# **TWINT G2M**

### **HOW TO CHANGE A STRONG BEHAVIOUR**

Michael Hügli, Luc Holzach

# **Agenda**









**Michael Hügli** Co-Founder TWINT & Ex-CMO Marketing, Strategy Sales, Partners

CEO Buildigo

«TWINT was an ambitious vision that only succeeded because the whole team invested 100% and fully believed in it.»





Luc Holzach
Partner & Partner AG
Partner, Senior Consultant

«TWINT was a once-in-a-lifetime project for us – the chance to build up a new product, a new brand, create a new market and change a strong behaviour.»

# STATUS QUO

### Most dynamic brands 2021



2020: Largest increase in trust and top 3 increase in dynamism

**2021:** Most dynamic brand and N° 1 brand in trust and dynamism in banking



# The starting point

- TWINT was founded in 2014 in Bern, as a spin-off of PostFinance.
- Mobile Payment in Switzerland was inexistant at that time. Credit cards and Paypal where the only options for online payment without an invoice.
- 2015 the brand and the app were launched in the Swiss market. Until
  this point nobody knew the name TWINT or the possibility to pay
  everywhere only using their smartphone.



# The starting point

In 2015 other companies prepared or executed their market-entry in Switzerland.





# Why TWINT?

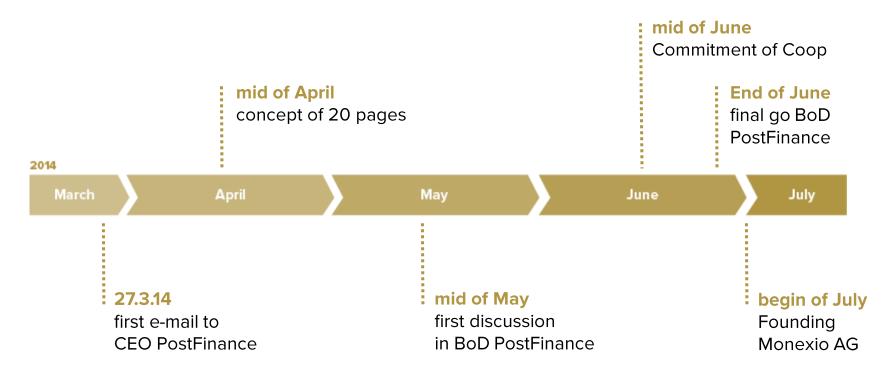
- Payment as a core business of PostFinance
- Strategic threats became visible in the annual strategy review: Paypal, Apple, Google
- Gut feeling: we have to act

Question to the CEO: "Housi, are we allowed to think one step further?"

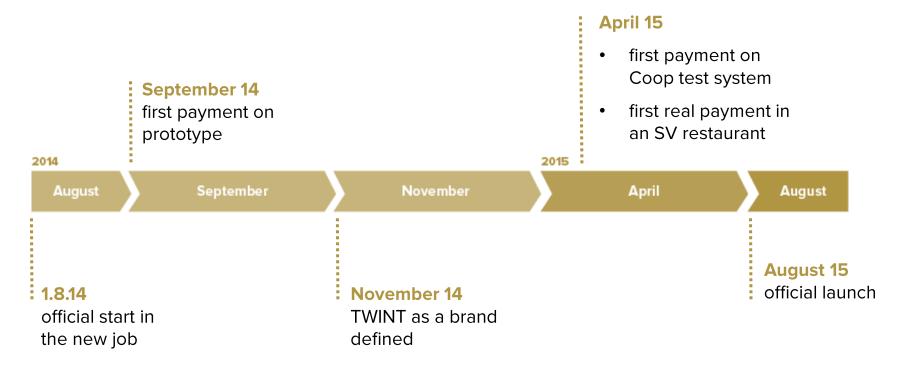
# Why found it as a corporate startup?

- Implementation of a new core banking system (partial) freeze over several years (2015 2017)
- Great internal project ideas failed in the past Concept of «iRetailbank» in 2013
- Common understanding on C-level
  - Regular strategy workshops over several years
  - supertanker vs. speed boats

### Timeline



### Timeline



### Creation of the brand

### Defining hard factors

- Short and simple: EC, Visa
- Free domains
- Brand can be registered

### Internal war about the best name

- Monexio
- PayNation
- Payellow
- ... and 100 more

### Structured process with specialists

- Brand values
- Naming agency
- Graphic artist
- Trademark law expert

### Cooperation with P&P

#### Briefing in 2015 to P&P in cooperation with RonOrp

- Launch a new brand
- Launch a new product (app)
- Create a market
- Change a strong existing behaviour

P&P was the marketing departement of TWINT for two years in order to generate full traction from the beginning throughout.

### Lessons learned

#### An independent company is a strong plus

- Sign into the market
- Enables you to form a partnership more easily
- Enables you to act fast
- Enables you to take more risks as your "off brand"
- Puts the pressure on every employee

### Lessons learned

#### And further...

- Don't talk about an agile and lean startup. Just be it.
- Convince a key account from the very beginning.
- Go fast. Faster than you dare and don't aim for perfection.
- Work with passionate people you trust.
- Dream big.



#### Idea

- To achieve these ambitious goals, not a launch campaign was needed, but a revolution.
- Therefore, we did not need users, but supporters to drive the revolution and change the status quo.
- Ambition: in 5 years "twinten" shall be found in the dictionary.

TWINT was just an App – but it changed the payment behaviour of a whole nation.

#### **Community management**

In depth community management mechanisms:

- Higher calling
   TWINT is the Robin Hood of payment processing
- Enemy image
   Credit cards, payment schemes, international tech giants
- Community kit
   Evangelists, social media management, cooperation with small stores.

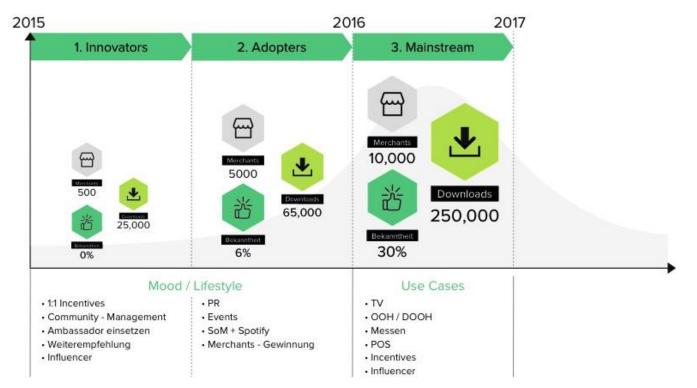
#### **Brand building**

To launch a strong brand to generate a strong community with a lot of goodwill and a strong kit, we decided to build a lifestyle brand – not a finance and not a tech brand.





#### **Product diffusion**



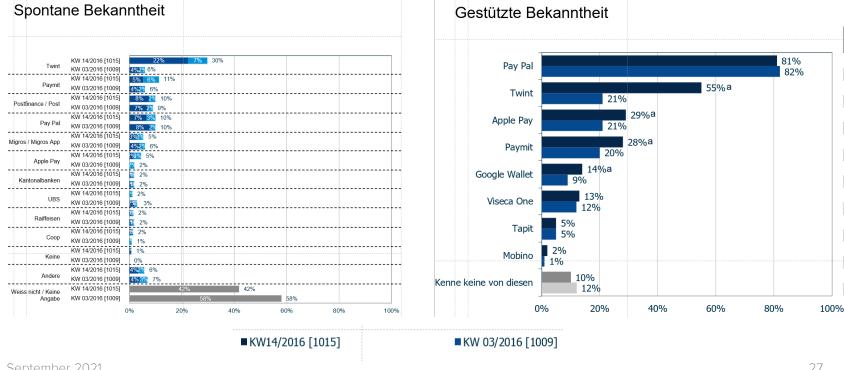


### Launch strategy

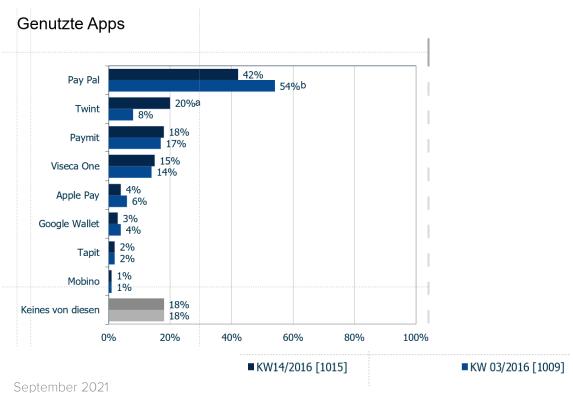
In order to be able to speed up the whole diffusion process in less than 12 months, the following factors were essential for TWINT:

- A strategic partnership with credibility and wide accessibility
- A strong community with a lot of goodwill
- Growth hacking features to go viral

## Results after phase 1



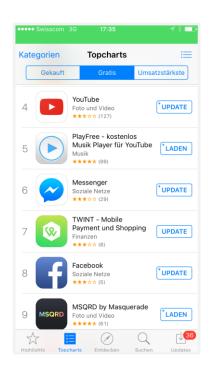
## Results after phase 1



September 2021

28

## Results after phase 1





# PHASE 2: MERGER 2016



## Main changes with the merger

- Clash of cultures: startup vs. corporates
- New business model: back to the classic payment world
  - From one app to multiple apps, Six as acquirer
- **New governance:** 6 shareholders
  - steering committees for main topics
- New marketing approach: growing out of the network
  - Strong distribution channels thanks to co-branded apps
  - P2P as a priority for growth

## The growing-up

After 1.5 years TWINT got acquired by a consortium of the largest Swiss banks in order to build a unified mobile payment scheme which was open to all. Paymit got submerged in the TWINT platform.

The TWINT brand had to be transferred from adolescence to adulthood to become a reputable financial brand to stand for "The Swiss mobile payment scheme".



# New marketing strategy

The marketing strategy was changed away from larger and emotional awareness and image campaigns and towards **focussed use case communication.** 

During the next two years single use cases were promoted to show users the **diversity of TWINT.** Killer use cases such as:

- P2P
- parking payment
- Farm shop payment

This positioned TWINT as a **fully-fledged wallet** and showed the advantages compared to international competitors.

# THE RESULT

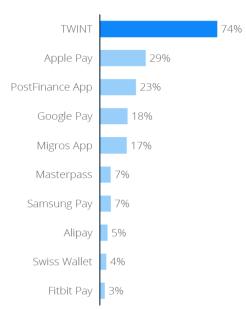
### The results

- TWINT is by far the most used mobile payment solution in Switzerland.
- Mobile payment increased its total shares of all transactions:

2018: 0.5%2020: 3.8%

 Due to the Covid-19 pandemic this value will have increased further dramatically in 2021. The estimation from University of Lucerne: 9%.

Top 10 most used mobile payment brands in Switzerland



### The results

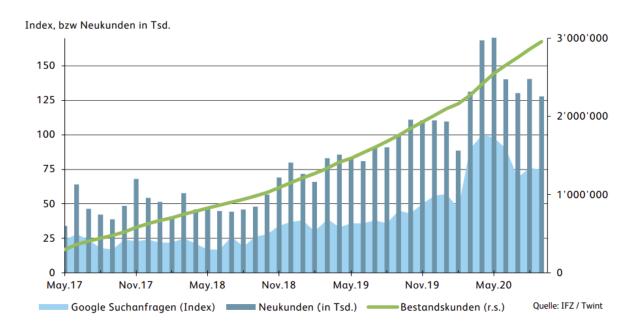


Abbildung 8: Anzahl Neukunden pro Monat, Google Suchanfragen, sowie Bestandskunden Mai 2017 bis September 2020

### The results

TWINT realised a major increase in all the use cases.

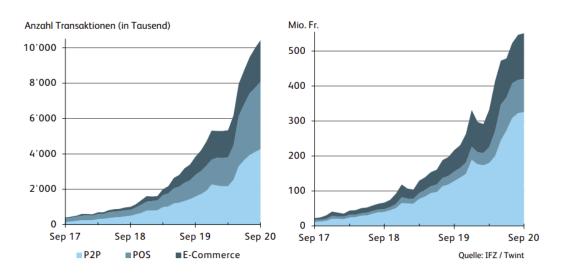


Abbildung 15: Anzahl Transaktionen und Transaktionsvolumen nach Monat und Anwendungsfall

### The results







# SUCCESS FACTORS

### Success factors

- TWINT system is a solid base, allowing still new use cases
- Focus on one common project in Switzerland
  - Banks and retailers
- Partners have found the right balance between quality and speed
- Strong distribution network and smart marketing approach
  - P2P and later introduction of the expression "twinten"
  - Marketing automation
  - (digital) channels of the banks



### Success factors

#### **Success factors marketing**

- See, recognize and seize opportunities
- Change your strategy if needed
- Use growth hacking potentials in marketing: peer2peer functionality
- Fast take-off and slow internalisation
- Don't be shy
- Embrace technological support which lower marketing expenditures:
   Marketing Automation, CRM, Data, etc.

# THANK YOU!

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