Scaling Analyst Relations Impact Through Digital Channels

ARInsights User Forum 2022

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"We can do anything, but not everything."

Introduction – about me

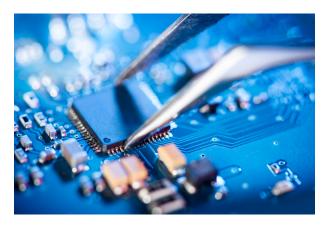
About me:

- Dan O'Brien from Boston, MA, w/ wife Jen and daughter Emily
- Golfing, skiing, cooking, gardening, playing guitar and drums
- Strong passion for technology and intersection with finance and market economics, read about tech during free time
- Connect here: https://www.linkedin.com/in/4danieljobrien

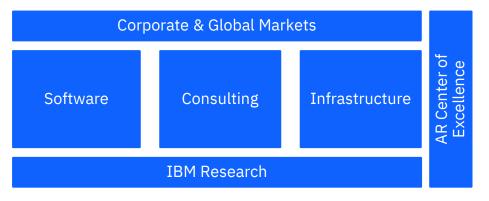
My career:

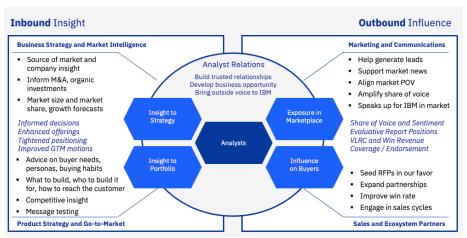
- 9 years in semiconductor industry, roles across Market Intelligence, Finance, Product Management & Marketing, Investor Relations
- 4 years as TMT equity research analyst and industry analyst covering semiconductors, consumer electronics, Apple/Samsung/China smartphone supply chains
- 5 years in Analyst Relations with IBM, roles across Strategy & Operations, Corporate, Emerging Technology, Geos





Introduction – about IBM AR





IBM was voted by analysts as AR team of the year



"IBM had the highest scores on the Results they drove for their organization.

Many analysts highlighted the thoughtfulness of the team, and the attention the team pays to leveraging analysts for core business outcomes.

Analysts highlighted that the team is highly personable and follows through on commitments. They described the team as proactive, responsive, great at follow-up, and accessible.

The AR team always ensures that the IBM organization is in line with their research, and that executives involve the analysts in the formation of strategies, incorporating suggestions to improve IBM offerings for their customers."

Why do anything? The business challenge we set out to solve



The number of analysts continues to grow



Targeting the right analysts to spend time with 1x1



With a fixed # of AR professionals



Still leaves a big gap to bridge



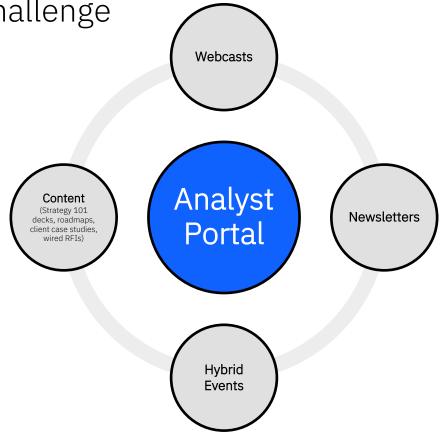
Need to consider new strategies to scale reach and impact



AR digital strategy The answer to the scaling challenge

<u>Design Principles</u>

- Don't recreate IBM.com
- Unique, curated content made for analyst audience
- Analyst self-serve with AR off-ramp
- Targeted to analysts underserved by 1x1 interaction model
- 100% of AR team able to selfmanage for their business



Analyst Portal: Build or buy?





- Greater customization
- More control over branding



- Cost, skills, time to value
- Yet another login for analysts to remember

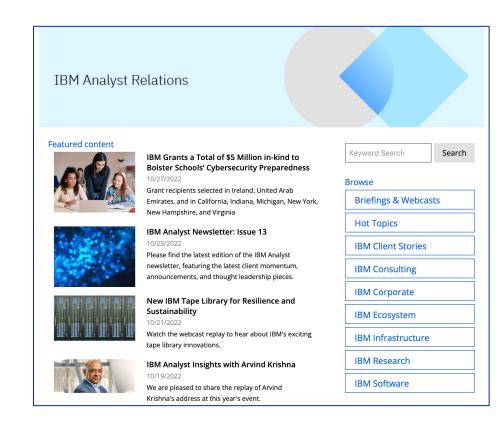


- Quicker time to market
- Built-in analyst audience, repeat visitors

- Ongoing expense, roadmap control
- Less customization and branding control

Analyst Portal experience & feedback

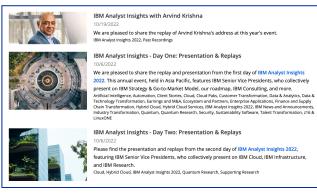
- Easy and fast navigation for the analysts
- Content is short, digestible, and easily searchable
- Include timely client case studies, IBM news, webcast replays, and presentations
- Content supports research that the analysts write
- While posts are specific to coverage areas and specialties, they also tie back to IBM Hybrid Cloud and AI Strategy, Sustainability, and other key Corporate initiatives
- Regional event replays and presentations are readily available and accessible to a global audience
- Thought leadership videos, blogs and Q+As allow analysts to hear directly from IBM executives



Analyst Portal experience & feedback

Analysts appreciate relevant, focused and timely content.

- Analysts have commented that the webcast replays are a great asset, especially since they are usually too busy to attend everything live and previously did not have access to a variety of content across geographies.
- Client stories "are it!" and these are a valuable resource for their research. They like that use cases on the Portal focus on the client experience and business results.
- Analysts appreciate that posts are curated exclusively for their consumption. IBM AR "bundles" webcast replays, slide decks, press releases, and thought leadership pieces into easily digestible posts.
- One analyst, after being invited to the Portal, wrote us the following note: "I just wanted to let you know that I find it very helpful that you use the ARchitect platform for AR content. I am looking forward to being better informed on IBM as I visit the Portal for more information from different vendors."
- While the Portal serves as a resource for analysts we do not interact with daily, it
 has been a pleasant surprise to see the Portal being accessed by the analysts with
 whom we work regularly, as they log on to hear from IBM leaders and access the
 latest replays and news.

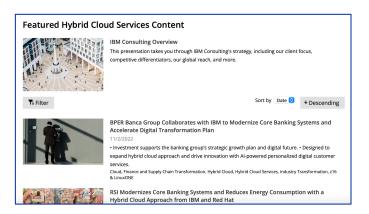




Analyst Portal enhancements

Key enhancements since the Portal's launch

- IBM SSO registration
 - o Secure and seamless login for IBMers AND analysts
- IBM Analyst Portal invitation: Customized subject line
 - o Customize invites for each analyst based on region, coverage area, etc.
- · "Featured" posts are pinned to each sub-category
 - o Allowing IBM to highlight strategy/specific posts under each business area



- Automated alert frequency: Default updated from daily to weekly; analysts also may choose the categories they wish to be notified about on a regular basis
 - o Reduce mass emails to the analysts



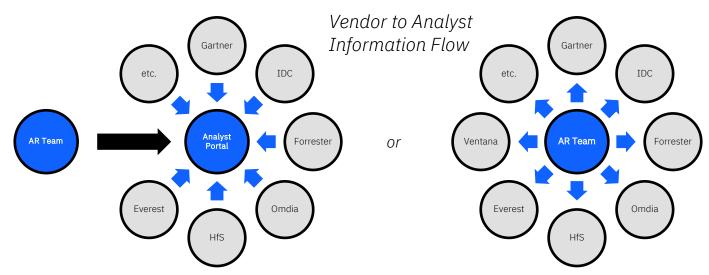
How ARInsights is helping IBM achieve our goals

- Agile, flexible roadmap SSO example
- Growing platform tailwind for adoption
- Wired for data-driven decision-making
- Reaching new analysts, new firms
- Engaging deeper with core analysts outside main coverage areas
- Keeps AR focused on our Tier 1 targets



Information exchange with analyst firms

- An emerging trend that warrants AR leader attention
- 40+ analyst firms running comparative evaluation reports
- Several firms are launching vendor portals to collect RFI responses
- Which model suits your company, and you as an AR leader?



Q&A



