

### **ORG409 1 International Management**

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### **ORG409 1 International Management**

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# Part 1 - Tesla case - MCQ

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## **General** information

EXAM Course code: ORG409 Course name: International Management Date: September 29, 2015 **Duration:** 3 Hours **Resources allowed:** Closed book examination Dictionary is allowed Notes: Three part exam: First part - Case + MC questions Second part - An open question presented Third part - general MC questions Each of the exam parts must not take more than one hour! Please plan your time accordingly. **First part** - Please pay attention to answer the questions in regard with the case presented here. Second part - Again, make sure to answer in regard with the case presented. Third part - General questions. Please do not refer to any the case presented in the previous part.

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# Tesla case

Part one - TESLA Case + Questions

Tesla was formed in 2003 and went public in 2010. It is an automaker that design, manufacture and sell fully electric vehicles (EVs), headquartered in Palo Alto California.

While the concept of fully-electric vehicles was not new, automakers had struggled to balance design with performance. Furthermore, the batteries used for these vehicles were not optimal, and a single battery charge only offered a short driving distance. However, by partnering with Panasonic, a major Japanese electronics corporation, Tesla was able to develop a lithium-ion

rechargeable battery for EVs, which solved the driving distance issue. In doing so Tesla succeeded in developing technology that other automakers had been pessimistic about. Tesla also formed partnerships with other automakers and component manufactures, such as Daimler and Toyota. This enables Tesla to overcome design and performance issues and to develop fully electric and optimally designed vehicles.

By December 2012, Tesla had established presence in the United States and Europe. Furthermore, it had also opened up stores and galleries in Japan and Australia. In the 2000s, Singapore was one of the wealthiest economies in the world. Alongside a high tax policy for conventional fuel-using cars, the Singaporean government pursued a policy of maintaining a green and clean city that included limiting air pollution. Singapore was technologically advanced and offered local expertise in electronics, power and precision engineering. These factors, together with its small size (short average driving distances), compact urban environment, and robust power grid, as well as an information and communications technology infrastructure, made Singapore an ideal location for testing EVs.

The two main benefits of moving to EVs were then the short average driving distance which fitted perfectly with the range of one fully charged battery, and the reduction in the Singaporean preoccupation with cars as a status symbols. The latter was hoped to be an added benefit if EVs could be seen only as functional vehicles with the single purpose of getting from A to B. The move over to EVs would potentially shift consumer focus from the fastest, most powerful cars to the most environmentally friendly ones.

Tesla opened its first store and service center in Singapore in 2010. It hoped to take advantage of the new program the government offered for companies manufacturing EVs and also those that can develop charging-stations. Eventually, Tesla failed to receive the desired additional tax breaks. Furthermore, a new competitor entered the market. These two made Tesla's cars prices much too high. Therefore, despite all of the favorable conditions, Tesla did not sell a single car in Singapore. Tesla also considered entering China. The electric and hybrid automotive industry in China consisted of well-known car manufacturers such as Mercedes-Benz, Hyundai and Toyota, as well as other Asian brands.

China had been suffering from severe air pollution, and the Chinese government had taken a variety of approaches to reduce emissions, like provide financial incentives for EVs purchases. On the other hand, not like in the Singaporean market, in China Tesla did not have much information on the demand conditions. It was thought that Tesla would need to invest in measures to educate local customers. Also, most people in China lived in apartments with limited parking space, which they often shared with others, which means that Chinese customers were going to experience difficulty charging EVs.

The main difference between Tesla's partnership with Panasonic and those it made with other automakers can be described as:

They are classified into two different entry mode level The first (with Panasonic) is categorized as GSP (global strategic partnership), while the others are categorized as Coopetition.

There is no difference - All are categorized as GSPs.

There is no difference - They are all part of Tesla's ethnocentric orientation.

#### 2 OPPGAVE

## Question 2

#### Can Tesla be referred to as a global company?

Yes. It has operations in all three main trade blocks. Yes. It manages to sell as many cars as its biggest competitor No. It is considered to be too small for it to be called truly global No since it only approaches niche market

#### 3 OPPGAVE

## **Question 3**

Singapore was considered to be a favorable location due to its:

Economic and cultural environments Economic and technological environments Economic, cultural and political environments Economic, technological and political environments.

The two benefits for the Singaporeans can be considered from Tesla's point of view as:

The first as an opportunity and the second as a threat

The two as Strengths

The two as weaknesses

The first as a strength, and the second as an opportunity

#### 5 OPPGAVE

## **Question 5**

#### Tesla's operation in Singapore:

Do not follow the Uppsala model since it did not start by exporting

Do not follow the Uppsala model since it started operating in its home market prior to entering Singapore

Do not follow the Uppsala model since it considered entering China after Singapore

Do not follow the Uppsala model since it started operating in Singapore right after entering several psychologically-close markets

#### 6 OPPGAVE

## **Question 6**

The electric and hybrid car industry, as perceived by Tesla when entering China, can be described as:

Multi-domestic - Known companies as well as smaller less known ones Global - Only big and well known car producers Polycentric - adapting to local needs None of the above

7 OPPGAVE

# Question 7

The rationale behind using a wholly owned subsidiary in Singapore is based on:

Lack of potential partners in specific countries Taxation reasons - the company can benefit from using its revenues this way A combination of the target country's favorable risk profile and the company's need of high control Wanting to reduce risk in highly volatile markets

#### 8 OPPGAVE

# **Question 8**

Tesla's tendency to engage in collaborations can be viewed as based on:

Either the RBV (Resource-based View) or the TCA (Transaction Cost Analysis) theory A combination of RBV (Resource-based View) and DCA (Dynamic Capabilities Approach) The DCA (Dynamic Capabilities Approach) The network theory

#### 9 OPPGAVE

### **Question 9**

In comparison to the Singaporean market, the Chinese market can be considered as:

A high potential market Very risky in terms of the cultural/social environment Very attractive in terms of demand Very risky in terms of the political environment

### 10 OPPGAVE

# Question 10

### In regard with Porter's Diamond Model, compering Singapore to China:

Both showed stable competitive advantage base Both lacked any relevancy to Tesla's competitive advantage China was considered more attractive due to the opportunities embedded in its environments Singapore showed a stronger presence of related and supporting industries

# Part 2 - Tesla case - open question

#### 11 OPPGAVE

## **New Question**

Based on the case presented here - how would you describe the strategic fit of Tesla's operations in Singapore? Please state if there was / was not a strategic fit and provide relevant arguments to support your claim (up to 250 words)

Fill in your answer here

# Part three - General questions - MCQ

12 OPPGAVE

# **Question 1**

The Uppsala model consist of four main factors, which of the alternative below is not included in the model:

Current activities Market knowledge Market commitment Ownership advantages

#### 13 OPPGAVE

# Question 2

### Porter's National Competitiveness model consists of:

Demand conditions; technological development; firm strategy, structure and rivalry; factor condition

Factor conditions; demand conditions; technological development; firm strategy, structure and rivalry

Factor conditions; demand conditions; related and supporting industries; firm strategy, structure and rivalry

Factor conditions; local demand; related and supporting industries; firm strategy, structure and rivalry

### What kind of companies can operate in a multi-domestic market?

Local, and Multinational companies Only Global and International companies Only multidomestic companies Local, International and multinational companies

#### 15 OPPGAVE

## **Question 4**

#### Privatization and Nationalization are both examples of conditions within the?

Political environment Economic environment Technological environment Social/Cultural environment

### 16 OPPGAVE

## Question 5

### What characterize GSPs (Global Strategic Partnerships)?

Two or more companies; Independent participants One global strategic company, who are independent and has all the control Shared benefits and control Both a and c

Which of the following entry modes are associated with high control and low flexibility?

Intermediate modes (contractual modes) Export modes Hierarchical modes (investment modes) There are no such entry modes

#### 18 OPPGAVE

## **Question 7**

### Which are the three parts of The Triad?

NAFTA, The Middle East and Europe EU, NATO and the AU (African Union) The USA, OECD and the far East NAFTA, Asia and the Far East, and Europe

### 19 OPPGAVE

## **Question 8**

### What is the main difference between RBV and DCA?

While the RBV is defined by the synergy between the company's resources and capabilities, the DCA is emphasizing the company-environment relationship RBV focuses on cost leadership while DCA focuses on the company's capabilities RBV focuses on the capabilities-environment relationships while DCA focuses on the networking aspect

None of the above

### The Standardization-Adaptation dilemma in international marketing strategy means:

How many local people to employ in foreign subsidiaries The extent to which products and services may be standardized across national boundaries or need to be adapted to meet the requirements of specific national markets Whether to centralize strategic decisions in head office or to devolve decision-making to subsidiaries

The issues related to globalization and the alleged disadvantaging of developing countries

#### 21 OPPGAVE

# Question 10

# What is the main difference between Political, Economic, and Social / Cultural environments?

The first two are analyzed based on their level of risk and the third is analyzed based on the gap between the home and the host countries The first two are analyzed using SWOT and the third is analyzed using the Diamond model. The first two are more critical than the third All of the above

#### 22 OPPGAVE

## Question 11

The difference between market-driven economy and centrally determined economy is:

The first is based on supply and the second one on demand The level of political involvement - in the first the involvement is very low while in the second there is a higher level of political involvement The first is more common in developed countries while the second is associated with developing countries

None of the above

#### 23 OPPGAVE

## Question 12

Ownership risk, Operating risk and Transfer risk are all part of the:

Socio-cultural environment Economic environemnt Technological environment Political environment

#### 24 OPPGAVE

# **Question 13**

The most basic level of a trade agreements is:

Custom union Economic union Free trade area Political union

### The five cultural dimensions of Hofstede's theory are:

Ethnocentrism, Uncertainty avoidance, Masculinity, Individualism, Long-term orientation Uncertainty avoidance, Long-term orientation, Masculinity, Collectivism, Geocentrism Individualism, Masculinity, Power distance, Collectivism, High context Long-term orientation, Power distance, Individualism, Masculinity, Uncertainty avoidance

#### 26 OPPGAVE

# **Question 15**

In the Integration and Responsiveness matrix, the Economic integration refers to:

The level of globalization of the industry To what extent the company is socially integrated in the market To what extent does the company agree with political restrictions To what extent is the country integrated in the global commerce

### 27 OPPGAVE

### Question 16

### Franchising is a form of:

contractual entry mode Export entry mode Joint venture Investment entry mode

### Which of the following alternatives is a proactive motivation for international operations?

Growth and profit Local competition Closeness to markets (psychological distance) Small home market

#### 29 OPPGAVE

# Question 18

When it comes to strategic orientations, a Geocentric orientation is:

"Copy-Paste" of the company's own beliefs and norms from the home-market to the host-markets Based on a mixture of values and norms of different regions (like the Europe region) Based on adapting to local needs An overall unified strategy regardless of the company's nationality

#### 30 OPPGAVE

## Question 19

### Hofstede argues that:

International firms can easily transfer their ways of working from one country to another Business does not need to take into account the norms and values of the countries where they operate

Each country has a single culture

National culture has a great influence on international businesses

The one common principal shared by all the theories introduced in the course (TCA, RBV, DCA, and the network) is:

They all follow the cost-benefit ratio as the main base for decision making They were all developed and used only within the USA They all provide a framework for the company's planning and decision making, each according to its core principal None of the above