

#### WEBCAST SERIES

# **Employee Recognition Programs that Enrich the Customer Experience**

Oct. 29, 2015

2:00 pm ET / 11:00 am PT



Welcome!

# Featured Speakers



Vicki Ravenel VP, Business Development





Deborah Merkin
Co-CEO

GiftCardPartners
INC.



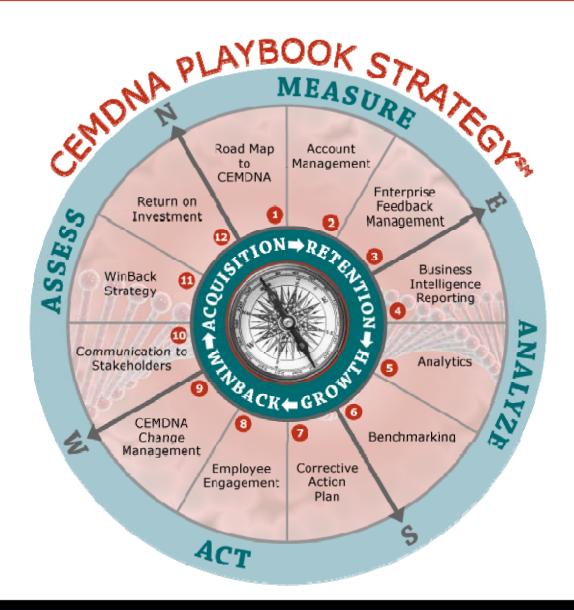
Bill Bradley VP, Marketing & Business Development







# CEMDNA Playbook Strategy<sup>sm</sup>









## Setting the Stage

- Professional background
- Ultimate Choice, Inc.
  - Simple Award of Choice or On the Spot Award
    - No fees, no expirations, no minimums
    - Allows each recipient his/her choice of over 500 gift cards
    - Can be customized
    - Delivered physically or virtually
  - Basic point bank system
    - Participants and their earnings with gift card fulfillment
  - Fully customized performance and recognition platform
    - Point or currency based

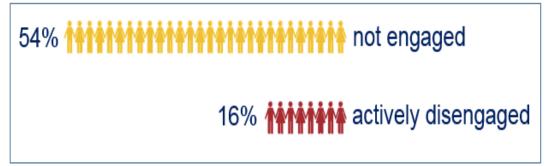
#### **EVERYONE WANTS TO FEEL APPRECIATED!**





## **Workforce Engagement – Before and After**







70% of the workforce is either "Not Engaged" or Actively disengaged!

Within 6-Months 60% of NEW HIRES fall into the "Not Engaged" category! You cannot afford to have a non-performing employee!



#### Please Don't Go!

# THE NUMBER ONE REASON EMPLOYEES GIVE FOR LEAVING THEIR COMPANIES IS "LACK OF RECOGNITION & PRAISE"

**Oxford Economics:** Companies would need to increase an employee's total base compensation by 8.5% to achieve the same effect of recognition and incentives

#### World at Work Study:

 Revealed 65% of companies are doing more with recognition than they did three years ago

#### **Incentive programs:**

- Increase the frequency of the behavior that was rewarded by 22%
- Increase sales by 20% when \$2,000 per employee is invested in sales incentives
- Reduce turnover by 13% compared with companies without a program in place





## it's all about... Engagement

Recognition is not just "the nice thing to do"

It's the ONLY thing to do!



It doesn't have to be hard!!

# An effective, motivating Employee Recognition System is:

- SIMPLE
- IMMEDIATE
- RELEVANT

REINFORCING





# Key Elements for a Successful Program

**Engage** – capture attention

**Educate** – the rules of engagement

**Excite** – the "water cooler effect"

**Encourage** - small victories!

**Evaluate** - measure results

A person who feels appreciated will always do more than what is expected.

Treat employees like they make a difference.
And they will...

#### WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU??

- Quicker identifier of low performers and underinvolved managers
- Increased excitement and re-energized employees
- Opportunity to reinforce KPI's and tie recognition to positive behaviors
- Ability to quickly introduce new campaigns relevant to corporate events and goals (get emps. behind it)
- Environment of respect
- Fosters teamwork internal customers matter too!
- Employees feel more connected to business success
- FUN!!

#### SO WHY ISN'T CASH KING???

- Compensation vs. motivation don't confuse the two
- Cash is cold
- No trophy value lose your "water cooler buzz"
- Cash will get mixed in with money for bills, groceries, necessities – no longer becomes "me money"
- Easily forgotten
- Expected
- Hard to eliminate
- Perceived differently



## Why Choice Matters

- Demographics
- Psychographics
- Wants and needs
- Timing
- Buying behaviors
- Desire to include and share
- Mugs and umbrellas and hat
  - oh my!







# Impact of Non-Cash Motivation

**Don't Confuse Compensation with Motivation** 











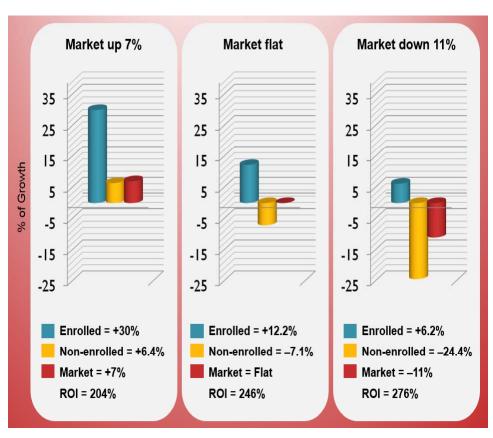




# I Really Can't Afford This Right Now

# Program Lifecycle – actual program that operated over 10 years

- Enrolled and Engaged participants perform better in any market condition
  - Accelerate growth when market conditions are positive
  - Maintain your competitive edge in flat market conditions
  - Protect yourself in challenging market conditions



## Summary

- Establish your KPI's specific behaviors that benefit your company
- Match awards to behaviors and desired goals
- Establish budget
- Decide on rules of engagement
- Get upper management buy in and participation



- Make your program easy, flexible, and scalable
- Reward frequently and immediately
- Include public recognition with awards
- Communicate, communicate, communicate
- Make it creative and have fun!

#### A Wise Man Once Said.....

"You cannot exceed the expectations of your customers until you exceed the expectations of your employees."

Howard Schultz, Chairman and CEO Starbucks



# Employee Recognition & Rewards

"Encouraging others can be the catalyst to unleashing their greatness."

-Rob Liano

## GiftCardPartners<sub>INC.</sub>

**Deborah Merkin** *Co-CEO* 

www.giftcardpartners.com/gcpblog

#### Who is GiftCard Partners



• GiftCard Partners is an award-winning leader in the fast-growing payments industry with a proven record of success.



• We are dedicated to building retailers' and merchants' B2B gift card business through the use of leading-edge marketing and technology.



• As a result of our deep brand and industry expertise, we recognize that in order for a program to be successful, the congruency of the reward must match the program, e.g. The "Right Brands for the Right Programs".



• We place our clients' gift cards in:



- Employee recognition, motivation and sales incentive programs



- Customer reward and loyalty programs
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- Health and wellness programs Reserved.

#### Contents

Organizational goals must align

Take a closer look at your employees

The key to rewards



# Before anything, what's the goal?

In order to succeed, the organization's goal <u>must be</u> <u>aligned</u> with the recognition program.

#### Is the goal to:

- ✓ Improve engagement
- ✓ Change behaviors
- ✓ Increase productivity
- ✓ Increase retention rates

Identify that goal and put a process in place to measure it!



# Today's Workforce is Multi-Generational

#### Baby Boomer



Characteristic or stereotype?

Born: 1945 - 1963

Raised more liberally

Raised in time of optimism (post WWI)

Coming of age during Civil Rights

Hippie Movement

Live to work

Generation X



Characteristic or stereotype? Born: 1964 - 1980

Raised in time of increasing divorce rate
Harsher economic times
Distrustful, Independent, Skill-oriented
Work to Live
Questioning, skeptical

Millennial



Characteristic or stereotype?
Born: 1981 - 2000

Raised by "helicopter parents"
Continuous feedback and recognition
Career-oriented, hard work, but with
balance

Seeks recognition, detailed feedback



# Depending on the individual...

The most valued item may vary drastically, affecting the result it has on the employee.

Ask yourself,

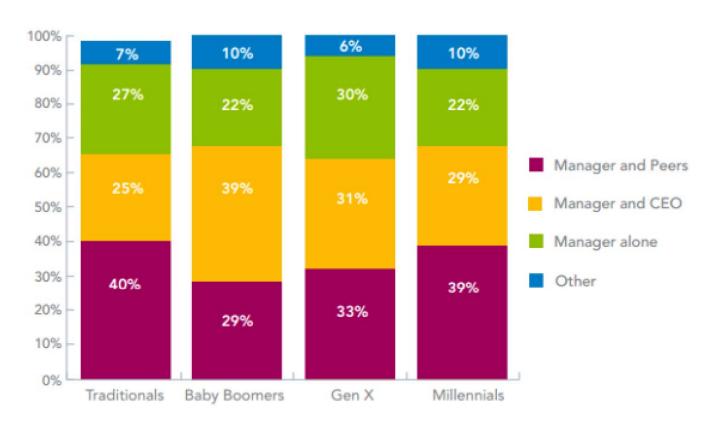
- Where are they in their life cycle?
- What is important to them?

Align employee expectations with organizational goals and ensure flexible rewards are available.





Who gives the reward & How you give the reward is just an important as what you give.





# How & Who, just as important as What

Only 4% of employees find eThankyou Awards (that convey no gift or monetary value) to be a memorable form of recognition.

#### eTHANKS ARE NOT MEMORABLE







# A Variety of Reward Programs

Performance



Safety



Service



Sales



Health & Wellness





## Reward Options

paid time off

early days off

cash

concerts

bonuses

points programs

stock options

merchandise

trips

travel

premium reductions

sporting events

wearables

gift cards

free lunch

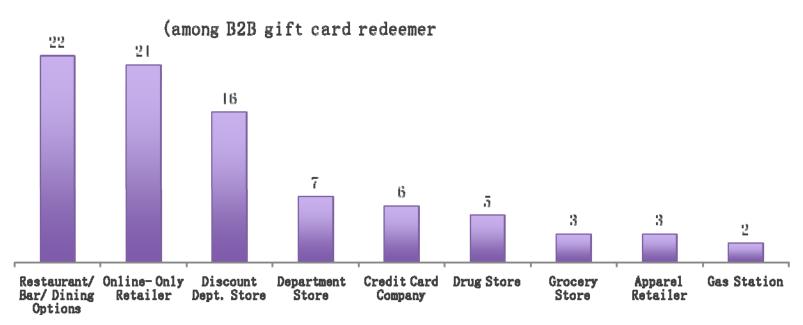
events



#### Gift cards are the reward of choice

Restaurants, Online retailers, Department stores are the most redeemed cards

#### % Redeemed at

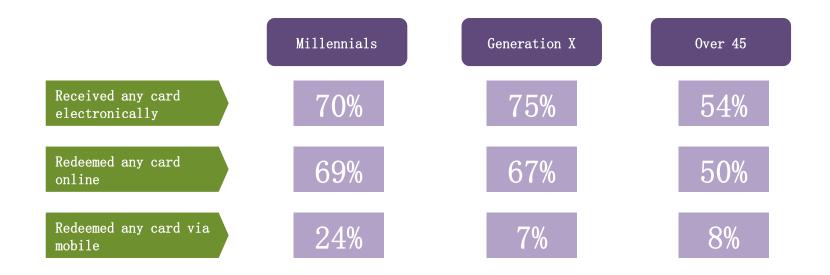




Shapiro+Raj & GiftCard Partners, Inc. - Summer 2015 U.S. Gift Card Study

# Flexibility of gift card type (Plastic, eGift Card, Mobile)

Multi-generational response on gift.



Shapiro+Raj & GiftCard Partners, Inc. - Summer 2015 U.S. Gift Card Study



# Why gift cards are the go-to

The affect the gift card had on employees when given by employer.

Attitude toward employer (top 2 box on five point scale)

Makes me feel loyalty

78%

I deserved this reward

84%

Was a worthwhile reward

83%

Felt recognized for me

86%



# Why gift cards are the go-to

Gift cards provide added value...beyond actual monetary amount

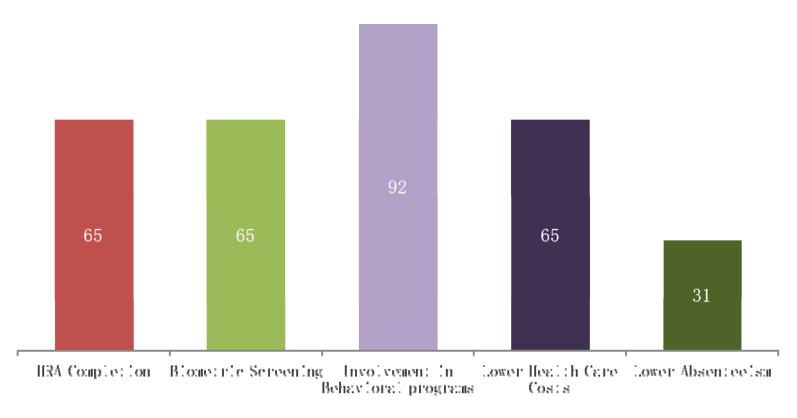


- ✓ Promotes greater Loyalty to both the Source of the card and the Brand
- Generates a sense of Recognition for the user..."I deserve this and "company" appreciates me."
- ✓ Instills an emotional connection to the Reward



# Measuring Engagement

#### Metrics for Success



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# Reward Offerings

	Wearables	Gift Cards	Premium Reduction	Cash Incentives	Points for behaviors	Online Behavior / Support Portal
Currently offer	17%	14%	50%	29%	29%	45%
Planned growth	21%	44%	37%	17%	65%	31%



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# Spend Per Employee

Average incentive spending is \$400 per employee / year



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- Align organizational goals with the reward program
- Know your employee
  - Multi-generational workforce
- When it comes to rewards...
  - How and Who is just as important as What
  - Choice is king, not cash





# Thank You! Q & A



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