

and our economy can thrive!

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## DON'T JUST TAKE OUR WORD...



with John and Powersports vear. What happened was a huge influx of business that resulted in the biggest months we've had in 10

AMY G.

-WILMINGTON, DE

Kawasaki

TRIUMPH T

SUZUKI

I've been a BDC manager for over 10 years for many Harley-Davidson Dealerships, 11 to be exact. Taylor was by-far one of the most helpful website marketing reps l've dealt with. Together we were able to develop a plan for getting the most return from our **On-Boarded customers. Thanks** 

AWARD WINNING

Inc.

500

COMPANY

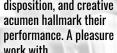
Google

Partner

acumen hallmark their work with.

DAN D.

I have done a few campaigns and have found Ashlee. Marisa and the team to be consistently

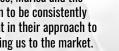


- POLARIS ski-doo

can-am 🍋

-ODESSA, TX





THE PRO'S ALWAYS DO THEIR HOMEWORK. Look at the greatest athletes, celebrities, and business folks of all time and you'll see one thing in common, they all do their homework. In today's market one of the most important areas of your studies should be online reputation management. Here's why.

Rod Stuckev

Founder & CEO

Here in Georgia the kids went back to school in

early August. That's always a bit of a glad and sad

combo platter for me. Glad because it's good to get

back into a routine with structure and working to be

better, smarter, more prepared etc. But, sad because I

hate to see the fun and freedom of summer winding

down. And I really don't care to see my sweet little

8-year-old special needs daughter get on that yellow

banana without her mom and dad or brother and

sisters. Anyway, here we are and school is back in

session, and none of us are too old or too young to

do some learning. So, like I do every year about this

time, we're going to get our learn on.

Back to School Lesson Number One:

Back to

schoo

Regardless of what media you choose, most prospects are going to research your dealership and products online prior to calling or visiting your store. If you're getting hammered online with negative reviews, or if your local competitors just have a boatload more positive reviews than you, then you need to study up, because this is costing you business. Big time.

#### Back to School Lesson Number Two:

If you're marketing isn't INTERESTING and the ad copy isn't communicating the BENEFITS, it's likely a waste of your time and money.

W.I.I.F.M. is a popular acronym for What's In It For Me.

Strates











If your ad messages are consistently 'Sterile Offers only trying to 'SELL' with finance offers and, "Hey you! Wanna buy a bike today?" messages then you're not going to be INTERESTING for very long. If your ad copy doesn't clearly state the BENEFITS to your recipients then your customers will feel like you're wasting their time. This is why we love parties and events.

As the Professor of Harsh Reality once told me - Get Over You. Get into THEM.

Speaking of only trying to 'SELL' to those currently in the market – This is a great lead into our next BIG lesson.

## Back to School Lesson Number Three:

Your Advertising should be designed to not only capitalize on those in the market to buy now, but to also establish the desire for purchase for those NOT currently in the market and/or generate leads for other profit centers in the dealership like parts, accessories and service.

Most Dealer (and OEM) advertising and marketing has a serious flaw. The ad is built under the assumption that the person is already committed to, or is currently shopping for a new vehicle. Thus, the advertising assumes the decision to buy and focuses on product, place, and price. Few back up one very important step to first establish the desire, thus your time and money is wasted. It's the equivalent of trying to sell burgers to an audience with no appetite.

Our Sharp Shooter Predictable Growth System not only accomplishes the critical objective of backing

## THE GREAT CAVETT ROBERT ONCE SAID: **SCHOOL IS NEVER OUT FOR THE PRO**



up one step to establish the desire for new and used units, but does it for P &A and Service, too - all in one integrated 'done for you' campaign. If you're not familiar with our Predictable Growth system then study up, this thing is exactly what we've used ourselves to grow double digits year over year for a decade and earn our way onto the Inc.5000 list of fastest growing companies twice.

ULTRA

MARKETING

MACHINE

NEWSLETTER

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ISSUE#98

#### **Back to School Lesson Number Four:**



It pays to work "on it" not just "in it." If you're busy doing it day in and day out, month after month, and year after year, without taking the time to meet with like-minded people, learn and study from the pros, and compare notes, then you're stepping over quarters to pick up nickels.

Here's the deal.

Getting up early to make the donuts is admirable, but any warm body can make donuts. The difference between Dunkin' Donuts and the thousands of donut shops that have come and gone is the MARKETING and SELLING of the Donuts. Just like motorcycles, donuts don't sell themselves!

The bell has rung and it's time to get to class. Stop stalling and go now to

www.powersportsmarketing.com/bootcamp and register or our upcoming Fall Marketing Boot Camp so you can discover proven best practices to help you sell more bikes and make more money.

See ya in Atlanta, Rod



## **REGISTER NOW:** WWW.POWERSPORTSMARKETING.COM/BOOT-CAMP OR [877] 242-4472

anonymous visitors who are looking at inventory each day. We send your team a daily report of those customers that viewed inventory the day before, and we train your

DESKTOP / LAPTOP / TABLET MOBILE COMPATIBLE

**ASK TORY** 

question: What is the main purpose of a website?

to improve.

none.

expecting a discount every time.

leads, it's not the big that eat the small, it's the fast that eat the slow. Plus, when Firestorm Websites are combined with Firestorm Onboarding, we identify

Our Lead Manager enables a quick and easy way to qualify leads; log calls, notes & store

visits; set follow-up tasks; and track the progress of the sale. When it comes to internet

Before we began working on the Firestorm Website platform, we started with a simple

I've asked hundreds of dealers this question over the years at OEM trade shows, our

While your website may at some level serve all the above points, none of them are

the 'main' purpose. Here's why. If the main purpose of your website is to be an online brochure or virtual showroom, you're done. You can put a check beside it. There's nothing

But that's not the case. The fact is that the main purpose of your website is to Generate

From the foundation, we've specifically developed the Firestorm Website platform to

We've heard dealer after dealer speak about their frustration with the quality of the

web leads they receive. Sales people and sales managers often have a sense of apathy/ indifference with internet leads because most only want your "best price out the door."

It doesn't have to be that way... Firestorm Websites generate better quality leads. Imagine your salespeople being excited to follow-up with prospects again because they're not

generate more web leads & identify more anonymous website visitors each month. We

are revolutionizing the way web leads are received, and our conversion-point is second to

hours and contact info; branding - to help get my name out there & more.

Leads & Identify its Visitors. All other functions are secondary.

Marketing Boot Camps and in one-on-one meetings. The answers I've received include:

digital brochure; virtual showroom; online/silent sales person; the new yellow pages; map,

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staff how to follow-up with them. This produces a quantifiable increase in unit sales guaranteed.

In terms of Inventory Management, we integrate with the major DMS platforms and automatically add your inventory to the website for you. This means that after a new or pre-owned unit is entered in to your DMS it's automatically added to your website's inventory!

Then, our VIN Decoding feature adds all of the specifications and an image of each unit without you having to click a mouse or touch a keyboard. Boom goes the dynamite!

If that's not enough to make you want to see a demo, every Firestorm Website client has access to our Back Office Mobile App where they can take live pictures of inventory and instantly add it to your website while standing on your showroom floor. No more downloading images from your camera, sorting through them, renaming them, only to have to login and upload them to each unit on your website. If you load 20 images to the inventory page of each in-stock unit, your staff is wasting hours every week. There's a much more efficient way.

Every Firestorm Website has a fully responsive design that gives visitors a consistent experience with the same content on all devices. Our coding and site engineering are the most up-to-date technology that's prescribed by Google and other search engines. Our client's websites rank higher because of this.

All Firestorm Websites feature an SSL Security Certificate for additional security. SSL Certificates also boost Page Rank, and Google favors secure sites over those that aren't.

There's plenty more to show you in a demo, but I'll mention one last benefit. Our clients have full, open access to all controls, settings and design in the Firestorm Website control panel. If you'd rather not DIY, our Client Success team are here to get it done for you -

For a quick demo of these features and more, call 1-877-242-4472 or go to: www.powersportsmarketing.com/firestorm-websites

- Torv





# SHARP SHOOTER CASE STUDY Hawkeye Motorworks



## **Dealership:**

Hawkeye Motorworks is a Honda Powerhouse Dealer located in Davenport, IA. Honda Powerhouse Dealers provide the most complete inventory of Honda Motorcycles, ATV's & SxS's available. Hawkeye invites customers in to 'Feel the power. Honda Powerhouse. All Honda. All the Time.'

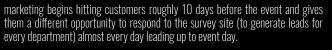
#### Solution:

For their first Sharp Shooter Event, they decided to market to 1,250 past customers and 1,250 conquest prospects who ride what they sell, live in their backyard but hadn't bought from them, yet. Using a nice mix of active, inactive and prospect customers, they knew they could reactivate customers who hadn't spent money with them in the previous year, drive some new blood through the door and increase frequency of visits of their existing customers to increase the number of customers spending money with them and the amount they spend in 2017.

Since the loneliest number in marketing is one, we used up to 12 direct marketing touches. By giving customers more opportunities to respond to the marketing, we increase the amount of traffic on event day and the number of leads being generated. Bigger picture, we've learned Powersports dealers need to touch their Buying Base a minimum of 52-104 times per year to increase retention and grow market share. The more you touch your customer base, the more responsive they become and over the course of the year, more of them walk through the dealership's doors more often and the business grows.

The message we utilize is focused on inviting customers to a party. By focusing on what the customer wants (things like food, drinks, door prizes and demo rides), the dealership gets more of what they want (more P&A, service and gear sales and a few more units out the door). The reverse is also true: focus on the sale and you will alienate the 99.99% of customers who don't have 'buy a motorcycle' on their list of things to do this weekend. Long-term, customers never get tired of being invited to a party so they end up walking through the doors more often and when they're there, they can't help themselves but to spend more money.

With so much marketing going out the doors, it's important to have it hit customers at just the right time to really maximize the response from each media. Our



### **Results:**

You might think, 'Eric that's too good to be true', but it's not. We've used this. Kayla Pitchford, Marketing and F&I Manager, said their first campaign was great! They ended up rolling 6 or 7 units on the day of the event, counter sales in all departments were up, traffic was awesome and it was one of the busiest Saturday's they've had in months! Most importantly, she said they saw a lot of customers that they hadn't seen in a long time and that was super cool!

Executing on all four pillars of the Sharp Shooter Program - Right Audience, Right Media, Right Message & Right Timing, really paid off. The program generated 147 completed surveys including 56 sales opportunities in Clothing, P&A and Service, PLUS 27 responses for a new or used unit!



## What's next?

September is better than Christmas for powersports enthusiasts because it is officially New Model Season! Arguably the most important event you're going to hold all year long. If you don't have a New Model Open House planned in September, call us today to make sure you're showing off all the new good stuff from your OEM(s). Check out the inserts for some killer campaign options for September and for more information on how the Sharp Shooter Program can help you achieve your marketing goals in 20017, call me on my direct line 877-242-4472 ext: 112. Happy selling.





VP of Client Success

There's a good chance that if you're reading this you'll remember the old "You've got mail!" quote from AOL years ago. That was back when email was new and exciting. When you opened AOL and heard that, you got a little excited... I mean only players got email back then.

Fast forward to today and email is an old hat. We've all figured out that the guy from Nigerian isn't really royalty and isn't going to make us a multi-millionaire.

Fool me once...

Anyway, the internet is an interesting place, and sometimes it's easy to get lost chasing the latest thing and losing sight of what is the most effective thing. And, there's a big difference between the two.

As a dealer, it can be really easy to get caught up in the enthusiasm of a well-meaning Marketing Manager who thinks that you'll be able to rule your market with Snapchat, Instagram, or some other newly developed way of connecting with people on the internet. The truth is, the numbers don't lie, and while it's certainly okay to test the waters of new technologies, it's important to invest heavily in time and energy on what we know has a track record of performance.

At Powersports Marketing, we talk about the importance of new customer acquisition (increasing market share) and retention (repeat business from customers) pretty extensively because they are foundational elements of something else we talk about a lot - predictable growth.

We've proven over and over in dealerships across the country that focused efforts using proven methods, allows dealers to take control of their business and grow, even when others are not. That's big.

Email is easily the biggest hammer in that toolbox. This past year, Emarys & WBR Digital released

are very interesting.

tool for retention.

For comparison, those same respondents ranked organic search at 62% and paid search at 59% for acquisition. Social media ranked 44% for retention.

This makes email the #1 way to acquire and retain customers. Combine that data with the hundreds of studies that show email has the highest ROI of any other marketing method, and all of a sudden what was old is new again.

I don't know about you, but if I'm sitting in the driver's seat at a dealership, there would be a whole lot of emails going out.

That said, shot gunning out emails non-stop can backfire. What's important is to send timely messages using an email program that helps you by starting with a look and feel that is relevant to your audience and contains tools that allow you to personalize, segment, and schedule your efforts so that the recipients are more motivated to respond.

Well, call it a shameless plug, but so be it. Firestorm Email is the culmination of years of research and software development, and I can proudly say that if you are in the powersports industry and aren't using it, you're settling for less than the best.

Firestorm Email was designed by motorcycle enthusiasts, for motorcycle enthusiasts, and has pre-built themes and elements that are powersports specific - not generic graphics that are "cute" and clumsy across lots of business models.

Pre-built themes and elements also means that you don't have to spend time trying to create or steal

# IMPROVISE, ADAPT & OVERCOME (IAO) AWARD

Jessica Hopper is the wearer of many hats. When she's not earning praises among her Digital Marketing clients, she's steering the programming and development helm for ongoing digital projects. She continues to add to her responsibilities and takes on new challenges every day – and all with that familiar smile and eagerness that her team has grown so accustomed to. That tenacious work ethic, combined with such a positive vibe are just a few of the reasons her peers voted her the IAO winner again this month.

The IAO Award is a peer-voted award recognizing someone each month that embodies the 'Improvise, Adapt, and Overcome' philosophy. Check back each month to see if your favorite Powersports Marketing team member won the award.

# You've Gotta Mail.... Email, that is.

9 Partner

Bing ad

a report on digital tactics that drive customer acquisition and retention in SMBs, and the results

According to those surveyed, 81% replied that email marketing was the best way for customer acquisition, and 80% advised that it was the best other graphics to create your email. It's a quick click-and-go, which saves a ton of time.

Also, with the recent addition of Firestorm Onboarding to our arsenal, it's possible to identify individual visitors to your website to see what they were most interested in, to follow up, and close deals. Oh, and we've also got the hook up on a new website platform. It's pretty amazing, too.

If you aren't currently doing a lot of emailing, you need to be. If you struggle to come up with what to say, or how to make your emails visually engaging, please let us know. We have what just might be the perfect solution for you - and sending emails is really a non-negotiable. We can make it easy.

One last thing. As I said a couple of months ago, the digital landscape has really changed, and if you want to see what is happening, as well as new best practices given the latest developments, you need to sign up for our Fall Marketing Boot Camp.

Everything is changing, and we have a new curriculum as well as a new speaker or two, so if you've never been – come, and if you've been before – come again. It's gonna be great.

Talk soon, Brad



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# The Voice of Customer Excellence Award Program



The Repeat & Referral Score (RRS) is a dynamic calculation that helps you identify the overall health of your repeat and referral business, which are two critical components to help you grow your business. Plus, your RRS lets you see where you rank in comparison to other dealers in the Powersports industry.

As part of the Local Web Dominator program, dealers are able to automatically receive reviews and feedback from their current (and past) customers to proactively improve their repeat and referral business.

Don't miss your chance for the prestige and recognition as one of the top performing dealers in the Powersports industry!





# REVIEWS & LOCAL STAR: Howie Liscombe



As one of the industry's top 5 highest rated sales people, Howie Liscombe is setting the bar high for Sales Professionals in the Powersports industry. He's earned over 127 authentic customer reviews (www.hdoceancountyreviews.com) and continues to wow his customers on a daily basis. Nice Job, Howie. Keep up the great work!

Want to see how your employees compare to some of the top powersports professionals in the country? Give us a call at 877-242-4472 and we'll let you know how you can participate in the only employee ranking program in the industry.

# HATTIESBURG CYCLES

## HATTIESBURG, MS

LOCAL WEB

**Q**)

## **OBJECTIVE**

Hattiesburg Cycles is a family run business with a passion for the powersports industry that has turned them into the Mississippi Gulf's largest dealer. Like most successful dealerships, they mix cutting edge Sales & Marketing best practices with a healthy dose of playful enthusiasm and shared experiences. One of their objectives is to continue pushing those best practices to grow their business and their customers while maintaining that charming southern family feel. Marketing Manager, Robert McMorrow, knows that people buy from folks that they know, like and trust and that the best way to continue that relationship to communicate with their customers on a regular basis about things they want to know.

# 

Robert uses the Firestorm Email and Firestorm Onboarding products to communicate with his customer list on a regular basis. In fact, in the past month, Robert's sent five (5) different email messages to his customers. He uses a combination of the easy-to-use themed templates for his newsletters and then custom creates different types of messages in the blank template option as well. The flexibility and killer designs inside Firestorm Email make it super simple for Robert to reach his customers as often as he'd like with messages that make them respond.

## RESULTS

While the ease of use, and hundreds of powersports-themed templates make using Firestorm Email system a great option, the powerful connection to the Firestorm Onboarding component really sets Robert's marketing efforts apart from those of his competitors. For the past 2 weeks alone, the Hattiesburg Cycle emails have generated a 9% - 15% click through rate, meaning Robert has driven an additional 244 website visitors to www.hattiesburgcycles.com just from his email marketing campaigns.

Plus, through the proprietary Firestorm Onboarding system, once someone clicks on an email, that's when the real magic happens. Robert can now identify his previously anonymous website visitors. He knows not only how many people where on his site, he can see what inventory pages they were looking at and even better – he can see their contact information to follow-up with a message to that specific customer.

Through Firestorm Email and Firestorm Onboarding, Hattiesburg Cycles is able to see the name and contact information of the 18 customers who were on their website looking at New & Used inventory pages in the past 2 weeks. Those are some extremely valuable leads for the sales team to follow up with. Talk about ROI for email marketing...Wow!

Does your email marketing program generate those kind of lead generating results If not, give us a call today to see how Firestorm email can make a huge impact in your website traffic and online leads: 877-242-4472.



Onboard Date	Name	Email	Last Web Visit	City	State	Department	$\nabla$
07/21/2017	Brian Davis	brian9915@gmail.c	07/21/2017			Pre-Owned Sales	
07/16/2017	Jeffrey Bryant	Jbryant5764@yaho	08/10/2017			Pre-Owned Sales	
08/10/2017	Alberto Perez	Aperez@webbcoun	08/10/2017			Pre-Owned Sales	
07/18/2017	Kyle Merchant	kylemerchant6@g	07/18/2017			New Sales, Pre-Ow	v
08/15/2017	Thomas Land	thomas@fireflyvod	08/15/2017			New Sales, Pre-Ow	v
08/15/2017	John Wascom	wascomj@cox.net	08/15/2017			New Sales, Pre-Ow	v
08/02/2017	Nell Tousignant	tousignn@cax.net	08/04/2017			New Sales, Pre-Ow	y
08/01/2017	winfred lewis	lewisw@choctaw.org	08/01/2017			New Sales, Pre-Ow	v
08/05/2017	Jimmy Mergan	jgmorgan@maxxso	08/05/2017			New Sales	
08/04/2017	john wunstell	jkwunstell@yahoo	08/04/2017			New Sales	
08/15/2017	BILLY FLOYD	BGPLOYD1956@G	08/15/2017	JONESVILLE	LA	New Sales	
07/30/2017	DAVID DOXON	dd206071@gmail.c	07/30/2017			New Sales	
07/23/2017	Justin Strawley	justinstrawley@gm	07/25/2017			New Sales	
08/02/2017	robert moroan	rbrt.morgan@gmail	06/02/2017			New Sales	
08/01/2017	Mark Bresler	pacfico1981@yaho	08/01/2017			New Sales	
08/01/2017	Jonathan Diaz	rolanddiaz@tindallc	08/01/2017			New Sales	
08/07/2017	blake stovall	blakestovall@yahoo	08/08/2017			New Sales	
08/15/2017	BUDY	MITO_US&YAHOO	08/15/2017			New Sales	