

Reservation system - designed to ensure demand is satisfied they help the customer and the business.

They pre sell a service providing people turn up.

It also educates customers

Problems: no show

Need marketing solutions

Managing service capacity...

Capacity gap and demand gap

Demand gaps:

Empty beds in hospital

Unoccupied nurses

Empty rooms in hotel

Empty restaurants

Unused business areas I.e. conference rooms

Managing service capacity can happen pre or in-process

4 types of service capacity management activities

A - determining the capacity level

B - Short-term capacity adjustments

C - demand adjustments

D - waiting time management

Yield management ...

Yield - the average revenue received per unit of capacity - Lovelock 2007

Yield management: Application of information systems and pricing strategies to sell the right capacity to the right customers at the right prices - Smith 1992

Definition of YM modified by Kimes and Chase - managing the 4 CS of perishable service: Callander, clock, capacity and cost to manage demand in order to maximise profit

YM involves management of the strategic levers of price and duration of customer use

Different industries use different combinations of price and duration

Pricing and duration positioning of service industries...

Prices vs duration - predictable/unpredictable, fixed/variable

Control of duration methods... Internal: use of overbooking, relies on accurate no-shows and cancellation information, displaced customers

External: use of deposits, cancellation penalties

Uncertainty of duration and arrival

Controls of duration methods...

Reduce times between customers - tactic to increase revenue per available inventory unit e.g.

Turning around aircrafts quickly

Price - differential pricing, customers develop reference prices, dangers of alienating customers

Proper price mix - logical mix of prices must be offered, must be clear distinction between prices