8 ELEMENTS OF SERVICE EXCELLENCE¹

Element (feature)	Advantage to Us (the Distributor)	TPC Benefits to Customer
1. Zero errors.	a) Save operational cost.b) Have something unique to sell.c) Keep & attract value-conscious customers	 a) Save cost of curing mistakes & expediting. b) Save cost of downtime. c) Give better service to customers/constituents
2. X% Fill-rates (lines) X (+) Fill-rates (dollars) X% (++) customer satisfaction AR - "100%"complete tag line	a) Reduce back orders,* interbranching & buyouts.b) Avoid lost sales.c) Build GM\$/transaction.*	a) One-stop shopping consolidates phone calls, PO's, shipments, invoices, etc., all the costs of purchasing.
3. 95% cycle count accuracy. AR - Viability of C.R.O.E.*	a) Trust the amounts on the computer.b) Avoid checking stock and/or breaking promises to customers.c) A DIRTFT* barometer.	a) Get accurate, fast information.
4. Day's work in a Day's time.	a) Cut-off for cycle counts.b) Same day receiving boosts fill-rates.c) Avoid month-end rush and related errors.	a) Higher fill-ratesb) Fewer errors.
5. 100% on-time shipment. AR - Story in newsletter AR - Service Excellence Guarantee AR - Shipping tape	a) Good operational discipline.b) (4c)	a) Stock less with reliable lead-times (& fill-rates).b) Give their customers (or constituents) better service.
 Immediate re-confirmation of all orders and details with the customer whenever possible. AR - Stamps on invoice 	a) Minimize misunderstandings and errors by both parties.b) Identify & organize the consistently confused type of customer.	a) Fewer errors to cure.

 $^{{}^{1}\}text{Abbreviations: AR=Automated Reminder - something which catches the customer's conscious attention \& makes them realize excellent service or extra effort is going on. CROE=Customer Remote Order Entry; DIRTFT=Do It Right the First Time}$

Element (feature)	Advantage to Us (the Distributor)	Benefit to Customer
7. Call-back to customer on any service deviation.AR - The act.	 a) Minimize customer returns of unwanted substitutes. b) Another chance to add to the order size. c) Introduce other inside people to the customer. d) Do special instructions right the first time. 	a) No surprises on zero'ed items or unacceptable substitutions.b) Fewer errors to deal with.
8. Cure mistakes as fast and cheerfully as possible.AR - Sorry note (+) minicandy bar	Chance to show the true service spirit and resourcefulness	a) They are impressed and pleased.b) Mistakes and related problems are out of the way.

For more on the concepts covered in the exhibit go to:

- A. Articles at www.merrifield.com
 - #3.1 How to Define Perfect Service
 - # 3.2 A Service Goal the Unconditional Guarantee
 - # 3.4 Selling Perfect Service Though a Channel
 - # 3.5 Earn High Returns with Heroic Recoveries
 - # 3.8 Selling and Getting Paid for Better Service
 - # 4.2 Sell With the Total Procurement Plan
 - # 4.3 Purchase With the Total Procurement Plan
- B. High Performance Distribution Ideas for All video Module 4.1 4.13 (the entire section)