

# B2B Influencer Playbook.

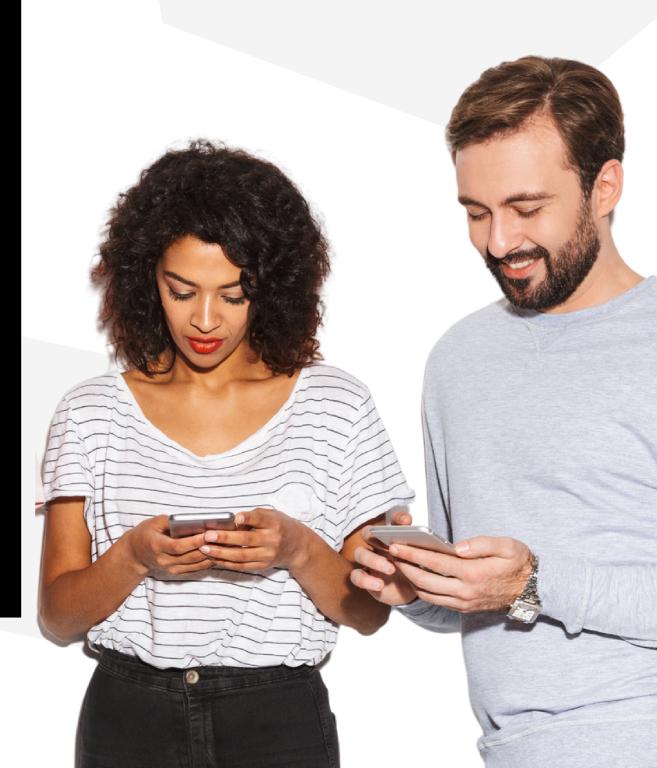
How to work with business influencers, industry experts, and content creators on your integrated marketing campaigns.

## How to approach b2b influencer marketing?

We've been working to develop influencer marketing campaigns for b2b marketers since 2022. What have we learned? The most creative and impactful programs run alongside your existing marketing channels.

This playbook features key use cases and provides examples of how to integrate industry experts, top voices, influencers and creators into your current b2b marketing strategies.





## **B2B** ≠ **B2C**



## Before we get started, remember:

01

"influencers" in b2b sectors aren't your typical fashion, lifestyle or ecommerce-selling personalities. They've often spent decades building careers and their endorsement matters. 02

Collaborations are happening multi-platform, across LinkedIn, podcasts, Youtube and independent blogs and newsletters. This is (mostly) not an Instagram play.

03

'Hero' content looks different in b2b. Partnerships center on promoting research and company announcements, featuring conversations with brand executives or covering industry events.

## Playbook Contents



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## Brand Campaigns

Boost your branding campaigns by leveraging the credibility and reach of industry experts. By collaborating with influencers you can tap into niche audiences, build trust, and create authentic connections.

01

### Podcasts & Vodcasts

Tell your brand story through independent industry podcasts and vodcasts. Then repurpose snippets of those conversations for your own social channels or website. 02

### **Promoted Social Posts**

Share your brand values, company announcements and thought leadership on key topics with promoted social posts from influencers across LinkedIn or X.

03

### Blogs & Newsletters

Partner with industry experts on featured articles, blogs or newsletters that raise awareness amongst key stakeholders and decision makers.



## Brand Campaign

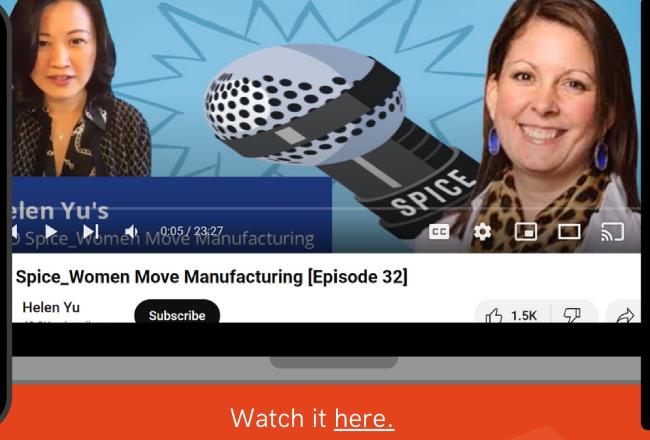
Examples



Promoted
Social Posts



See a post <u>here.</u>



Podcasts &

Read the article <u>here</u>.

#BizTalks

of Manufacturing

The Internet of Things (IoT) combined with broadband connectivity have enabled us to create smart factories, where every aspect of the manufacturing process can

**Securing the Smart Future of** 

Manufacturing

Open Immersive Reader

Comment → Share

**Securing the Smart Future** 

SAT&T Business

Episode 32

03 Blogs & Newsletter Series

## Event Marketing



Put a social-first framework around your current event marketing strategy.
Influencers can play a pivotal role in attracting more attendees, creating buzz and facilitating networking opportunities.

01

## **Event Promotion**

Industry experts can help drive registrations for both digital and IRL events via their digital footprint, making sure your event is a well-attended success.

02

## Speaking & Moderation

Aside from the traditional keynote speaking opportunities, influenceres can also help with roundtables, panel moderation and executive Q&As.

03

## Livestreams & Event Content

Great for events that a brand is already sponsoring or attending but not hosting.
Influencers can help raise event presence with video coverage and wrap-ups on social.

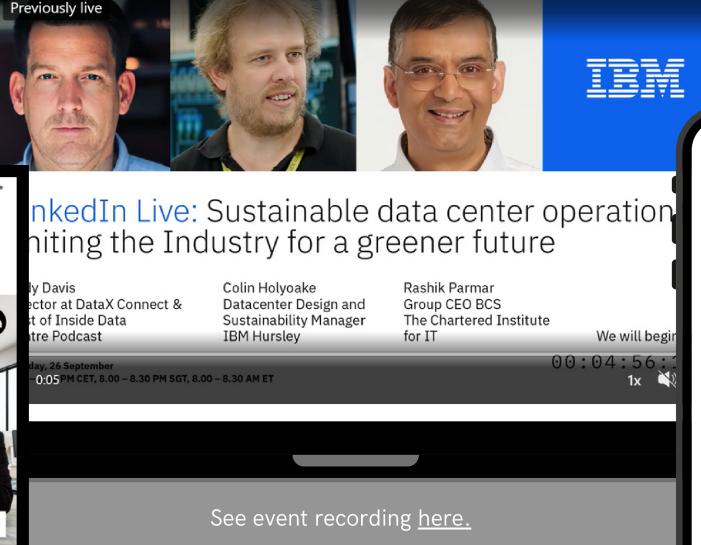


## Event

## Marketing

Examples





#cybersecurityawarenessmonth
#secureourworld #e2eassure
#threatdetection #ManagedSOC
#CyberDefence #AttackDisrupt

to prove a hypothesis that SOCs results for the prove a hypothesis that SOCs results f

cybersecurity challenges. I see them

really leading the market here! 6

Livestreams &

**Event Content** 

**Event**Promotion

Speaking & Moderation

Watch the interview <u>here</u>.

## Content Marketing

When influential voices share content out to their audiences and communities, their unique pov can immediately help brands gain credibility, make content more memorable and reach professionals that are typically hard to engage.



#### Co-Produce Content

Engage expert voices to develop content with your team. They can offer quotes, help conduct research and interviews, provide strategic advisory or produce full, wellresearched reports.

### 01

#### Content **Amplification**

Use influencers to amplify branded content like eBooks and research on LinkedIn and other platforms. Run a series of A/B test posts to focus on different points and key takeaways.

#### 03

#### Transform the whitepaper

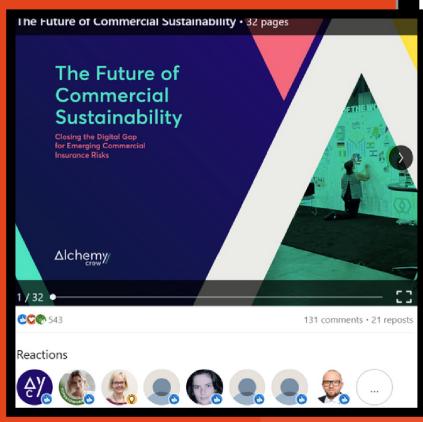
CUSTOM

Work with content creators to turn written content like whitepapers into short-form explainer videos or have your executives give a podcast interview that expands on the content in more detail.



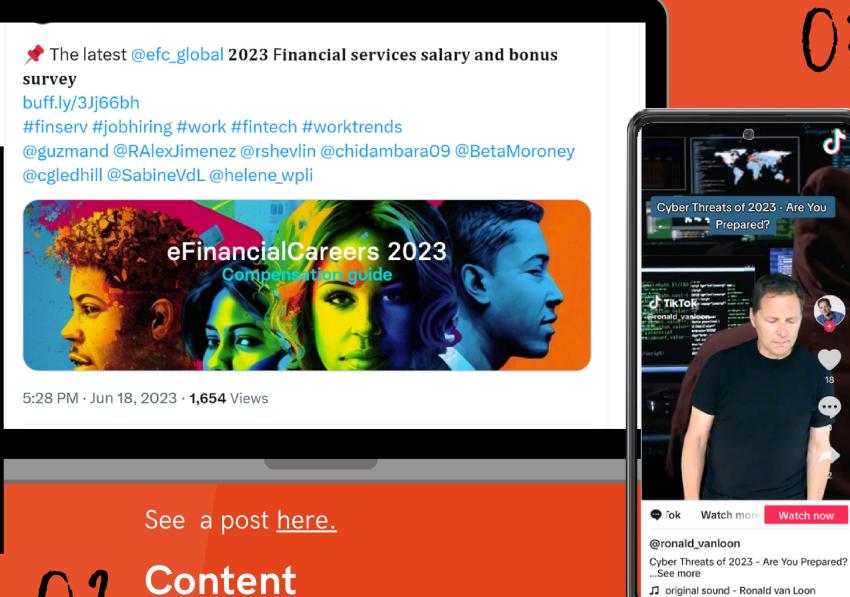
## Content Marketing

Examples



See the whitepaper here.

Co-produce content.



**Amplification** 

Transform the whitepaper

Watch the video here.

## Paid Media & Ads

B2B influencer marketing complements paid media and paid social ads by driving incremental reach, engagement, and creative diversity.



01

### Promoted Social Posts

Partnering with influential voices on social can help drive website traffic from net-new or hard to target audiences. Engagement rates are higher with promoted posts vs. traditional paid social ads.

02

#### 'UGC' for b2b

Creators record high quality 'user-generated content' that feels authentic. Brands can leverage the audio or recorded content for paid ads, boosting engagement and enriching creative strategy.



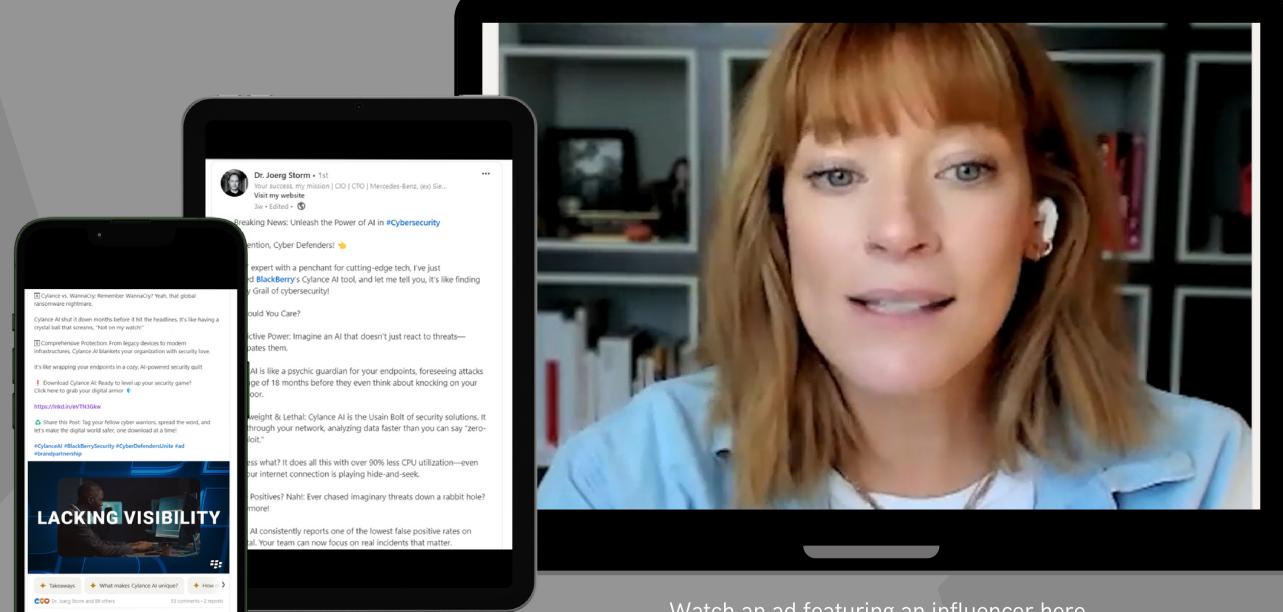
## Paid Media

& Ads Examples



**Promoted Social Posts** 

See an example post <u>here.</u>



Watch an ad featuring an influencer <u>here</u>.

## Measuring Success

Working collaboratively with b2b influencers and content creators is key to getting the right data back on performance. Reporting can be manual, especially on platforms like LinkedIn, so it helps to have the right team and processes in place to ensure metrics are accurate and feedback is insightful.



#### Align your KPIs

Know what good looks like from the outset, and decide what influencer marketing KPIs align with your current marketing objectives. Don't try to optimise to multiple awareness or performance KPIs with each influencer partnership or post.

01

#### Go platformspecific.

Metrics differ by social media platform. For example, podcasts work on listens and downloads whereas social posts will provide reach, engagement, and engagement rate. Calculating ROI may be easier if you benchmark influencer activity against metrics you already use for paid or organic social.

#### **Test & Learn**

It's important to test multiple strategies with a number of influencers first to understand where they can add value. Although the best partnerships happen when brands and influencers partner long-term, pilot programs and experimentation should come first.



Remember this!

## Want to get started?



There's a lot to think about when planning or implementing b2b influencer marketing activity.

Custom Influence find the right influencers and formulate the best partnership strategies to ensure the picture of success is delivered.

#### **Email Us**

guy@custominfluence.com















LinkedIn

Blog

Twitter/X Instagram

<u>TikTok</u>