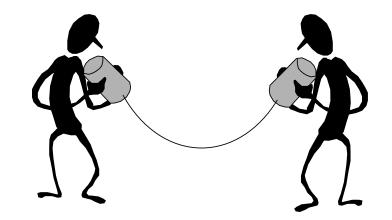
# Management of Integrated Agency Relationships

Eve Reiter VP, Global Agency Relations American Express

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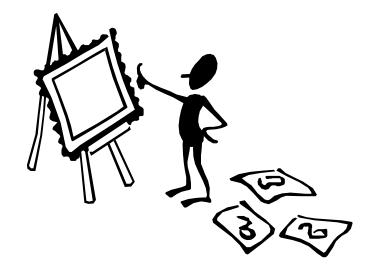
# **Consumer Today**

- "Talk to me, don't sell to me"
- Focus on my most relevant needs/ interests
- Provide me outstanding customer service
- Make most of my time



# What it means for Marketers

- Right offering to right audience
- Customer-centric dialogue
- Optimize end-to-end customer experience
- Leverage new channels to engage with customers



# Today's multi-agency environment

- Multiple Agencies of Record
  - Specialized expertise
  - Growing online
  - Emerging channels
  - Channel convergence
- More client stakeholders
- Increased scope & complexity
- Need for integration & single voice in marketplace



# Maximizing value across agency network

#### Collaboration

- Teamwork
- Integration
- Network Synergies

#### Innovation

- Best ideas
- Smart risk taking
- Use new channels

#### **Accountability**

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- Measurement/ ROI
- Pay for Performance
- Efficiency/ Scale

# Collaboration

- Best thinking and synergies across network
- Positive work environment/ morale
- Avoid duplication or unnecessary rework



### **Collaboration – Briefing Process**

#### • Strong creative briefing process

- Inform and inspire agencies
  - Vision, consumer value proposition & insights
- Set expectations & mandatories upfront
  - Metrics of success
  - Mandatories ex budget, timelines, T&Cs
- Identify key decision makers
- Learnings from past campaigns
- Umbrella brief for integrated campaigns

### **Collaboration – Other Best Practices**

• "Rules of the road" for working together

- Clarify roles/ responsibilities across agencies
- Involve right decision makers early in process
- Ongoing checkpoints & feedback to agencies

### Innovation

- New ways to strengthen customer value proposition
- Breakthrough messaging/ generate buzz/ excitement
- Leverage new channels & technology



# **Innovation Best Practices**

#### • Encourage ideas from all agencies

- Ideas should be channel agnostic
- Encourage joint ideation
- Recognize ideas even if agency doesn't execute idea
- "Innovation brief" to help flesh out ideas and pressure test viability ex. cost, scale, technology, privacy
- Establish gating process to evaluate new ideas and prioritize for funding
- Include innovation as part of agency evaluation criteria

# Accountability

- Measurement of Results
- Pay for Performance
  - Base Compensation
  - Agency Evaluation/ Bonus
- Efficiency/ Scale

# **Examples of Key Metrics**

#### **Business Metrics**

- Sales
- Spend/ Usage
- Share

#### Program Costs

- Agency Fees
- Production
- Media

#### **Direct Response**

- Online Marketing
- Direct Mail
- DRTV
- Sponsorships

Business Results/ ROI

Econometric Modeling

#### **Brand Metrics**

- Net Promoter
- Recall
- Breakthrough

#### **PR/ Buzz Factor**

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# **Metrics Best Practices**

- Include key metrics as part of briefing process
  - by type and by channel
  - establish targets upfront
  - establish requirements for tracking & reporting, and discuss agency resource implications
- Share metrics with your agencies
  - Results/ learnings from past and ongoing campaigns
  - Results against targets ex for agency evaluation process



# **Agency Compensation**

#### Key objectives:

- Right staffing skills/ levels to support scope
- Fair on both sides
- Simple to communicate, track, and manage
- Standardize principles across agencies
- Pay for Performance agency evaluation/ bonusing



# **Compensation Models**

Type:	Best for:	Pros	Cons
Retainer	Custom or strategic work Centralized organization Scope established upfront	Secure best agency resources Predictable agency revenue Eliminate ad-hoc negotiations	Budget and scope commitment Difficult to adminster for decentralized organization
Hourly rate pricing	Custom or strategic work ordered on an ad-hoc basis Decentralized organization	Establish pricing for custom work Client budget flexibility	Need to negotiate price for each individual project Unpredictable agency revenue Billing required per project
Project Based	Standard project work ordered on ad-hoc basis Decentralized organization	Fixed prices simplify price negotiations Client budget flexibility	Unpredictable agency revenue Billing required per project
Commission	Need for simplest fee structure Decentralized organization Scope established upfront	Client budget flexibility	Reduced accountability for specific deliverables Unpredicable agency revenue
Bonus	Strategic agency relationships Client committed to agency evaluation process	Incent best performance More upside potential for agency	More fees at risk for agency Harder to budget for client

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- Establish annual goals such as:
  - Creative quality
  - Collaboration
  - Innovation
  - Financial management/ compliance
  - Campaign/ business metrics
- Incorporates qualitative and quantitative feedback
- Year-end score determines bonus

### American Express Are You a Cardmember? Campaign

- Evolution of My Life. My Card campaign
- Value of membership & benefits of belonging
- High profile CMs describing how the Card helps them live life on their own terms
  - Customer Service
  - Financial Security/ Confidence
  - Rewards
  - Pursuits/ Access experiential and offers (Fashion, Entertainment, Sports, Travel)

### **Examples - 360 Campaign Activation**

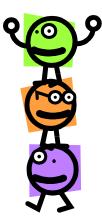
- Fashion/ Shopping
  - Diane Von Fustenberg
  - Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week
  - Fashion coverage via online channels
- Entertainment/ Sports
  - Tribeca Film Festival
  - US Open
  - Ticket access and offers
- Travel
  - Stress Free Travel
  - Rewards Pay with Points, special travel experiences
  - Members Know Cardmember community site

### American Express Integrated Agency Team

#### Supports 360 campaign:

- Broadcast
- Online
- Print
- Access Platforms
- Experiential





## **Successes & Opportunities**

	<u>Successes</u>	<u>Opportunities</u>
	- Strong integrated agency team	- Leveraging Global Network
Collaboration	- Strategic partners	- Integration with large organization
Conaboration	- Improve Briefing process	- Training - working with agency partners
	- Share Best Practices	
	- Joint ideation across agencies	- Measuring Short/ Long Impact
Innovation	- Digital innovation	- Responding to changing online environment
	- New CM experiences/ access	
	- Strong metrics culture	- Improving metrics - esp. online
	- Scale/ efficiencies	- Continuing to optimize Marketing ROI
Accountability	- Simplified agency evaluation	- Finding new marketing effficiencies
	- Standardized processes across	
	agencies	

### **Takeaways for You to Consider**

- Improve briefing process to inspire & inform your agencies
- Encourage joint ideation to develop and bring to life breakthru 360° ideas
- Strengthen pay for performance model across agencies to reward best work



### **Thank You!**

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