

#### Using Google and SEO

to win new business for your accountancy firm

Presented by Karen Reyburn ICAEW Growing Your Practice – 7 October 2014



#### The magic wand of marketing!

(step aside, Harry Potter)



#### Driving your firm to greatness and profits??





# "Accountants probably don't want to hear this, but SEO is probably dead in the water."

- Rob Deans

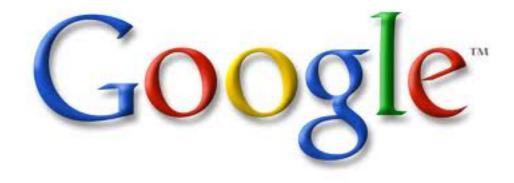
\*based on keyword or issue





When it comes to SEO, the rich get richer and the poor don't get a thing.









# Search Come Buy



Search, Search, Chat, Engage, Click, Download, Watch, Follow Come, Come again, Come another time

Buy

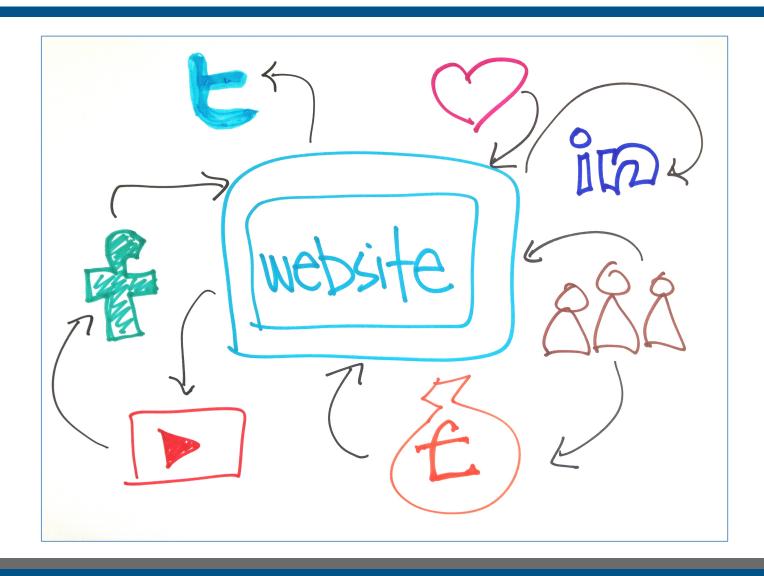


## "Gone are the days when people had one touch point."

- Rob Deans

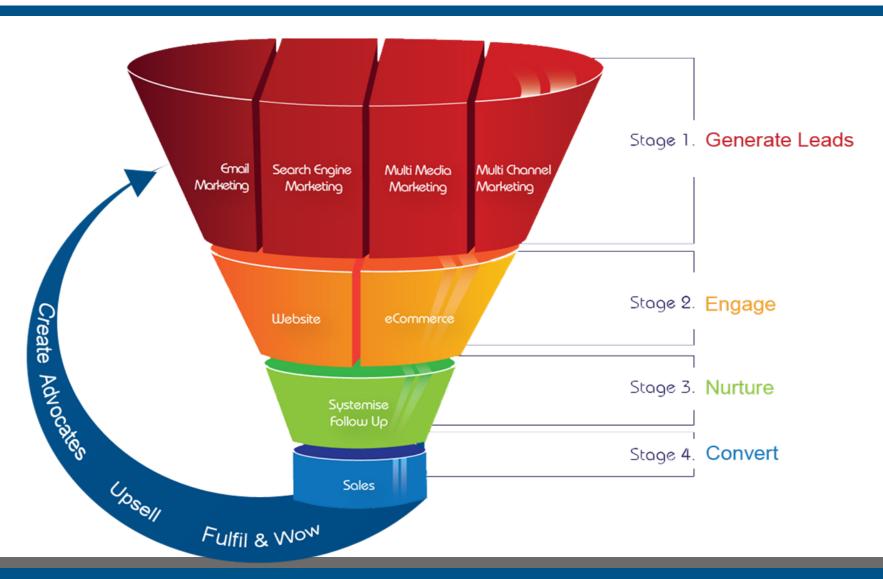


#### **Your Website Is Your Marketing Hub**





#### The Search-to-Sale Funnel

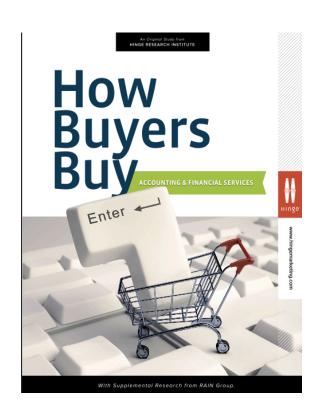




#### Driving your firm to greatness and profits??











The process of finding a new Accounting or Financial Services provider starts with looking for alternatives. You must first get on the list.

#### **Building the List**

Fig. 3. Finding Alternative Providers

Tradeshows/Conferences

About 15% of organizations have little flexibility and must follow a structured procurement process. Government entities are good examples.

Another 16% feel that they already know all the alternatives that they need to consider. For the rest, their search for alternatives follows a pattern shown in Figure 3.

Network/Ask a Friend or Colleague

Search Online

10%

Ask Professional Association

Review Trade/Business Publications

Look for Expert in Field

4%

2%

87%

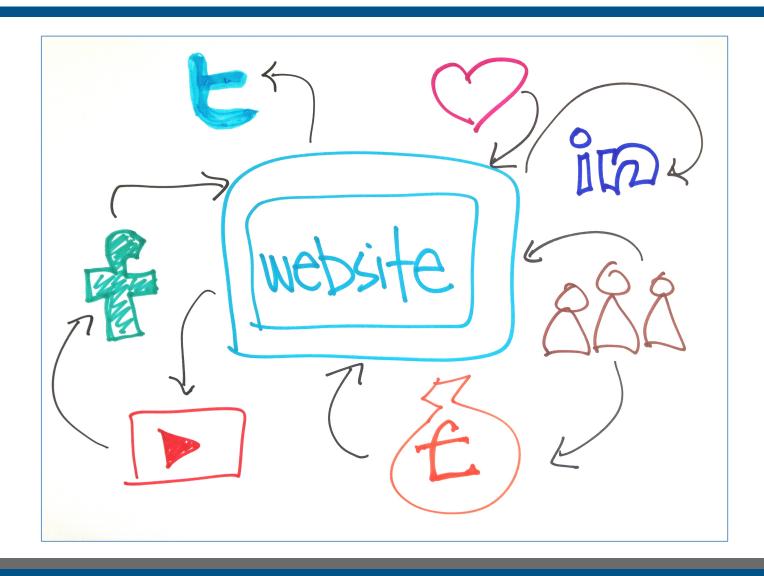
of Buyers turn to friends or colleagues first.

Buyers

The second most popular response is to search online.



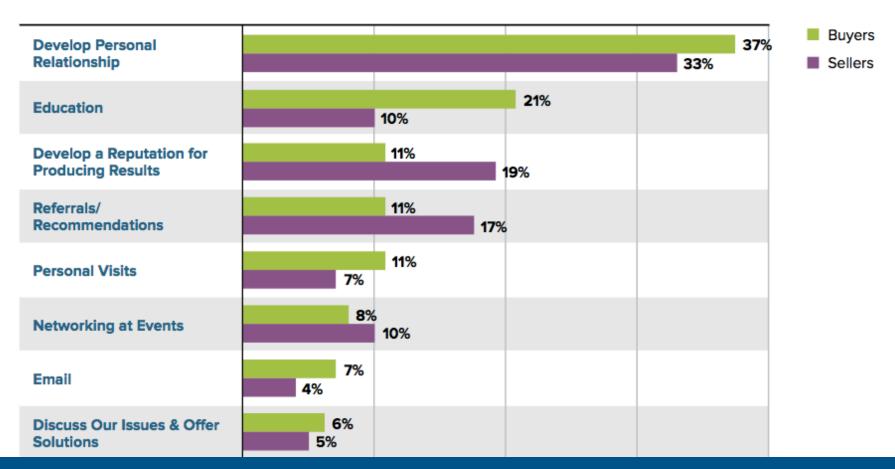
#### **Your Website Is Your Marketing Hub**



#### **Best Marketing Approaches**

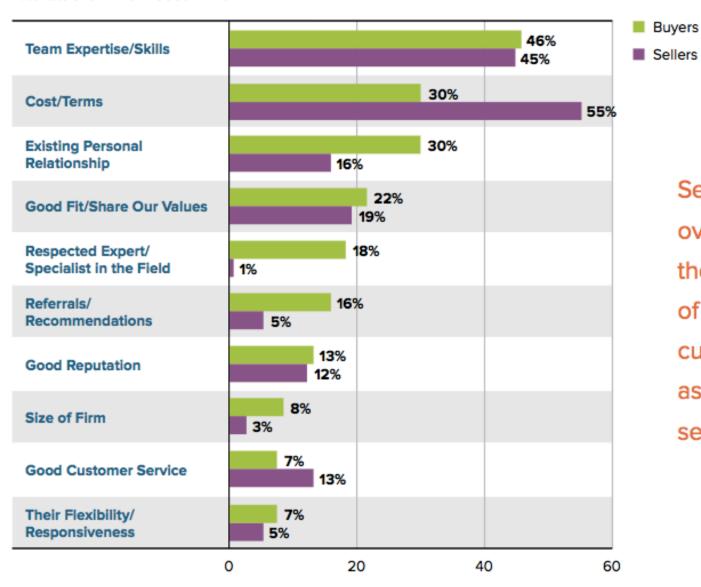
What is the best way to reach the Accounting and Financial Services Buyer? We asked both groups what they thought would work best. The results are shown in Figure 5.

Fig. 5. Best Way to Market to Buyers





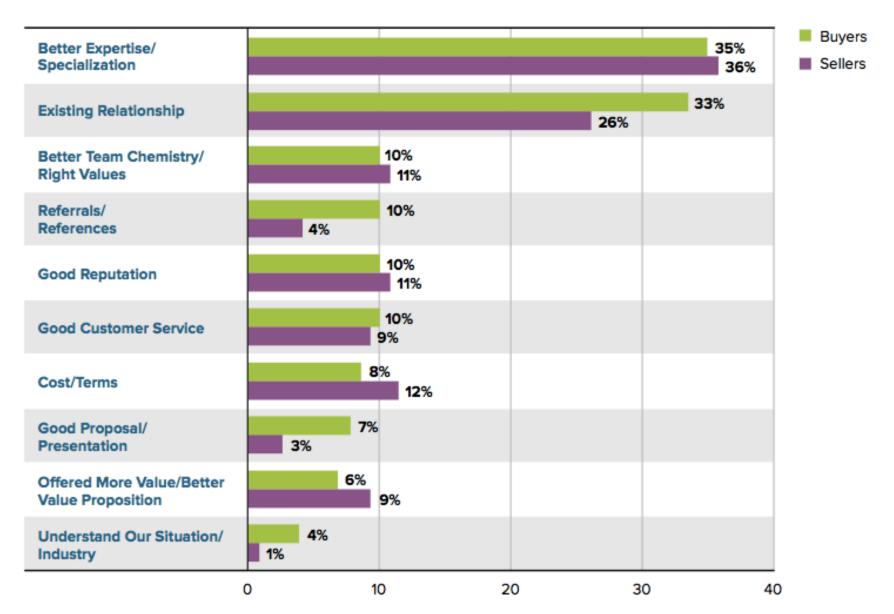
#### How do your prospects choose?



Sellers
overestimate
the importance
of cost and
customer service
as primary
selection criteria.



#### What tips the scale?







INCREASE BLOGGING
FROM 3-5X/MONTH
to 6-8X/MONTH
ALMOST DOUBLE
THEIR LEADS.

1-2X/MONTH GENERATE
70% MORE LEADS
THAN THOSE WHO DON'T BLOG.

Share This Report!













#### Strategy

is an 8 letter word



#### **Priority List**

**Action Plan** 

Marketing Calendar



#### Your content should be

Useful
Helpful
Relevant

To your target market





- 1. Ebook (ie credit control, payroll)
- 2. Download a template (Business One Page plan)
- 3. Diagnostic, questionnaire, or survey
- 4. Live event or seminar
- 5. Webinar or online event
- 6. Industry guide
- 7. Benchmarking guide
- 8. Online training session
- 9. Webinar recording/replay
- 10. Leaflet or brochure
- 11. Factsheet
- 12. Book review
- 13. Industry or issue-specific tips (inheritance tax, property owners, UK missionaries...)
- 14. Free trial
- 15. App download
- 16. Demonstration or how-to
- 17. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)
- 18. Checklist



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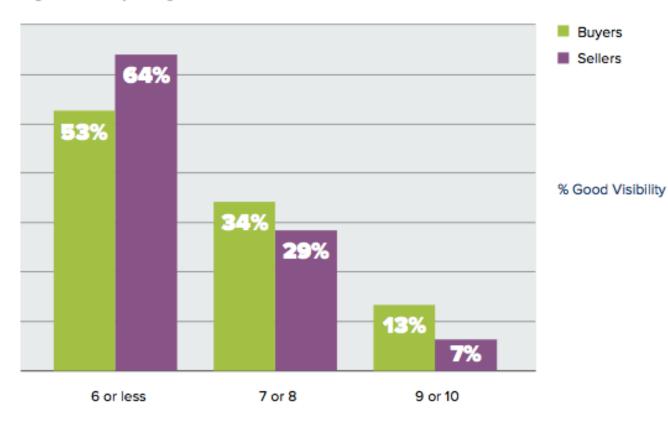


identify an important difference in perception. Many firms may be more highly regarded by their clients than they realize.

#### Firm Visibility

Ratings of the Seller's firm marketplace visibility are shown in Figure 24.

Fig. 24. Visibility Rating of Seller's Firm



Marketplace visibility was rated much lower than firm reputation. Firms with great reputations but low visibility are likely quite common.

Sellers are more likely to see their firms as less visible in the marketplace than



If an increase in visibility is accompanied by a strong reputation, the brand will be much stronger.



## Paid search just helps the right people spot you – again.



- 1. Know your target/niche area
- 2. Create useful, relevant, helpful content for them
- Set it up on your site so you get notified (automation)
- Promote that content using all available channels

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