









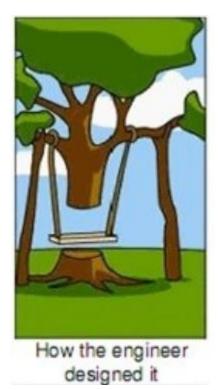


## Introduction





How the customer explained it





What the customer really needed





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*MEC-E3002 Methods in Early Product Development Aalto University* 

# **Identifying Customer Needs**

- **1. Gather Raw Data from Customers**
- 2. Interpret Raw Data in Terms of Customer Needs
- **3. Organize the Needs into a Hierarchy**
- 4. Establish the Relative Importance of the Needs
- 5. Reflect on the Results and the Process

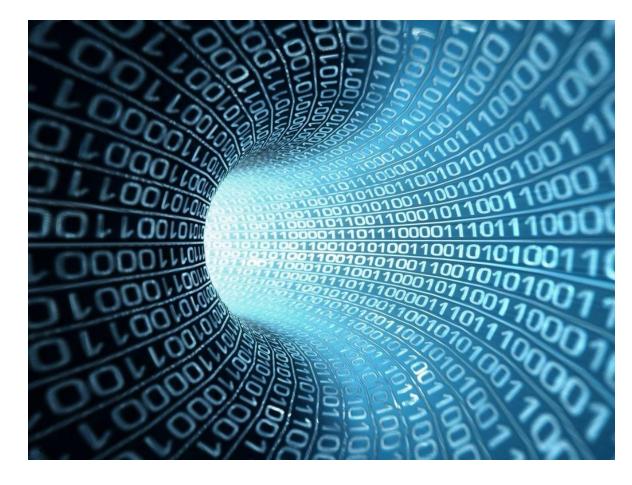


## Step 1 Gathering Raw Data From Customers





# What is data?



#### Step 1 Most commonly used methods





#### Step 1 Other methods



#### SURVEYS AND FORMS

#### OBSERVING THE COMPETITORS

#### OBSERVING THE MARKET TRENDS



# Step 1 Choosing customers



#### Step 1 Challenges in gathering raw data







Do you listen to the customer or the end user?

How do we know if the data is still valid in 2 years time?

Communication problems

#### Step 2 Interpreting Raw Data for Customer Needs

- Looking at customer feedback vs Sales
- Data being interpreted from different angles
- Important to only interpret raw data











#### ★☆☆☆☆ ... you can sit on the toilet and lean back comfortably. What a disappointment when our plumber came to ...

Reviewed in the United States on November 7, 2015

#### **Verified Purchase**

I'm only giving this toilet a 1\* because you can sit on the toilet and lean back comfortably. What a disappointment when our plumber came to install our Toto and frowned when he saw the brand. His first comment was the difficulty in finding parts. I have to clean the toilet after almost every BM. It doesn't completely flush as it is highly advertised. We researched many toilets before we decided on the Toto because it would "flush clean" with the cyclone flush. Another problem, Ring Around the Toilet". No way to get it off w/o scrubbing or using a razor blade. This will ruin the finish.

27 people found this helpful



Reviewed in the United States on August 13, 2022

#### **Verified Purchase**

Wouldn't own any toilet except a Toto. Best toilets ever.

Helpful

Report abuse



**Raw Data Product feature Customer needs** Steve Repairing is versatile. ★☆☆☆☆ ... you can sit on the toilet and lean back comfortably. What a disappointment when our plumber Rare spare parts. came to ... Reviewed in the United States on November 7, 2015 Verified Purchase I'm only giving this toilet a 1\* because you can sit on the toilet and lean back comfortably. What a disappointment when our plumber came to install our Toto and frowned when he saw the brand. His first comment was the difficulty in finding parts. I have to clean the toilet after almost every BM. It doesn't completely flush as it is highly advertised. We researched many toilets before we decided on the Toto because it would "flush clean" with the cyclone flush. Another problem, Ring Around the Toilet". No way to get it off w/o scrubbing or using a razor blade. This will ruin the finish. 27 neonle found this helpful Helpful Report abuse Steve Option to fully flush. Doesn't flush fully. ★☆☆☆☆ ... you can sit on the toilet and lean back comfortably. What a disappointment when our plumber came to ... Reviewed in the United States on November 7, 2015 Verified Purchase I'm only giving this toilet a 1\* because you can sit on the toilet and lean back comfortably. What a disappointment when our plumber came to install our Toto and frowned when he saw the brand. His first comment was the difficulty in finding parts. I have to clean the toilet after almost every BM. It doesn't completely flush as it is highly advertised. We researched many toilets before we decided on the Toto because it would "flush clean" with the cyclone flush. Another problem, Ring Around the Toilet". No way to get it off w/o scrubbing or using a razor blade This will ruin the finish. 27 people found this helpful Helpful Report abuse Steve Long refill time. Refill accelerate option. ★☆☆☆☆ ... you can sit on the toilet and lean back comfortably. What a disappointment when our plumber came to ... Reviewed in the United States on November 7, 2015 Verified Purchase I'm only giving this toilet a 1\* because you can sit on the toilet and lean back comfortably. What a disappointment when our plumber came to install our Toto and frowned when he saw the brand. His first comment was the difficulty in finding parts. I have to clean the toilet after almost every BM. It doesn't completely flush as it is highly advertised. We researched many toilets before we decided on the Toto because it would "flush clean" with the cyclone flush. Another problem, Ring Around the Toilet". No way to get it off w/o scrubbing or using a razor blade. This will ruin the finish 27 people found this helpful Unioful Report abure Steve **Detailed** instructions ★☆☆☆☆ ... you can sit on the toilet and lean back comfortably. What a disappointment when our plumber Bad packaging. came to ... Reviewed in the United States on November 7, 2015 Verified Purchase on the package. I'm only giving this toilet a 1\* because you can sit on the toilet and lean back comfortably. What a disappointment

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**Aalto University** 

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Helpful Report abuse

#### **Step 3 Organize the Needs into a Hierarchy**







# **Categorize the Needs**

Example: chainsaw (= CS)

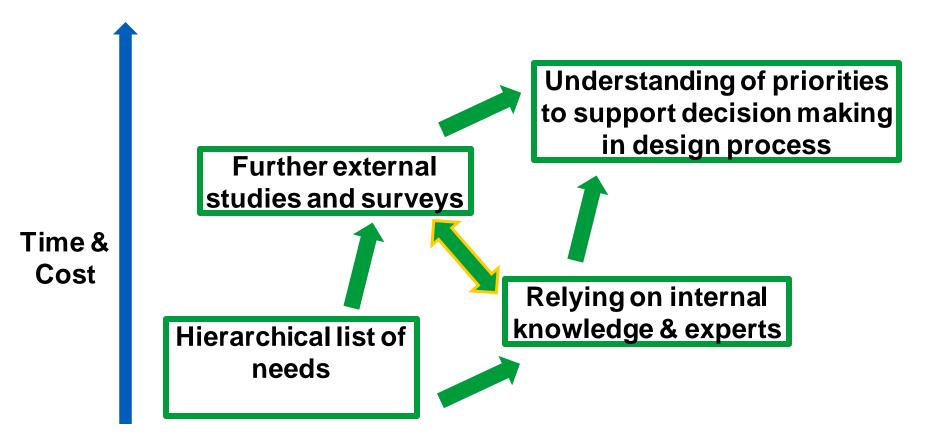
The CS power output is enough	The CS power usage is convenient	The CS is easy to store
Sawin with the CS must be faster than by hand ***	The CS is easy to recharge**	<sup>•</sup> The CS comes with a plastic chain cover **
The CS maintains power for several hours of use *	The CS recharges quickly *	The CS does not break down in wet conditions ***
The CS must be able to cut wood ***	The CS must be wireless *	The CS withstands corrosion **

The number of \*'s indicates the importance of the need





#### **Step 4** Establish the Relative Importance of the Needs



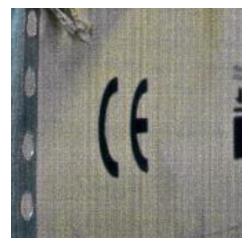


#### Step 4 Mandatory requirements

**Customer expectations vs. Needs** 

Legal aspects:

- Regulations (emission, certain working hours, bear certain operating conditions)
- Safety (CE)



Source: Manner, Timo



#### Step 4 Studying requirement frequency

How important						rtant?
Customer experiece of Kone elevator XYZ	1	2	3	4	5	
Speed			x			
End dampening				x		* X =
Easiness of use				x		
Noise level					x	
Lighting		x				

Rated as 4 or 5

Speed \* 20 Noise level \* 18 Easiness of use \* 15



#### Step 4 Studying product feedback

Customer experiece of Kone elevator XYZ	1	2	3	4	5		Top 3 negatives (rated 1)	Top 3 positives (rated 5)
Speed			x				Lightning * 6	Easiness to use * 9
End dampening				x		* X =	Speed * 1	Noise level * 7
Easiness of use				x				End dampening * 4
Noise level					x			
Lighting		x						
Compared to: Otis elevato	or A	٩B	С					

# Step 4 Studying requirement severity

#### **Negative – Neutral – Positive**

- Mean value of each
  requirement
- Standard deviation
- Range of values

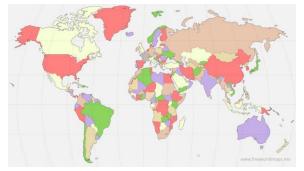
Speed			
End dampening			
Easiness of use			
Noise level			
Lighting			



# Step 4 Studying requirement details

- Market area differences
- Contradictions
  - speed vs. dampening feeling, cannot aim to either extreme
- Further studies: e.g. Conjoint analysis

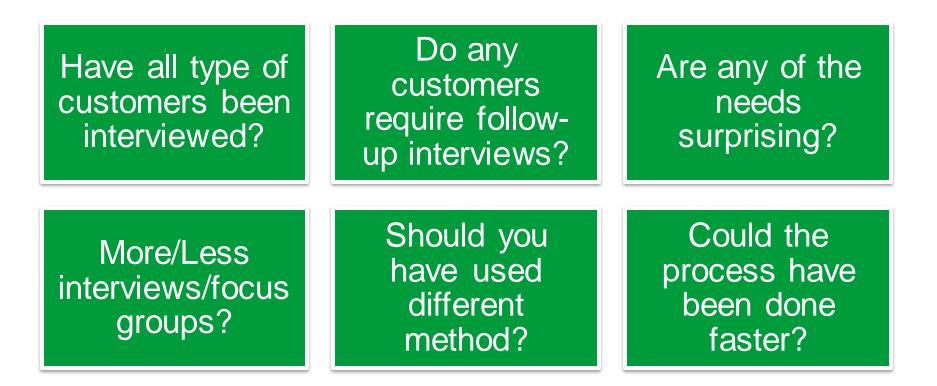
Note: Very case specific study New product vs. Next product in series



www.freeworldmaps.net



#### Step 5 Reflect on the Results and the Process

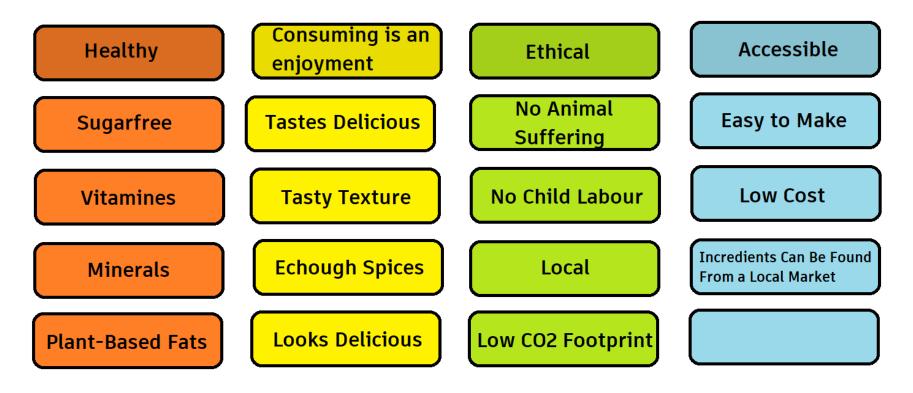




Exercise – Cu	ustomer Nee	ds for Food
<b>1. And 2. Gather an The food needs to:</b>	nd interpret the D	ata
Include no Animal Su	Be Ch Iffering	neap
Look Del	icious Have	Low CO2 Footprint
	Con	tain no Child Labour
Have a Tasty Textur	e	
	Taste Delic	cious
<b>Contain Vitamins</b>	Contain Minerals	Be Healthy
Aalto University		12.9.2022

# **Exercise – Customer Needs for Food**

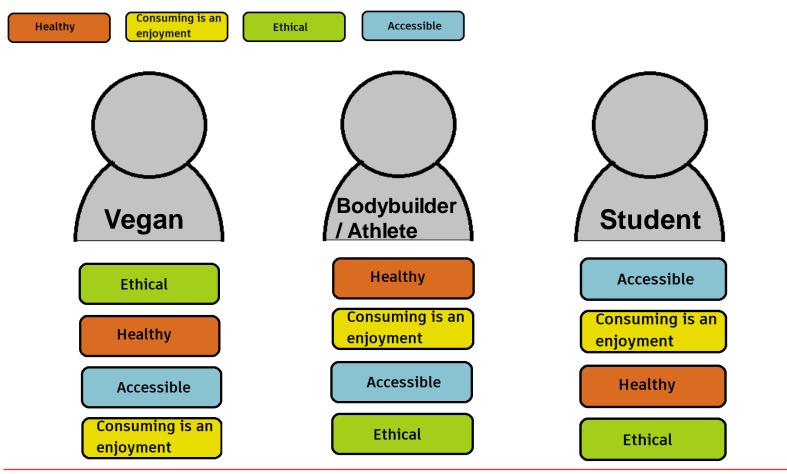
#### **3. Organize the Data**





## **Exercise – Customer Needs for Food**

#### 4. Establish the relative importance





# **Sources:**

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