

Communications and Marketing – Traditional to the Digital Age

Communications / Marketing	Business Application	Outcomes
 Traditional Media & Communications Ads, Flyers, Posters, Newsletters, Brochures Newspapers & Magazines TV & Radio Telegram Mail (Canada Post) 	Identification of clients/customers Ability to target clients/customers for marketing purposes Enables businesses to establish and maintain contact with clients/customers and achieve outcomes, i.e. sales, customer loyalty, payment etc. Slow growth, requiring significant staff hours and/or marketing consultants.	Communications with potential and existing clients/customers. But, costly and difficult to reach clients/customers and maintain contact. One-way communication from business to client/customer (Two-way communications requires additional cost, i.e. marketing surveys etc.) Time consuming.
Computer Age Computers – hardware and software (Data Storage of client/customer information) Allows development of data files into databases of customers, including contact information, product/service requirements and marketing channels. 1960s to 1980s	Slow growing and requires staffing and time to manage computers. Enables businesses to develop and maintain significant information on a large number of clients/customers. Increase outcomes for businesses because of available data, i.e. customized mail outs, marketing campaigns and individual marketing services for clients/customers. Traditional payment method.	Communications with potential and existing clients/customers. Expensive to start, grow, and maintain. Improves the ability of businesses to conduct marketing activities. Still one-way communication from business to client/customer (Two-way communications still requires additional cost, i.e. marketing surveys etc.) Time consuming.
Internet Age Computers – hardware, software and internet/email Enables companies to use data files and manage two-way communication with customers at low cost. 1990s to 2000s New Media Age Brings computers and the internet to multiple devices, makes it mobile, and readily accessible. (Computers, cell phones, Facebook, Twitter, tablets, cloud storage,	Ability to start and develop clients/customers quickly. Enables businesses to acquire and maintain significant information on a large number of clients/customers. Increase outcomes for businesses because of data, i.e. customized mail and email, marketing campaigns and individual marketing services for clients/customers. New online payment now available. Allows businesses to communicate with mass customer base and it is two-way and interactive; multi-device, mobile, real-time, and also creates more communication and marketing channels. New online payment options, i.e. Square, Mobile access to banking, online storage etc.	Computers – hardware, software and internet/email. Takes less time. Enables companies to use data files and do two-way communication with customers at low cost, i.e. feedback, orders and surveys. Limited ability to grow connections to customers/clients and increase marketing activities. Less time required but customers have to respond through a computer – requires time to do this. Communications with potential and existing clients now less costly and easier to reach many through multiple devices, mobile, and very accessible in real-time, with ease of use. Additional marketing channels lets clients and
online payment etc.) 2010 and beyond		customers communicate about new sales, products, and services – quickly and supports purchases with multi payment options.