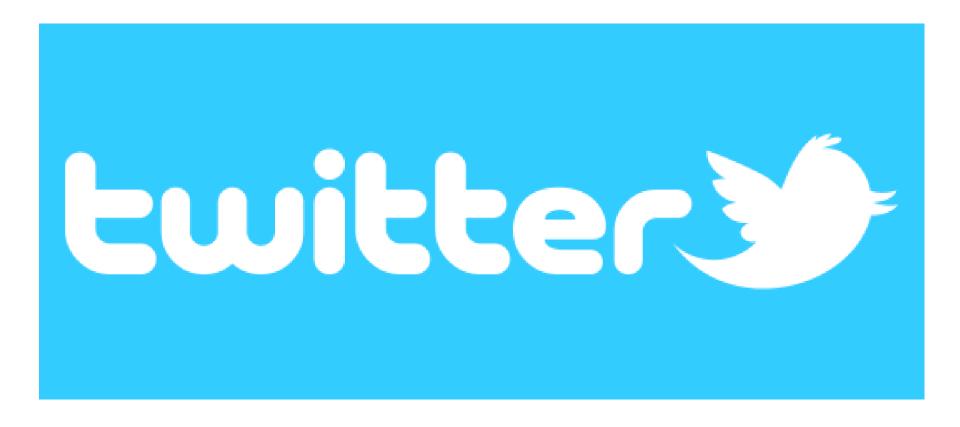


ANGIE CHANG MARCH 2015 GAZA SKY GEEKS

Because sometimes failing — or at least acknowledging you're on the wrong course — is the best path toward success.

#### CASE STUDY #1 – TWITTER

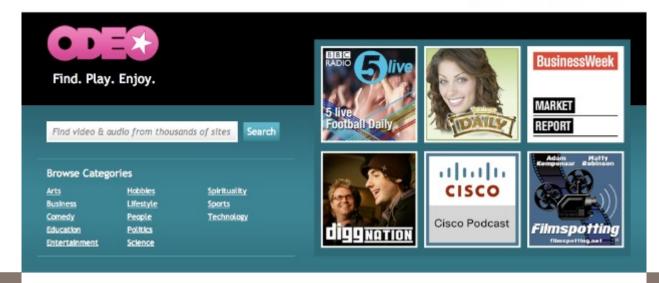


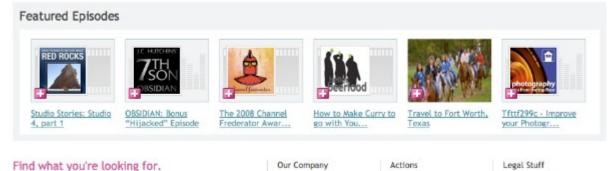
#### CASE STUDY #1 – TWITTER STARTED AS ODEO

Odeo was created in 2005 as a podcast service for users to find and subscribe to podcasts.

There was also a tool for users to create your own podcasts. Later that year however,

Apple announced that iTunes would include a podcasting platform - shipped in every one of the 200 million iPods Apple would eventually sell.





#### CASE STUDY #1 - PIVOT SOUGHT

#### The company realized the product needed a pivot.

The 14 employees began working on new ideas, looking for a new direction.

The best idea came from an employee named Jack Dorsey, who wanted to launch a product focused on "status" updates by SMS to friends.

In July 2006, TechCrunch reported Odeo released a new service called Twttr - "a sort of 'group send' SMS application".



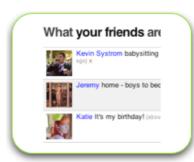


#### CASE STUDY #1 – EARLY TWTTR

#### The first Twttr frontpage:



Use twttr to stay in touch with your friends all the time. If you have a cell and can txt, you'll never be bored again...E V E R!





follow along with what your friends are doing throughout the day







send updates from your cell or from the web about whats in yr head

Olgi III.
Mobile number (or email)
December (see DIM)
Password (or PIN)
П
Remember me
Sign in
Sign in
Nav2 Sign upl
New? Sign up!
twttr works best when updated from your
twttr works best when updated from your mobile phone. To verify you are you, we'll
twttr works best when updated from your
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twttr works best when updated from your mobile phone. To verify you are you, we'll need your number.

Sign in

#### CASE STUDY #1 – EARLY TWTTR

#### **Twttr:**



Home I Timeline: You, Public I Invite! I Settings I Help

## What your friends are doing. (over the last 24 hours)



RayReadyRay Happy to have my coffee, but reminded of a less plesent scene from the movie Brain Candy, involving man enjoying his coffee. (2 minutes ago) x





Jack enjoying the music of my friends. (39 minutes ago) x



Florian just bought my plane ticket, will get to san franscio on the 16th of september, just in time to still see the drawing restraint exhibition. (about 1 hour ago) x



Crystal listening to Erlend Øye and making up for lost time.

(about 1 hour ago) x



ev Waiting for slow bagel. Board mting in 20 (about 1 hour ago) x



## CASE STUDY #1 - YEARS LATER...

**Today, you can recognize Twitter as this:** 



#### CASE STUDY #1 - EVOLUTION

Twitter has introduced some concepts, like the **hashtag** which started in 2007 with naysayers remarking "Pshh! The # is too techy to ever become widespread in usage. You nerd!"

Promoted tweets were introduced in 2010 as a business model.



## **Twitter for Business**

Small business advertisers, learn how to get \$100 in free Twitter advertising from American Express.



#### Learn the Basics

What is Twitter? Twitter Glossary Best Practices Twitter on the Go



#### **Optimize Your Activity**

Case Studies
Resources and Widgets
API Integration



#### Marketers

Promoted Tweets
Promoted Accounts
Promoted Trends
Enhanced Profile Page
Analytics

#### **Small Business**

Promoted Tweets
Promoted Accounts

## CASE STUDY #1 – TWITTER (ONCE ODEO)

## Takeaways from the case study:

- If what you're doing doesn't work, come up with entirely new ideas and start something from scratch.
- Create one simple solution.



#### **Enter Twitter**

- Answer the question "What are you doing now?" in 140 characters or less
- Follow friends
- Be followed

#### CASE STUDY #2 – THE START OF FAB

A social network launched to help gay men meet people and find things to do launched in 2010. Fabulis raised nearly \$1 million.



#### CASE STUDY #2 – ITERATING...

#### Here is a redesign:



#### CASE STUDY #2 - LEARNING...

Fabulis was phased out the following year due to lack of traction.

One of the site's **popular** features was the "Gay Deal of the Day -- the website sold chocolates, underwear, tshirts, chairs, etc.

One day, the deal was for hamburgers - and half of the buyers were women. This caused the team to realize there is a market for selling goods to women.

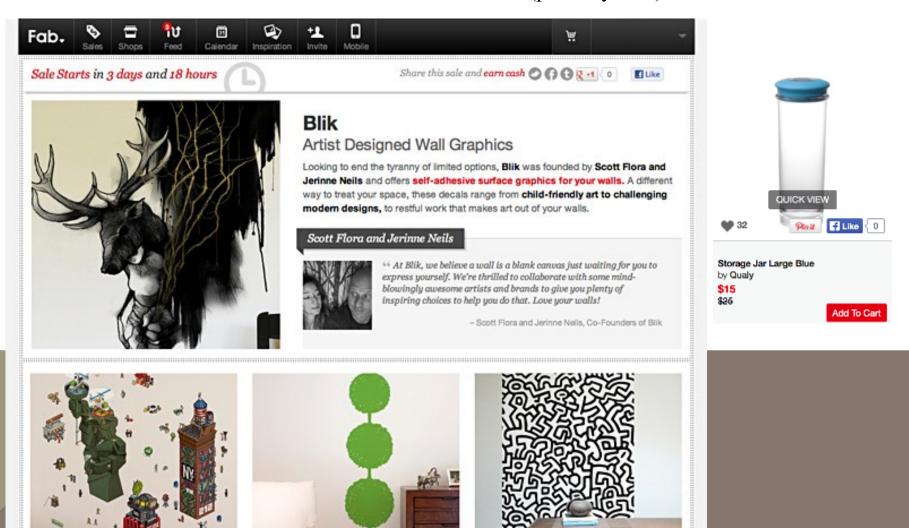






#### CASE STUDY #2 - THE PIVOT TO FAB.COM

Fabulis pivoted to **Fab.com - a flash sale site for designer products**. The founder doesn't like to disclose how much the **three-letter domain name** cost (probably a lot).



#### CASE STUDY #2 – FAB ACQUIRED BY PCH

Five years later, Fab stumbled in the business (from predicting hits to inventory purchasing).

Once valued at \$1 billion, **Fab was recently acquired by PCH** for a rumored \$15 million to become the platform to sell their hardware products designed by startups they incubate.

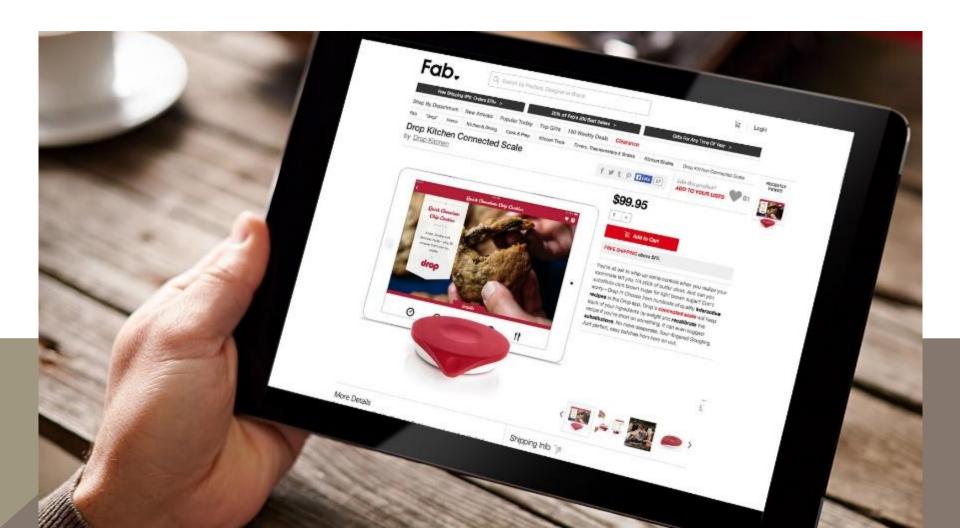


"We love the brand, the customer experience, and the focus on lifestyle products."

Liam Casey, Founder and CEO, PCH

## CASE STUDY #2 - THE JOURNEY CONTINES!

PCH has expertise in managing a just-in-time supply chain and advocates lean inventory practices that reduce the risks associated with inventory buildup and the waste related to over-production.



## CASE STUDY #2 – FAB.COM (ONCE FABULIS)

## Takeaways from the case study:

- See how your users react to your initial launch.
- Watch what feature(s) they actually use and ask for.
- Adapt to your user's response(s).

# Fab.

#### CASE STUDY #3 - GROUPON



#### CASE STUDY #3 – STARTED AS THE POINT

Consumer activism site The Point launched in in 2007 and raised over \$6 million in funding to help crowdfund with a tipping point campaigns. However, the site never really took off.



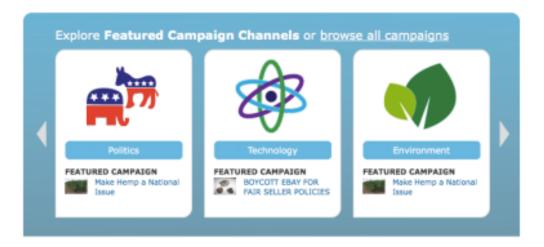
START A CAMPAIGN BROWSE CAMPAIGNS

OMMUNITY

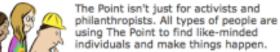
SEARCH

#### Easy and Effective Group Action.

Whether you're raising money, organizing people, or trying to influence change: if you can't do it alone, you can do it on The Point.



#### The Point is for people like you



How people are using The Point



#### A Big New Idea That Can Change The World

Log in Create Account Help

The Point applies the "tipping point" concept to group action.

HOW IT WORKS



Featured Campaign

Orphans International Haiti
was hit by four hurricanes

## CASE STUDY #3 – THE POINT (NOW GROUPON)

The Point pivoted to a new name and business model a year later, offering heavily discounted daily deals from local merchants -- only if enough people have purchased the deal.



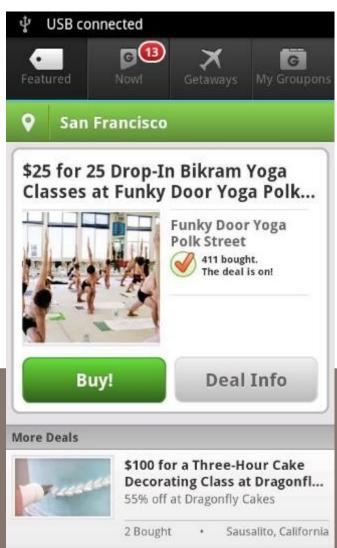
## CASE STUDY #3 – WITTY HUMOR, EMAILS

Groupon employs a large number of **copywriters** who draft descriptions for the deals featured by **email and on the website**.

Groupon's **promotional text for the 'deals'** has been seen as a contributing factor to the popularity of the site, featuring **witty humor**.

Owing to Groupon's market being primarily composed of female customers, the daily deals are often focused on the health, fitness, and beauty markets.

Groupon took off and experienced rapid growth, raising over a \$1 billion before going public on NASDAQ November 2011.



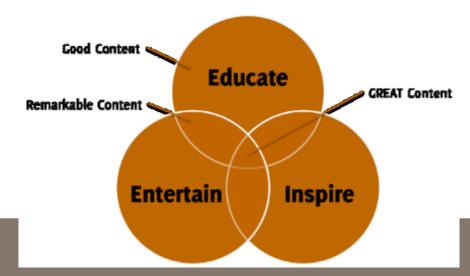
## CASE STUDY #3 – GROUPON (ONCE THE POINT)

## Takeaways from the case study:

• Witty email and website copy drove traffic.



Remarkable deals.



#### CASE STUDY #4 - PINTEREST



#### CASE STUDY #4 - PINTEREST BEGAN AS TOTE!

#### Mobile app Tote provided tools for users to window shop with their phone in 2009.

The app let users save their favorite items, alerted them when clothes went on sale, and pointed them to nearby stores.

The app never took off for its intended goal of helping with buying, due to difficulty purchasing thru mobile...

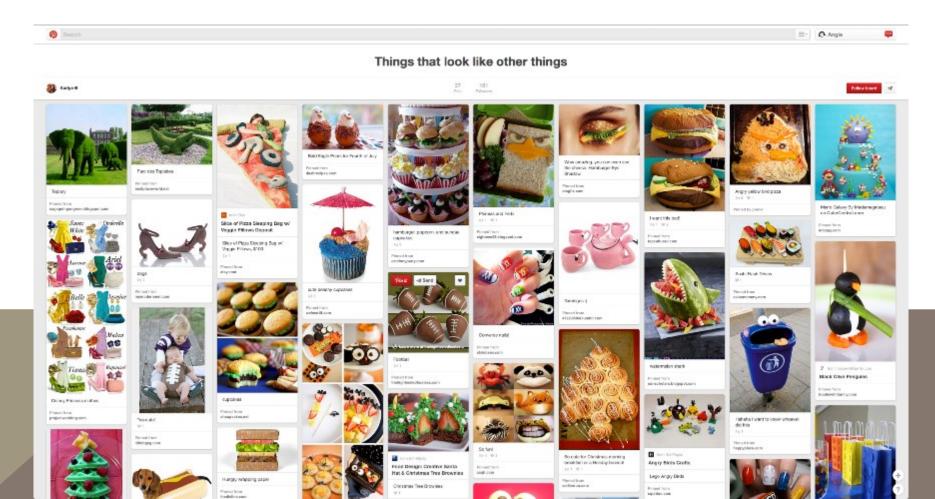


## CASE STUDY #4 - USERS WERE COLLECTING

Directly fueled by the **growing mountain of coveted items users were saving**, the new website

Pinterest emerged in 2010 as a visually appealing way for users to display their collections

of coveted items. Here is a collection on Pinterest for example:



## CASE STUDY #4 - BOARD EVOLUTION

Pinterest's recognizable grid was iterated on – it didn't always look so nice! Here is the evolution:



## CASE STUDY #4 - PINTEREST GOING STRONG

How popular is it? Today, Pinterest is the 16th most visited website in the United States and 31st most visited website in the world!

Today, Pinterest has raised over \$1 billion in funding and still looking for ways to monetize with brands.

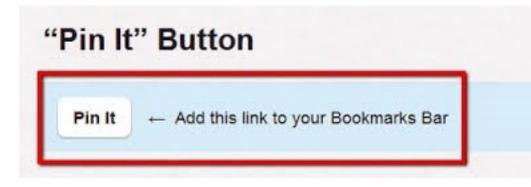


## CASE STUDY #4 - PINTEREST (ONCE TOTE)

## Takeaways from the case study:

- What do users do? Watch how they behave.
- Then, create a straightforward yet appealing solution.





## CASE STUDY #5 – UBER



## CASE STUDY #5 – THE STORY OF UBERCAB

In 2008, these guys in San Francisco (where finding a taxi on the street is difficult) had an idea: to split the cost of a black car - and to hail the driver of that car by their iPhones.

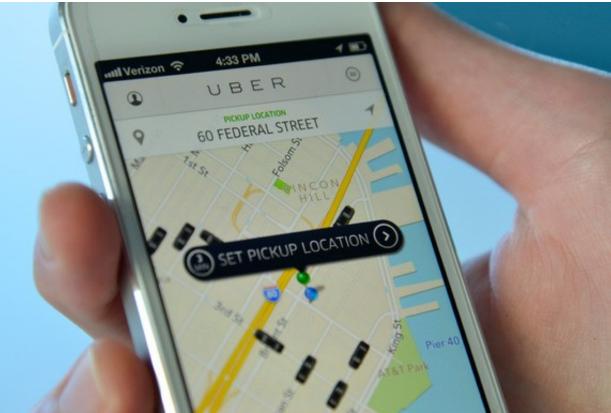


#### CASE STUDY #5 – THE LOCATION-AWARE APP

In 2009, the iPhone app was being developed to be able to location-track the user, send the closest available driver in a car over, and take payment for the ride seamlessly.

Here is one of the early versions of the UberCab app, and the later version of UBER app:





#### CASE STUDY #5 – TIERED SERVICE

In July 2012, UBERx launched as a lower cost version (competitive with taxi prices).

UBERx drivers aren't in fancy black cars anymore - just normal people driving normal cars.



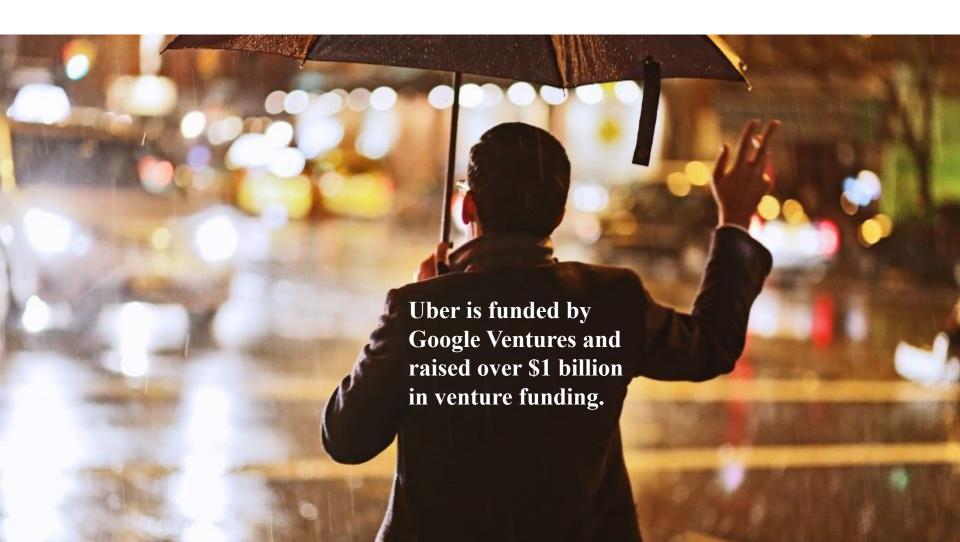
San Francisco Pricing				
	UBERx	BLACK	SUV	
Base Fare start with this fare	\$5	\$8	\$15	
Per Mile speed over 11 mph	\$3.25	\$4.90	\$5.25	
Per Minute speed at or below 11 mph	\$0.75	\$1.25	\$1.35	
Minimum Fare	\$10	\$15	\$25	

Choices! The expensive black car version is "BLACK". You can also call for an SUV...

## CASE STUDY #5 – TODAY

This month, UBER cars outnumber yellow taxis in New York.

No more of this kind of scene in San Francisco:



## CASE STUDY #5 – MORE ENTREPRENEURS

This "on-demand" solution is why startups today are pitching themselves as "Uber-for-X".



#### Awesome Uber-for-X apps:

Sprig ☑, Munchery ☑, SpoonRocket ☑, Push for Pizza ☑: Uber for food.

Foxtrot , Minibar : Uber for alcohol.

Hotel Tonight □: Uber for last minute hotels.

YPlan ☑: Uber for last minute events.

Nimbl :: Uber for cash delivery.

Homejoy ☑, Handybook ☑, Exec ☑ (acquired by Handybook): Uber for home cleaning.

Vatler □, ZIRX □: Uber for valet-ing your car.

Plowz and Mowz □: Uber for lawn mowing.

Lyft : Uber with fist bumps and pink mustaches.

Postmates □: Uber for courier services.

BloomThat ☑, Proflowers ☑, Floristnow ☑: Uber for flowers.

SixDoors :: Uber for flowers and gifts.

Icecream.io :: Uber for ice cream.

Eaze , Canary, Meadow : Uber for marijuana delivery

Flywheel , MyTaxi , Hailo , Taxi Hawk : Uber for taxis.

Zeel , Unwind , Soothe :: Uber for massages.

Tablelist ☑, BottlesTonight ☑: Uber for nightclubs (bottle service).

Instacart □: Uber for grocery shopping.

FlyCleaners ♂, Wash.io ♂, Cleanly ♂: Uber for laundry.

Boxed :: Uber for bulked goods (Costco).

#### CASE STUDY #5 - THE FIGHT

What the rosy success of UBER doesn't make obvious is that the company has spent much of its startup life fighting in courts, public utility commissions and city councils for the ability to

offer their service.

Innovation and regulation don't work together. Regulated industries — including strictly licensed services from lawyers and doctors, public utilities such as power and water companies, and government-provided services including roads, bridges, and the post office operate outside market-based systems.

Competition is prohibited, even criminalized. Since innovative technologies are a particularly ruthless kind of competitor, they are often directly or indirectly banned.

UBER has spent a great deal of money and time on lobbying.

**Lobbying** (also **lobby**) is the act of attempting to influence decisions made by officials in the government, most often legislators or members of regulatory agencies.



#### CASE STUDY #5 – SMART LOBBYING

UBER has hired an army of contract lobbyists - some of the most skilled and politically connected representatives in at least 50 U.S. cities and states:





**Lobbying** (also **lobby**) is the act of attempting to influence decisions made by officials in the government, most often legislators or members of regulatory agencies.



## CASE STUDY #5 - SMART MARKETING

Across the country, the company has been fined, sued and repeatedly issued cease-and-desist orders.

**UBER's city-by-city expansion involves rallying their users** - to pressure government officials, and unleashing their well-connected lobbyists to influence lawmakers.

For example in the State of Illinois, UBER emailed all their users in the state to ask them to sign a digital petition asking the governor to veto a measure that would put UBER out of business.

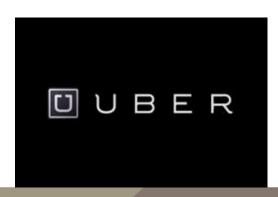
UBER also inserted a splash screen when users opened the smartphone app in the state, asking the user to get involved. **It worked.** 



## CASE STUDY #5 – UBER (ONCE UBERCAB)

## Takeaways from the case study:

- Solve a problem with a seamless, responsive solution.
- Gain a reputation for being fast, responsive.
- Leverage your users.



#### CASE STUDY #6 - INSTAGRAM



#### CASE STUDY #6 – STARTED AS BURBN

Location-based social network Burbn launched in October 2010 as a browser-based mobile app using HTML5. The photo upload feature turned out to be the most-used feature.

This led to Burbn's pivot to an iPhone app exclusively focused on photo-sharing.





#### CASE STUDY #6 – TWO MONTH PIVOT

For 8 weeks, the founders stripped Burbn from its overloaded feature bloat to one main

**feature.** They worked day and night to perfect Instagram. They shared it with friends, tested it in beta, and fixed bugs. The decision to use 11 filters was pared down from over 30 filters.



Instagram was released in October 2010 and became an immediate hit with 100,000 downloads in the first week. The free app was a simple photo-sharing tool. You can also easily share your Instagram photo to your Twitter, Facebook, Tumblr, and Flickr accounts.

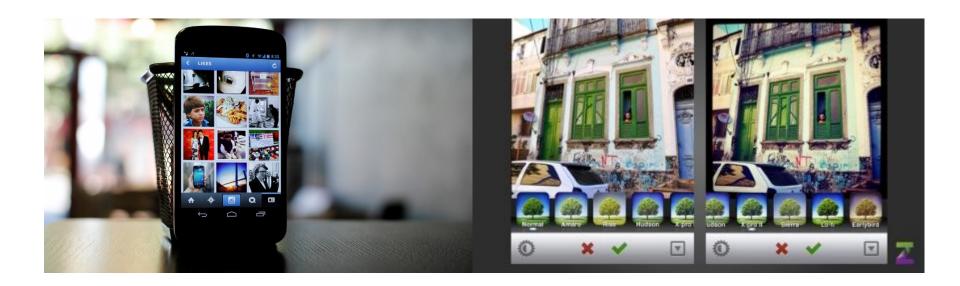
The photo filters serve to make the mundane spectacular.

In 10 weeks, Instagram had 1 million users.

There is also the element of luck and timing — iPhone 4 had just launched and users were new to using their powerful smartphones as digital cameras.

#### CASE STUDY #6 – INSTAGRAM

The two founders of Instagram agreed: "We decided that if we were going to build a company, we wanted to focus on being really good at one thing." Instagram is fast, fun and addictive.



In April 2012, Facebook bought Instagram (12 employees) for \$1 billion.

Why? Instagram had 30 million registered users, and photos are a key driver of user "engagement" - or how long someone spends on Facebook.

#### CASE STUDY #6 – INSTAGRAM

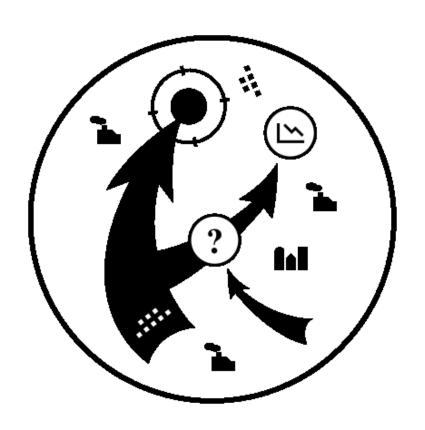
## Takeaways from the case study:

- Simple is better. Less is more.
- You can launch a product in two months.
- Key traits speed, ease of use, fun & easy to share!



#### **BUSINESS STRATEGY**

#### **SWOT ANALYSIS**





**CREATE OPPORTUNITIES!**