

# Rail Gourmet and The Yard Creative

present

"Successful Retail Design"

**November 2009** 



#### Today's menu



#### **Starter:**

Trends in the rail catering market

#### **Main Course:**

Explain the benefits of a strong retail strategy

#### **Dessert:**

A flavour of the best on-board retailing

Provide a taste of what's to come

#### Rail Gourmet background



#### Rail Gourmet – Part of SSP "The Food Travel Experts"



By Appointment to Her Majesty The Queen Royal Train Caterers Rail Gourmet UK Ltd London

#### **Rail Gourmet**

Winner – "Most Innovative Caterer" Awarded at the IRCG, Helsinki 2009











## **The Rail Catering Market**



How the market is today ...

#### **UK Rail Catering Market**



- 95% logistics outsourced
- 75% on-board in house
- **Style** of catering offer based on:
  - Commuter / Intercity
  - Length of journey
  - Train facilities and investment
- Key issues
  - Retail consumer expectations
  - Retail design





#### **European Rail Catering Market**



- Spain, Italy and France all outsourced
- Ireland all outsourced
- Cross border Thalys and Eurostar all outsourced
- Norway and Sweden part outsourced
- Germany, Denmark and Eastern Europe

   mostly in house
- Switzerland separate company owned by railway
- Finland railway / catering joint venture



## Why are retail partnerships so important?



- Utilising retail knowledge and expertise
- Stress removed from train company
- Benefits of efficiencies in process

#### **Key Reason**

Retail expertise = Higher sales = Lower overall cost and possible profit

#### **Economic Survival**



We need to be more consumer and retail focussed to survive.





We need to convince people to buy in today's economic climate

#### **Understanding the Retail Trends**



- Starts with having the right research
- 'Food Travel Market' is changing
- The pace of life is speeding up
- 'Customers' are 'Consumers' with a choice
- Train catering needs to attract consumers
- Have to be "more like Tesco than a TOC"

### **Rail Catering Research**



- Average 8 minutes spent on stations
- 24% buy before boarding
- 23% don't know if catering's on-board
- Between 10% to 70% buy on-board depending on country
- Catering is key if journey over 1 hour



#### **Rail Catering Research**



- 85% of customers expect high street quality
- Only half think it's delivered
- Visible **product** is essential to sales
- 49% couldn't see what to buy
- In total only 3% bought a second product

#### **Conclusion**

Gaps exist in on-board retail services

Closing gaps is good commercial sense



#### **Developing a Retail Strategy**



How to develop a retail strategy to suit your railway ...

#### The Yard Creative background



The Yard Creative – Design Specialists

The Yard Creative's current train industry clients include Eurostar, Thalys, Railrest and Rail Gourmet.

Steve James-Royle, Creative Director

Over 10 years working with many high street retailers including Tesco, John Lewis, Harrods, O'Neill, 3M and SSP on interior and graphic design.

Steve and his team are now using this knowledge and experience to help the train industry improve retail sales and enhance the consumer's onboard experience.

















#### **Rail Catering Research**



## A flavour of the best of the current retail operations ...

Research undertaken during last 12 months

## Rail Catering Research - Switzerland



#### Great coffee offer sold with passion using WMF tractionised technology





#### **Rail Catering Research – Ireland**



## **Strong visual branding** showing food is available from bar A trolley service to **every seat** on catered trains





## **Rail Catering Research – Germany**





ICE Board Bistro Monthly chef's menu



#### **Rail Catering Research - Sweden**







Refrigerated displays - Extra storage underneath Customer's pour own hot drinks

## **Rail Catering Research - UK**



**Virgin Shop** 

**Lots of trolleys** 

**Ice Cream!** 



## **Rail Catering Research - Finland**



#### Deli snacks made fresh Served into branded area





#### **Rail Catering Research - Finland**



#### **Voted best retail offer in Europe**



Clear displays, easy to use Fresh bake products Shop style plus trolleys





## **Going Forward**



A taste of what's to come ...

## **Going Forward - Trolleys**



Wider variety of trolleys including Coffee machines



## **Going Forward – Vending**



#### **On-board vending in Norway**





## **Going Forward – New Technology**



**Mobile technology** 

**I-Phones** 

**Order to seat** 

**Connectivity** 



#### Success in on-board retail



- Clearly communicate the availability of your offer
- Remove the barriers between your customers and the product
- Treat customers as consumers Sell what people want to buy
- Use the power of a good products to grow your travel brand and customer loyalty
- Use high street logic Think more like Tesco than a TOC
- Benefit from the advice of the retail professionals



## **Any Questions**



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