

William Demant



# Hearing Devices

Søren Nielsen

COO, William Demant

Niels Wagner

President of Retail, William Demant





# Agenda

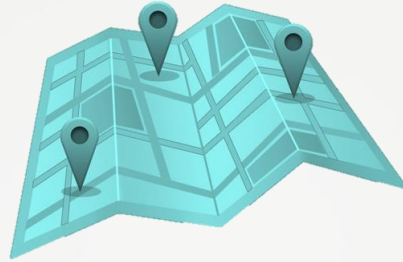
- Hearing aid market
- Hearing aid wholesale
- Hearing aid retail

# Solid structural growth drivers in hearing devices



## Demography

- Growing ageing population
- Increasing life expectancy



## Increasing points of sales

- Greenfield store openings
- New channels being tested with a few showing sustainability
- Increased marketing
- Increased access to reimbursed hearing aids

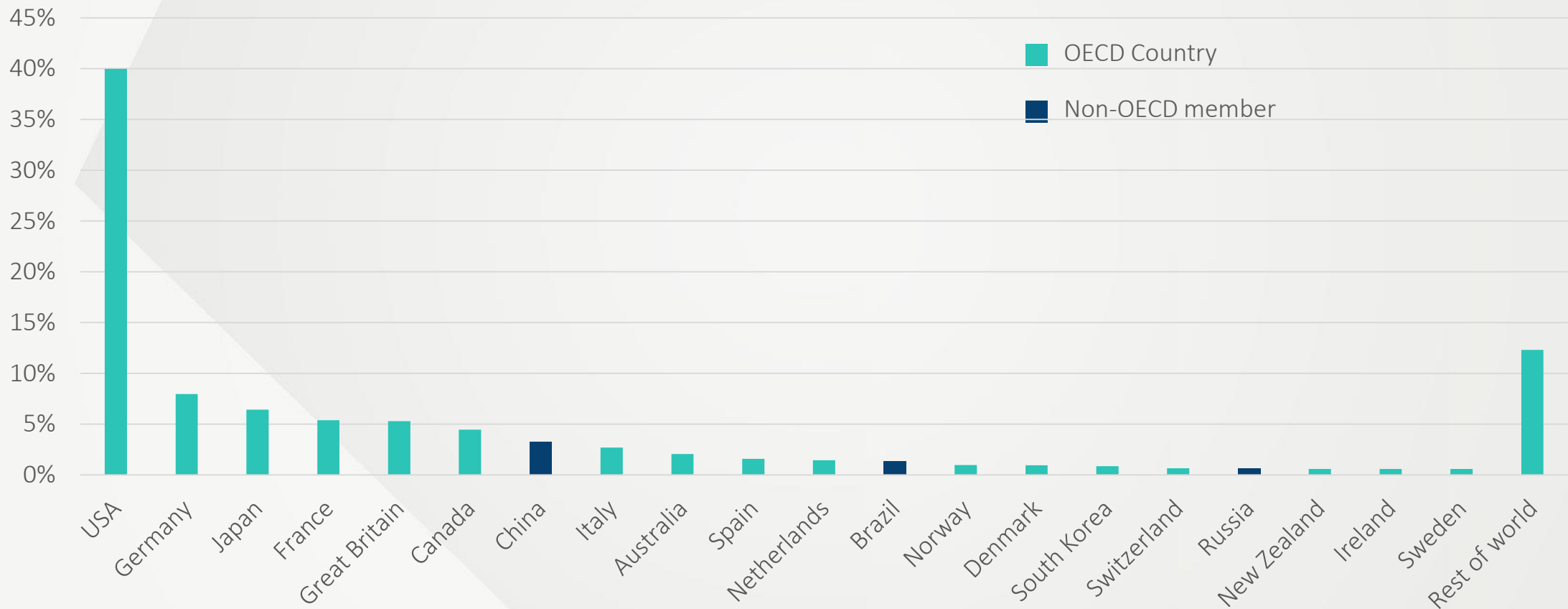


## Emerging markets

- Demography
- Growing penetration rates
- Improved healthcare systems
- Higher average income
- Improved access to hearing aids

# OECD countries continue to dominate

Market value split



# Underlying growth driven by baby boomers

**Baby boomers will drive growth for the next 10-15 years**

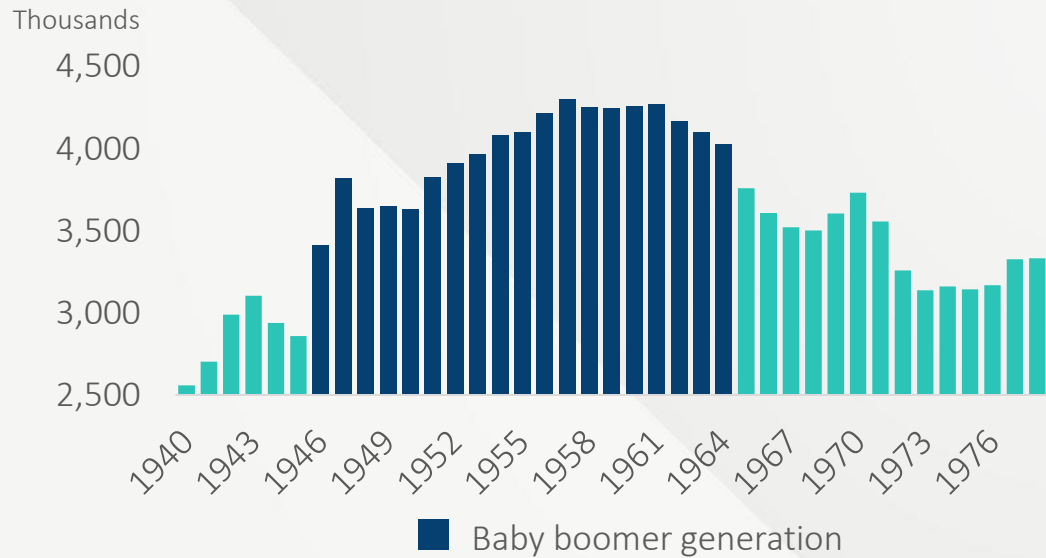
**70 years old**  
Age of the first baby boomers

**~69 years old**  
Average age of first-time user

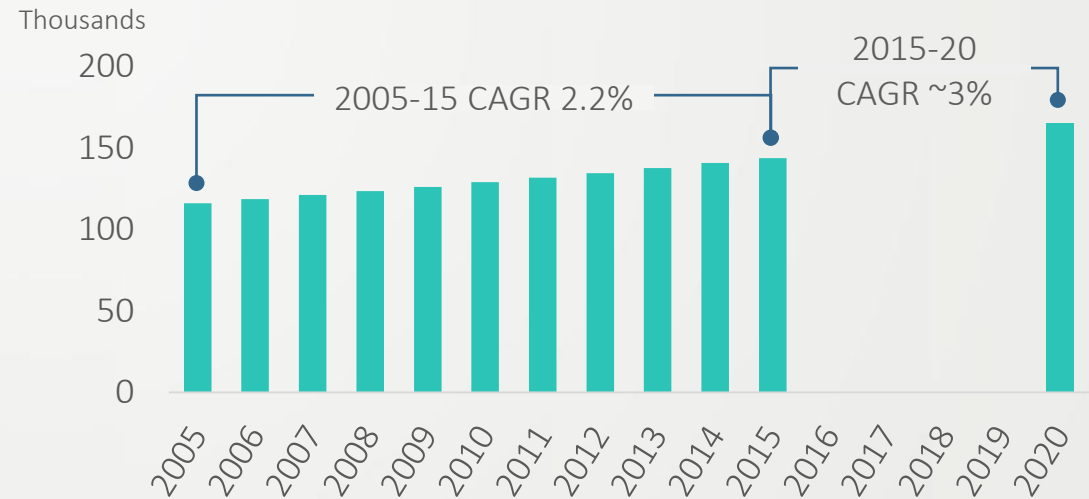
**Increasing longevity**  
We live longer and longer

**Active and tech-savvy**  
Characteristics of the baby boomers

US birth rates (1940-1978)



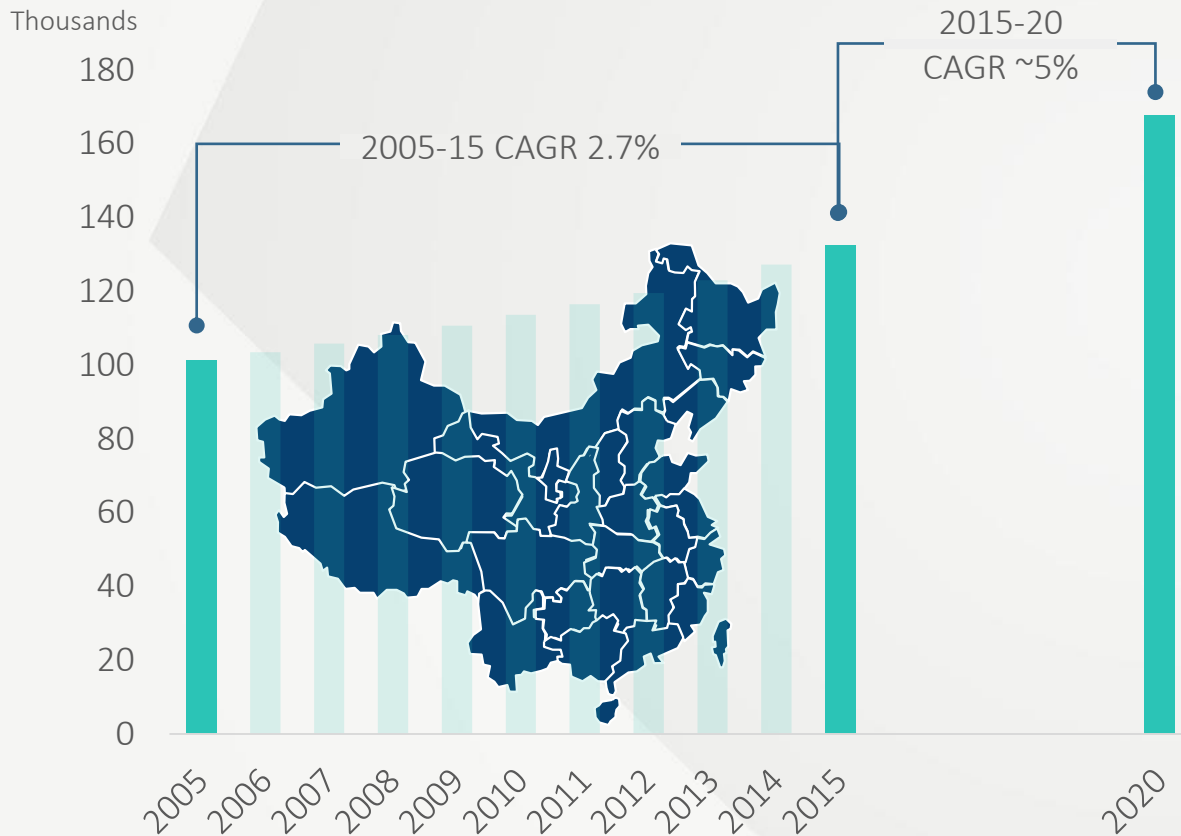
70+ population (OECD countries)



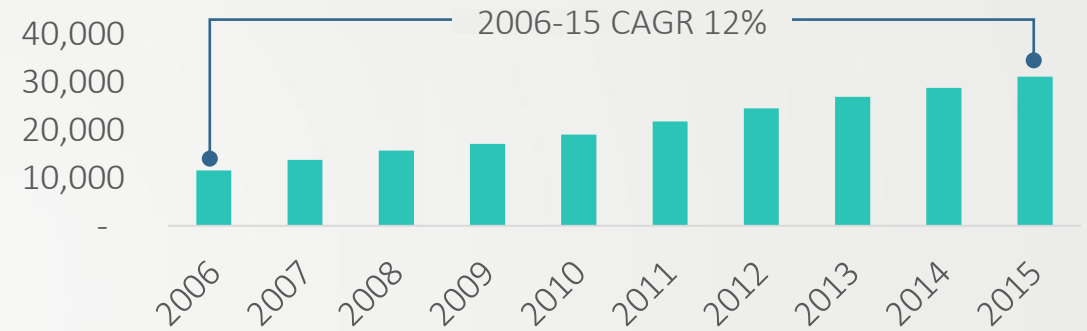
Source: William Demant estimates and data from OECD.stat and US Census

# China's emerging senior market

65+ population (China)

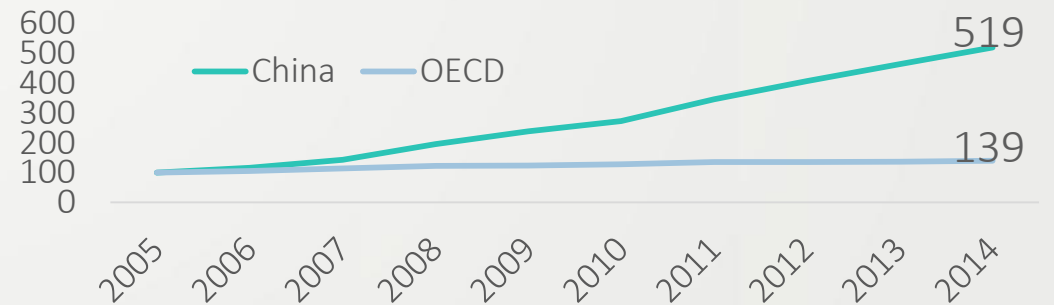


Disposable income per capita (CNY)



Large regional differences (rural vs. urban)

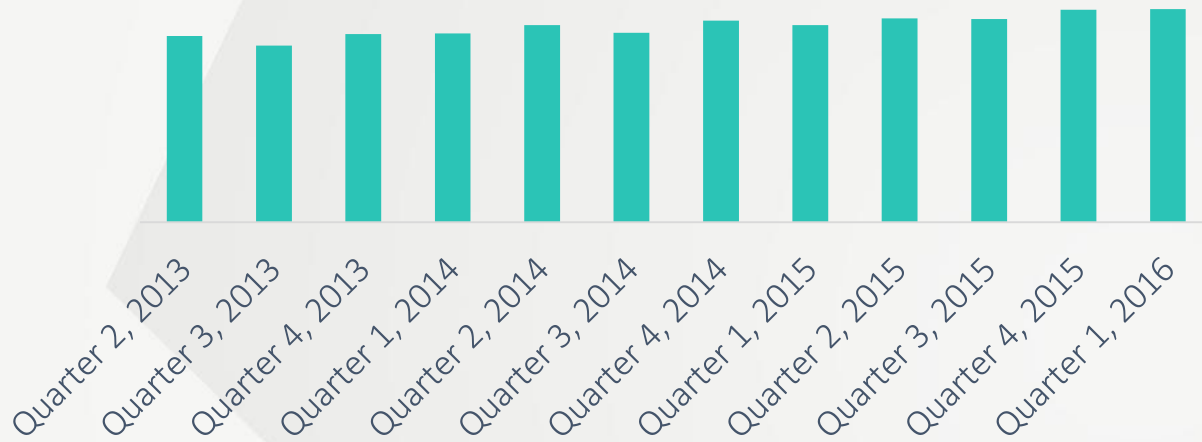
Health expenditure per capita (Index 2005)



OECD still factor >10x ( 4,746\$ vs 419\$)

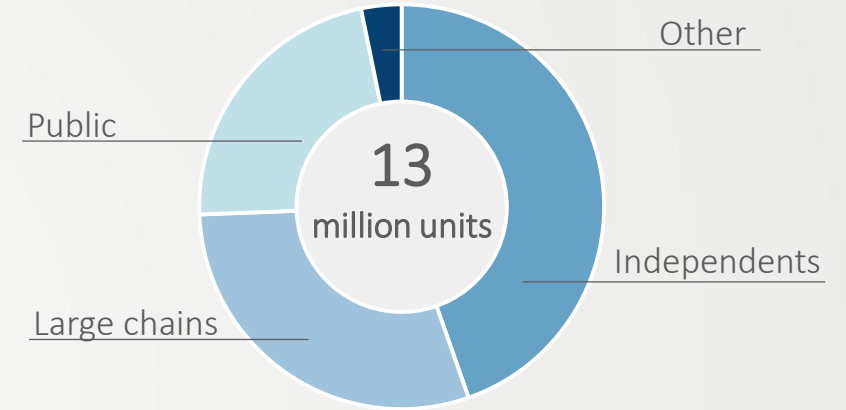
# Global market development

Volume development

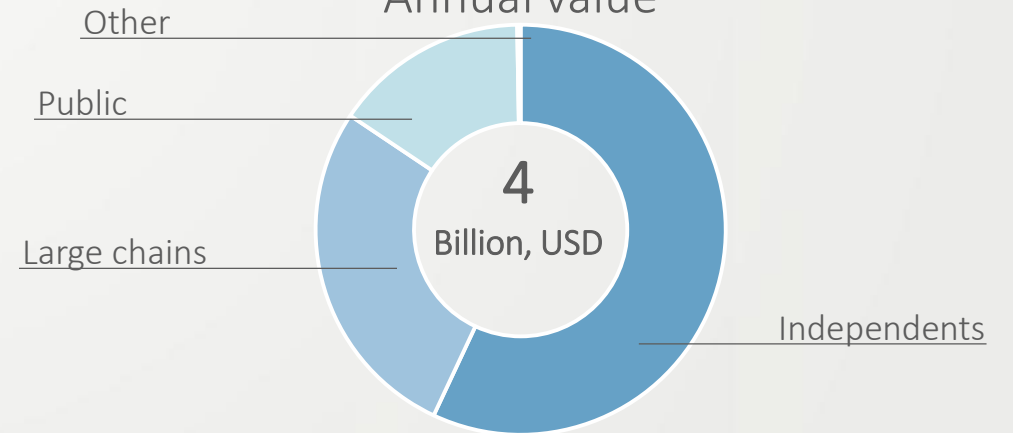


- Stable volume growth with small volatilities
- Slow change in country and channel mix
- Independents continue to grow
  - However stronger and stronger tie-ins

Annual volume

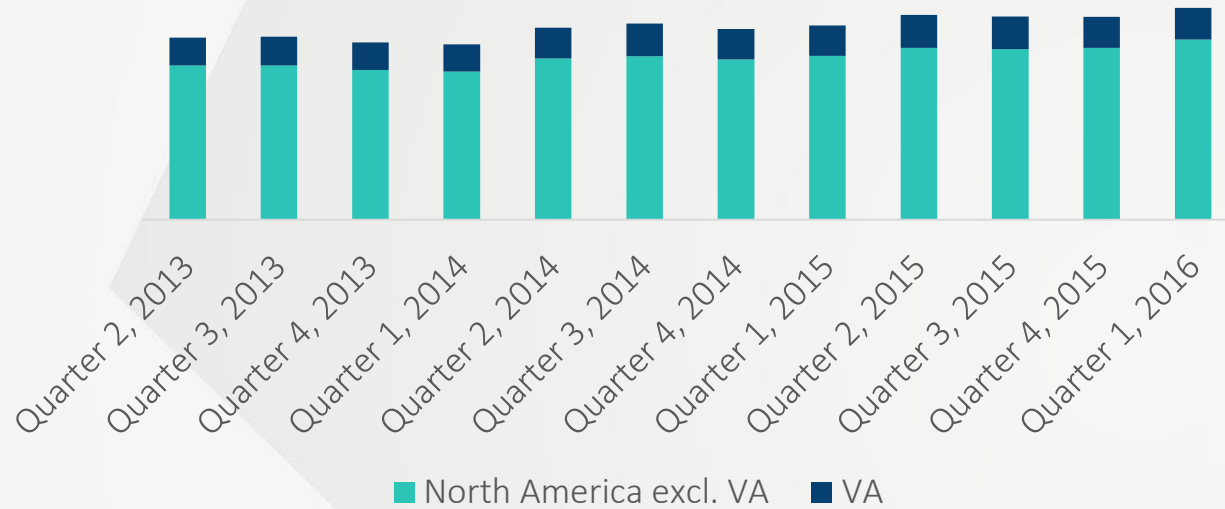


Annual value



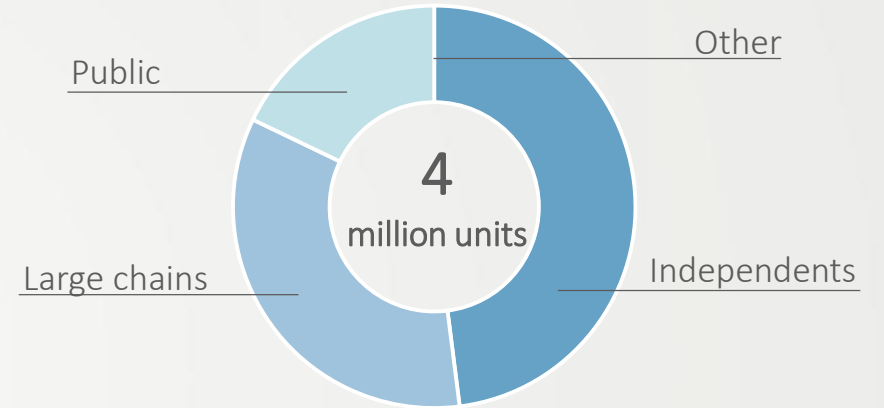
# North America market development

Volume development

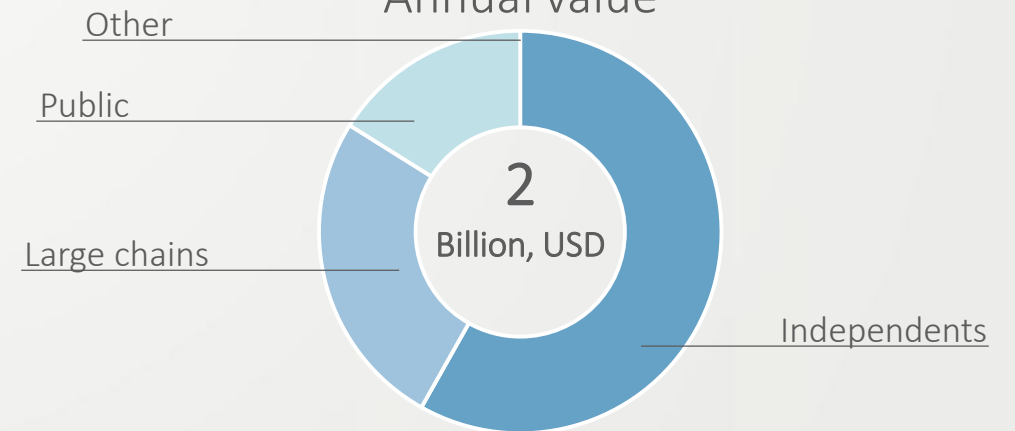


- Major players growing
- Growing number of independents seek support from networks and buying groups
- Average selling prices in wholesale continue to decline due to growth of major players as well as fierce competition

Annual volume



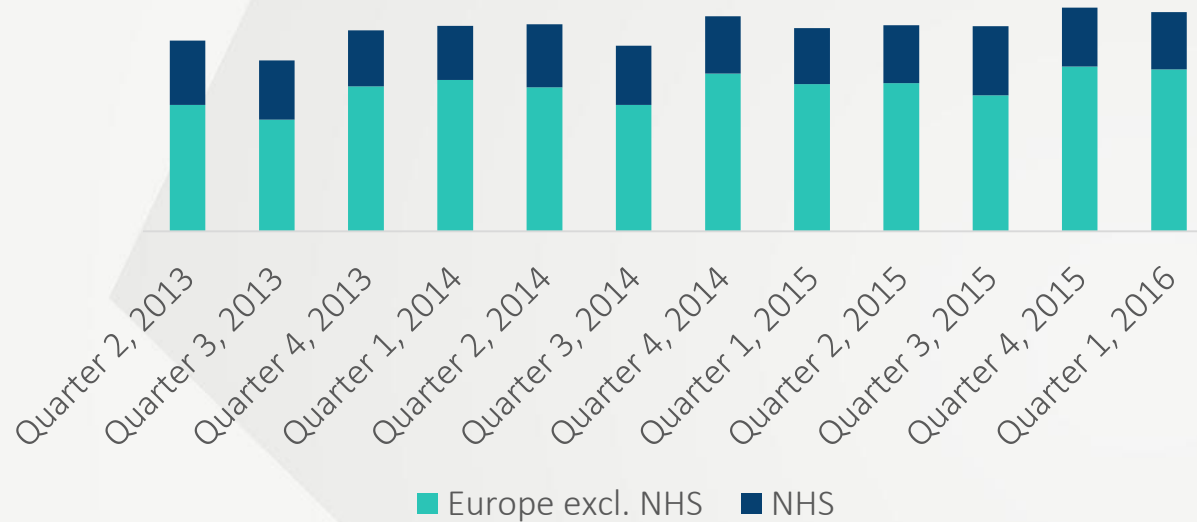
Annual value





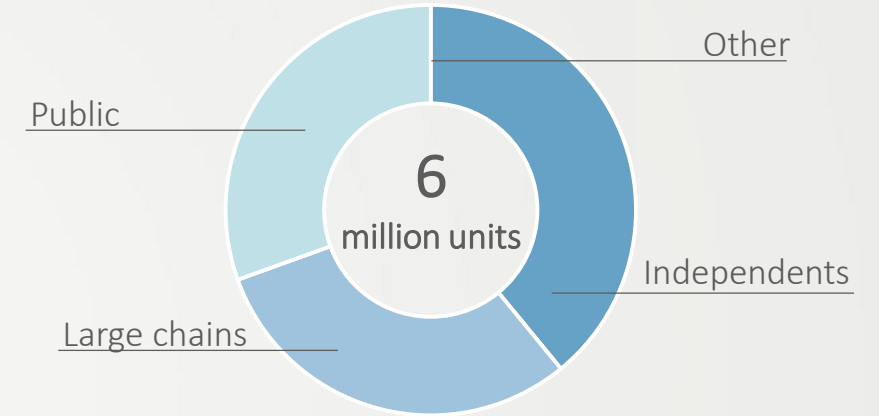
# European market development

Volume development

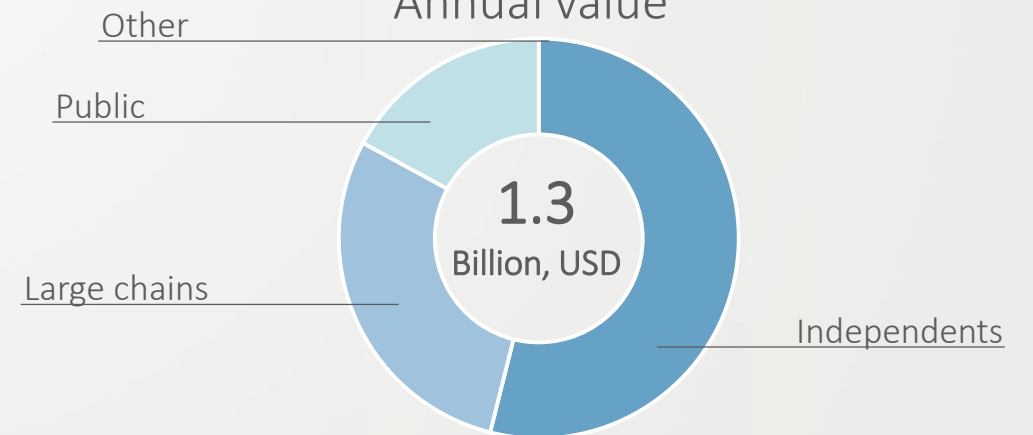


- Germany returning to normal growth rates
- France, Italy and UK maintaining encouraging growth rates
- Scandinavia still developing at a slow pace

Annual volume

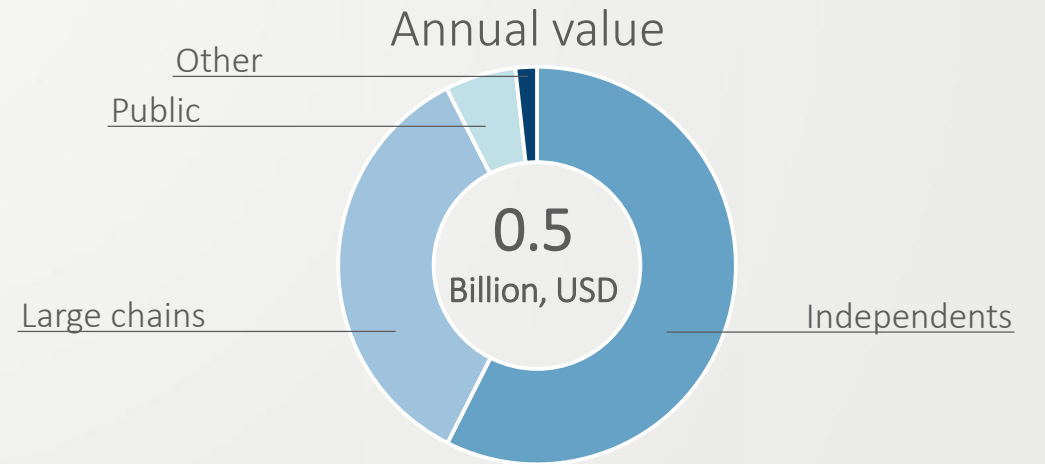
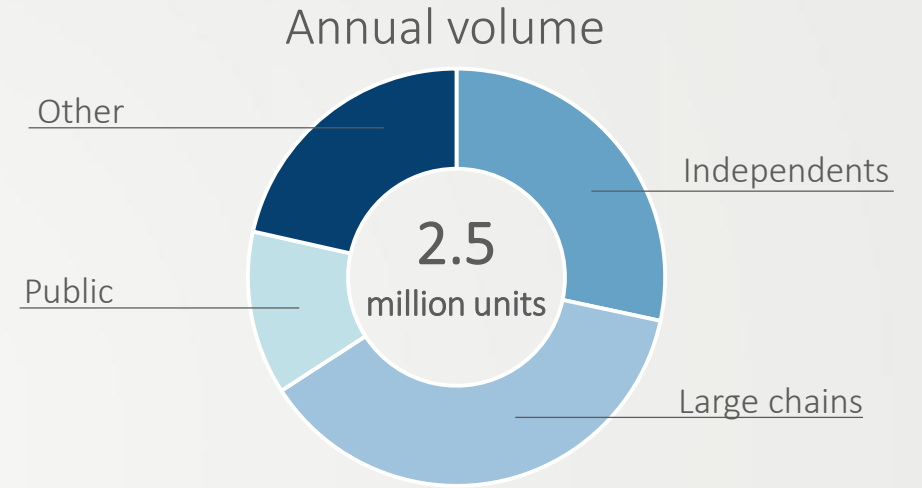


Annual value







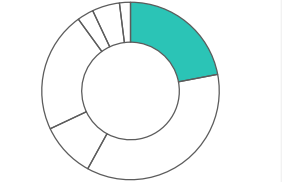
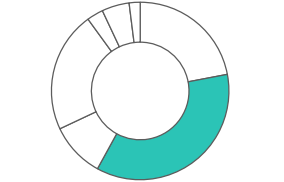
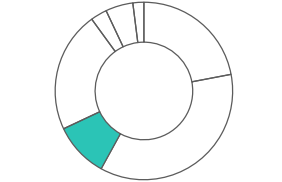
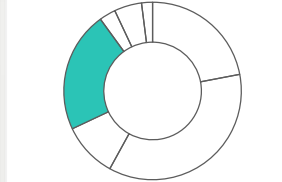
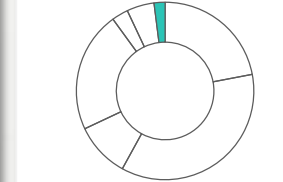

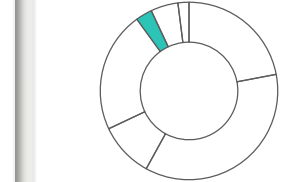


# Asia Pacific

- Low penetration in Asia
- Highly unregulated in many markets



# Hearing aid distribution channels

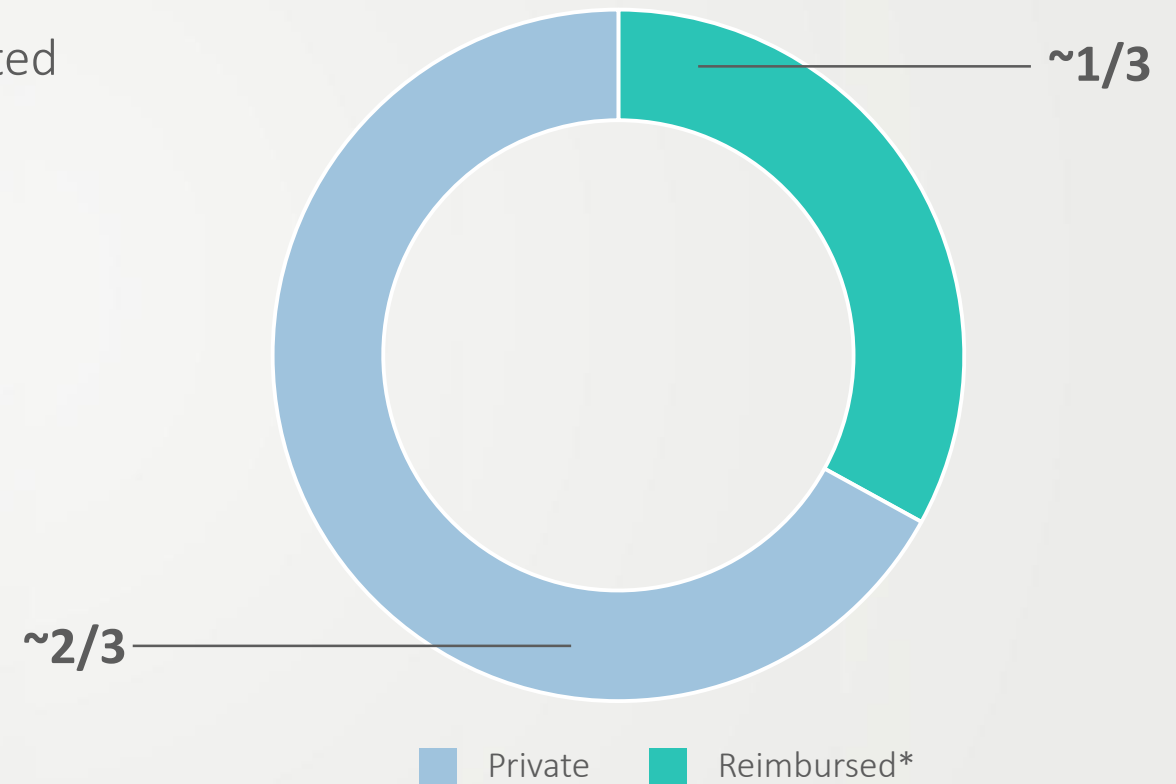
	Public/hospital settings	Conventional independents	Value-added wholesalers	Conventional retail chains	Direct online sales	Specialty retailers	Multi-line retailers
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Professional procurement</b></li> <li>• Work with manufacturers with high audiological content and the ability to demonstrate user benefits via clinical studies etc.</li> <li>• Capacity is often the main challenge, and <b>efficient fitting processes</b> and highly reliable products are the main drivers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Owners are an integral part of the operation and typically have a background in hearing instruments and are <b>dedicated and specialised</b></li> <li>• Often <b>loyal to their main suppliers</b> based on long term relationship and maybe also financial tie-ins to their suppliers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More and more Independent businesses seek help with value-added resellers compete in commercial markets</li> <li>• This service is normally financed through negotiation of <b>discounts with suppliers</b></li> <li>• Typically require a high-priced market with margins to finance these services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Typically have strong marketing and process control as well as strong, central, corporate functions</li> <li>• Strong focus on low purchase price</li> <li>• <b>High marketing spend</b></li> <li>• They expect leading suppliers and always up-to-date technology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Model currently tested in many shapes and forms in a number of markets</li> <li>• Challenge is to combine the internet with the need for personal counselling and fitting of the hearing instruments</li> <li>• Still very difficult to run a stand alone business</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pharmacies, opticians etc.</li> <li>• In some markets, attractive alternative source of revenue for opticians</li> <li>• Leveraging on existing traffic</li> <li>• Professional and commercial retailers who expect products that are easy to sell</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big-box retailers</li> <li>• Professional – but not specialised</li> <li>• They work with high traffic and low margins</li> <li>• They look for partners who can generate the best retail value</li> <li>• They want top-tier brands</li> <li>• <b>Low marketing spend</b></li> </ul>
Level of specialisation	Specialised professional					Complementary business	
Players							
Market split (volume 2015)							

# Regulation and reimbursement

Changes to reimbursements and regulation are made from time-to-time (examples):

- Germany: Increase in reimbursement, but only limited co-payment
- Netherlands: Lowering of reimbursement
- Denmark: Lowering of reimbursement
- Switzerland: Lowering of reimbursement

**No major changes to regulation and reimbursements are expected in the foreseeable future**



# Status of the current hearing aid market



## Centralised market

- Top 5 markets continue to hold >70% of the global market value
- Stable markets
- Top 5 – all baby boomer countries



## Retail consolidation

- Dispensers consolidating in different forms and sizes
  - Networks and buying groups
  - Retail chains
  - Manufacturers



## Wholesale value shrinking proportionally

- Average selling prices continue to decline
- High competition for market shares among manufacturers



# William Demant Wholesale business



# Our strategy



- Grow market share through strong and innovative R&D effort combined with global multi-brand strategy
- Effective infrastructure to ensure competitive cost base



## Multi-brand strategy

Gain market share in a diverse distribution system



## Truly global reach

Through our hearing healthcare platform, expand our global market reach



## Technology innovation

Deliver a commercially attractive, innovative product range based on proprietary technology



## Attractive partner

Strong and attractive service and support package for customers and channels with specific needs

# Successful multi-brand strategy

- Differentiated brand strategy, positioning and customer targeting
- To be different where it matters, e.g. products/features, people (customer interface), communication and services
- To share where possible, e.g. back office, production/logistics and technology/platform development
- Internal governance

Utilise synergies across brands without jeopardising the individual brand value and brand recognition

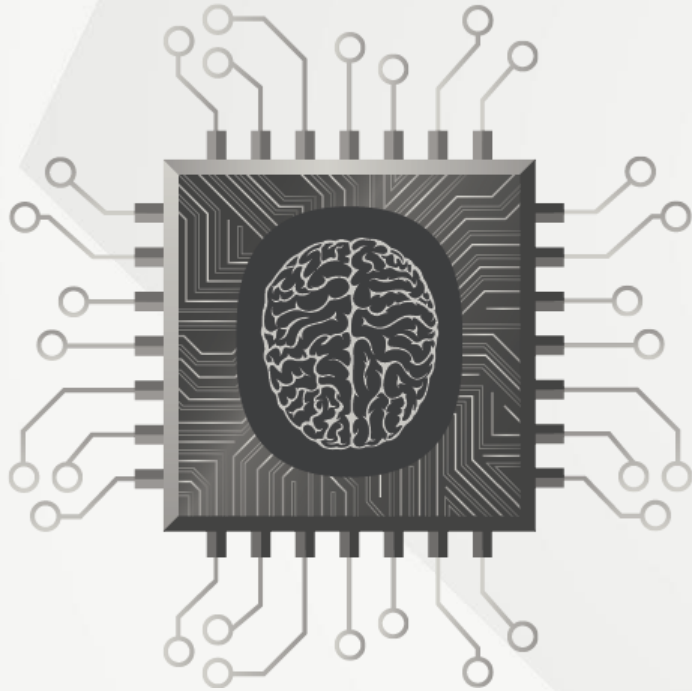


Platform elements	Integrated circuits	Algorithms/features	Design
Platform sharing	Maximum		Minimum





# Leading hearing aid technology innovation



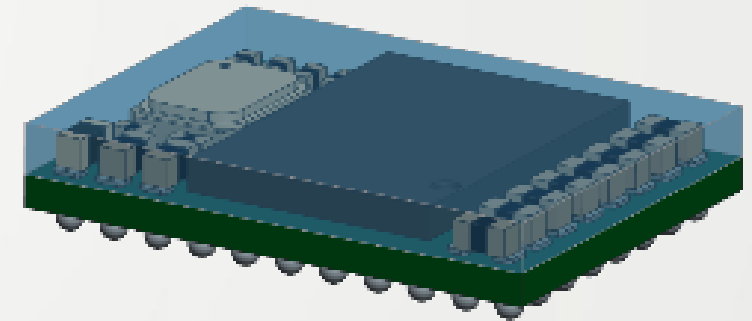
Powered by Velox™



# Giant leap in innovation

Extreme processing power – without sacrificing power  
 Unique capability, enabling superior audiology

	Velox™	Inium Sense
Technology (nm)	65	130/180
Transistors (M)	64.5	8.7
Die size FE+DSP	15.8	23.7
FE+DSP+RF (mm <sup>2</sup> )	23.5	-
DSPs	7+1	1
Channels	64	16
Max input dynamic (dB SPL)	113	93



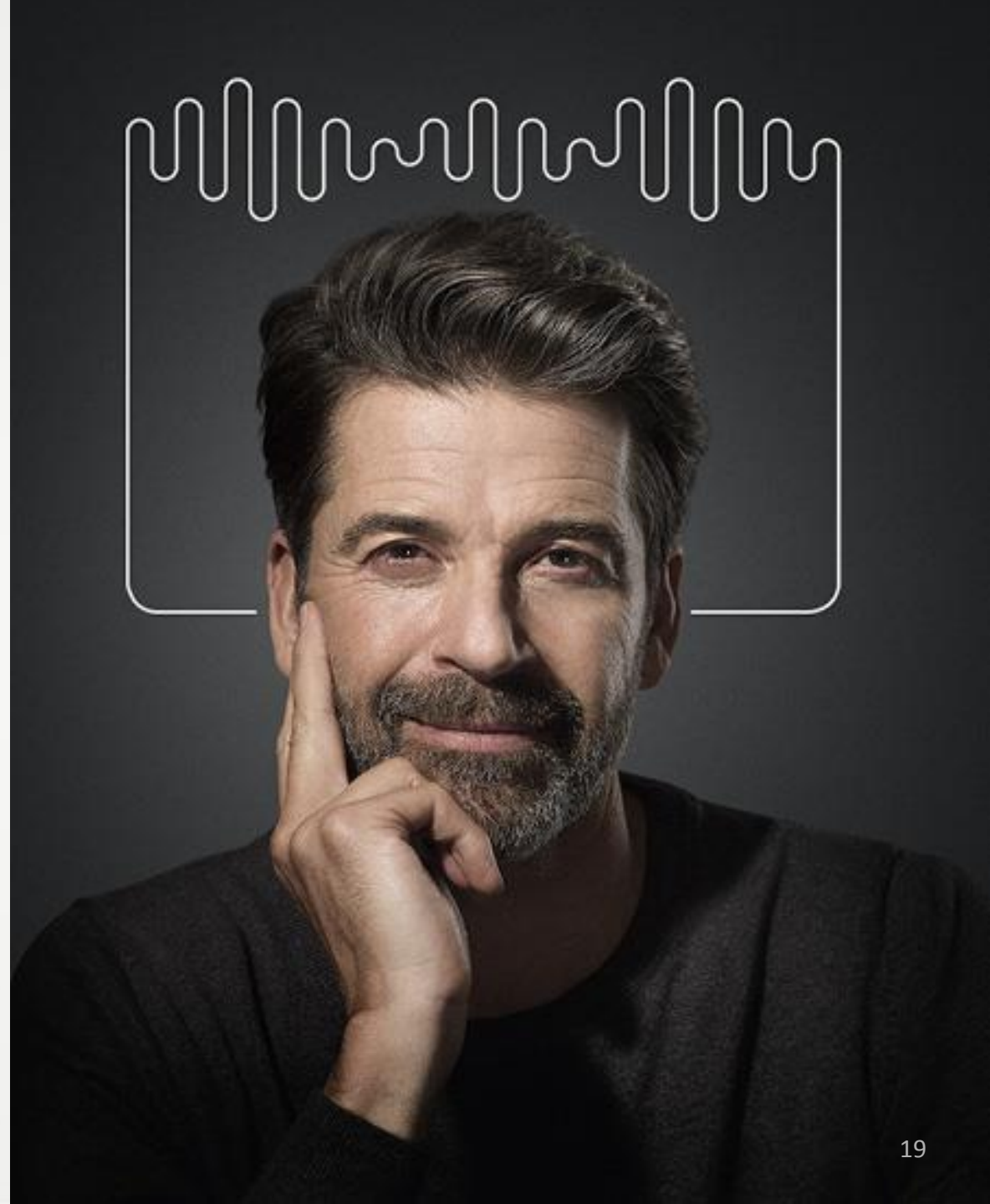
Module: 5.8 x 4.2 x 1 mm<sup>3</sup> = 24,4 mm<sup>3</sup>

# TwinLink<sup>®</sup> technology

## Near Field Magnetic Induction

Near Field Magnetic Induction (NFMI) is used to interface binaurally between hearing instruments

- A short range (1-1.5 m) wireless system
- Operates at <15 MHz (Oticon 3.84 MHz) and only needs <10% of the transmission power of RF (e.g. 2.4 GHz) systems
- Is immune to radio frequency interference and is not degraded by the human body blocking the field



# TwinLink<sup>®</sup> technology

## Radio frequency (2.4 GHz)

2.4 GHz Bluetooth Smart<sup>®</sup> RF is suited for interfacing with consumer devices

- Long-distance capability
- Acceptable power consumption for media consumption and phone calls
- Standardisation eliminating the need for intermediate devices
- Higher current consumption (>10x compared to NFMI)
- Complex hearing instrument antenna design



# Market leading 2.4 GHz performance

Proprietary developed chip delivering superior performance

- Oticon’s 2.4 GHz IC radio is among the best in class across all industries with respect to current consumption
- Receiver performance has significant advantage
- Opn™ uses 35% less power than the market benchmark when streaming from an iPhone
- Oticon Opn™ is prepared to meet future possible interference from expanding LTE traffic in neighbouring frequency bands (i.e. 2.3 GHz/2.5 GHz)

	<b>Oticon</b>	<b>Nordic (current)</b>	<b>Nordic (new)</b>
Chip size [mm <sup>2</sup> ]	7.9	13.2	9.6
Supply voltage [V]	1.0 to 1.7	1.8 to 3.6	1.7 to 3.3
2.4 GHz 1Mbps sensitivity [dBm]	-96	-93	-96
Rx peak current [mA] (1 Mbps 2.4 GHz )	5.5 (1.2V)	13 (1.8V)	10.9 (1.7V)
Tx peak current [mA] (1 Mbps 2.4 GHz )	8.5 (1.2V)	10.5 (1.8V)	9.6 (1.7V)

# Benefits of in-house design

Electronics designed for running directly on 1V battery

- Optimised current consumption
- No efficiency loss from battery to integrated circuits (IC)

Size and integration advantages

- Smaller IC dies with aspect ratios optimised for the hearing instrument application
- Full access to all layers in the IC and SW enabling higher integration
- Optimised modularity for size and quality
- Reduced IC die cost including NRE
- Efficient and high-quality production through design for manufacturing



# Driving technological leadership

Innovation and performance as key to market leadership

Custom interface (how to fit to people)

Ultra-low power chip design, incl. advanced wireless systems

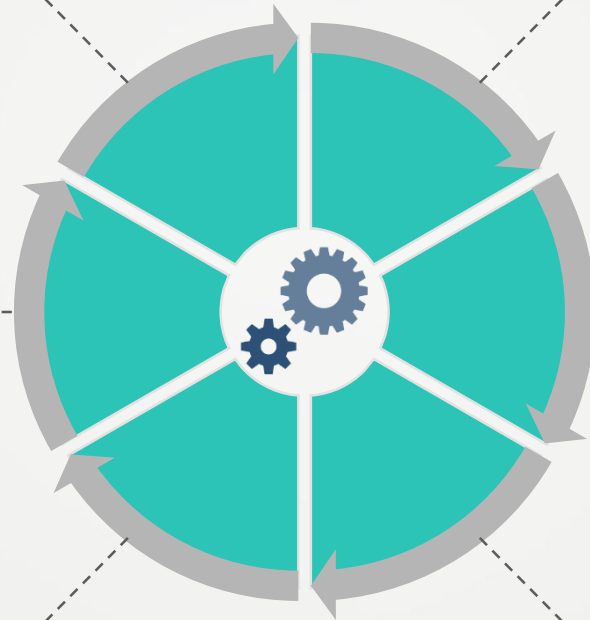
Wireless system integration and connectivity

Advanced digital signal processing

Micromechanics and high performance electro-acoustics incl. antenna design

Strong audiological insight and fitting systems development

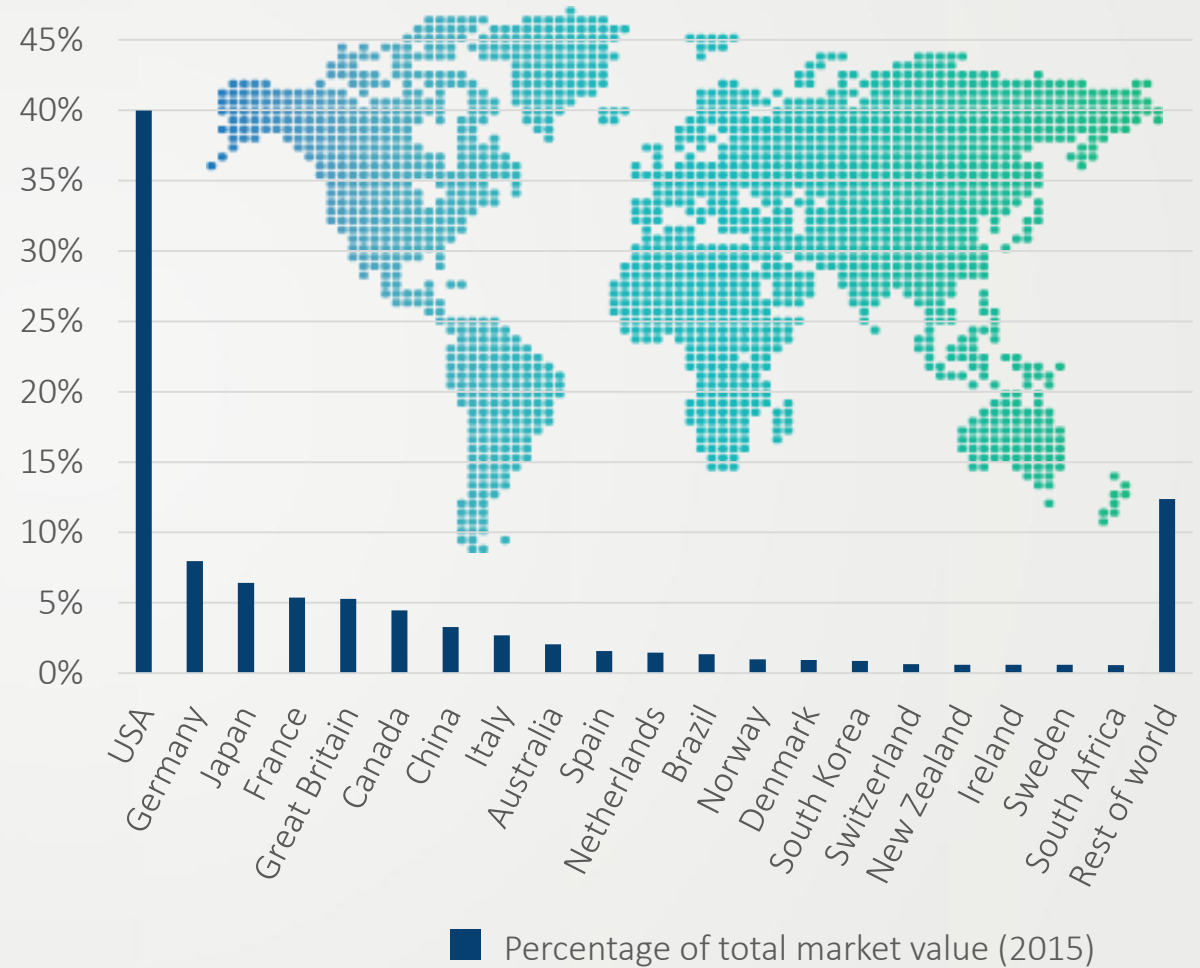
Keeping leadership to create motivation and engagement



# Expand our global reach into new markets

## Building presence in new markets

- Build relationship with new distributors
- Open sales company where necessary, e.g.
  - Myanmar – 2015
  - Turkey – 2014
- Leverage on our other business activities
  - Diagnostic Instruments has access to many potential new customers
  - Hearing Implants has access to the medical channels



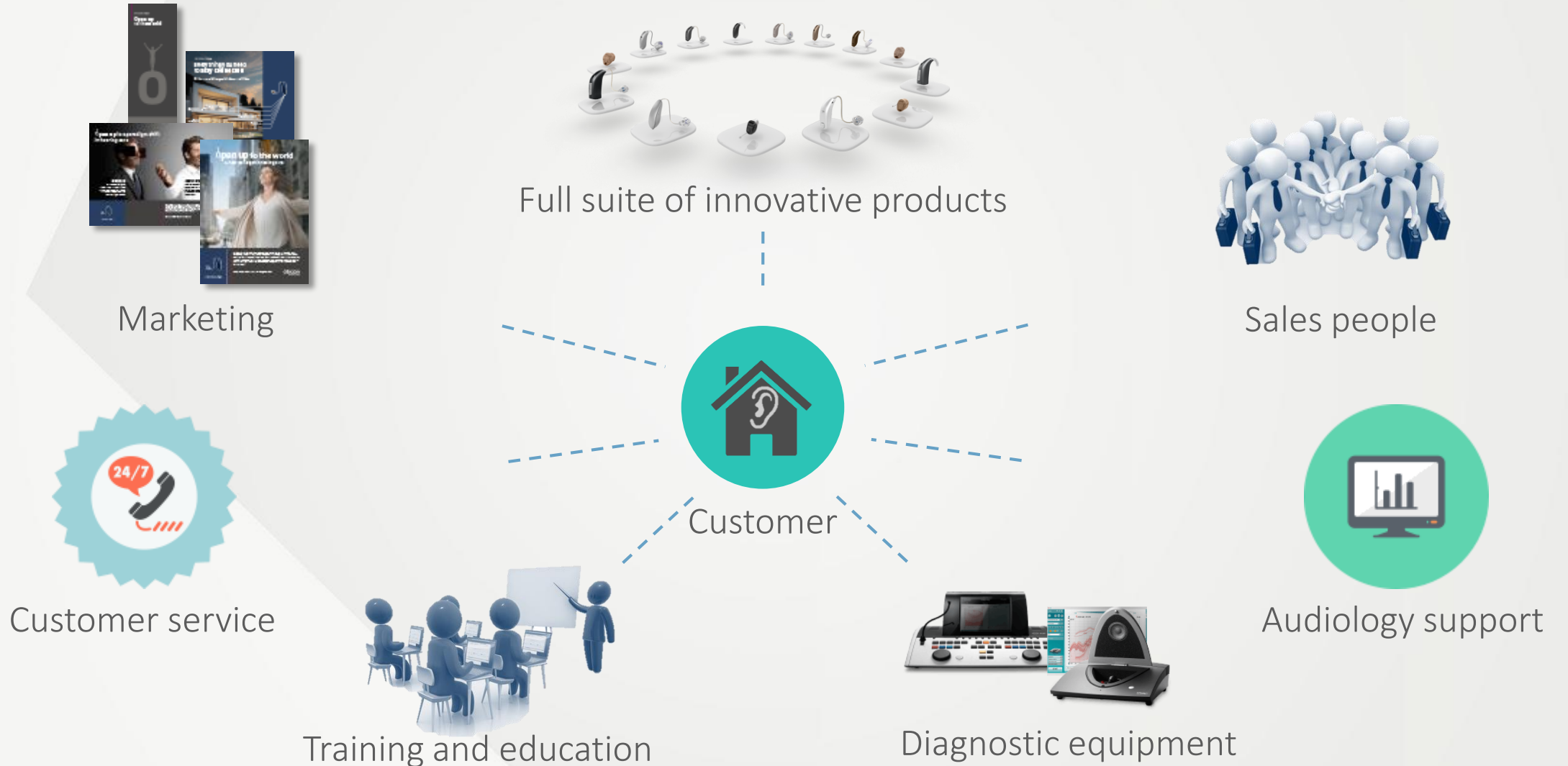


# William Demant's global wholesale footprint



📍 = Headquarters   📍 = Wholesale company   📍 = Production

# Continue to be the desired partner for our customers



# Well positioned to continue growth in hearing aids



Technology leadership



Global presence

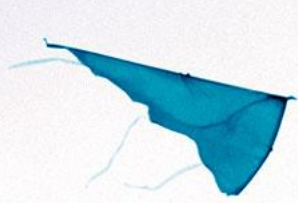
William Demant 



Multi-brand strategy

DGS 

Strong cost base



# William Demant Retail business



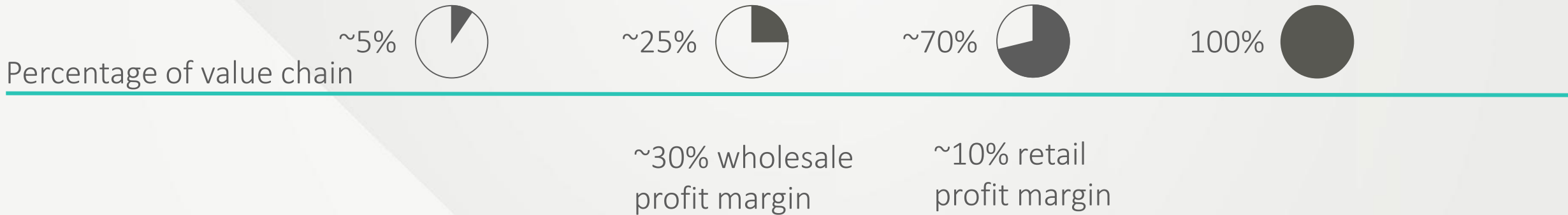
# Niels Wagner

President of Retail in William Demant Holding A/S

- Born in 1971
- Cand. Oecon, Aarhus University
- President, Retail in William Demant since 2007
- Vice President, Retail, GN ReSound 2006-2007
- Sales Director, Synoptik, 2003-2006
- General Manager, Oticon Australia, 2000-2003



# Hearing aid market value chain



# Consolidating retail with wholesale accounts

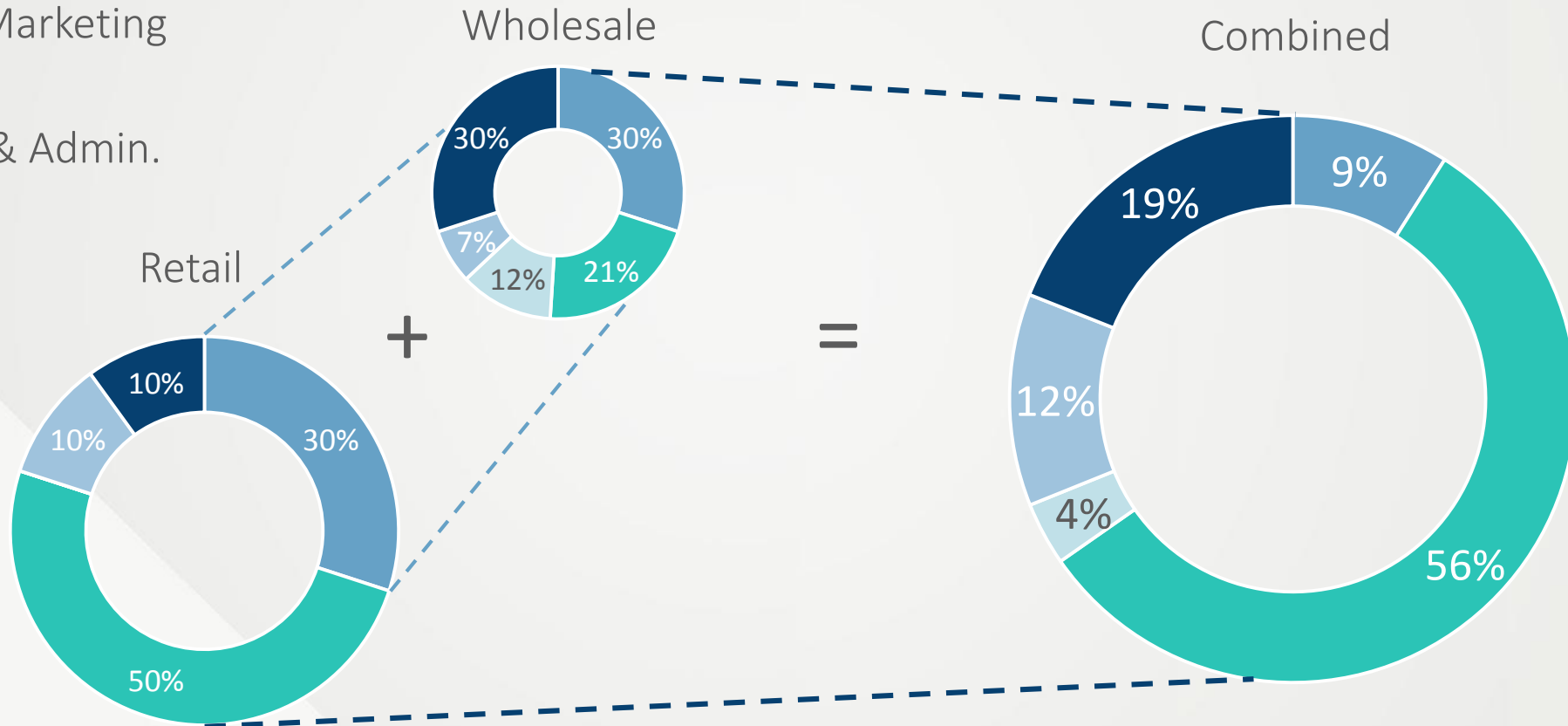
■ COGS

■ Sales & Marketing

■ R&D

■ General & Admin.

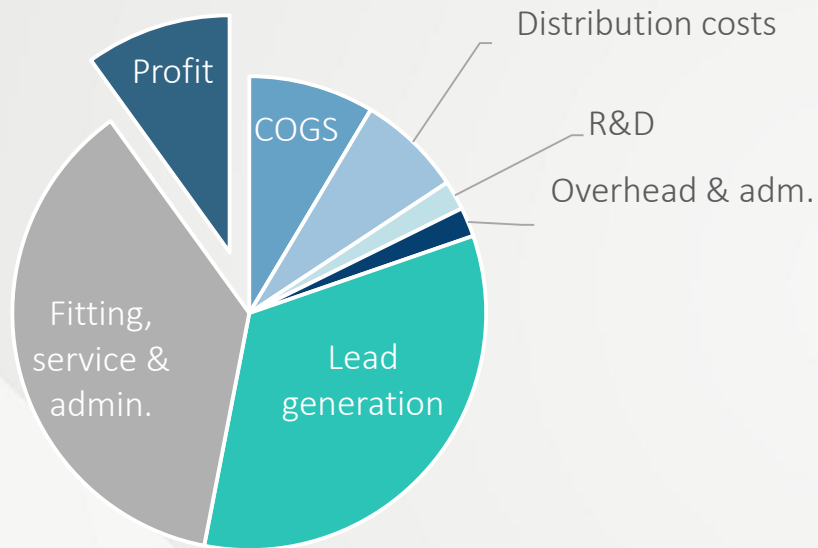
■ EBIT



Note: The illustration above is a mechanical example, showing percentage of revenue without possible synergies etc.

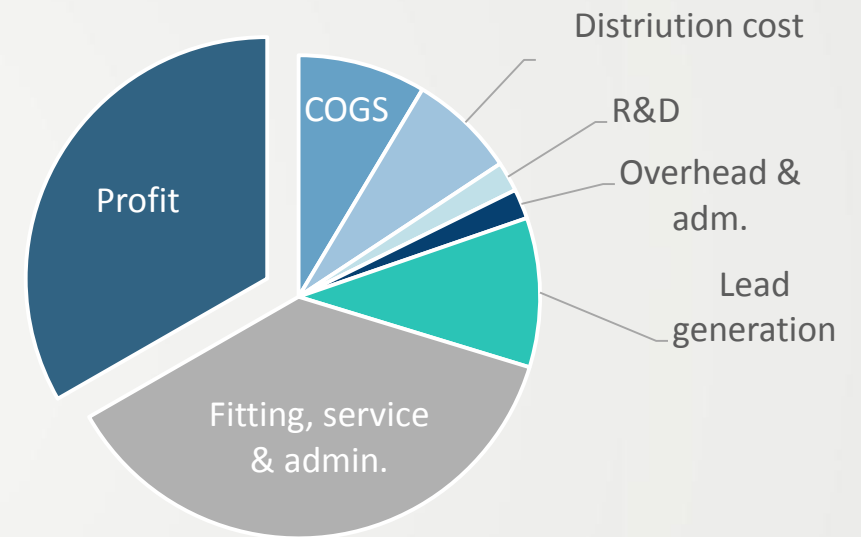
# Recurring sales are key to profitability

First-time user



- Material up-front investments in lead generation
  - Lead generation remains expensive
  - Relatively low conversion to sales

Recurring sales



- Recurring sales offer attractive earnings
  - Lower lead generation cost
  - High earnings potential from users getting older



# Retail is a defensive, but important, value driver

In addition to securing distribution – retail contributes by:



## Getting closer to the end-user

- Closer end-user interaction, ensuring right product development and innovation as well as the ability to influence end-users



## New technologies across retail and wholesale

- Technology for optimising fitting flow and efficiency developed between wholesale and retail

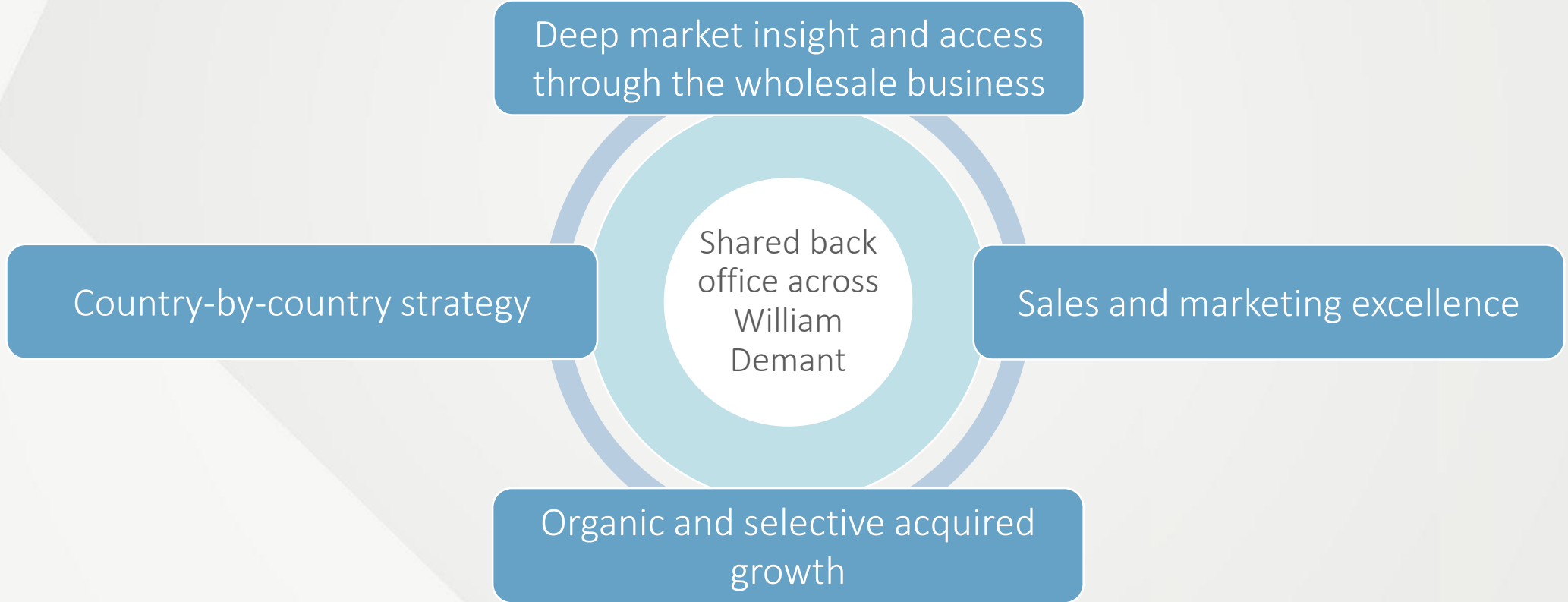


## Developing consumer competences in retail

- Better understanding of the consumer journey and the dispensers' business challenges

# William Demant's retail strategy

## Defensive retail strategy



# Retail benefits our wholesale business

Insight into understanding our wholesale customers' business challenges

Building competences in lead generation

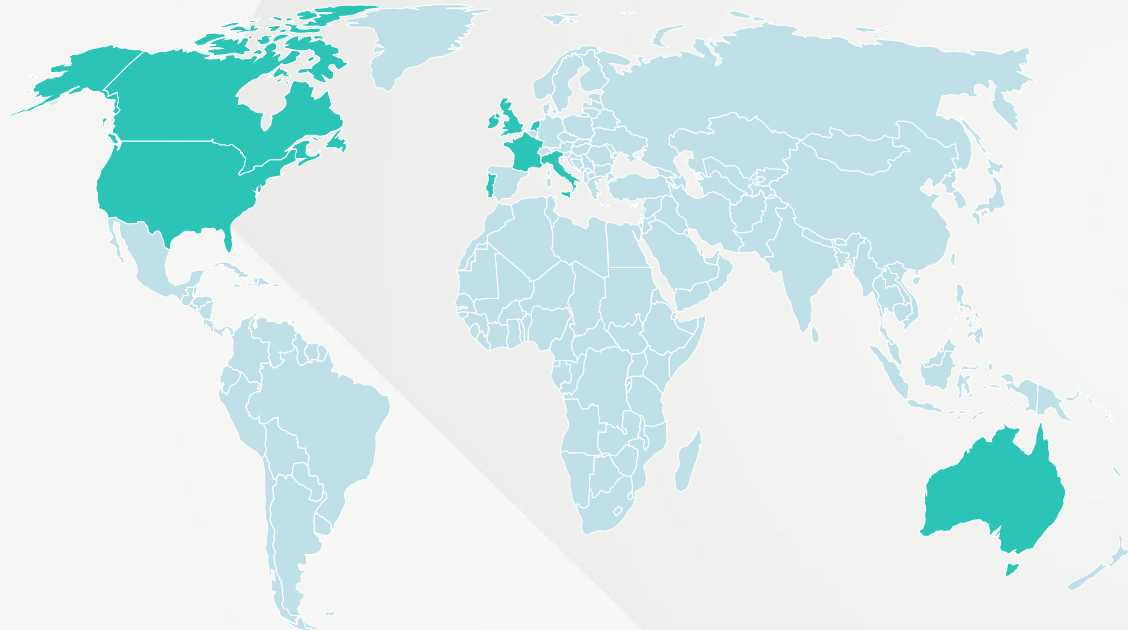
Carefully planned retail expansion

Lifetime support including exit

Extended transition from wholesale to retail

# Survey: Choice of clinic and brand positioning

Consumer research with 2,452 respondents in 9 markets\*



## Top 5 drivers of choice for visiting a clinic

1. It was an easy clinic/place to get to (accessible)
2. It offered a free hearing test (tactical)
3. It had a good reputation in general (brand image)
4. It was easy to get an appointment (accessible)
5. It was known for expertise (brand image)

## Brand position most likely to motivate customers to visit a clinic

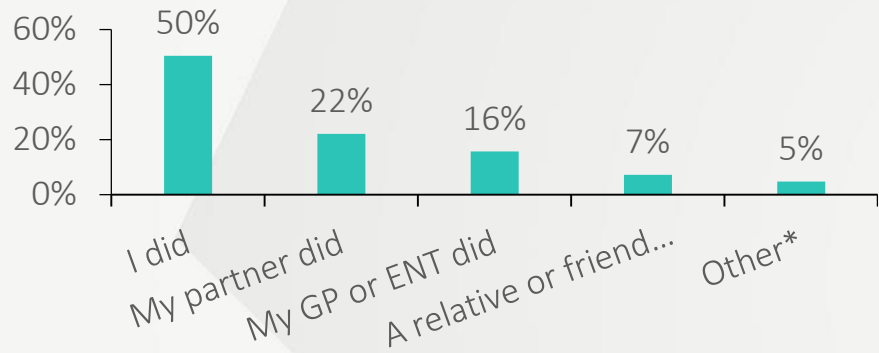
1. Experts in audiology (23%)
2. Cutting-edge technology (19%)
3. Value for money (18%)
4. Best service (10%)
5. Customer centric (9%)

### \*Research description

The focus of the survey was to identify drivers for choice of hearing care clinic and optimal brand positioning for a hearing care retailer. The consumer survey was a web-based survey with stimuli material. Respondents were recruited through local web panels. All respondents have at some point visited a hearing care retailer and are therefore able to relate to this situation. The survey cover both non-users and users of hearing aids and relatives.

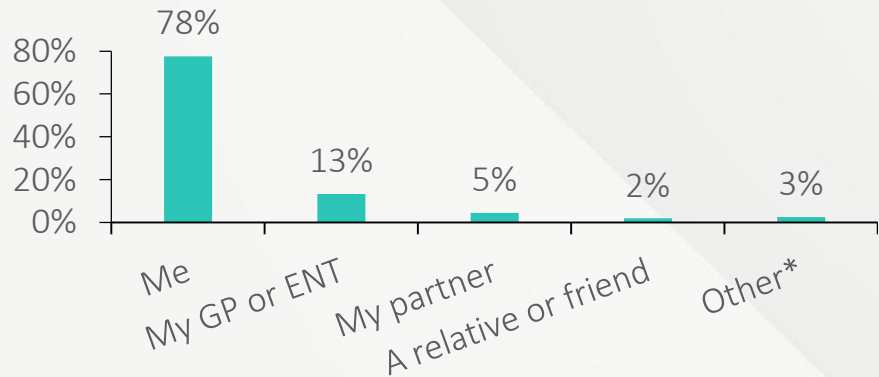
# End-user insights

## Who motivated you the most to visit a clinic?



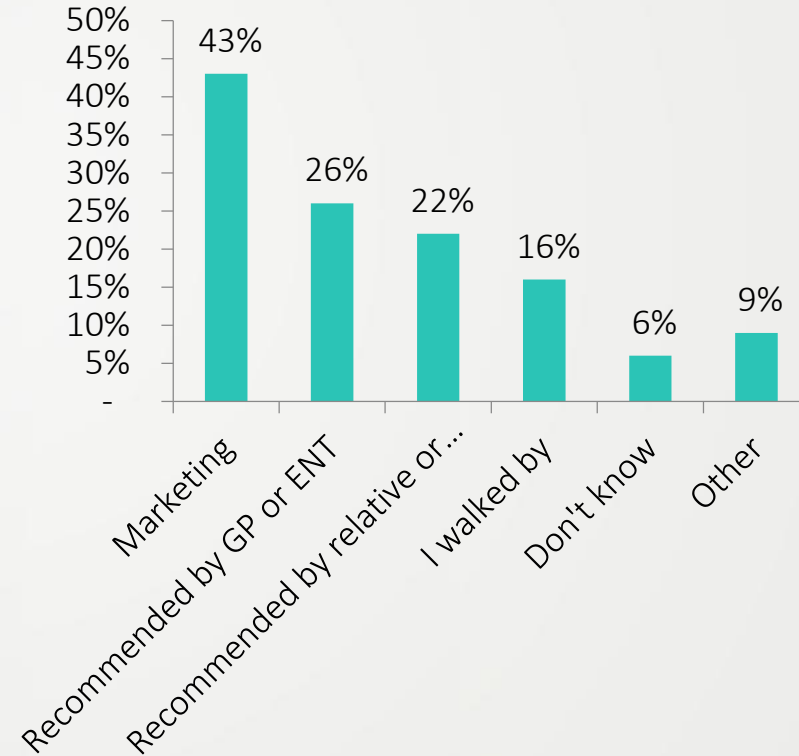
Users make their own choice

## Who decided which specific clinic to visit?



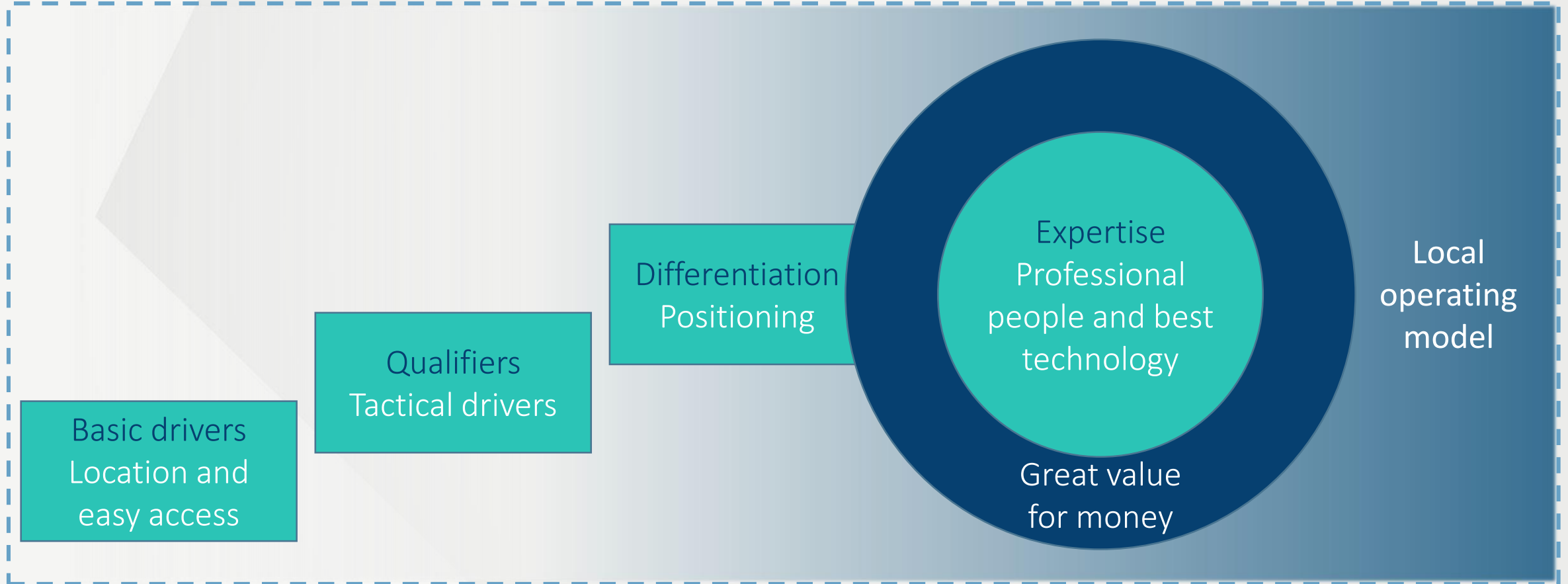
Users decide which specific clinic to visit

## What made you aware of the clinic?



Marketing is the key driver of awareness

# Shared vision and positioning, but local execution



# Sales excellence



Focus on creating opportunities



Recruit, retain and develop our people



Living our brand position – operating model



Sales excellence



Optimising the sales funnel



Schedule management – retail is detail

# Marketing excellence



Data mining, profiling and segmentation



Marketing is local



Marketing best practice



Marketing excellence



Telemarketing



Multiple sources of leads



# Mix of mature and new retail markets

## New development (Italy)

- Regional
- Several brands
- Several models
- Decentralised leadership
- Acquired growth
- Several systems and back-office functions

## Mature (France)

- National
- One brand
- One model
- Central leadership
- Organic growth
- One system and back-office function

# Digital marketing strategy

Develop innovative and effective models for lead generation

## Lead generation

## National coverage



End-user

**Creating awareness**  
e.g. tripadvisor.com

**Objective reseller**  
e.g. hotels.com

**Brand website**  
e.g. "Hotel name".com



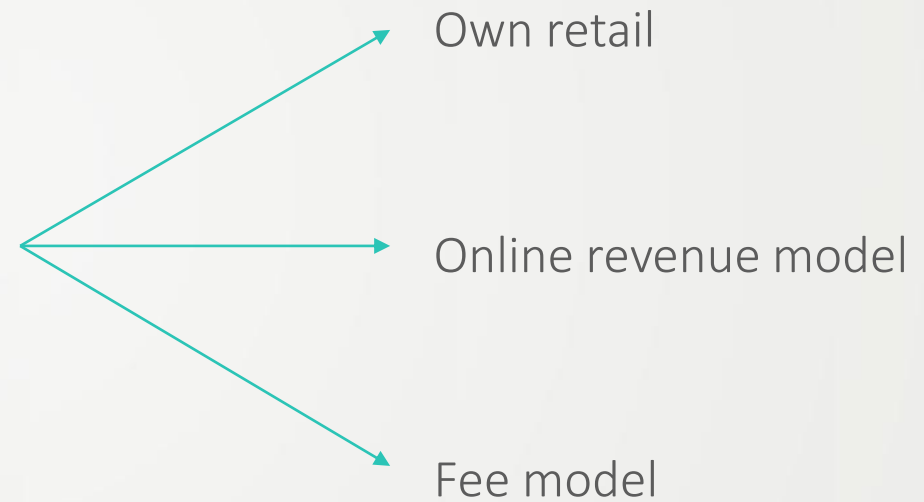
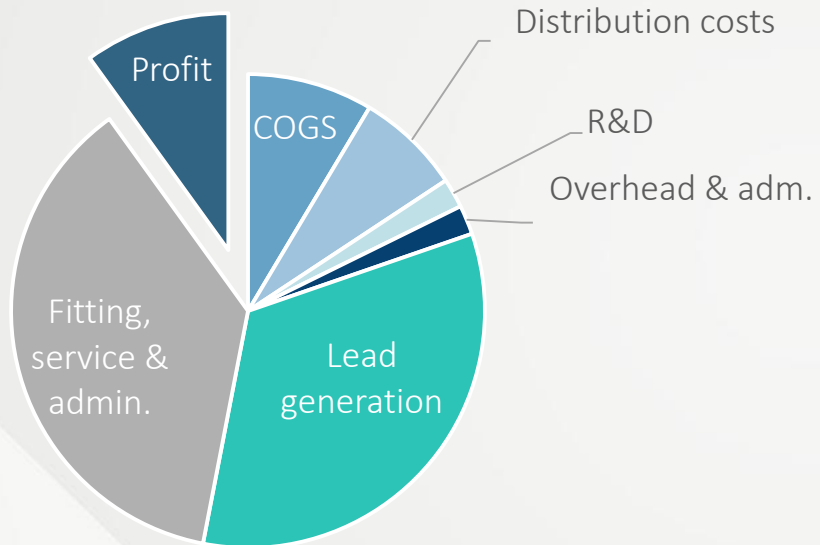
Call centre

**Wholesale customers**

**Network members**

**Own retail**

# Lead generation requires integration with retailers



# Multi-line retailers vs. specialty retailers

**Overall aim for hearing retailer:**


Advance consumer from denial to decision

Many different models,  
but two models are  
currently getting a lot of  
attention

Multi-line retailers

Specialty retailers

- Service and support business can be challenging
- Lead generation model or location leverage



William Demant

Thank you