

# Use the Right Metrics to Prove the ROI of Your Written Content

**PRNews'**  
Writing Boot Camp  
April 21 | Washington, D.C.

# Measuring Social Media Content ROI isn't Universal



**MIT Sloan**  
Management Review

MAGAZINE  
From our quarterly journal

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INNOVATION STRATEGY LEADING YOUR TEAM OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY MARKETING GLOBAL

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## Can You Measure the ROI of Your Social Media Marketing?

Magazine: Fall 2010 • Research Feature • October 01, 2010 • Reading Time: 24 min  
Donna L. Hoffman and Marek Fodor

Topics  
Social Business, Social Marketing

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You can. But it requires a new set of measurements that begins with tracking the customers' investments — not yours.



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## CMOs On Social Media - Where's The ROI?

+ Comment Now + Follow Comments



A decade after the advent of social media, Chief Marketing Officers still can't figure out if it's doing them any good. That's the startling finding of The CMO Survey, a recently-released survey of 410 CMOs by Christine Moorman, my colleague at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business and a fellow Forbes contributor. Almost half (49%) said they aren't able to quantify whether social media has made a difference for their companies, while 36% said they had a good sense of qualitative – though not quantitative – results. Only a meager 15% said they've seen a proven quantitative impact. Not surprisingly, in a Big Data-driven era, that lack of clarity is coming under increased scrutiny; 66% of respondents say their boards and CEOs are tightening pressure to measure ROI.

How can companies work out whether their social media strategy is working? (Image credit: Getty Images via @daylife)

Moorman says the quest to quantify is "complex but not unsolvable." Indeed, companies are investing more in marketing analytics; it currently represents 5.5% of marketing budgets and is expected to rise to 8.7% by 2016. She

# Most Brands Rely On Basic Metrics

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“It seems that nearly all companies know the classic content/social mantra, ‘start by listening’...

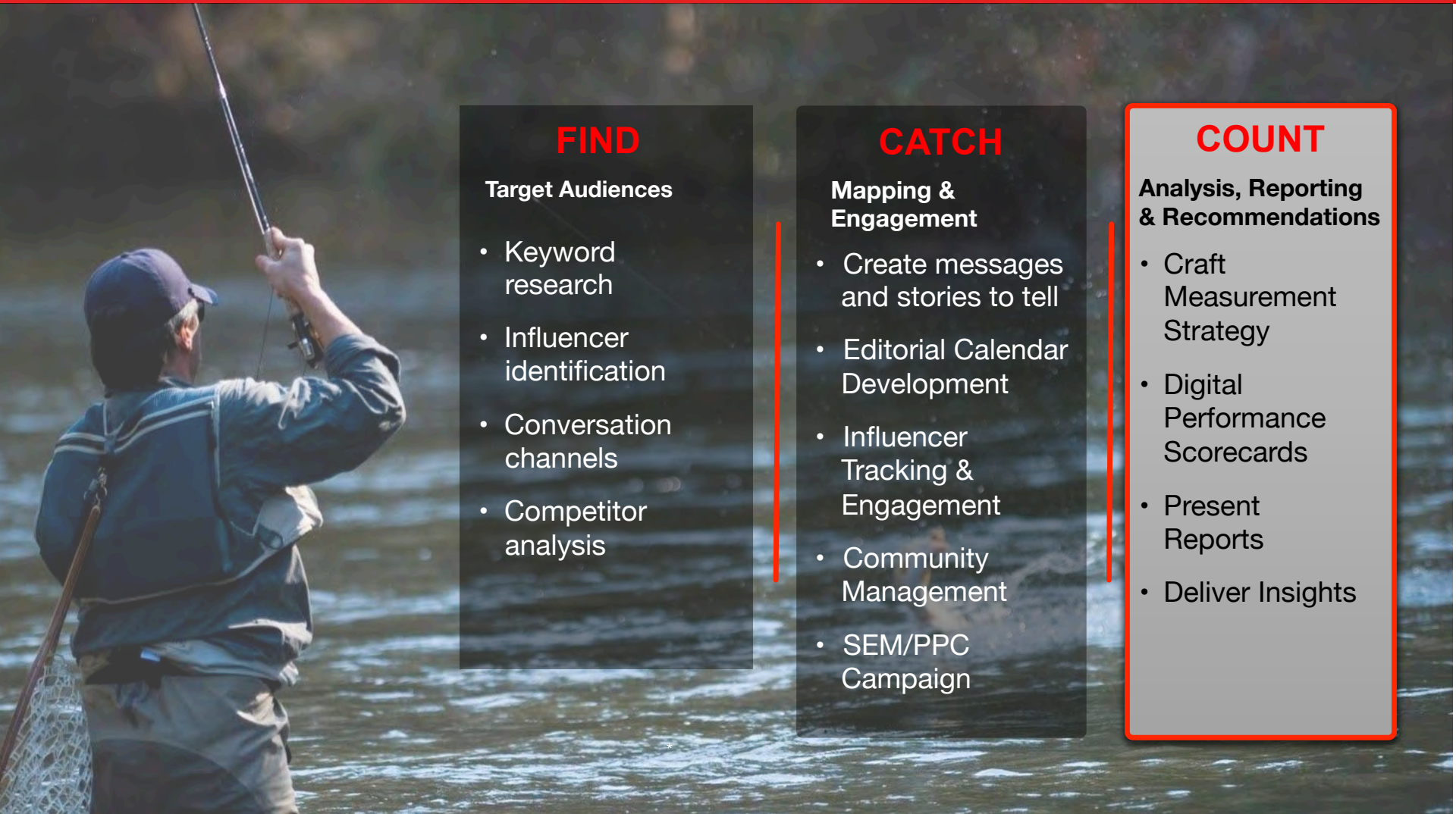
but years into their social strategies they're still counting the number of Facebook fans or tracking for brand mentions.

They're listening, not acting.

It's 2015, and we're still passively - without purpose - collecting metrics.”

Zach Hofer-Shall, Forrester

# Storybranding Framework



## FIND

### Target Audiences

- Keyword research
- Influencer identification
- Conversation channels
- Competitor analysis

## CATCH

### Mapping & Engagement

- Create messages and stories to tell
- Editorial Calendar Development
- Influencer Tracking & Engagement
- Community Management
- SEM/PPC Campaign

## COUNT

### Analysis, Reporting & Recommendations

- Craft Measurement Strategy
- Digital Performance Scorecards
- Present Reports
- Deliver Insights

# Your Vision for Measurement Success

FINN PARTNERS  
CREATING  
INSPIRATION  
COMMITMENT

## COUNT

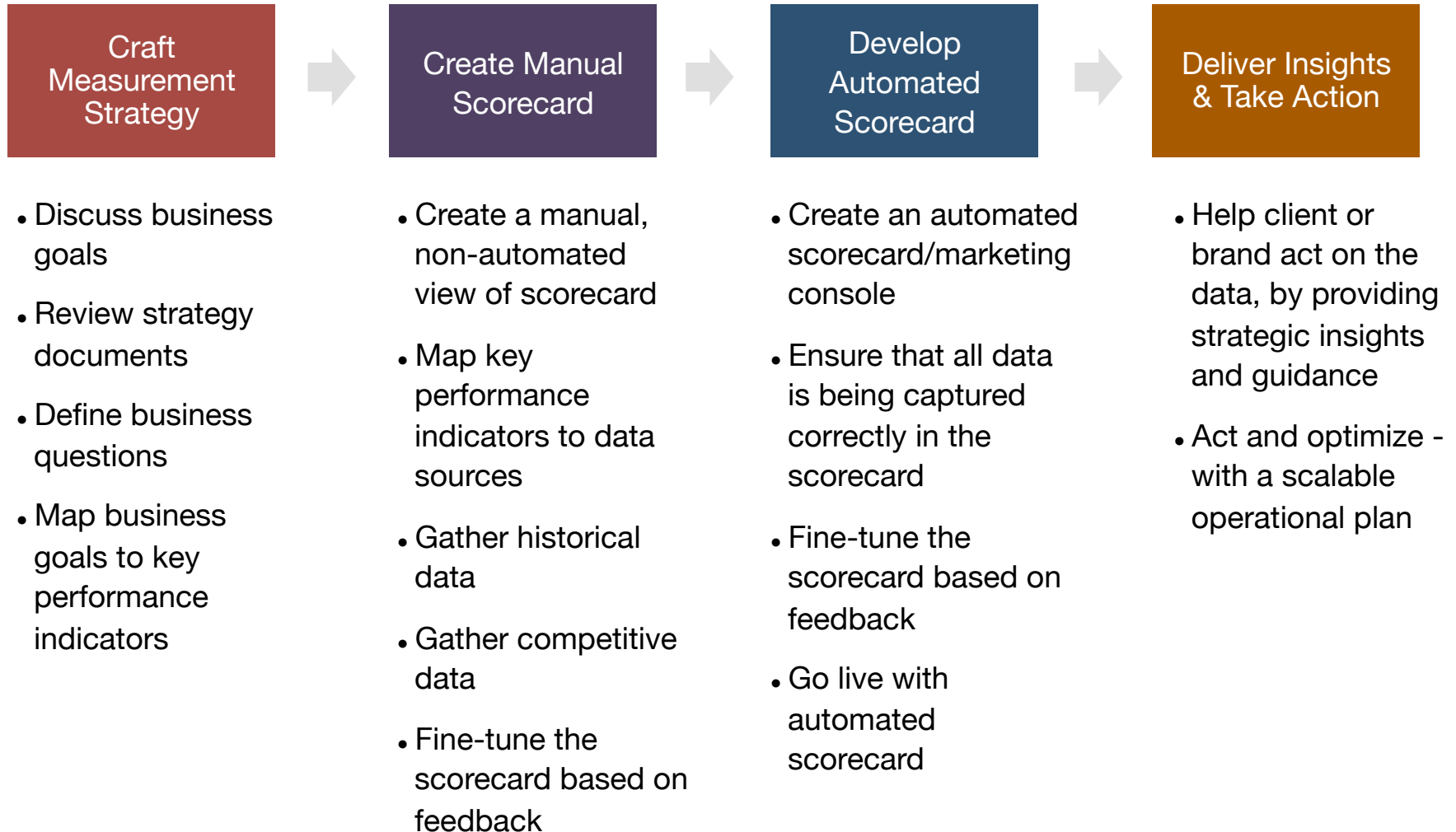
### Analysis, Reporting & Recommendations

- Craft Measurement Strategy
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An industry-leading social measurement strategy that enables brand to:

- Measure meaningful progress in the social media space
- Connect social media to other digital channels
- Map social media to tangible business outcomes that executives care about
- Understand what audiences expect of your organization – so that investment in social media can be appropriately targeted

# A Process for Measurement



- | **Craft Measurement Strategy**
- | Configure Tools
- | Present Data
- | Deliver Insights & Take Action

# Start With the the Business Goals

Craft Measurement Strategy

Revenue

Sales from social channels  
Quote completion



Cost Savings

Savings over traditional advertising  
Savings from leveraging social media as support channel



Customer Satisfaction

Higher customer satisfaction for those who participate in social media



Brand Reputation

Brand reputation  
Higher score on key brand attributes among those who participate in social media



Strategic Insights

Insights generated as an adjunct to traditional market research





# Define Key Performance Indicators

Craft Measurement Strategy

Key Performance Indicator	Definition	Rationale
Share of voice in your category	The percentage of social media conversations that mention your category and your brand, compared to competitors	Measure of reach within specific category What is the volume of conversation about your brand in your category?
Social referrals	Number of web site visits from social media sites	Measures general effectiveness of social sites at driving traffic to your web page
Number of page views	Number of page views per unit time	Reach of brand on social property How many page views are we receiving on our Facebook branded page?
Mentions of brand	Mentions of brand per unit time	Amount of consumer buzz about your brand How many times is your brand mentioned across the social web?
Number of YouTube video views	YouTube video views per unit time	Helps brand to understand what content is resonating with consumers. Informs content strategy.

# Social Measurement Categories by Audience

AWARENESS

ENGAGEMENT

SENTIMENT

ADVOCACY

Personas/Stakeholder Groups:

Researcher, Research Management, Librarian and Developer

Influencers

# Measurement Framework

	AWARENESS	ENGAGEMENT	SENTIMENT	ADVOCACY
Activities	<p><b>Develop Content Assets</b> -- for distribution across offline and online sources: web site, blog, social media accounts and traditional news media placement</p> <p><b>Enter the Conversation</b> -- on key forum sites and other social media outlets</p> <p><b>Expand Social Media Presence</b> -- to engage key stakeholder groups and serve as platform for ongoing conversation, message sharing and content distribution</p> <p><b>Identify and Embrace Influencers</b> – to offer our perspective, establish thought leadership and activate like-minded groups</p>			
Measures				

# Measurement Framework

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Measures	Site Visitors Client Content Reach Client Content Dispersion Editorial Coverage Reach Editorial Coverage Dispersion Social Media Conversation Volume Share of Voice Organic Search Ranking	Time On Site Video Views Facebook Fans, Twitter Followers, Youtube Channel Views Volume Of Traffic From Organic Search	Sentiment On Content (Likes, Retweets, Shares) Social Media Sentiment Traditional Media Sentiment	Reach Articles By Influencers Sentiment Of Influencer Articles Volume Of Conversation By Influencer Group Sentiment By Influencer Group

# Awareness Metric Definitions

AWARENESS METRIC	CATEGORY	DEFINITION
Site Visitors	Web Site	Unique visitors to Client or brand
Client Content Reach	Content – Offline and Online	Editorial Impressions of Client content across offline and online sources
Client Content Dispersion	Content – Offline and Online	Number of sites that featured Client content asset - this could be article, photo, data visualization, eBook, or video. Number of offline media that featured Client content asset
Editorial Coverage Reach	Coverage – Offline and Online	Reach of coverage about Client and target topics. (not overall Client brand)
Editorial Coverage Dispersion	Coverage – Offline and Online	Number of articles or stories about Client and target topics. (not overall Client brand)
Social Media Conversation Volume	Social Media	Volume of Conversation about Client and thought leadership topics
Social Media Share of Voice	Social Media	The percentage of social media conversations that mention topic areas and Client; compared to competitors
Organic Search Ranking	Digital – Organic Search	Organics search results for Client and target topics

# Engagement and Sentiment Metric Definitions

ENGAGEMENT METRIC	CATEGORY	DEFINITION
Time on Site	Web Site	Average time on site for visitors
Video Views	Social Media	Views of Client thought leadership videos on YouTube
Facebook Fans, Twitter Followers, YouTube Channel Views	Social Media	Fan growth on key social media sites (Client pages)
Volume of Traffic From Organic Search	Digital – Organic Search	Traffic from organic search (Google Analytics)

SENTIMENT METRIC	CATEGORY	DEFINITION
Sentiment of Content (Likes, Retweets, Shares)	Web Site and Social Media	Sentiment on content as indicated by sharing the content, liking it, or retweeting it.
Social Media Sentiment on Client and Story Elements/Topics	Social Media	Sentiment (positive/negative) of Client and target topics
Traditional Media Sentiment on Client and Story Elements/Topics	Traditional Media	Sentiment (positive/negative) of mainstream articles or stories about Client and target topics

# Advocacy Metric Definitions

**Advocacy:** We will examine how, and to what extent, people are advancing our thought leadership position on our behalf.

ADVOCACY METRIC	CATEGORY	DEFINITION
Reach articles by Influencers	Coverage – Offline and Online	Reach of articles by influencers about Client and target topics (Impression data)
Sentiment of Influencer Articles	Coverage – Offline and Online	Sentiment (positive/negative) of articles by influencers about Client and target topics
Volume of Conversation by Influencer Group	Social Media	Volume of Conversation about Client and target topics among influencer groups
Sentiment by Influencer Group	Social Media	Sentiment (positive/negative) of Client and target topics by key influencer groups

- | Craft Measurement Strategy
- | **Configure Tools**
- | Present Data
- | Deliver Insights & Take Action



# Choose and Configure Your Tools Based on the Questions You Want to Answer

Configure Tools

Buzz Monitoring

What is the total volume of conversation about Client or brand and the issues surrounding educational testing? Is the conversation predominantly positive or negative? What is Client's share of conversation compared to the competition?

Social Media Accounts

How many followers or fans does Client have? What is the demographic makeup of Client's fan base? Where do most of Client's fans reside?

Workflow Tools

How can Client operationalize their social media efforts?  
How can we make the social media efforts saleable?  
What types of messages drive the greatest conversation among fans?

Influencer Identification

What audience members are influential in the conversations about educational testing? Which stakeholders could serve as advocates for Client's brand positions?

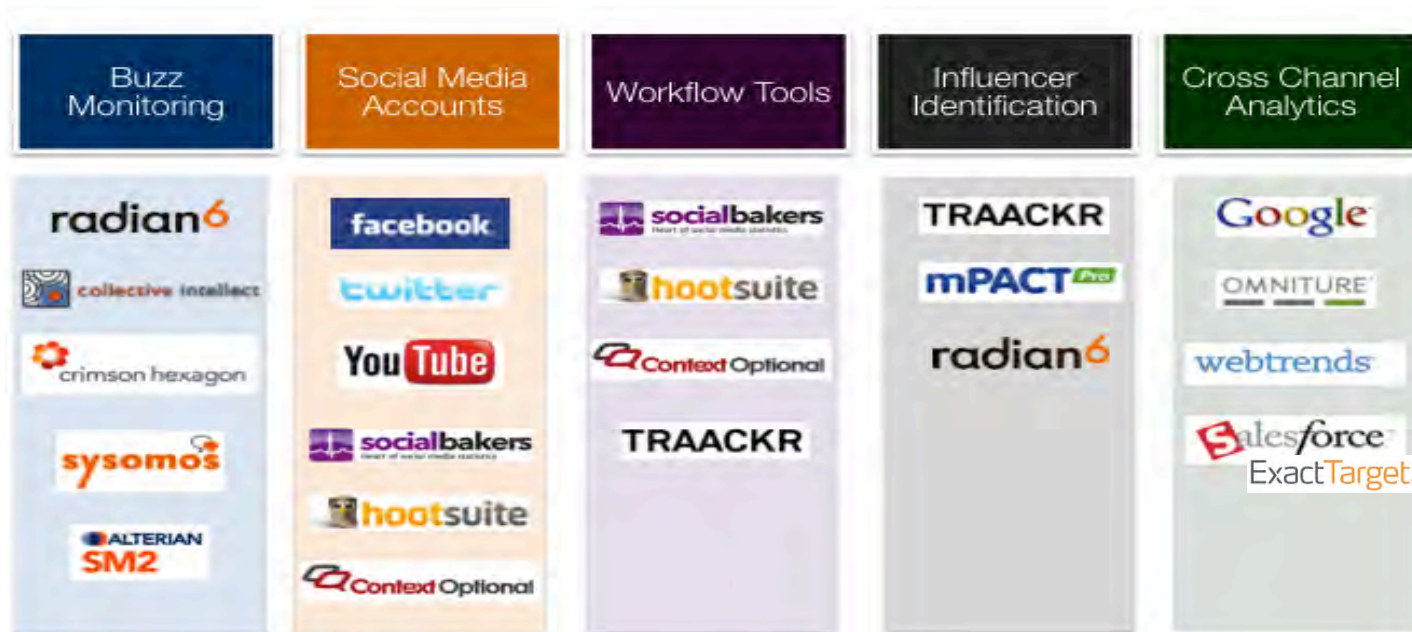
Cross Channel Analytics

What is the amount of traffic driven to Client's web sites by social channels? How do Client's social media efforts influence organic search results? How does offline editorial impact Client's digital channels?

# Answering These Questions Frequently Requires Multiple Tools

Configure Tools

Our Approach – Use As Few Tools As Possible; While Not Sacrificing Insights And Performance



# Listening Tools Use Different Approaches . . .

Configure Tools

## Keyword/Boolean

- Use keywords to determine positive and negative sentiment
- Analysis tends to be very ridged and literal
- Sentiment subject often scored out of context
- Limited capabilities in assessing sentiment internationally across languages

## Computational Linguistics

- Use computational linguistics and natural language processing to determine positive and negative sentiment
- Tools identify and link the subjects, objects, verbs, adjectives, and other linguistic patterns.
- You can improve the accuracy over time by training the tool to recognize certain language patterns as positive or negative

## Human Scoring

- Use humans to review posts and manually score them as positive or negative
- Sentiment often scored from a random sample and n depends on total volume
- For international analysis, use of native speakers is important

# And None of Them Is Perfect

Configure Tools

## Challenges

Accuracy	Industry-specific vernacular
Scalability	Ease of Use
Demographic Data	Staffing and Services



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# Performance Scorecard

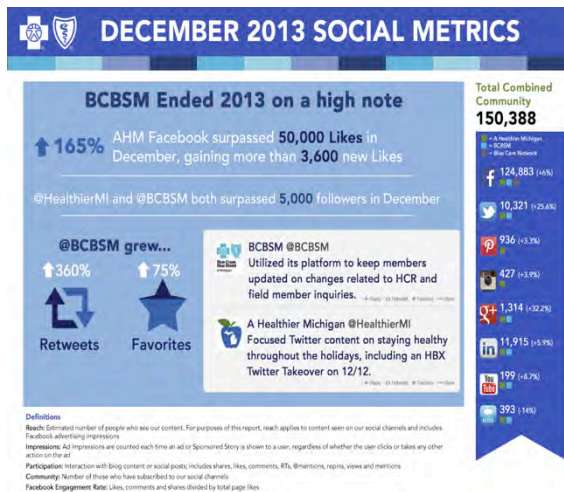
FINN PARTNERS  
CREATING INSPIRATION  
COMMITMENT

ACTIVITY	AWARENESS	ENGAGEMENT	SENTIMENT	INFLUENCER ADVOCACY
Stories Pitched	Advertising impressions	Click through rate	Sentiment On Content (Likes, Retweets, Shares)	Reach Articles By Influencers
Interviews Pitched	Site Visitors	Time On Site		
Ads Ran	Content Reach	Video Views	Social Media Sentiment	Sentiment Of Influencer Articles
Ad Impressions Purchased	Content Dispersion	Facebook Fans, Twitter Followers, Youtube Channel Views	Traditional Media Sentiment (comments)	Volume Of Conversation By Influencer Group
Content Published	Editorial Coverage Reach	Volume Of Traffic From Organic Search	Earned Media Fidelity	Sentiment By Influencer Group
Events Executed	Editorial Coverage Dispersion	Document Downloads		Ally Development
	Social Media Conversation Volume	Comments on earned media		
	Share of Voice	OpEd Placed		
	Organic Search Ranking			

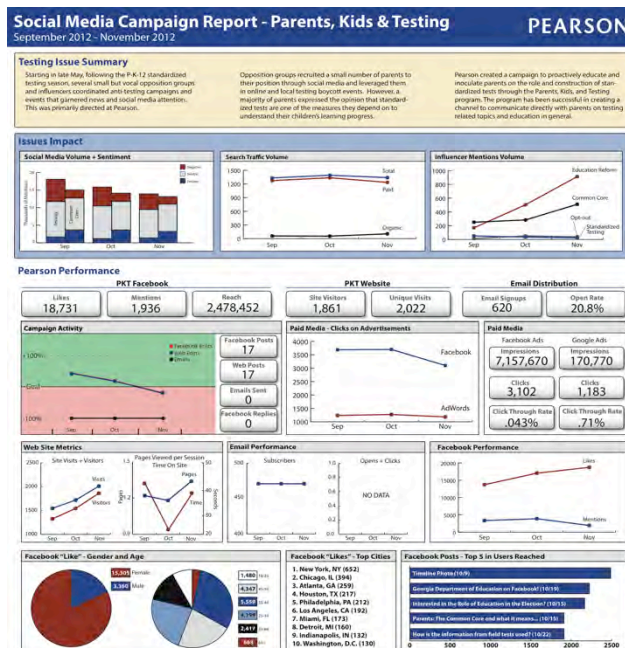
# Provide Context - Historical Measurements

Present Data

## Custom Manual



## Semi-Automated

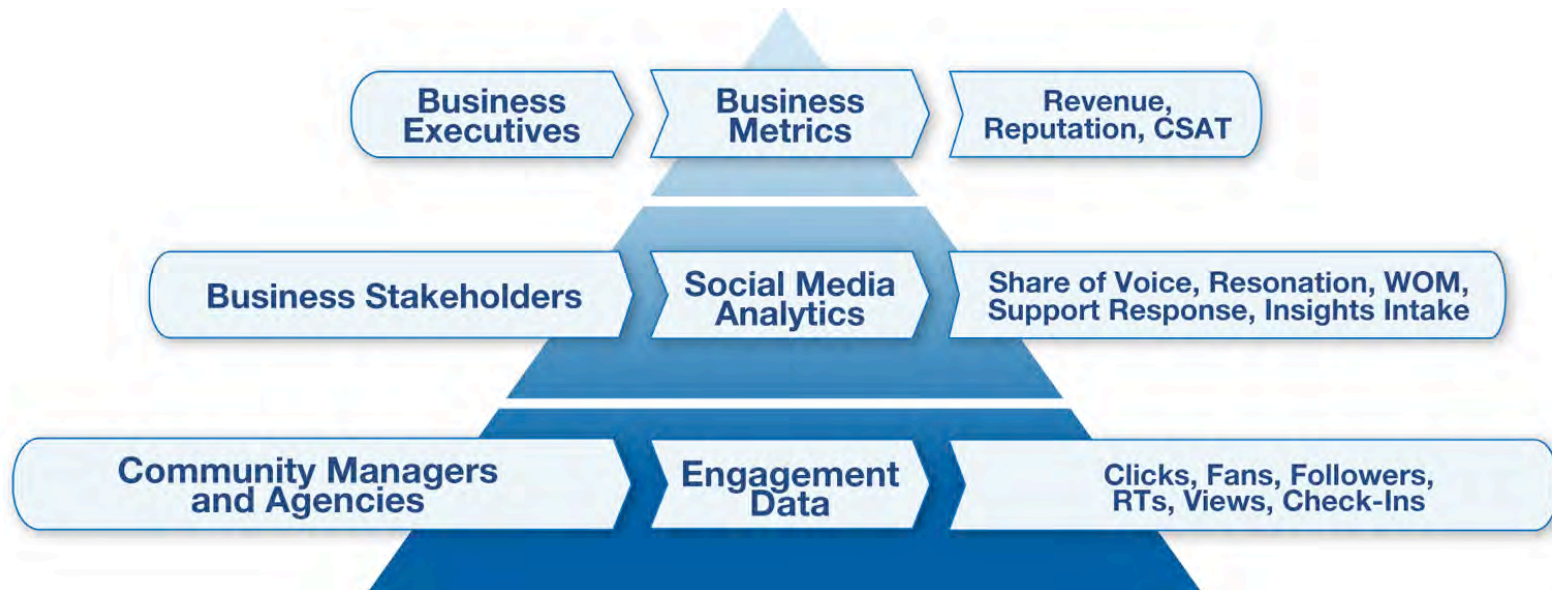


## Fully Automated



# Make It Audience Appropriate

Present Data

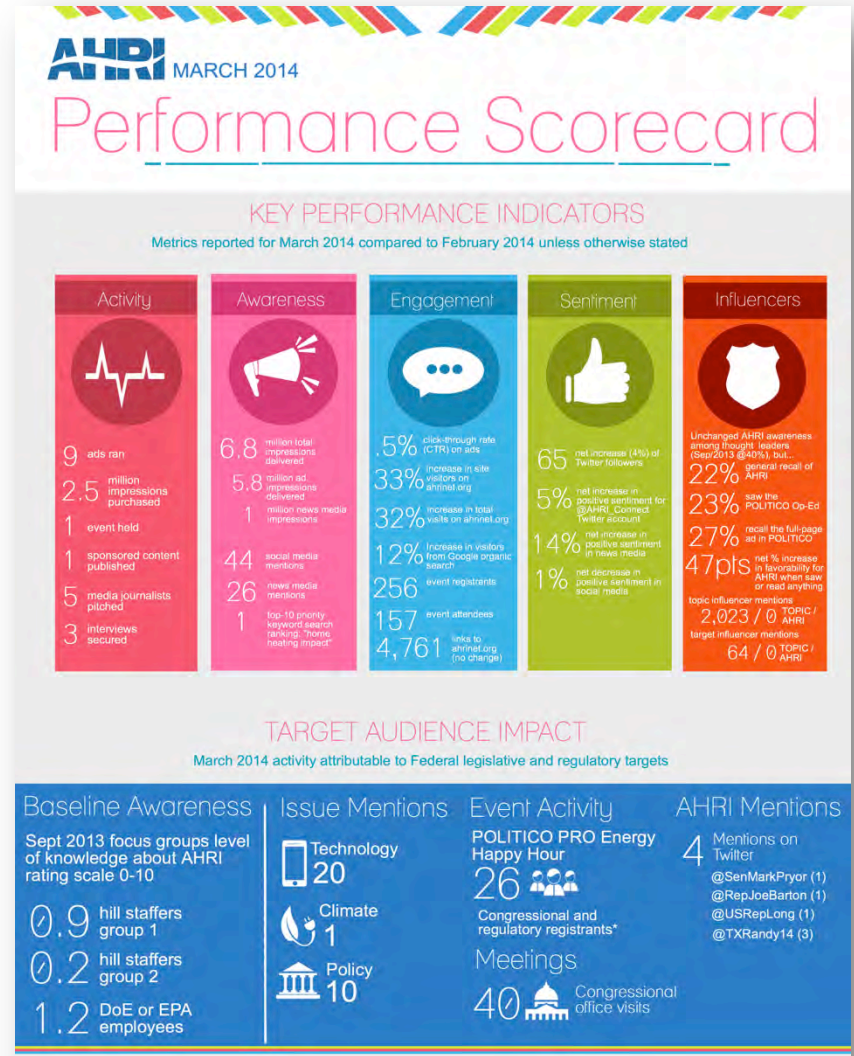
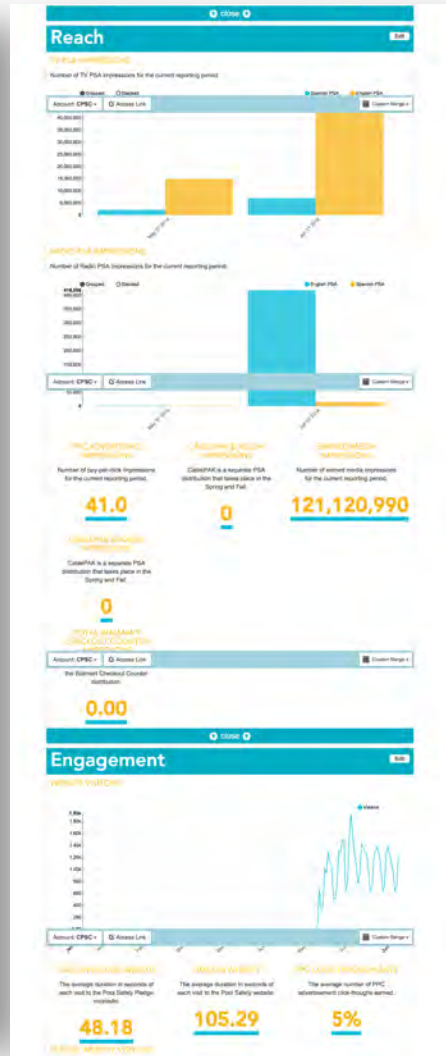
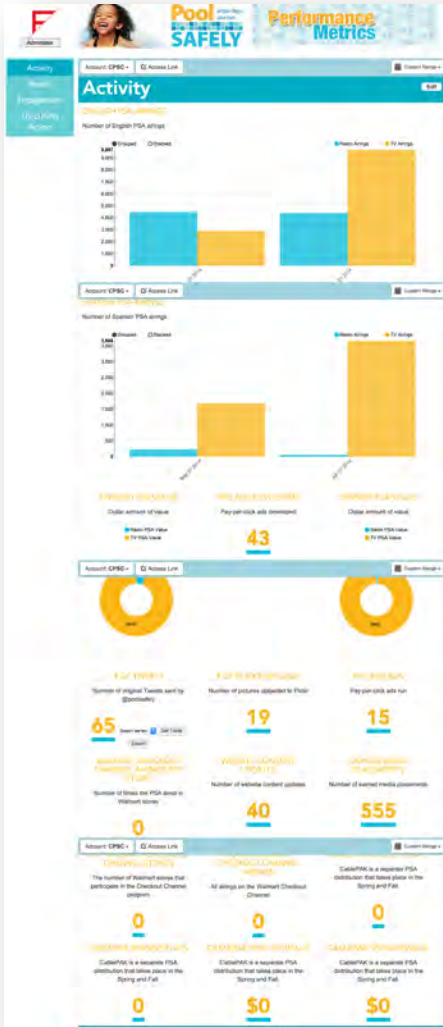


Source: Altimeter Group: Social Business Forecast: 2011 The Year of Integration



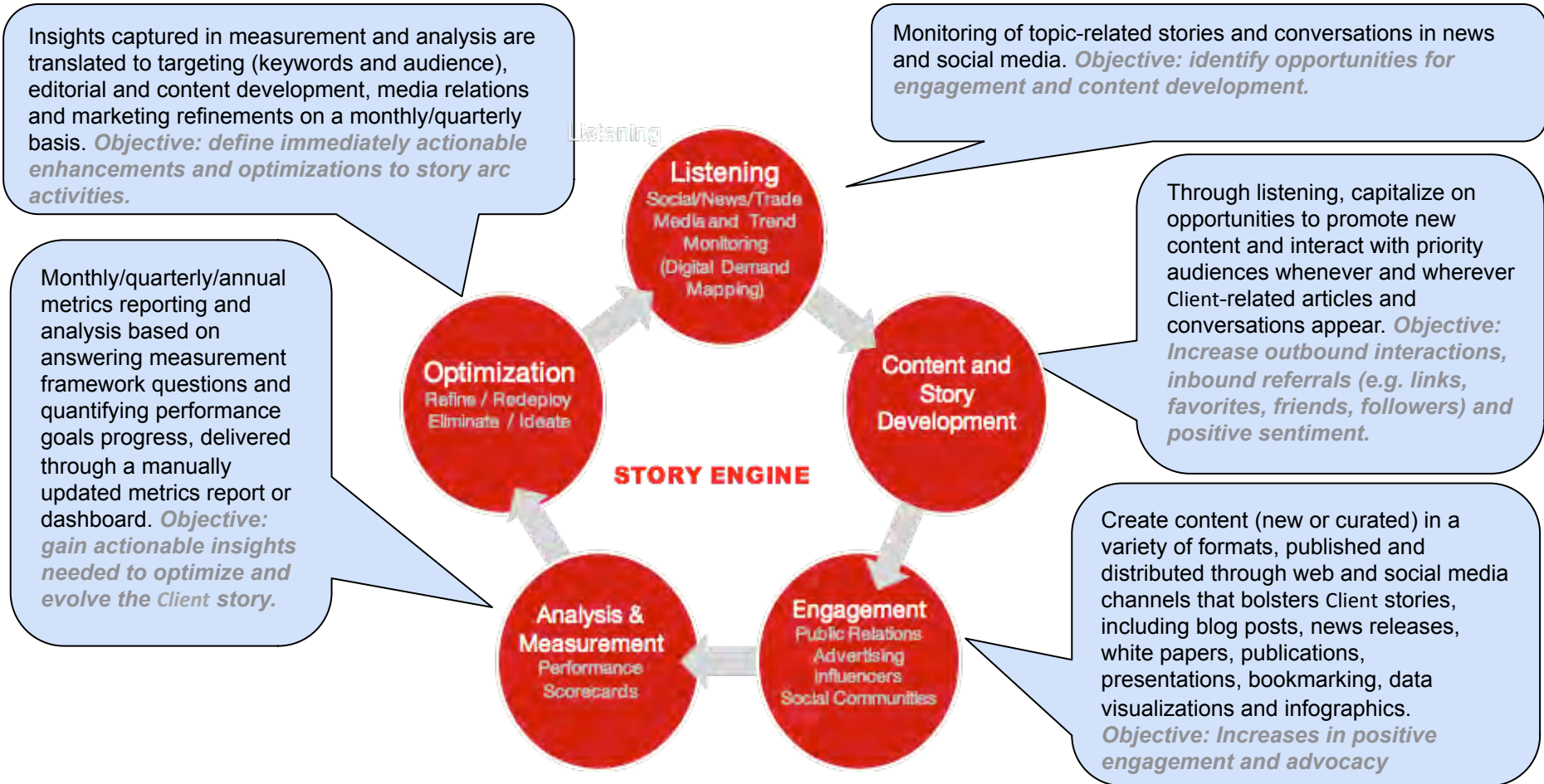
# Make It Audience Appropriate

Present Data



- | Craft Measurement Strategy
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- | Present Data
- | **Deliver Insights & Take Action**

# Building Measurement & Optimization in at Every Step



# Thank You

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