

# Category Vision Unleashed

*Boost growth with  
assortment optimization  
and shelf excellence*

A&M Webinar - International Markets

September 19, 2023

**NIQ**



## Meet today's presenters and panelists



**Bennett Cox**

Commercial Director,  
Advanced Analytics,  
**NielsenIQ**



**Jonas Parmhed**

Commercial Business  
Lead Nordics,  
**NielsenIQ**



**Sergio Cedeño**

Commercial Champion  
Assortment & Space  
Latin America,  
**NielsenIQ**



**Jonathan Craven**

Commercial Lead,  
Assortment & Space UK,  
**NielsenIQ**

# Our agenda for today

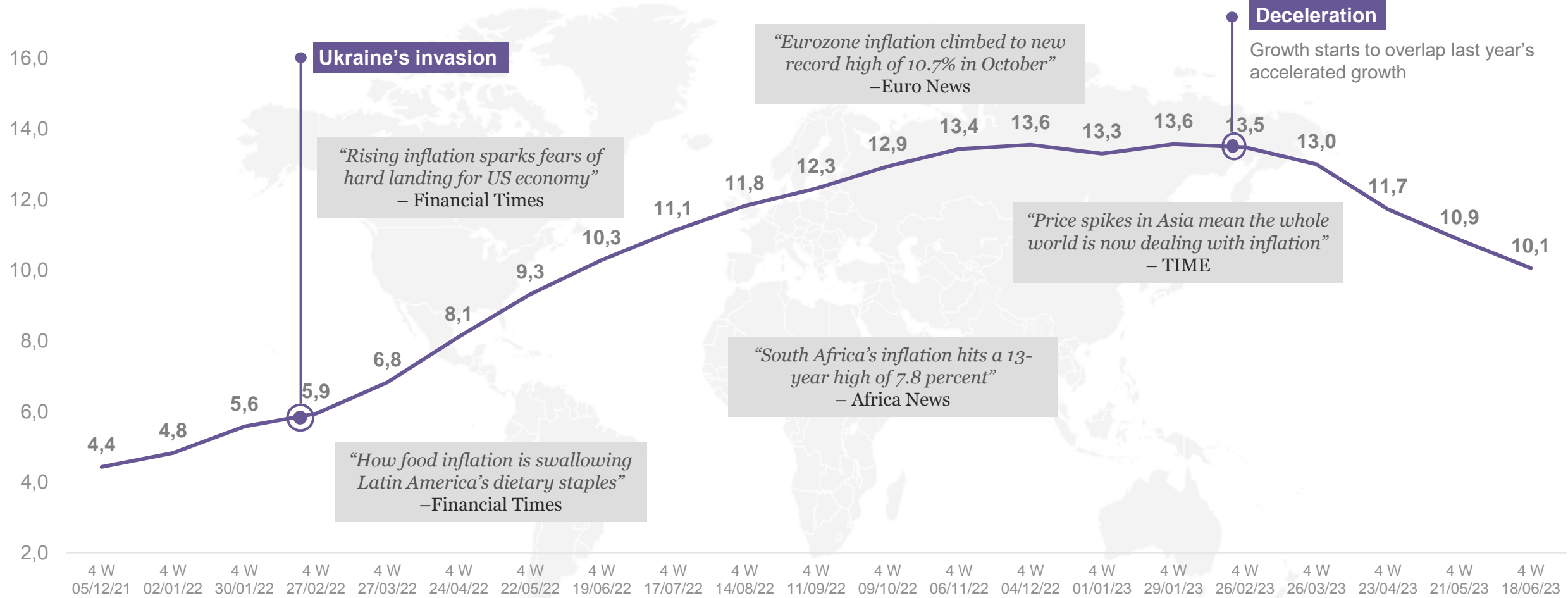
- 1 Industry challenges impacting assortment complexity
- 2 Perfect Portfolio to fuel your growth
- 3 Perfect Shelf to simplify range for retailers
- 4 Picture of Success - Panel discussion



*Industry  
challenges*  
**are impacting  
assortment  
complexity**

# Price inflation growth slowing but real prices are still climbing

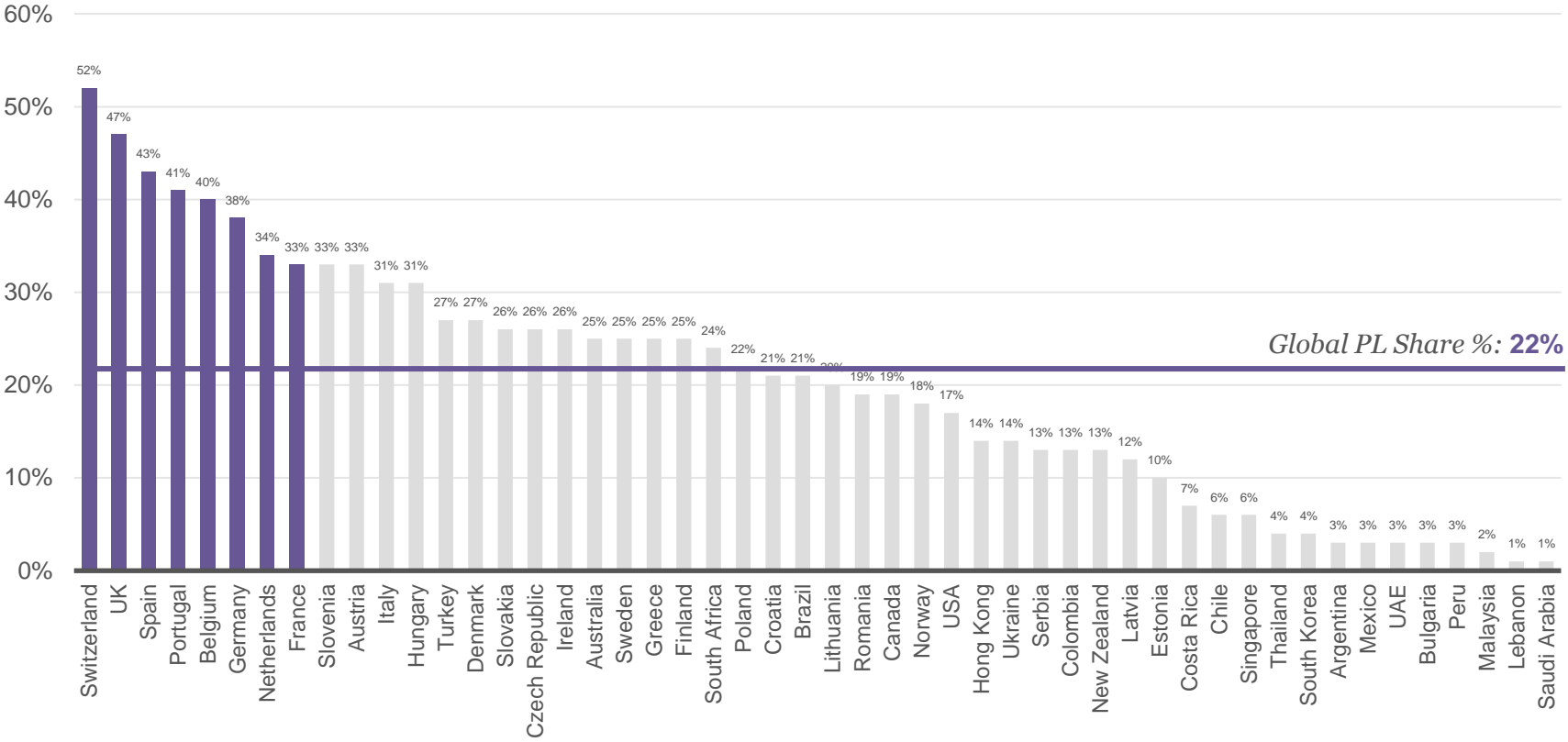
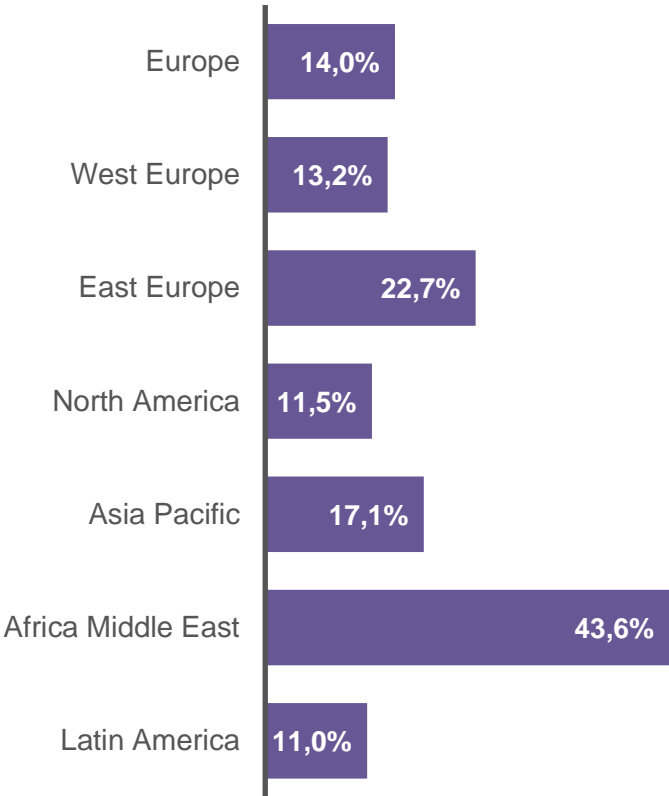
% FMCG Global Inflation evolution



Source: NIQ Price Tracker from Global Snapshot

# Private Label growth has accelerated as shoppers remain squeezed by inflationary pressures

**Private Label**  
Value % growth vs YA

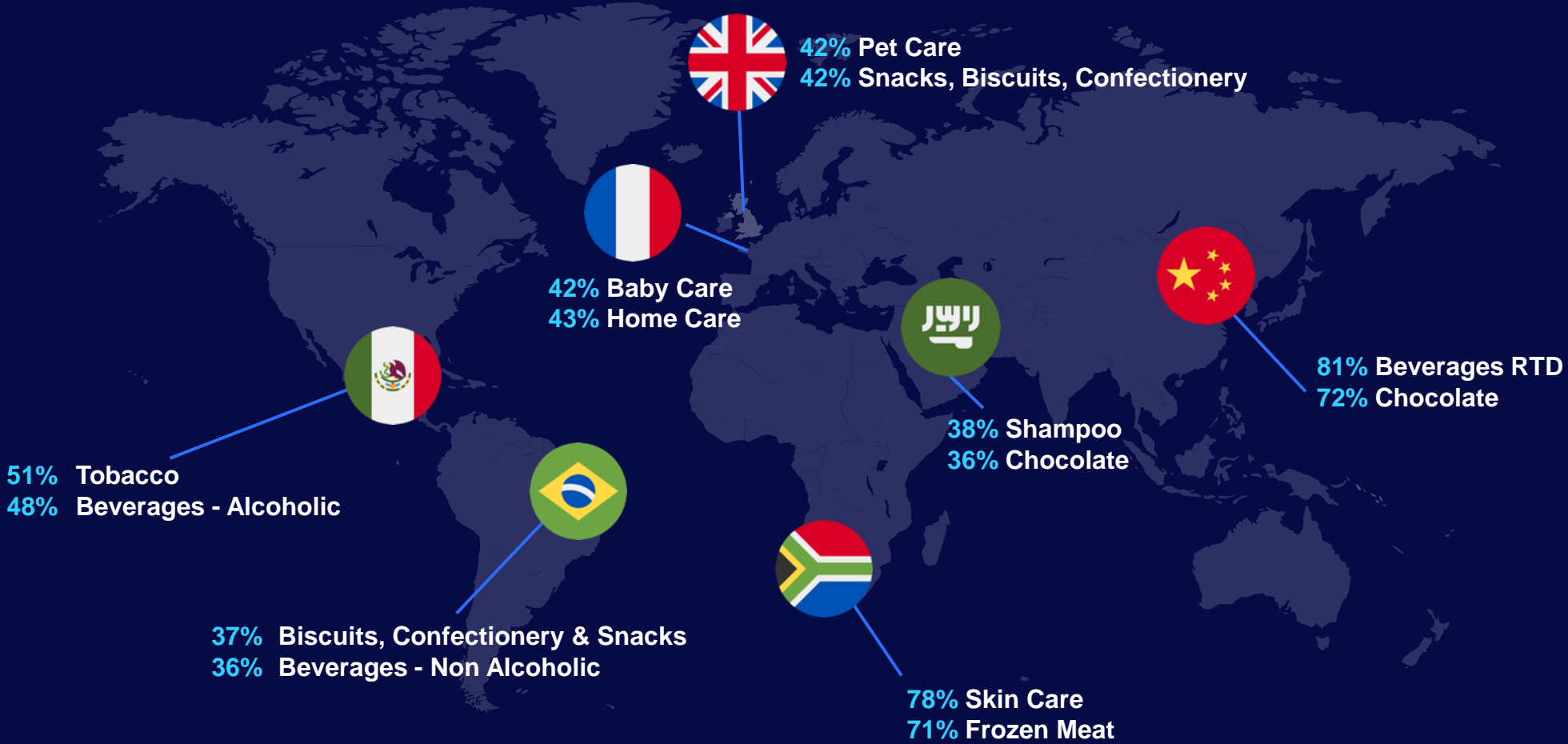


Source: NielsenIQ RMS MAT Q2 2023  
Note: Value % growth vs YA (unweighted); Türkiye moved from East Europe to AME region from Q1 23 QBN release



# The long tail challenge

Percentage of SKUs that contribute to less than 2% of overall category sales

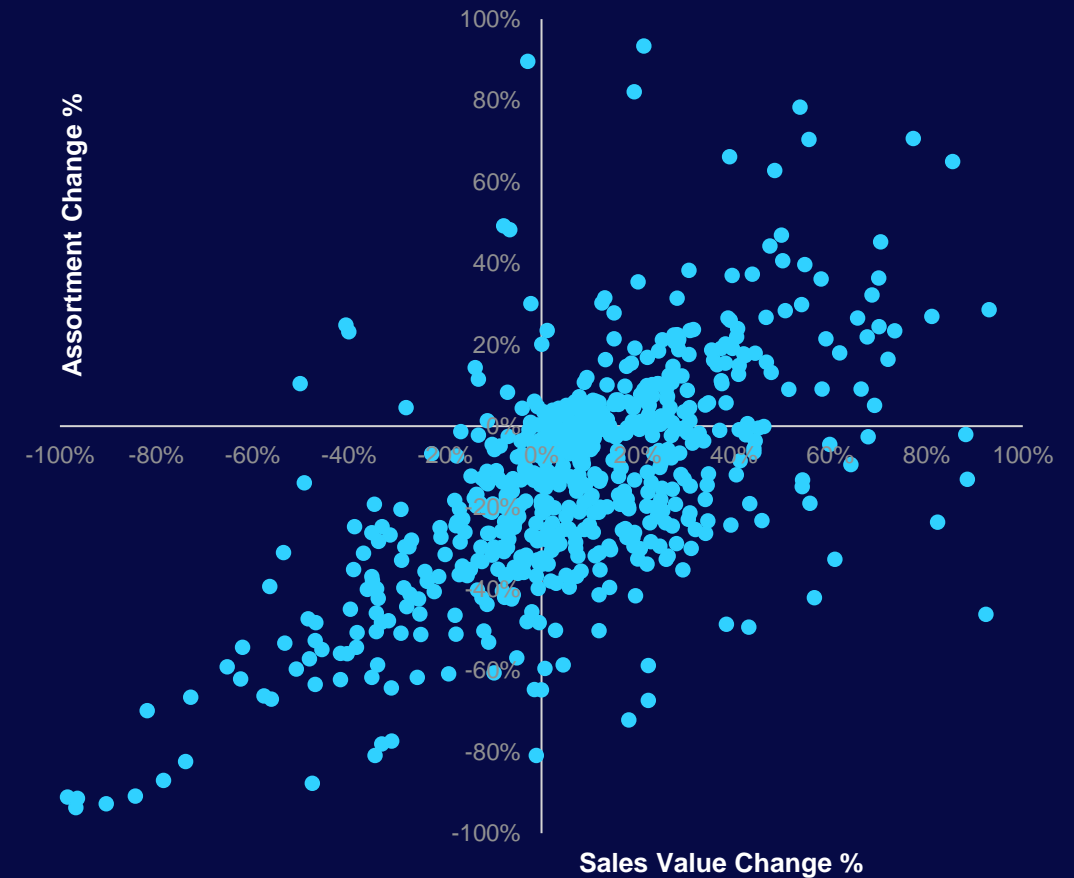


Source: NIQ RMS 2022.



## Assortment Change % vs Sales Value change%

There is no correlation between increasing *Assortment* vs. increasing *Sales*



Portfolio fragmentation index = Share of Assortment/ Share of Value

Source: Vietnam Total TT+MT MAT 2022



*Decision fatigue:*  
paradox of too  
many choices

Shoppers react negatively to a complex shelf set



*Too many choices*



*Too many similar products with similar claims*



*Messy shelf is hard to navigate*

Surviving these challenges, FMCG brands must be able to win against the odds, delivering value and volume growth.

**Create the**  
*Perfect Portfolio*  
**to fuel your growth**

# Current approach falls short of justifying reset costs

Each category contains a long tail of ineffective SKU's taking up space and attention away from the important SKU's



Eliminating low performing SKUs can **deliver substantial cost benefits** for both CPG and retailers

Time and cost of production limit the ability to hit the target price points, thus lowering margins

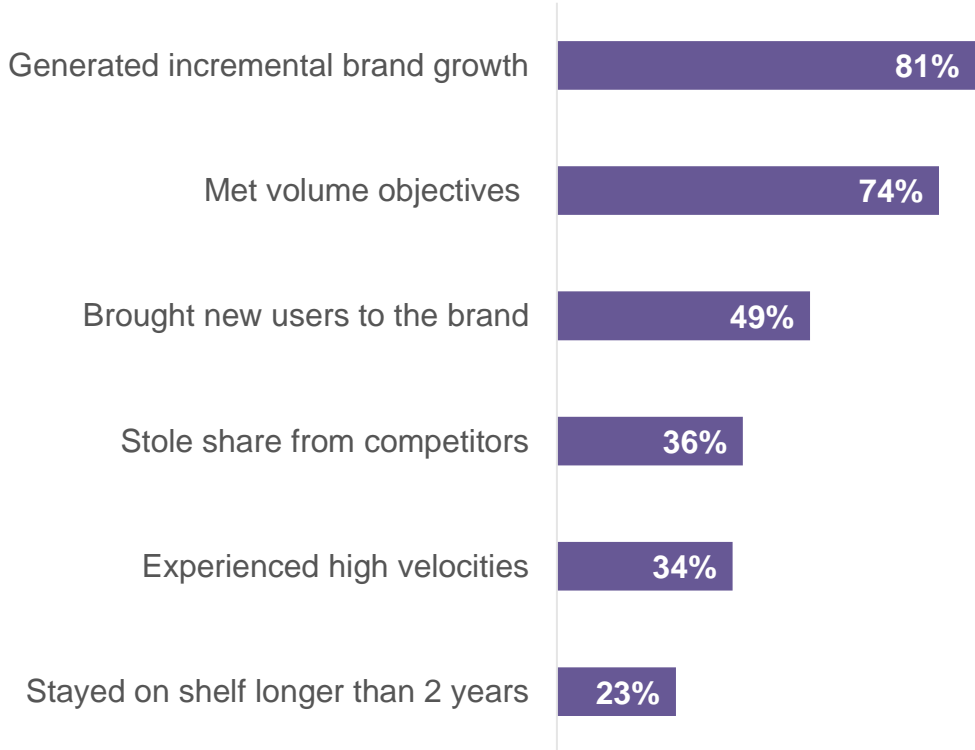


Validate how removing unprofitable items can **help reshape the portfolio**

**85%**  
**of cost savings are achievable with the right approach**

# Growth can be defined in a variety of ways, but incrementality is almost always the top KPI

## Top metrics used by our clients to assess launch performance



Mass Potential



Targeted Potential



Brand Incrementality



Category Distinction

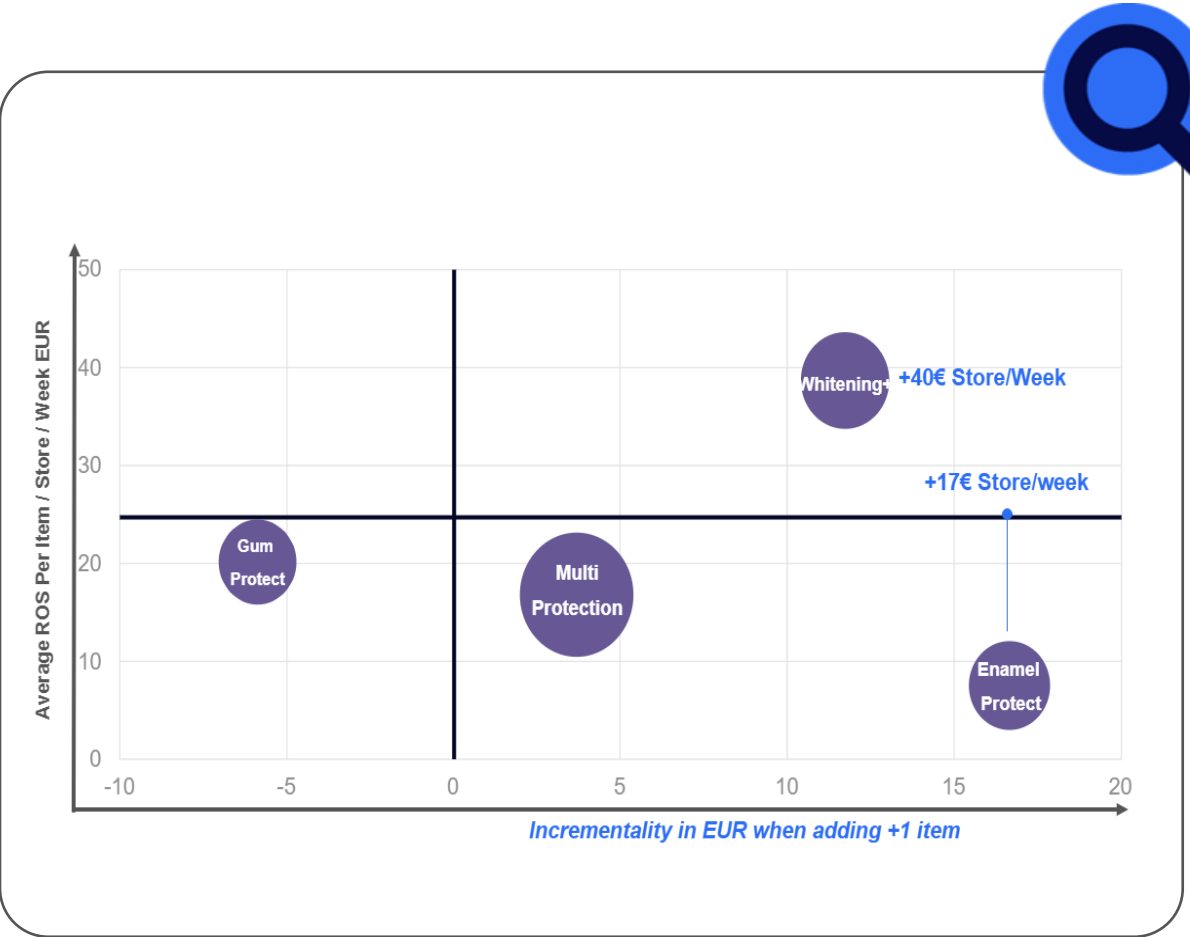
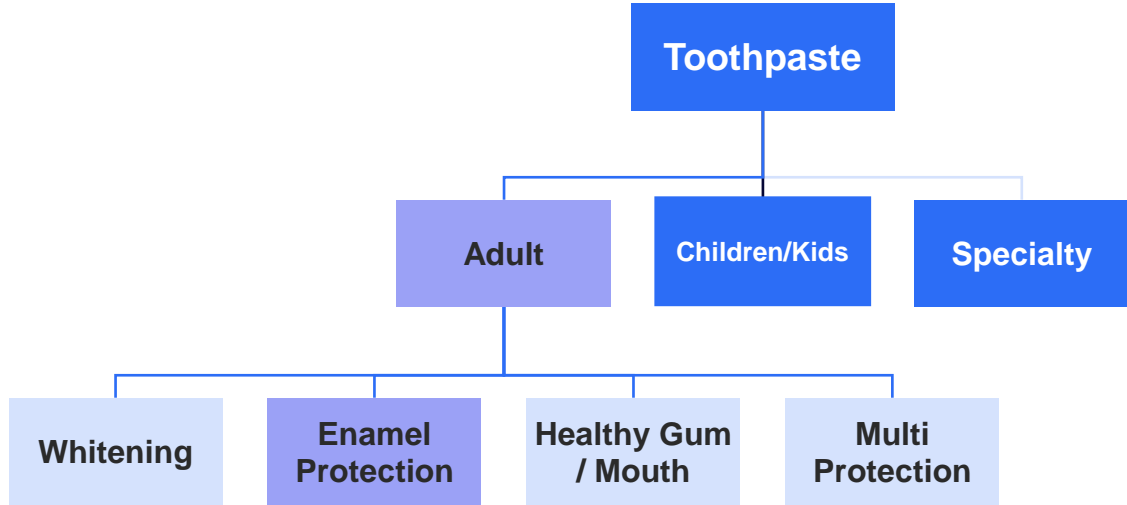


Endurance

Source: NielsenIQ Client Survey, June 2017 (n=314 marketing innovation professionals)

# Analyze the macro view – how shoppers make purchases decisions in the category

Which are the segments contributing to true category growth?



Check each segment's relevance and importance to category incrementality

# Analyze the micro view – how shoppers make purchases decisions in the segment

Which are the items contributing to true segment growth?

Target Group	Avg# of items change	Sales value change
Whitening	2.1	1.4M
Enamel Protect	1.4	1.7M
Gum Protect / Healthy Mouth	-0.8	-0.5M
Multi-protection	-0.6	-0.2M
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.4M</b>



**Key Item category incremental growth potential within Enamel protect**

Item	Product Z	Manufacturer Incrementality	.2M€
Current ND	86%	% Manufacturer Incrementality	96%
Current Sales Rate	17€ per store/week	Category Incrementality	.5M€
Current Sales Value	1.5M€	% Category Incrementality	92%

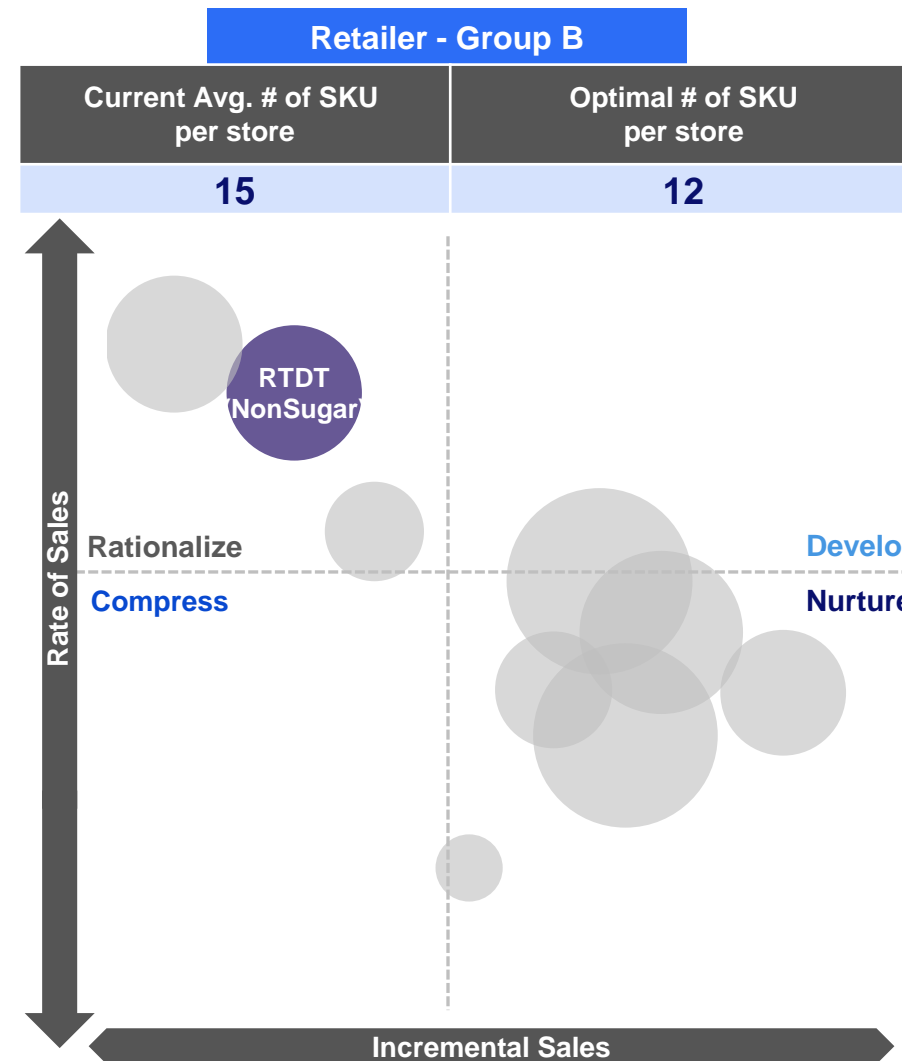
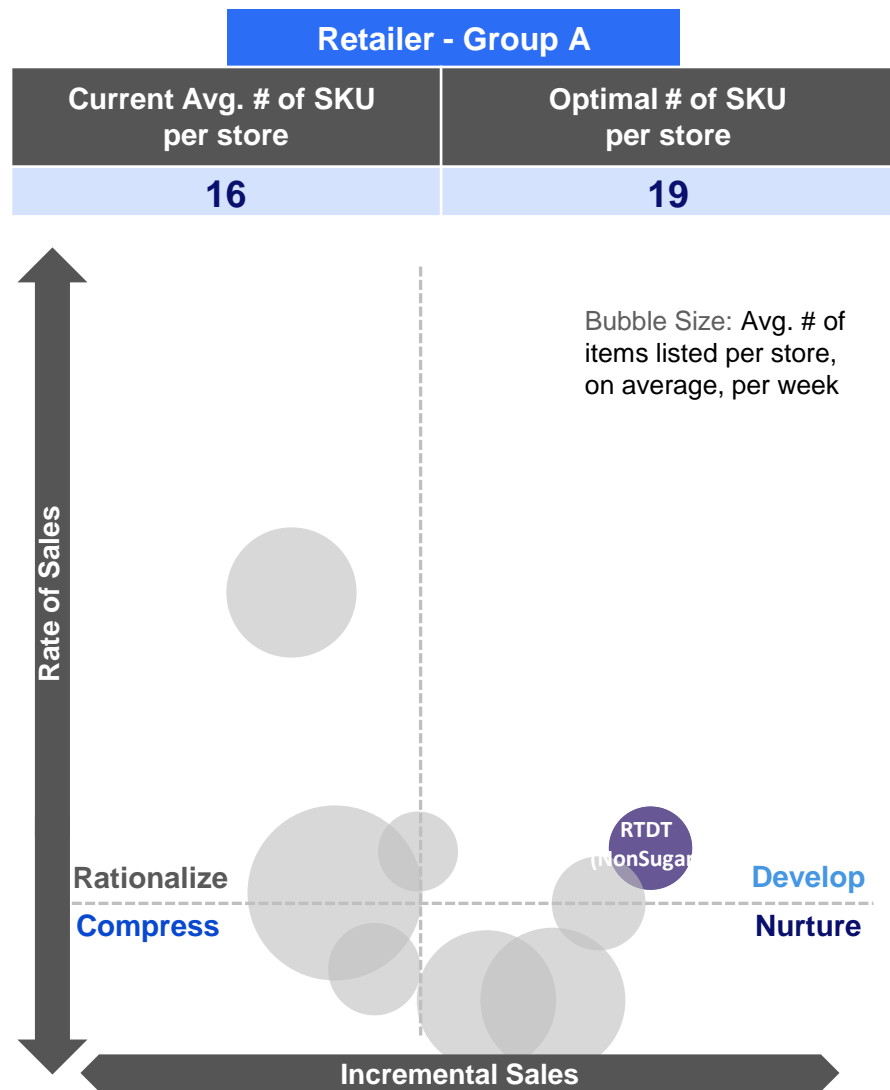
Check each segment's relevance and importance to category incrementality





# Perfect portfolio success requires localized plans

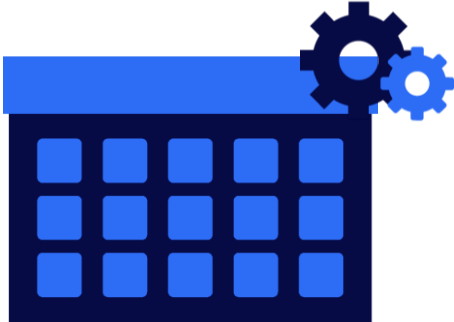
Adapted to the shopper profiles and needs in each unique store cluster



# Win-Win-Win category growth story



**Shopper Perspective**  
Increased shopper satisfaction



**Brand Perspective**  
Build brand equity and relevance



**Retailers/Trade Perspective**  
Free space to fulfill new customer needs and fuel more growth

**Create the**  
*Perfect Shelf*  
**to simplify range  
for retailers**

# Due to the assortment changes and the shopper preferences, the shelf is changing

The right pricing, promotion, assortment and marketing strategy can't have impact if a product is not **on the shelf**



## The purpose of the shelf and the store is changing

- Brick and mortar stores are now also fulfillment centers for online purchases
- The shelf needs to support more frequent shopping events



## Shelf space is under pressure

- Assortments (avg # items) are shrinking, continuing the trend started during COVID
- Private label products are growing
- Stores are smaller



## Labor shortages are adding to the challenge

- The increase in online sales limits growth in the number of physical retail stores and reduces demand for retail sales workers
- 75.8% retail labor turnover in 2022
- Retailers struggle to keep shelves stocked

# Shelf supports more frequent shopping events and evolves to match digital age vs. 1x-2x/year

Since assortment management no longer evolves seasonally across the store

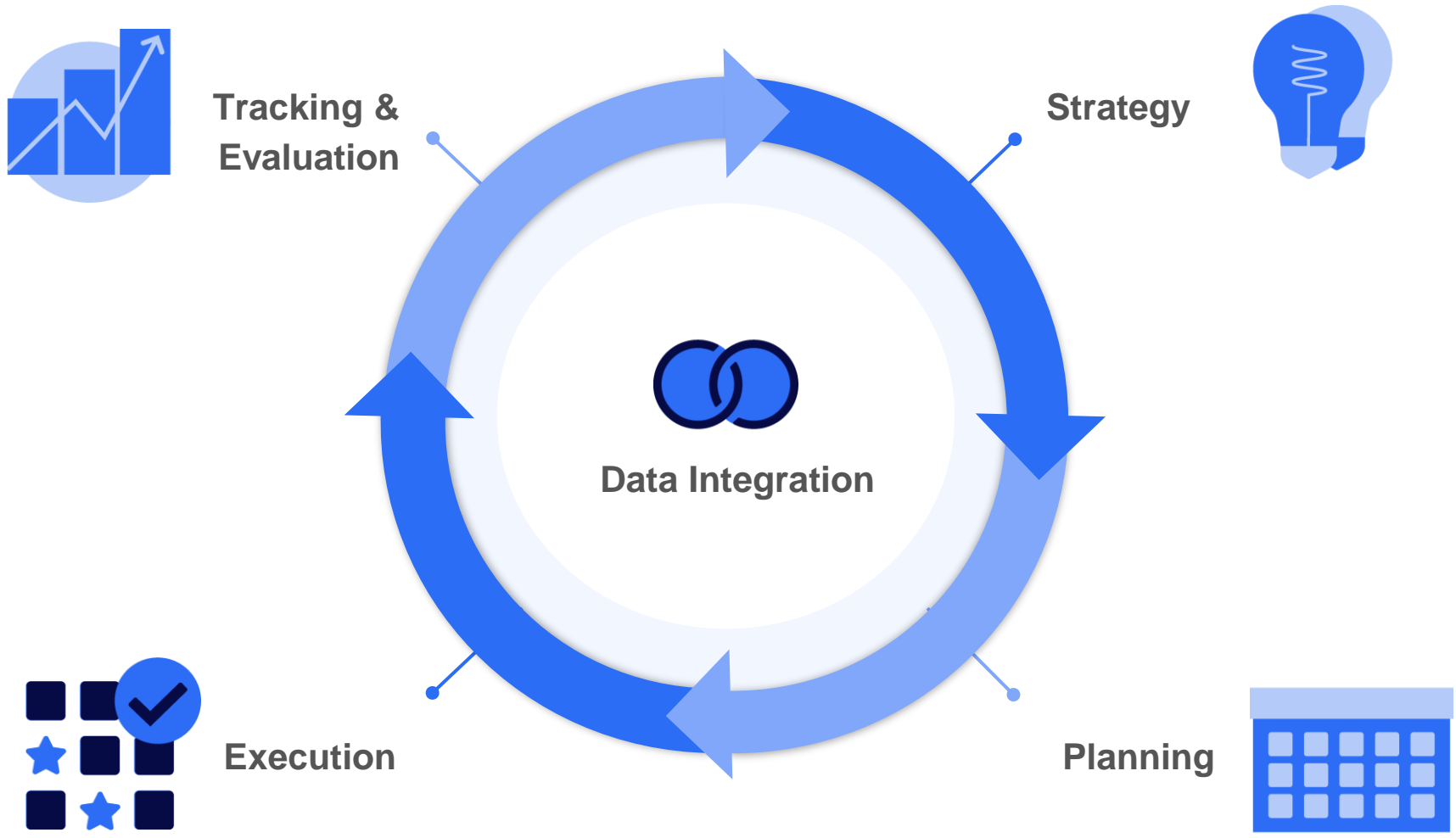


*Pre-pandemic*

*Post-pandemic*

*Current state*

# You really need to combine Category Management strategies, decisions and rules, to bring the plan to life





# The need for a smart shelf becomes evident, especially since we must work and adapt at a granular level



Following the optimum portfolio per store type and cluster, **the shelf follows every store's different shopper behavior.**



Traffic Flow →





# Faster and more flexible shelf planning capabilities meet the demands of hyper-intensive planogramming, since trade offs are needed in merchandising

## The Shopper

- Category layouts must be easy for the shopper to find what he is looking for
- They need to enhance the shopper experience
- They need to push him towards more profitable products



## The Operations

- Store and category layouts need to fit boxes and cases
- Product placement must help the retailer eliminate the trips from the shelf to the backroom



- ✓ *Category layouts* have to maximize traffic, create transaction building, x-selling and profit building
- ✓ Increase *shopper satisfaction*

# Can you follow up all the changes in assortment? Do you have the time to implement everything in real time?

A solution could be to send planogram content when it is “fresh”. The value lies with the frequent follow- up and changes

## What about publishing automatically? Communicate in Real time?

*The benefits for manufacturers and retailers:*

Store-level planograms, reports and other descriptive files need to be shared and printed automatically	✓
Even in planning stages, files need to be sent to retailers and manufacturers	✓
Planograms could be sent directly to the stores for fast implementation	✓
As a result, leverage existing investments	✓





# The pitfalls of the must-stock list

Products out of sight,  
products out of mind

In National Large Supermarkets there were *395 different active SKUs* sold throughout study period.



However, an average store had a *shelf with 103 items* listings.  
(not all the products have 100% distribution)

Is the current assortment share optimal?

What is the perfect assortment set?

# Automation

Take your planograms to the *next level*

**Help your retailer/partner** to go for store-specific planograms.

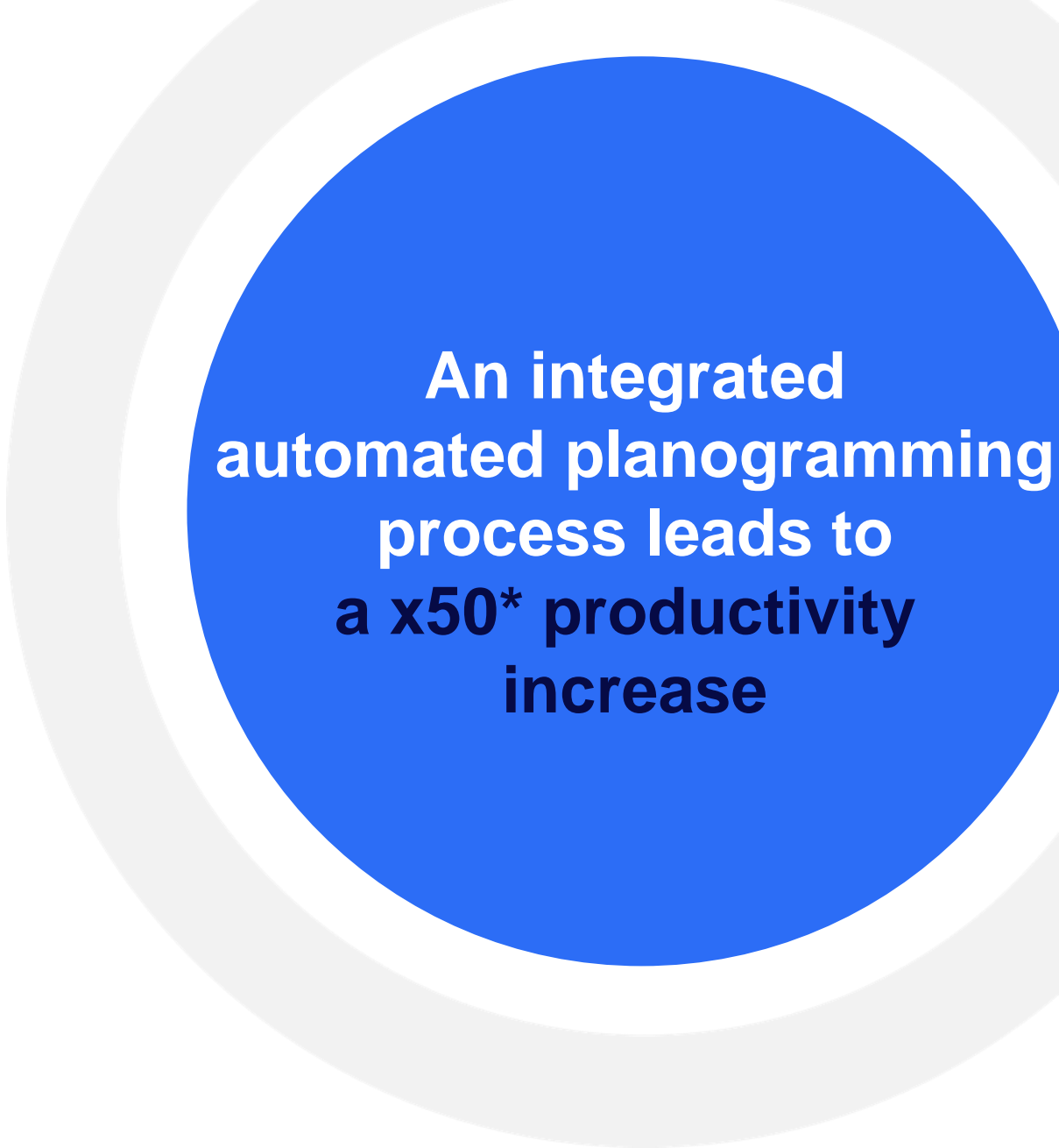
**Time reduction** when updating your layouts

**Change your store to convenience** channel/sector without increasing your resources

**Granular scope** enables you to get more channels

**Ability to customize planograms** based on local/region preferences

**Automatically allocate products** to blocks according to the decision tree



**An integrated  
automated planogramming  
process leads to  
a x50\* productivity  
increase**

\*Data based in analysis of projects carried out by NIQ ASO Team with clients from different countries.

# Speed is king in planogram creation, roll out and implementation!

The example of a retailer in Latin America with automation tools

## The challenges:

- Assortment and merchandising strategies' adaptation to every store
- Sales Growth
- Manual intervention minimization

## The client achieved:

- Efficiency in store-specific planogram creation
- Significant reduction in manual tasks and time used
- Improvement in sales performance
- Daily control of out-of-stocks
- Easy replenishment on the shelf
- Increase in the frequency of the category updates



### Category Growth

**10-35%**

category sales increase

(10-week period comparison vs non-automated categories)



### Increased Efficiency

**40%**

increase in number of category updates



### Stock Control

**10%**

reduction in out-of-stocks on shelf\*\*



### More balanced assortment

**10-30%**

improvement in average of days of supply across stores

# Automation is also about cooperation

Assist the retailer, give suggestions



Help the retailers setting up the rules



Focus on what you want to achieve



Take into consideration the shoppers' missions



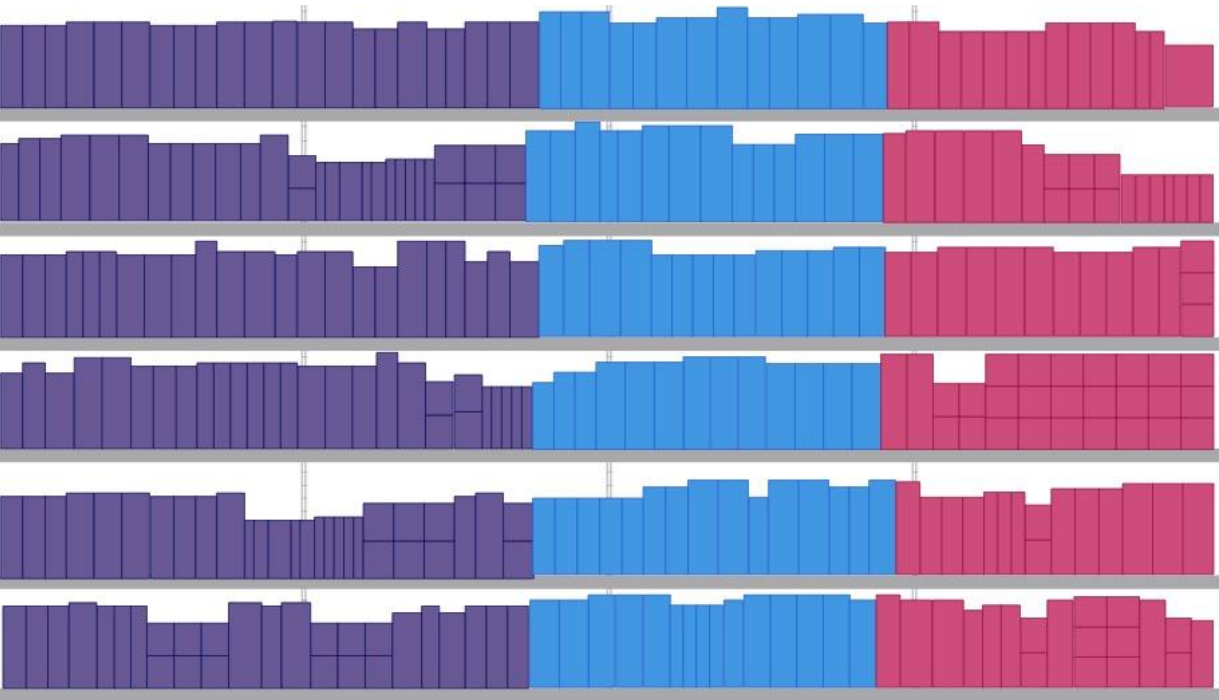
Sales



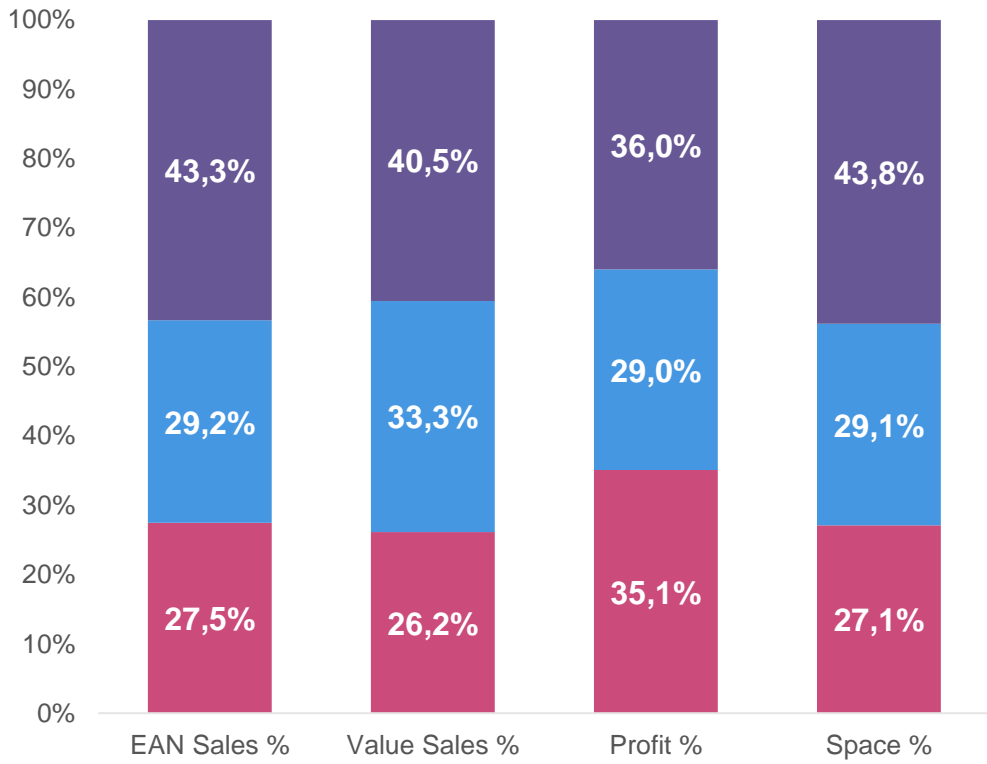
Profit



Or both



● Segment A      ● Segment B      ● Segment C



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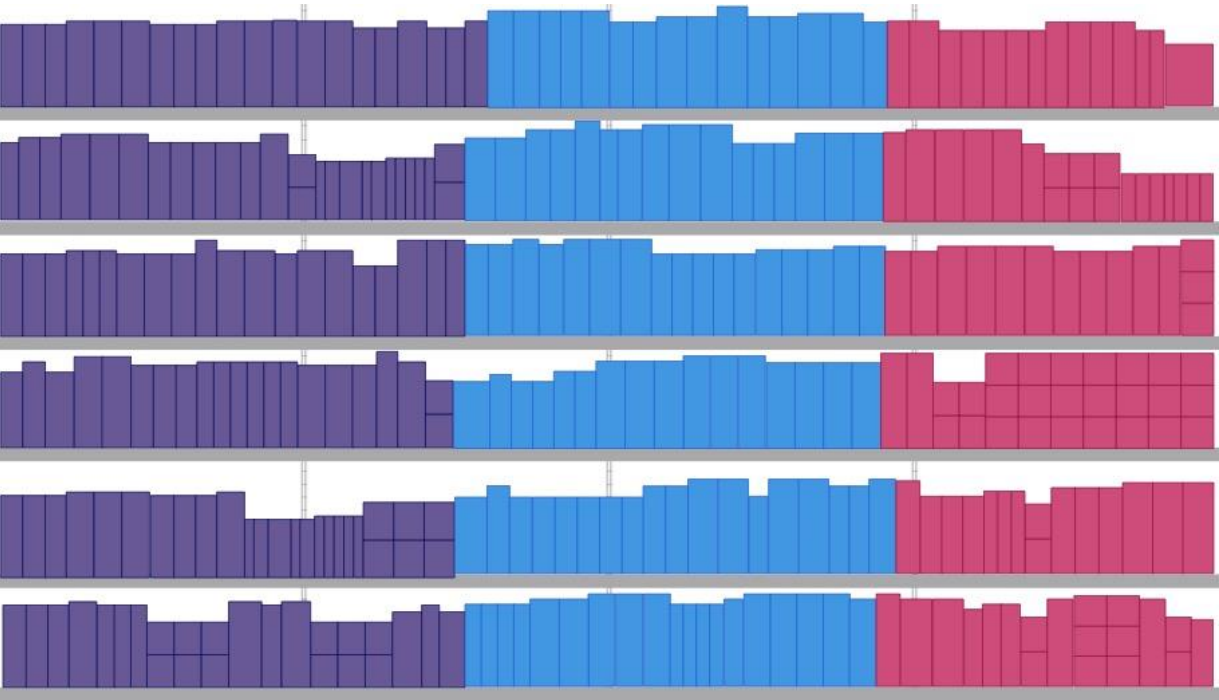
Sales



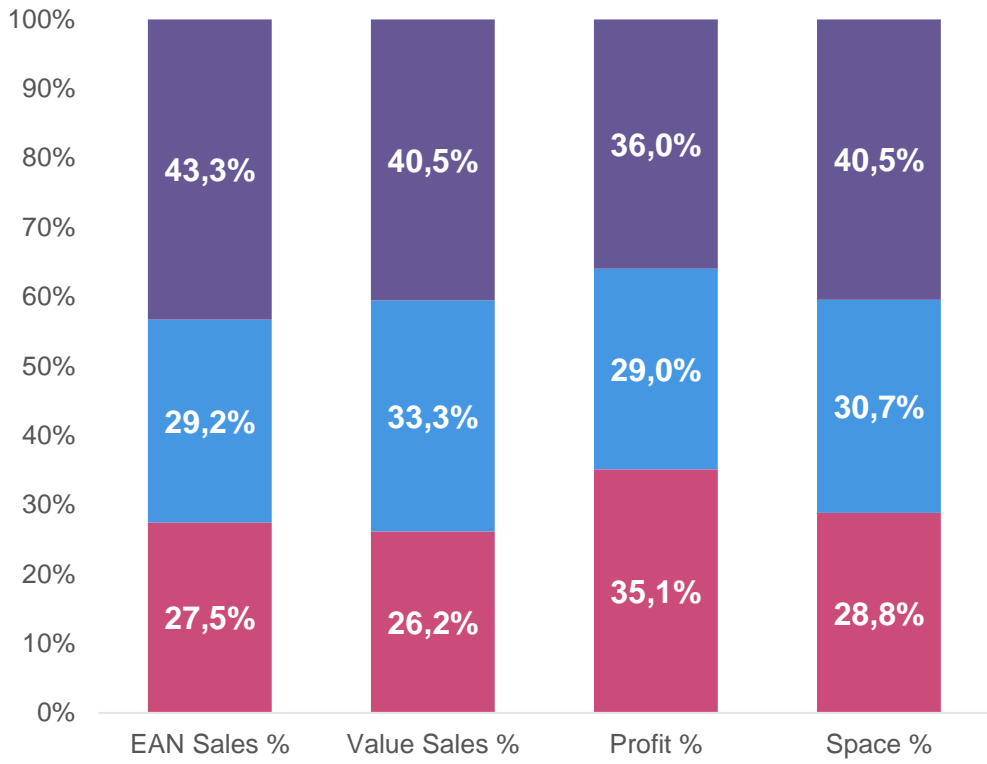
Profit



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**Strategy is 10%**  
*Execution* **is 90%**  
**of the success**



# Execution and compliance

## Why they are so important?

### **In-store execution**

Ensure planogram implementation and reduce any operational inefficiencies

### **Track and sustain**

Monitor planogram maintenance and implementation quality; audit and fix in real time

### **Impact of non-compliance**

Leads to disturbed supply chain, in-store inefficiency , thus more labor in store and unhappy customers



**The actual cost  
of poor execution is  
*lost sales!***

## Make the difference and grow in Sales, with...

***Quick and easy*** user interfaces that increase adoption and usage.

***Focus*** on planogram implementation allowing at the same time customization

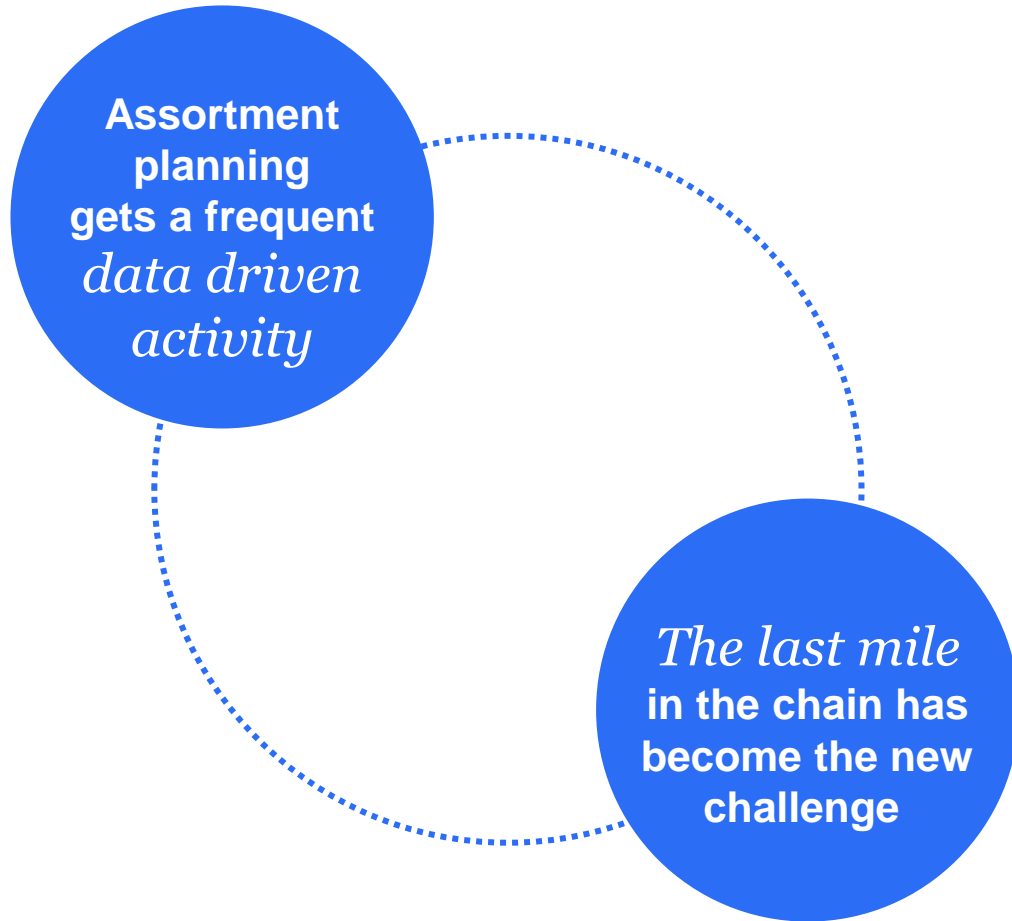
***Integration*** with any existing in-store systems and devices.

***Communication*** with any existing space management system in the headquarters.



**Keeping your  
shelf compliant can  
*make a difference***

## Assortment simplification and optimization is everyday



## But it is not enough on its own



*Planograms* **can guarantee** any assortment **strategies and decisions.**



**Mobile** solutions get **mandatory**



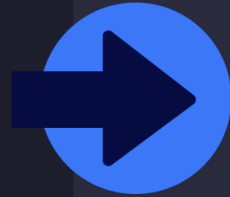
**Real time data analytics**

## Placement at retail is a “pay to play” sport, therefore you need to...

- **Know** the retailer’s strategy and the shopper they aspire to have
- **Know** the shopper you are bringing in the door and their worth in profit and across the store
- **Know** the retailer’s processes cold
- **Incrementality.** Add variety with a data- based approach
- **Automate** your planograms even at a granular level
- **Monitor** compliance! We cannot buy what we cannot see, can we?

# Thank You

Get in touch with our  
*Advanced Analytics team*



## About NIQ

NIQ, the world's leading consumer intelligence company, reveals new pathways to growth for retailers and consumer goods manufacturers. With operations in more than 100 countries, NIQ delivers the most complete and clear understanding of consumer buying behavior through an advanced business intelligence platform with integrated predictive analytics. NIQ delivers the Full View.

NIQ was founded in 1923 and is an Advent International portfolio company. For more information, visit [NIQ.com](https://www.niq.com)

