### Making Hearing Happen

Lessons learned from making eye care affordable and accessible-applied to hearing

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This presentation is about businesses that use technology, price and quality to change the competitive landscape in favor of the consumer

## Overview Creating a Different Economic Paradigm

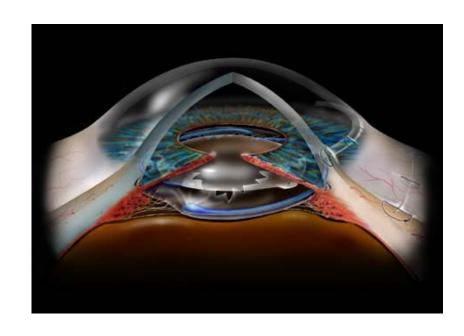
- Examples of sustainable eye care that serve all economic strata, where free is the lowest price
- The interplay of affordable technology combined with cost-effective and efficient service delivery
- Social enterprise business models with the right control and governance to ensure fidelity to social mission (pricing for affordability and accessibility)
- How lessons in eye care are applied to hearing

#### **Applying Lessons Learned from Eye Care**

- Self financing for all economic strata
- Tiered pricing where free is the lowest price
- Maximize distribution while attaining profitability vs. ROI or grants
- Choice to use profit and production capacity to serve
- Use pricing to change the competitive landscape in favor of the consumer
- Control and governance to insure fidelity to social mission
- Propinquity: reducing time between detection, treatment and client satisfaction
- Eco-systems approach: demystify manufacturing and distribution costs and remove non-value margin in supply chain to insure affordability to all in need
- Control of technology, manufacturing, distribution and pricing to insure affordable pricing

#### **Global Blindness**

- 285 million people are visually impaired
- Of these, 39 million are blind
- 246 million have moderate to severe visual impairment
- Cataract is the main cause of blindness



#### **Innovative Models in Eye Care**

- Over 300 eye care programs are self financing and providing 1M surgeries a year to low income
- Ecosystems approach for taking into account entire supply chain
  - Training, service delivery, pricing, competitive forces, low priced consumables





#### **Aravind Has Helped 285 Eye Hospitals Become**



Bulgaria

**Bolivia** 

**Botswana** 

Cambodia

China

**Egypt** 

Indonesia

Kenya

Malawi

**Maldives** 

Nepal

Zambia

**Zimbabwe** 

Guatemala

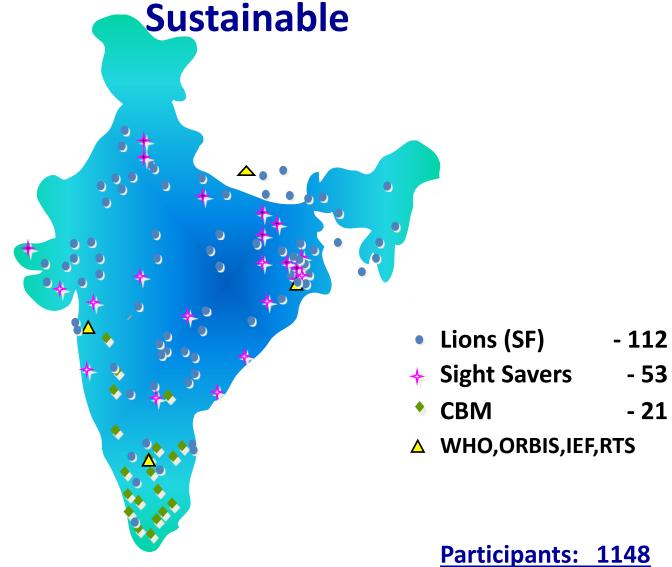
**El Salvador** 

Tanzania

**Tibet** 

Nigeria

Sri Lanka



80% of these eye care programs have become profitable while serving the poor

#### He Eye System Liaoning, China



• 29,000 surgeries

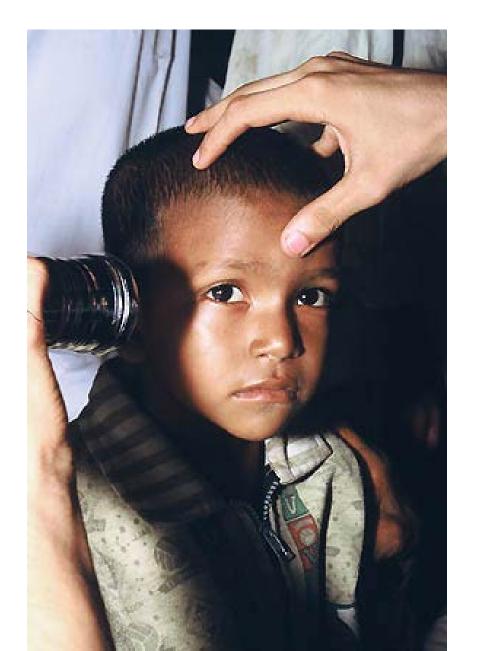
- 33% get surgery for free or below cost.
- 390,000 patients examined Institution still has a profit of 17%

# Magrabi Eye Hospital Egypt



|      |             |            |                      | Total    | <mark>% Free</mark>  |           | % Free            |
|------|-------------|------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|-----------|-------------------|
|      |             |            |                      | Cataract | <u>Cataract</u>      | Total All | All               |
| Year | Expenditure | Revenue    | Profit/loss          | Surgery  | <mark>surgery</mark> | Surgeries | Surgeries         |
| 2005 | 5,492,345   | 5,870,038  | <mark>377,693</mark> | 4727     | <mark>49%</mark>     | 6,138     | 41%               |
| 2006 | 8,026,917   | 8,373,917  | <mark>347,000</mark> | 4260     | <mark>60%</mark>     | 5,435     | 51%               |
| 2007 | 10,007,394  | 10,617,815 | <mark>610,421</mark> | 4447     | <mark>58%</mark>     | 6,208     | 47%               |
| 2008 | 9,936,205   | 9,946,984  | <mark>10,779</mark>  | 6859     | <mark>41%</mark>     | 9,330     | 33%               |
| 2009 | 13,349,988  | 16,611,784 | 3,261,796            | 6356     | <mark>43%</mark>     | 10,147    | <sub>11</sub> 31% |

#### Lumbini Eye Hospital, Nepal



Surgeries: 47,000 70% pay \$33 20% pay \$78 10% free Profit \$222,222

Nepal is one of the 10 poorest countries in the world.

And yet Nepal has found way to serve all with eye care needs and with profit.

#### **Grameen Eye Hospitals**



#### Visualiza: Public and Private Together



Waiting room private



**Waiting room Social** 



**Operating theatre** 

| <b>Outpatient Visits</b>  | 62,845     |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Surgeries paying          | 668        |
| Surgeries free/below cost | 3,213      |
| % free/below cost         | 83         |
| Total surgeries           | 3,881      |
| Ophthalmologiests         | 5          |
| Expenses                  | 16,805,593 |
| Revenue                   | 18,116,960 |
| Profit                    | 1,311,367  |

#### **Chitrakoot- Sadguru NC**

|                            | 2011-12 |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Exams & treatment          | 411,774 |
| Surgeries                  | 100,691 |
| Surgery free or below cost | 86,719  |
| Percent free or below cost | 86%     |
| Surplus revenue            | 8%      |



PACIFIC
VISION
FOUNDATION
EYE
INSTITUTE
San Francisco
USA



#### **Cataract surgery cost: Vancouver VS Aravind**

|                   | Vancouver |        | Aravind |       | Aravind            |
|-------------------|-----------|--------|---------|-------|--------------------|
|                   |           |        |         |       |                    |
| Staff             | Minutes   | Cost   | Minutes | Cost  | w/ Vancouver costs |
| OR Booking Clerk  | 26        | 13.13  | 5       | 0.071 | 2.52               |
| Intraoperative RN | 30        | 26.54  | 3       | 0.043 | 2.65               |
| Pre/Post-Op RN    | 30        | 26.54  | 2       | 0.028 | 1.77               |
| Sedation RN       | 30        | 26.54  | 4       | 0.057 | 3.54               |
| Housekeeping      | 3.5       | 1.55   | 2.63    | 0.037 | 1.16               |
| CSD Techs         | 50        | 24.39  | 50      | 0.71  | 24.39              |
| Surgeon           | 38.67     | 342    | 5       | 1.25  | 44.22              |
| Total cost USD    |           | 460.68 |         | 2.196 | 80.25              |

...Aravind's cost advantage is significantly influenced by higher labor productivity (and not just lower labor costs)

#### **Aurolab**

Interplay of technology, disruptive pricing and compassion

#### 18M eyes regained sight through affordable Aurolab products

10% global market share of intraocular lenses

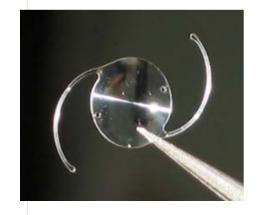
2.2M annual volume sold to 120 countries

CE Mark for most products, FDA for suture.

40% Margin



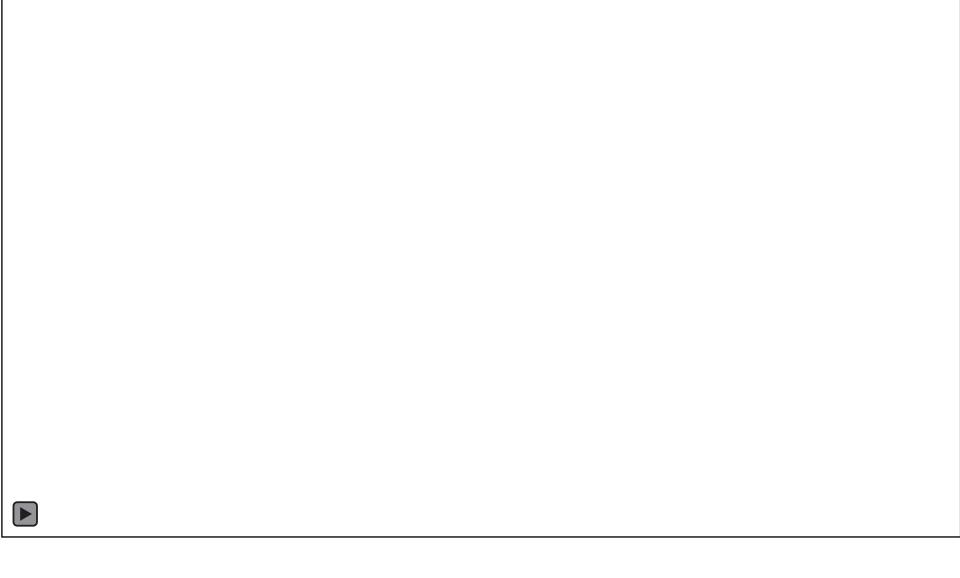
| Average pricing   | IOL    | Suture | Pharma |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Aurolab Price USD | \$3.50 | \$1.10 | \$1.50 |
| Competitor Price  | \$100+ | \$10   | \$60   |







#### **Aurolab IOL Manufacturing**



#### Making quality SUTURE affordable



- State of the art manufacturing
- US FDA and EUROPEAN CE MARK CERTIFICATION
- Aurolab price is \$23 per box VS. \$240 of competition



#### **Change Competitive Landscape with Pricing**

- India market growth in cataract surgery after Aurolab 1992-2002:
  - 2 companies grow to over 10
  - Commercial companies compete with Aurolab on price and quality
  - Market grows from 800,000 to 6 million cataract surgeries per year
- Big Co vs Aurolab /Indian Govt.
  - Aurolab forces competitor to reduce pricing for suture from \$240/ box to \$23 using competitive pricing as the weapon

## **Sculpting Costs & Margins to fit Serving Others Figures for 2007**

| lĎĽ's         | Aurolab      | Alcon            |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| Price         | \$2-30 (\$4) | \$50-400 (\$130) |
| Volume        | <b>1M</b>    | 7M               |
| Revenue       | \$5M         | \$920M           |
| Cost of goods | \$2.50       | \$32             |
| Manufacturing | <b>\$1</b>   | \$1              |

- If Aurolab had sold as many IOLs as Alcon in 2007, they would have earned \$35M, as opposed to Alcon with \$920M for the same sales volume.
- Manufacturing costs may be the same but margins and distribution are vastly different.

#### Hearing Challenge: 600M in Need

- WHO estimates 278M people have disabling hearing loss and an additional 340M have mild or moderate loss.
- 7M hearing aids are sold each year
  - Only 10% go to developing world addressing 1% of need
- Numbers have remained constant over the last decade, and will remain so unless the industry experiences significant disruption with regard to pricing, distribution and accessibility to the customer

#### **Market Needs**

- People in both developing and developed markets need
  - Clarity and Amplification in real-world environments
  - Lower priced hearing solutions
  - Easier access/greater availability
  - Simpler process of buying and fitting the product
  - Real-time adjustment of listening profiles
  - Easier to use, especially with regard to batteries

Sound World Solutions has developed a technology platform capable of meeting all of these needs.

#### **Disclosure**

 As a co-founder in Sound World Solutions, I own shares

#### **Affordable Hearing**







2 minute assessment of Listening Preference& Programming



User adjustable According to environment

#### **Amplifier and Hearing Aid**

- iPhone, Android, MAC, PC
- Excellent directionality and noise control for both telephone and amplification mode
- Can be configured with and without smartphone /computer
- Directional mic
- In-situ fitting
- Smallest Bluetooth headset in the market.
- Audio streaming
- Released both as personal amplifier (limited output) and hearing aid (max output of 130db and 70db of gain)



**CS 15** 



#### **Cutting Edge Technology**

- First to have smart phone app controlling device directly with audio streaming without need for intermediate device
- 16 channel device with 24 bit resolution
- Chip is Consumer from consumer Bluetooth market 1B drives chipset to be better, faster, cheaper; more robust than any hearing aid chip
- Advanced signal processing
  - input compression
  - wide dynamic range compression
  - noise reduction
  - Feedback cancelation
  - multi channel output compression,
  - directionality using silicon microphones which have excellent matching and are robust in difficult environments

# Customized fit with included assortment of ear tips

Universal molds made out of proprietary material to reduce feedback and enable fitting for severe loss without the need for a custom mold



#### Rechargeable batteries included

- Two batteries included
- Oup to 9 or 16 hours of life
- Charger works on AC or via USB





#### **Strategy - Developing Markets**

- Sustainable, profitable business model that enables low cost, low risk rapid startups
- Add on business to pre-existing enterprises with market reach
  - doctors offices
  - social enterprise networks
  - Government programs
  - eye care programs
  - Mobile business able to reach beyond existing enterprises, enable entrepreneurial growth and increase access to hearing health
- Vast improvement over charitable events which fit groups of people over a period of days but lack follow on support



"Business in a bag"

## **Emerging Market Social Enterprises Converting need into demand**

- Develop pricing model to insure affordability and accessibility to all
- Design customer experience & determine how clients will be reached
- Define staff to train and provide training
- Develop outreach program and after sales support
- Business plan with projected costs, pricing, sales volume and revenue
- Making the product accessible to all, where 'free' is lowest price
- Define and fulfill regulatory requirements, if any

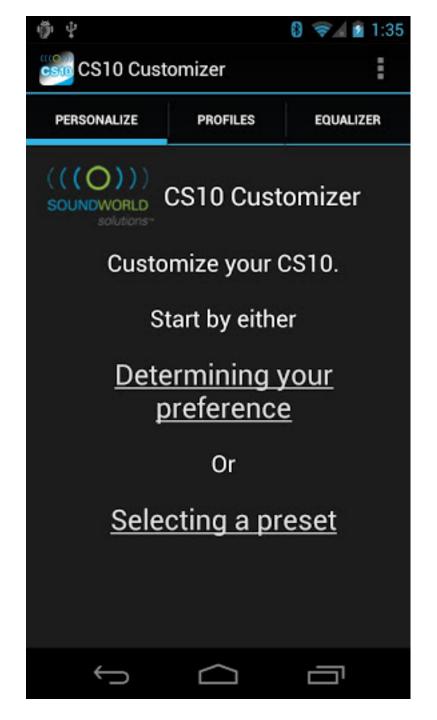
#### **Developing Country Value Proposition**

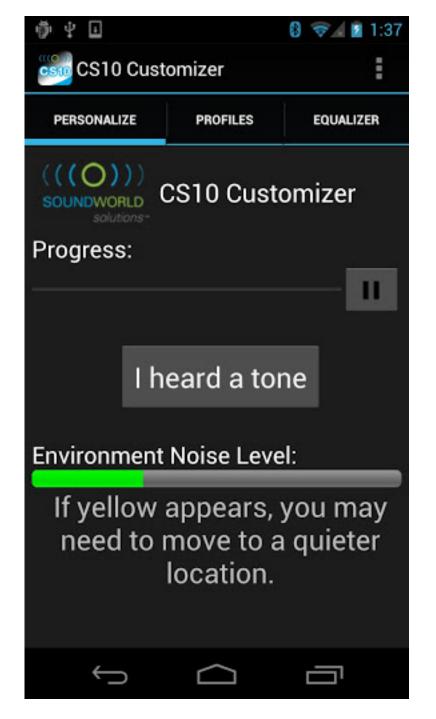
| Attributes        | Sound World Solutions   | Traditional Hearing Solutions |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Retail Price      | \$80-\$300              | \$1,700 - \$3,000             |
| Battery cost/year | Rechargeable, \$12/year | Not rechargeable, \$52/year   |
| Fitting equipment | \$350                   | \$25,000                      |
| Training time     | 1 week                  | 2-4 years                     |
| Fitting time      | Half hour; 1 visit      | 2 hours; 3+ weeks             |
| Locations         | Mobile                  | Hours away                    |

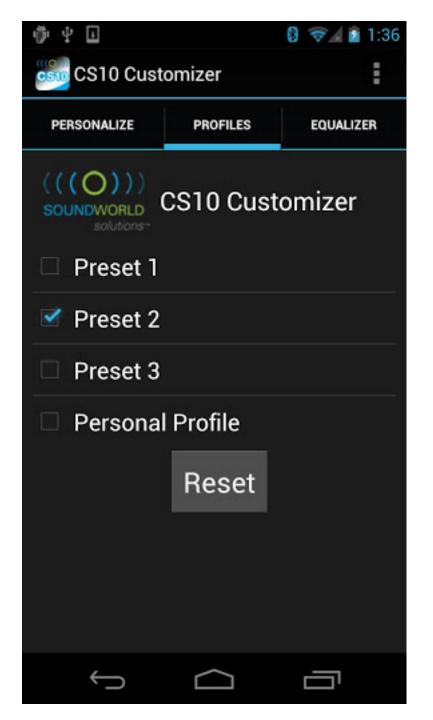
- Fitting hearing instruments where we are not making clinical diagnosis
- Business model that makes hearing affordable and accessible to all

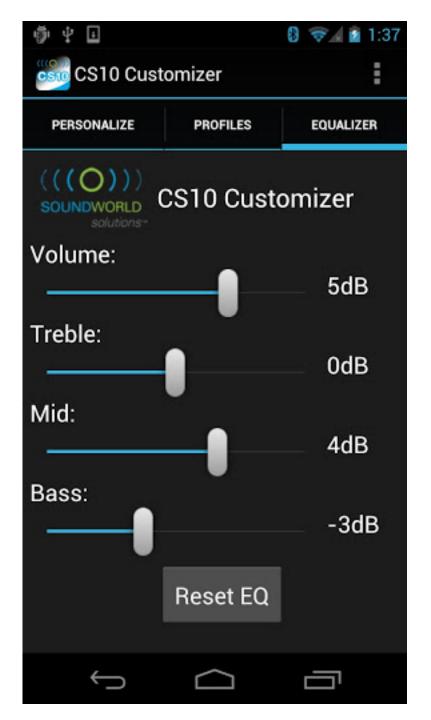
#### Reaching the Underserved in the US

- Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers
- 638 American Indian clinics
- Latino community organizations and clinics
- County Public Health Departments
- Home Health Care Agencies'
- Reduce costs and focus on fee affordable fee for service/product instead of reimbursement









# Changing the Competitive Landscape with Pricing as the Lever

- It's not just about reducing costs, it's about changing the entire business model in order to reduce price.
- Discover and analyze "non-value added margin", and create systems that eliminate non-value margin.
- Understand political environment in which the status quo of high pricing, lack of competition and transparency can live and thrive -- in order to formulate disruptive interventions.
- Use price as the weapon to change the competitive landscape in a given industry in favor of the consumer.