

AGENCY BEST PRACTICES

Creating Customers for Life

What's the lifetime value?

For example, a customer buys a **\$350 policy** at your agency

- Number of additional policies the customer might buy in a lifetime = 50
- Number of potential sales from customer referrals = 20 or

\$24,500 in Customer Lifetime Value

How does loyalty pay you?

For example, an agent with an average book of 500 nonstandard customers loses 60% every 6 months.

- ► Average policy premium = \$400
- ► Average lost commission per cancelled policy = \$25
- Annual lost commission (500 customers x 60% attrition x \$25 x 2 six-month cycles) = \$15,000

By working on retention, the agent reduces attrition to just 40%.

Extra commission (500 customers x 40% attrition x \$25 x 2 six-month cycles) = \$10,000 or

\$5,000
in Additional
Commission for You

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5 WAYS TO CREATE CUSTOMERS FOR LIFE

- Work your customer cancellation list. Use GAINSCO's built-in cancellation report (click Reports & Output > Cancellation Report). Contact these customers proactively and encourage them to maintain their coverage. (List is updated daily so review the information often.)
- Use GAINSCO's easy "Reinstate" button. You can easily reinstate customers, without a lapse, for up to 7 days online after the cancel date. Simply locate the policy (click Manage a Policy > Policy Search), then click "Reinstate."
- Use GAINSCO's easy "Rewrite" button. Locate the policy (click Manage a Policy > Policy Search), then click "Rewrite."
- 4 Enroll your customers in Auto-Pay. Policy holders who use Auto-Pay are twice as likely to renew. They also receive a discount and save on fees.
- **Collect email addresses** from *every new customer* and use them to keep in touch. Also, use every contact opportunity to ask for updated phone and address information.

10 REASONS TO FOCUS ON CUSTOMER LOYALTY

- A loss of one customer is more than just one policy it's the loss of all policies the customer might ever purchase from you. This is known as Customer Lifetime Value.
- 2 It costs 5 times more to acquire a new customer than to keep an existing one.
- A 2% increase in customer retention has the same effect on profits as cutting costs by 10%.
- An average company loses 10% of its customers each year and the rate is much higher in the insurance industry.
- A 5% reduction in customer loss can increase profits by 25–125%.
- 6 Customer profitability tends to increase over the life of a retained customer.
- 7 Loyal customers refer their family and friends, which greatly multiplies the potential value.
- 3 On average, agents keep only 40% of non-standard customers to the end of their first 6-month policy cycle.
- GAINSCO agents who work on retention can keep 50% or more non-standard customers.
- (I) Keeping just 20% more of your non-standard customers can result in a significant increase in commissions.

