

ENPRO 351 Custom Clothing, Spring 2006

Mission

"To provide high-quality, custom designed, custom-fitted, and reasonably priced clothing to our customers in a socially responsible manner."

Opportunity

Simply put, *not enough clothing fits*. Consumers are hard pressed to find well fitting clothes in a pleasing design off the rack at a reasonable price. Dry cleaners represent a highly untapped and powerful business partner with the potential to become a highly effective outlet for the sale of custom clothing.

Objectives

- Create Professional Business Plan
- Evaluate potential Points of Sale for the business model
- Choose Point of Sale for business model and conduct extensive research on proposed model
- Investigate the previously unexplored 35+ age group segment as a potential target market
- Analyze various techniques and processes of measurement
- Create instructional guide for chosen measurement process
- Study fashion industry and determine clothing design options to offer
- Create design option guide for males and females
- Work towards confirmation of the viability of supply side operations in India
- Perform test-runs of the business model involving the purchase of customized clothing
- Explore the tailoring profession and particularly focus on the process of tailoring articles of clothing.
- Determine a marketing strategy
- Further detail cost and revenue projections

Accomplishments

- Completed Professional Marketing and Business Plan
- Determined Dry Cleaner's establishment as Point of Sale
- Performed extensive survey on 35+ age group
- Chose 35+ age segment as new target market
- Learned about customer's interaction with Dry Cleaners
- Chose Copy System as method of measurement
- Created Copy System guide
- Made Design Options guide for men and women
- Performed test runs and gathered valuable information on process
- Initiated discussions with Greener Cleaners, a dry cleaning chain in Chicago
- Initiated discussions with RUHSA, an NGO, to help with supply side operations

Faculty & Contacts

Professor Braband Jake Elster, Asst. Dir. Of Knapp Entrep. Center Nick Nikiforos, Quality Tailoring and Alterations Maria Tesseris, The Golden Needle Noam and Ben, Greener Cleaner's Gillian Carrara, Art Institute of Chicago Miss Mackinnon, RUHSA Naik, Indian Tailor

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