

# Releasing the full potential of Smart Meters & Smart Grid

Consumer engagement is critical to maximising ROI

Pilgrim Beart, Founder Director, AlertMe 2 Dec 2010

http://www.cir-strategy.com/events/



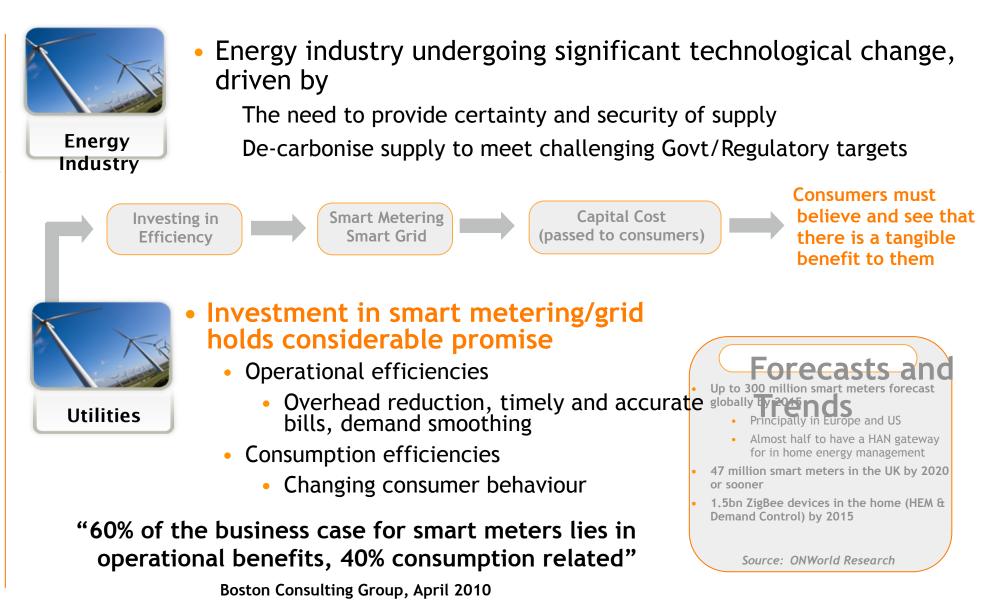
# Agenda



- Market transformation
   Objectives, opportunity and challenges
- Consumer psychology: Engaging consumers
- Visibility & Engagement

## Market is evolving rapidly





M A R K

# The Challenge



- Both utilities and consumers play an important role in delivering smart grid benefits
  - ... the 60%

OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES through technology deployment

- Building a new communications network
- Unprecedented access to data
- Connecting to customer for first time
- Increased control over peak demand

CONSUMPTION RELATED through Consumer engagement

• Consumer benefits needed to unlock potential

... the 40%

- Visibility
- Actionable Information
- Control
- Choice

#### THE CHALLENGE

- To take consumers along in this transformation
- Create a win-win situation
- Those engaging the consumer can expect a valued customer relationship, in an increasingly competitive and converged world

# **Delivering consumption side benefits**





TIME OF USE TARIFFS	DEMAND RESPONSE	MICROGENERATION
CONSUMER IMPACT	CONSUMER IMPACT	CONSUMER IMPACT
<ul> <li>Potentially higher bills</li> </ul>	• Interference in consumer's	<ul> <li>Up front cost</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Increased complexity in tariffs &amp; bills - confusing</li> </ul>	life and choices – 'Big Brother'	<ul> <li>Adds further complexity</li> </ul>
Ŭ	No benefit	
CONSUMER POTENTIAL	CONSUMER POTENTIAL	CONSUMER POTENTIAL
<ul> <li>Visibility of tariffs and zones provides choice</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Involve, engage &amp; reward customers – opt in, not</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Alleviate dependency on the grid</li> </ul>
Opportunity to benefit from	impose	• Export as well as generate
lowest tariffs	<ul> <li>Dynamic engagement at peak demand times for reward</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Visibility of energy generated, used and exported, the P&amp;L for home</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Alerts at peak crossover, and easy control of</li> </ul>		
appliances to avoid peak	<ul> <li>Customer automation of preferences for maximum benefit and convenience</li> </ul>	energy use
pricing		<ul> <li>Future opportunity for</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Automation to balance best use of tariffs</li> </ul>		further integration – EVs/ Storage

#### **Consumer Psychology**



• How do consumers think?



Motivation - Empowerment = Frustration Motivation + Empowerment = Action



MOTIVATION: MONEY (MAINLY AS A "STICK")

- ENERGY BILLS ≈9% OF DISPOSABLE INCOME
- 90% OF HOUSEHOLDERS CONCERNED ABOUT BILLS
- ENERGY BILLS VIEWED LIKE MORTGAGE/RENT
- STANDING CHARGE EXACTLY THE WRONG MODEL
- RULE OF THUMB: 1W = £1/YEAR

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## **Consumer Psychology**



# MOTIVATIONS: COMPETITION, COLLABORATION, REPUTATION • WE ARE SOCIAL ANIMALS





"He who would do good to another, must do it in Minute Particulars. General Good is the plea of the scoundrel, hypocrite and flatterer" Blake

#### CHALLENGES FOR EVERY SEGMENT

- SOCIABLE MIDDLE CLASS COMMUNITY PEER PRESSURE
- CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS EDUCATION AND ONLINE
- SOCIAL HOUSING LOCAL GOVERNMENT
- HOME WORKERS AS EXTENSION TO CRC

# SOME OFFER A PARTICULAR CHALLENGES:

- ELDERLY ENSURE THEY DON'T ECONOMISE, HELP WITH INSULATION
- ILLITERATE / INNUMERATE NON NUMERICAL VISUAL

# **Consumer Psychology**



WHAT EMPOWERS CONSUMERS?

- HOUSEHOLDERS TODAY FEEL UNEMPOWERED
  - View energy bill as outside their control
- BRING ENERGY COSTS INTO THE HERE-AND-NOW
- ASSOCIATE COST WITH USE
  - Cost-per-use

# Making energy visible



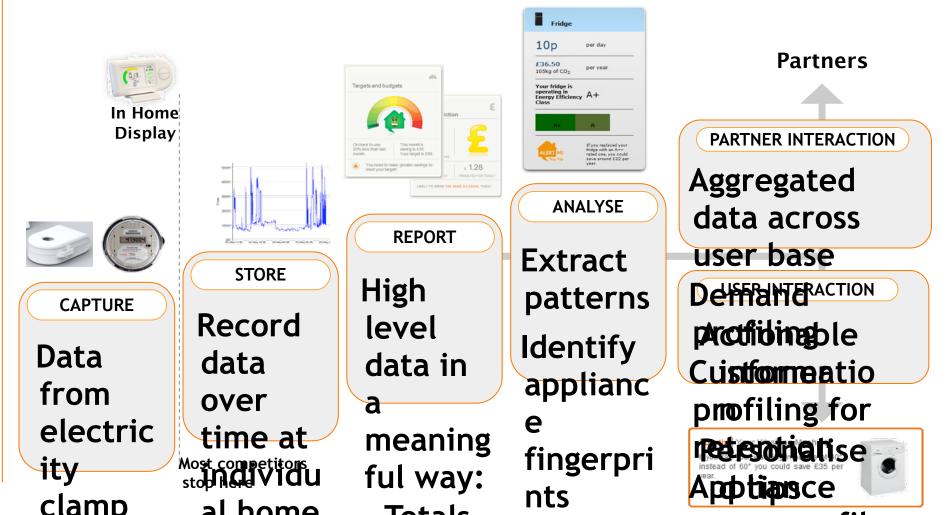


# Analytics: Turning data into actionable information



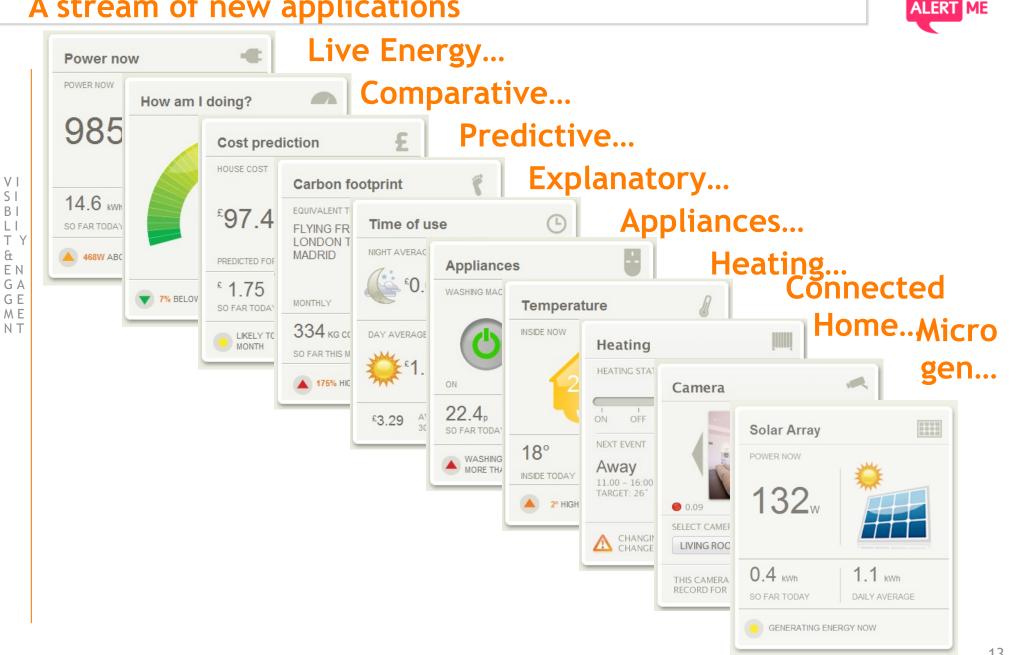
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• Simple intuitive reporting, clear and engaging interface



# A stream of new applications

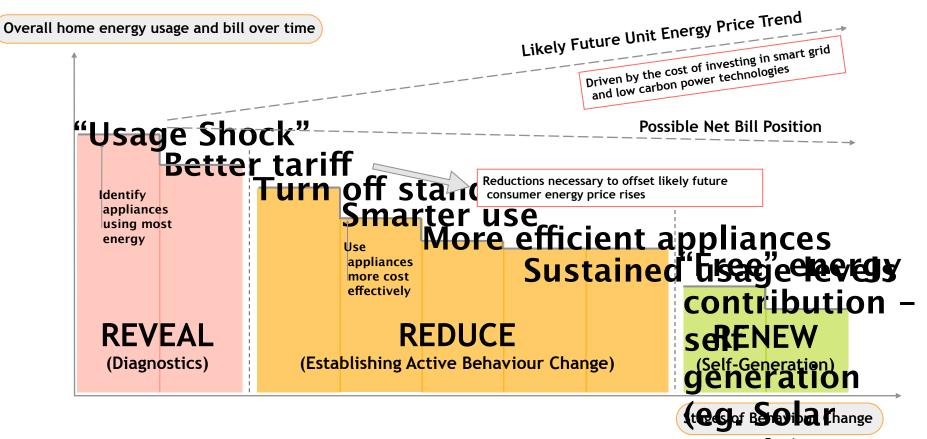
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# **Consumer Partnership**



- AlertMe works alongside the utility to benefit consumer through 3 phases of the journey
- Provides visibility, control & automation
   Enabling consumers to reduce energy use, cost and CO<sub>2</sub>
- Takes consumer on a journey through behaviour change, control and onto self-generation
- Active behaviour change can offset energy price rises



# **Maximising Engagement**

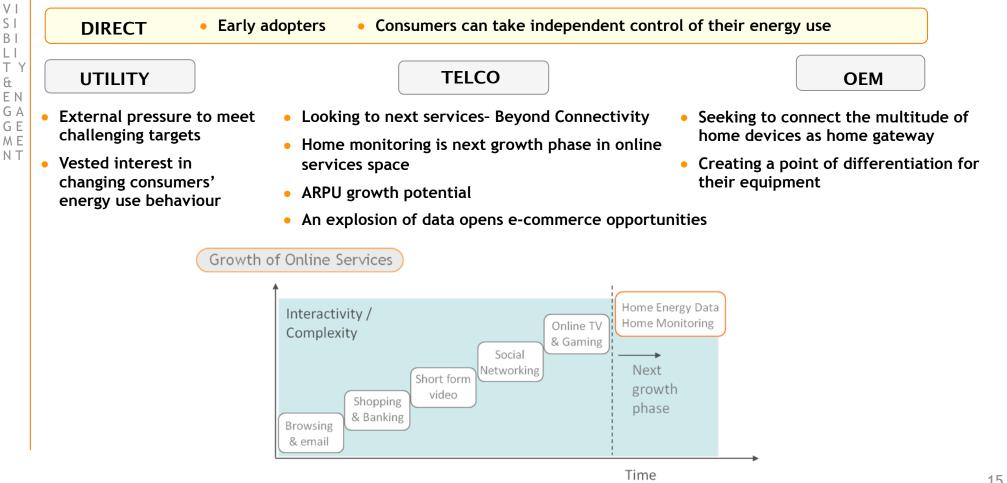


Nascent market with low awareness

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Conserving energy not new, but tangible benefits of 'Smart' not obvious for consumers and managing energy is not 'front of mind'

- All companies with large customer bases have potential to deliver maximum awareness and engagement ٠
- Different motivations and challenges for each sector all sectors have a green agenda •



# Conclusions



- VITAL TO ENGAGE CONSUMERS TO RELEASE FULL POTENTIAL OF THE SMART GRID
  - 30% of all energy is used in the home, and it's 8-10% of disposable income
- EFFECT 15-25% REDUCTION IN CONSUMPTION, THROUGH VISIBILITY & CONTROL
- NEED TO ENGAGE & EMPOWER CUSTOMERS
  - Visibility, control and choice
  - Reveal, Reduce, Renew
- MOTIVATED CUSTOMERS CREATE A 'PULL' FOR SERVICES (RATHER THAN 'PUSH')
- LEARN LESSONS FROM MARKETS WHERE CHANGE IS IMPOSED OR PUSHED ONTO CUSTOMERS
  - They will push back!
- TRANSFORMATION HAPPENS WHEN CONSUMERS ARE MOTIVATED AND EMPOWERED TO ADOPT
  - E.g. Broadband adoption and Digital TV Switchover: affordable, self-



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