

Transforming Your Go-to-Market Strategy: The Three Disciplines of Channel Management

By V. Kasturi Rangan, Marie Bell



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Most distribution channels are outdated and unwieldy, serving neither customers nor channel partners adequately. Despite new technologies that have streamlined many transactions and processes, a general lack of leadership combined with flawed and deeply ingrained structures make distribution channels exceedingly difficult to change. What companies need, says V. Kasturi Rangan, is a new approach to going to market - channel stewardship - that simultaneously addresses customers' best interests and drives profits for all channel partners. In "Transforming Your Go-to-Market Strategy", Rangan shows how any member of a distribution channel can adopt this role and learn how to shape an effective, constantly evolving, and mutually beneficial channel strategy. This book outlines three disciplines that companies must master to navigate the complex distribution environment successfully: map the industry channel, build and edit one's own channel continuously to best serve customers, and align and influence one's channel value chain to ensure that all parties reap appropriate rewards. Rangan also provides guidance on managing multiple channels, integrating the Internet into a channel strategy, and overcoming common barriers that impede transformation. A fresh approach to designing and managing channels for the long term, this book helps firms expand value for customers, partners, and the bottom line.



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• Sales Rank: #850586 in Books

• Brand: Brand: Harvard Business Review Press

Published on: 2006-06-01Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 9.50" h x 1.08" w x 6.74" l, 1.37 pounds

• Binding: Hardcover

• 304 pages

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About the Author

V. Kasturi "Kash" Rangan is the Malcolm P. McNair Professor of Marketing at Harvard Business School. He has taught the core first-year marketing course and was its head across multiple sections (1993-1996). He has also taught the second-year elective courses on Business-to-Business Marketing and Channels-to-Market, as well as the doctoral course on Research Design. He currently teaches marketing in the Advanced Management Program for senior executives. He also teaches in the focused executive programs: Channels-to-Market, Business Marketing Strategy, and Strategic Perspectives on Nonprofit Management.

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