

# Cost of Distribution Study Separating Fact from Fiction



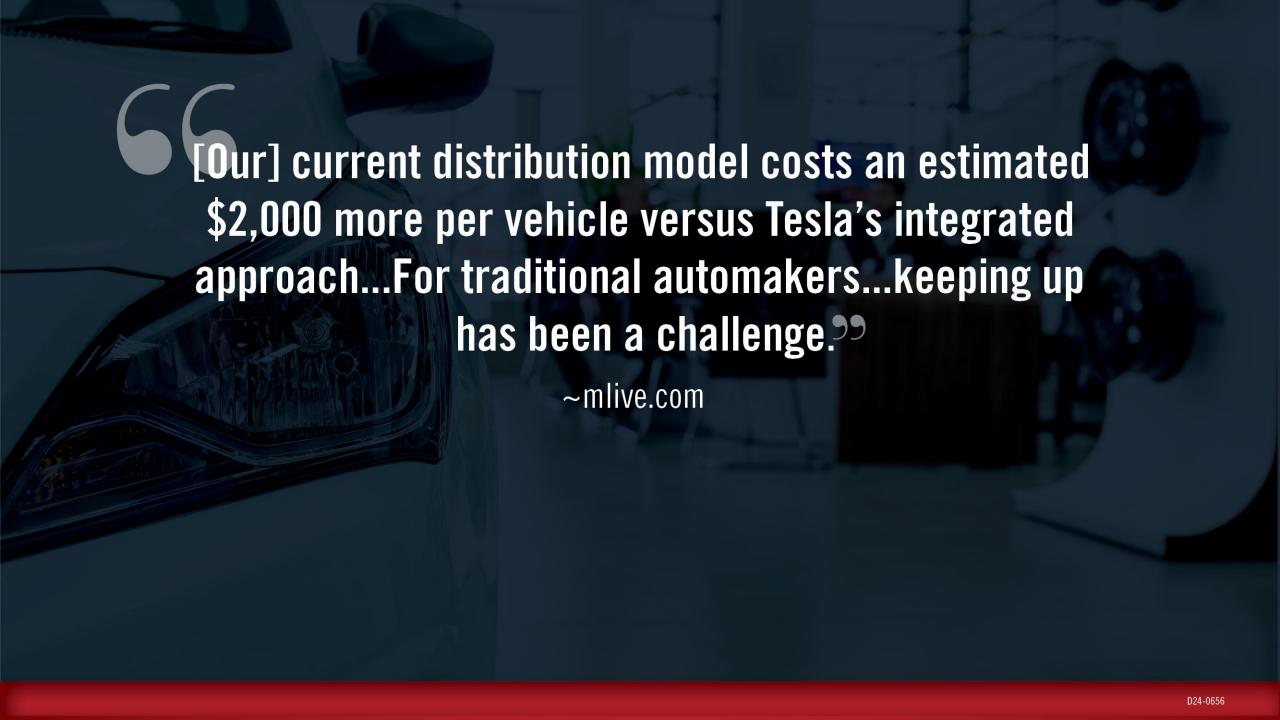
Andy Koblenz
Executive Vice President
Strategic Affairs and Industry Initiatives

# Auto dealerships are America's most powerful middlemen.

~Houston Chronicle

Economists and other critics say dealerships "add an unnecessary middleman...and layers of markup and fees that can range from a few hundred dollars to \$20,000 or more per vehicle over the Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price.

~Tallahassee Democrat



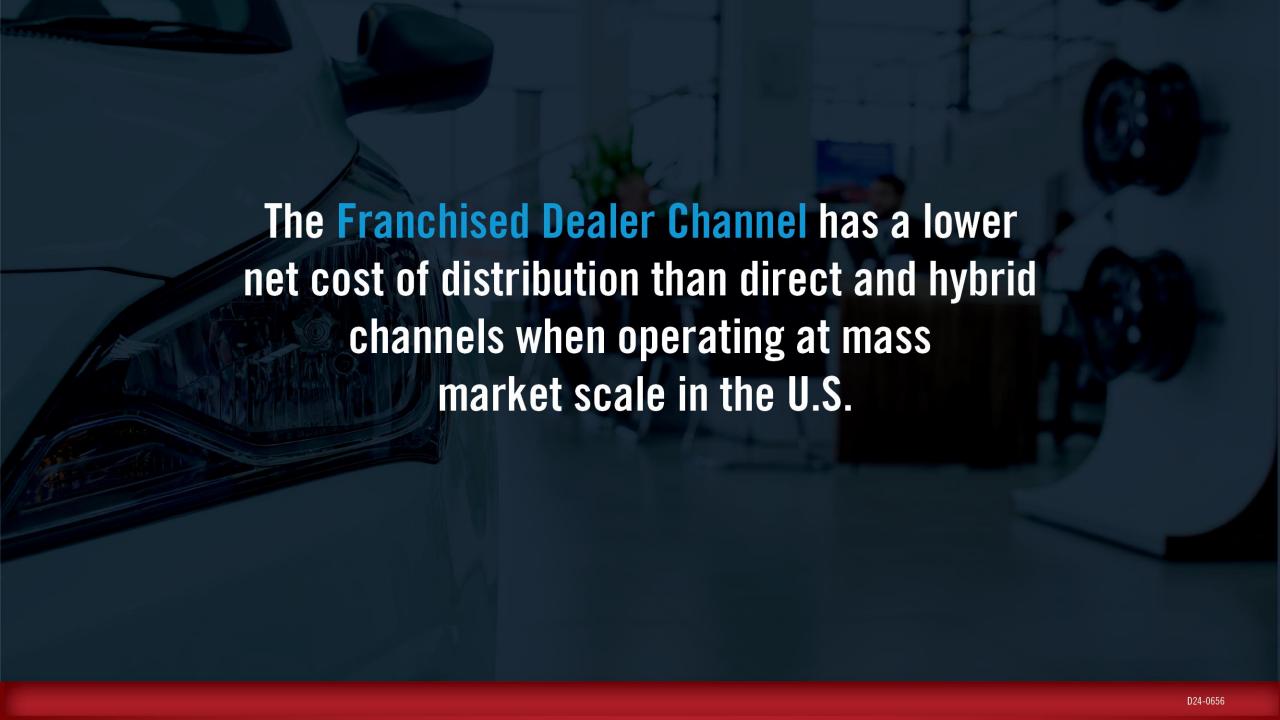


#### **Channel archetype characteristics**

	Franchised dealer	Hybrid	Direct-to-consumer
Vehicle pricing	OEM publishes MSRP, dealer sets price	OEM sets narrow price bands	OEM sets price, fixed and transparent
Inventory management	Dealer manages their inventory with OEM influence	OEM has managerial control and dictates inventory strategy	OEM manages inventory
Inventory ownership	Vehicle owned by dealer	Vehicles shared by OEM and dealer	Vehicles owned by OEM
Sales and upselling	Dealer manages sale of vehicle	Dealer commissioned on sale	OEM manages sale of vehicle
Facility	Owned by the dealer, partially influenced by OEM	Owned by the dealer, greater influence by OEM	Funded and maintained by OEM
Financial and insurance (F&I)	Dealer manages F&I	Dealer keeps F&I, OEM becomes primary provider	OEM manages F&I
Order processing	Dealer processes orders	OEM/dealer processes orders (online/offline)	OEM processes orders
Vehicle delivery	Dealer manages delivery to customer	Dealer manages delivery to customer	OEM coordinates delivery to customer
Customer relationship	Dealer maintains primary relationship with customer	Dealer and OEM share customer relationships	OEM maintains direct relationship with customer
Systems and data	Dealer maintains own system and data	Central OEM systems, dealer maintains post sale systems	Centralized OEM systems for sales and post sales
Marketing	OEM handles national, dealer handles local with OEM support	OEM dictates national and greater influence on local	OEM dictates all advertising

Source: Oliver Wyman analysis

■ Dealer ■ Shared ■ OEM



#### Keys to providing the most accurate channel comparison:

#### 1. Remove the impact of non-channel specific factors

When these non-channel specific costs are removed (or held constant), dealers cost *about the same per car as DTC.* 

#### 2. Include the overall value the channel delivers

When these values are factored in, the total net distribution cost *per car in the dealer channel is lower than for DTC.* 

# Upstream strategies typically driven by OEMs are often positioned as channel efficiencies but are not inherent to any one distribution channel



### Product Line Complexity

Offer many vehicles vs. just a few



### Product Options Complexity

Offer many trim levels and options on each model vs. just a few



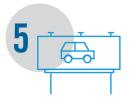
#### Inventory Pull vs. Push

Produce vehicles based on actual demand vs. forecasted demand



#### Facility Characteristics

Build and maintain fancy "Garage Mahals" vs. more basis, lower-grade options



### Product Advertising

Promote product heavily through traditional marketing channels vs. low levels of marketing

# Each channel adds value to the distribution process through the distinct characteristics of its operations



#### Customized Deal Structure

Tool and flexibility to "work the deal" to meet individual customer needs and get them sold



#### Upselling Goods and Services

Ability and motivation to sell more goods and services and/or generate higher revenue



### Customer Loyality

Long-term outlook exchanging goodwill and customer service today for future revenue



#### Intra-brand Competition

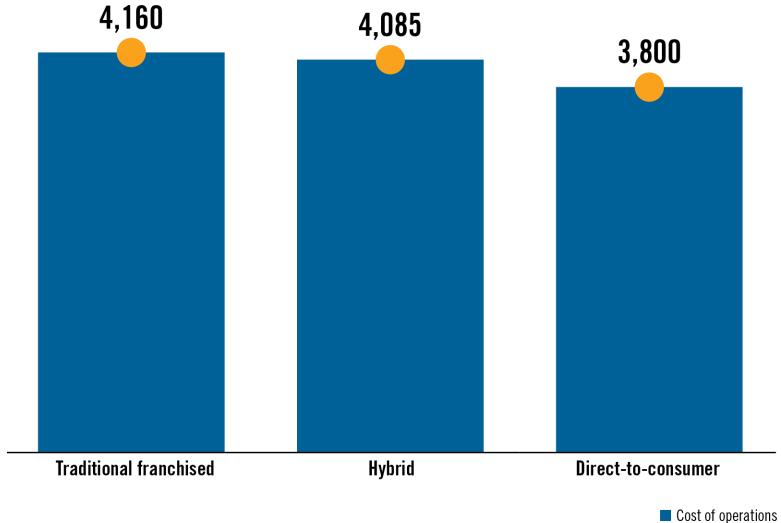
Less competition between stores prevents transaction prices from being competed down



### Price Optimization

Ability to maximize how much each individual customer is willing to pay

## Average gross channel cost per vehicle 2012-2019, US \$



#### Average net channel cost per vehicle after accounting for contribution of value

