Mars growing business with B2B CX

Mars partnered with Fujitsu to build an engagement platform that drives enhanced, frictionless, digital experiences for B2B customers across all channels.

Challenge
At Mars, delivering with excellence to their B2B customers is foundational to long term success. Each individual sale must be treated as the most important sale. A great customer experience has the same qualities as a personal shopping experience - and more: frictionless, convenient, transparent - all with speed and scale.

Solution
Fujitsu and Mars partnered to create a new platform that enabled a premium on-line buying journey delivering E2E value for business customers.

Outcomes
- Improved customer service
- Transparent ordering process
- Omnichannel, frictionless CX
- Increased inventory visibility
- Efficient pricing and discount management.

“We started with just one focus: How do we make it easier to do business with Mars? High Quality. Full Visibility. Consistent. Seamless.”

Jason Thomstatter, Director Digital Demand Omnichannel, Mars Incorporated
Improving order management at Mars

Mars recognizes that the needs of business customers have evolved. They took a customer-centric design approach and invested additional time to meet with customers. Using direct feedback they created a future-proof, perfect ordering and order management experience. So Mars took the time to understand what their customers wanted when they ordered products from Mars.

Jason Thomstatter, Director Digital Demand Omnichannel, Mars, explains: “We originally started off our B2B program with a challenge that we experienced from one of our businesses. The customer effectively said, ‘I love your products, love your brands, hate your ordering experience.’ Hearing that feedback even once was one time too many for Mars. They became laser-focused on redesigning the ordering process, improving both the consistency and the caliber of the customer experience.

Fixing and learning along the way

Mars then worked with Fujitsu to help drive change. Together, the two companies built an order management system and then layered e-commerce capabilities over it to create the optimal experience. As Praveen Moturu, Vice President, Chief Enterprise Architect at Mars says: “Customers are looking for more personalization, a frictionless experience, and for us to be easy to do business with. Most important, was having a consistent, omnichannel experience with full visibility regarding customer interactions with us here at Mars.”

Customers are thrilled with the increased automation and efficiency. They are especially excited to have full visibility into the order and distribution process, allowing them to manage their business more effectively. And Mars is still listening. As Jason Thomstatter says: “Our customers gave us feedback that we’re now one of the best ordering experiences. Now that’s the kind of feedback everyone wants to hear!”

A seamless customer experience

Mars solved a big problem for their customers and the teams are using this momentum for continued innovation. One thing being worked on right now is a “buy now, pay later” capability. For B2B customers, leveraging third party mid-tech companies to offer lines of credit to customers, is also an area of interest. As Jason Thomstatter explains: “Fujitsu has a portfolio of additional capabilities that we probably haven’t unlocked within Mars yet, but we truly feel that there’s opportunity to partner more in the future.”

Praveen Moturu concludes: “At Mars we are learning about our customer experiences, learning about their wants and needs on a continual basis… we are listening to them constantly… these platforms allow us to take it to the next level, to drive more personalization and more value-add to customers throughout their journey.”