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

Scott's personal touch. can-do attitude and resourcefulness is truly appreciated. He went the extra mile helping our organization work through a few hiccups we experienced recently. He didn't miss a beat. Kept us informed was timely, facilitated open communication across departments in his company and provided what our organization needed in order to resolve the issue. Scott is a class act and an amazing steward of customer hospitality!

ARLEY-DAVIDSO

MARCY V. -Janesville, WI

Taylor was great! He was prompt and to the point, respectful of our time and I love that he wanted to get to the meat and potatoes and not mess around with the training. We had one hick up and l called Taylor and he took care of it straight away! WELL DONE!

JOANN S. -Crandall, GA

Kawasaki

TRIUMPH

SUZUKI

We are currently setting up our new website and trying Local Web Dominator for the 1st time. There is a lot to do and learn and this team has been fantastic. They are patient and very helpful. Thank you all for making this transition easy.

BRAD Z. Ciholo TX

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## **HOW TO ATTRACT NEW RIDERS AND** MILLENIALS WITHOUT ALIENATING **YOUR BEST CUSTOMERS**

#### Founder & CEO

There's been a lot of buzz in the industry about attracting millenials and also new riders. As Tory pointed out last month in his back page article\*, we've seen modest declines in unit sales over the last two years, but what is more concerning is the average age of riders continuing to rise; from 32 in 1990 to 47 in 2016

Attracting new riders is a tricky topic, and one that many folks in the industry are weighing in on, but lack the expertise and wisdom to fully understand the complexity of the matter For starters, many haven't heard the story often shared in this newsletter about the Two Shoe Salesmen.

To recap, two shoe salesmen from two different companies are traveling abroad exploring new potential markets to break into. They wind up in a third-world country with a population of three million people. They walk off the plane and discover nobody, not one single person in this country is wearing shoes. Neither salesperson can believe their eyes.

The first salesman, who's so excited he can barely breathe, scrambles to call his boss at the home office.

"Boss! You're never going to believe this! I just stepped off the plane in this country of three million people and discovered no one, and I mean not a single soul is wearing shoes! People are just walking around barefoot, we've struck the lottery. How quickly can you send me 50,000 pairs of shoes? We're gonna be rich!"

The second salesperson is equally as shocked. He fumbles for his cell phone and he too quickly dials his boss.

"Boss! You gotta get me out of here. There's three million people here and not one of them, I mean no one is wearing any shoes! How soon can I get home?"

#### So, which sales person is right?

If you guessed the 2nd, you're absolutely correct. Those 3 million people don't want shoes and don't see the need for them. And, they couldn't afford them even if you did convince them.

world country.

There may be over 300 million people in the US, but the statistical\*\* reality is less than 5% have any interest in motorcycles and trying to convince someone who's not interested, to be interested, is about as productive as trying to sell shoes in a thirdworld country.

With that said, I'm not saying we can't grow, we absolutely can I'm saying it isn't going to happen targeting non-riders and trying to convert them into riders. If you have no interest in golf, no amount of advertising is going to turn you into a golfer. Same with motorcycles.

Another consistent statistic from the MIC is that the influence of friends and family is the number one driver of new blood into our industry. Rather than 'spray-and-pray' marketing, our industry needs to focus on creating better experiences for existing riders, so they will in turn, be excited to share those experiences through social media and invite friends and family. The fancy term for this is called "Experiential Marketing."

And, guess who loves "Experiences" more than any previous generation? Millennials. Eventbrite produced a report on Millennials which stated 82% of Millennials participated in a variety of live events ranging from festivals and parties to concerts and sporting events, etc. in the last year. And, they can't get enough, with 72% saying they'd like to increase their "Experiences" in the next year.

I must admit, I'd never heard of "FOMO" before reading this report, but apparently 69% of Millennials admit to having FEAR OF MISSING OUT. Nothing new, just a new acronym. Desire for gain and fear of loss have always been the two basic human emotions, and we can all relate to the disappointment of missing a fun event our peers experienced. But social media is taking this to a new level.

Here's some pie in the sky, but interesting math. If we could sell just 3% of the population a bike that would be 9 million unit



While New York City may be a very competitive market to sell shoes, it's far more viable of an option than selling to a thirdsales. As a point of reference, we did about 500,000 in 2015 and have been sliding since. We have to target riders and their friends and family who have an interest, kinda like going to New York to sell shoes.

ULTRA MARKETING MACHINE

NEWSLETTER

**ISSUE #103** 

To achieve these kinds of numbers we must retain our best customers (the boomers and Gen X'ers) and give them a compelling reason to keep coming to the dealership, while also getting millennials involved. What's the answer? Experiential Marketing.

Inviting all of your existing customers into the dealership for a party, and encouraging them to invite their friends and family by offering them a free gift for coming, is a grass roots approach which could truly impact this industry if all dealers got on board. A rising tide raises all ships.



In 2013, Nielsen ran a poll asking what forms of advertising people trusted. The majority (84 percent) said they trusted a recommendation from a friend.

So, get on board, call us today at 877.242.4472 to plan an Experiential Marketing campaign like a Spring Has Sprung Event. Let's share our enthusiasm for this great industry with all generations of customers and make our industry healthy for decades to come!

\*available on our website if you missed it: www.powersportsmarketing.com/article \*\*motorcycle industry council data

# ARKETING

WAS MADE FOR NANCY'S BAKERY?

**Browse through hundreds of customizable themes** designed specifically for the powersports industry CALL NOW TO ACCESS THE FULL LIBRARY?







## **ASK TORY**

The short answer to how frequently you should be sending emails is once per week, or at least once every other week. If you think that sounds like too much, or would take too much work - you're doing it wrong. This article is dedicated to the best practices of sending email, and making it easier for dealers to do it the right way.

Harley released a study about a year ago that concluded a customer must be 'touched' 29 times before they buy a motorcycle. A touch is outbound marketing including email, direct mail, text, voicemail blasts, salesperson phone calls, etc. Here at PSM, our goal is to help clients touch their Buying Base (active customers, inactive customers, and conquest prospects) 52 to 104 times per year.

While email can't reach everyone, it is a big part of touching active and inactive customers. Therefore, most dealers think the main purpose of email is to stay in front of their customers, increase loyalty, build their brand, and enhance their image with 'pretty' emails. While email can certainly fulfill each of these, they're simply happy byproducts of sending out good emails consistently. The main purpose of email is to generate website traffic. Everything else is secondary.

So, here are some tips on how to get more folks clicking in your emails and visiting your website:

1. Add more links. Every picture in your email should link to your website, and don't forget text! The most consistent high Click Through Rates come from emails that have "Click Here" in several places (or some variation). Yes, some customers will figure out that a picture is clickable by hovering their mouse over it, but in marketing, people want to be told what to do. Plus, blue text that's underlined (hyperlink) draws more clicks.

2. Don't segment your list. "But... but... but... everyone says to images, be sure they include a Click Here button and link it to your segment your list!" I know, and here's why you shouldn't do it. Basic website. Call 1-877-242-4472 to see a full email and results. logic tells you that segmenting a list means dividing it, so you're reducing the number of people you're sending to. The outcome is less 4. Avoid having a back-to-back-to-back stack of custom images. clicks. Now, don't get me wrong, there is a time and a place for list This is the most common way to build an email today, and it reduces segmentation for select emails (i.e. VIP customers, etc.). It should opens and clicks. Our Firestorm Email system has almost 200 just be limited, and your weekly emails should go to everyone. Tip #3 different themes to choose from. Once a theme is chosen, you can makes this possible ... choose a done-for-you template, or drag-and-drop different sections of text/images combinations enabling you to easily build a custom 3. Include something for everyone. New & used inventory, service, email in minutes. Our themes are designed by dealers for dealers... and PG&A. You can also include event information and/or custom no more sending emails that look like they're for Nancy's Bakery or offers in some emails. The default email we recommend (see image) ABC Accounting Company. has a section for New Inventory and Pre-Owned Inventory with 3 in-

stock units listed. Dealers add make and model above the photo, and For a quick demo of our Firestorm Email system call 1-877-242the words "Click Here" below it that links directly to that unit's page 4472, or visit www.powersportsmarketing.com/firestorm-email on your website. If you have on and off-road motorcycles, ATVs and side-by-sides, include a diverse representation in your email. You can -Tory

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For the service and P&A sections, we recommend "Click here to visit our <department name> request page!" If you add other custom



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## SHARP SHOOTER CASE STUDY ZYLSTRA H-D® predictablegrowthformula



#### **Dealership:**

Robert Zylstra started selling used bikes out of a machine shed on the farm in lowa almost 30 years ago. Today they are blessed with two dealerships that have each been awarded multiple Harley-Davidson® Circle of Excellence Awards for great customer service and top performance. That down-to-earth beginning still runs deep in their company. Whether you visit their Ames, lowa location or stop in at the store in Elk River, Minnesota, you'll find a staff that loves to make new friends, and that will work hard for you to make sure that your bike ownership experience is everything that it should be. After all these years, Robert still won't have it any other way.

#### Solution:

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Zvlstra H-D's Ames. IA location invited 4,000 of their past customers to their Brunch Party. Using a nice mix of active and inactive customers, they knew they could reactivate customers who hadn't spent money with them in the previous year, and increase frequency of visits of their existing customers to increase the number What's Next: of customers spending money with them and the amount they spend in 2018.

The Sharp Shooter Program targets customers with up to 12 different, direct marketing strategies ensuring they receive the message multiple times. By increasing the number of times they get the message, we increase response to the survey site and traffic through the doors on event day. Big picture, this multitouch approach makes it easy to touch their buying base 52-104 times over the course of the year which puts a fence around their herd and makes them immune to other offers from other dealers. Over time, it helps increase the number of

customers spending money with the dealership and on average, how much they spend annually leading to predictable growth for the store.

Focusing the message on the party elements of their event (food, drinks, door prizes, etc.) not only attracted the small number of folks who were ready to buy but hundreds of more customers who didn't plan on buying anything that Saturday, resulting in tons of impulse purchases and pipeline for future sales.

#### **Results:**

Jon Garrett, Zylstra H-D's General Manager said, "The parking lot was full, with no spaces left. Staff absolutely loved it." They did a combined total of \$10k in parts, accessories, and Motorclothes. They also sold two bikes that day. In January, in IA. He said. "It was the best event he ever had."

The Sharp Shooter Program generated 573 completed surveys, which created a total of 400 leads in P&A, Service, and MotorClothes, PLUS 99 responses for a new or used bike, turning this weekend event into a month-long sales event for each department following up on the leads generated from the event and increasing their Return On Investment.

Jon's looking forward to his next event February 10th.



February means Mardi Gras, Valentine's Day and the unofficial kickoff to Spring After a harsh winter, your customers have so much cabin fever, they're dying for an excuse to get out of the house. It's your job to get them through your doors before your competition. Don't wait for the weather to break, cause it will already be too late. For more information on how the Sharp Shooter Program can help you have your best year yet, call me on my direct line 877-242-4472 ext: 112. Happy selling.





I once had a dealer come to me at one of our boot camps and ask me to take a look at his new site. It had been up and running for almost a month, and he was really concerned that the number of leads he was receiving had literally shut off like a faucet since changing to his new

I took a few minutes to look at his site, and to be honest, the site looked amazing. Some really cool (at the time) functionality, navigation, and look and feel. But it didn't take too long to figure out his problem. In getting all caught up with the cool factor of the site, they had removed all opportunity to convert from the VDP pages. They had literally turned his conversion machine into a brochure. It wasn't that the site wouldn't convert - it couldn't. This dealer had spent literally thousands of dollars to cripple his site. But, it looked amazing.

For years, we've offered best practices and talked about the purpose of your website, and now that we're in the business, well... we're only going to talk about it more.

So as you look at your current site, maybe planning for a refresh with your current provider, or planning to switch to a new one, it's important to keep in mind the purpose of your website.

The purpose of your website is to identify visitors and generate leads. That's it.

It sounds simple, but it's amazing how many ways we can get innocently sidetracked with the unimportant. Like looks, for example.

It's extremely important that your website reflect WHO you are as a dealership and WHERE you are geographically, that's a non-negotiable. When we design sites for dealers, our graphics team is told to create the

IMPROVISE, ADAPT & OVERCOME (IAO) AWARD

Taylor never backs down from a challenge and is always going out of his way to help both his teammates and his clients. He brings so much personality and flare to his role, all while working hard and getting things done. He finds new and better ways to help clients and maintains such a positive attitude even when things are insanely busy and stressful. Which is why his peers voted him this month's IAO Award winner. Well done, Taylor!

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.

## **Looks Aren't Everything**

9 Partner

Bing ad

site using a splash of info from the dealership Facebook page for personality, and a splash of local info for geography. We don't ever want to create 'cookie cutter' types of sites, where you could cut out one dealer logo and drop in another and nobody would know the difference. Designing sites this way provides dealers with sites that are as unique as a fingerprint.

While it's important that your site look good, first and foremost it's supposed to be a conversion machine, every page must have some type of call to action and conversion opportunity or it is a distraction. I know that sounds a little harsh, and maybe rigid, but if you want to maximize the potential of your site, that's how it is. Every page should have an opportunity for visitors to engage in some way to identify themselves and/or provide their information to cause them to become a lead of some type or department. This is especially important on VDPs (Vehicle Display Pages), for a particular unit. These pages typically represent 80% or more of page visits, and that makes total sense. Visitors WILL be on these pages, so there MUST be some way to harvest them as a lead available.

It's frighteningly easy to get caught up in the look and feel of your site and lose focus on what really matters. You want to have an overall sort of theme to your site, but it has to be just that - an overall theme. The reason for this is because with all of the different devices, operating systems, browser versions, screen resolutions, and user preferences, no matter what you do your site is going to render differently in many different ways. That's why having a responsive site is critical nowadays. Get the theme right, and don't go nuts trying to get it exactly perfect, because it's going to be different on other devices. Get the theme right, and let the responsive design handle the specifics across platforms and devices.

Top tip: if you're breaking out a color wheel and ruler for your redesign, you're focusing on the wrong thing. Focus on conversion opportunities and follow up, because cash in the bank is the truest measure of success.

Talk soon, Brad



Taylor McCullough Digital Marketing Coordinator

## The Voice of Customer Excellence Award Program



MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT regarding the Repeat & Referral Score and the annual Voice of Customer Excellence Award is coming in the next issue of this newsletter! Make sure you check back to see how your dealership can benefit from the industry's only dynamic customer repeat & referral score.

(Scores as of 12/5/17. National average is 5.00)





### REVIEWS & LOCAL STAR: CHADE COLEMAN RANKINGS LOCAL STAR: Indian Motorcycle Daytona Beach, Daytona Beach, FL



With 145 reviews, Chade Coleman is in the Top 5 highest ranked Service Writers in the country! That's an impressive reputation for a role that is notoriously challenging. It's clear that the customers of their service department are quite happy with the level of service they receive from Chade. Nice job! Keep setting the bar high for your peers!

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.

## SLOAN'S MOTORCYCLE & ATV

## Murfreesboro, TN

LOCAL WEB

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## 

Sloan's is one of the oldest and largest motorcycle & ATV dealers in the nation and have been serving the powersports riding community in the Nashville, Tennessee area for over 50 years! Most folks (including dealers in the powersports industry) know and are extremely fond of Curtis Sloan and his team at Sloan's Motorcycle and ATV. They have built a reputation over the decades of being a dealership with heart, soul, and character.

One of Curtis Sloan's primary objectives is to always be growing the b by increasing their customer-base. Additionally, he's on a persona to continuously improve on processes to help his dealership serv customers in the best ways possible.

## -

Because of this desire to grow and provide the best experied his customers, Curtis decided to switch his website from DealerSpik newly launched Firestorm Website platform.

Although Curtis was happy with his current website and the ser received from his rep. at DealerSpike, there were a few key techr available only on a Firestorm Website that he felt would make a big dif in his ability to serve his customers better and gain more market through increased leads.



The new Firestorm Website platform was built for two purpos

1. To Identify Anonymous Customers (a feature that no other website is able to offer).

2. Generate Leads (which Firestorm Websites do better because of their clean, simple designs, Automatic Inventory Integration, a Mobile App that allows inventory pictures to be added instantly, and VIN decoding).

In the first two months of the new Firestorm website, Sloan's Motorcycle & ATV benefitted from a 30% increase in leads, each month! And, those leads were generated in the 'off season' for the industry.

Is your website built to tell you 'who' was on your site, not just the number of visitors? Is your website built to generate leads by creating an emotional response in your website visitors? Do the leads you get from your website currently want your lowest out the door price? If so, you owe it to your dealership to check out Firestorm Websites. They are different for a reason and you'll see the kind of success that Curtis and his team have seen from this unique website platform. Call us today at 877-242-4472 or request a Free Demo at www.powersportsmarketing. com/firestorm-websites, so we can walk you through the Firestorm Website difference.



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