

### **Stocking The Inventory Optimization Toolbox**

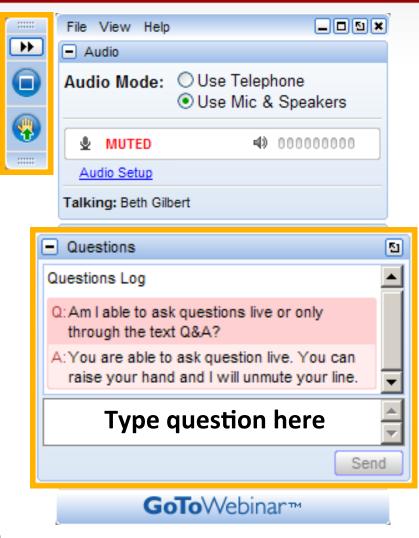
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### **#OptimizeInventory**







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### **About Retail TouchPoints**

- ✓ Launched in 2007
- ✓ Over 23,000 subscribers
- ✓ To provide executives with relevant, insightful content across a variety of digital medium

Free subscription to our weekly newsletter: WWW.RETAILTOUCHPOINTS.COM/SIGNUP







#### Panelists



Rick Amari CEO Columbus Consulting



Marshall Kay Principal **RFID Sherpas** 

Marty Johnson Product Manager Zebra Technologies

#### MODERATOR



Debbie Hauss Editor-in-Chief Retail TouchPoints





#OptimizeInventory





#### Stocking The Inventory Optimization Toolbox

#### Assortment Planning: The Holy Grail of Retail



The Retail Inventory Challenge

The age old mantra of right place, right time, right product, right price has never been more relevant than it is today.

As companies look for ways to improve top line performance and bottom line results, the ability to bring tailored offerings to customers stands high on the opportunity list.

Once again, necessity has become the mother of invention



The barriers of the past, managing, analyzing, utilizing, and acting on large volumes of data, is a much smaller challenge than it once was. Hardware and software solutions now exist to meet the demands of the problem.

The last barriers are developing the process, implementing the change, and executing to the new normal.

The benefits are enormous, increased full price sales, reduced inventory positions, and lower markdowns are to be had.



What is Assortment Planning?

Retailers have mastered the art and science of merchandise and financial planning. Channel (store) store planning has long been a retail practice, even if store and merchandise plans have not always aligned.

These plans were product and store focused. How much will we sell, who will sell it, when do we need it, how much should we buy?

Assortment Planning in the merger of these disciplines but with a customer focus. It is the intersection of the product and the location based on the consumer demand anticipated at a specific time and place.

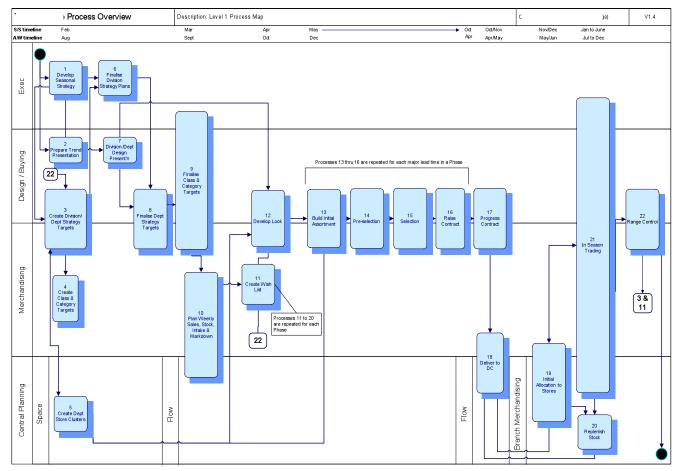


To effectively Assortment Plan, merchants must begin with consumer demand for merchandise, apply customer / store segmentation, and balance space and inventory constraints to develop an offering that properly represents the brand while maximizing sales potential. These complex and highly integrated steps requires a new process with success dependent on the adoption of the change presented.

This presentation will focus on the 12 critical success factors required for implementing an effective Assortment Planning solution



#### CFS 1 The process is more important than the system



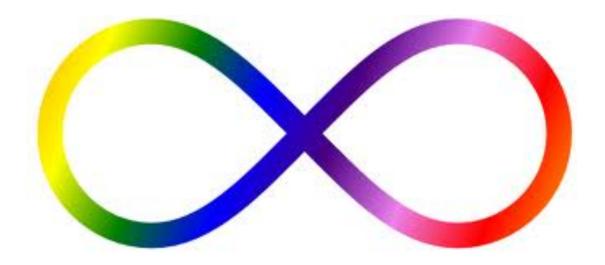


#### CSF 2

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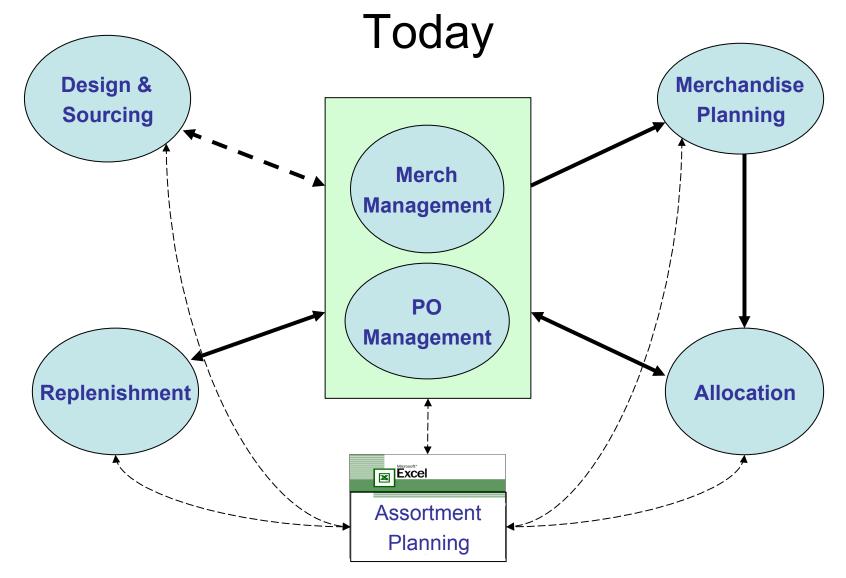
**Consulting** 

#### The Assortment Planning process is a continuous activity, not a step in the merchandising life-cycle



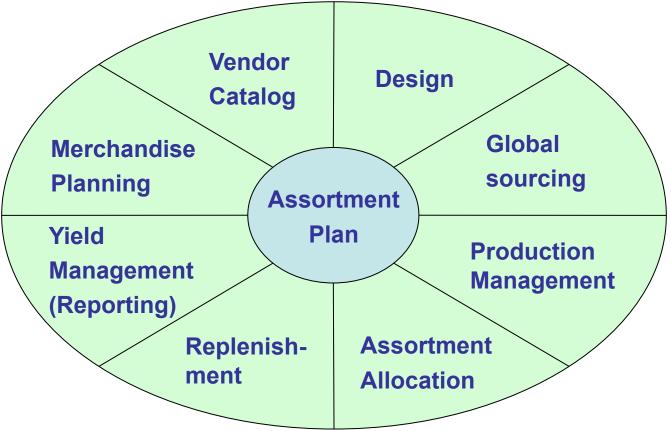
# CSF 3 Move AP to Center Stage





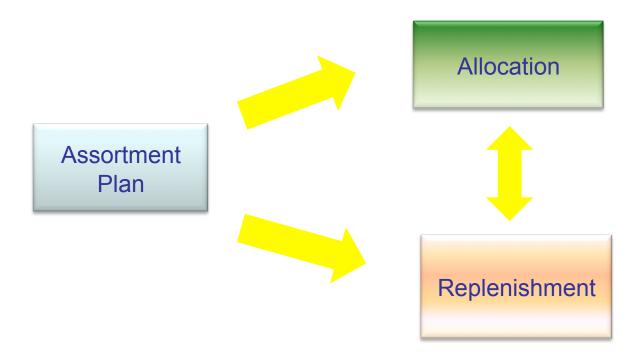








#### CSF 4 The relationship between AP and Allocation and Replenishment



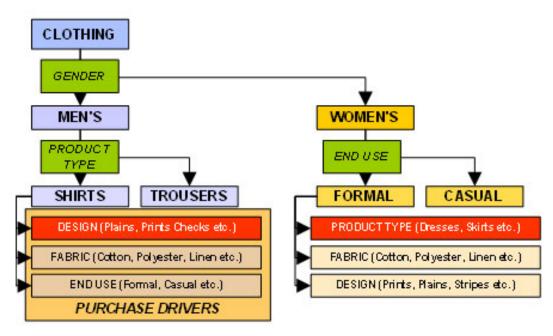


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#### CSF 5 Remember that AP is a visual process



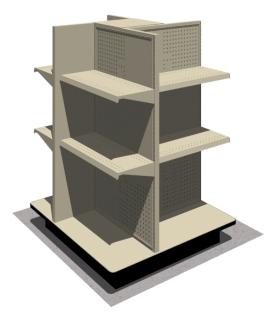
#### CSF 6 Get your hierarchy right





#### CSF 7 Choose the best basis for clustering stores

Space



#### Volume

Grade 1 - >\$3.5m

Grade 2 - >\$2.0m < \$3.5m

Grade 3 - >\$1.0m < \$2.0m

Grade 4 - >\$0.5m < \$1.0m



#### CSF 8 Attribute Management

Vendor

#### Color



#### Brand

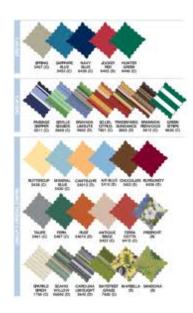




#### **Price Point**

\$29.99 – \$39.99
\$19.99 - \$29.99
\$10.99 - \$19.99

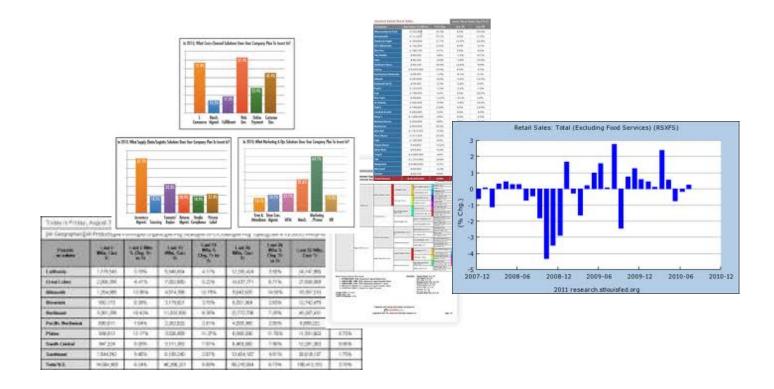
Fabric





#### CSF 9 Reporting

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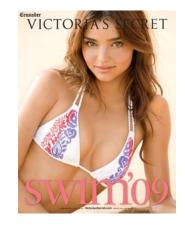


#### CSF 10 Remember this is a multi-channel world











#### CSF 11 Apparel - size really matters

T-SHIRTS		STANDARD CUT (cm)					
MEN	s	м	L	XL	XXL	XXXL	
A	69	71.5	74	76.5	79	81.5	
в	53	55.5	58	60.5	63	65.5	
с	53	55.5	58	60.5	63	65.5	
D	53	55.5	58	60.5	63	65.5	

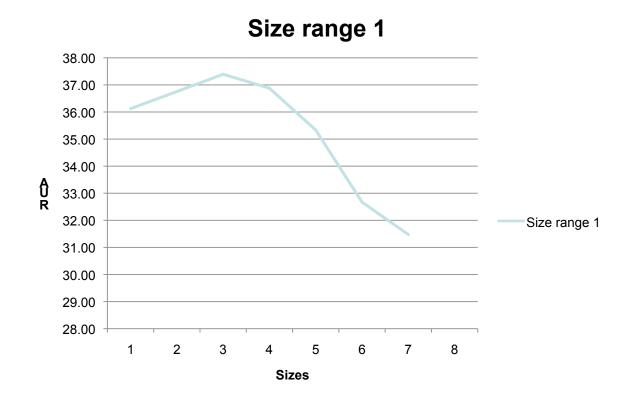
T-SHIRTS		STANDARD CUT (cm)			
LADIES	XS	s	м	L	XL
A	59	61.5	64	66.5	69
в	44	46.5	49	51.5	54
C	42	44.5	47	49.5	52
D	33	35.5	38	40.5	43

T-SHIRT	s	STANDARD CUT (cm)			
Kids	6 years	8 years	10 years	12 years	
A	54	56.5	59	61.5	
в	38	40.5	43	45.5	
с	38	40.5	43	45.5	
D	38	40.5	43	45.5	





# Sizing errors are more costly than you think



CHANGE

AHEAD

Columbus Consulting

#### CSF 12 Change management

## Stocking The Inventory Optimization Toolbox



July 26, 2012

#### Who We Are

- A boutique retail consulting practice
- Formed in 2007, with an ongoing presence in Retail RFID dating back to 2000
- Led by former leaders of RFID practices at Kurt Salmon, Verisign, Capgemini
- Advisors to brands, retailers, technology companies and industry associations
- A mix of strategy, operations, technology consulting and project management

### **Typical Services**

- Executive level advisory support
- Business case analysis
- Vendor selection
- Designing/managing retail implementations
- Training, change management and business
   process re-engineering
- Implementation roadmaps

#### **Retail Adoption By Sector**



#### **Major Retail Announcements**

*"We are going <u>100% RFID</u> with ticketing this fall. So February 1st next year, the entire Penney's platform will be on RFID tickets."* 



Ron Johnson CEO JC Penney July 18, 2012

#### Major Retail Announcements

- Every footwear department by August 2012
- All "replenishment" categories will be tagged, with cycle counts in all stores by April 2013
- Actively exploring fragrances and jewelry



Peter Longo President, Logistics & Operations Macy's Inc June 5, 2012

### **RFID = Inventory Accuracy**

Method	Cycle Counts Per Year	Rate of Deterioration of Accuracy
Barcode	1-2	2-3% per month
RFID	12-24	3-5% per year

Source: Macy's Inc

### Promises Must Be Kept

	Store Locator   Email Savings   Customer Service 🚽   Sears Credit Cards 🚽	sign in or register				
sears	C Enter keyword or item # GO	My Profile Lists Cart				
Departments 💎	Local Ad Deals , Parts & Services , Gifts Gift Cards Gift Registry	En espanol Share Feedback				
get it today with free store pick up SHOP rewards member exclusives see today's Deal of the Day						
Customer Service	5 Minute Guarantee					
Contact Us	5 Minute Guarantee					
Sears Stores 1-800-549-4505 Email Us	Your last-minute gift lifesaver	Customer Service Homepage				
Sears.com 1-800-697-3277	See eligible categories below	Store Information				
Email Us	It's Easy! Fast! And Guaranteed!					
Click to Call	Step 1: Choose your item(s) Step 2: Choose "Pick Up In Store"	Find a Store				
Click to Chat	Step 3: Enter your ZIp Code and choose the store most convenient for you. Step 4: Place your order and await your email confirmation. Step 5: Plok up your order	Buy Online Pick-up in Store				
Sears.com en Espanol 1-800-377-8634	Go to your store's Merchandise Klosk with your email confirmation OR	> 5 Minute Guarantee				
Sears international Email Us	<ul> <li>NEWI* Drive to the curbside location near Merchandise Pickup and follow the instructions on the posted sign. An associate will verify your email confirmation or credit card, retrieve your item and bring it out to load into your car.</li> <li>Step 6: You'll receive your item in 5 minutes or get a \$5 coupon good for your next in-store purchase!</li> </ul>	Instore Purchases				

"You'll receive your item in 5 minutes or get a \$5 coupon good for your next in-store purchase."

#### Inaccuracy No Longer Tolerable

#### Customer Facing

- Buy Online, Pick Up At Store
- Reserve Online, Pick Up At Store
- Real-Time Locator Systems

#### Invisible To Customer

Ship From Store

### **Solidify Your Foundation**



Retailers are investing heavily in sophisticated analytical tools.

But the underlying data remains squishy!

Climb Higher With RFID www.rfidsherpas.com

marshall.kay@rfidsherpas.com Phone: 312-286-4944

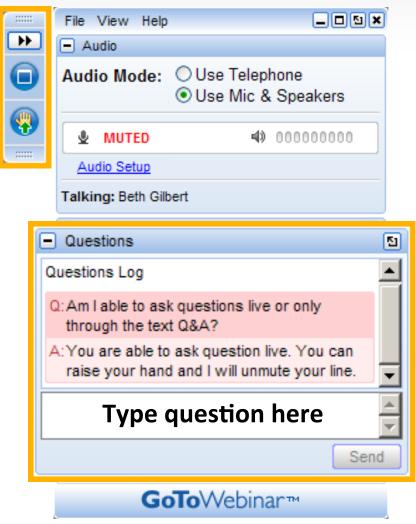
#### About Zebra Technologies



A global leader respected for innovation and reliability, Zebra Technologies Corporation (NASDAQ: ZBRA) offers technologies that give a virtual voice to an organization's assets, people and transactions, enabling organizations to unlock greater business value. The company's extensive portfolio of marking and printing technologies, including RFID and real-time location solutions, illuminates missioncritical information to help customers take smarter business actions. For more information about Zebra's solutions, visit www.zebra.com.



#### **Q&A // Submit Your Questions**







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Marshall Kay Principal **RFID Sherpas** 



Marty Johnson Product Manager Zebra Technologies





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#### http://rtou.ch/optimizeinventory





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