Secrets of Successful Content Marketing

Marketing with White Papers and Other Free Content Offers

Pinpointe's Features Presenter:

Robert W. Bly

Center for Technical Communication

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Twitter: @robertbly





Before We Start

Event Recording

- Webinar is being recorded
- Email to webinar, slides, Q&A on Tuesday
- Summary Q and A paper

Questions

- Please ask questions in question panel
- Post questions on Twitter to: @Pinpointe, @robertbly

Please share! Tweet this, like us on FB, LinkedIn



For Today's Attendees

Bob Bly:

- 4 free marketing reports worth over \$100
- Download at http://www.bly.com/reports

• Pinpointe:

- Free 1 month Service (\$42 ~ \$500 value)
- www.pinpointe.com/get-started
- Coupon code: **PPTWEBNR** (Limited Time)



About Pinpointe

- #1 Ranked Email Marketing
- Email Marketing for Businesses
- Promote your great content with Pinpointe!

"Pinpointe is like Constant Contact on steroids!"

Pinpointe customer

#1 Ranked by www.topseos.com for business communications



About Bob Bly

- Internet Strategist, Copywriter
- Author of 80+ books
- Appeared on TV, and radio

- Clients include IBM, Medical Economics, AT&T, BOC Gasses, and others
- Helps a wide range of clients with email marketing, copy, direct marketing & more.



What We Will Cover Today

- Understanding the difference between content and copy
- What makes killer content that your audience will love and share?
- The benefits of different types of content and when to use them.
- How to use content to boost your direct marketing strategies in multiple channels



Why Content Marketing is a Good Idea

- "The true measure of your education is not what you know, but how you share what you know with others."
 - -- Kent Nerburn Simple Truths (MJF Books)
- "If I have an apple and you have an apple and we exchange apples, then you and I will still have one apple. But if you have an idea and I have an idea and we exchange these ideas, then each of us will have two ideas."
 - -- George Bernard Shaw (from *The Apple Cart*, 1929)



Content vs. Copy

Content:

Apples help prevent cancer.

Сору:

A delicious fruit you can find in your refrigerator that can help prevent cancer.



5 Things That Make Killer Content

1. How-To Tips

GIVE YOUR WRITING THE "BREATH TEST"

Short sentences are easier to read than long sentences. But how long is too long for a sentence?

To determine maximum sentence length, use the "breath test." Without taking in a gulp of air, and just with the amount of air you ordinarily have in your lungs, read the sentence aloud at a normal conversational speed and volume.

If you run out of breath before you get to the end, the sentence is too long. Solution: Break it into two sentences at the point where a new idea is introduced.



The New Infrastructure Boom Market

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

1. Executive Summary

Even though the U.S. is in a recession, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) is stimulating a mini-boom for contractors and subcontractors who can build and manage large infrastructure projects.

The goal of this special report is to help you understand the opportunities available under the ARRA, and highlight technology that can help you compete more effectively for federally funded infrastructure contracts.

2. State of the Construction Industry in 2009

The construction industry has been hit hard by the recession. From December 2007 (the start of the recession) through December 2008, the price of the average home in the U.S. dropped from \$207,000 to \$175,400, a decline of 16% in one year (Fig. 1).

With housing prices plummeting, home construction has dropped off precipitously, resulting in hard times for contractors specializing in residential construction. New construction starts for 2009 are estimated at \$463.1 billion, a 15% drop from 2008.²

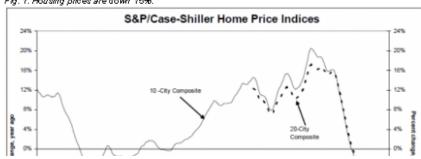


Fig. 1. Housing prices are down 15%.

2. News

- Plan to spend 1/5 to 1/3 of your business-gift budget at times other than Christmas. The reason: Business gifts are most appreciated when given at unexpected moments. Experience proves it.
- Keep card files on each of your clients. Note such personal data as birthday, spouse's birthday, wedding anniversary, hobbies, children's birthdays, other special events. Then give gifts on these personal occasions.
- 3. One of the best times to give a gift is on a sales call, when it is totally unexpected.

3. Ideas

- Or, send a gift with a personal note by mail—any time.
 - 5. Be creative. Think of new occasions for gift-giving...or create your own. For example, how about giving the client a gift upon the completion of a major project? Or when he gets a promotion or wins an award?

Planning your year-round business gift program.

The first step in planning your program is to decide who will receive a gift from you.

According to surveys, 59 percent of companies give gifts to major





WORLD'S MOST VALUABLE NETWORKING SECRET

In his new book "How to Market to High-Net-Worth Households" (The Business Institute), my friend Paul Karasik gives a great networking technique – the "You know how/what I do" statement.

The first part begins with, "You know how." The second part begins with, "What I do is."

4. Expert Advice

Example (for a financial planner): "YOU KNOW HOW lots of divorced women are overwhelmed with the responsibility of dealing with their finances. WHAT IDO IS provide safe investment opportunities so they can stop worrying and get their lives back on track."

Why this works: (a) It focuses on the prospect, not your company, product, or service, (b) it leads with a point of self-interest to the prospect, (c) it establishes both empathy and authority (i.e., showing that you understand the listener's situation better than others in your profession), and (d) it stresses benefits, not features.

Action step: Compose a "You know how/what I do" statement for your business and test it out the next time someone asks you, "What do you do"

Note: Paul can be found on the Web at http://www.paulkarasik.com



5. Tie In With Current Events

From: Bob Bly, 22 East Quackenbush Avenue, Dumont, NJ 07628

Contact: Bob Bly 201-385-1220

For immediate release

New Booklet Reveals 14 Proven Strategies for Keeping Businesses Booming in a Bust Economy

New Milford, NJ—While some companies struggle to survive in a sluggish business environment, many do better than ever largely because they have mastered the proven but little-known strategies of "recession marketing."

That's the opinion of Bob Bly, an independent marketing consultant and author of the just-published booklet, "Recession Proof Business Strategies: 14 Winning Methods to Sell Any Product or Service in a Down Economy."

"Many business people fear a recession or soft economy, because when the economy is weak, their clients and customers cut back on spending," says Bly. "To survive in such a marketplace, you need to develop recession marketing strategies that help you retain your current accounts and keep those customers buying. You also need to master marketing techniques that will win you new clients or customers to replace any business you may have lost because of the increased competition that is typical of a recession."

Among the recession-fighting business strategies Bly outlines in his new booklet:

✔ Reactivate dormant accounts. An easy way to get more business is to simply call past clients or customers—people you served at one time but are not actively working for



The 3 Rs of content optimization

- •Reorganize take existing content and restructure it in a way that is more useful to your prospects
- •Rewrite companies often find it useful to rewrite to content when it is either dated or has been exhausted due to a high level of previous consumption
- •Retire every piece of content has a shelf life. You cannot use the same content indefinitely

Source: Marketing white paper "Creating Content that Sells"



How to Avoid Bad Content

Bad content example:

Copywriting Tip

Most of your customers don't really give a crap about you, your products or services, or your goals and dreams.

What they care about is how you can help THEM. They are too busy trying to figure out how to overcome their challenges!

How to avoid it:

The key to writing great content is to either (a) present a new idea (very difficult) or (b) communicate an old idea in a fresh, new, and compelling way (challenging but easier). If you do neither, then you are wasting the reader's time by stating the old in a stale way. So why even bother? Answer: You shouldn't.



Breakdown of B2B Content Marketing Tactics in Use

- 87% of B2B content marketers use social media (other than blogs)
- 83% of B2B content marketers use articles on their website
- 78% of B2B content marketers use eNewsletters
- 77% of B2B content marketers use blogs
- 71% of B2B content marketers use case studies
- 70% of B2B content marketers use videos
- 70% of B2B content marketers use articles on other websites
- 69% of B2B content marketers use in-person events
- 61% of B2B content marketers use white papers
- 59% of B2B content marketers use webinars or webcasts
- 44% of B2B content marketers use research reports
- 40% of B2B content marketers use micro sites

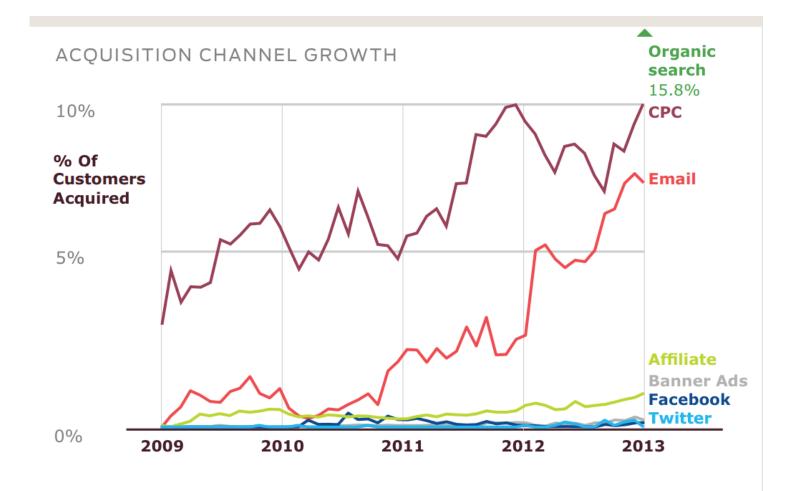


Breakdown of B2B Content Marketing Tactics in Use, Cnt'd

- 38% of B2B content marketers use infographics
- 38% of B2B content marketers use branded content tools
- 33% of B2B content marketers use mobile content
- 32% of B2B content marketers use eBooks
- 31% of B2B content marketers use print magazines
- 29% of B2B content marketers use books
- 28% of B2B content marketers use virtual conferences
- 27% of B2B content marketers use podcasts
- 26% of B2B content marketers use licensed or syndicated content
- 26% of B2B content marketers use mobile apps
- 25% of B2B content marketers use digital magazines
- 24% of B2B content marketers use print newsletters
- 11% of B2B content marketers use games or gamification



Social Media is a Poor Business Producer



Custora came up with its figures by analyzing data from 72 million customers shopping on 86 different retailer sites.

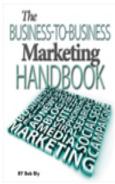


E-Zine Ads Work Very Well

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Today's Featured Resources

New Free e-Book Reveals 30+ Years of Tested B-to-B Marketing Secrets



Now, in Bob Bly's 147-page e-book "The Business-to-Business Marketing Handbook," you'll discover 30+ years of tested B-to-B marketing secrets, including 10 tips for increasing landing page conversion rates ... the 6 key components of effective B-to-B offers ... 4 SEO copywriting tips ... and more.... more »

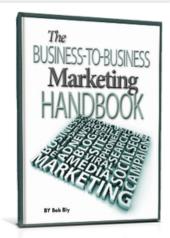
DOWNLOAD: The Definitive Guide to Marketing Automation



Looking to do better marketing with fewer resources? Our new Definitive Guide to Marketing Automation will show you how you can streamline, automate, and measure marketing tasks so efficiently that you'll feel like



New Free e-Book Reveals 30+ Years of Tested B2B Marketing Secrets



Yours FREE – Bob Bly's B2B Marketing Handbook!

Since 1979, freelance copywriter Bob Bly has written hundreds of winning B2B promotions – including landing pages, white papers, e-mail marketing campaigns, ads, and sales letters – for over 100 clients including IBM, AT&T, Praxair, Associated Global Systems, Intuit, Ingersoll-Rand, and Medical Economics.

Now, in Bob's 147-page e-book *The Business-to-Business Marketing Handbook*, you'll discover 30+ years of tested B2B marketing secrets, including:

- 10 tips for increasing landing page conversion rates page 10.
- The 6 key components of effective B2B offers page 19.
- What's working in e-mail marketing today?—page 112.
- 7 tips for more effective content marketing—page 78.
- Best practices for B2B lead generation—page 54.
- 4 steps to writing SEO copy that both your prospects and the search engines will love—page 49.
- 5 ways to build a large and responsive e-list of prospects--page 29.

To claim your FREE copy of The Business-to-Business Marketing Handbook, just fill in the form below and click submit now:

*=Required field

- * Please send me:
- FREE copy of The Business-to-Business Marketing Handbook.
- ☐ FREE Copywriting Information Kit with details on Bob's copywriting services including a fee schedule.
- FREE no-obligation estimate for a copywriting project.

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Title:	
* Company:	
* E-mail Address:	
* Phone	



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Methodology



Instantly calculates DM response rates

oiiline:

It's not just social networking ... or mobile marketing ... or Big Data ... or list segm as effective as those marketing tools may be.

It's powerful, persuasive direct response copywriting: knowing how to write poten compelling copy for landing pages, squeeze pages, web sites, e-mails, sales letters, drive clicks, conversions, and sales through the roof - and make more money onlin

That's why some of the biggest and most successful direct marketers ... as well as s smallest ... call on freelance direct response copywriter and Internet marketing con Bly when they need direct response copywriting that sells.

With a 30-year track record as a top freelance copywriter, Bob Bly -- dubbed "Amcopywriter" by McGraw-Hill and praised by legendary ad man David Ogilvy - offers combination of proven direct response copywriting skills and Internet marketing exunduplicated in the industry.

While today Bob is widely known as a control-beating direct response copywriter marketing specialist, his background in chemical engineering and IT prompted him career in industrial marketing, where he continues to put his technical knowledge helping high-tech and B2B clients generate more leads and sales.

Unlike many top direct response copywriters today, $\mbox{\sc Bob}$ $\mbox{\sc Bly}$ does not hire junior c



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Net Revenue per Order (NR)	\$
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Postage Cost per Thousand (PO)	\$
Printing Cost per Thousand(PR)	\$
Mailing Rental Fee per Thousand (LR)	\$
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Dear [NAME]:

Reply Card

Send me your FREE White Paper

Do you have old PCs, printers, servers, fax machines, or other electronic assets that you need to get rid of? If so, then Heritage Environmental Services is here to help you recycle or remarket those assets in a cost-effective, secure, and environmentally compliant manner.

Heritage is proud to announce that we have become a *Certified Channel Partner* for Chasm Lifecycle Management. As outlined in the enclosed brochure, Chasm is the first nationwide electronic asset disposal service that offers an integrated "cradle to grave" IT asset lifecycle management process. This service is offered locally, but at the national level.

By offering you the Chasm Lifecycling solution, Heritage can save you time, money, and the aggravation of disposing of your old electronic assets. Moreover, Heritage can even turn some of these electronic assets into cash!

The technique used by Chasm Recycling involves a proprietary incineration-free process that cleanly converts discarded electronics into streams of copper, aluminum,

> materials can be recycled on the alue of your old IT equipment.

nd of their useful service life can ion tags. They can then be resold al costs and possibly even generatat is obsolete can be broken down onwide processing centers.

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Description of electronic assets requiring disposition:		(Please correct name and address if different than below)	
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To link your AS/400 LANs for maximum performance, you need the right connection. And that's where IBM can help.

Ask for your FREE IBM guide: The 30-Minute AS/400 Networking Handbook: Connecting your remote and branch office LANs.

June 1997

Direct Mail

Mr. John Q. Sample Any Corporation 123 Any Street Anytown, US 12345-6789

Dear Mr. Sample,

According to a recent survey from *Midrange Systems Magazine*, 88% of AS/400 system customers have at least one local area network (LAN) installed.

But <u>interconnecting</u> AS/400 LANs efficiently, securely, and at high speeds has always been tough. Until now.

IBM – the <u>maker</u> of the AS/400 system – knows the AS/400 better than anyone. Based on this knowledge, IBM has developed a uniquely effective way to connect AS/400 LANs: *The IBM 2210 Nways Multiprotocol Router*.

A proven solution for achieving efficient, reliable, high-speed LAN-to-LAN connectivity throughout your entire enterprise, the IBM 2210 Router can be easily integrated



Direct Mail

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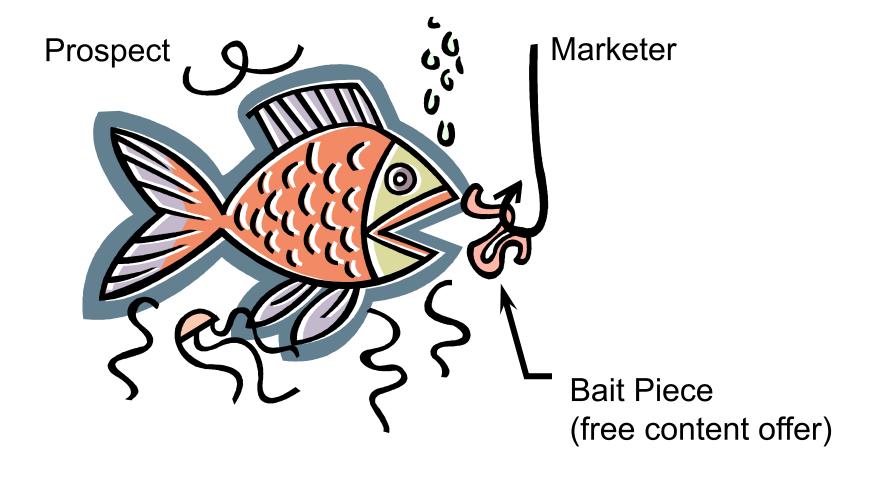


Content Marketing Benefits

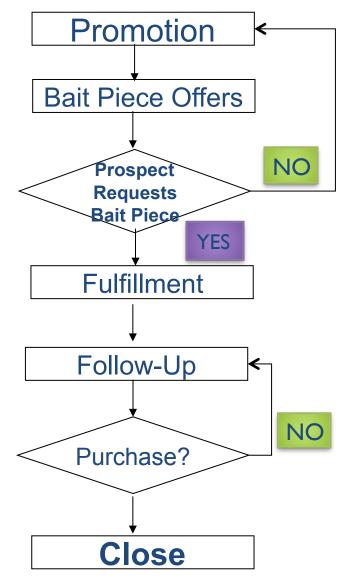
- 1. Sets the specs.
- 2. Makes the prospect beholden (reciprocity).
- 3. Generates more inquiries.
- 4. Establishes you as the expert.
- 5. Educates the market.
- 6. Drives sales.



The Role of Content Marketing in Direct Marketing: What is a Bait Piece?



The Role of the Bait Piece in the Sales Cycle





The Formula

LGM + BPO 2 x RRR

7 WAYS TO DOUBLE YOUR DIRECT MAIL RESPONSE—

Yours FREE When You Act Now!

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FREE Special Report— Recession-Proof Business Strategies."

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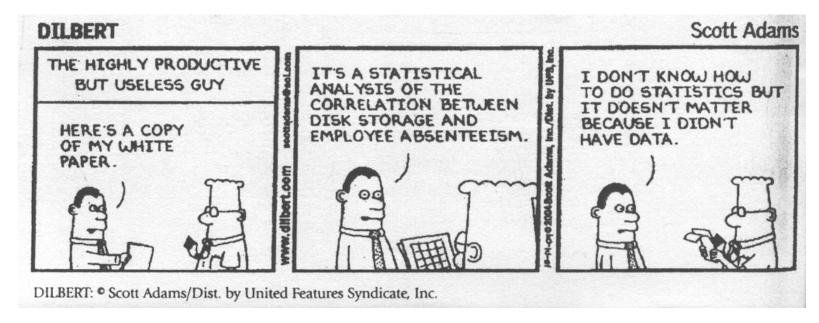
Mail to: Bob Big, 22 E. Quackenbush Avenue, Dusson, HJ 00620 Ffranc 201-385-1220, Fac: 201-385-1139, Web: www.bly.com, e-mail: reble#bly.com



Choosing a Content Topic

- Selection Guide
- ■How-to
- Survey
- Case Study
- Methodology

- Implementation Guide
- Controversy
- Consumer Awareness Guide
- Application
- ■ROI/Benefit



White Paper Content Formats



The Death of Passwords

3 Easy steps to increasing user productivity, enhancing authentication, and lowering password reset costs with Enterprise Single-Sign On.



Do White Papers Work?*

- Survey of 1,400 IT professionals asked if content influences their purchase decisions
- 89% of respondents said content has an impact on their preference of technology vendor.
- Also said more likely to download and read white papers than product literature.
- 69% of prospects who like your white paper will pass it on to colleagues.
- 57% said white papers influenced their buying decisions.
- 71% of tech buyers prefer white papers to other marketing content.



^{*}Sources: Maddox, Kate, "Study looks at value of online content," BtoB, p.3; Huff, Dianna, "How to Syndicate Your White Papers," MarketingSherpa; Knowledge Storm/MarketingSherpa Study

White Papers – Alternative Names

Purpose/Audience	Description
Senior Management high-level overview	Executive Briefing
Instructions	Manual
How to specify or choose a product	Consumer Awareness Guide; Buyer's Guide; Selection Guide
Information, tips, technical data	Special Report
Quick tips	Tip Sheet
Technical or research data	Monograph
Printed multi-page saddle-stitched document, 4x9-inch page size	Booklet
Printed multi-page document, folded	Pamphlet



Titling Your White Paper

Type of Title	Example
List	"The Top 7 Security Problems of 802.11 Wireless Networks"
Active Verb ("ing")	"Managing Large UNIX Data Centers"
Why	"Why Six Sigma Doesn't Work"
Colon	"Defending the Remote Office: Which VPN Technology is Best?"
How to	"How to Prevent Machine Parts from Failing Prematurely"



Drama Title (Controversy)



The Death of Passwords

3 Easy steps to increasing user productivity, enhancing authentication, and lowering password reset costs with Enterprise Single-Sign On.



White Paper Content Outline

- Front Cover/Title
- 2. Table of Contents
- 3. Executive Summary
- A Look at the Problem
- 5. Body
- 6. Conclusions
- 7. Contact/Call to Action



Other Bait Piece Formats: Guides

A SIMPLE GUIDE TO RUNNING

A PROFIT-BUILDING

BUSINESS GIFT PROGRAM.

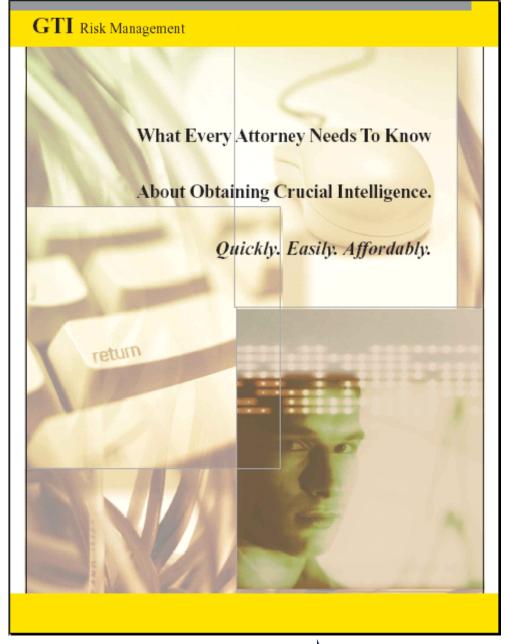


E-Books, Down-loadable PDFs

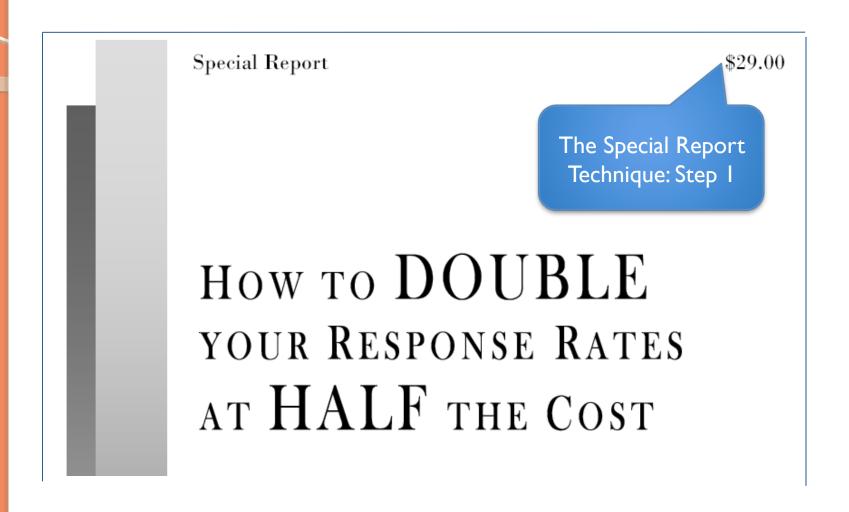
The World's Best-Kept Copywriting Secrets



"Reportalog"

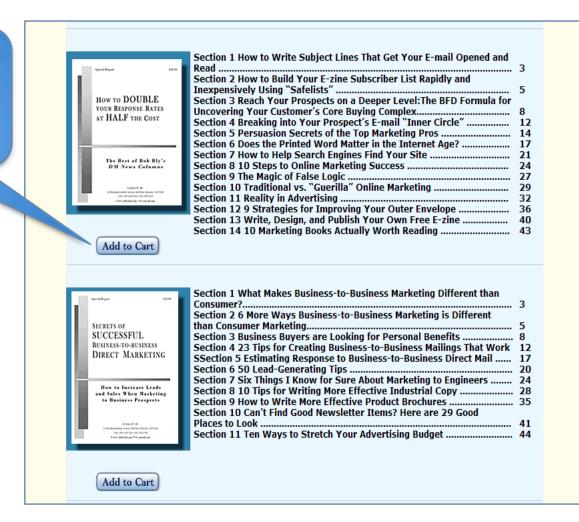


Special Reports



Special Reports (Continued)

The Special
Report
Technique: Step 2





Booklets





Rack Brochure

A Guide to Preventing Fraud and Identity Theft





WACHOVIA



Catalogs

Turn your hot patio or deck into a cool "outdoor room". t's an outdoor lover's dream . . . an attractive and flexible way to cover your



Canopies extend and retract for Sun or Shade

deck or patio with large retractable shade. This revolutionary, yet simple, retractable shade system let's you add shade anywhere. Overhead canopy kits attach to your house, to an existing structure, or to a new wood structure you design - a chance to be creative! You can also use our complete support structures in aluminum or vinyl. Whether you're seeking shelter from the sun's intense rays, or simply jazzing up the patio area, you'll appreciate the many benefits of ShadeTree' Retractable Canopies.

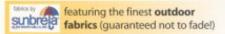
Call Toll-Free TODAY:

1-888-317-4233

For a FREE on-line cost estimate, visit: www.shadetreecanopies.com/2326

Also available on-line: FREE catalog, video. DVD & fabrics swatches.

- Unlike traditional retractable awnings, ShadeTree® Canopies cover small, odd-shaped, or LARGE areas - extends over 20'! (no pitch required)
- Canopies adapt to your structure, or use our aluminum or vinyl supports -Ask about our beautiful wood or low-maintenance vinyl pergolas!
- Patented wind protection
 Easy financing
 Matching privacy blinds
- Easy do-it-yourself installation, or we'll arrange installation for you!



See ShadeTree' On Tour -

Visit our website for a Home Show in your area!



Planning & Targeting Your Content

CONTENT MATRIX

Job Functions

Sales Cycle CEO CFO End Technical User

Lead-generation
Fulfillment
RFP

Close

	П	
V		
		†

 $\sqrt{\ }$ = Cost / Benefit ROI Analysis

† = Problem / Solution

 Π = Selection Tips



Developing Your Content

"1(O Tips for	"
		_
2.		_
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10.		



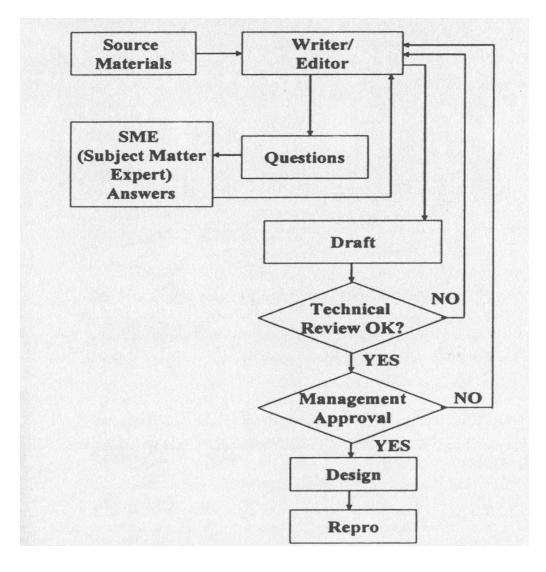
"7 Questions About ____ and One Good Answer to Each"

Q:

A:



Content Writing Process





Gather Materials - Sources

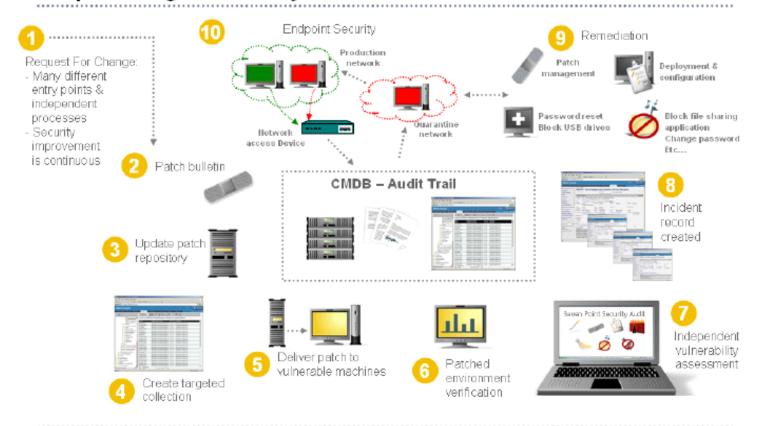
- Competitors' content on the same topic
- Previous white papers from the client company
- Tear-sheets of ads
- Brochures
- Catalogs
- Data sheets
- Case studies
- PowerPoint presentations
- Technical papers
- CD-ROMS
- Manuals
- Web sites

- Audio-visual scripts
- Press kits
- Swipe files of competitors' ads and literature
- Internal memos
- Letters of technical information
- Product specifications
- Engineering drawings
- Business and marketing plans
- Reports
- Proposals
- Past issues of e-zines
- The company blogs



Visuals Add Credibility

Improving Security





SERVICE ORIENTED MANAGEMENT





Illustrating Your White Paper

Type of Visual	This Shows	
Photograph or illustration	what something looks like	
Map	where it is located	
Exploded view	how it is put together	
Schematic diagram	how it works or is organized	
Graph	how much there is (quantity);	
	how one thing varies as a	
	function of another	
Pie chart	proportions and percentages	
Bar chart	comparisons between quantities	
Table	a body of related data	



Use Photos

The system is fully automated. Large-scale processing plants enable Chasm to quickly scale up to meet any volume requirement.

The process recovers from the scrap equipment more than a dozen separated commodities including copper, aluminum, steel, leaded glass, and polymers.







Fig. 3. The Chasm recycling process breaks down disposed of electronic assets into more than a dozen material streams that can be recovered and resold on the commodities market.

Aluminum

Specifically, the Chasm incineration-free process recovers the following product streams:

Use Maps

Five (5) Chasm Service Centers Service Over 300 Accounts Nationally Servicing Multiple Industries Columbus, OH Super Center Hartford, CT Service Center Service Center Opening Fall 2006 Fig. 5. Chasm processing and aggregation centers are located from coast to coast.

Use Diagrams



Fig. 7. Benefits of the Chasm Lifecycle Management Solution.



Use Bar Charts

equipment with serial numbers intact leaves the processing center; everything shipped is either a consumable product or commodity. Nothing is destined for a solid waste landfill.

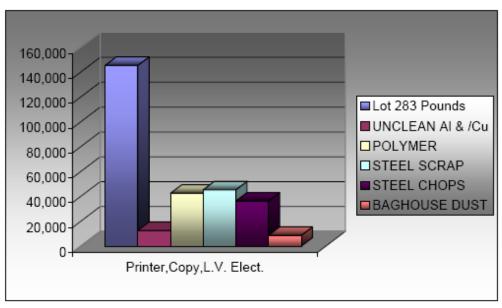


Fig. 4. The mass balance system details the individual customer loads going in and the total pounds by constituent going out.

Use Tables

Table II. Advanced authentication factors.

Authentication factor	Description	Examples
Something you know	Secret information known only to the user	Passwords, PINs
Something you have	A physical device possessed only by the user	Token, smart card
Something you are	A unique, measur- able characteristic of the user	Voice print verification, fin- gerprint, retinal scan, or other biometrics

passl@gix*



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