

Trust services in New Realities Implications for Swiss Trust Companies



Swiss Association of Trust Companies

Roland Berger Strategy Consultants





We would like to share with you an outsider's perspective on how Trust Companies might cope with new realities

Our outside perspective on current strategic and organizational challenges and their implications on Trust Companies



OBSERVATIONS



2 EXPERIENCE

We have a differentiating focus: **design** and **implement** strategies **jointly with** our clients with a focus on business opportunities



TODAY,

we would like to share with you our perspective on how you can cope with new realities in the trust service industry

3 WAY FORWARD





New Realities have created a new world for us – and our clients. Isn't it that this is the core of the structural change AND our opportunity

Our understanding of key changes and challenges

Fast global change to a consensus against non-compliant tax practices

- > Non-compliant wealth is no longer tolerated
- > Consensus against non-compliant tax practices Conformity is enforced within a short period of time
- > Industry has been taken by surprise despite early warning signs - Addiction to the past in thinking paradigms has leads to paralysis

Increased privacy need for wealth owners with less possibilities to act

- > Developments in technology and globalization increase the privacy needs especially for wealth owners
- > Clients have not yet understood the full extent of implications resulting from the trend toward bona fide assets - The leeway in decision-making, however, is narrowing, forcing clients to act (e.g. with FATCA, tax agreements, etc.)

Financial and economic crisis resulting in governments' need for money

- > Financial crisis and the resulting surge in demand for taxpayers' money serve as the perfect catalyst for the transformation
- > Growing income and wealth disparities often legitimize the fight against tax evaders within the society

NEED OF CHANGE

Regulatory changes and loosening of bank secrecy

- > Tightened regulation is increasing **complexity** in the industry
- > Drivers are causing a rapid increase in costs and risks
- > New rules of the game are increasing the pressure to conform
- > Benefit of location due to a strict banking secrecy fading away
- > Many jurisdictions moved towards all crime money laundering **legislation**





Trust services institutions face new organizational and market challenges due to fading advantages of regulatory context

Key challenges for Trust services institutions

— Market & Client

Market & Cher

Know-how

Top Line Focus

> Former value **proposition has mainly eroded** due to changing market conditions

- > Excellent service, know-how and market specific offering needed to fulfill **changing client needs**
- New market expansion require specific expertise and knowledge, there are no white-spots
- Increasing need for monitoring on financial markets and market offering

 Lack of competency and experience to create and deliver new value proposition and innovate new services
 Pricing

Organization

Consistent, value-equivalent and risk-adjusted pricing (pay what you get, get what you pay) necessary to fully exploit clients' willingness to pay and to cover own risks

Bottom Line Focus

Client profitability

Value Proposition

- Pressure on margins resulting from increased competition has a strong impact on client profitability
- > Analyze and allocate internal resources to increase client profitability (i.e. focus on high potential clients)

Operational Excellence

- > Clearly defined and efficient processes (dilemma: valueadd vs. efficiency)
- Risk reduction through clear processes definition and active risk management
- > Robust documentation and reporting processes

IT infrastructure

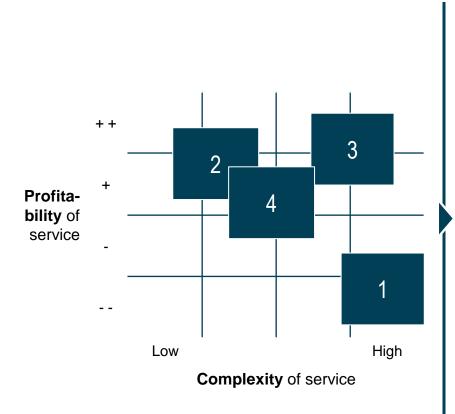
> **Up-to-date IT** needed to support efficient processes, risk management and client's portfolio management





A key challenge for Trust services institutions is the fact that the core of past services has lost its attractiveness – are there options?

Overview on dilemma of strategic optionality



Wealth Managers investment in client relations

International wealth managers invest in clients esp. in Wealth Management with services that are not profitable for them standalone – and they do have the money to invest in competence

Administrative or transaction related services decrease in margin

Standard transaction and administrative business has reduced with demand and loses its ability to generate attractive profits

Attractive niches in the market

Research shows that clients pay in case they are supported in the management of their complexity (e.g. succession): This does require specialization in the business model, differentiation and adequate pricing

Future non-complex standard trust business

Non-complex transaction and administration related business will not disappear but continue to exist – with increasing complexity (regulation) but with lower margins





The idea of a trust in its core is 'risk mitigation by governance' – Trust Companies will remain in demand for specialized know-how

POTENTIAL



- > A trust continues to be a **key instrument for management of wealth**
- > Wealth/asset protection remains to be a key client need, documentation processes and market monitoring become increasingly important for Trust Companies

OBSERVATIONS

We made the following observations

- > Exposure to financial markets developments and volatility increased significant within the last years
- > More transparency by asset allocation is required
- > Trust structures become more complex and documentation and compliance quidelines are increasing
- > Increasing pressure through regulatory changes and tax debates
- > Wealth preservation and legal tax optimization remain in the focus of client expectations – Trust Companies must actively take these expectations into account

CONCLUSION

> Trust Companies will remain in demand for their specialized know-how, esp. as many banks are currently realigning their offering in offshore markets, but risk management needs to be addressed





Structural change and pressure on the Swiss banking landscape have led to the need of new value propositions for Trust Companies

POTENTIAL



- > Trust companies have a window of opportunity to position themselves as independent trusted advisors with specialized knowledge and services
- > Niche players prove that winning new business is possible: client needs exist

OBSERVATIONS

We made the following observations

- > Trust Companies are **fully independent** from banks and have **simple company structures** to keep things under control in an more complex market environment
- > Changing regulatory environment provides opportunities for innovative services to fulfill certain client needs
- > Market area of **Trust Companies** is less **regulated** Potential to pro-actively shape future guidelines and rules through self-regulation
- > Call for more transparency and a shift from B2B to B2C demand for more client interaction – New set of skills are required

CONCLUSION

> Smarter rules are needed to prevent financial scandals and systematic risk for the trust industry and regain confidence of clients in Switzerland and internationally – Anti money laundering guidelines as a first safe guard for the Swiss trust industry





Ambiguity might emerge as key challenge for both clients and TCs: isn't a trust a means to deal with ambiguity in a more transparent world?



DIMENSION

OBSERVATIONS

VOLATILITY

- > Increasing asset density and interdependencies intensify impact
- > Power of regulation: non-effective measures & pro-cyclical methods
- > Information cross-linkage as volatility catalyzers

UNCERTAINTY

- > Uncertainty of the current and future economical environment
- > Interdependent system effects (vs. black swan risks)
- > Intelligence demands the ability to adapt to changing context

COMPLEXITY

- > Shift in geopolitical power will result in a fundamental change of our future mind-set and "how we do business"
- > Tension between national (political, regulatory) and global (financial markets, economical) forces

AMBIGUITY

- > Increasing unpredictability of legal context in a multi-polar world
- > Danger of **misleading trust** in established **risk models**: even though a model is right and assumptions individually are reasonable, it can produce wrong results
- > Illiquidity despite high speed of information flow and automated decisions

MANAGEABLE **CHALLENGES** (using a systematic approach)

KEY CHALLENGE



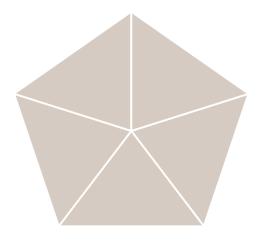


Based on our experience, a combination differentiated strength in five key success factors determines the strength of a business model

Five key success factors

A STRUCTURE/ SOLUTION COMPETENCE

- > **Proven intelligence** on financial market structure
- Ability to repeatedly and effectively leverage capabilities to develop solutions
- > Flexibility and farsightedness to adapt to changing market environments
- B SERVICE & PRICING EXCELLENCE
- > **Distinctive value proposition** for core product and/or service offerings
- > Excellent **pricing** of products and services
- > Professional communication on services



C PARTNERSHIP EXCELLENCE

- Access to strong internal distribution network or intimate partnership with key stakeholder networks; exclusive arrangements
- > Client-centric sales model (tactical marketing communication)
- > Professional management and controlling

E OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- > Exploitation of synergies in operations of complex business models
- Sustainable cost-effective operations at all links of the value chain

D BRANDING EXCELLENCE

- > Strong, favorable and distinctive position of organizational and product/offering brands
- > **Brand attributes** aligned to profile of target client group





Promising value propositions for trust companies can be defined based on key success factors

FOCUSED OFFERING/ PURE PLAY

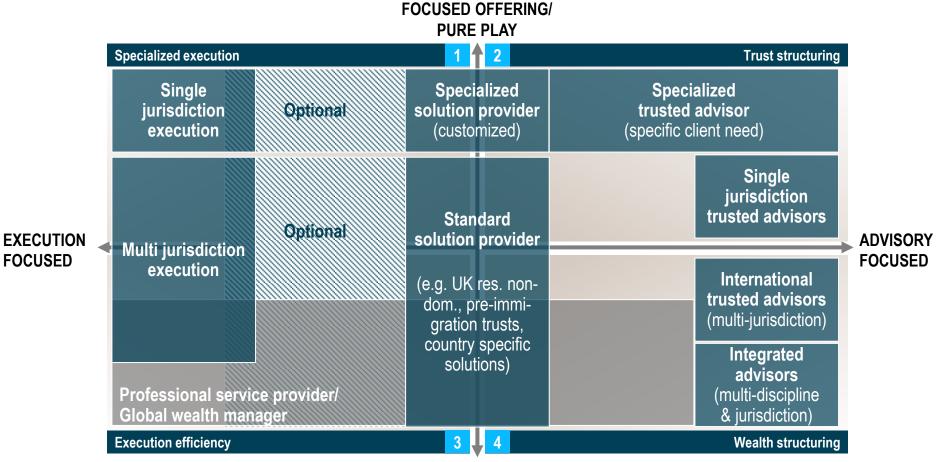


BROAD OFFERING/ INTEGRATED BUSINESS MODEL





Potential business models in the future might look like this: the providers will specialize since execution loses its attractiveness



BROAD OFFERING/
INTEGRATED BUSINESS MODEL





Potential solutions focus on the development of new value propositions, client focus and operational excellence

Potential solutions to master the strategic and organizational challenges

Potential solutions

- A Value proposition
- A credible segment-specific value proposition is the most important way to differentiate in mature markets with limited innovation potential
- B Innovation of new services
- Innovative services to fulfill certain client needs (e.g. with regard to tax services)
- > Complex market environment provides opportunities of niche services for Trust Companies
- Risk management
- Enhance risk management practices and processes to create value for clients
- > Regulation still a serious concern since absence of regulatory framework for Trust companies

D Pricing

Introduce or enhance consistent and risk-adjusted pricing model

Objectives

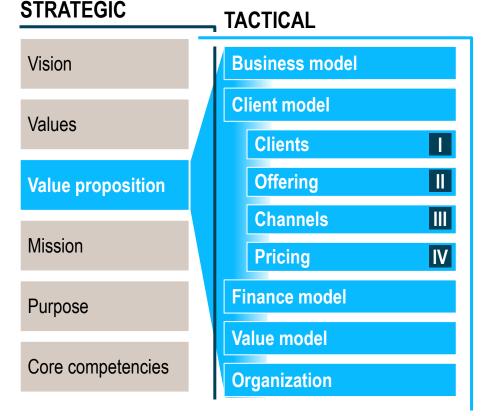
- > Address clients' concerns and pain-points
- Communicate the value proposition through a conclusive story to promote clients trust
- > **Design specific offerings** that focus on addressing clients' needs and priorities
- > Conform and robust with legal guidelines
- Align reporting and monitoring processes along the value chain
- Increasing transparency and trust of clients through comprehensive risk management
- > Exploit clients' willingness to pay
- > Appropriately cover involved risks





Key questions facilitate the development of the client model and its alignment to the value proposition

Value proposition – Client model



KEY QUESTIONS

- How to align the future client models?
 - > Different business models for institutional and private clients?
- II How to adapt the offering?
 - > Individual offering for clients with different profiles?
- III How to change the current channel-mix?
 - > Referral practices and network approach changes?
- IV How to adapt the current pricing?
 - > Higher leakage for both institutional and private clients?





Some food for thought on the way forward

Food for thought

What is your market?

- > How will **financial assets** and **profit pools** develop nationally and globally?
- > What will be the impact of **regulatory changes** for Trust Companies?
- > What **expertise** and **knowledge** is required to enter in new markets?
- > In what direction are clients needs and decisions evolving?
- > What is key to gaining access to clients?
- > How to ensure innovation and **development of expertise** to deliver customized services?
- What do your clients really want?

How do your competitors operate?



- > How do successful Trust companies **position** themselves in the market?
- > How can operations and processes be kept sustainably cost-effective?
- > How can Trust companies best leverage their capabilities and knowledge?
- > Which asset allocation and trust structure are the most successful?
- > What **values** can be added to satisfy clients?

USP

> How can different **pricing models** be leveraged?

What value do you offer your clients?







Four fields of action to align the strategy to future challenges within the trust services industry

CEO agenda

DEFINITION OF A PERSUASIVE **MARKET POSITION AND VALUE PROPOSITION**

- Definition of a clear and persuasive value proposition to close the expectation gap between clients needs and company offerings
- > Align service and pricing strategy to the selected business model

FOCUS ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND WEALTH PROTECTION

- > Align risk management attributes with increasing complexity within the trust service industry
- > Define **robust processes** and **transparency** along the value chain



- > Optimization of service portfolio and development of new services to satisfy client needs
- Align brand attributes with profile of target client group based on value segmentation

ENSURE MEASURABLE ADDED VALUE FOR CLIENT

- > Optimize processes and **reduce complexity** in operations
- > Define **clear roles** and **responsibilities** within the organization to improve profitability

SUSTAINABLE EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS





SATC has proposed to run two concurrent workshops to be facilitated by Roland Berger with each two questions

What are the **strategic options** that trust companies have in Switzerland?

What are the **business opportunities** in new realities?

1

WHERE TO PLAY



2 HOW TO WIN

What are **considerations and cornerstones** of future business models

What would be a convincing value proposition?

What are the **prerequisites** for a successful transformation?



TODAY.

we will consolidate
the insights from
the two workshops
– Your hosts are
Olaf Toepfer &
Adrian Pfammatter

Appendix Roland Berger Strategy Consultants

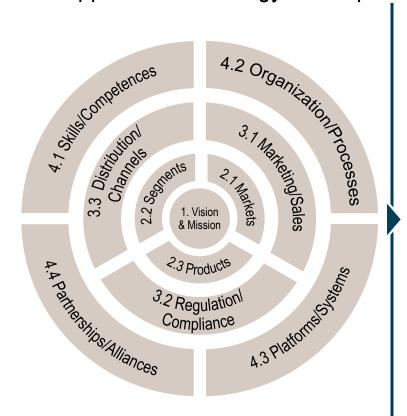






Four typical elements for the development of a business strategy – Roland Berger strategic framework

Our approach for strategy development



Vision & Mission



Where?

• Where do we see ourselves in the long term future?

Strategic direction



What?

 On which market, client segments and products should we focus?

Business model



How?

 How are the products and services marketed to successfully penetrate the relevant market(s)?

Operating model



With what?

 With which platforms, resources and processes should we be operating?





Our approach for strategy development – VISION & MISSION









KEY QUESTIONS FOR TRUST COMPANIES Strategic scenarios based on key beliefs:

- > Role of asset protection, performance and risk management in the value proposition?
- > Strategic differentiation in Switzerland and selected on-/offshore markets?

DRIVERS

- > Expectations regarding market development
- > Changing client needs
- > Regulatory and legal requirements





Our approach for strategy development – STRATEGIC DIRECTION









KEY QUESTIONS FOR TRUST COMPANIES

- > What are the precise value drivers of Trust Companies for private wealth management?
- > Which markets should be targeted?
- > What should the strategic offering?

DRIVERS

- > Market attractiveness (geographical footprint)
- > Market competitiveness
- > Client needs
- > Product profitability
- > Existing competences/ footprint

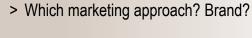




Our approach for strategy development – BUSINESS MODEL



KEY QUESTIONS FOR TRUST COMPANIES



- > Which distribution system/partners?
- > Which structure? Processes? Hubs?
- > How should the advisory process look like taking risk considerations into account?



- > Product profitability
- > Channel mix
- > Client buying behavior
- > Hub/process synergies





Our approach for strategy development – OPERATING MODEL



KEY QUESTIONS FOR TRUST COMPANIES

- > How should the company be ideally operated in the context of the given footprint?
- > Which platforms are required? CH? EU? Offshore?
- > Which IT provider and tools are needed?



DRIVERS

- > Hub/production strategy
- > Platform complexity
- > IT provider costs (licenses, maintenance, development)



RECENT

WEALTH MANAGEMENT IN NEW REALITIES

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