




THE BUSINESS CASE FOR A DIGITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT PLATFORM



brandworkz®



Here at Brandworkz, we believe that branding and good marketing management is one of the key drivers of sustainable differentiation, sales and ultimately brand value.

Brand building is all about managing the customer experience. Whether that is through your products, packaging, price, advertising communications, website, email marketing or sales personnel. Each time a customer interacts with your brand, that experience defines who you are, how you operate, and how you're different from your competitors and the messages and imagery in these interactions have to be managed consistently.

With good branding, potential customers are more aware of any advantage you have over your competitors. With control through digital asset management technology, your global message and clear communication will be consistent, even when local markets or third parties create materials.

Marketing and branding is increasing in complexity.


Managing brands is becoming harder. There are increasing

channels to communicate in and, through globalisation, more markets and languages to compete in. The result is an exponentially expanding number of marketing assets, such as logos, images, brand guidelines, positioning documents and marketing materials to manage.

The proliferation of marketing channels is great for creating engagement with customers but causes headaches for brand managers trying to manage brand assets, protect their brands and ensure a unified message.

This can often lead to marketing production and management issues. Disjointed file management and manual processes for searching and distributing marketing materials lead to ad-hoc, inefficient processes.


A large percentage of global businesses today still store their digital assets on an FTP server, or worse, on individual hard drives, hugely reducing efficiency and meaning the opportunity for error is hugely increased. In fact, according to research by Gleanster, the average marketer without digital asset management technology will spend 35% of their time searching for assets.



“Any damn fool can put on a deal, but it takes genius, faith and perseverance to create a brand.”

David Ogilvy





Local markets creating their own 'home grown', less effective materials hurts revenue and can cause bottlenecks if only one or two people have the brand knowledge to advise others or approve work. This is bad for business.

For example, it is not unusual for companies to re-commission and reorder up to 10% of their images and assets which already exist because they cannot locate them or don't know of their existence. Millions of dollars each year can be saved in employee productivity and asset reuse if a digital asset management system is used.

In most cases the cost benefits of improving marketing productivity are enough to justify the investment in a digital asset management platform. Adding searchable access to digital content could save yet more.

Why use a digital asset management platform?

An online DAM platform makes the brand, its assets, and everything associated with communicating it's meaning available to those

responsible for building that brand. It is equally important for communications and marketing departments to understand how to express a brand and its messages as it is for every employee, supplier and external agency employed. A digital asset management system offers simple yet powerful tools to help brands communicate seamlessly, whoever is doing it.

Internally, a new manager can make decisions quicker if she is taught and experiences the fundamental (brand) values and what they strive to achieve.

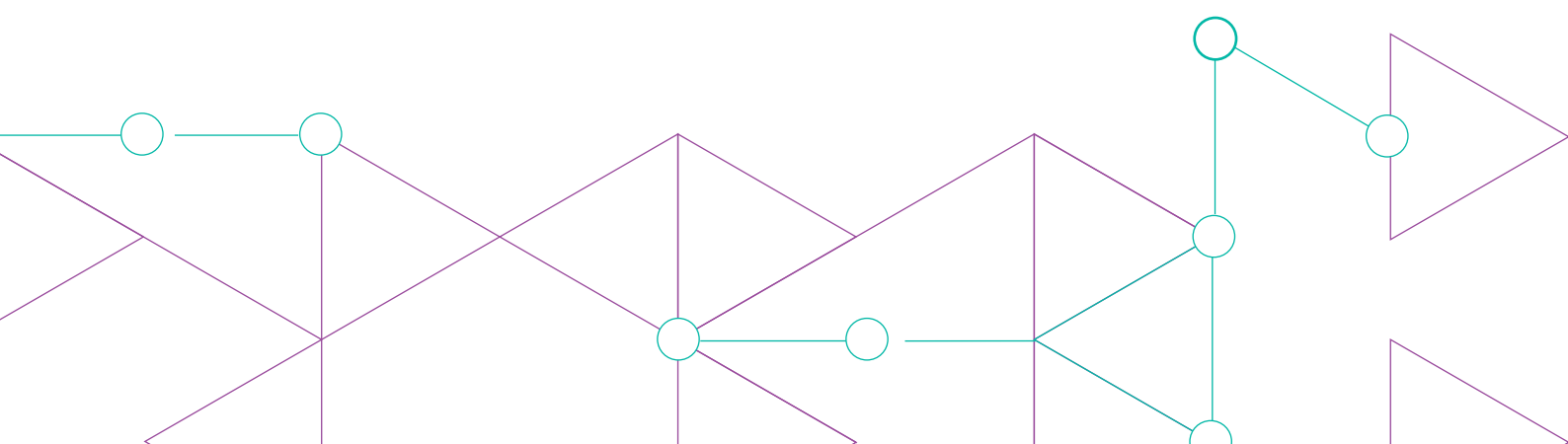
Externally, a marketing agency is empowered to produce better campaigns which truly further the product and company in the right way when it's crystal clear what the main differentiators are and the agency has easy access to all the right visual assets such as strategic positioning information, guidelines, logos, images and artworks.

A DAM system enables all parties to access the right brand materials at the right time and produce marketing communications consistent with the brand to maximize impact in the market.



Case Study

Our client JLL saved more than 10% of their stock photography budget by centralising the procurement process and making the images available in their digital asset management system. In addition they have seen clearer communication and strengthened brand consistency as the images are now curated by the global brand director.





By integrating the tools for greater brand consistency and efficient processes, significant ROI in marketing budgets can be achieved. Putting all your digital assets in a hosted digital asset management system and implementing Workflows and Web-to-Print technologies is the first and most important step in creating sustainable and cost effective brand management processes.

A good online digital asset management toolkit should enable you to:

a. Explain and justify your 'reason for being'

In a digital asset management platform your positioning documents, strategic communications documents, explanation of your 'Big Idea' are all available at the touch of a button to those who are making strategic business decisions or producing communications materials. The notion of a company having a Big Idea - a story behind why it exists and how this matters - is becoming

increasingly important. Consumers don't just want products: They want to connect on an emotional and ethical level. People always look for ways to belong, and brands are increasingly important in playing this role.

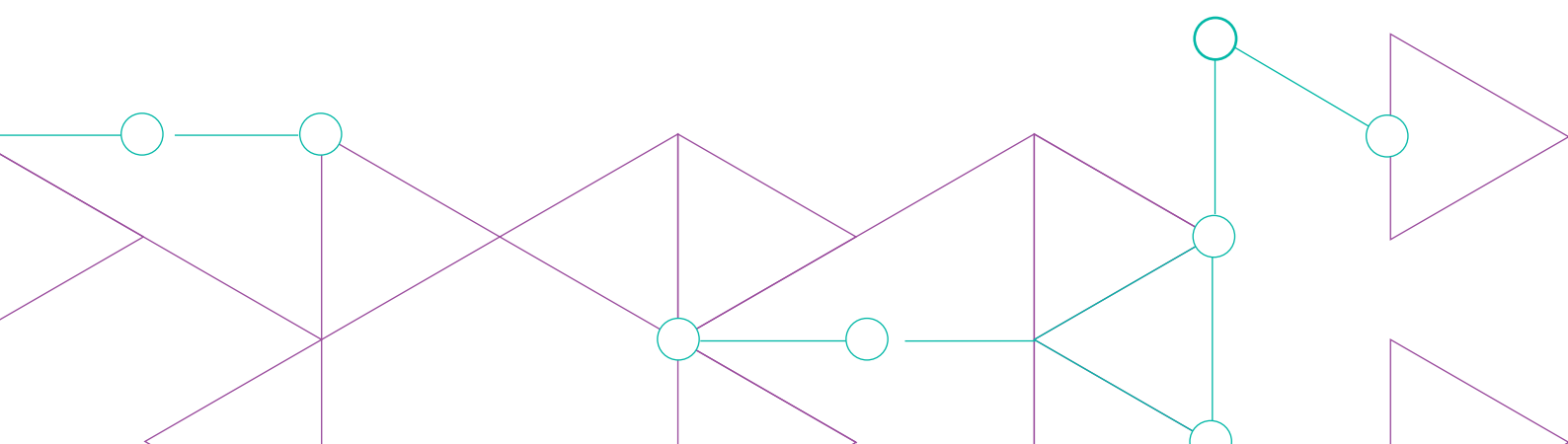
b. Ensure messaging and assets are communicated clearly and correctly

A digital asset management platform makes your visual guidelines and tools accessible online; including key messaging points used in all the various output produced every day by sales, marketing, PR, corporate communications and other departments. This also includes logos, images, videos, templates, etc. - typically referred to as DAM: Digital Asset Management. A good DAM system will ensure that brand assets can be automatically delivered in all the formats relevant to the need of the marketer. When everyone is using the same system and material, all communication reinforces the same core points.



Case Study

Red Bull's success is partly owed to their tightly managed brand and image, something that would be very hard to do without an online digital asset management system. Having a strong brand attracts investment and consumer interest, which in turn translates into sales and increased company valuation.





c. Create on-brand material at no or low cost

Recently, innovative technologies like Dynamic Templating and Web-to-Publish functionality allows employees, affiliates and licensees to customize and localize on-brand marketing collateral easily and effectively. These tools, supported by automated tutorials, best practices and approval workflow functionality, empowers you or your clients to save thousands of man-hours and can reduce on-brand asset creation costs by up to 80% overnight.

Return on Investment

With Brandworkz, clients see ROI in three areas: Strategic improvements and revenue growth, cost reduction and cost avoidance.

a. Strategic improvements and revenue growth

Clients see increased revenue through better marketing efficiency and higher employee productivity because marketing teams no longer spend much

of their time on manual admin tasks, such as asset searching and distribution, and are able to focus on strategic tasks. Understanding of brand guidelines and access to on-brand assets results in more consistent, on-brand verbal and visual messages.

Sharing of successful marketing materials or campaigns in Brandworkz means higher re-use of assets, less creation of local materials from scratch and less duplication of work. Overall our clients have seen reduced time to market by accelerating sales and partner enablement with toolkits, how-to videos and templates, and through faster creation and approval of marketing artwork.

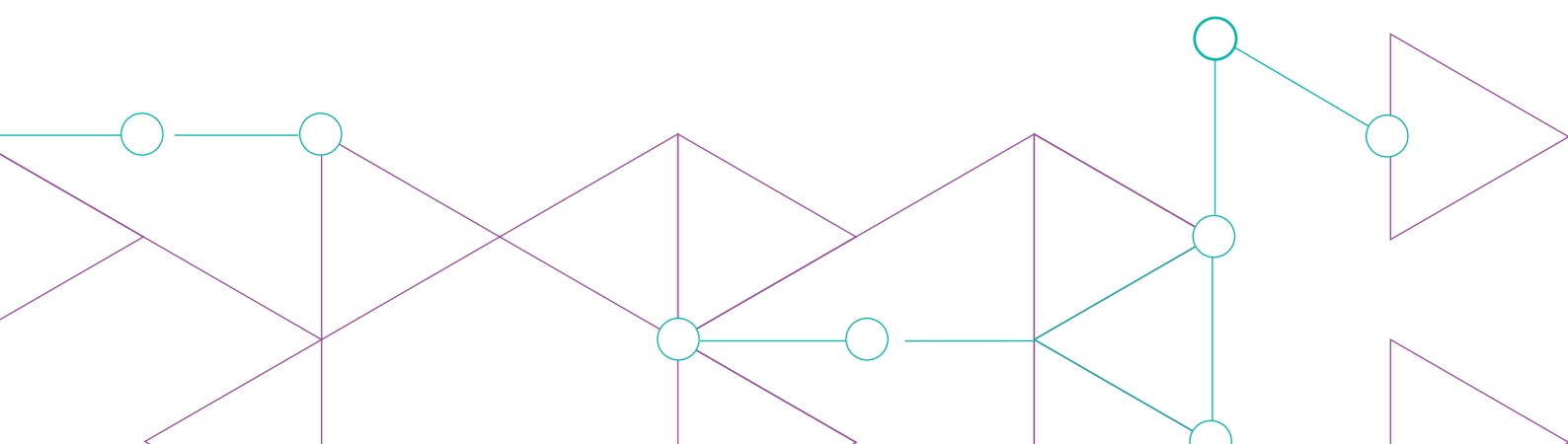
b. Cost Reduction


Brandworkz has created a Return on Investment (ROI) calculator which predicts the savings you could see using the system. Broken down into specific core activities, you will see how much you could save on your brand management costs using digital asset management.



Case Study

Our client Icebreaker is a \$100m outdoor clothing company. It has seen some major structural improvements from using Brandworkz. Icebreaker can boast an 80% take up of the system by all users and 25,000 downloads a month. If done manually, that would be equivalent of two people's jobs at a rough cost of \$100,000 per year. Ad hoc artwork requests from retailers have decreased ten-fold since POS-materials and tool kits have been made available in the system. Consistency is also increased as marketing materials and in-store POS for each new season's clothes collection are available for immediate download by retail outlets.





Whether these tasks are searching and distributing brand assets, updating brand guidelines or localising marketing artworks, variable fields in the ROI calculator allow the user to input their own information to receive as accurate an indication of savings as possible.

As a guide, the figure in year one is typically five to ten times your investment in Brandworkz. To try the ROI calculator for yourself, please contact: neil.monahan@brandworkz.com

c. Cost avoidance, security and compliance

Brandworkz avoids the risks and costs associated with lack of brand asset control. Many businesses find themselves inadvertently using assets past their license expiry date because they cannot be disabled. In addition, a digital asset management system minimises the risk of losing assets if your agency or printer goes down (e.g. liquidation or fire).

With Brandworkz there is less risk of leaking of sensitive and restricted assets because our granular permission-based system and security features restrict which users see what materials.

You will see a decrease in the purchasing of near-identical assets or images and a reduction in artworks which exist already being re-created by local markets. Print spends can be brought down by using a structured and centralised briefings, workflows and approval system and this also avoids costly production re-runs due to oversights in marketing material creation.

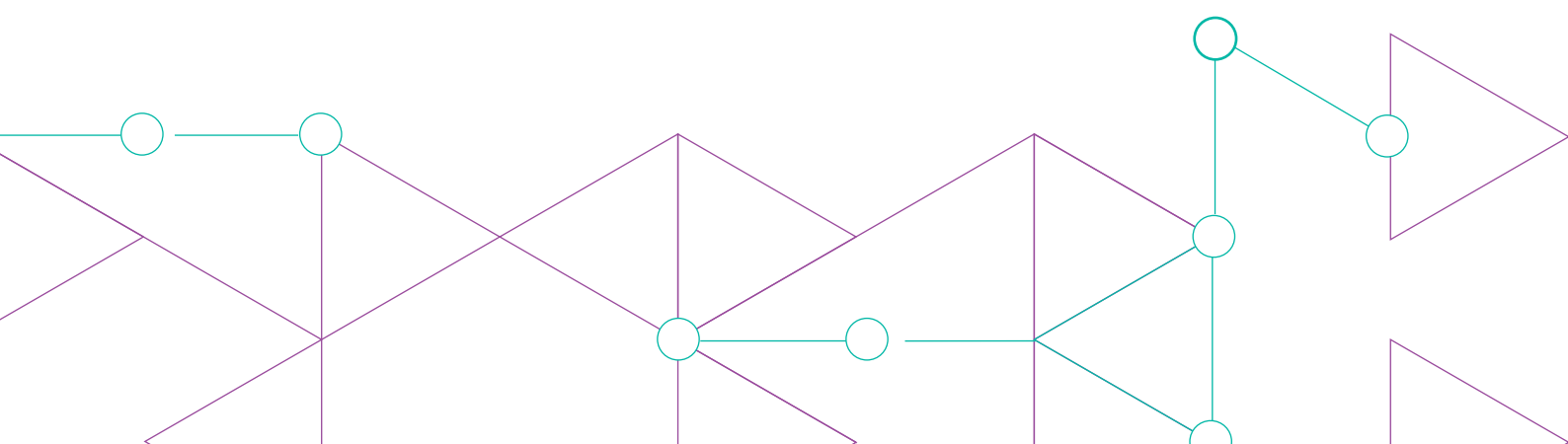
Conclusion

A digital asset management platform is a key factor in building successful and effective brands. By aligning internal teams behind your brand promise and empowering them to get hold of the digital assets they need to create consistent communications you drive up brand consistency and ultimately brand experience.



Case Study

Nike's customers understand what it stands for and buy into it because brand management is one of Nike's many strengths and has resulted in it becoming one of the world's most successful and highly valued companies. Why? Because the brand is the same every time its customers interact with it, wherever that is. Messaging, imagery, identity, brand values - they are consistent wherever and whenever you see the brand; nothing is left to chance. Everything is controlled by Nike's brand management team and their brand agency partners.





ABOUT BRANDWORKZ

Brandworkz is a digital asset management platform. It is the central hub of your marketing ecosystem that enables brand, marketing, customer service and any other internal teams to deliver a unified brand experience.

At Brandworkz we believe that it is possible to connect your whole workforce to your brand promise and by doing so to connect that brand promise to your consumers.


But there can be a disconnect in communication between internal teams within companies which means the brand promise sometimes doesn't get as far as the consumer and their

brand experience is not consistent. Brandworkz solves this problem by enabling businesses to:

Promote & educate by connecting internal teams to the brand promise.

Share & distribute the right content at the right time to connect with your consumers in multi-channels using industry-leading digital asset management.

Govern & automate by integrating and connecting your marketing software platforms together to enable consistent brand promotion.



Brandworkz
solves
connectivity
problems

For more information please go to www.brandworkz.com, follow us @brandworkzworld or search 'Brandworkz' on LinkedIn.



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