# An Inside Look at the 7 Truths of Marketing IBM Teaches its 5,000 Global Marketers

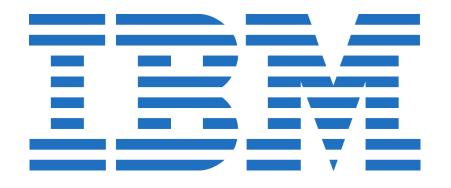
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### **Ari Sheinkin**

VP of Marketing Analytics, IBM

#### **About IBM and Ari**



- Has worked at IBM for 17 years
- Oversees 250 marketing analysts supporting 6,000 marketing professionals
- Spread over 120 countries

- Consumers are 75% of the way towards making a decision before reaching out to a potential vendor.
- Inbound web visits are 2-3x more likely to convert to responses than outbound emails.
- Personalization of content by industry and job role increases clickthrough rates on ibm.com by 2x.
- Responding within 1 hour is 7x more likely to result in a lead than responding within 2 hours (and 60x more likely compared to responding within a day).

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  Person "in word" vs. "in practice" es click-
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#### Test Your Intuition: What do you think?

In 2014, IBM increased marketing emails by 37%, which led to:

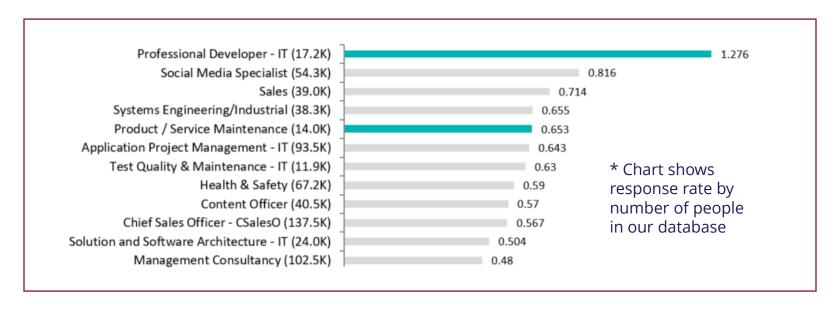
- A. A 17% decrease in responses world wide
- B. An increase in marketing contacts
- C. A 33% increase in validated leads
- D. A 10% increase in win revenue

Three Questions of a Strong Client

**Experience** 

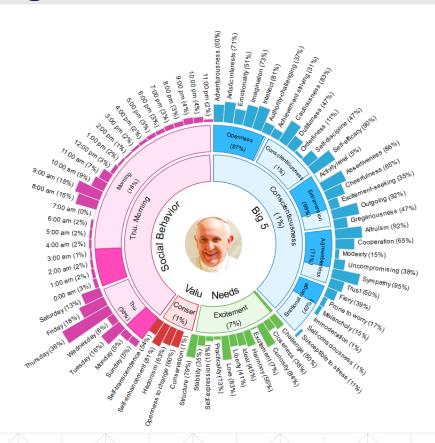


#### **Understanding Your Customer**



**Data Insight:** Roles like developers and product/service maintenance professionals are higher influencers than commonly targeted C-suite executives.

#### **Understanding Your Customer**





#### Test Your Intuition: What do you think?

Which of the following offer types performs best for IBM in the try/buy stages of the buyer's journey?

- A. Whitepaper
- B. eBook
- C. Demo
- D. Video

#### **Aligning Offers to the Customer Journey**

- ✓ Gated
- ✓ Designed to progress to conversion
- ✓ Represent a fair exchange of value
- ✓ Experiential demos, trials, assessments
- ✓ Reason to act now

Discover Learn Try Buy Adopt Advocate

- ✓ Non-gated
- ✓ Designed to introduces concepts
- ✓ Designed to frame the decision criteria
- ✓ Whitepapers, videos, blog posts
- ✓ Buyer's guide

- ✓ Designed to deepen the relationship
- ✓ Help user to use
- ✓ Promote reviews, social conversation
- ✓ Events, word of mouth
- ✓ Collect feedback

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## Every interaction is relevant and drives the next action.

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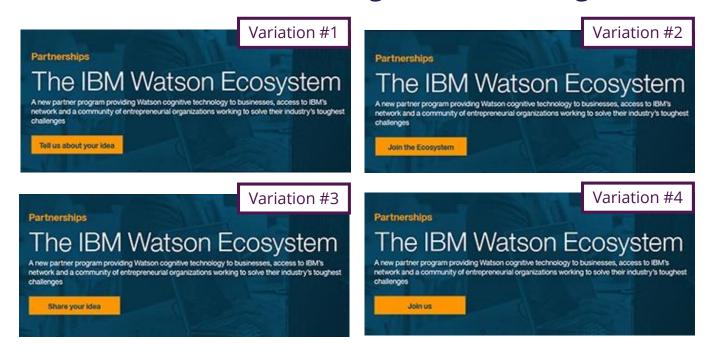
#### **Aligning Offers to the Customer Journey**





#### Test Your Intuition: What do you think?

Which call-to-action lead to the highest clickthrough rate?

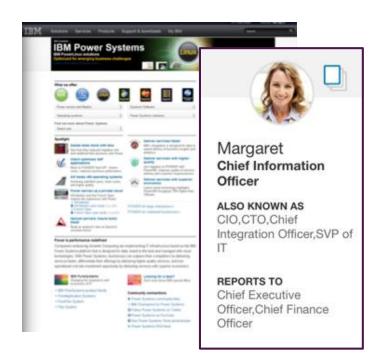


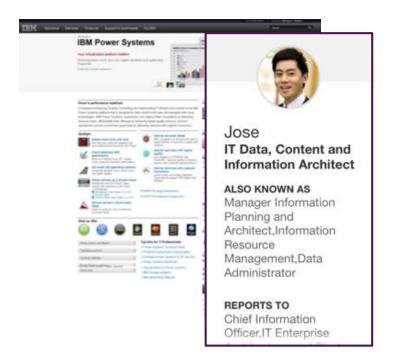
#### Test Your Intuition: What do you think?

The idea of "joining an ecosystem" won



#### **Optimizing Design to Meet Motivations**





#### **Best Practices vs. Testing?**





#### **Best Practices vs. Testing?**





#### **Key Insights from Testing**

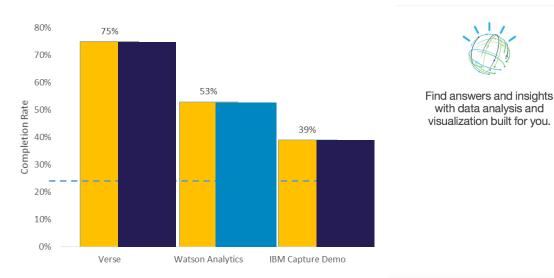
- Every engagement must have a purpose
- Overloaded pages prevent the client from easily accessing what they need
- The example includes:
  - 50+ links
  - Offers from across the buyer's journey

     whitepapers, trials, e-books,
     webcasts, chat, events
  - No clear value proposition
  - No perceived value exchange

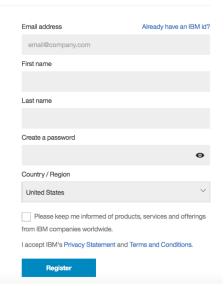


#### **Key Insights from Testing**

 Short, simple registration forms perform best — as is the case with Watson Analytics — an IBM product that makes advanced analytics accessible to a broader user base



#### Please complete your registration for Watson Analytics

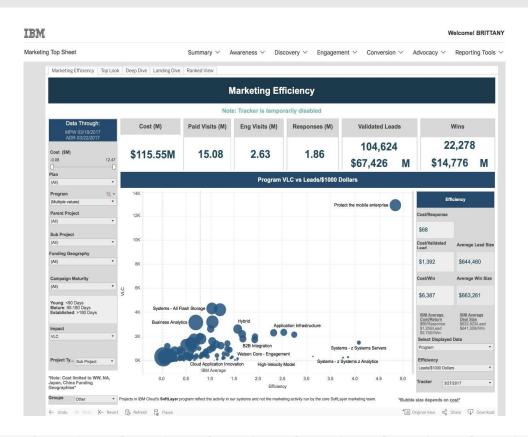


#### The Results of Becoming Data Driven

- 1) Targeting: 20x increase in response rate with a 9x uplift in MCR. With European team, a 78% decrease in outbound touches resulting in a 9% increase in responses
- 2) Offers: Generated a 5-10x increase in quality responses to their offers
- 3) Web Experience: 3x increase clickthrough rates, 2.5x improvement in engagement rates, and 1.5x increase in Live Chats

#### **Final Thought**

Everything must be put into a ROI context







#### Thank You!

Ari Sheinkin, IBM

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