work with multiple approach and style choices. Let's get the thinking down by covering some examples.

# We previously looked at the GOST framework...

### GOST Framework Cascade - Amazon Ex.



**GOALS** 

**OBJECTIVES** 

**STRATEGIES** 

**TACTICS** 

Corporate

Deliver more quality products to our customers faster than ever before

Increase revenue 30% YOY

Create omnichannel experiences across key growth industries

**Acquire Whole Foods** 

Acquire Pillpack

Expand the AMZN locker network

Business

Unit

Leverage Whole Foods acquisition to become a leader in grocery delivery

Increase grocery market share from 2.5% at acquisition to 3.5% by 2021

Centralize purchasing

Add Prime to WF brick & mortar

Drive micro visits with

**AMZN lockers** 

Rationalize vendors for economies of scale

Create in store salience Drive awareness via marketing

Install AMZN lockers in WF Create awareness via marketing

Introduce current Prime customers to WF

Program Level e.g. Marketing Increase new WF customers by +8% in 2021

Increase micro visits by +10%

Drive awareness of Prime

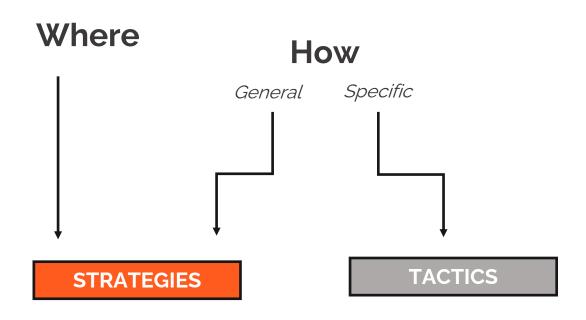
Drive awareness of AMZN lockers in WF

Owned: AMZN.com activation Paid: television and digital media

E-mail campaign to current AMZN customers



### **Examination of Strategies vs. Tactics**



Strategic domains, the playing field



The industry, consumer segments, geography, product or service type, channel, operations, vertical integration, & on & on...

Low cost,
Differentiation,
Or both if it's a
Blue Ocean

Specific activations like "acquire Whole Foods" or "e-mail campaign to new customers"

Spell out how the strategy will happen and where **resources** will be dedicated

\*Sometimes, corporate tactics may ladder down to business units as strategies





GOALS

Often overlooked, ironically, in strategic planning



**OBJECTIVES** 

**STRATEGIES** 

**TACTICS** 



Goal for today –
flesh out
strategy
statements



### A Look at Different Types of Strategy Statements

### Corporate/ Business Unit Level

- Expand into the grocery channel by acquiring Whole Foods
- Expand into the grocery channel by acquiring Whole Foods to create a differentiated omni-channel experience
- Drive market share by acquiring Whole Foods to expand into the grocery channel and create a differentiated omni-channel experience
- Drive market share to 3.5% by acquiring Whole Foods to expand into the grocery channel, creating a differentiated omni-channel experience driven by Prime membership in-store

### Program Level Strategy

- Marketing Specific Strategy
- Leverage Amazon Prime membership in Whole Foods to bring superior delivery and savings value that creates new customers for both Amazon and Whole Foods
- Advertise benefits of Amazon Prime in Whole Foods to increase perception of savings, attracting new value conscious customers and increasing sales volume and basket size

Different levels of detail based on context and needs

Short and concise statements are often the best. The word "BY" is crucial for linking "where" strategy with "how"



### **Analysis of Strategy Statement Features**

- Expand into grocery (where strategy) by acquiring Whole Foods (how strategy) to create a differentiated omni-channel experience leveraging prime in-store (how tactic) to market share of 3.5%(business result)
- Attract new value conscious customers (where strategy) by advertising benefits of Amazon Prime in Whole Foods (how strategy) to increase consumer perception of value (consumer result) and drive basket size (business result)

Writing strategy statements can be uncomfortably fluid. Some companies may wish to be more general, some may want you to include more numerical objectives, and others will want the consumer to be a crucial ingredient. Adjust your writing style based on best practices from where you work and how you think you can drive action and positive business results.

# Writing Strategy Statements

Different at each organization, though simple and short is often best

Usually address a problem, opportunity, or issue you arrived at from your situation analysis

Often incorporate the word "by" in order to create where and how strategy linkages

Demonstrate a clear and unique way to deliver new value

Should not build from strengths unless your strengths are valued in the marketplace

Take a lot of practice, and should be rewritten over and over if necessary

Should not be written and forgotten - review them often



## The Enduring Understanding

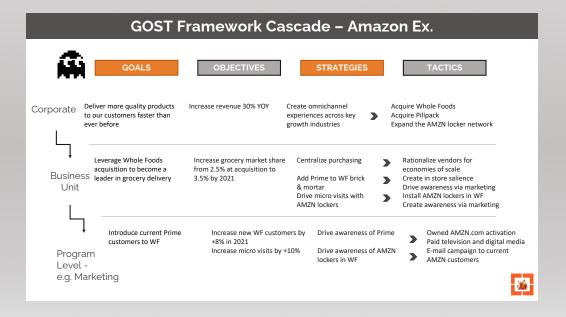
Strategy statements bring clarity, alignment, and competitive advantage when composed properly. They live in important documents, so practice getting them right.

# **APPENDIX**



# Download these at StrategyKiln.com

### **GOST Framework**



### **How to Write Strategy Statements**

#### **Analysis of Strategy Statement Features**

- Expand into grocery (where strategy) by acquiring Whole Foods (how strategy)
  to create a differentiated omni-channel experience (how tactic) that drives
  market share (result)
- Attract new value conscious customers (where strategy) by advertising benefits
  of Amazon Prime in Whole Foods (how strategy) to increase consumer
  perception of value (consumer result) and drive basket size (business result)

Writing strategy statements can be uncomfortably fluid. Some companies may wish to be more general, some may want you to include more numerical objectives, and others will want the consumer to be a crucial ingredient. Adjust your writing style based on best practices from where you work and how you think you can drive action and positive business results.





# Simple definition of strategy

What are the critical factors of the situation & how do I choose & connect the right actions in order to win?