Importance of Content Marketing in the Age of the Customer

By Shamanth Shankar

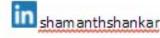
ME http://shamanthshankar.com



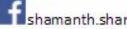
Proud to have been part of Series A rounds at two software product companies, a private manufacturer who went public and a decade of a proven track record at the largest public OFS company.

I continuously learn from challenges I take on, people whom I meet and books that I read. I think like an entrepreneur and follow through with strong discipline in execution.

I work towards making my world bigger by paying attention to small things, "staying hungry & foolish" and by connecting people in their path to success.



shamanthshanka



shamanth.shankar

What is the purpose of Marketing

To is educate the Market (prospects & leads) and Customers on

•**Problem Research**: Identifying a problem and recognizing the understanding of the problem

•Solution Research : Guiding in explanation of solutions that meet the voice of the customer

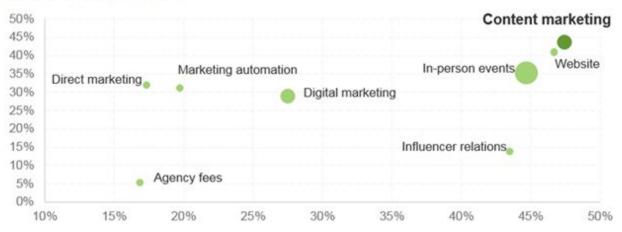
•Solution Selection : Provide clear value proposition and differentiation on why your product is best suited to solve the problem

Current State of Consumer Behavior

- 61% of Consumers feel better with a company that delivers custom content
- People spend more than 50% of their time online looking at content
- 70% of the consumers prefer getting to know a company via articles rather than ads
- 90% of consumers find custom content useful and 78% believe that organizations providing custom content are interested in building good relationships with them

Content marketing is more important than creating an "ideal" marketing mix.

Percent of respondents rating as "very effective at creating demand, leads, pipeline opportunities"



Percent of respondents rating as "very effective at building brand awareness/reach"

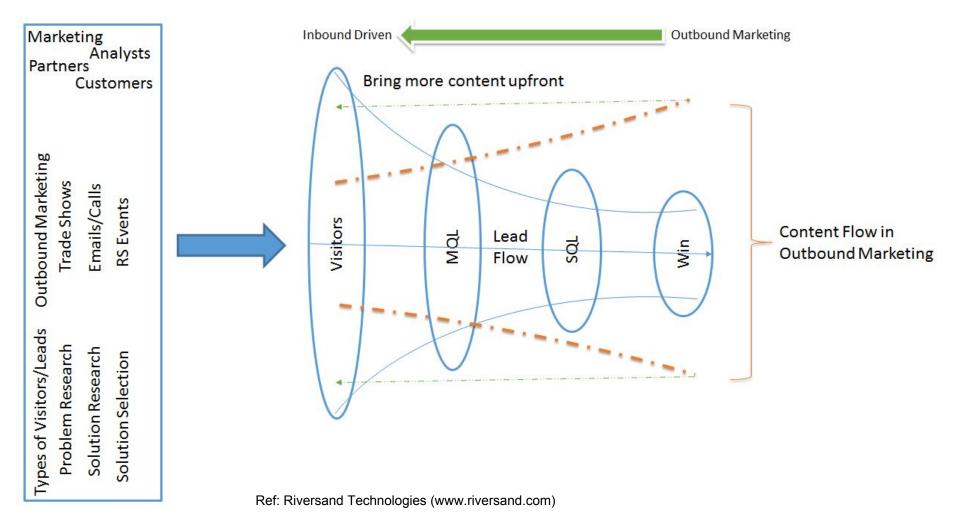
Source: Forrester's Q4 2015 International B2B Marketing Budget And Spending Online Survey

Marketing is Collaboration across all Functions

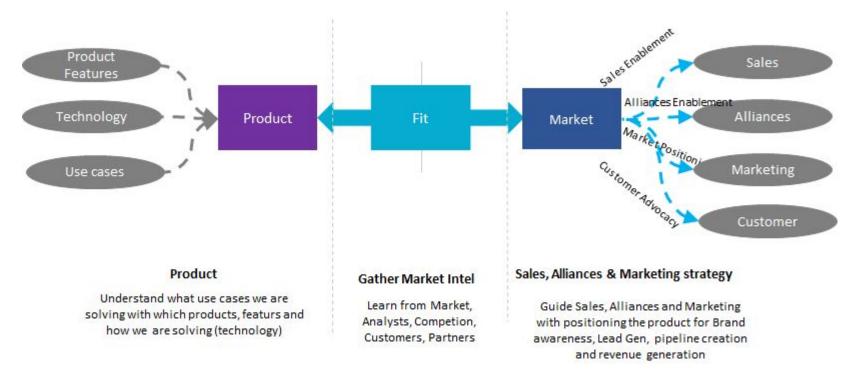
Professional Service	 Implementation Customer Success Cross Sell + Up Sell 		Success Stories	Opportunity Positioning
Product Management	 Product Strategy Engineering Releases + Fixes 	RoadmapTechnology Partners	Product ⇔ ●Market	
Marketing	 Branding Corporate Marketing Lead Generation 	 Pipeline Creation Competitive Analysis Analyst Relations 		Product Marketing
Business Development	Partner SuccessAnalyst Relations	Sales enablementOpportunity Influence		
Sales	 Pipeline Closure Revenue Generation 		Market Positioning	

Ref: Riversand Technologies (www.riversand.com)

Alliance Postioning

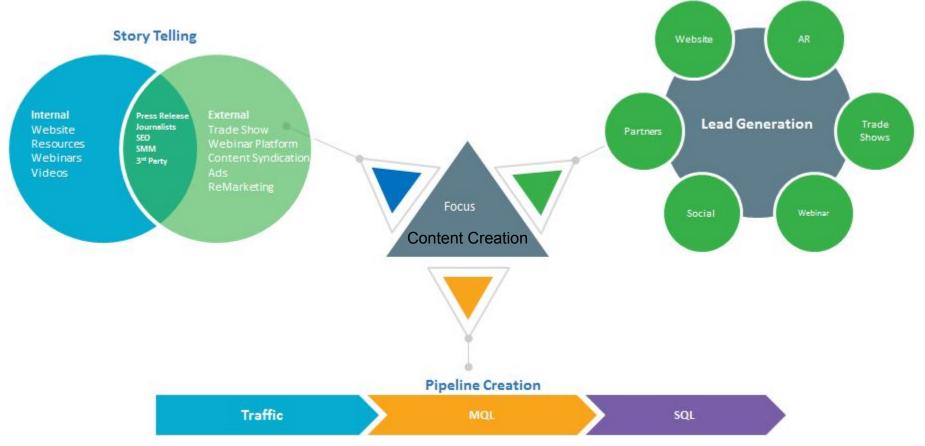


to bring **Product <=> Market** fit for Sales, Marketing, Alliances & Customer Success



Ref: Riversand Technologies (www.riversand.com)

Content Communication, Lead Gen, Pipeline Creation



Ref: Riversand Technologies (www.riversand.com)

Content Creation and Communication



Articles, Whitepapers, Blogs & Landing page Speaking at Conferences

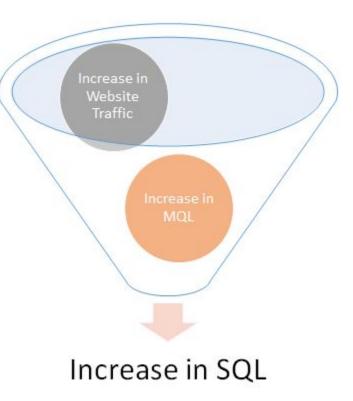
Customer Advocacy

Lead Generation

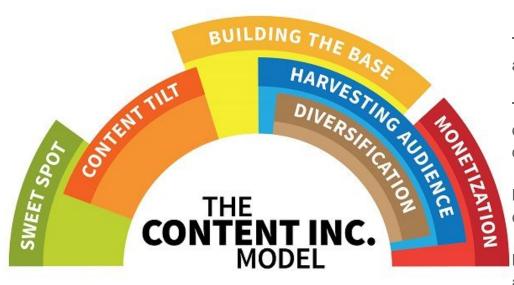


Increased Marketing Engagement

Inbound Lead Generation through Digital interventions – Search, Social, Webinars, ABM, Retargeting



Ref: Riversand Technologies (www.riversand.com)



The Sweet Spot - Mixing a Knowledge area or skill with a passion area

The Content Tilt - Looking at traditional content niche defined as slightly off-center, to create a true differentiation area

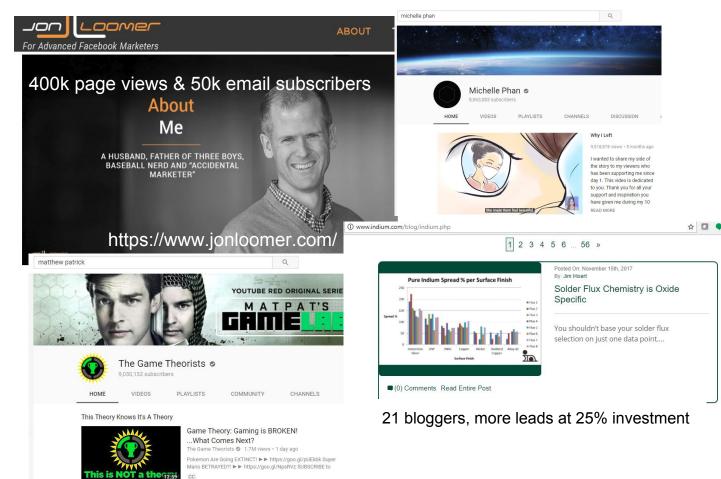
Building the base - Consistent publishing in one core channel

Harvesting Audience - Converting the publishing activity to the asset of subscribers

Diversification - At the proper time, expanding the publishing process to additional channels

Monetization - Monetizing the audience through the selection of products or services that will be the source of revenue and profit for the business

Successful Content Marketers



Ref: The Content Inc: Joe Pulizzi

Very successful content marketers that I follow

C

Secure https://labs.openviewpartners.com

I'm a partner at Redpoint. I write daily, data-driven blog posts about key questions facing startups. I co-authored the book, Winning with Data. Join more than 20,000 others receiving these blog posts by email. email address Subscribe TOMASZ The Parallel Between Cryptocurrency And **TUNGUZ** Continentals venture capitalist at redpoint pence. Ibreey 🖬 in ☆ 0

OPEINVIE[®] Started in 2009, now has more than 35k+ subscribers

OPENVIEW LABS

Insights, actionable advice & founder interviews aimed at

helping you grow your expansion stage software company.

Your Content Strategy is Also your Recruiting Strategy

Imagine that the ideal candidate finds an article that you published in an outside publication. As she reads the article, she develops a deeper understanding of your industry niche.

Clicking through to your social media presence, she finds herself immersed in your team's content. Your blog posts, LinkedIn discussions, and tweets come together to create a clear picture of what it's like to work at your company. The candidate feels a sense of connection to your corporate culture and decides to send in her résumé.

Some books on Content Marketing

CONTENT INC.

Bestselling Author of

EPIC CONTENT MARKETING

HOW ENTREPRENEURS USE CONTENT TO BUILD MASSIVE AUDIENCES AND CREATE RADICALLY SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSES

> JOE PULIZZI Founder and CEO Content Marketing Institute

FOREWORD BY BRIAN CLARK, FOUNDER, COPYELOBEER MEDIA

