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CASE STUDIES ON TRANSFORMATION OF TRADITIONAL MARKETING TO DIGITAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING: INDIAN CONTEXT

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ABSTRACT

Social media and digital marketing is a powerful promotional tools and methodologies for marketing of goods and services through internet and non-internet channels globally. These marketing strategies are an added value marketing channels to traditional marketing methods. For the young beginners entrepreneurs, who have limited marketing budgets digital marketing is the cost effective method to deliver the information about their products to their target customers. The popular social networks are free to join and relatively cheaper than traditional channels. Many companies are taking initiative to promote their products and services through social media and digital marketing. Though it's a challenging task, but its cost effectiveness and wide coverage is attracting the entrepreneurs to adopt these new marketing strategies. Companies are eager to leverage digital marketing so that the advantage of this new marketing can be enhanced by the businessmen. This paper aims to explore some case studies on implementation of social media and digital marketing and digital marketing and this topic covers under the "Role of e-commerce social media and digital marketing and its influence on user-value".

KEYWORDS

digital marketing, social media marketing, e-marketing, internet.

INTRODUCTION

igital marketing is a promotional strategies to create awareness of a brand endorsing all available digital channels like Web, SEM (search engine marketing – includes SEO -Search Engine Optimization and Pay per click advertising), Social Media, smart phones, mobile markets (i.e. Google Play, Apple Store),Emails, online banner advertising, Television, Radio, SMS, digital billboards (indoor and outdoor). But from last couple of years' social media is budding up fast with social media platforms like Facebook, twitter, Google+, Pinterest, Instagram, Tumblr, LinkedIn, StumbleUpon and YouTube.

In India at present there are 134 million social media users, increase of about 26% from last year. Social media account for more than half time spent online, with users spending 26% more time engaging with their network instead of watching television. Smart phones are the highly used device for e-shopping by the consumers and 72% of India users log via mobile to access on social media, by Kstart Digital Marketing Summit (2016). According to the report released jointly by the Internet and Mobile Association of India and consultancy firm, IMRB, India hit 306 million mobile internet users in December 2015 growing at an overall 77% from 2014. Even Facebook also reflect that 80% of the users access social sites via their mobile on this globe. In India there is a colossal opportunity to explore digital and social media marketing with only 15% internet penetration and users spending an average of 4 hours and 25 minutes a day on online digital marketing. Today people are using twitter, facebook, whatsapp, Instagram, youtube etc. instead of newspapers for the current updates and these marketing strategies are catching as 'standard marketing'. Hence digital marketing is overpowering traditional media.

According to Digital India 2016, a report by Octane Research, 80% of Indian marketers believe that integrated campaigns (e-mail, social and mobile) can result in moderate-to-significant increases in conversion rates. For 58% of marketers, customer acquisition is the primary focus area.

The main objective of the paper is an attempt to focus on various case studies of the companies, who are on their journey to transform from traditional marketing to digital marketing and the challenges faced by the Indian companies to implement these advance technologies. The supportive objectives are:

- To analyze the case study of various brands.
- To focus on the challenges faced by businesses to transform to digital marketing
- Further what might be the way to forward it successfully

CHALLENGES OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND DIGITAL MARKETING

In this tough and competitive market, digital and social media marketing are emerging as effective marketing strategies for the companies to promote their goods and services globally. No industry whereas an individual is untouched with this technology. Digital marketing is available everywhere with the use of laptops, mobile, ipads etc and whether its B2B or B2C or C2C all are sold through digital channels. Indian advertisers are spending far more on social media ads in comparison to their global counterparts as well as its projected among top three countries in the Asia-Pacific region as regards its compound annual growth rate (CAGR-2012-2016) in digital media ads spend. But the companies are facing in startups as its practical implementation is somewhat difficult.

- The biggest challenge is to identify the channel(s)that's fit the business: Every channel has its pros and cons associate with it and the problem faced by the companies is, how to allocate their budget wisely so as to maximize its return on investment. It's difficult to choose the channels, which is suitable for their business model. The business leaders have to make an inside-out approach, where they have to understand 'Whom they own', 'whom they attract' and 'whom they accept'.
- 2. Emergence of digital marketing is too fast: The new technologies are emerging too fast and accordingly the companies have to plan their investment in digital marketing. Companies are in a dilemma how to plan their investments for digital and traditional marketing.
- 3. The capability of digital marketing to break your business: A word has a million power to influence, so a company need to understand the customer support in digital marketing, whereas have to be conscious of unethical practices by their competitor to harm their business. As social media and digital marketing is more one-to-one marketing.
- 4. No perfect metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of digital marketing: There is no perfect metrics or standard to measure the Return on Investment of any channels? The businesses tycoons are taking initiative to digitalize their business, but they are not aware of how to measure the best channel for their business.

- 5. Security and privacy: Many customers don't trust web companies completely, there is a threat of security and privacy to be misused by the company, due to which Customers hesitate to share their information on the cyberspace.
- 6. Not everything can be sold online: Every product can't be sold online as there are high value items which customers want to feel it before purchasing. So a company can use digital marketing for the promotion of their product, but can't translate into sales.
- 7. Digital Marketing has low entry barriers: As there is a low entry barrier, hence more and more competition. This effectively means that competition is fierce for digital based businesses.
- 8. India's Internet Connectivity Remains Slowest in Asia-Pac: According to latest State of the Internet report by Akamai, India still dons the hat of having the slowest internet connectivity in Asia-Pacific. According to the 4Q 2015 report, India had an average internet speed of 2.8 Mbps, a growth of 11 percent quarter on quarter and 36 percent yearly growth. At the global level, India rank's at near bottom ranking 114th in Internet speeds.

CASE STUDIES ON DIGITAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING

1. Asian Paints: Digital Transformation

In a report by MIT Center for Digital Business and Capgemini Consulting 2011 revealed about how the India's leading Asian Paints manufacturing transform to digital marketing. In the early 2000s, the firm implemented an enterprise-wide ERP and advanced supply chain management system and linked their subcontractors and suppliers on a B2B portal. In 2003 invested in a CRM system. In the year 2010 company centralized its order taking process into a single corporate call center. These initiatives encouraged the retailers to place and receive a more consistent service and even customers were served faster than their competitors. Asian Paints' digital transformation also extended to internal production processes and formed an IT team, who took innovative steps for digital transformation. The implementation of this IT team helped the organization to cope up with the new technology and company is continuously implementing new forms of digital transformation. **2. AmbiPur: Organized a bloggers meet to promote their brand**

The company organized a program, inviting bloggers from Chennai to talk about their brand and around 150 indibloggers were invited to share their experience about the brand. The hashtag was "Ambi Pur Fresh n happy". The candidates were instructed to carry their smart phones, laptops or iphones to Tweet and Free Wifi was available to them. So they should not just promote blogging but must also encourage them tweeting. There were many interested games and prizes (won 500 Rs and few got movie tickets for 2) for the bloggers. Participants were asked to Tweet their best road trip ever with Ambi pur Fresh n Happy – The best one was to win a Samsung Galaxy S4. One of the bolgger was asked to sit in the car and the car door was closed for few minutes and then remove the blindfold and he was surprise to see some food stuff inside the car, a shoe hanging, french fries and pizza around him and there was only the Ambi Pur Fragrance which was fresh and pure and all this was recorded for their marketing. This was a wise choice to interact face-to-face and easy platform to listen to your customers as a blogger. **3. Citibank: Unscramble 48**

An interesting campaign called Unscramble 48 was organized. Here, many well-known bloggers and social media evangelists were invited to unscramble "12 scrambled pictures in 48 seconds". The event took place in Chennai and Bangalore on 23rd and 24th march 2013. The participants were given different set of challenges to play, which was very catchy. The thought behind the idea was to make bloggers play the game on-ground and promote the video on their social pages. The catch was the iPhone 5 contest. Bloggers were required to uploaded their videos and the same game was replicated online as well. The video with maximum outreach & virality was be ranked 1st and the producer was eligible to win iPhone5 and many more attractive prizes. The concept behind this interactive and thoughtful game was to promote Citibank's Personal loans and the uploading of game videos result in the increase of viewership more than 485,500 on YouTube and it created a buzz on Twitter, Facebook and other Social Media hub

4. Audi India Ignites the Love for Audi -Love Audi

On March 20th Audi India announced a contest asking tweeters to give a reason why they really love Audi with hashtag "Love Audi" the best tweets were to win iphone, ipad, ipod and merchandise from Audi. This turned out as fantastic marketing campaign as people responded with creative tweets, customized videos, poetic blog posts, a fully fledge micro site and lot more. But many people participated just because of freebies and their tweets were not really honest. The event was not planned properly as there was no rules and regulation as such – It was started on March 20th 2013 and continued on March 21st 2013) and no body knows when it was going to end today. There was no microsite built for this contest which talks about Audi in exclusivity for people to learn more about it or a video on YouTube which introduces people to contest by taking them through the journey of car and its accessories could have been a better idea.

5. Coca Cola Uses Salman's Facebook Page

Salamn Khan, the celebrity who has more than 7.7M fans on Facebook and was awarded as "Social Media Star of the Year" by Zee Awards. The Coca Cola wants to encash these existing fans and launches their campaign on Salman's Social Media page was very interesting. On 22nd of Feb 2013 launched the new featured ad on "Thums Up YouTube brand channel" with a few teasers. Company joined hands with the actor's charity Being Human – The Salman Khan foundation to promote social and charitable activities. Salman's social media channels was changed with following: 1) The Timeline banner of Facebook was customized to Salman's endorsement, 2) The teaser campaign video of the advertisement was shared on Facebook initially (twice), 3) The original video was shared on 23rd February 2013 and 4) Later print screens from the video was shared along with the YouTube link of the video. (Twice), 5) On an average every update relevant to this advertisement had received 1000+ shares, 60,000+ likes and 4,000 comments to begin with.

6. Fuji High Zoom Twitter

Fujifilm launched its high zoom cameras (S Series) with a series of high impact campaigns on some of the top portals like Times of India, IBN Live, Google and Rediff. Fujifilm wanted to compliment this launch with an engaging campaign in the social media space specially on Twitter in order to create a buzz and acquire relevant target audience as new followers. There was a 5 day trivia contest everyday from morning 11 am to 1 pm in which every 2 questions were asked on different product models and their features and the users were given a hint to get those answers by visiting different sites of Fuji Film. Before the contest numerous tweets were posted to create awareness. As a result, to this campaign was successful as about 230+ new followers added in the duration of the contest, total tweets were 3000+ and retweets were 500+.

7. Sony PIX: The Amazing Spiderman Social Media

On 16th June 2013 through an integrated digital campaign the channel promotes the TV premier of "The Amazing Spiderman". The strategy was to celebrity the innate goodness and amazing qualities of people around us by encouraging users to acknowledge 'Amazing' people around them and tag them in the 'Web of Amazing People'.

The campaign was divided in 3 phases where Phase 1 was used to establish 'Amazing' deeds of Hollywood & Philanthropic Celebs. In phase 2 the microsite 'Web of Amazing People' was launched to showcase the web of amazing people. The users could sign up with their Facebook accounts on the website and can tag their 'Amazing' friend and they were asked a simple trivia question about the movie to enter a lucky draw and win Spiderman merchandize. The friends tagged would receive a Facebook notification which further redirected them to the website. This was a viral campaign which was integrated with television promos on Sony PIX, social media and digital banners, directing people to join the web of amazing people. On premier day, 16th June 2013 phase 3 was launched and an interactive live game was integrated with the telecast and with the microsite and the winner would get a trip to The Amazing Spiderman studio in Los Angeles. The outcome was amazing over 31000 people were tagged by users as part of the amazing web online in just 7days. The hashtag 'Pix Amazing People' was trending in India on day 1 and day 2 of the campaign all day and the hashtag #PixAmazingSpidey was trending during the telecast of the premiere in India and Worldwide. Over 750 people participated in the live interactive game and submitted codes online. People are influenced with popular personalities and like to associate with them.

8. How Delhi Safari Maximised Facebook Engagement With Images And Games

Delhi Safari – India's first stereoscopic 3D animated feature film made by Nikhil Advani and produced by Krayon Pictures – combines Bollywood masala with the global cause of deforestation and wildlife protection. They created an exciting Facebook page that not only highlighted the creativity of the movie but also encouraged fans to interact with the page as much as possible. The contest was organized like the Maze Game, Solve the puzzle, Spot differences, Spot the words and Comic Strips just to engage more fans over the weekend. The film makers got tremendous response as spot difference: the page received about 140K fans and the

post received more than 1000 likes, 250 shares and had over 150 responses in the comments. Interestingly, all this was achieved in less than 3 hours. Whereas the crossword puzzle page had about 50K fans and the post received more than 250 likes, 60 shares and a good number of successful responses in less than 2 hours. **9. Hindustan Times- No TV Day**

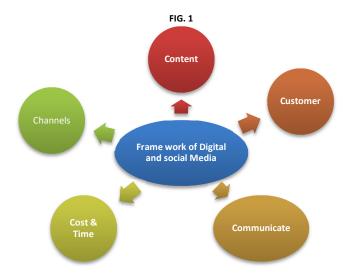
From last 3 years HT was running campaign urging people to switch off their TV on June 1st, and spend time with their family and friends. On 1st June 2013 HT celebrates No TV Day to create awareness about this campaign. They had this campaign on Facebook and Twitter. On pre-launch day users were ask about how they will celebrate 'No TV day' on 1st June and the contest was live for 9 hours from 11 am to 9 pm. On No TV day contestant were ask to post their pictures and videos, how they celebrated their day. On no tv day HT had new followers added on the contest was 346+, total number of tweets 6200+ and number of retweets 700+. Whereas on No TV Day new followers added on the day of the contest were 220+, total tweets were 15,000+, total number of retweets was 1990+ and total number of rand mentions was 10,000+.

10. IBM: Intelligent listening

The company was falling with the implementation of traditional marketing (telemarketing and email) for the selling of web-based services such as cloud computing and data security. To overcome this problem and to know what's the customer perception towards this services, IBM launched a program called "intelligent listening" with social media. It was an approach to know the users hot-button discussion topics and what trends and issues were being discussed. The company's sales representative daily checks the RSS feed and upload some interesting context of any discussion to social media. The result was 10 orders the first day, and orders for product during the quarter that were 4X higher than during the same time the year before.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

With various challenges in implementation of Digital and social media marketing, still it has become an essential part of promotional strategy in companies. A useful framework for developing effective digital and social media marketing is shown with the figure below:



- 1. Content: Decide the message
- 2. Customer: Who are your target customers?
- 3. Communicate: How we communicate our message
- 4. Cost & Time: What the cost incurred and when to display?
- 5. Channels: Selection of proper channel.

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