2nd TREASURE WORKSHOP TREASURE: A response to user needs in PPR and RTK 21-22 May 2019 Toulouse

#### Emergence of high technology markets: the case of space related business



Victor DOS SANTOS PAULINO, PhD, HDR Associate professor in Innovation Management and Strategy Toulouse Business School

France

#### Market emergence and product life cycle

- Typical curve
- Starting point: launch of a new product (aka launch of an innovation)
- Placing firm's product in the life cycle helps to understand current situation and make forecasts on
  - Sales, profits, competition rivalry, production decisions, etc.





## **Diffusion of innovations**



- Many diffusion processes are very chaotic
- 62% of new products launched onto the market are failures
- Improvements build on a better understanding of the diffusion of innovations

#### Main segments of adopters



Different needs for each segment	Innovators	Laggards
Expected returns from adoption	+++	
Expertise on the innovation	+++	
Risk tolerance	+++	
Price sensitiveness		++
Key performance parameters	Specific	Specific

#### Chasms and failures of innovations on markets

- If significant changes in the commercial and technical specifications are not made we observe chasms and failures of innovations on the market
- Why?
  - "we do what we do but better" leads to improve the position within the existing adopter segment



# Solution

- "we do something different" and not "we do what you do but better"
  - "we do something different" leads to move toward the next adopter segment
- How?
  - Collaborate with existing adopters to find out the new direction for innovation
    - Von Hipple (1986) details the case of collaboration with innovators (aka lead users)



### Step 1: learn from existing adopters

- Learn from innovators by identifying together
  - the needs of innovators
  - the needs of the early adopters from the needs of innovators
  - the obstacles to adoption for early adopters
- Use the information collected
  - Integrate the comments of innovators in the development of the next version of the innovation
- The main objective of the collaboration with innovators
  - Is not to propose a product that fits with the needs of the innovators
  - Is to develop the next version of the innovation that fits with the needs of the early adopters
- Implies significant changes in the technical and market specifications of the product
  - "we do something different"



#### Some tips

- The producer invites 10 innovators to joint a project team made of 5 employees to develop the next version of the innovation
- Invite only innovators that agree with your vision about the innovation
- Be fair: the project manager has to accept innovators comments otherwise it is useless to invite them
  - e.g. innovators will leave the project team



# Step 2: enlarge the market

- Risky choice to do something different
  - Existing customers
    - The needs of innovators tend to be addressed less accurately
    - Innovators will reduce their purchases in new generation
    - Some will argue that they are "betrayed" by the producer
      - e.g. negative word of mouth
  - New customers
    - Difficult to forecast the future sales because it is the first attempt in this market
- In the long term the producer has to leave the innovators market segment to keep selling longer his product in the market





# Conclusion

• The diffusion of innovations on the market is chaotic and usually fails

- How to overcome this situation?
  - Collaborate with existing adopters to find out the new direction for innovation



# Thank you !

