

# **SIMPLIFY TO GROW**

**BUILDING  
SCALE, SPEED & PROFITABILITY  
in a COMPLEX WORLD**

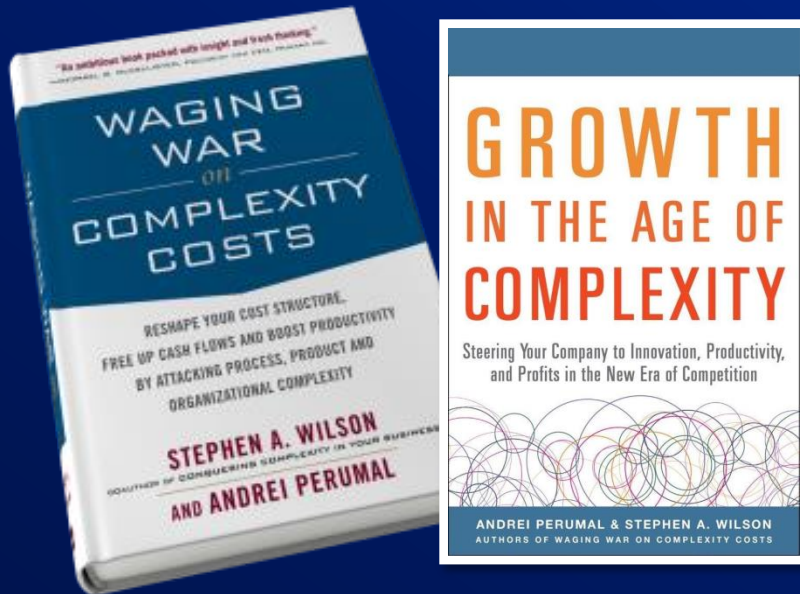
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**WILSON PERUMAL & COMPANY, INC.**

**LONDON CSO CONFERENCE**

**APRIL 29, 2014**

# Wilson Perumal & Company



**“...an ambitious book packed with insight and fresh thinking. Separating good from bad complexity is a critical task facing companies today, and the authors provide a compelling roadmap”**

– Michael B. McCallister  
President & CEO, Humana Inc.

- Management consultancy, with clients in NA & EU
- Strategy, complexity, operations
- *We help our clients compete in a complex world*

# Our POV on Complexity

Complexity has impacts across the business:

Cost & Operations

Efficiency  
Complexity costs  
Whale Curve & Profit concentration



Business & Operational Risk

Increasing opportunities for catastrophic risk  
High-reliability organizations



Growth & Innovation

Simplify to grow:

- ✓ **Simpler for customers**
- ✓ **Easier for sales force**
- ✓ **Improved KPIs**
- ✓ **Scale vs. fragmentation**
- ✓ **Margins to fuel growth**

# Our discussion today



“Simplicity does not precede complexity,  
but follows it.”

--Alan Perlis, Mathematician and Computer Scientist

# Our discussion today

**Complexity &  
Growth**



**Ways to  
Simplify**



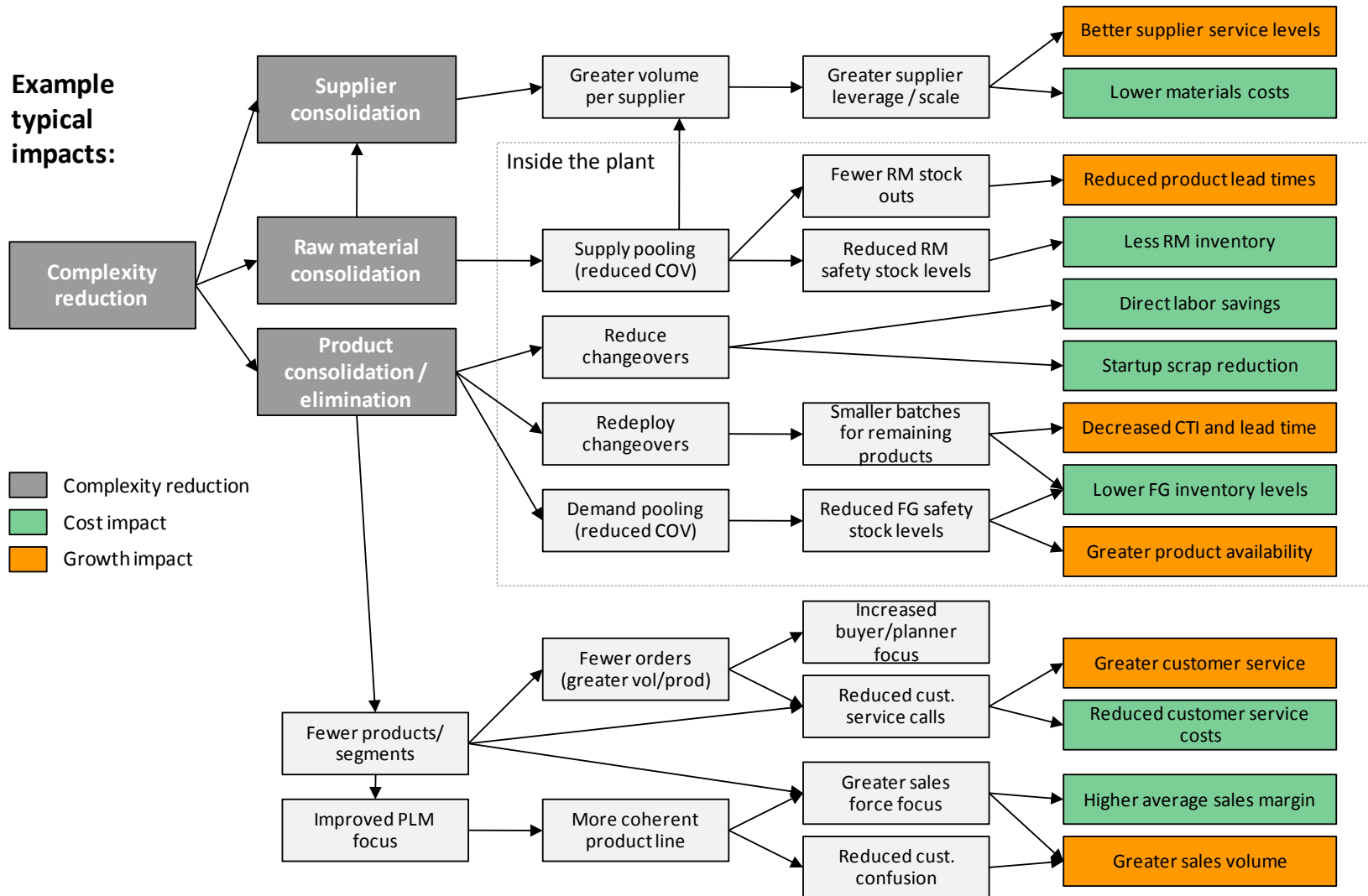
**Overcoming  
Barriers**

# Complexity: the enemy of growth?



- Customers like variety
  - But good vs. bad complexity
  - Complexity frontier
- The impact on growth
  - Indirect effects (service levels, focus, sales force)
  - Direct effects (over-choice)
- **Opportunity: simplify to grow**
  - & improve profitability

# Benefits across the business



# Simplification example

## Case: \$1B tech company

Select Metrics	Y1	Y2	Y3
Portfolio (#)	3500	2079	499
New products (#)	0	8	14
On-time delivery	70%	78%	90%
Cust. Satisfaction	27%	55%	90%
Mfg. productivity	1x	2.2x	3.1x
Operating Earnings	-6%	3%	7%
Sales	1x	1.6x	3.4x

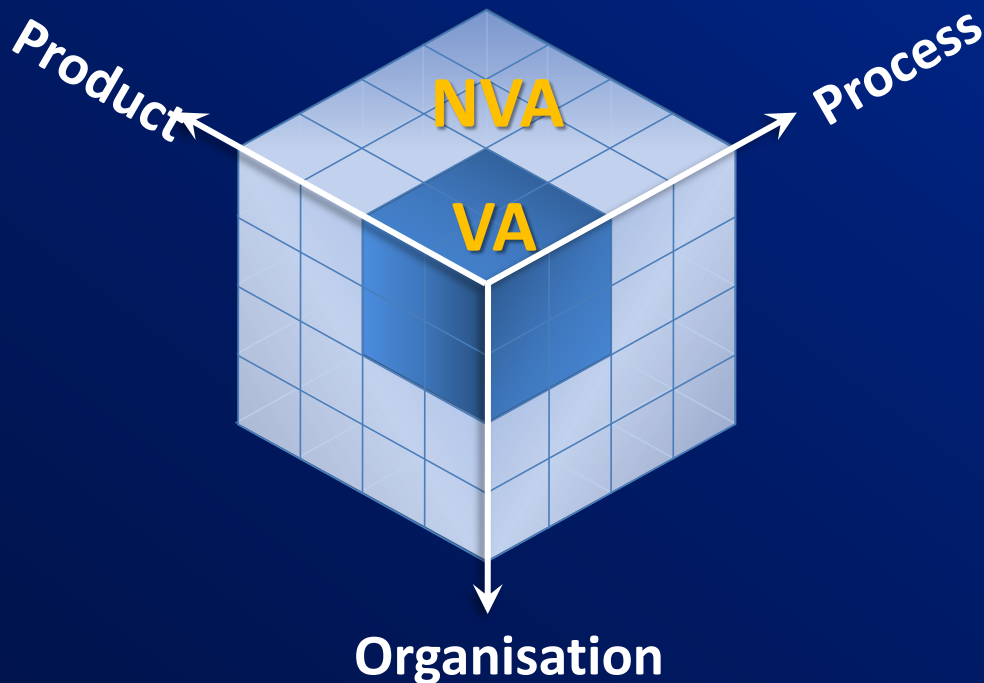
- *86% reduction in portfolio!*
- *57% increase in cust. satisfaction!*
- *13% pt increase in op. earnings!*
- ***3x growth in sales!***



# Defining complexity

<u>Type of complexity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Impact of too much</u>
<b>Product</b>	The <b>variety</b> of products (and services) you offer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Bloated portfolio</i></li><li>• <i>Customer confusion</i></li><li>• <i>Strained processes</i></li></ul>
<b>Process</b>	The <b>number</b> of processes, steps, handoffs, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Duplication</i></li><li>• <i>Rework</i></li><li>• <i>Work-arounds</i></li></ul>
<b>Organization</b>	The <b>number</b> of facilities, assets, functional entities, organizational units, systems, policies, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Bloated organization</i></li><li>• <i>Functional silos</i></li><li>• <i>Disarray</i></li><li>• <i>No clear picture</i></li></ul>

# The impact is in the interactions



- Complexity resides on the **axis** of the cube
- But complexity costs or impacts reside on the **faces** of the cube

“Complexity... is a ‘cube’ function. If I have 10 applications, I may be able to manage them all. If I have 100 applications, **managing them is not simply 10 times the complexity—it’s more like 30 times the complexity.**”

*Lee Coulter, former SVP, Kraft Global Shared Services Group*

“The greatest challenge to any thinker  
is stating the problem in a way that  
will allow a solution.”

— *Bertrand Russell*

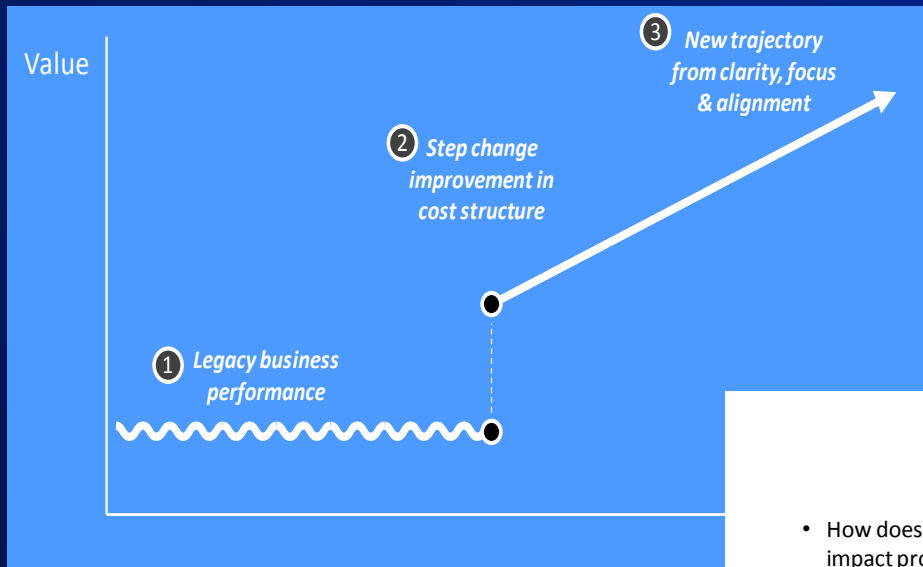
# Our discussion today



# 4 ways to simplify to grow

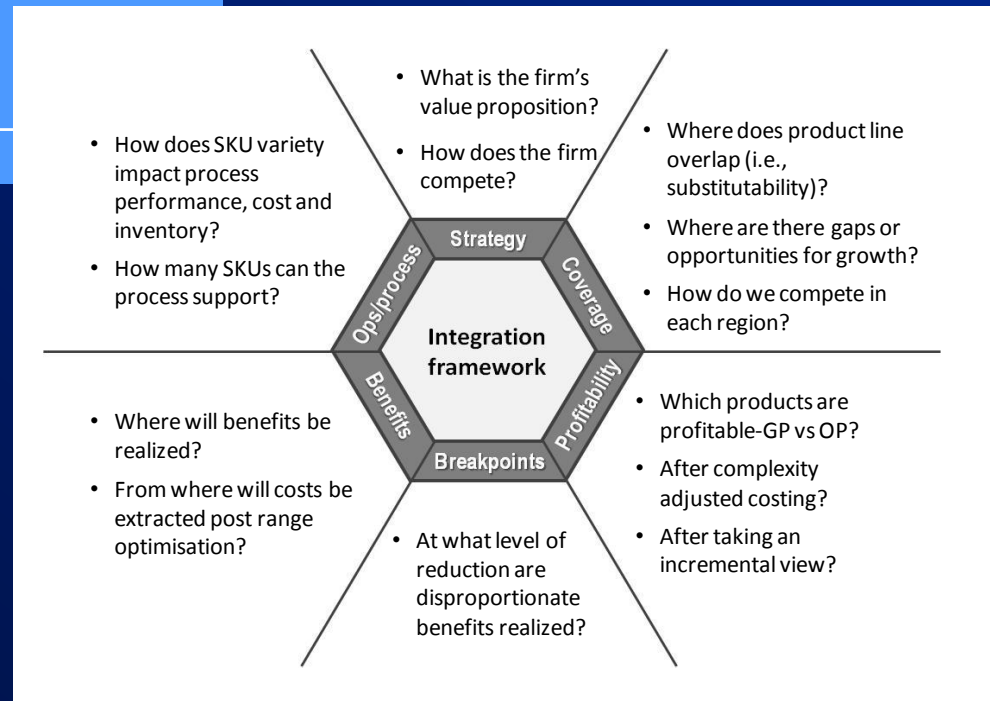
1. Optimize your portfolio
2. Unburden your sales force
3. Hit service-level breakpoints
4. Restructure for speed and customer-centricity

# 1. Optimize your portfolio



- **Portfolio optimization can reduce costs, but also can rebalance mix to higher growth areas, returning business to better trajectory**

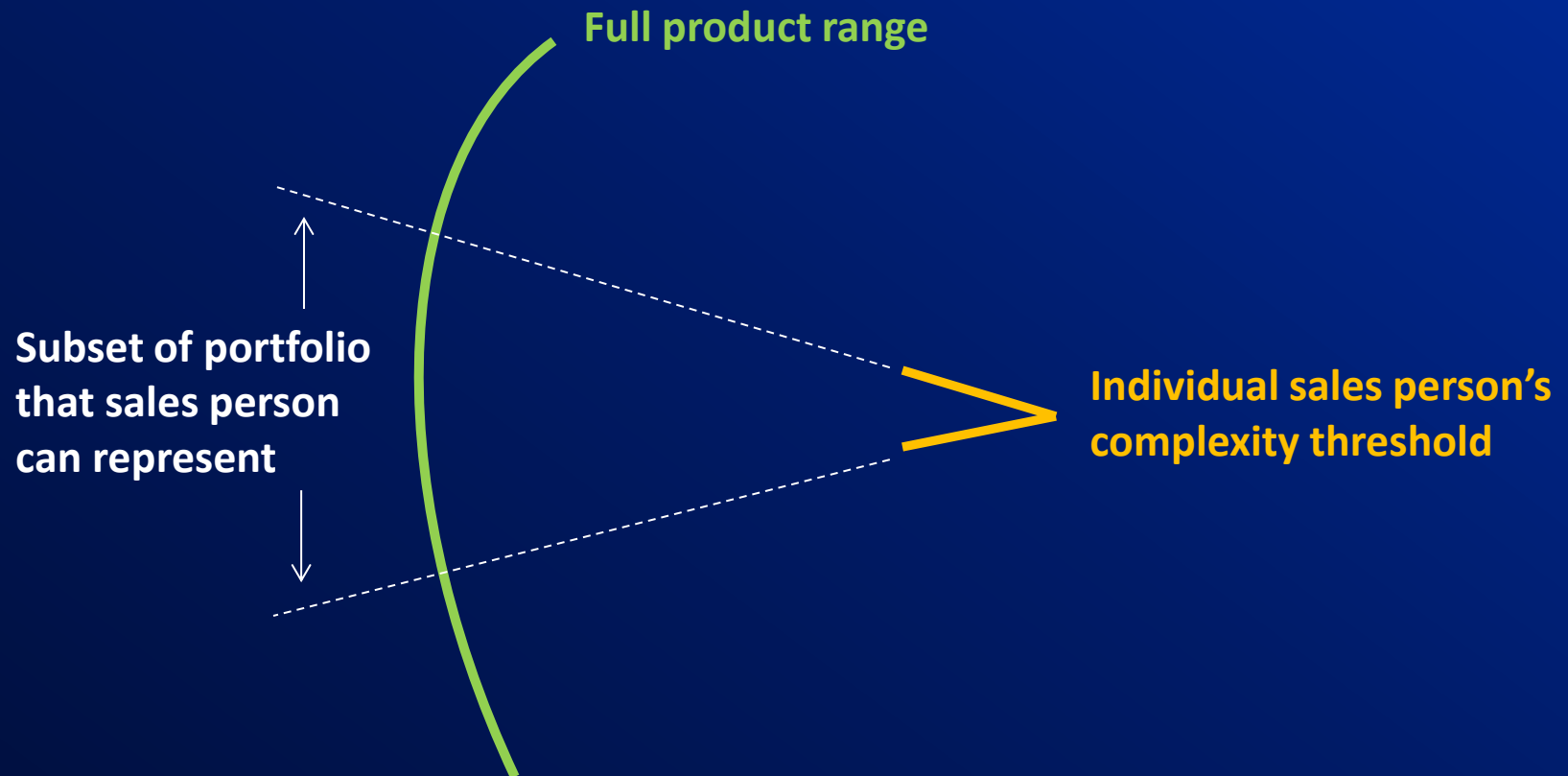
- **Better an 80% view across 6 facets than a 100% view of just 1 facet**



## 2. Unburden the sales force

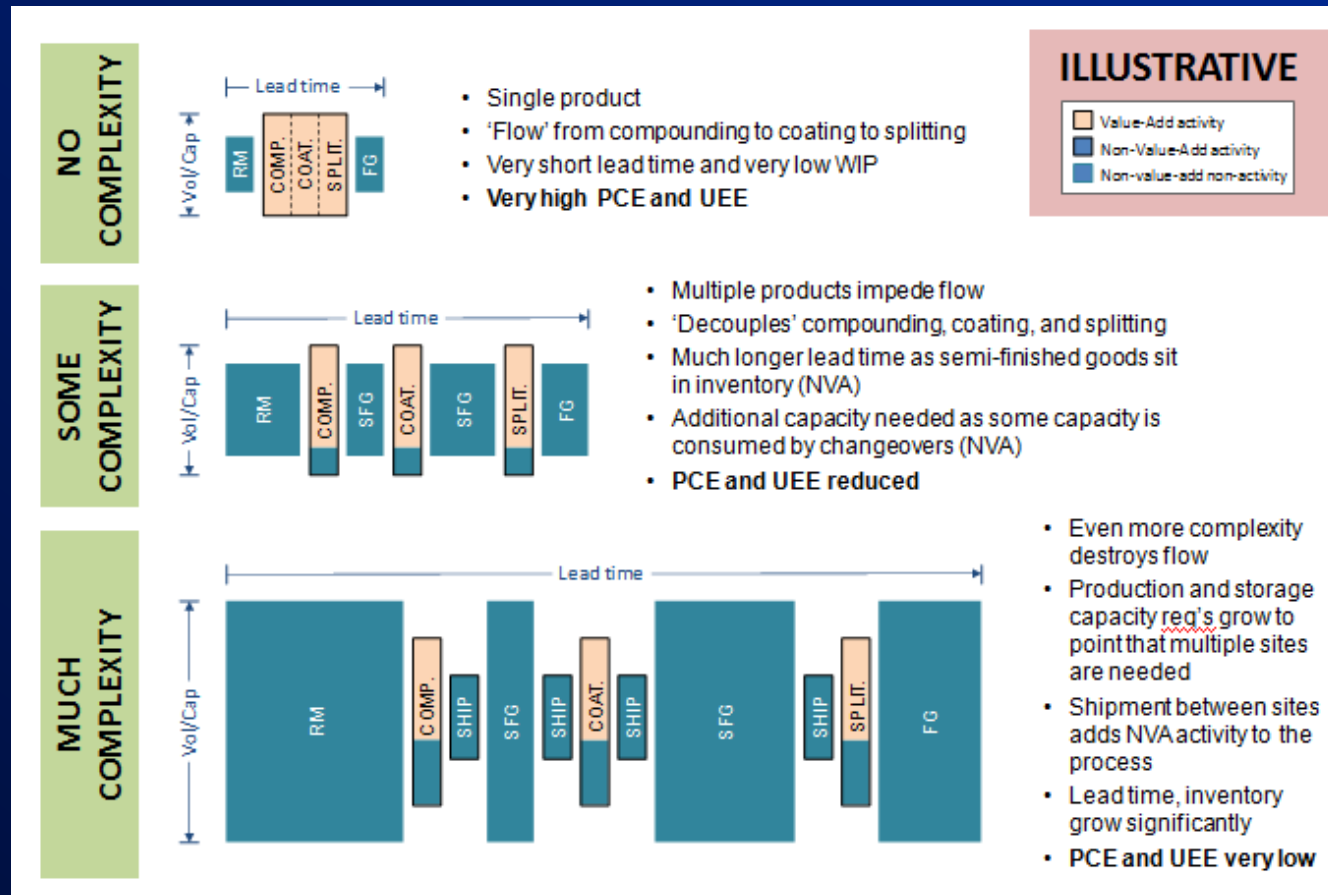
**“No one in sales can possibly support all our products.”**

*- Managing Director, French multinational Business Unit Leader*



# 3. Hit service-level breakpoints

Combine simplification with process improvement to step-change improve key “breakpoint” KPIs, such as lead time





# 4. Restructure for speed & customer-centricity

- Launched My Macy's initiative to simplify and align the organization
- Eliminated regional operating companies
- Consolidated buying to national level
- Pushed inventory planning and merchandizing down to more local level
- Eliminated 1600 positions, redeployed 500 of them (where they matter most)
- **\$500MM net annual savings**
- **Launched sustained period of industry beating same store sales growth**
- **Despite harsh retail environment, Macy's just enjoyed their best year ever!**



"The retail landscape has deteriorated, not strengthened. But our outlook is going the other way."

--Terry Lundgren, CEO, Macy's



## Process-Organizational Alignment

### PREVIOUS REGIONAL STRUCTURE

#### National level

- Smaller, coordinating role
- National initiatives on "opt-in" basis
- Less ability to leverage national scale

#### Regional level

- *Buying, planning centralized at regional level (~100 stores)*
- Command & control relationship over stores
- Operate largely independently from national level and other regions

#### Local level

- Less resources at local level
- Not empowered to respond to local tastes and preferences

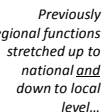


*Simple operating structure but less responsive to local preferences and little national scale*

### HYBRID LOCAL-NATIONAL STRUCTURE

#### National level

- *Buying pulled up to national level, with aggregate local input*
- Greater strength with suppliers, leading to greater ability to tailor offerings

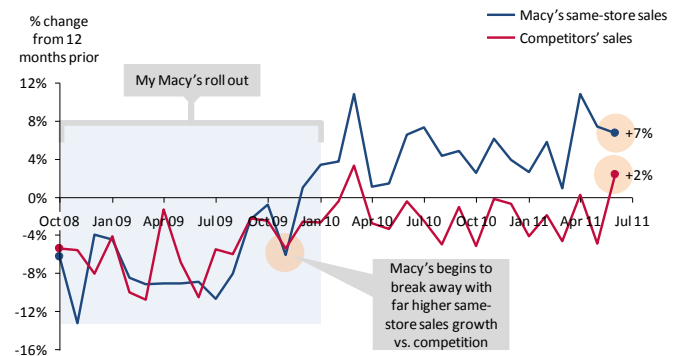


- *Inventory planning pushed down to local level (~10 stores)*
- More responsive/customized stores with greater employee ownership

*Restructured operating model with richer information flow allows stronger national scale and greater responsiveness to local customers*

*Previously regional functions stretched up to national and down to local level... requiring greater, richer and asymmetrical information flow between local and national levels*

## Same Store Sales vs. Competitors

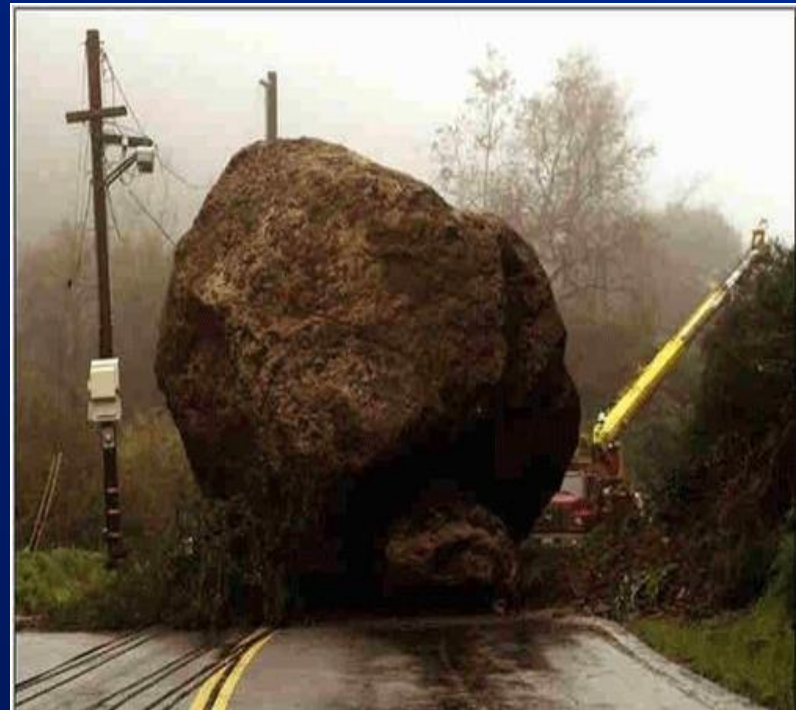


# Our discussion today



# Common barriers to simplification

- **Cannot quantify the business case**
- **Fear of revenue loss**
- **Functional perspective**

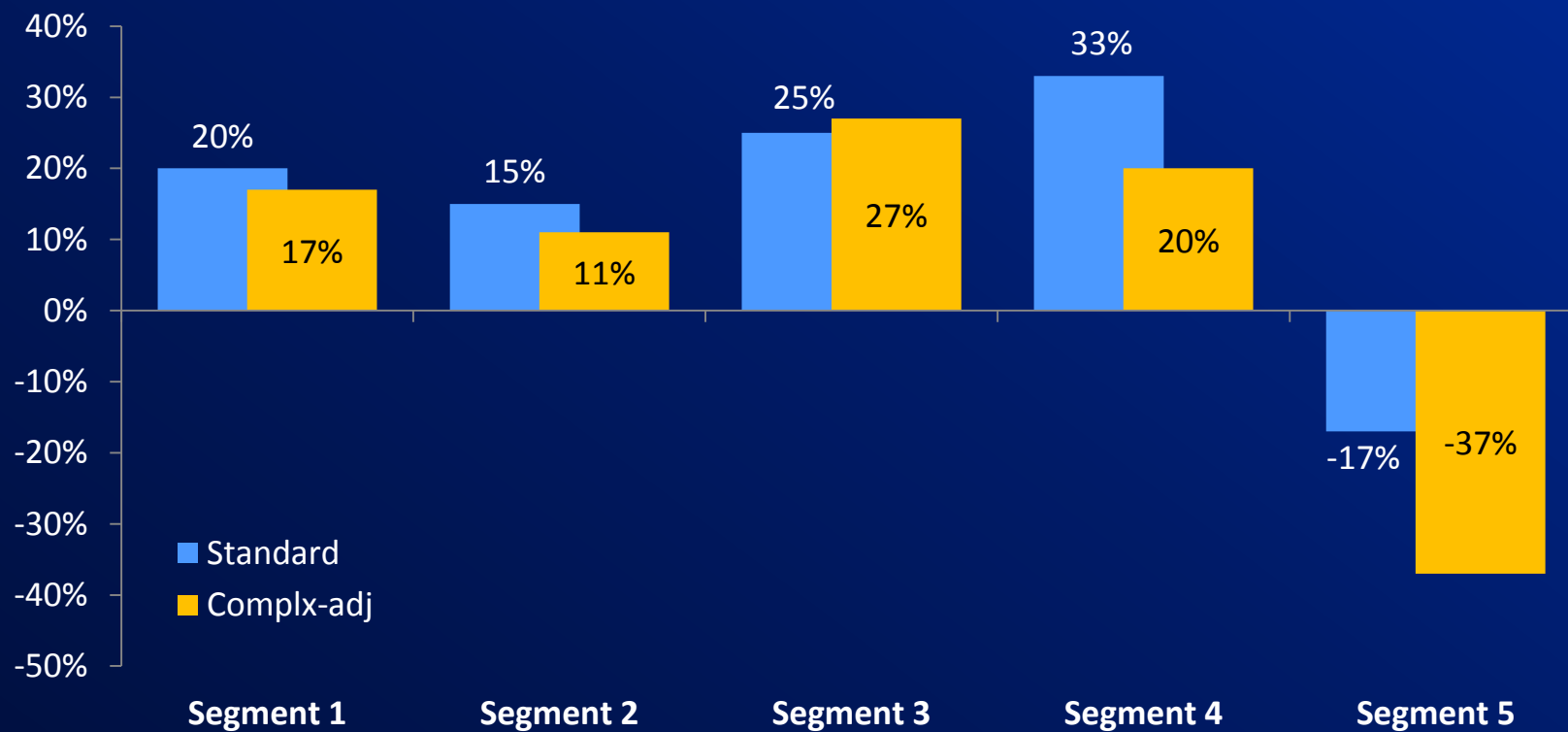


*Barrier: Cannot quantify the business case*

## Mitigation: Account for complexity costs

EXAMPLE: High-complexity [segment 4] was actually less profitable than lower-complexity [segment 3]

OP by Product Segment

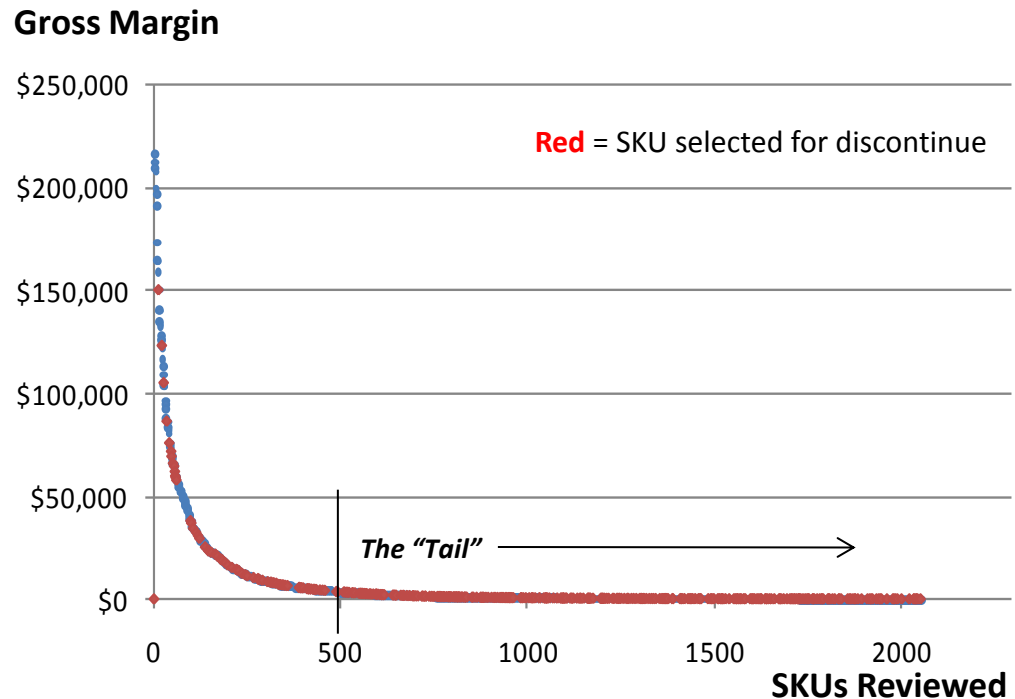


*Barrier: Fear of revenue loss*

# Mitigation: Understand substitutability

- The **opposite of cannibalization**
- Simplify, while remaining **revenue-neutral**
- Approach eliminates products that do not generate incremental revenue

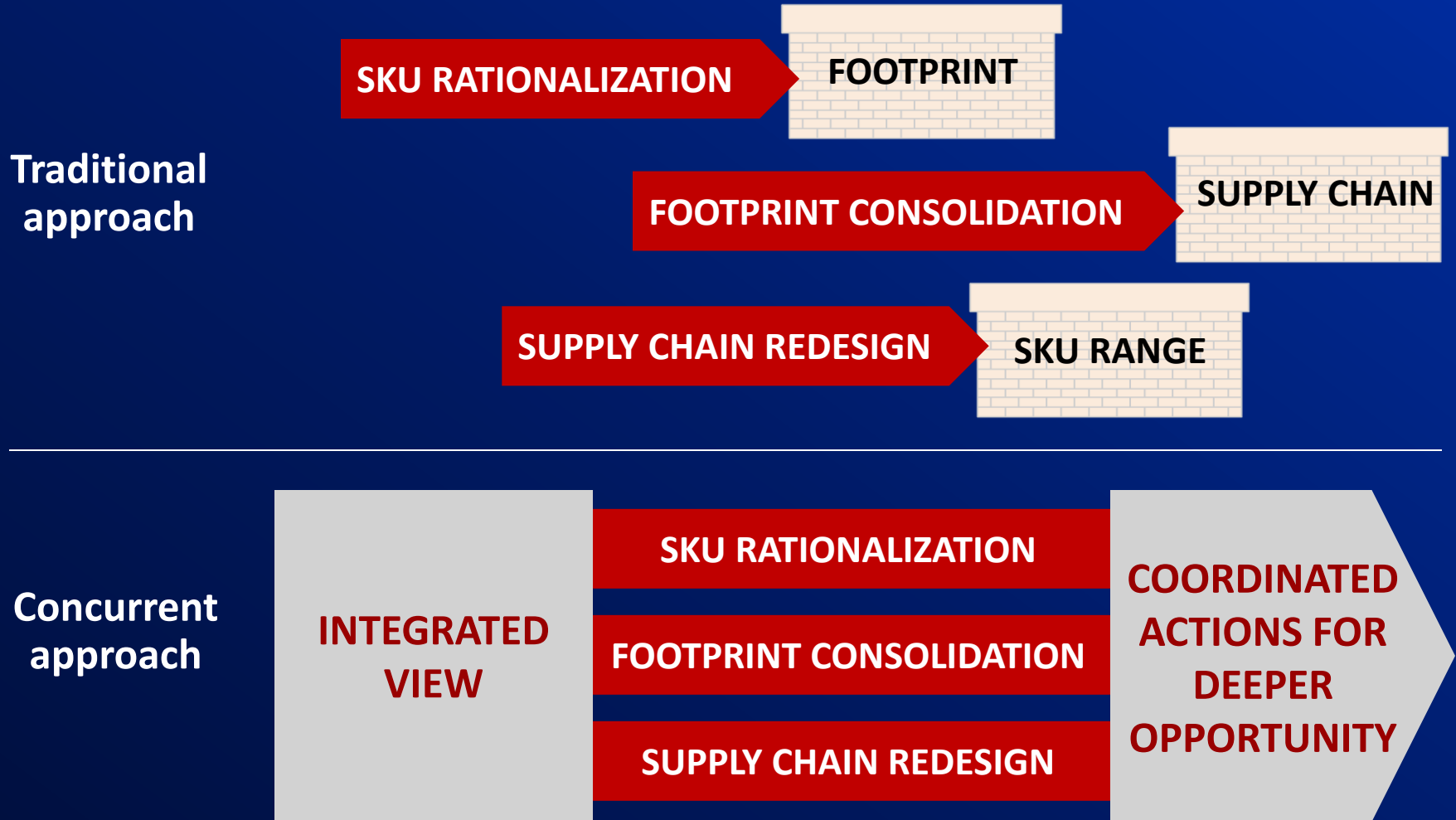
## Substitutability: a client example



- Did not just chop off the tail
- Smart decisions around "incremental" sales, margin
- Transformed the profitability and trajectory of the business while remaining revenue neutral during the process

*Barrier: Functional perspective*

# Mitigation: Put more in play

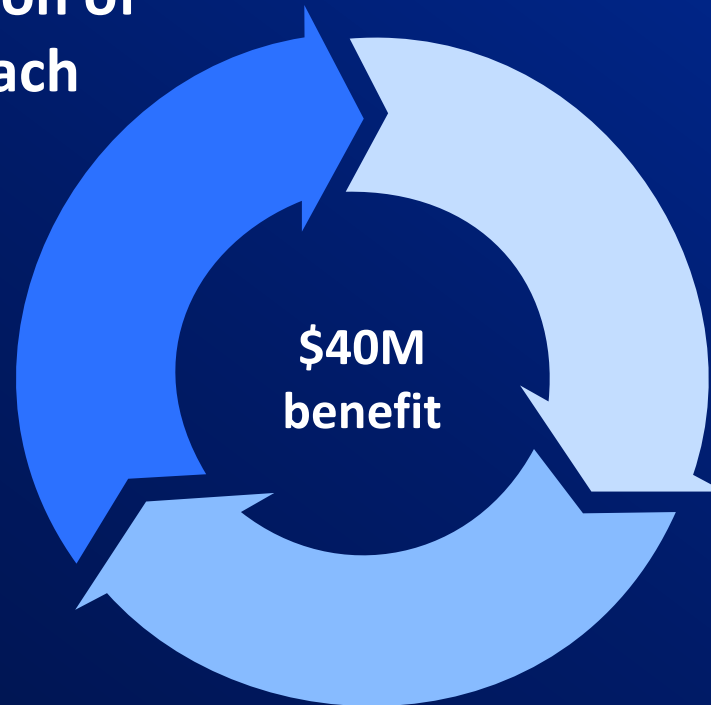


*Barrier: Functional perspective*

## Mitigation: Put more in play (case study)

### Make greater portion of product range at each plant

- Shift plant loading to more local production
- ~84% of volume currently made locally



### Reduce / eliminate 3-touch distribution moves

- Replace 3-touch with 1-touch

### Consolidate product offering

- Reduce number of products in portfolio to allow plants to make greater portion of range *without significantly increasing the number of products made at each plant*
- Leverage substitutability to reduce offering while maintaining sales

# Questions to consider

- **Are your competitors more (or less) complex than your organization?**
- **Which KPIs drive revenues in your business? What would it take to radically improve them?**
- **What is the impact of complexity on your sales force, operations, management?**
- **Is your growth strategy creating scale or complexity?**



# Recap



## Benefits:

- ✓ Simpler for customers
- ✓ Easier for sales force
- ✓ Improved KPIs
- ✓ Scale vs. fragmentation
- ✓ Margins to fuel growth

1. Optimize your portfolio
2. Unburden the sales force
3. Hit service-level breakpoints
4. Restructure for speed & customer-centricity

- Assess complexity costs
- Understand substitutability
- Put more in play

## Questions?

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