

# Examining Customer Satisfaction at the Point-of-Purchase Phase: A Study on Malaysian e-Consumers

Noorshella Binti Che Nawi<sup>1</sup>, Abdullah Al Mamun<sup>1</sup> & Nursalihah Ahmad Raston<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Entrepreneurship and Business, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, City Campus, Kota Bharu, Kelantan, Malaysia

Correspondence: Noorshella Binti Che Nawi, Faculty of Entrepreneurship and Business, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, City Campus, 16100 Kota Bharu, Kelantan, Malaysia. E-mail: norshella@umk.edu.my

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## Abstract

Customer satisfaction is considered the essence of enterprise success, especially in the competitive online business environment. This study aimed to examine how the selected key factors, i.e., general belief, information quality, website design, merchandise attributes, payment transaction, security and privacy, delivery service, and customer service, contribute to overall satisfaction among the customers of small online apparel businesses in Malaysia. This study used a cross-sectional design and complete data was collected from 765 customers who purchased apparel online at the point-of-purchase. The finding reveals that general belief, information quality, website design, payment transaction, security and privacy, delivery service, and customer service have a positive significant effect on overall satisfaction. In order to sustain in the competitive online business environment, small online apparel businesses in Malaysia should therefore focus on operational strategies on the dimensions of service quality, which would lead to an improvement in overall customer satisfaction.

**Keywords:** customer satisfaction, point-of-purchase, apparel online, e-Consumers, Malaysia

## 1. Introduction

Given the advancement in information technology, online shopping has become a popular activity. Many marketers are beginning to develop online products for marketing. Until today, the central concern of marketers is still focused on the concepts of satisfaction and loyalty to a merchant's website. Electronic commerce, commonly known as e-commerce, is a type of industry where the buying and selling of products or services is conducted over electronic systems such as the Internet and other computer networks. In recent years, electronic commerce has entered a platform of exponential growth. In addition, the use of the Internet in the consumer decision-making process has caused traders to make greater use of this tool. While consumer behavior in e-commerce seems to be a complex subject, the consumer expectations are changing, challenging traditional patterns of supply of commercial websites. Satisfaction is a response to a perceived discrepancy between prior expectations and perceived performance after consumption (Eid, 2011; Lau, Kwek, & Tan, 2011). Customer satisfaction is defined by how satisfied one is with the products/services. Thus, satisfaction is extremely important to marketers of products and services. This is because when a customer is satisfied, it will bring him/her to a positive purchase intention such as repurchase, positive word-of-mouth and loyalty in the long term.

Customer satisfaction plays a crucial role in sustaining in the marketplace (Garver & Gagnon, 2002); therefore, it is important to ensure that customers are satisfied. If not, retailers will lose their market. Few studies have been done that focus on uncovering the underlying constructs of customer satisfaction, however, the impact of payment was seldom touched (Xia et al., 2008). Ladhari (2010) found that consumer satisfaction (e-satisfaction) must be concerned with all aspects of issues that arise before, during, and after the delivery of the service. Meanwhile, another research on online customer satisfaction claims that advertisements, product quality, brand names, and prior shopping experiences play a significant role in customer satisfaction among online shoppers (Mumtaz et al., 2011). Earlier studies on service quality measures commonly take into account the entire purchase and even the after-purchase process (Muylla et al., 2004; Parasuraman et al., 2005; Kim et al., 2006; Bauer et al., 2006). However, lack of empirical research has been done at the point-of-purchase phase and in finding out how this phase affects customer satisfaction. This study therefore proposes that e-service quality dimensions consist of general belief, information quality, merchandise attributes, transaction capability and

payment, security and privacy, expected delivery and expected customer service, and thus developed a research model for understanding the perceptions of rational customers at the time of purchase of products through online services.

## **2. Literature Reviews**

### *2.1 General Belief about Online Shopping*

Belief about online shopping has been recognized as one factor that affects people's online purchase. Fishbein and Ajzen (1975) defined belief is an attitude, which refers to a person's favorable or unfavorable evaluation of an object. In other word, it corresponds to the information he/she has about the object. The object of belief can be a person, a group of people, an institution, behavior, a policy or an event, and the connected attribute may be any object, trait, property, quality, characteristic, outcome or event. However, Leen and Ramayah (2011) defined that beliefs are the feeling towards some aspects of the world, which correspond to a person's self-understanding and environment and lead to the person's attitude, intention, and behavior. They added that perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use are two beliefs that determine the likelihood of online shopping as argued by Vijayasarathy (2004) and Yoon (2010).

### *2.2 Information Quality*

According to Chen et al., (2012), one of the important elements in measuring the success of the information system is by providing good information quality. Lopes and Galletta (2006) also indicate that good content of information influences the consumers' willingness to pay for the products. Wu (2011) conducted a study on sharing quality information in the supply chain. The finding shows that sharing quality information with the buyer impacts its market. In other words, suppliers are required to share information with buyers (e.g in automobile industry) on where the parts have been produced and this sharing of information helps the buyer to know the quality of the part that is being used in the automobile industry.

### *2.3 Website Design*

Kim, Hwang and Fesenmaier (2005) estimate that people normally widen their impression towards an object within two to seven seconds. They added that if people do not satisfy at the time they browse the website, they can easily leave the website and go to competitor website. According to Han and Mills (2006) the visual items at the website such as visual appeal and information transfer (e.g. color, logo) and visitor's experience and reliability (e.g. search tool, accurate link) can raise the interest of online travelers to browse the tourism website. Recent study by Chow et al., (2014) which focused on library website designs believes that a library website needs to be easily navigable, including obvious signs that quickly lead the user to the information searched for. Besides, the websites need 25-35 seconds to proof to the users that the information they are looking for is available.

### *2.4 Merchandise Attributes*

Web merchants who offer a wide range of assorted products seem to be more successful. In addition, Xia et al. (2008) indicated that a wider range of merchandise together with low price could affect customer satisfaction in the context of online setting. Guo et al. (2012) also found that merchandise attributes have significance in determining customers' satisfaction with the online shopping experiences. Syzmanski and Hinse (2000) also concluded that having more choices could be one of the attractions of websites, which in turn leads to satisfaction among online shoppers.

### *2.5 Payment Transaction*

Guo et al. (2012) stated that online retailers normally offer many types of online payment (e.g. credit card, payment with cash and telegraphic remittance) and customers normally choose their preferred type of payment not only based on convenience but also based on security. For instance, for cash payment, online retailers offer COD (cash on delivery) when they deliver the product to customers. In other words, customers pay for the product upon meeting with the owner of the business. This is argued by Grace and Chia-Chi (2009) who found that customers used certain criteria to evaluate the usefulness and ease of use for a particular website, including information search, Internet search, Internet subscription and payment methods. Hence, online retailers should make the payment procedure easy to increase the level of customer satisfaction (Grace & Chia-Chi, 2009).

### *2.6 Security and Privacy*

Security system is one of the most important issues especially in dealing with the online environment setting. Yuan and Kyounghee (2013) proposed three types of privacy beliefs, which are disposition of privacy concern, online privacy concern risk, and website privacy concern. The finding revealed that there is a positive influence

on disposition with privacy concern and website privacy concern. Meanwhile, website privacy concern is the predictor of intentions to reveal the information and transact on the website.

### *2.7 Expected Service Delivery*

One of the contributions of this study is to differentiate between service delivery and customer service at difference phases. Based on Zeithaml et al. (2002), having products in stock, delivering the products within the time frame promised and accuracy of service promises are attributes of this fulfillment's factor. They added that delayed delivery may have a negative effect on satisfaction. According to Yang and Fang (2004), two keys of service quality connected to customer satisfaction are the accuracy of the order fulfillment and keeping service promises. Not simply keeping promises about order delivery, the efficiency of service delivery has also been evaluated by the proper condition of the product (Meuter et al., 2000) and item presentation evaluation. The product should be delivered well-packaged and customers will receive the product seen on the website (Parasuraman et al., 2005). This attribute is difference with the service delivery in post-purchase stage where service delivery is measured after customers have received their products while expected service delivery is measured when customers place their order. This suggests that these elements play a different role at every stage, and the research was planned on this basis.

### *2.8 Expected Customer Service*

Similar with expected service delivery, expected customer service is measured at the time customer purchases the product and it is different from customer service where its measure after customer received the products. Expected customer service is more than policies, procedures and responsiveness in handling complaints. It also refers to the return policy, customer's right to change and that problems can be solved. At this stage too, customers are offered many interactive communications with the company. For instance, customers can use the chat room, email, telephone, bulletin board and feedback forms to communicate with the company (Massey & Levy, 1999). According to Teo et al. (2003), interactivity features have a significant relationship with the consumers' perceived value. Indeed, Zeithaml (1988) added that customer value has been recognised as the key for businesses to succeed.

## **3. Methodology**

### *3.1 Population and Sampling*

The target population for this study was defined as individuals who purchased apparel online at point-of-purchase through Blogspots and websites in Malaysia. To establish the sample frame, a list of Blogspots and websites selling apparel online was obtained from the Internet. The respondents were obtained from the owners of the online shops. The respondents were approached by the researcher for permission to email the questionnaire online link to them and the researcher assured them that their particulars would be kept confidential and that their particulars would be deleted once the survey was completed. Random sampling was used as this research sought to generalize the results obtained as much as possible from the Internet users who purchased online.

### *3.2 Research Instrument and Facilitating Software*

Online survey using the SurveyMonkey platform was chosen in order to collect the data for this study. The questionnaire was developed using a 7-point Likert scale ranging from 1 (strongly disagree) to 7 (strongly agree). Due to the respondents being non-English speakers, translation was done by a language expert. The questionnaire design was straightforward and comprehensible, avoiding ambiguities, estimations and leadings and presumptive questions.

### *3.3 Generalization of Items in Questionnaire*

Items for 'general belief' about online shopping were adopted from Hirst and Ashwin (2009), Rajamma and Neeley (2005) and Swinyard and Smith (2003). 'Information quality' of purchase website was operationalized by the following variables: accuracy, comprehensibility, completeness, and relevance. These items were adapted from previous research studies by Muyllea et al. (2004). The 'website design' construct was operationalized by website structure, navigation, combination of colours, and ease of use. These items were adopted from Kim and Stoel (2004) and Muyllea et al. (2004). 'Merchandise attributes' was divided into aspects of purchase incentive and product variety, being adapted from Xia et al. (2008). 'Security and privacy' issues were considered and adapted from Wolfenbarger and Gilly (2003).

Items from Kim and Stoel (2004) and Xia et al. (2008) were adapted for 'transaction capability and payment'. The interviews revealed that to satisfy their customers, the owners of the online apparel businesses offered

customers a minimum deposit requirement, provided many options for payment such as post office remittance, online payment and cash on delivery (COD) and also various options in receiving proof of payment (e.g. email, SMS etc.). These added values are incorporated into the questionnaire in order to appropriately measure the 'transaction capability and payment' construct. 'Expected service delivery' was adapted from Rossiter (2007) and three items were developed and added by the researcher to refine the definition of this construct based on responses from the in-depth interviews. The interviews revealed that the major delivery activities and expectations specific to online apparel retailers in Malaysia were that consumers expect a standard price for a delivery service, expect online apparel retailers to provide clear terms and conditions for delivery service and also expect to be rewarded through this service for purchasing more items. These activities were incorporated into the questionnaire in order to appropriately measure the 'expectation delivery service' construct. The interview's finding also assisted in refining the 'expected customer service' questions offered by Wolfenbarger and Gilly (2003) in their study used in the United States. For instance, the findings from question 2 were extracted into four questions in the survey. Based on the interview's finding, online business retailers offered customers a refund if they were not satisfied with the purchase, guaranteed an exchange if customers were not satisfied with the product, provided online tracking for products, and customers could contact them through many options such as by chat room, email and phone. These findings guided the respondents in the Malaysian context in understanding the referred items.

#### 4. Summary Of Findings

##### 4.1 Respondents Demographic Characteristics

A complete data was collected from 765 customers who purchased apparel online. As presented in Table 1, among the total 765 respondents, 89 respondents or 11.6% are male. The percentage is much higher for the female respondents, which is equivalent to 676 respondents or 88.4%. Most of these respondents are single (506 or 66.1%), followed by married (243 or 31.8%), and others (16 or 2.1%).

Table 1. Respondent's demographic characteristics

Category	n	%	Category	n	%
<i>Respondent's Age</i>			<i>Gender</i>		
<18 years old	15	2.0	Male	89	11.6
18 to 24 years old	305	39.9	Female	676	88.4
25 to 30 years old	334	43.7	Total	765	100.0
31 to 36 years old	84	11.0	<i>Marital Status</i>		
37 to 42 years old	16	2.1	Single	506	66.1
>42 years old	11	1.4	Married	243	31.8
Total	765	100.0	Other	16	2.1
<i>Respondent's Education</i>			Total	765	100.0
Secondary	34	4.4	<i>Respondent's Ethnicity</i>		
Certificate	33	4.3	Malay	618	80.8
Diploma	139	18.2	Chinese	71	9.3
Degree	426	55.7	Indian	37	4.8
Master	109	14.2	Other	39	5.1
PHD	18	2.4	Total	765	100.0
Others	6	.8	<i>How many times have you used the online store in the last 6 months?</i>		
Total	765	100.0	1- 2	167	21.8
<i>How much would you normally spend to purchase apparel online?</i>			3-5	267	34.9
Below RM50	123	16.1	6-10	189	24.7
RM51-RM150	304	39.7	Above 10	142	18.6
RM151-RM250	156	20.4	Total	765	100.0
RM251-RM350	92	12.0			

Category	n	%	Category	n	%
RM351-RM450	48	6.3			
RM451-550	16	2.1	<i>Monthly Income</i>		
RM551-RM650	9	1.2	Below RM 500	163	21.3
Above RM651	17	2.2	RM501-RM2000	226	29.5
Total	765	100.0	RM2001-RM 4000	301	39.3
			RM40001-RM6000	59	7.7
<i>How much did you spend on this current purchase?</i>			RM6001-RM8000	13	1.7
Below RM50	184	24.1	Above RM10000	3	.4
RM51-RM150	296	38.7	Total	765	100.0
RM151-RM250	127	16.6			
RM251-RM350	58	7.6			
RM351-RM450	33	4.3			
Above RM451	67	8.7			
Total	765	100.0			

Most of the online consumers surveyed in this study are aged between 18 to 30 years old. Among the total 765 respondents, 426 or 55.7% of the total respondents have completed their bachelor degree, followed by 139 or 18.2% who have completed their Diploma and 109 or 14.25% who have completed their Master degree. Respondents' level of education clearly indicates that relatively higher educated consumers purchase products online rather than through traditional shopping. As per the ethnicity of respondents, out of 765 respondents, 618 or 80.8% is Malay, followed by 71 or 9.3% Chinese, 37 or 4.8% Indian and 39 or 5.9% others. The percentage of Malay and Chinese ethnic groups (80.8% and 9.3%) in the study is different than that of the national population where 67.4% are Malay and 24.6% Chinese (Department of Statistics, 2010). This indicates that among the different ethnic groups, a relatively higher proportion of Malay consumers purchase products online compared to other ethnic groups. As per the income, 690 or 90.19% of the total respondents reported that their income is below RM4000; among them 389 respondents' income is below RM2000. With regard to the number of times respondents purchased apparels online in the last six months, 167 or 21.8% respondents reported that they purchased 1 to 2 times only; followed by 267 or 34.9% respondents who purchased 3 to 5 times, 189 or 28.7% respondents who purchased 6 to 10 times, and 142 or 18.6% respondents who purchased more than 10 times. As per how many respondents spend while purchasing apparels online, the highest proportion of respondents (304 or 39.7%) reported that they spent between RM51 to RM150, followed by 156 or 20.4% respondents who spent between RM152 to RM250. A total of 182 respondents or 23.7% respondents spent more than RM250. Table 1 presents the data on how much respondents spent in their last purchase. A total of 583 out of 765 respondents or 76.21% spent less than or equivalent to RM250 only. This indicates that, when it comes to purchasing expensive or high quality apparels, which commonly cost more than RM250, most online consumers may prefer traditional shopping compared to online shopping.

#### 4.2 Descriptive and Reliability Analysis

Table 2. Reliability and descriptive analysis

Factors	Number of items	Mean	Standard Deviation	Cronbach's Alpha
Satisfaction	3	5.3386	1.00882	0.931
Website Design	8	5.3399	1.02561	0.949
Information Quality	5	5.0635	.94945	0.905
Security and Privacy	4	5.3972	.93136	0.921
Merchandise Attributes	5	4.9886	.96864	0.856
Expected Customer Service	3	5.2997	.97085	0.850
Transaction and Payment	4	5.0915	1.04487	0.856
General Belief	3	5.1853	.98345	0.801
Expected Delivery Service	4	5.1586	1.04291	0.825

Reliability analysis was performed to test the internal consistency of the dependent variable (consumer satisfaction), as well as the independent variables (general belief, information quality, website design, merchandise attributes, transaction and payment, security and privacy, expected delivery service, and expected customer service). The findings, as presented in Table 2, indicate that the measurement instruments for each factor are reliable since the Cronbach's alpha values range between 0.801 - 0.949 which exceed 0.7 as the recommended value.

As presented in Table 2, the mean value for the satisfaction measure is 5.339, general belief measure is 5.340, information quality measure is 5.064, website design measure is 5.397, merchandise attributes measure is 4.989, payment transaction measure is 5.300, security and privacy measure is 5.092, delivery service measure is 5.185, and customer service measure is 5.1586.

#### 4.3 Testing Assumptions

In the absence of the fit test, the probability of the F test statistic ( $F=6.438$ ) was  $p = 0.519$ , which is higher than the chosen 5% level of significance, indicating that a linear regression model is appropriate as it satisfies the linearity assumption.

Table 3. Lack of fit tests

Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Lack of Fit	279.016	705	.396	6.438	.519
Pure Error	2.213	36	.061		

The  $p$  value for the Levene's test for equality of variance for dependent and independent variables are presented in Table 4. As the  $p$  values for all variables are more than the chosen 5% level of significance, equality of variances can be assumed. This finding satisfies the assumption of homoscedasticity.

Table 4. Levene's test for homogeneity of variance

Test/Variables	General Belief	Info-Quality	Website Design	Merchandise Attributes	Payment transaction	Security Privacy	Delivery Service	Customer Service
F	.180	.705	.396	1.203	.035	0.019	1.532	1.061
Sig.	0.495	0.065	0.214	0.974	0.219	0.239	0.049	0.173

The value of the Durbin-Watson statistic ranges from 0 to 4. As a general rule of thumb, the residuals are not correlated if the Durbin-Watson statistic is approximately 2, and an acceptable range is 1.50 to 2.50. The value of the Durbin-Watson statistic is 1.942 (Table 7), which indicates that the assumption of independence of errors is satisfied. Furthermore, the value of Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) for all variables in the study, as noted in Table 8, is less than 10 while the Tolerance value exceeds 0.2, therefore satisfying the assumption of the absence of multicollinearity.

#### 4.4 Correlation Analysis

Table 5. Correlation analysis

Variables	SA	GB	IQ	WD	MA	TP	SP	DS	CS
SA	1								
GB	.510**	1							
IQ	.543**	.544**	1						
WD	.522**	.428**	.533**	1					
MA	.476**	.440**	.450**	.524**	1				
TP	.608**	.464**	.504**	.554**	.496**	1			
SP	.643**	.474**	.533**	.513**	.529**	.697**	1		
DS	.573**	.409**	.448**	.506**	.547**	.720**	.668**	1	
CS	.590**	.394**	.417**	.439**	.486**	.646**	.625**	.658**	1

SA: Satisfaction; GB: General Belief; IQ: Information Quality; WD: Website Design; MA: Merchandise Attributes; TP: Payment transaction; SP: Security and Privacy; DS: Delivery Service; and CS: Customer Service

\*\* Significant at 1% level of significance

The correlation analysis presented in Table 5 indicates the association between variables. At 5% level of significance, only one pair of independent variables, 'delivery service' and 'payment transaction' are strong and statistically significant ( $r = 0.720$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ). Table 5 shows that all the other independent variables have a moderate relationship with satisfaction and with each other.

#### 4.5 Regression Analysis

The  $r^2$  value, as presented in Table 7, determines the amount of explained variation in satisfaction (dependent variable) from the eight variables on a range of 0-100%. Thus, the study indicates that the  $r^2$  value after omitting the outliers become better which is 61.7% of the variation in satisfaction and is accounted for through the combined linear effect of the predictor variables, i.e., general belief, information quality, website design, merchandise attributes, payment transaction, security and privacy, delivery service, and customer service.

Table 6. Model summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
Presence of outliers	.741 <sup>a</sup>	.550	.545	.68050	1.936
After eliminate outliers	.786 <sup>a</sup>	.617	.613	.61606	1.942

As noted in ANOVA (Table 7), the sum of squares is the total variance (734.552), which includes regression (453.323) and residual (281.229). The total variance is partitioned into the variance that can be explained by the independent variables (regression) and the variance, which cannot be explained by the independent variables (residual). The  $p$ -value of ANOVA F-test is 0.000, which is less than the chosen 5% level of significance, indicating a good model fit. This indicates that at least one of the eight variables: general belief, information quality, website design, merchandise attributes, payment transaction, security and privacy, expected delivery service, and expected customer service can be used to model the satisfaction among online apparel consumers in Malaysia.

Table 7. Analysis of variance

Variance	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	453.323	8	56.665	149.305	.000 <sup>a</sup>
Residual	281.229	741	.380		
Total	734.552	749			

Table 8. Regression coefficients

Coefficients	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig. (2-tailed)	Sig. (1-tailed)	Collinearity Statistics	
	B	Std. Error	Beta				Tolerance	VIF
(Constant)	.168	1.036	.051	1.036	.051	0.025		
General Belief	.136	4.895	.000	4.895	.000	0.000	.624	1.602
Info. Quality	.103	3.158	.002	3.158	.002	0.001	.535	1.871
Website Design	.113	3.490	.001	3.490	.001	0.000	.552	1.811
Merchandise Attributes	.011	.360	.719	.360	.719	0.359	.578	1.731
Payment Transaction	.148	3.795	.000	3.795	.000	0.000	.362	2.763
Security and Privacy	.239	6.933	.000	6.933	.000	0.000	.400	2.497
Delivery Service	.065	1.734	.083	1.734	.083	0.041	.386	2.592
Customer Service	.181	5.681	.000	5.681	.000	0.000	.472	2.119

Dependent variable: Satisfaction

Independent variables: General Belief, Information Quality, Website Design, Merchandise Attributes, Payment transaction, Security and Privacy, Delivery Service and Customer Service

Furthermore, the finding in Table 8 indicates that all independent variables have a positive effect on consumer satisfaction. Among the eight independent variables, a total of seven independent variables, i.e., general belief, information quality, website design, merchandise attributes, payment transaction, security and privacy, delivery services, and expected customer service have a significant (at 5% level of significance) effect on consumer satisfaction among online apparel consumers in Malaysia.

### 5. Discussions and Managerial Implication

The finding shows that all factors are positively significant to overall satisfaction. Therefore, this study can conclude that all eight variables affect overall satisfaction in the context of online apparel businesses in Malaysia. The finding indicates that general belief, information quality, website design, merchandise attributes, payment transaction, security and privacy, expected delivery services, and expected customer service have a significant (at 5% level of significance) effect on consumer satisfaction. Prior study by Jeon (2009) identified five attributes that affect e-satisfaction such as content of the website, convenience, accessibility, security, and website design. Among the significant independent variables (based on standardized regression coefficients, as noted in Table 8), expected delivery services, information quality, and website design have a higher effect on customer satisfaction. The apparel industry should therefore focus more on these three areas. According to Ali, Abu and Azadeh (2013), if customers do not have any difficulties in accessing the quality of the information through the website, it will lead to their satisfaction towards the website. This is supported by Yuan and Chu (2013) who stated that information quality is found to be an important role in determining customer satisfaction. Besides, Gregory, Wang and DiPietro (2010) believed that the design of the website is associated with consumer perception of the organization and the order at the site. Besides having sufficient information and a good website design, Guo et al. (2012) believes that merchandise attributes play a significant role in whether customers are satisfied or dissatisfied with their shopping experiences. Theoretically, the finding supports previous theory such as The theory of reasoned action (TRA) by Fishbein and Ajzen (1975) where people make decisions regarding on the information available to them and the best immediate determinant of a person's behavior is intent is the cognitive representation of readiness to perform certain behavior. In other words, for instance, information quality provided by the website is reliable and accurate, then this will increase online satisfaction

Specifically, this study helps the marketing practitioners in Malaysia to better understand their consumers on what is the best e-service attraction they can offer as well as how to react with it in the online environment. In other words, online retailers must to ensure that their website is well designed for instance easy to use, simple and convenient. As the finding indicate that instead of website design, expected customer service and information quality are other two elements contribute to satisfaction. Taking this into consideration, the online retailers in Malaysia must to ensure that the delivery service they provide must convenience for them and the information provided in the website should be updated regularly. Since this study corresponds with a previous study by White (2010), which revealed that all the factors have a significant impact on satisfaction - managers should take this into consideration for maintaining and improving their competitive advantage. Olorunniwo et al. (2006) added that managers should plan operational strategies which focus on the dimensions of service quality that boost customer satisfaction which can in turn lead to positive behavioral intentions. If customers are satisfied with the service, they will become loyal, revisit, and recommend to others. Furthermore, managers can use this framework to create benchmarks against which they can evaluate their own website. By doing so, they can identify their competitive strengths and weaknesses from the customers' viewpoints regarding the e-service quality, satisfaction, and intention at the time when customers make their purchase (point-of-purchase).

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