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How to build growth strategies



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Co-founder & Director, global business

- Msc Computer Science 1997 Oulu Uni
- VTT 1997-1998
- Sonera 1998-1999
- Nokia 2000-2012
- Sports Tech 2011-...
- Cascard 2012
- CubiCasa 2013-...
- Latuhaukka.fi 2020-...
- Board member or advisor in multiple companies

CubiCasa

- Founded 2013 in Oulu
- 60+ employees in various locations
- PropTech / FinTech
- Indoor space capturing technology
- Registrations from 200+ countries
- Acquired by Clear Capital 2021







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Key learnings from CubiCasa How to build growth strategies



How CubiCasa started in the US 2014?

- > Pushed our successful Finnish product to the US ->

? ?

- > Added features -> 😥
- > Added more features -> 🙀
- > Used existing product differently -> 💽
- > Tried other verticals and industries ->
- > Hired externals to find use for the product -> 😥
- > Over promised to investors -> 🗰
- > More stupid things -> $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$



How we continued 2017-?

- > Discovered a big problem in the target market -> 😁
- > Validated the problem with larger audience -> 😁
- > Built the MVP -> 😁
- > Plenty of meaningful registrations to MVP -> 😁
- > Total change to strategy -> 👝
- > Target segment niche with the biggest pain -> 😁
- > Started building the product -> 👝
- > March 2019 launched the product in the US, 1.5 years after MVP -> 😁
- > 2.5 years after the launch CubiCasa acquired by the US company ->

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Case Australia - how to enter another new market

- > Early 2022 we discovered that we have pure organic growth in Australia
 - User base had grown from 0 to 50-60 active customers in since we launched CubiCasa App
 - Monthly revenue 20-30k€
- > Decision to focus on Australia as we identified growth and property data ecosystem
 - Potential to sell not just floor plans but also property data
- > Challenges entering Australia
 - Absolutely zero knowledge of the culture, market dynamics or value chains
 - No contacts, no network
 - Time zone difference
 - Travel time and costs
- > Actions
 - Conferences and surveys -> understand history, different value chains, industries, competition, products, trends, ...
 - Lot's of interviews and networking -> use every opportunity to get feedback and info
 - Again, **discover a big problem** validate the solution with without big investments or development
 - It's not always product features that is needed pricing, training, brand awareness, listen, support

Strategic choices for CubiCasa

- > Focus on a big problem for niche first vs solves a huge problem for many
- > **Simplicity** vs complexity
- > **User experience** vs lot of features that serve multiple verticals
- > Scalability vs custom project sales
- > **Target market product fit** vs home market product fit
- > **Product easy to understand** vs very special deep tech
- > **Full control of the architecture** vs lots of external dependencies
- > **DIY** vs use external resources
- > Founders on the target market vs cold calling from Oulu

Summary

- > There is not just one way to build growth strategy for international markets
- > Each market requires specific go-to-market plan
- > However, it is much easier to go the next market when you have done one
- > CubiCasa started in the US after 12 months of founding the company 2013
- > Vision has remained: "Building the largest asset of property interior data"
- > The key enabler is the will and passion to grow outside your own market
- > Don't fall in love with your product too much forget and learn fast
- > Co-operation with Oulu based PropTech companies how to share best growth practices?

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Thank you

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