





## INTRODUCING LEAN DM

The Direct Mail sector is worth \*£15.2 billion in the UK, however despite the maturity of the sector \*\*20 million mail pieces are still being incorrectly mailed each month costing businesses an estimated £200-£300m annually.

Lean DM is a concept developed by The Software Bureau as a systematic process for mail providers to minimise waste and maximise results of mail campaigns for their clients. At The Software Bureau we aim to establish Lean DM as the gold standard for mail producers in the UK.









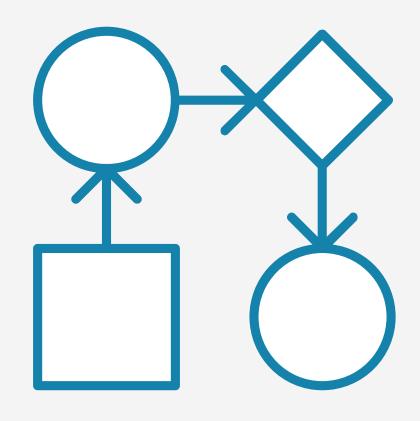
## **ORIGINS OF LEAN**

Kiichiro Toyoda, founder of Toyota was arguably the inventor of Lean manufacturing with his 'Toyota Production System'.

As post war demand for Japanese cars was low, Kiichiro sought to transform his car company from a mass production model to a build to order concept.

To do this he focused on the elimination of waste to minimise costs and maximise efficiency of production.

7 types of waste ranging from inventory to transportation to defects were identified and systematically reduced or removed. 'Lean' transformed Toyota from a fledgling car manufacturer into one of the largest brands in the world.



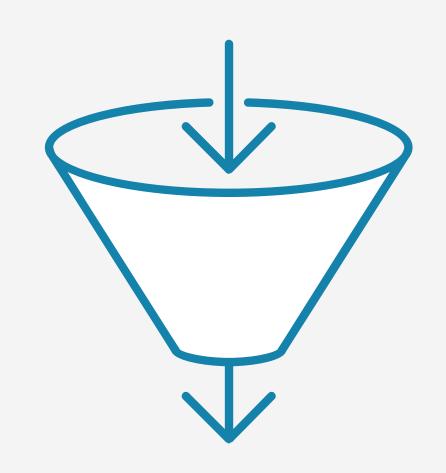


# Lean DM is about the elimination of waste within direct mail campaigns

Waste defined as anything that doesn't contribute to achieving customer campaign objectives.

## **5 SOURCES OF DIRECT MAIL WASTE**

- 1. Pack Design
- 2. Postage Option
- 3. Data Formatting
- 4. Data Quality
- 5. Learning



## DIRECT MAIL WASTE REALLY MEANS



Poorer response rates



Increased overall campaign costs



Unhappy customers

#### LEAN DM BENEFITS MAIL USERS

#### **AND BENEFITS MAIL PROVIDERS**

#### **Saves Money**

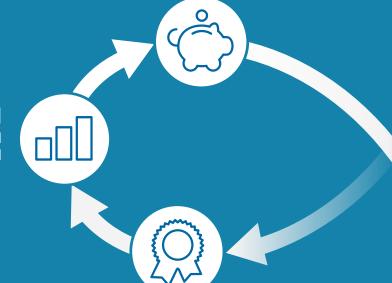
Clients spend less on postage and production of defective mail

#### A Unique Offering

Applying Lean DM makes you stand out from competitors focused only on price

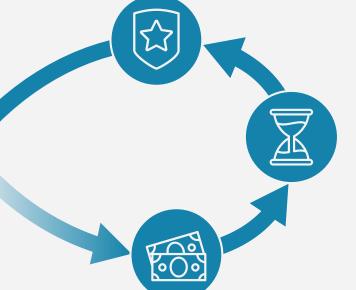
#### **Better ROI from DM**

Recipient quantity maximised cost per response is minimised



#### **Stronger Brand**

Fewer mailing errors makes your client look professional

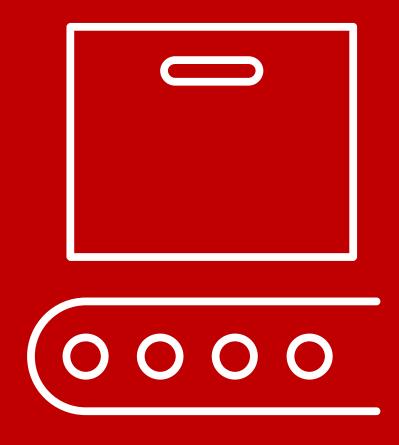


#### **Retain Clients**

Keep clients longer by becoming their trusted mail advisor.

#### **New Revenue Opportunity**

Lean DM enables you to expand into added value data services



Source of Waste

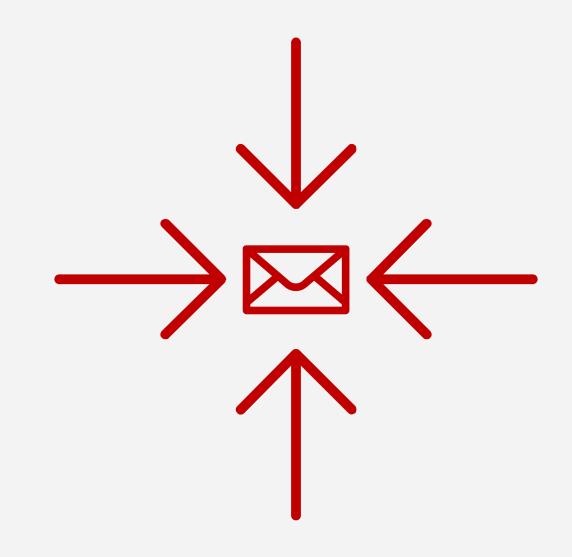
Pack Design and

Postage Optimisation

#### PACK DESIGN

Up to \*34% of postage costs could be saved by optimising the pack to maximise discounts

- Help optimise your clients postage spend by advising on pack formats
- Demonstrate the cost differential between pack sizes, weights and formats



\*Difference between 2<sup>nd</sup> class high sort and low sort machine readable for a mailing of 120k+



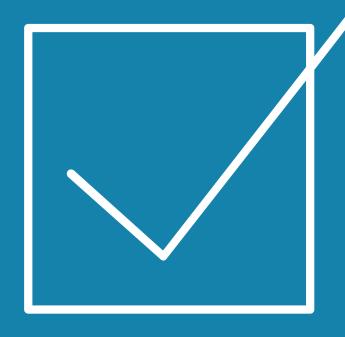
**LEAN DM IN ACTION** 

## STORE CARD MAILING

Lean DM provider advised client how to qualify for 'Low Sort Machineable' postage rate including adjustments to pack design and selection of a more efficient postage provider

£400k p.a.

Annual postage savings for retailer



## Source of Waste **Data Formatting**

## **OPTIMISE POSTAGE**

Incorrectly formatted addresses can result in adjustment charges ranging from 13.2p to 43.16p per item\*

- Ensure address data is correctly formatted
- Validate and enhance data
- Exclude mailsort rejects (poor address data)
- Generate compliant barcode data and barcode formats

ered by 25-04-13 Large ıal Mail Lette

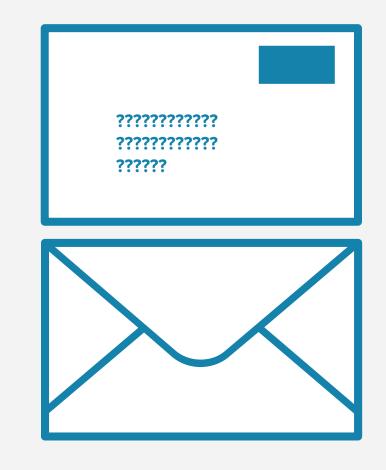
<sup>\*</sup> Mailmark adjustment charges

## **ADDRESS QUALITY**

Address data files sourced from CRM and online data capture systems can often include records with an incomplete or missing address

 PAF enhance your address data and discard incomplete addresses

 Remove overseas addresses if the offer is domestic

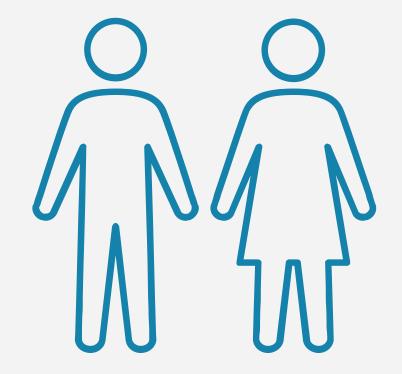


Good quality address data will deliver better results

#### **NAME ERRORS**

\*97% of consumers say they open correctly addressed mail

- Remove records without a name
- Identify a gender to improve personalisation and targeting
- Use gender specific selections in your deduplication process
- Identify gender conflicts between title and forenames
- Ensure name enhancements make it back to customer databases



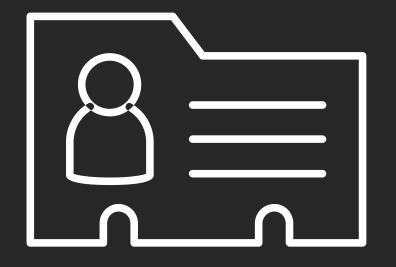
\*30% of consumers said they would be less likely to open a piece of mail if their name is spelt incorrectly

\*DMA advertising mail guide



Sent account clerk from Leeds Sally Peackock direct mail addressed to Mrs Sex Peackock after a rogue 'x' was added to name data. With a Lean DM obscenity screen this record would have been highlighted and corrected.





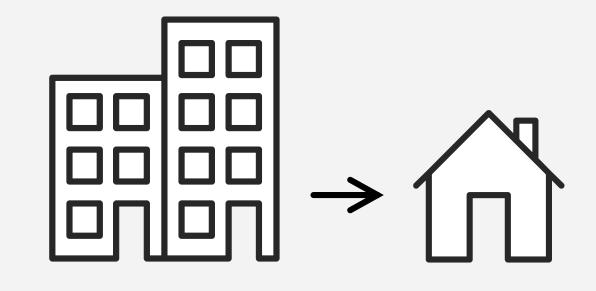
## Source of Waste **Data Quality**

## **MOVED / DECEASED**

Around \*1.5 million households move and \*500,000 people die each year in the UK.

Mailing to these people is not only costly but reflects badly on the brand

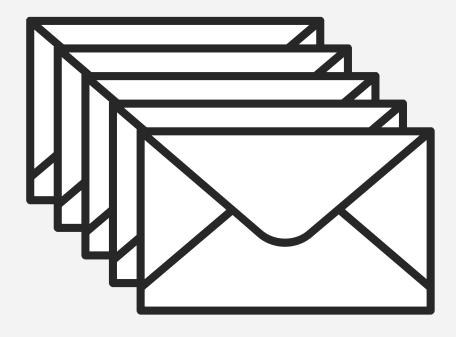
- Ensure you Trace and Suppress data to avoid losing touch with customers and missing opportunities
- Educate customers about the value of Data Hygiene
- Update client databases



\*Admail Guide from Direct Marketing Association

## **DUPLICATES**

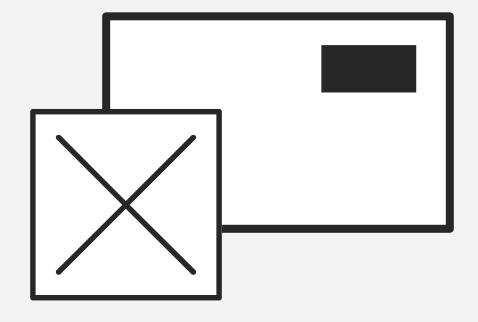
- Identify the correct level of deduplication required
- Use alternative data anchors in your matching such as; DOB, Tel No.s email
- Build deduplication rules in consultation with your client
- Fine tune your results



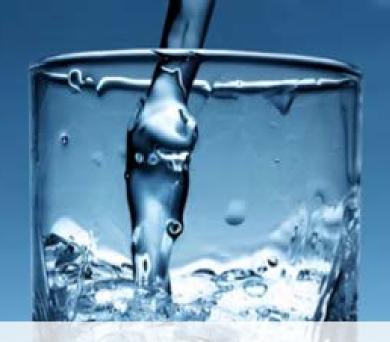
#### NO MAIL PREFERENCE

On average\*40% of returned mail is due to recipients wishing to opt out from mailings

- Ensure clients maintain permissions and preference settings within their CRM
- Always, screen cold data against Mailing Preference Service
- Develop & Host suppression files of returned mail on behalf of clients
- Pass MPS matches back to the data providers



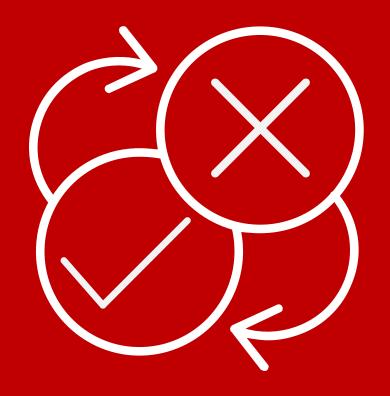
\*DMA Advertising Mail guide



#### **LEAN DM IN ACTION**

## **IRISH WATER**

Widow receives multiple offers from Irish Water addressed to her late husband with initials 'RIP' next to his name. A deceased suppression file would have prevented this from occurring.



## Source of Waste Missing Feedback Loop

## **RETURN HANDLING**

Don't lose contact with valued customers and learn from the mail that gets returned

- Pool mail returns and screen regularly against Home Mover trace data
- Maintain a suppression file on behalf of customers
- Use marketing automation to update customer data via alternative channels





LEAN DM IN ACTION

## **AA DATA BREAKDOWN**

45% of AA's database could not be PAF verified while 2% of those AA claimed were verified were incorrect. A thorough data cleansing campaigns resulted in cost saving of at least £2.8 million.

3.5m

Records found to contain data hygiene errors.

## MAIL PROVIDERS THAT OFFER LEAN DM



Develop new chargeable services



Offer something unique

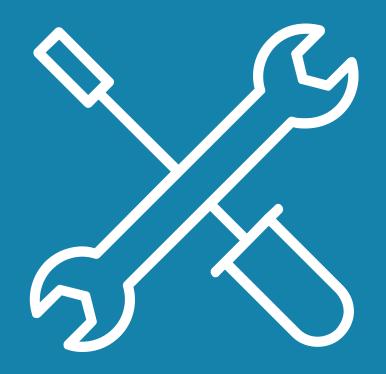


Have more satisfied clients

... so where do you start?



## Introducing Cygnus Your Lean DM Toolkit



Cygnus makes it simple to design Lean DM data processing workflows to eliminate waste

## TYPICAL CYGNUS LEAN DM PROCESS













#### **DATA AUDIT**

Data quality issues identified to inform data processing work required

#### **PAF VALIDATION**

Validate and enhance data to achieve discounts and compliance

#### **DEDUPLICATION**

Detailed matching capability to find and remove duplicate records

#### **TRACE**

Match and update data where recipients have moved

#### **SUPPRESS**

Identify and remove deceased, gone away and client suppressed records

#### **POSTAGE**

Optimise postage and sort data to ensure cost effective delivery



"Since investing in Cygnus we have grown revenues & profits and enhanced our relationships with our clients furthering our marketing services offering."

Jude Whitford, Managing Director Pepper Communications Ltd

## **GETTING STARTED WITH LEAN DM**

Lean DM is an opportunity for forward thinking mail producers to create a new, chargeable service and provide that lynch-pin for winning new clients.

To get started with Lean DM why not register for a Lean DM demo of the Cygnus data processing suite or download the free Lean DM product sheet to help you sell the concept to your clients.

#### **FREE DOWNLOAD**

Get your free, re-brandable Lean DM product sheet to take to your clients



**DOWNLOAD HERE** 



This presentation is free of copyright, so please extract what you need or share with your colleagues and clients alike

Download the original PowerPoint file here

