

Service Failure and Service Recovery in Customer Service Center

潘素靜、張景旭

E-mail: 9901068@mail.dyu.edu.tw

ABSTRACT

The service call center has been highly valued in recent years; however, the service quality has been called into question. Therefore, this study aims to investigate and find out the reasons for service failures of the service call center and different types of service recovery by using SSIT (Subjective Sequential Incidents Technique). Sixteen cases about service failures are collected. The subjects are undergraduate students, graduate students, and in-service graduate students in Chang-Hua area. After the analysis of the cases, the following anger points are found regarding meeting customers, requirements, refunding or the exchange of commodities, and billing arguments: continual service failures, repeated checks on personal data, troubles caused by service failures, irresponsibility, refusal to meet customers' requirements, incomplete records, secret administration, threatening, and the identification of service persons requested. The types of service recovery include oral apology, admitting the mistakes and seeking for help, explaining the reasons for service failures, informing customers of the exchange of commodities, customer appeasement, and mending failures. In order to enhance the quality of the customer service call center, it is strongly advised that the service call center should avoid repeated service failures and try to provide satisfactory recovery measures that customers can identify with.

Keywords : service call center ; service failure ; service recovery

Table of Contents

內容目錄 中文摘要	iii	英文摘要
iv 誌謝辭	v	內容目錄
vi 表目錄	viii	第一章 研究背景與目的
1 第一節 研究背景	1	第二節 研究目的
2 第二章 文獻探討	4	第一節 客服中心
4 第二節 服務失誤	7	第三節 服務補救
16 第三章 研究方法	19	第一節 研究對象
19 第二節 研究假設	21	第四章 研究結果
27 第一節 氣點類別定義	27	第二節 服務情節氣點特徵
30 第三節 客服中心服務失誤與文獻比較差異	42	第四節 服務補救
50 第五章 結論與建議	53	第一節 結論
53 第二節 研究限制與建議	55	參考文獻
57 附錄A 案例故事	63	附錄B SSIT實力分析
67 附錄C 氣點摘要表	73	附錄D 情節類別摘要
77 附錄E 單一情節氣點特徵表實例	83	

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