# Five Strategies To Avoid Channel Conflict As You Grow D2C Sales





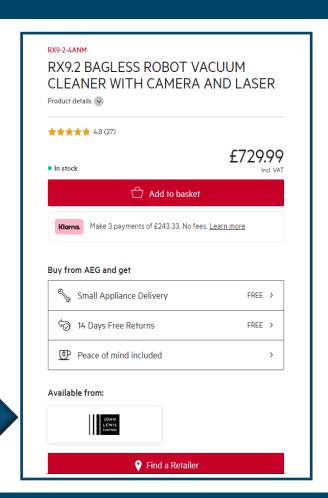
#### 1. Collaboration



Working with retailers & dealers to create D2C purchasing opportunities.

For instance, by:

- Providing the option to buy through retailers.
- Highlighting retailer exclusive models.
- Taking orders directly but fulfilling them through retailers/dealers.
- Offering "click and collect" at retailers for "extended product lines".





## 2. Relationships



Keeping open communication channels with trade and retail partners ensures you manage issues as and when they arise.

Internal organisation relationships are also vital and internal silos must be avoided.

Above all, it's a mistake to allow B2B and D2C teams to compete for resources and recognition.

Instead have them work together to increase overall sales and actively manage the D2C mix.



# 3. Price and Service Leadership



Price is often what retailers compete on.

Manufacturers must simultaneously
monitor consumer pricing for their brands
and ensure that they are not undercutting
retailers.

Competing on value drivers such as better service levels, a wider range of products, better pre-sale or post-sale support allows you to sell at a higher prices.

Retail partners will recognise the brand value that this creates and the halo effect this can also have on them.



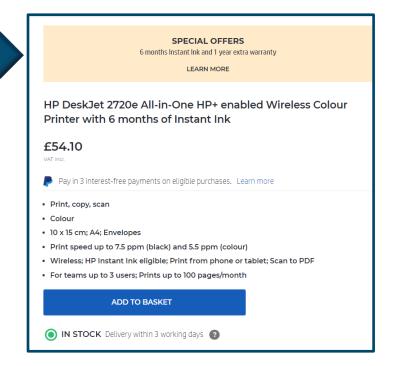
#### 4. Differentiation



Creating differentiated products or additional services that dealers or retailer partners can't or won't offer enables manufacturers to leverage their unique capabilities and extend consumer choice.

Examples of successful differentiation strategies:

- New products that retailers won't list.
- Discontinued products (many brands have "outlets" or "clearance stores").
- Bundled products sold at higher prices e.g. product plus optional accessory or product plus support package.



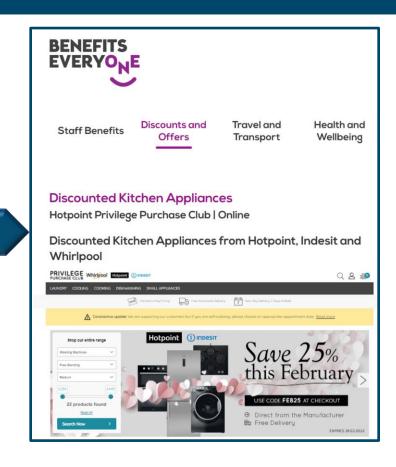
### 5. Avoidance



Selling directly to consumers in non-retail channels avoids the risk of direct competition with retailers.

Examples include;

- Employee benefit schemes.
- Warranty or insurance product replacement.
- Telephone sales in aftermarkets.
- Online sales in aftermarkets.
- Face to face sales in conjunction with a service visit.





# FREE GUIDE to direct to consumer sales

#### Discover:

- 1 The key benefits of D2C
- 2 If D2C is right for your business
- 3 How to conduct a cost-benefit analysis
- 4 Different ways to sell and fulfil orders
- **5** How to manage channel conflict

**Plus**, you'll get 4 examples of manufacturers with great D2C strategies

Manufacturer's Guide To

# Direct to Consumer Sales

How to Pursue a Successful D2C Strategy Without Compromising Your Core B2B Business





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