

Searcher Behavior

And Other Topics, including "PPC vs. Organic?", and SERP Comparisons





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Organic Listings vs. PPC?

- Why PPC?
 - Bypass the wait time to achieve rankings
 - Ability to target specific segments with targeted ads
 - Ability to reach pages where ads are displayed on other sites
 - Cost of program can be weighed against sales results to determine profitability

• Why Organic?

- Searchers pronounced preference for organic results
- Investment in rankings is persistent over life of the site



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What is CSS?

- CSS stands for Cascading Style Sheets
- Styles define how to display HTML elements
- Styles are normally stored in Style Sheets
- Styles were added to HTML 4.0 to solve a problem
- External Style Sheets can save you a lot of work
- External Style Sheets are stored in CSS files
- Multiple style definitions will cascade into one



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Taken directly from http://www.w3schools.com/css/css_intro.asp



Why use CSS?

- Simplifies formatting across an entire web site
- Use of style sheet files reduces the size of web pages within the site
 - Note that styles can be embedded within pages, which counters this benefit of using CSS
- Positioning capabilities of CSS allow the site designer to make pages more effective for search engine optimization



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- Identify your target market clearly
- Find the keywords that pertain to that specific market
- Design your site around selected keyword concepts that pertain to segments of your market
- Provide content of value to your readers
- Continually improve your site
- Place your site in a "good neighborhood" with appropriate links



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- Use internal links to emphasize important pages
- Use anchor text to add significance to your pages
- Study your statistics to see what is working and what is not



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3 Kinds of People in the World

- Those who can count
- Those who can't



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- Flash pages
- Frame pages \bullet
- Link farms
- **Hidden text**
- Heavy graphics (load time!) •
- **Doorway pages**
- "Auto created" pages
- **Off topic or redundant content** ${\color{black}\bullet}$



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- Cloaking
- "Popups" and "popunders"
- Broken links



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Searcher Behavior?

- Budget Ranges
- How far in advance of your purchase would you use a search engine?
- How far in advance of purchase date?
- How far in advance of purchase date
- Types of Links Chosen



Computer Productivity Consulting Richard G. Myers "The Role of Search in Business to Business Buying Decisions", A Summary of Research Conducted October 27, 2004, Enquiro Search Solutions, www.enquiro.com



Conclusions

- Search is most likely to be used during the early or mid research phase of the buying cycle.
- Search engines will likely be used in conjunction with other sites primarily manufacturer's sites. Budget for the purchase is a factor in the likelihood of this occurring.
- Google is overwhelming the search engine of choice in these cases
- Research (and search engine usage) generally happens at least a month or two in advance of the actual purchase decision.
- Budget plays a part in this as well, with the gap between research and purchase decisions increasing with the amount of the budget



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Conclusions

- Effective balancing of organic and sponsored strategies is essential Organic draws anywhere from 70 to 80% of the click throughs. This varies by engine.
- Position whether on the organic or sponsored side, is also essential Over 60% of the click throughs happen on the first 3 listings.
- There seems to be a significant advantage to be in the top sponsored location if available.
- The way the users eye moves across the search engine page is a strong determinant in which listing will be eventually chosen.
- Over 60% of all users make their decisions about which listing they wil click on in a few seconds, after a quick scan of the page. This reinforces the importance of position.

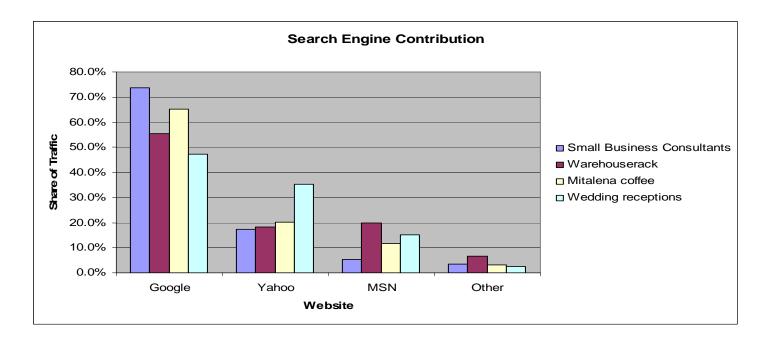


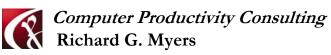
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Comparative Traffic

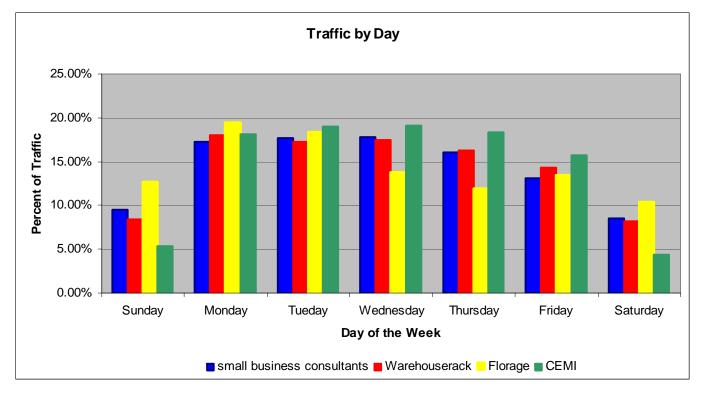




Summary results from 2005 statistics for various sites.



When is the Traffic?



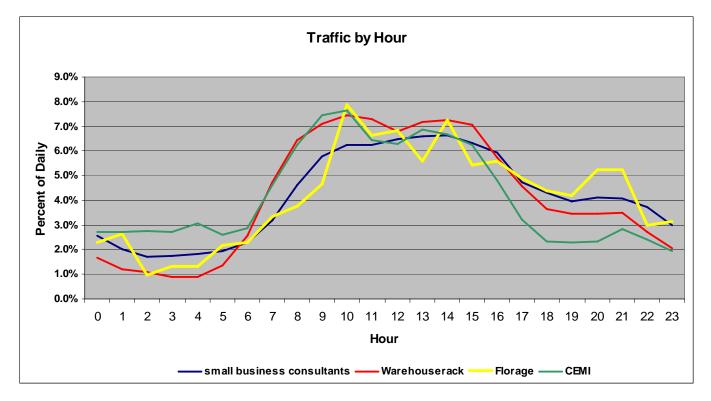


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Summary results from 2005 statistics for various sites.



When is the Traffic?





Computer Productivity Consulting Richard G. Myers Summary results from 2005 statistics for various sites.



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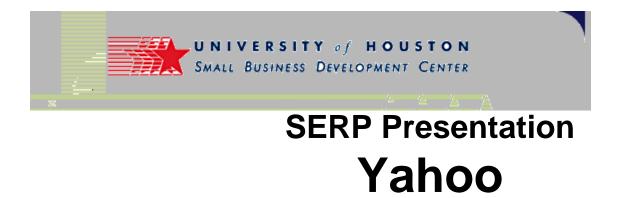
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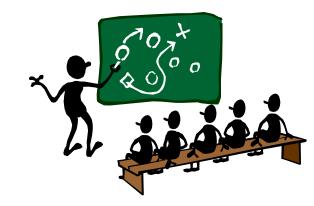


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 Time for your questions?





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End of Presentation

Don't forget to complete your class evaluation form and turn it in at the back of the class! We need to clear the room promptly at 9:00 p.m. so the staff can go home. Thanks for your cooperation.





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