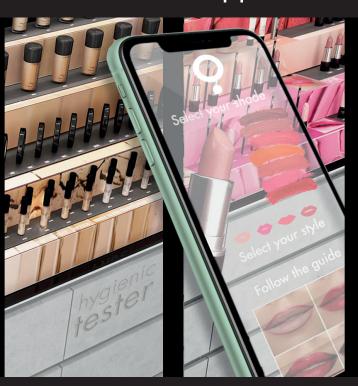
OMMI CHARNEL EXPERIENCE

Creating a cohesive omni channel brand experience across market sectors to meet the needs of shoppers







The aim of an omni channel campaign is to give the shopper the ability to experience brands and products with equal levels of engagement and excitement. This allows them to seamlessly switch between formats and channels, and have a uniform impression of not only what the brand is, but also what it can be.

Although there is much discussion about the challenges facing traditional bricks and mortar stores, we need to be clear about what is happening - online **is** competing against physical stores and traditional retail can't ignore the fast moving digital age. The retail space is evolving where new and exciting concepts have the platform to develop and expand rapidly.

Brands merchandised in physical stores need to explore and develop the crucial interactions between shoppers and products at a rapid rate to meet the needs of a modern, tech savy market.

As we drive forward in the digital retail age, we still crave the experience and the destination of a physical store environment, however our expectation of the way in which we interact with brands in this space is much greater than in the past. We want to not only see the product presented in an innovative and exciting way where we can touch and feel it, we also want to fall in love with the brand and become a part of its future.





The physical space in which products exist needs to drive shoppers' instinctive search for newness. Not only new products but new ways in which to experience and interact with them. We expect innovation to be at the heart of everything we see. We want it quickly and for it to be constantly changing, updating and evolving.

Digital is the catalyst for this change and it allows us to experience products everywhere and anywhere. We search for products online, we watch influencers show us how to use our favourite brands, we buy from websites, we search social media channels for new launches and we use digital media to comment on our experiences along the way. The key to this is that we engage with products and brands in a dynamic way where everything is mobile, not static or linear. It is not at set times nor in a particular order. We interact with digital content as we go about our day and as we do this, the line between the digital and physical space is constantly being blurred.

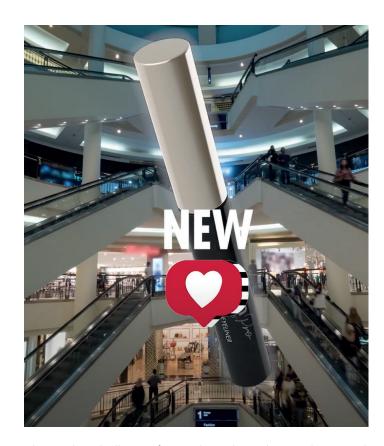


The path to purchase from like to checkout needs to be the same online and in-store.

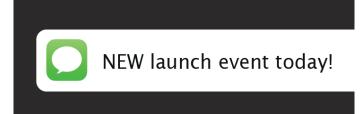
This merging, overlapping and fusion of influences means that traditional digital media and physical store environments need to present brands and products in alignment, with the same level of engagement and excitement

Have you ever watched an amazing YouTube clip of a product and then seen the same product in-store on an empty shelf with some outdated printed collateral? Equally have you been in-store and seen a product presented in an amazing way and then searched online and found that you are left feeling underwhelmed from a pixelated thumbnail image?





This is the challenge facing brands in the modern retail market where traditional channels and the ways in which brands populate them has changed and will continue to do so. The key is in being adaptive and creating exciting brand experiences that have consistency in the way in which shoppers interact, both digitally and physically.



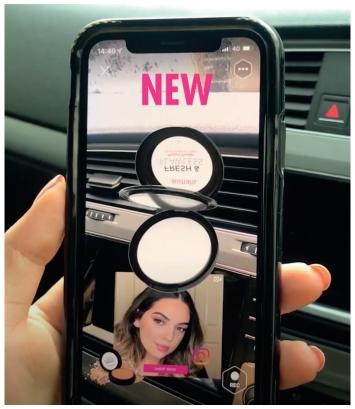
REAL EXCITEMENT IS IN THE UNKNOWN

Opportunities exist to build upon this current state of flux by generating disruptive, immersive content and engage shoppers in new ways.

People won't just switch to digital and stay at home buying products and eaually they won't return to the 'good old days' of traditional retail.

There is enormous potential for the future of retail and we need to adopt an exciting new approach that will allow brands to capitalise on new opportunities via a multitiered strategy. We don't look at digital and physical as separate entities but as complimentary parts of the same puzzle.

Take your brand, or even a whole category, and generate digital content that can be used to populate websites, social media channels or an interactive element instore. This process carries over to physical displays and store environments so that the same look and feel can be applied and the same features can be promoted. The process of unboxing the product and glorifying its features can be aligned across formats and through different shopper experiences.



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The beauty of this is that the process can be developed simultaneously so that each format can be launched to meet a key date, or structured to meet different key stages in an omni-marketing strategy. It can also be developed globally or modified locally to meet the needs of a different market.

The aim is to create something special. Something remarkable that makes you stop, look and think about what a brand can be physically, digitally and virtually.

THE AIM IS TO CREATE SOMETHING SPECIAL.

SOMETHING REMARKABLE.

As technology becomes faster and more reactive, traditional retail will need to adapt to stay relevant and ultimately to stay afloat.

With COVID-19 creating a momentus impact on many areas of society, the effects on retail will be significant.

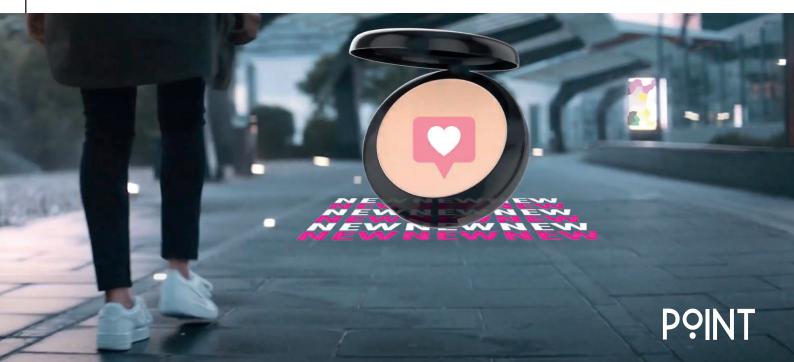
Brands and retailers now need to innovate in order to create unique experiences that exist beyond the 4 walls of a store and disrupt shoppers throughout the journey.

The team at PoINT have developed a teaser that explores the day in the life of a typical shopper and highlights the needs of the industry to meet the expectations of the market. See the video here.

Get in touch to discover more - hello@pointretail.com



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CASE STUDY: THE RISE OF AR

The technology for AR has been around a long time however it isn't until recently that it has become more accessible to the wider market

We have all seen AR examples for games, brand promotions and other interactive applications but current uptake has been limited.

The potential for AR is enormous and as it becomes mainstream, our devices will allow us to interact with these experiences without the barrier of downloading apps. Only then will AR become truly integrated into our daily life and retail environment.

The time has come, with the global tech companies investing heavily in AR, that soon it will be easy to interact with this augmented layer of engagement without the barriers we face today.



The new iphone experience in AR

Image courtesy of Apple



Image copyright PoINT Retail 2020

Apple has the world's largest AR platform, with hundreds of millions of AR-enabled devices, and with the rumoured release of Apple Glasses this year, the seamless integration of AR will be complete. Watch the Apple video.

Google's interface is easy to use and launch through your phone browser giving you easy and direct access to multi layered content for discovery and education. Try it out! Search for dog, duck or tiger or see a list of a number of other examples here. Link to Google AR.







This White Paper is endorsed by Shop! Australia and New Zealand

Shop! is the only global, not for profit industry association exclusively advocating for excellence in shopper marketing and retail experience.

The Australian and New Zealand chapter of Shop! (previously POPAI) was founded in 1996 and offers events, networking and an annual Awards program dedicat-

ed to the disciplines that make up the retail marketing sector.

With 17 offices covering 45 countries and over 1700 member companies worldwide, Shop! brings global best practice intelligence, resources, recognition and networks and to our members. www.shopassociation.org.au "



