Rocket Pitch: Selling Your Idea

• A succinct delivery of your proposed solution!
• 4-6 slides in 5 minutes

Business Air Travel

• What comes to mind?
  – Missed or Delayed flights
  – Lost luggage
  – Long Security Lines

In excess of 200 million business flights per year
Security wait times of 30 minutes or more
Long lines mean missed flights and customer frustration
Feel Relief with Secur-IT-Ease!

Find Relief with Secur-IT-Ease!

Superb Business Opportunity

• Initial Market
  – Upscale Business Travelers
  – Catalog & Online Sales through Upscale Outlets (BrookStone, Sharper Image)
  – Partner with Tier One Luggage Distributor
• What do we need to launch product?
  – $750,000 Seed Funding
  – Product Prototype
  – Marketing/Brand Development
  – Your interest and support
The Rocket Pitch—Important

• Title Slide: Project/Team Name

• Slide 1: The Problem
  ➢ What is the specific problem that your project is going to solve?
  ➢ What is the Customer/User pain?
  ➢ Who is affected by the problem? Be specific!

• Slide 2: The Opportunity
  ➢ Demonstrate your knowledge regarding the opportunity associated with solving this problem.
  ➢ Include research, numbers, estimates, databases, articles, surveys and other data regarding the opportunity associated with your project.
  ➢ State the number of people affected by the problem.
  ➢ Demonstrate data on real-life people/customers that you have talked to who could benefit from your solution.
  ➢ Is there another business or organization doing something similar to you? If so, who are they? What are they doing that is similar? (Competitor Analysis)
  ➢ Why is your solution/project better/different then theirs?

• Slide 3: The Solution
  ➢ Clearly describe your proposed solution.
  ➢ How does your specific solution solve the problem you stated in slide 1?
  ➢ What value does your solution provide? How is it new, innovative or unique? (Value Proposition)
  ➢ How will your solution/project be sustained over time? Provide details in this area.

• Slide 4: Resources
  ➢ What resources do you need to further your project?
  ➢ How will you use winning funds?
  ➢ Example: Funding, advice, contacts, board members?

➢ Thank you/Question slide
The Rocket Pitch

• Use technical jargon that can be easily understood—Practice in front of people who are not familiar with your project...do they understand your pitch and the jargon you use? If not, revise it and practice.

• Keep it simple but **BE SURE** to include credible information such as research data (primary and secondary). You need information that proves your idea is valuable.
  – Focus on core message
  – Use props (prototypes, pictures, charts, graphs, #’s)

• Tell a story, don’t read the slides—Once again Practice!! Practice!!

• Identify the customer pain and how your solution will solve this (show numbers—have you talked to people? How big is this problem? Who will your solution help?) This will clearly demonstrate the business opportunity to the judges. Research!! Research!! Research!!

• Don’t exceed the time limit—5 Minute Pitch—Practice!!

• Don’t forget the Resource Slide—What do you need? How much money do you need? How will you use the money? And so on.

• A Demonstration is always nice! (prototype, app demo, etc.)
Next is Prof Tello’s Sample PPT Rocket Pitch

• Watch along with the video here:
  • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvwTihKRrg&list=PL8evHjMBWXECEvu4jya8Gu-VmfLIwk8ym
  • Rocket Pitch starts at 16:35
Business Air Travel

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In excess of 200 million business flights per year
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Feel Relief with *Secur-IT-Ease*!
Secur-IT-Ease

Providing a visual during a rocket pitch helps the audience and judges visualize and understand your project/solution. It also shows that you have thought further about your idea and trying to develop it into a reality.
Find Relief with Secur-IT-Ease!

- Advantages
  - Opens & Passes Through Airport Security Scanner without removing laptop and contents
  - Accompanied by RFID Tag to facilitate in-airport tracking
  - Entry to “Preferred Traveler Program”
  - Bag tracking in the airport
  - Expedited Approved Travel, “EZPass” Security Lane
  - TSA approved in 14 major markets

Here all the advantages are displayed. It shows how this device/solution is better, different and novel than what is already on the market. It also shows that a lot of thought and research has gone into this idea. Remember to elaborate more on your points during your pitch.
Superb Business Opportunity

- Approx. 55 million US business travelers
- Estimated sale price of $150/unit
- 5% of market = $412 million in 5 years

This slide demonstrates that Prof Tello did his homework. This research has been done to prove this idea is credible and has a good opportunity to succeed. #'s are very important when pitching to judges and investors. Know your numbers!
Resources

• What do we need from you?
  – $500,000 Seed Funding
  – Marketing/Brand Development
  – Your interest and support

Clearly state what you need and why you need it. For example, if you are asking for $2,000, you need to explain why you need that money, how it will be used and how far it will you and your project.
Thank you!

• Questions?

Always nice to end with a thank you slide and open it up to the judges for questions.
Next is a Student Team, “Ill Point Stik”, Sample PPT Rocket Pitch

• Watch along with the video here:

• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RpqdUeF8DKk&index=1&list=PL8evHjMBWXEAP9Vm8PPzsUJ3AW25qbvMn
This team clearly discussed their problem in the pitch but it is important to include more writing and information on the slide as well.
This team spoke well, but it is important to put more information on your slides too. Their visuals are nice since they explained them further in their pitch.
This team spoke well, but it is important to put more information on your slides too.
Their opportunity and resources are clearly defined with #’s and research data.
Thank You!

“This product has been a life changer for me and has been pivotal in helping me manage my back pain.”

- James Lauring, post back surgery patient

It is always good to include a quote or two. This shows you have talked to credible individuals, customers, users or professionals about your idea.
Notice how this team prepared well for Q&A by including Appendix slides incase the judges had specific questions, they could pop up another slide to help answer the question and show they did their research and were prepared.
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### Target Market Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>→</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Trainers</td>
<td>251,400</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>311,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapists</td>
<td>198,600</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>276,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiropractors</td>
<td>52,600</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>67,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Trainers</td>
<td>18,200</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>23,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Target Market</strong></td>
<td><strong>520,800</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>678,900</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notice how this team prepared well for Q&A by including Appendix slides incase the judges had specific questions, they could pop up another slide to help answer the question and show they did their research and were prepared.
For More Information on What Needs to be Included on Each Slide—Please see Slides 12-16
Step I – Define the Problem

• Clearly state the problem you want to solve
• Define who is affected by the problem
  ➢ Specifics count here!
  ➢ Who? How many? What color are their eyes (be specific!)?
  ➢ How are they affected?
• How important is it to solve this problem?
• Details are important
• Best way to find this information:
  ➢ Research & Talking to People – Judges want to see this
• For more information refer to Slide 2
Step II – Assess the Opportunity

• Demonstrate your knowledge regarding the scope of the opportunity associated with solving this problem
• You already started this in Step I

• How is the problem currently addressed?
• Who is currently addressing this problem?
• How can current solutions be improved upon?
• For more information refer to Slide 2
Step II – Assess the Opportunity

• You may need help in finding this information
• Talk to Donna Mullin the Business Research Librarian
  – Donna_Mullin@uml.edu
  – Office-2\textsuperscript{nd} Floor Lydon Library, North Campus
• Talk to our Faculty Fellows
  – Prof. John Brown  Grad. School of Education
  – Prof. Guanling Chen  College of Science
  – Prof. Ralph Jordan  Manning School of Business
  – Prof. Deb Finch  Manning School of Business
  – Prof. Ainat Koran  School of Health & Environment
  – Prof. John Morgan Bush  FAHSS
  – Prof. Daniel Sullivan  College of Engineering
• Talk to our Staff
  – Holly Butler
  – Ha Pho
• Meet and Contact Our Staff and Fellows:
Step III Introduce your Solution

• Describe your solution.
• What value does your solution deliver?
• What differentiates your solution from other solutions on the market?
• How will you sustain/grow your solution overtime?
• For more information refer to Slide 2
Step IV Identify Needed Resources

- What kinds of resources (e.g., physical, knowledge, human, financial) do you need to develop your solution further and take it to the next step?
- How will you use these resources?
- For more information refer to Slide 2
Questions? Contact DifferenceMaker!

- differencemaker@uml.edu
- www.uml.edu/differencemaker
- @difference_uml