



#### **Customer Satisfaction Pays...**

**How Can Utilities Maximize the Benefits?** 

**January 31, 2019** 



Software as a Service (SaaS) provider focused on three major utility initiatives:



- Best in class Data Analytics
- Providing Consistency, Building Customer Trust







#### Who We Are:

Leading the market in customer engagement

In our  $26^{th}$  year

of customers

Serving
HUNDREDS of utilities, reaching
MILLIONS





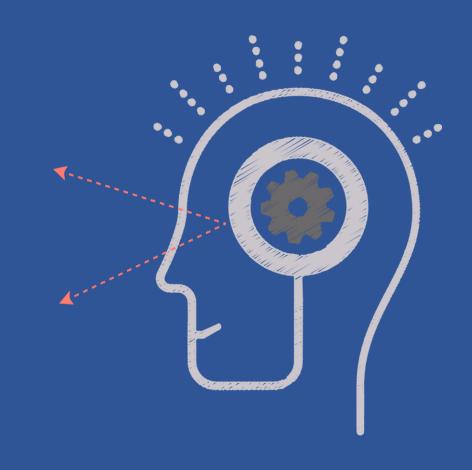
Jim Malcom, is the Chief Operating Officer of Apogee Interactive, providing oversight business and financial operations of the company. His senior management experience in the telecommunications and management consulting industries is providing strategic direction for Apogee's continued growth and success. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia with a bachelor's and master's degree in business administration, a certified public accountant, and a chartered global management accountant.



**Kate Panaousis** is a graduate of Panteion University of Athens, Greece with a master's degree in Applied Economics and Management and a graduate of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece with a bachelor's degree in Economics. Her professional background includes experience with statistical analyses, forecasting techniques and research. She is currently the Marketing Analyst at Apogee Interactive. Her role includes market research, statistical analysis and sales team support.

#### Agenda

- > Customer Satisfaction Benefits
- ➤ Amazon Case Study
- ➤ Net Promoter Score Utility Industry Trend
- CSat Utility Industry Trend
- ➤ Correlation between CSat and Operating Margin
- ➤ Personalization Why is it important?
- ➤ Impactful Case study
- ➤ How can Apogee help?



#### Why did Apogee do this?

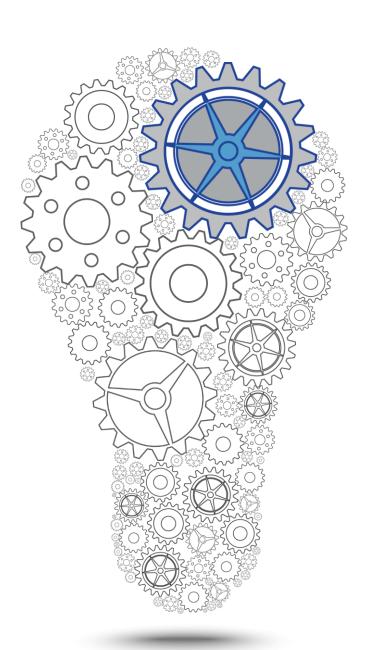
How does utility customer satisfaction track over time?

What is the long-term correlation between customer satisfaction and operating margins?



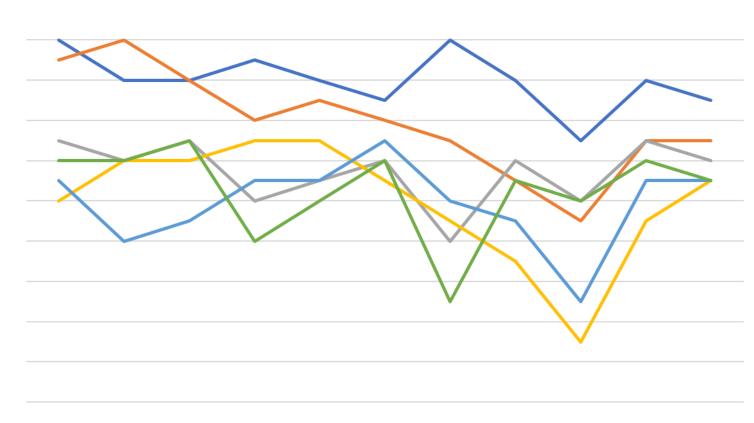
#### **Benefits of Customer Satisfaction**

- > J.D. Power and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
  - More favorable regulatory outcomes for IOUs
  - Ensures utility's core business protection
- > ICF and Accenture
  - Revenue growth
  - Market share capture



#### **Customer Satisfaction Online Retail Services**

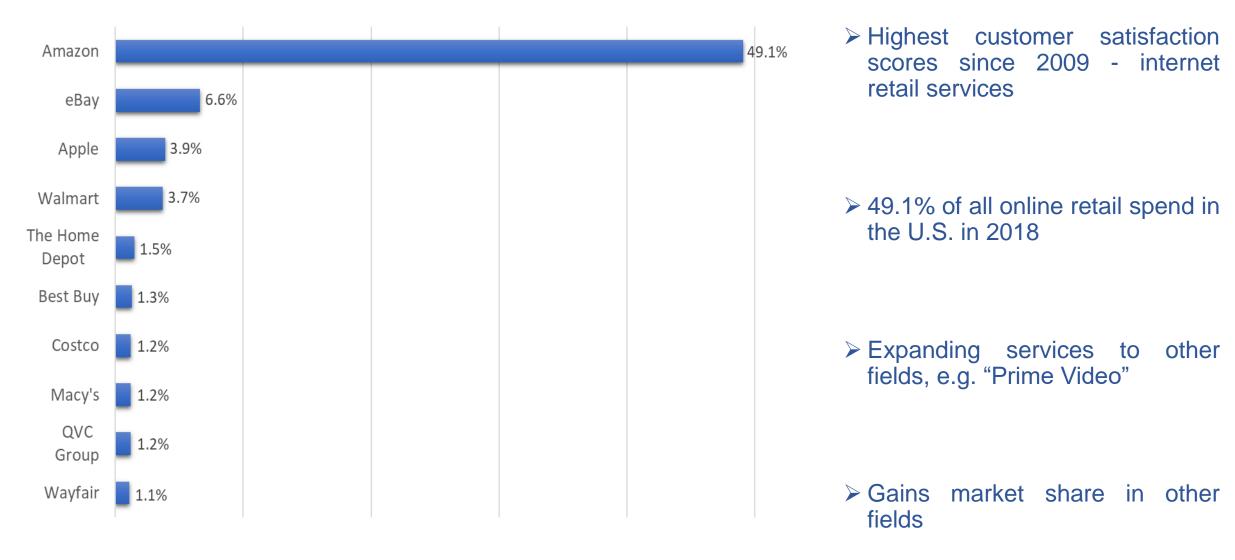
Amazon Case Study



2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

—Amazon —Newegg —Internet Retail —Overstock —eBay —All Others

#### Top 10 US Companies based on % of eCommerce Sales





What's the difference between Customer Satisfaction and Net Promoter Score?

#### Customer Satisfaction (CSat)

Measures customer experience and overall satisfaction

- ➤ What do customers think of a product or service?
- ➤ Many statements that customers rate their agreement or disagreement e.g. Overall I was satisfied with <X>
- ➤J.D. Power Scores in 1,000 point scale, e.g. 764

#### Net Promoter Score (NPS)

- ➤ Measures customer experience and loyalty
- ➤ Q: How likely would you recommend "company" to a friend or colleague?



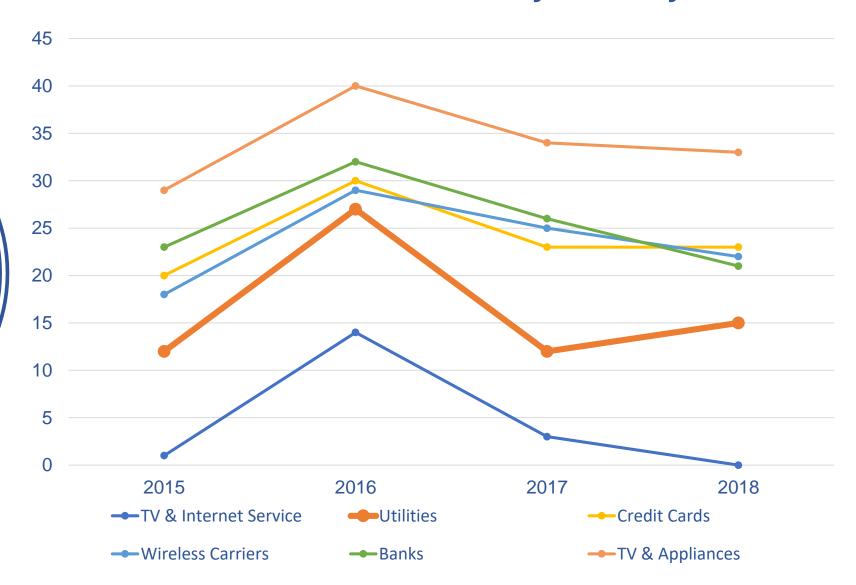
NET PROMOTER SCORE = %PROMOTERS - %DETRACTORS

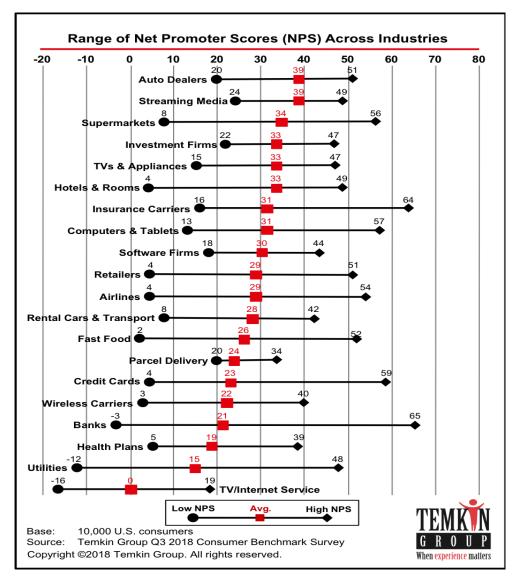
➤ Score between -100 and +100, e.g. -12, 0, +34



#### **Net Promoter Score by Industry**

How do
utilities
compare to
other
industries?





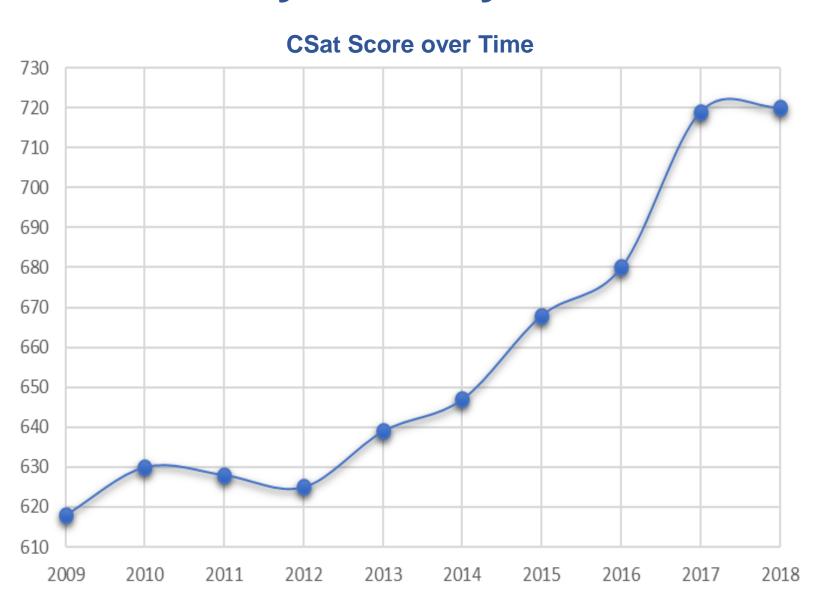
➤ Utility Industry's Average NPS = 15

➤ The 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest average among the 20 investigated industries!

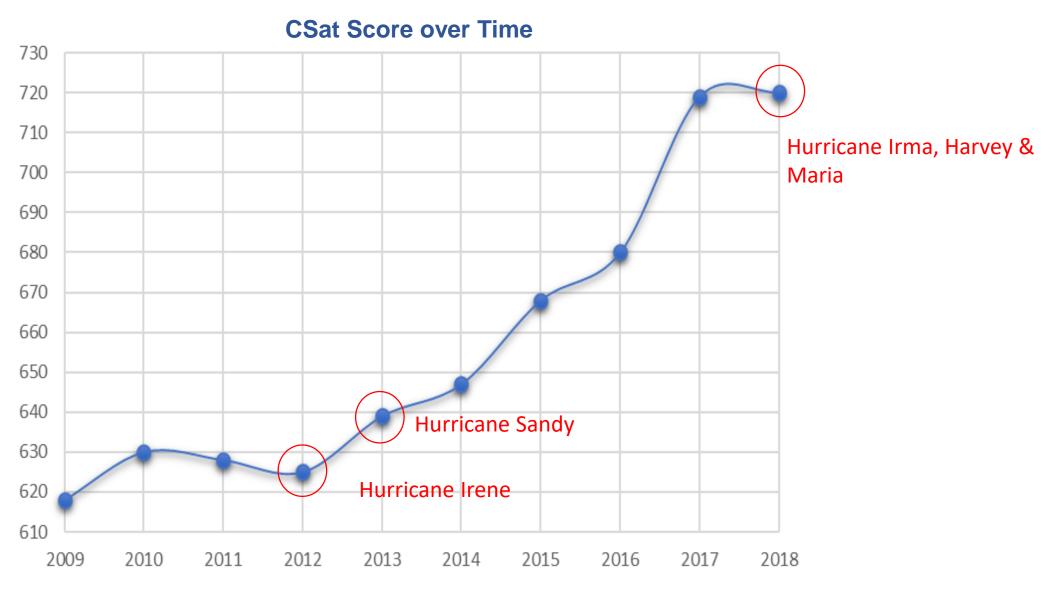
➤ However, one of the only five industries with an increase over the past year!

➤ 3 points up since 2017!

#### **Utility Industry Trend**



#### **Utility Industry Trend**



#### Customer Satisfaction

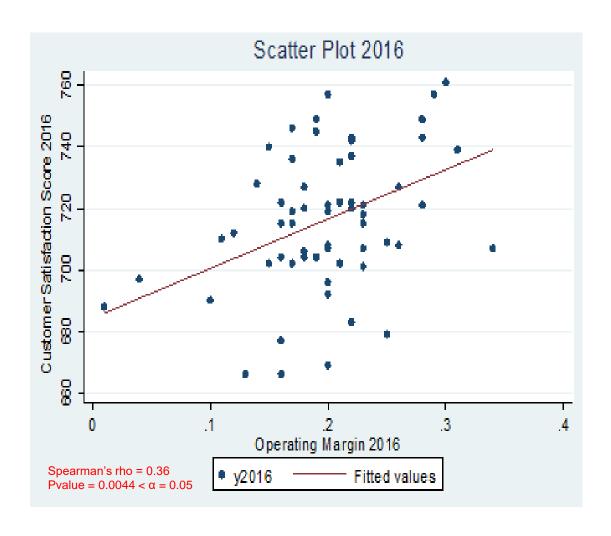
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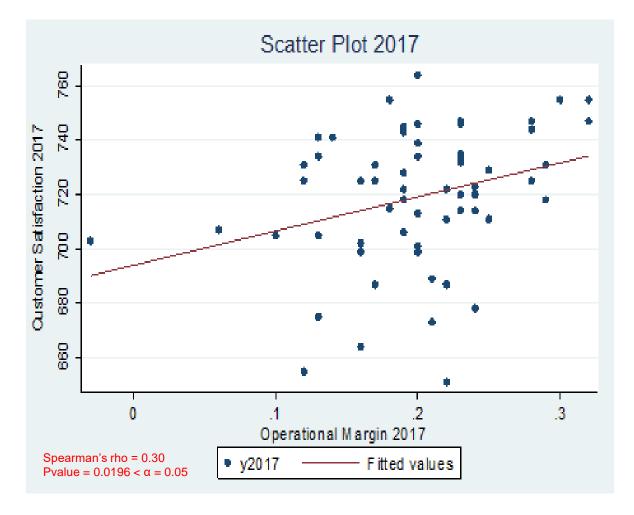
Financial Performance

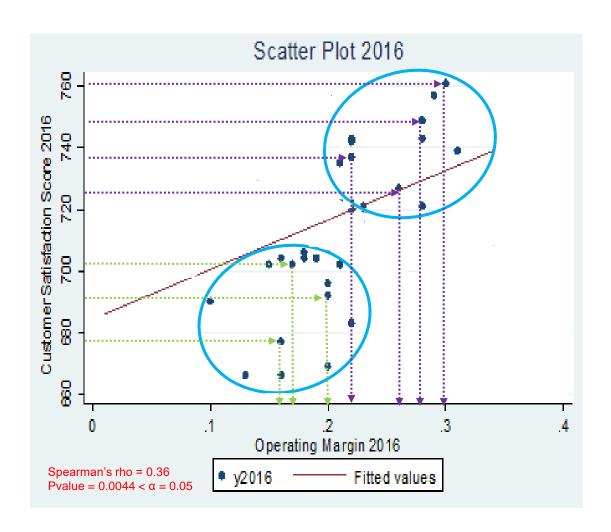
➤ Two variables: "Customer Satisfaction Score" and "Operating Margin"

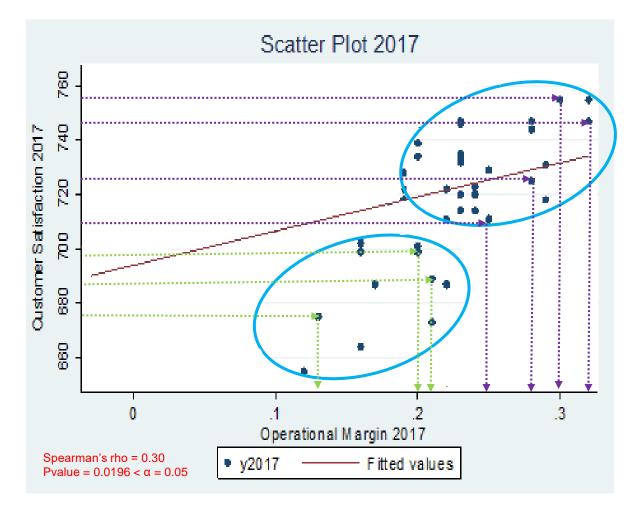
- > IOUs
  - Publicly reported F/S
  - Executives' Compensation
- ➤ 60 data points years 2016 and 2017

"Spearman Rank Correlation" nonparametric test









#### Conclusions

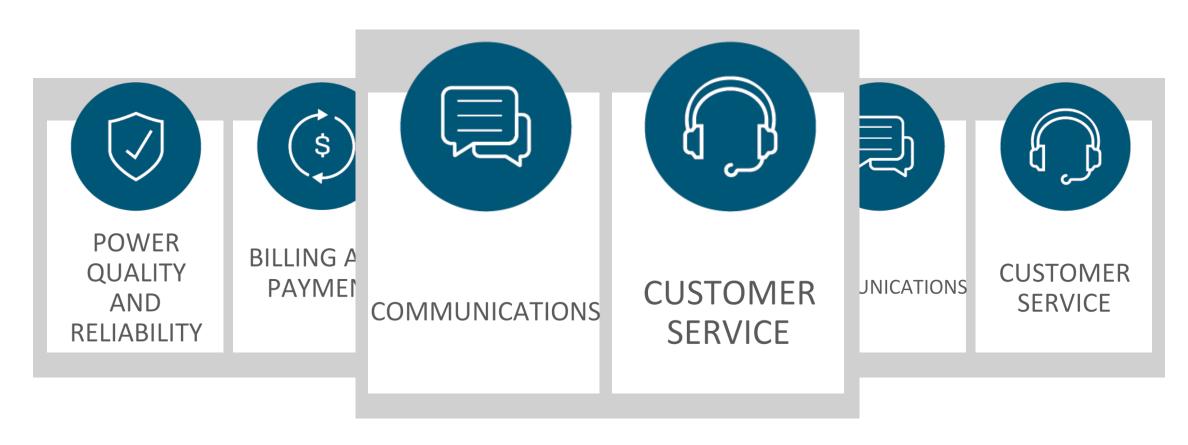
Statistically significant positive correlation between CSat and Operating Margin!

Higher CSat scores correspond to higher Operating Margins!

#### Utility Customer Satisfaction Key Index Factors



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#### Communications

➤ Customer chosen communication mode

- ➤ Communication on matters impacting them
- ➤ Energy usage and costs Timely, relevant and useful messaging
- ➤ Rate structure and options Clear and simple information

➤ Utility program awareness and participation

#### **Customer Service**

First call / communication resolution

- ➤ Clarity and consistent information
- >Timeliness of resolving problems and requests
- ➤ Multiple customer service channels





What is the common denominator of all these key indicator factors that drive customer satisfaction?

Personalization

# Why is personalization an imperative strategy

- Active Trail's 2017 Benchmark Study
  - 112% higher email click-through rates if personalized!

- Accenture 2018 "New Energy Consumer: Creating Links to Love"
  - 82% are willing to buy more if provided with personalized products & services!
  - 82% believe personalized products and services are essential to a positive CX!

#### Utility Initiatives and Apogee Solutions



Engagement and Communications



**Rate Transformation** 



Self-Service and Cost Avoidance







#### Revenue Enhancement

- Market Place
- Beneficial Electrification



**Demand Response** 



Distributed Energy Resources

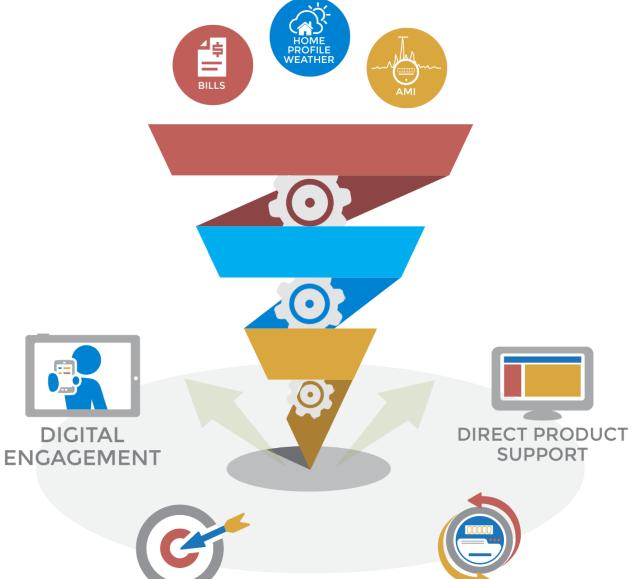


Low and Moderate Income

#### What We Do...











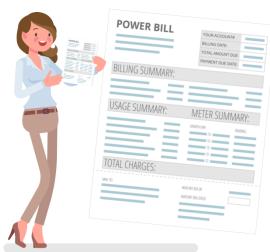
#### The 3-Rs of Apogee





Program Lists
Bill Explanation
Service Messaging



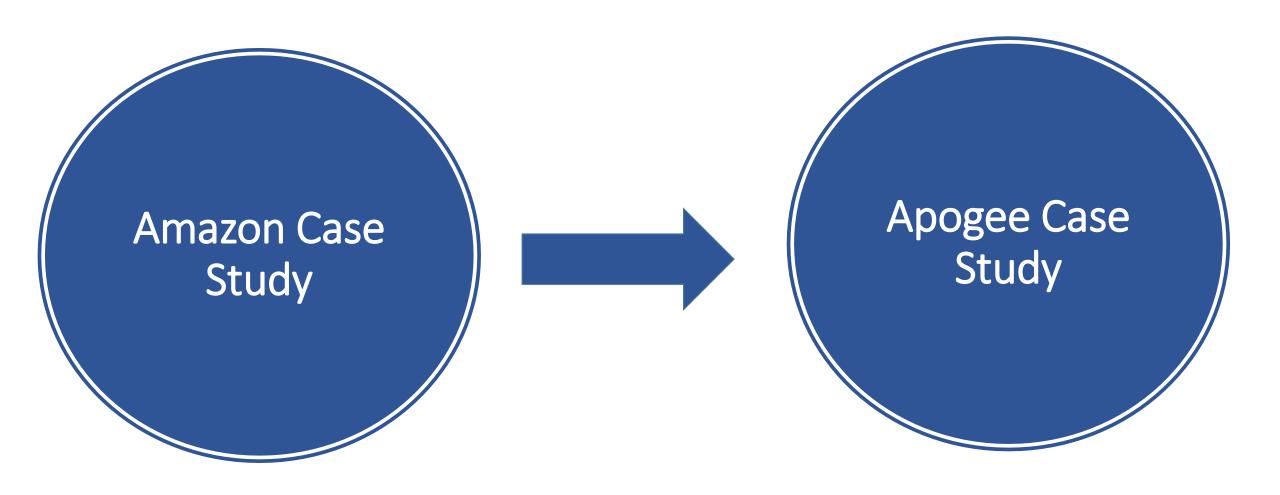


Program Lists
TOU
Demand





Program Lists
Beneficial Electrification
Recommendations
Online Store

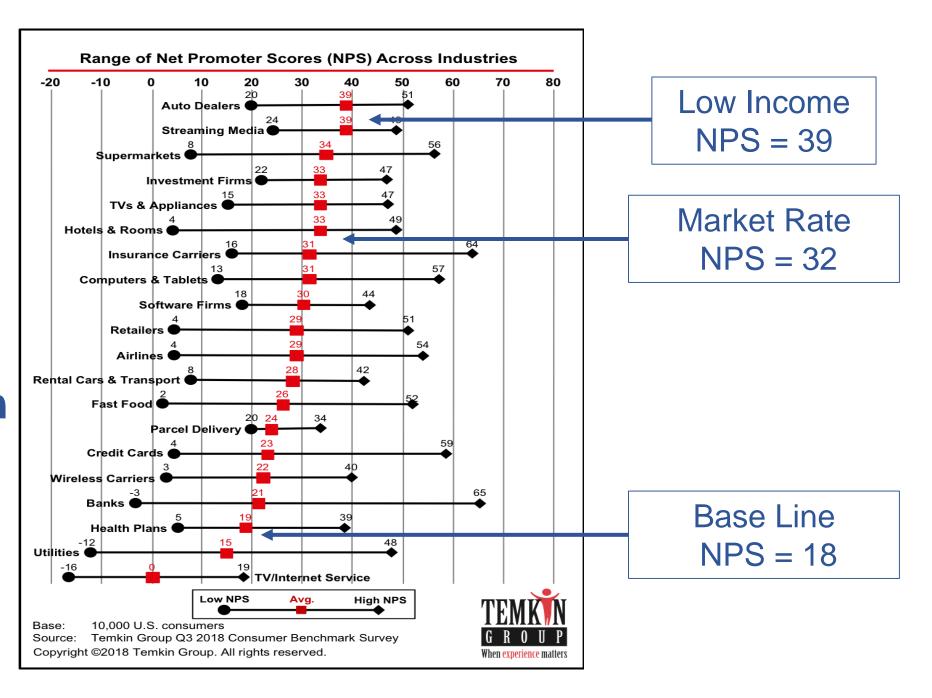


#### **Xcel Energy Case Study**

- Millions of personalized emails
- > 40% Open rates
- > > 30% Click-through rates
- > 98% positive comments
- ➤ 15% reduction in high bill call
- > First measurement NPS of 18



### Impact of Personalization



# Conclusions

Customer Satisfaction is improving over time.
Don't get left behind!

➤ Positive correlation between customer satisfaction and operating results

Personalization increases Customer Satisfaction and Net Promoter Scores



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#### **Upcoming Webinars**

February 20, 2019

The Energy Industry Revolution

➤ March, 2019

The Rate Race – Communicating Rates

And more...



## Any questions?



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Your Trusted Partner in Customer Engagement