



MEDIA VENTURE COLLECTIVE

THE AMERICAN PROSPECT

IN THESE TIMES

Mother Jones  
SMART, FEARLESS JOURNALISM



the media consortium



The Progressive



THE Nation.

## Why we're here

- What Web opportunities can a group of like-minded sites coordinate, build and invigorate from the center?
- How can the Consortium support members in an increasingly complex Web advertising ecosystem?
- Can centralized and coordinated initiatives expand the revenue pie?

## What we heard and learned

- Wide range of ad sales experience across MC members
- Those that are not yet monetizing their Web business are interested in exploring how the Consortium can enhance speed to market and expand the revenue opportunity for members
- Those that are selling or marshalling new sales resources, are currently planning on extracting additional revenue from their Web businesses

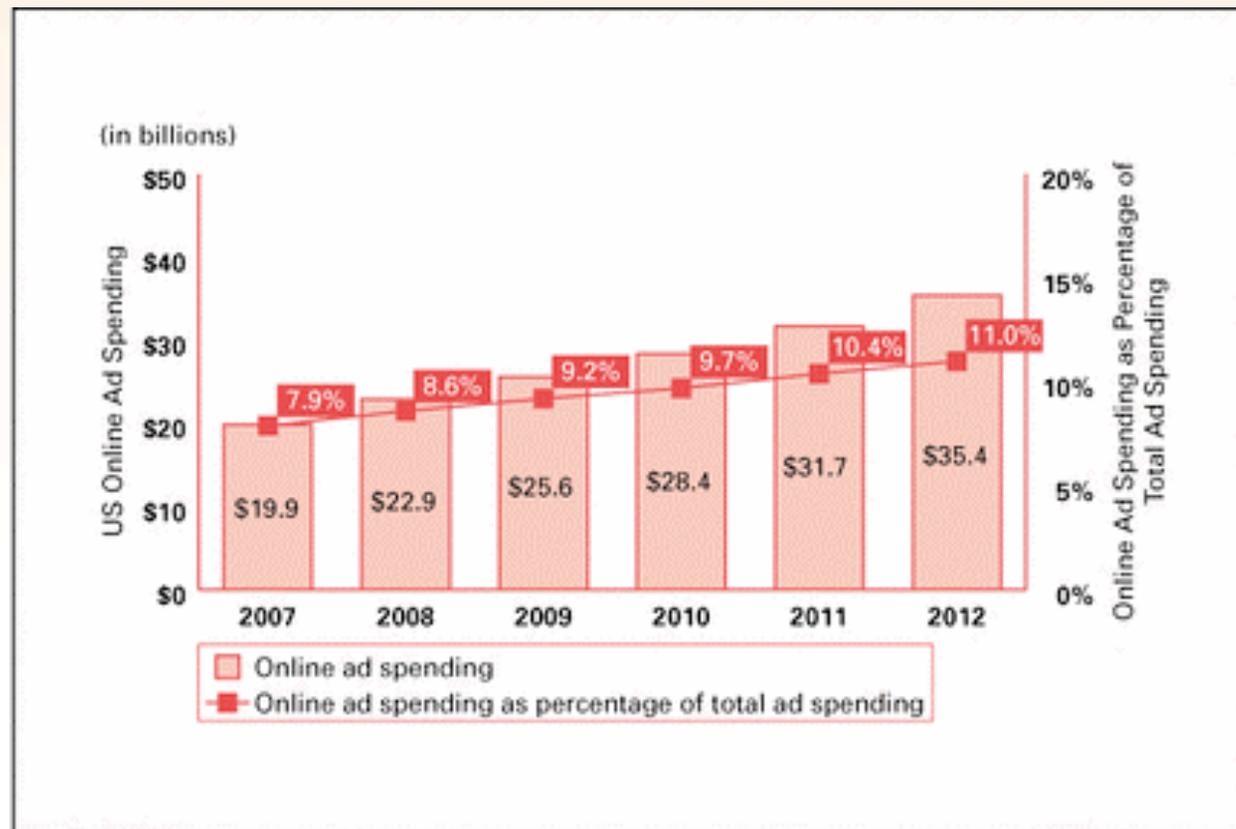
# What we will cover today

- Some background on the broad consumer ad market
- Our project focus and four key components



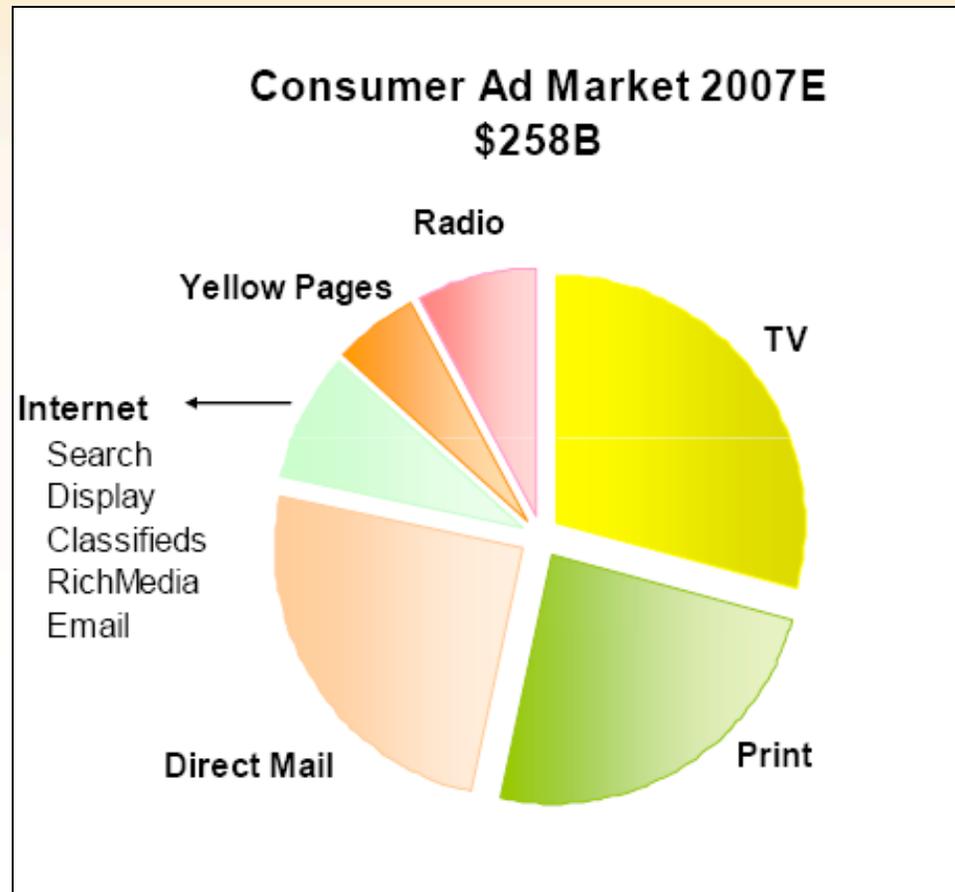
# Ad dollars are still moving online

Total online ad spending will increase from \$19.9 billion in 2007 to \$35.4 billion in 2012



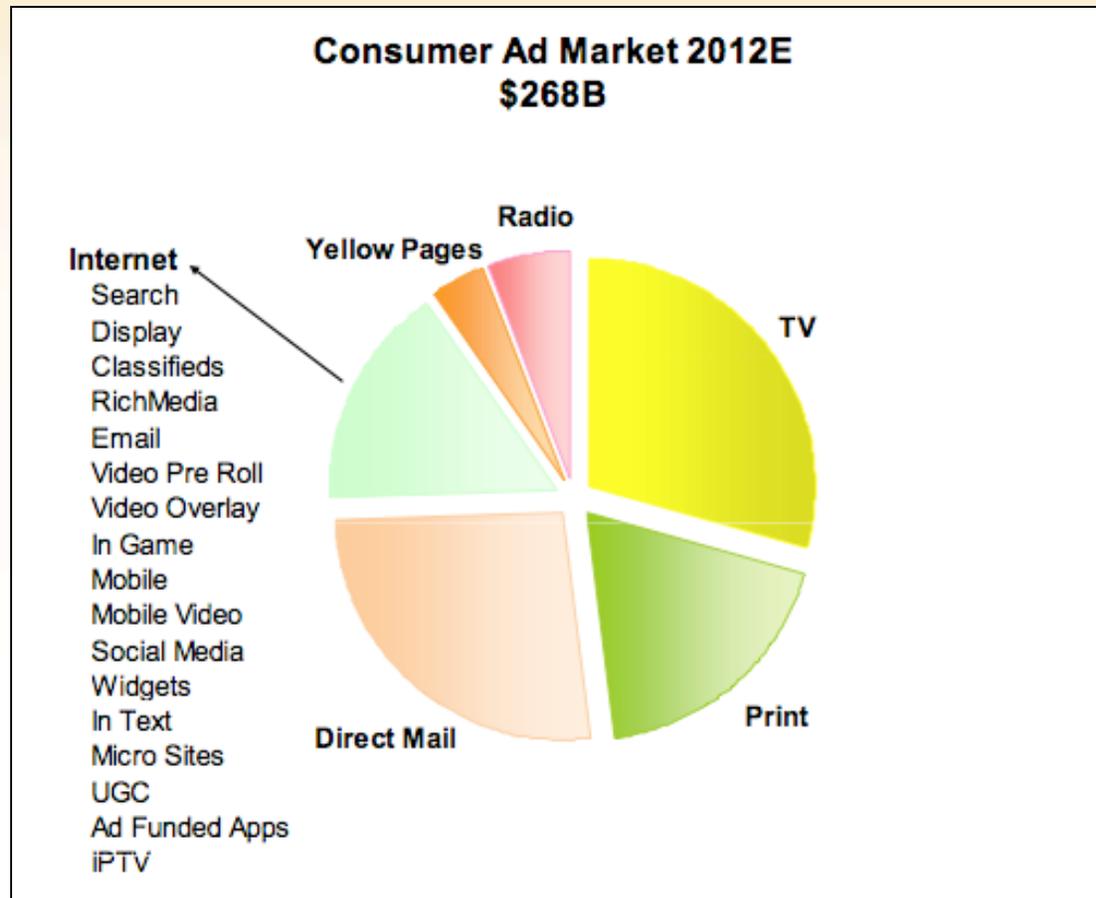
Source: JupiterResearch Internet Advertising Model, 6/07 (US only)  
© 2007 JupiterResearch, LLC, US Online Advertising Forecast, 2007 – 2012

# Media fragmentation: Today



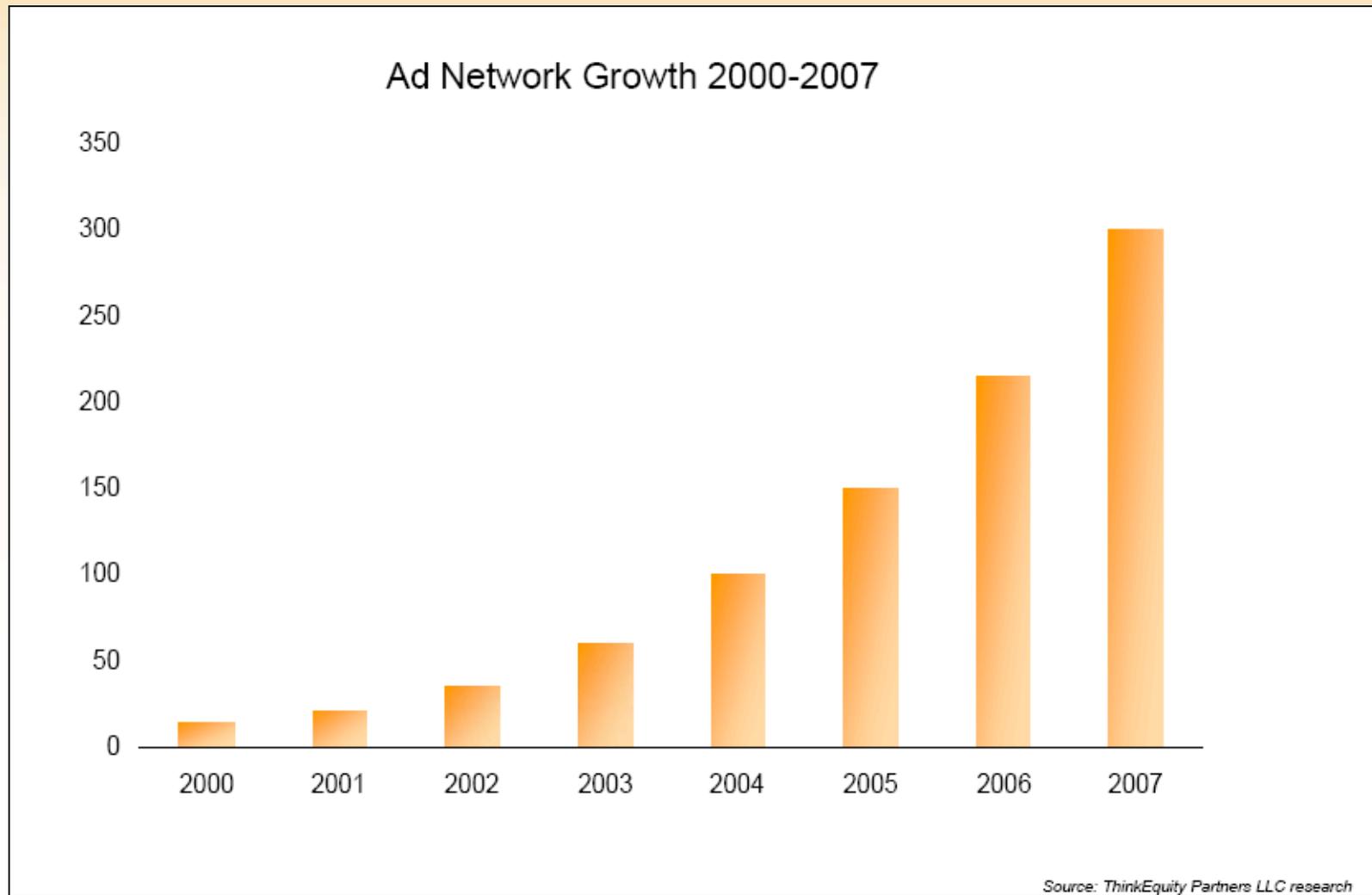
Source:McCann Erickson, IAB, and ThinkEquity Partners LLC research

# Media hyper-fragmentation: Tomorrow



Source: McCann Erickson, IAB, and ThinkEquity Partners LLC research

# One market response to fragmentation



# What is an ad network?

Aggregate and sell audiences on behalf of publishers to advertisers and agencies

## Formats

- Display
- Text
- In-Text
- Video
- Mobile
- In-Game
- Blog
- RSS
- Email
- Audio/Podcast
- Widgets

## Targeting

- Contextual
- Behavioral
- Demographic
- Geographic
- Site Specific
- **Vertical**

## Pricing

- CPM
- CPC
- CPL
- CPA

## Business Model

- Rev Share
- Arbitrage
- Rep Firm
- **Ad Exchanges**

# What does the ad network market look like?

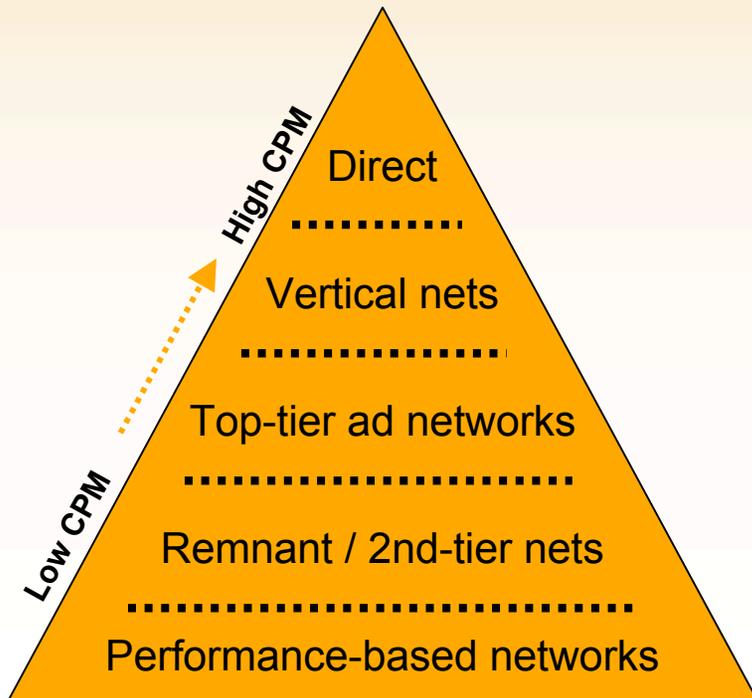


# Vertical networks are proliferating

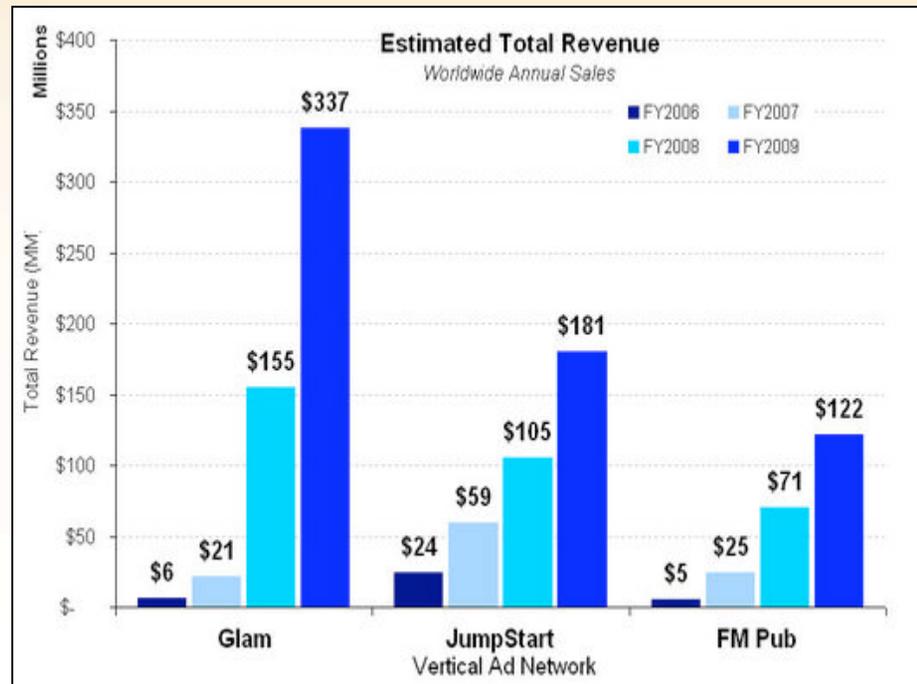


Source:McCann Erickson, IAB, and ThinkEquity Partners LLC research

# Why a vertical ad network?



Yield higher CPMs



Vertical Ad Nets Growing\*

\* Source: Estimates from personal blog of Adify's GM corporate development, based on filings, public data and other sources.

# Benefits of a vertical ad network

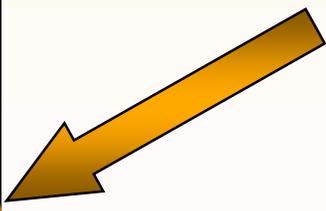
Scale enables Consortium publishers to compete for seat at table

**U.S. Online Advertising Revenues\* at Top Four Portals As a Percent of Total Online Advertising Spending, 2004-2007**

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Google	13.1%	19.2%	25.0%	32.1%
Yahoo!	18.4%	19.4%	18.3%	18.7%
AOL	6.8%	7.2%	7.5%	9.1%
MSN	9.4%	7.8%	6.7%	6.8%
<b>Total for top four portals</b>	<b>47.8%</b>	<b>53.7%</b>	<b>57.4%</b>	<b>66.6%</b>

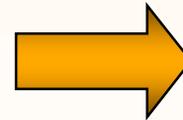
*Note: Numbers may not add up to total due to rounding; \*net of traffic acquisition costs [TAC]*  
*Source: company reports, 2004-2007; eMarketer calculations, February 2007*

www.eMarketer.com



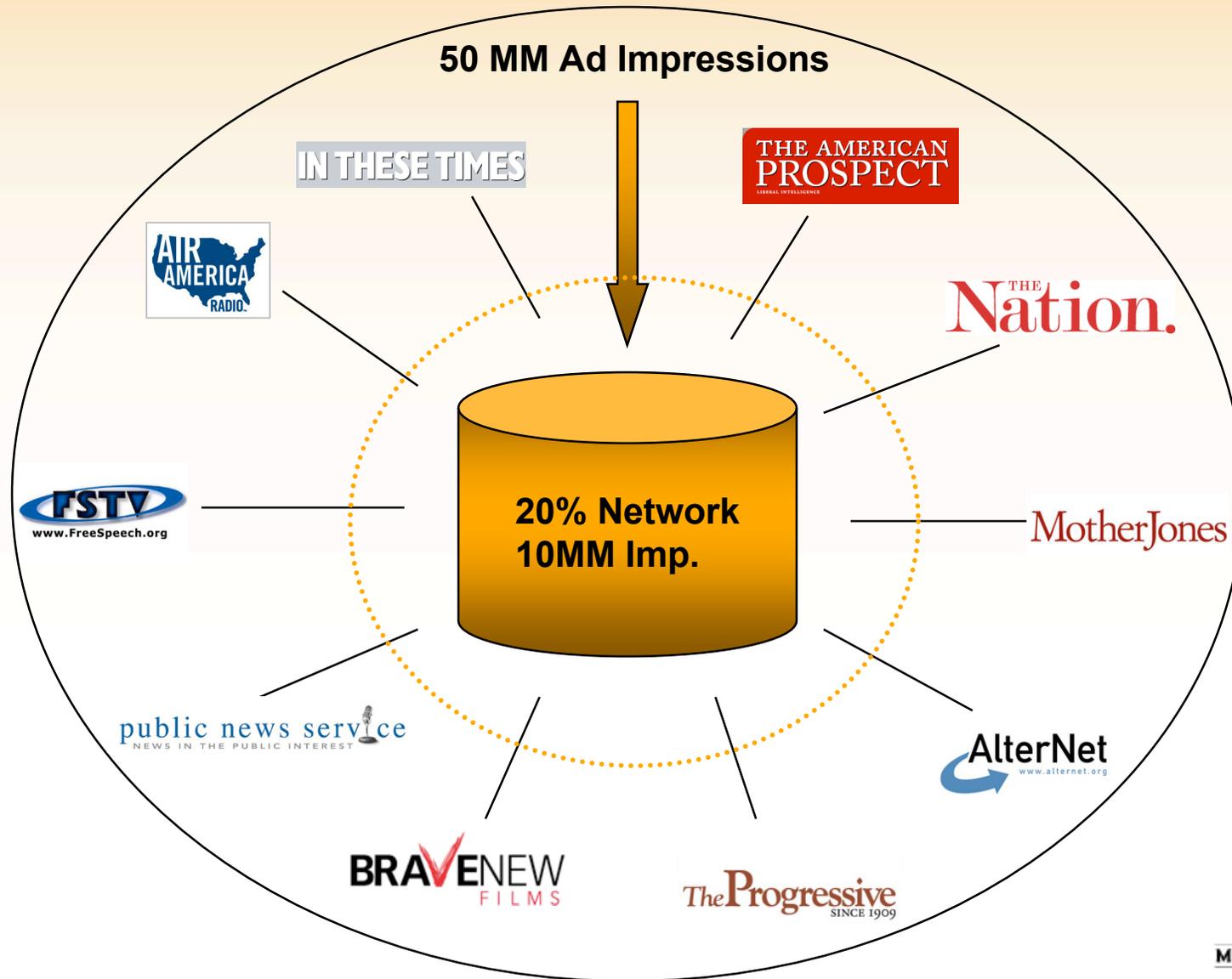
## To capitalize on this opportunity:

- Better define your endemic category to build comparative strength of your audience against an advertisers need
- Provide better scale for the advertisers that publishers can not land without aggregation

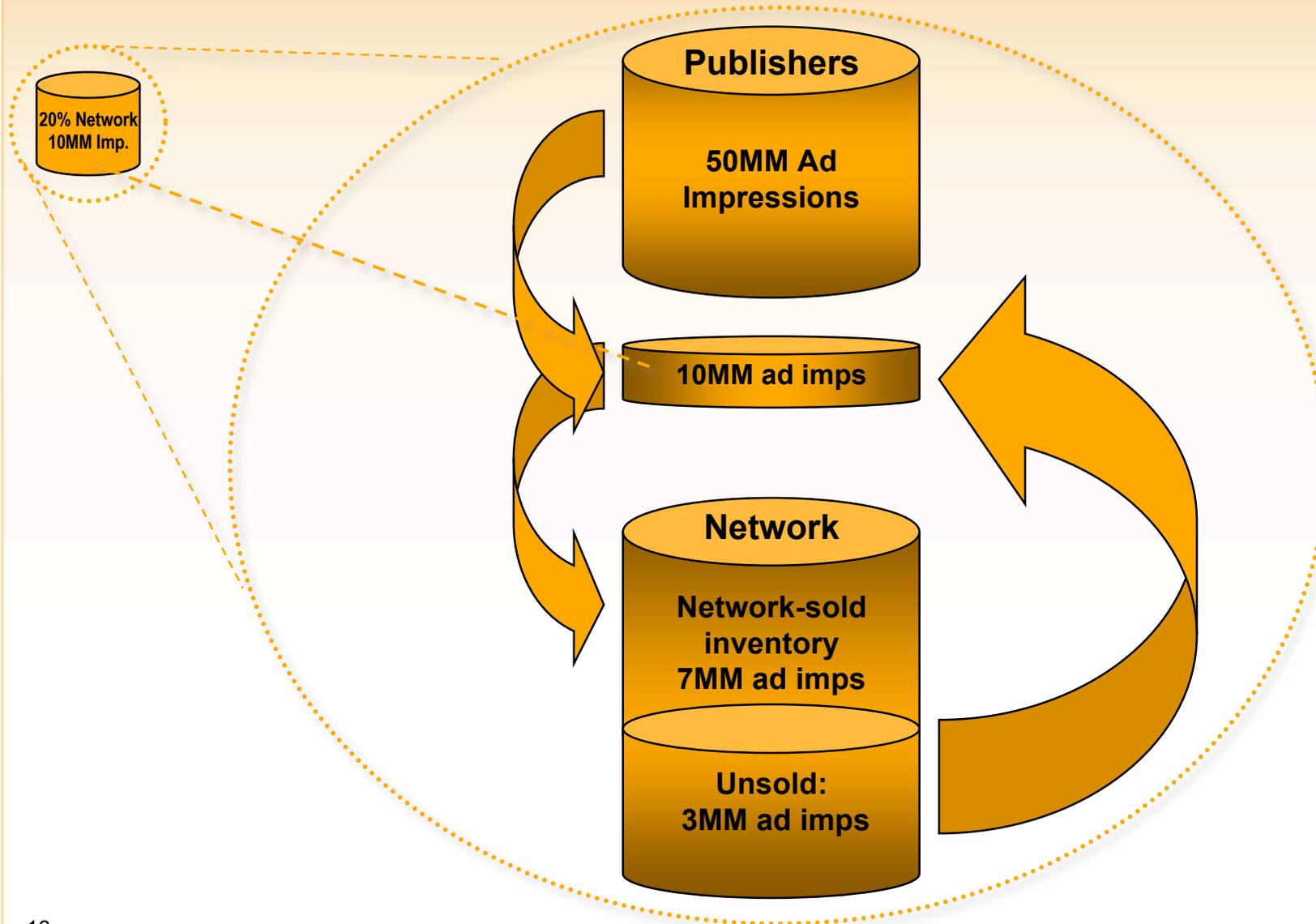


Source: Adify Website

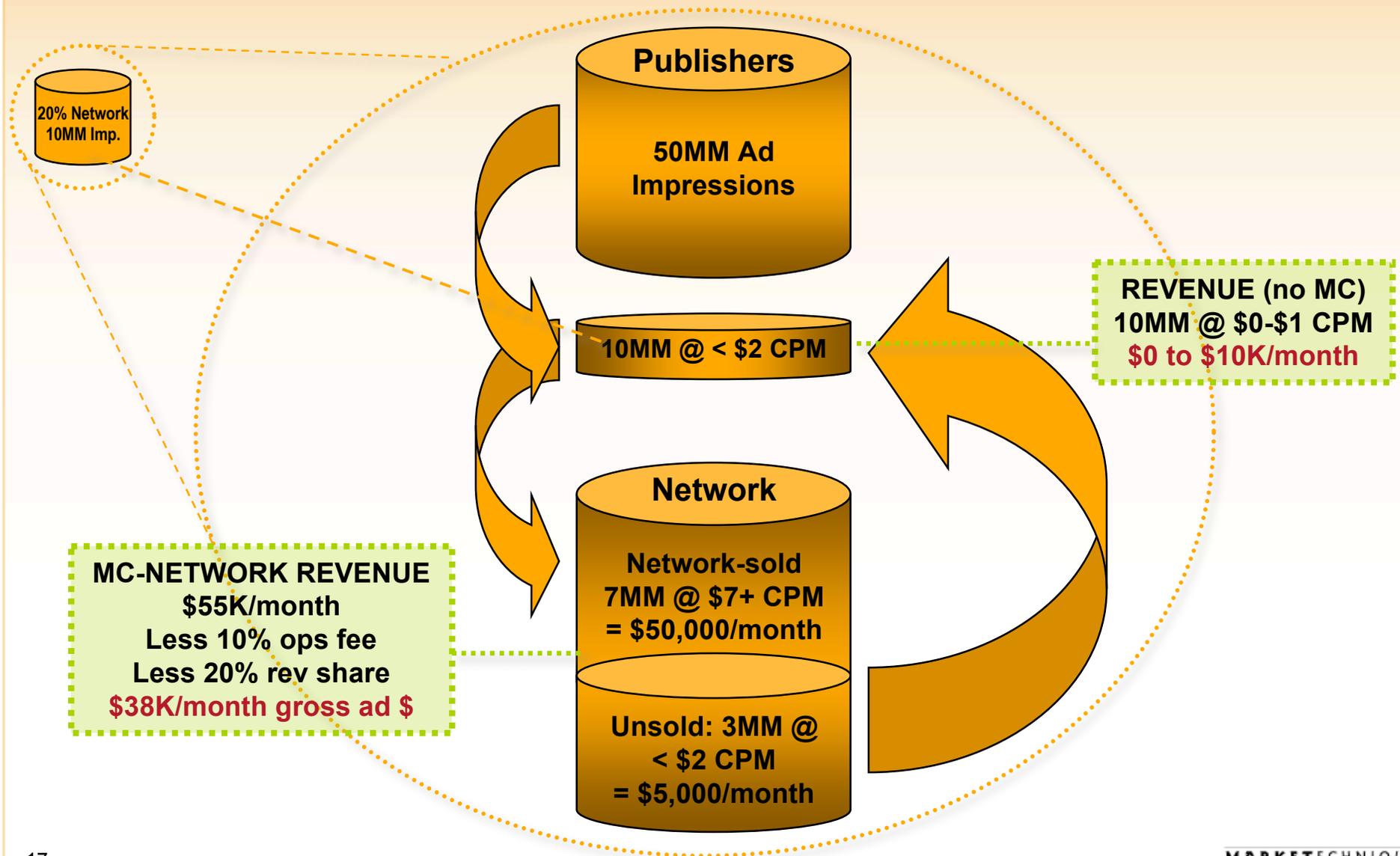
# The network: hub and spoke



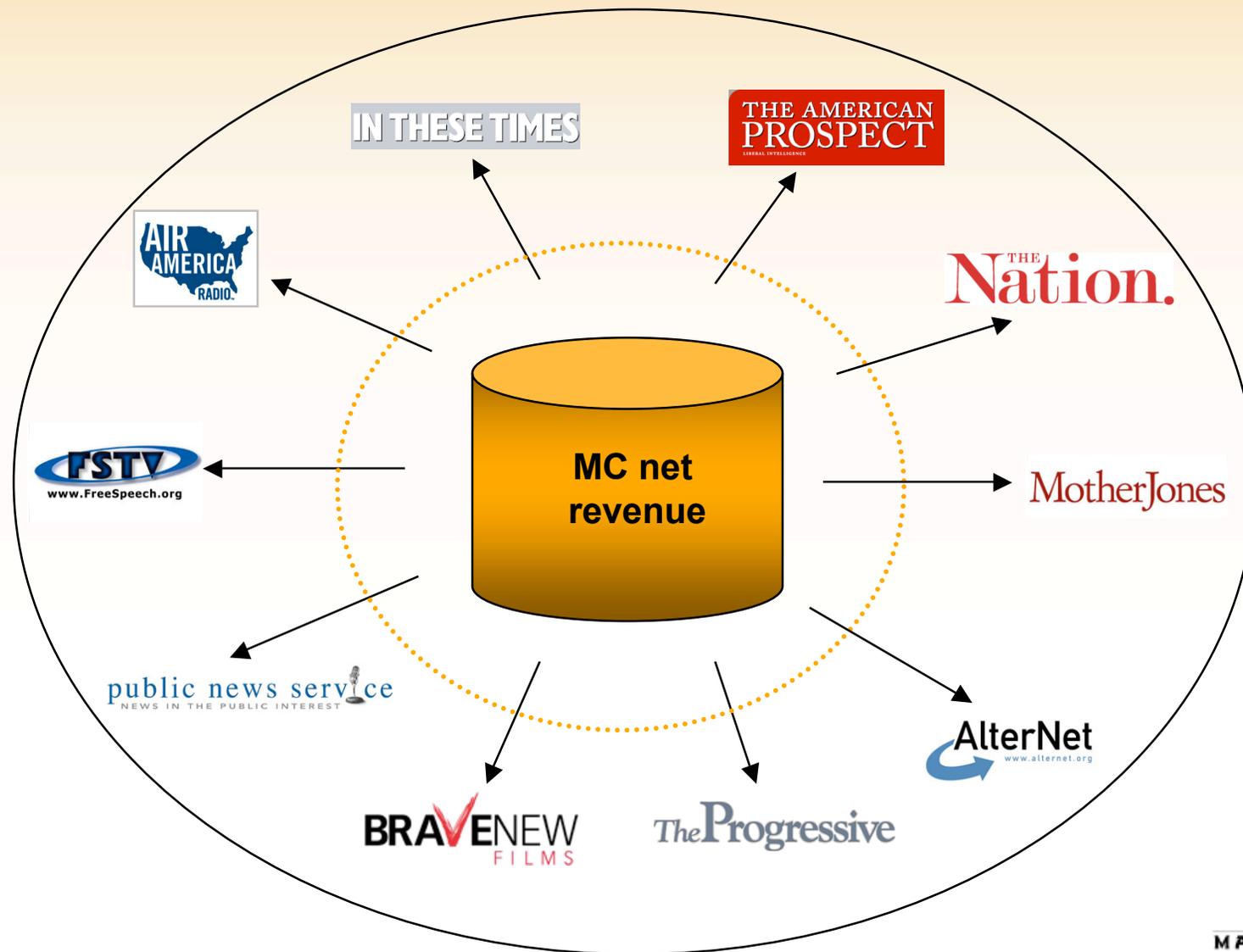
# Network impression model



# Revenue comparison



# Revenue share to network publishers



# We're exploring several options

- Vertical Ad Network
  - Create your own and partner with Vertical Network Platform service Vendor (e.g., Adify) – “Owned and Operated”
  - Partner with existing vertical network or rep firm network such as Federated Media or Tribal Fusion
  - Partner with inventory aggregator (e.g., Google, Yahoo!)
- Centralized aggregation of some inventory
  - Improved deal terms and rev-sharing splits
- Coordinated Major Account Initiative
  - A co-op corporate-sales-like effort allowing members to band together for multi-site ad packages/centralized negotiations

# What do you need to be a network?

- Audience** (+ advertiser market)
- Define an endemic audience
  - Comparative strength of that audience against an advertisers need
- Unique Views      Page Views      ECommerce
- 

- Scale**
- Unduplicated size (UV's)
  - Page views / ad impressions
- 

- Sales**
- Sales development 'hook'
  - Sales staff and resources
- 

- Operations**
- Central guidelines
  - 1-3 IAB-approved ad units above-the-fold
  - Technology resources
  - Coordination and management

## Why a vertical ad net infrastructure partner?

- Help you understand your ad market opportunity
- Manage what publishers are in your network
- Support your publisher enlistment process
- Advise on pricing and outlining inventory
- Create an automated marketplace
- Full-service ad-serving back-end
- Campaign management
- Billing and payments
- Low set up costs

# Final Thoughts & Next Steps

- Apparent opportunity for ad revenue but questions remain
  - Cost of sales
  - Strength of audience against advertiser segments
- Phased approach is strategic best practice for Consortium
  - Additional planning suggested
  - Additional research likely requirement

## **Next Steps**

- Marketechnique to deliver final report in 3 – 4 weeks
- Identify potential for further member research
  - Top 20 advertiser list
  - Data gathering on audience statistics
  - Deeper marketplace interviews (agencies, clients)
- Gain consensus on phased approach to digital strategy

## Contact

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