

#### Online Community.

So what? Who cares? MySpace.com, a social networking site, receives more page views than Google.

Seriously.



In the U.S., trust in "a person like me" increased from 20% in 2003 to 68% today.



Opinion leaders consider rankand-file employees more credible spokespersons than corporate CEOs.

(42% vs. 28% in the U.S.)



As a company, we need to rethink our relationship with our community.

We need to take a new approach to building online communities.

## Community building isn't about marketing... at least not in the traditional sense.

- It's about conversations.
- It's about relationships.
- It's about networks.

#### How we do it:

- Become engaged and stay engaged
- Speak in a human voice
- Develop thick skin

## Community: A Definition The network of relationships,

formed over time, among people who share common interests.

### Principals of Building a Successful Online Community

#### Start with a clear purpose. Allow the members to refine over time.

**Examples:** 

<u>Craigslist</u> <u>Manufacturing Community</u>

#### Don't try your marketing mojo on the community. It's a conversation, remember?

**Examples:** 

<u>TechRepubic</u>
<u>M&E (Alias) Community</u>

### Content is still king. Make sure that yours rules.

**Examples:** 

3DTotal Slashdot

### Create the network of relationships.

**Examples:** 

M&E (Alias) Community LinkedIn

### Feature member identity and reputation management.

**Examples:** 

<u>eBay</u> <u>Amazon</u>

#### Encourage personalization.

**Examples:** 

Manufacturing Community CGSociety

# Encourage exchange & expression

examples:

Channel 9

<u>Flickr</u>

**Deathfall** 

<u>Ultrashock</u>

### Create a fantastic user experience.

**Examples:** 

Google /ig AIGA Design Archives

### Build a solid technical foundation. Then stop building.

Examples: point a Alias

#### Solicit and act on feedback.

**Examples:** 

Red Hat Apple

#### Let the community police itself. \*

**Examples:** 

**Autodesk Discussion Groups** 

Alias Discussion Groups

### Measure Qualitatively and Quantitatively.

**Examples:** 

Discussion Groups Dashboard HBX

Satisfaction Survey

#### The Model

#### **Takeaway**

#### Blogs

- Start reading them; get an RSS reader
- Consider writing one

#### **Community Sites**

- AREA.autodesk.com
- Manufacturing community
- AUGI
- Autodesk Discussion Groups
- Newsvine.com
- Help.com

#### Books

- "Naked Conversations" Scoble, Silverstein
- "Community Building on the Web" Kim