

WEBINAR

# **Relationships Matter**

Lasting peer and customer relationships that are built on trust

#### PRESENTED BY:









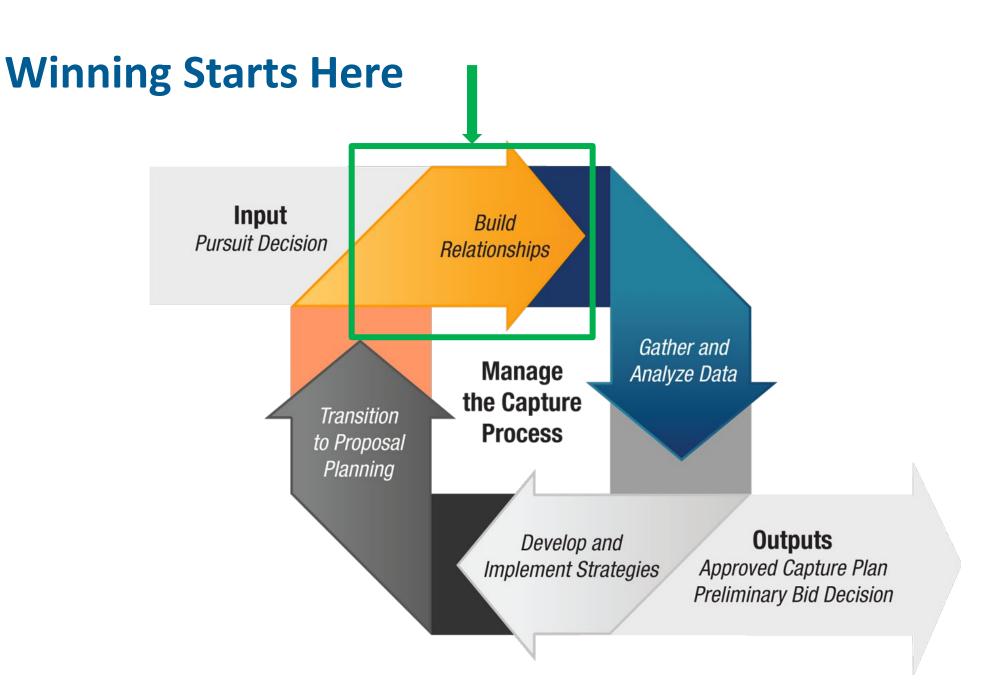
"Collaboration is the foundation of the standard of living we enjoy today.

Trust is the glue."

Ram Charan, CEO Advisor
and author of Profitable
Growth Is Everyone's Business

#### Webinar Agenda

- Why relationships matter in BD
- Establishing Trust
  - Acting with trust-building behaviors
  - Understanding the importance of trust
- Networking for Success
- Communicating Effectively
  - Asking good questions
  - Active listening
- Q & A and Summary







#### **Balance in Any Role**

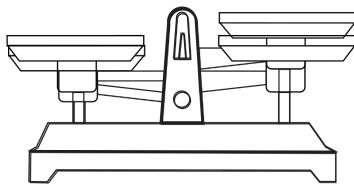
Incorporating the interpersonal with the tactical

#### Tactical Skills

- Data Analysis \_
- Scheduling \_
- Budgeting -
- Time and Resource Team Builder Management
- Tech Savvy -
- Communication \_
- Risk Management -

#### Interpersonal

- TRUST -
- Active Listener
- Communicator -
- Motivator
- -Problem Solver
  - Collaborator -
  - Mentor -





# The New Reality in Business Development

# Know the customer to establish a relationship

- Customers buy from people they TRUST
- Customers buy from people who know their business
- Customers want to get the best value
- The seller who understands customer hot buttons has the advantage
- Sellers must sell the way the customer prefers to buy





#### Why the Customer Skepticism?

"I saw the most beautiful SUVs in the window of a dealership recently. A salesperson came out and said: 'Come on in. They're bigger than ever and they last a lifetime!'

"Later I learned he was talking about the payments."





#### **Build the Relationship**



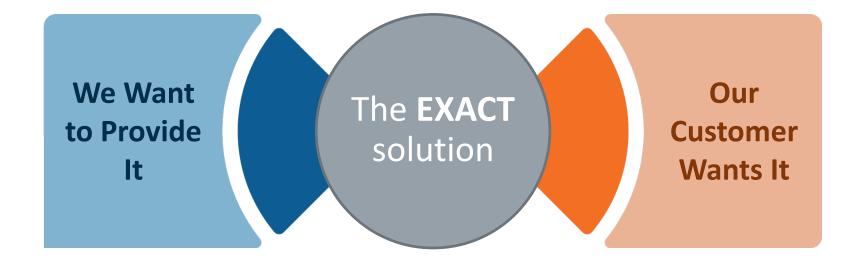
#### **Know Your Customer!**

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# **The Buyer/Seller Relationship Paradox**

We both want EXACTLY the same thing



#### So, why is it so difficult?

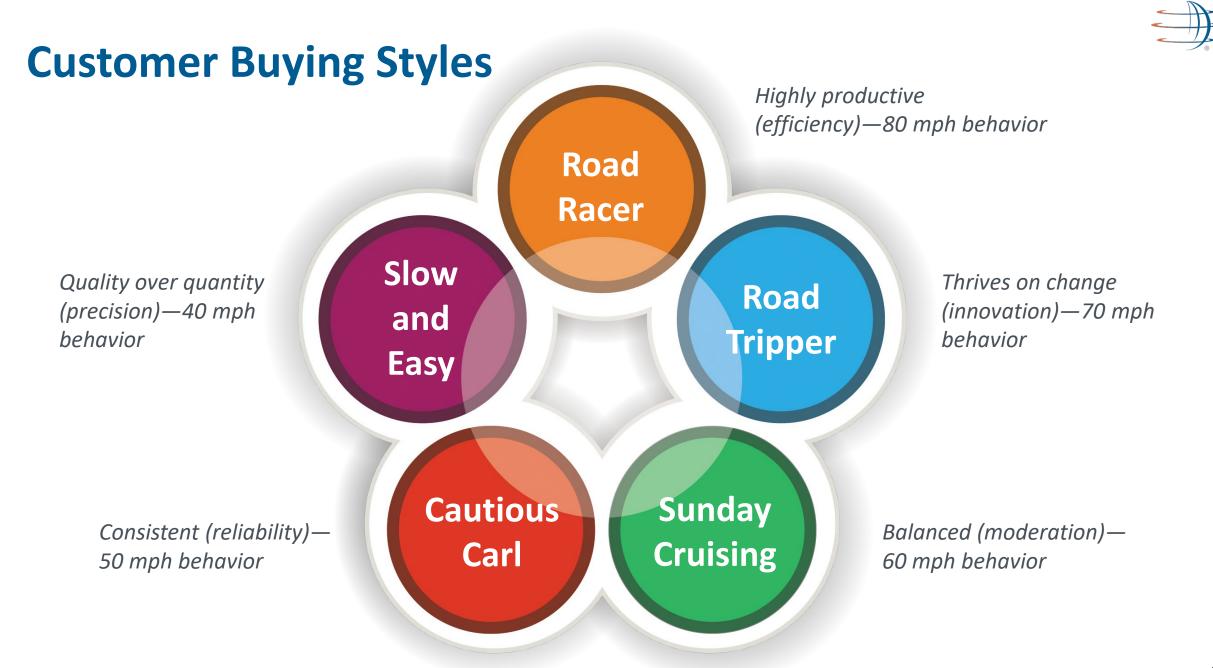


#### Discussion

#### Why is there often Buyer/Seller friction?

- Lack of TRUST
- Bad past experience(s)
- We're an unknown to customer
- Confusion in the market (no differentiation)
- Poorly communicated expectations
- Regulation and politics
- "High pressure"
- Seller is unresponsive to needs
- Buyers know our secrets (poor performance)







#### **Customer Decision Drivers**





## **Identification of "New Discriminators"**

How we engage with the customer influences the relationship



# <u>How</u> we engage with customers may be one of our most strategic discriminators.

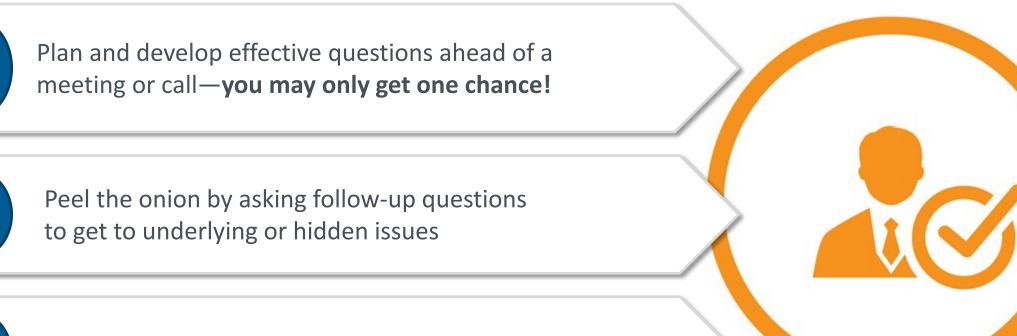
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#### **Customer Engagement**

Three ways to gain trust and respect





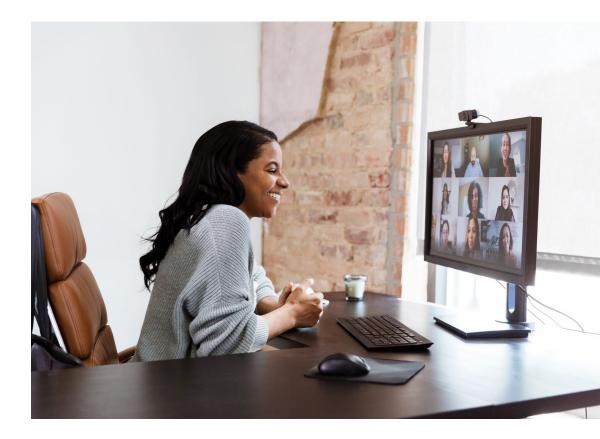


Listen, clarify, listen

# Trust Improves the Relationship

#### Ways to become a trusted advisor

- Be proactive, relevant, and innovative
- Be visible and establish trust with a consistent message
- Be a valued resource to the customer
- Stay connected—white papers, blogs, testimonials, product demos, press releases
- Use multiple channels—social media, email, web conferences, professional associations



#### **Building Relationships with Trust**

"Trust is not merely a soft, social virtue; rather, trust is a pragmatic, hard edged, economic, and actionable **asset that you can create**. There is a compelling case for trust.

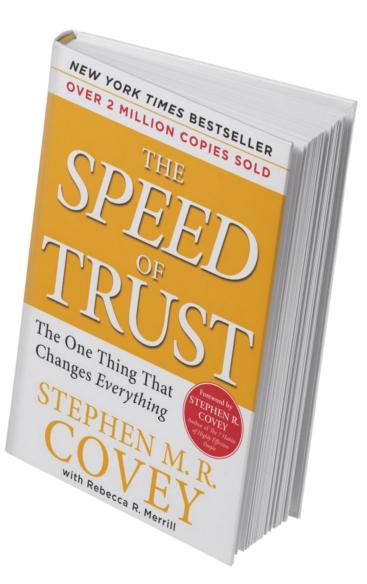
"Teams and organizations that operate with high trust significantly outperform teams and organizations with low trust—this has been proven in dozens of studies, across a multitude of industries and sectors."

-Stephen M.R. Covey, Speed of Trust®



# **The Speed of Trust®**

- **Trust** is the engine of the sharing economy
- Change is the new normal in a disruptive world
- Our new multigenerational workforce necessitates a different approach to how work gets done
- Trust itself has become a key strategic initiative
- Culture has reemerged as an imperative for organizational success
- Yesterday's style of management (selling) is insufficient for today's environment
- Trust is the new currency of our world today





#### Video: Behaviors of Trust





#### **Networking for Business Success**

Business relationships today are often started and built through professional networks. Networking can be virtual or in-person. Don't underestimate the power of relationships in winning business.

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#### **Networking Benefits—Virtual or In-Person**

- Boost brand awareness and loyalty— <u>differentiation</u> (personal and company)
- Validate claims (success stories, past performance)
- Increase visibility and potential opportunities
- Improve credibility—thought leadership
- Increase conversion (win) rates
- Gain trust by sharing relevant information
  - Frequency—How often?
  - Reach—How far and how many?



#### **Types of Networking to Build Relationships**







#### **Examples of Network Groups**





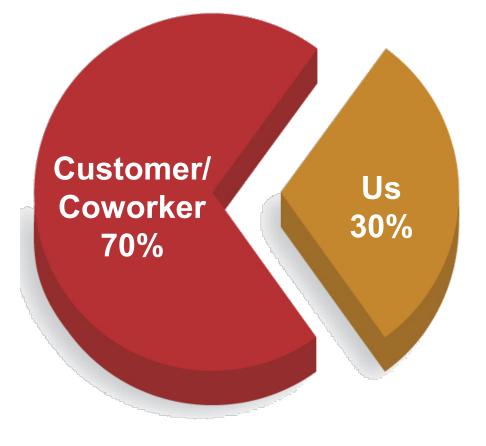




#### **Good Communication Builds Relationships**

How and what we communicate is vital to building and growing relationships with customers and co-workers.

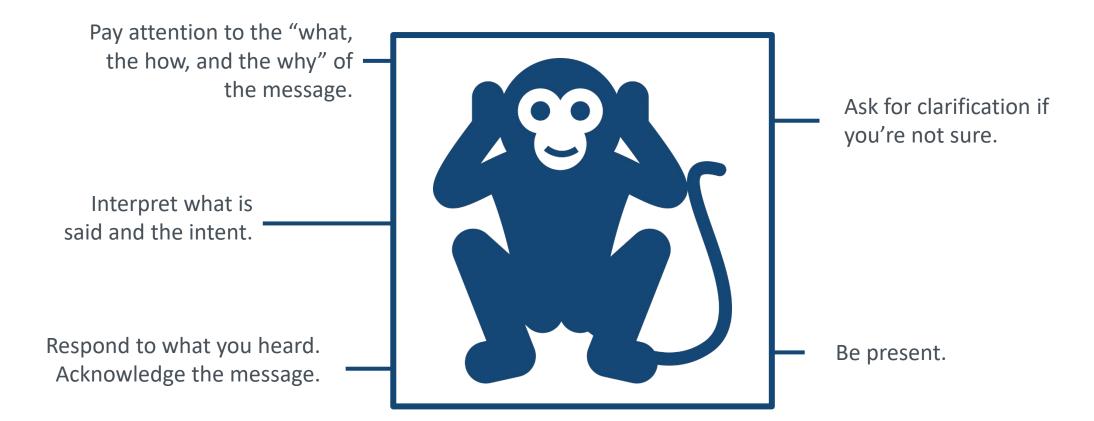
#### Listen More than You Talk







# **Active Listening Guidelines**



# **Passive vs. Active Listening**

Active listening builds trust

Active listening is "clarification" Passive listening is "interpretation"

#### **Clarification is:**

Actively (verbally) stating what you hear, see or sense happening in a neutral way.

#### **Clarification is** *not* **advice:**

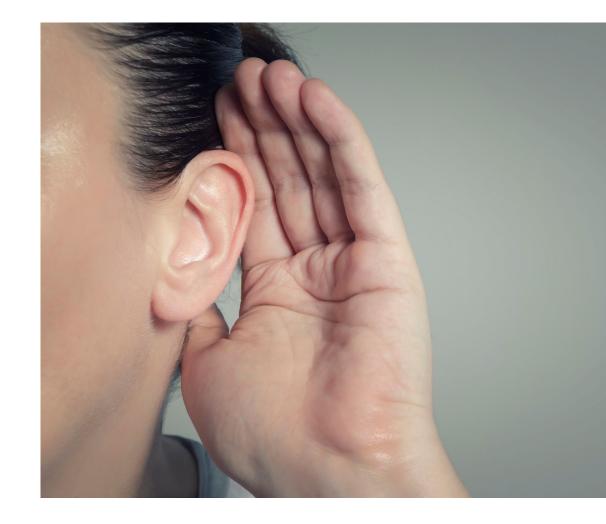
Since clarification means being neutral, hold back your opinion or reactions to the message.





# **Active Listening Requires Clarifying**

- Clarify when you want your customer to feel understood
- Clarify when you need to know that you understand
- Re-state by changing the wording, not the content
- Make it conversation, not scripted
- Don't add your thoughts or opinions
- Don't ask questions when you should be clarifying
- Clarify in three ways: auditory, visual and sensory (point, gesture)



# **Ask Clarifying Questions to Earn Trust**



Questions that explore the facts needed to understand the customer's situation needs: "Who exactly is involved in deciding on a (your solution)?"



Questions that explore what the customer thinks; their ideas opinions and perceptions: *"What do you think about...?"* 



Questions that explore what the customer does and doesn't want to and need: "Can you tell me what you are looking for in....?"

#### **DIRECTIONAL Qs**

Questions that explore what the customer would consider as next steps and options: "What are your options and next steps?"

#### SATISFACTION Qs

Questions that explore how the customer feels about their current products, as well as yours: *"Do you like...(your current provider)?"* 



## **Additional Clarifying Questions**

CONCERNS/<br/>OPPORTUNITY QsQuestions that explore either opportunities or roadblocks:<br/>"" "What concerns do you have with...?"

#### **UNDERSTANDING Qs**

Questions that explore the extent that you understand what the customer is saying and wanting: *"So, what will be Ms. XYZ role in evaluating options?"* 



Questions that explore the customer's readiness to move forward in the buying process: "When do you (or your organization) expect to put forward a solicitation?" or "When do you expect an RFP to be released?"

You can ignore the principles that govern trust—but they will not ignore you.

STEPHEN M. R. COVEY

#### **Summary**

- Why relationships matter in BD
- Establishing Trust
  - Acting with trust-building behaviors
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- Networking for Success
- Communicating Effectively
  - Asking good questions
  - Active listening by clarifying
- Q & A and Summary

#### **Questions and Discussion**







#### Next Webinar....



Proposal Myths: Fact vs Fiction August 11, 2021 1 pm ET

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