### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

(WV Division of Tourism-Website Design and Development)

# Attachment B: Mandatory Specification Checklist

List mandatory specifications contained in Section 4, Subsection .5:

Section 4, Subsection 5.1: Hosting facility must guarantee up-time of 99.5% with 24 hour customer service, security, backup, and connectivity.

Vendor Response: Yes, per Attachment A, Section 4.7.

Section 4, Subsection 5.2: The Agency will retain complete ownership or a perpetual software license to all scripts and/or code required for the full operation of the website. At the termination of this contract, any such materials will be returned to the Agency without demand.

Vendor Response: Yes, we agree to this.

Section 4, Subsection 5.3: The Vendor will be permitted to subcontract(s) with any other party for furnishing any of the services needed to build, create, operate, etc. a website for the Agency. Should the Agency wish to utilize services to implement a new website that may or may not be provided by the Vendor herein, at the Agency's request, the Vendor will subcontract these services. The cost for providing such assistance shall be in accordance with the cost estimates set forth in Attachment "C" hereto. The Agency has the final approval of all subcontracts.

Vendor Response: Yes, we agree to this.

Section 4, Subsection 5.4: At the request of the Agency, the Vendor will travel to and from the Agency offices, and travel related expenses incurred, are the responsibility of the Vendor and not reimbursable.

Vendor Response: Yes, we agree to this.

Section 4, Subsection 5.5: Prior to the commencement of work on any project, the Vendor will provide the Agency with cost estimates to include personnel hours, outsourced services, materials and any other related expenses. The cost for providing such assistance will be in accordance with the cost estimates set forth in Attachment "C" hereto.

Vendor Response: Yes, we agree to this.

Section 4, Subsection 5.6: Nothing in this contract will prevent the Agency from utilizing in-house resources.

Vendor Response: Yes, we agree to this:

04/28/15 11:40:52 W Purchasing Division

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

### (WV Division of Tourism-Website Design and Development)

Section 4, Subsection 5.7: When contacted by the Agency Commissioner or his or her project designees, the Vendor will be available via electronic communication or by telephone by the parties listed above.

Vendor Response: Yes, we agree to this.

Section 4, Subsection 5.8: Upon the contract expiration, the Vendor will exercise its best efforts and cooperation to effect an orderly and efficient transition of all Agency assets owned by the Agency to a successor, successor being either the Agency or another Vendor.

Vendor Response: Yes, we agree to this.

Section 4, Subsection 5.9: The Vendor must provide services contained in this contract to any division within the West Virginia Department of Commerce at the request of said division.

Vendor Response: Yes, we agree to this.

Section 4, Subsection 5.10: The Vendor will include an estimated timeline for development, testing and live site.

Vendor Response: Yes, we will do this.

By signing below, I certify that I have reviewed this Request for Proposal in its entirety; understand the requirements, terms and conditions, and other information contained herein; that I am submitting this proposal for review and consideration; that I am authorized by the bidder to execute this bid or any documents related thereto on bidder's behalf; that I am authorized to bind the bidder in a contractual relationship; and that, to the best of my knowledge, the bidder has properly registered with any State agency that may require registration.

Influent50	
(Company)	
Dave Austin (Representative Name, Title)	Managing Director,
202-434-7565,	202-434-6980
(Contact Phone/Fax Number)	
4-24-2015	
(Date)	

# ADDENDUM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM SOLICITATION NO.: CRFP 0304 TORI 50000005

Instructions: Please acknowledge receipt of all addenda issued with this solicitation by completing this addendum acknowledgment form. Check the box next to each addendum received and sign below. Failure to acknowledge addenda may result in bid disqualification.

Acknowledgment: I hereby acknowledge receipt of the following addenda and have made the necessary revisions to my proposal, plans and/or specification, etc.

<u>Addend</u>	um	Numbers Received:			
		oox next to each addendum	receive	d)	
		Addendum No. 1	[	]	Addendum No. 6
[	√j	Addendum No. 2	[	]	Addendum No. 7
[	]	Addendum No. 3	]	]	Addendum No. 8
[	)	Addendum No. 4	[	]	Addendum No. 9
[	]	Addendum No. 5	[	]	Addendum No. 10

I understand that failure to confirm the receipt of addenda may be cause for rejection of this bid. I further understand that any verbal representation made or assumed to be made during any oral discussion held between Vendor's representatives and any state personnel is not binding. Only the information issued in writing and added to the specifications by an official addendum is binding.

Company

Authorized Signature

4-24-2015

Date

NOTE: This addendum acknowledgement should be submitted with the bid to expedite document processing. Revised 6/8/2012

RFQ No. CRFD TORIS

#### STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA Purchasing Division

#### **PURCHASING AFFIDAVIT**

MANDATE: Under W. Va. Code \$5A-3-10a, no contract or renewal of any contract may be awarded by the state or any of its political subdivisions to any vendor or prospective vendor when the vendor or prospective vendor or a related party to the vendor or prospective vendor is a debtor and: (1) the debt owed is an amount greater than one thousand dollars in the apprepate; or (2) the debtor is in employer default.

**EXCEPTION:** The prohibition listed above does not apply where a vendor has contested any tax administered pursuant to chapter eleven of the W. Va. Code, workers' compensation premium, permit fee or environmental fee or assessment and the matter has not become final or where the vendor has entered into a payment plan or agreement and the vendor is not in default of any of the provisions of such plan or agreement.

#### DEFINITIONS:

"Debt" means any assessment, premium, penalty, fine, tax or other amount of money owed to the state or any of its political subdivisions because of a judgment, fine, permit violation, license assessment, defaulted workers' compensation premium, penalty or other assessment presently delinquent or due and required to be paid to the state or any of its political subdivisions, including any interest or additional penalties accrued thereon.

"Employer default" means having an outstanding balance or liability to the old fund or to the uninsured employers' fund or being in policy default, as defined in W. Va. Code § 23-20-2, failure to maintain mandatory workers' compensation coverage, or failure to fully meet its obligations as a workers' compensation self-insured employer. An employer is not in employer default if it has entered into a repayment agreement with the insurance Commissioner and remains in compliance with the obligations under the repayment agreement.

"Related party" means a party, whether an individual, corporation, partnership, association, limited liability company or any other form or business association or other entity whatsoever, related to any vendor by blood, marriage, ownership or contract through which the party has a relationship of ownership or other interest with the vendor so that the party will actually or by effect receive or control a portion of the benefit, profit or other consideration from performance of a vendor contract with the party receiving an amount that meets or exceed five percent of the total contract amount.

AFFIRMATION: By signing this form, the vendor's authorized signer affirms and acknowledges under penalty of law for false awarding (W. Vs. Code §61-5-3) that neither vendor nor any related party owe a debt as defined above and that neither vendor nor any related party are in employer default as defined above, unless the debt or employer default is permitted under the exception above.

WITNESS THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURE:			
Vendor's Name: AARP Services I	nc.		
Authorized Signaturer		Date: 4/27/15	
State of District of Columbia		' (	
Taken, subscribed, and sworn to before me this did	ivor April	, 20_(\$	3
My Commission expires // 14/2017	, 20,		
AFFIX SEAL HERE	NOTARY PUBLIC _	Nadine	D. Silek
The state of the s			wit (Revised 07/01/2012)
All the second of the second o			

The state of the s

NADINE D. SILER
MOTARY PUBLIC DISTRICT OF COLUMNIA
MAY Commission Expires January 14, 2217

#### CERTIFICATIONAND SIGNATURE PAGE

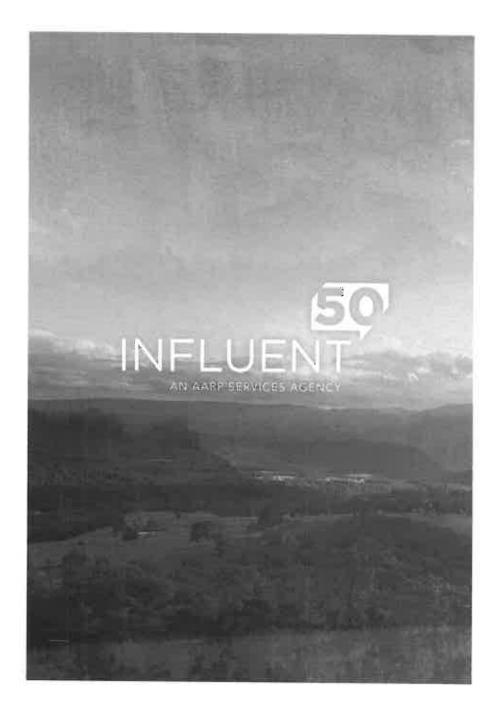
By signing below, or submitting documentation through wvOASIS, I certify that I have reviewed this Solicitation in its entirety; understand the requirements, terms and conditions, and other information contained herein; that I am submitting this bid, offer or proposal for review and consideration; that I am authorized by the vendor to execute and submit this bid, offer, or proposal, or any documents related thereto on vendor's behalf; that I am authorized to bind the vendor in a contractual relationship; and that to the best of my knowledge, the vendor has properly registered with any State agency that may require registration.

Wauthorized Signature) (Representative Name, Title)

202-434-7565, 202-434-6580 4-24-2015

(Phone Number)

(Phone Number) (Fax Number) (Date)



### **RFP Subject:**

WV Division of Tourism—
Website Design & Development

**RFP Number:** 

CRFP 0304 TOR1500000005

Vendor Name: Influent50

Business Address: 650 F Street NW, Washington, DC 20004

**Telephone:** 202-434-7569

Fax: 202-434-6980

Contact: Dave Austin

Email: daustin@influent50.com

Signature

Date: 4-2)-15

# HERE WE DREAM AND BEGIN AGAIN.

AN EXCERPT FROM "A SONG FOR WEST VIRGINIA" BY MARC HARSHMAN.



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# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

3.1 Company Description, history and years of experience related to the development and design of a destination marketing website.

# **Attachment A, 3.1 Company Description**



#### **Company Description**

Influent50 (I50) is a full-service marketing agency grounded in data insights and research that enable us to reach and engage with our Client's optimal audience segment. We offer a full range of capabilities from strategic planning and creative development to campaign management and reporting.

As a division of AARP Services, Inc., (ASI), a for-profit wholly owned subsidiary of AARP, we have access to AARP's data and research, and key brands such as expedia.com, Avis Budget Group, Hilton, and Norwegian Cruise Lines—which has helped us develop our understanding of the travel category. The other division of ASI is responsible for quality control and oversight of providers of AARP endorsed products.

Most recently, Influent50 has developed successful campaigns for Hyatt, Hilton, Grand European Travel, Collette Travel and Avis Budget Group.

# **Attachment A, 3.1 Company Description**



### **Influent50 Capabilities**

Data & Analytics: Knowing Your Audience	Understand via Research & Insights	Other Engage through Design & Implementation
<ul> <li>Modeling &amp; Targeting</li> <li>Universe Sizing &amp; Segmentation</li> <li>Reporting &amp; Measurement, ROI Analysis &amp; Program Optimization</li> <li>Database &amp; File Management</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Insights based on behavioral and psychographic data sources</li> <li>Qualitative and quantitative customized research—Study designs ranging from traditional surveys to mobile ethnography</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Marketing strategies</li> <li>Branding, messaging &amp; positioning</li> <li>Advertising, direct marketing &amp; digital marketing</li> <li>Mobile/social media channel strategies &amp; design</li> <li>Customer development and retention strategy</li> </ul>

I50 launched in 2014 and has built a team of 35 marketing professionals with many years of database marketing and advertising experience. With regard to website design, below offers a sampling of sites that the team has worked on in current\* and previous\*\* positions:

MyMedicareMatters.org\*
Bahamas.com (specifically trip wizard)\*\*
Zytiga.com\*\*
Belsomra.com\*\*

Repistory.com\*\*
Blackboard.com\*\*
Youngscientistchallenge.com\*\*
Brilliantceilings.com\*\*
AARPTravel.com\*

# **Attachment A, 3.1 Company Description**



I50 has an extensive partner network with strong and established relationships to augment existing capabilities. I50 often taps into their 3<sup>rd</sup> party subcontractors for <u>website back-end development</u>, <u>media buying</u> and <u>subject-matter experts</u> as needed.

Based on our understanding of the scope, scale and visibility of this project, we have chosen Mindstream Interactive (see company details in Section 3.3) as our development provider for the West Virginia Tourism redesign. Influent50 and Mindstream Interactive enjoy a strong, strategic partnership that allows the discrete, but complementary skill sets of both organizations to flourish.

Mindstream Interactive has worked on several website projects similar to what is requested by this RFP including:

Jamaica Tourist Board
AARP Travel & Discounts
AAA





# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

3.2 An Organizational Chart, listing names, title and the number of full-time staff currently employed and the employees that would be working directly with the contract awarded under this RFP.

### Attachment A, 3.2 Organizational Chart



Gouray Briatia

Preeti Sood, Digital Marketing Director

Sylvia Kerali Digital Channel Manager

Robert Williams Web Product Manager

Kristina Taylor Web Marketing Analyst

Natalie Wood Social Media Analyst Managing Directo

Garland Bond Chief Data Strategist

Yunki Kim Data Analytics Dir.

Kevin Mitchell Marketing Analytics Director

> Gautam Kaul Director, Data Management

> Lisa Lu, Data Analytics Manager

Shen Wang Data Analytics Manager

Monique Gallaway Data Management Manager

Rick Rosenthal Data Management Manager

Daniel Deng Data Analyst Melissa von Stocifonborg VP Director of Account Management

> Kat Lazarus Account Director

Evan Moglin Account Supervisor

Zoe Paglee Account Supervisor

Paige Greenberg Account Executive

TBD Account Executive

Catie Hackett Traffic Manager

Anu Chopra

Data Analyst

Scott Collin Chief Creative Director

> Rebecca Mabie Creative Director

Greg, Newcomb Assoc. Creative Dir.

Ben Hawkins Assoc. Creative Dir.

Alex Verdaguer Copywriter

Gayle Rossbach Sr. Prod. Manager

> Brett Marden Studio Artist

Jeanne O'Shisa Director, Co-op Marketina

> Christine Mancino Marketing Manager

> Tanya Chakraborty Marketing Manager

Stave Uplon Business (levelopment Director

# Attachment A, 3.2 Organizational Chart

(see pages 71-83 for Bios of Project Teams)



# Project Team: Research, Analytics, Strategy, IA/UX and Creative Design

Gauray Bittalia Chief Digital Strategist

Matt Phillips
ASI Retationship Director
AARP Travel Portfolio

Yunki Kim Data Analytics Dir.

> Daniel Deng Data Analyst

Melissa von Stauffenberg VP Director of Account Management

> Evan Moglin Account Supervisor

TBD Account Executive

Catie Hackett Traffic Manager Sout Colin Chief Creative Director

Greg, Newcomb Assoc. Creative Dir.

Ben Hawkins Assoc. Creative Dir.

> Brett Marden Studio Artist

#### **Project Team: Development and Integration**



Africa Trickett

Billy Peake Director, Account Services Steve Acquille

Kyle Meadows Senior Director, Strategy Joe Sano SVP Operations & Integrated Services

> Jason Feldheim Senior Director, Technology

Brett Berliner Lead Developer

Britt Mills Senior Developer Sean Sefcik
Lead Front End Developer

Darren Wissler Front End Developer





# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

3.3 Subcontractor company information and references. Provide names, addresses and experiences of any subcontractors that will be used in the day-to-day performance of this contract in delivering services described in this proposal.

# **Attachment A, 3.3 Subcontractor Company Information**



#### About Mindstream Interactive

Mindstream Interactive is a full-service digital agency that balances the innovative with the tried-and-true. They engage consumers, create insightful experiences and plan integrated media buys. Their work comes to life by tapping into both sides of their brains—and embracing the tension that comes from it.

They partner with great brands like AARP Member Advantages, Bed Bath & Beyond, Budget Blinds, CHANNELLOCK, CollegeAdvantage 529, Elmer's Glue, HoneyBaked Ham, KrazyGlue, Massage Envy Spa, OhioHealth, Surescripts, The UPS Store, Whirlpool and X-ACTO to create meaningful connections that resonate and activate consumers.

Mindstream Interactive was formed in April 2014 when the digital team at SBC Advertising and the media experts at Aviatech came together under Eastport Holdings. Prior to the merger, both groups had more than 15 years of experience connecting consumers and brands through digital solutions. The client roster and leadership teams remain the same—and growing right along with them.

To learn more, visit them at www.mindstreaminteractive.com

# **Attachment A, 3.3 Subcontractor Company Information**



#### **Mindstream Interactive Details**

Columbus Office (WV Tourism Primary), 43 Employees 250 West Street, Suite 100 Columbus, OH 43215 Phone: 614.754.2000 Fax: 614.255.2600	San Diego Office, 47 Employees 7220 Trade Street, Suite 300 San Diego, CA 92121 Phone: 858.777.5000 Fax: 858.777.5060
Capabilities Insights & Brand-centric Strategy Analytics & Optimization Information Architecture User Experience & Visual Design Creative & Technical Copywriting Content Strategy & Marketing End-to-End Development Creative Production & Quality Assurance Digital Media Planning & Buying Search Marketing (SEO/SEM) Social Media Client Relationship & Project Management	Specialties User research & engagement Retail, CPG, Restaurant, Healthcare & Franchise marketing Ecommerce Email Mobile Point-of-Sale & In-store Activation Loyalty Programs Geotargeting, Re-targeting, Sequential Programming CMS & Third Party Integration and Management

#### References

Plaskolite, Inc. Jonda Baldwin, *Marketing Administrator* 1770 Joyce Avenue Columbus, OH 43219 Email: jonda.baldwin@plaskolite.com

Phone: 614.294.3281

Surescripts
Vince Giglotti, Senior Manager
2800 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA 22202
Email: vince.giglotti@surescripts.com

Phone: 703.921.2109

Ohio Tuition Trust Authority
Beverly Martin, *Director of Marketing*35 E. Chestnut St., 8<sup>th</sup> Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Email: bmartin@collegeadvantage.com

Phone: 614.995.1968





# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

- 3.4 A list of all accounts gained and lost in the last 12 months with a description of why accounts were lost, and a list of memberships in any local, national, or international advertising, marketing or public relations associations.
- 3.5 Contact names, telephone, email and fax numbers of two additional clients, who may be contacted by the Agency as references, for which similar services have been provided as referenced in this RFP.

# Attachment A, 3.4 Accounts Gained & Lost in Past 12 Months



#### **Accounts Gained in the Last 12**

Travel	Insurance/Medicare	Other
Hyatt Hilton Avis Budget Group Collette Travel Grand European Travel Allstate Roadside Assistance	Aon Hewitt National Council on Aging Services Delta Dental Petplan UnitedHealthcare EyeMed The Hartford Foremost	Chase ADT AARP Membership & Innovations Team aarphealthcare.com aarpdiscounts.com

**Accounts Lost:** 85% of Influent50 clients have engaged Influent50 in additional projects and we have an ongoing relationship with them. The remaining percentage have not actively severed their relationship with Influent50, and we expect to continue working with them on ad hoc requests in the future.

Memberships: DC Ad Club

# Attachment A, 3.5 References



#### References:

EyeMed
Lisa Gala, Sr. National Account Manager
4000 Luxottica Place | Mason, OH 45040
lgala@eyemed.com
o 513.765.3464 | c 513.313.9138

National Council on Aging
Susan Stiles, Ph.D., Senior Director, Product Dev.
251 18th Street South | Suite 500 | Arlington, VA 22202
susan.stiles@ncoa.org
o 202.479.6975 | c 571.274.5671





# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

3.6 Provide details of the complexity of projects performed and the volume of the services provided that may include specific examples, tracking and monitoring of the project, comprehensive evaluation of the project.



#### MyMedicareMatters.org Site Redesign Project

#### Challenge:

MyMedicareMatters.org experienced low traffic & high bounce rates on the homepage (~66%). Inability to separate content from product or find paths to either.

#### What We Did:

Redesigned, rebuilt and re-launched mymedicarematters.org. During discovery, we saw faulty tracking, good content but hard to find, and a cluttered interface without helpful tools for decision-making. We created a site that is:

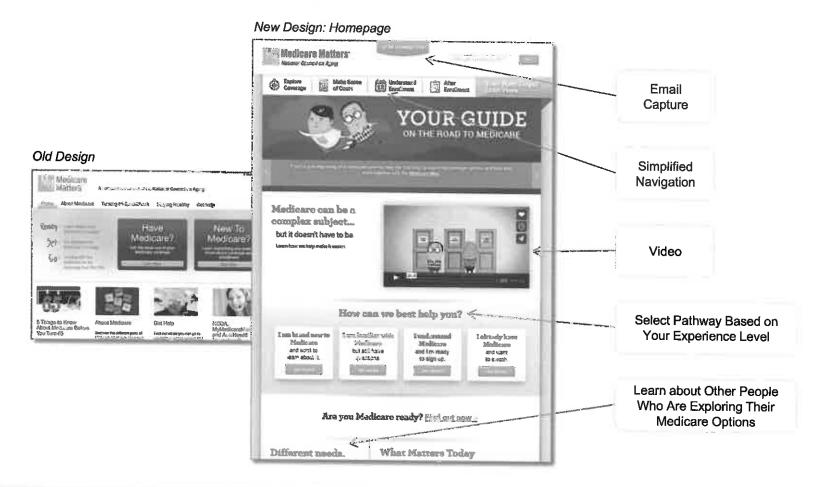
- 1. Less overwhelming & cumbersome via simplified navigation
  - · Reduced # of clicks from 7 to 3 to reach deepest content
  - · Consolidated content into long-form pages to keep from clicking off and going down a rabbit hole
- 2. Delivering on Medicare Journey and Use Models via simplified pathway and an option to select your journey
- 3. Offers useful elements like: tools, infographics, email capture, videos, etc.
- 4. Developed analytics strategy, dashboard and implemented tracking package

#### Results:

Bounce rate reduced to 50%, an improvement of approximately 25%.



### MyMedicareMatters.org Site Redesign Creative





#### **AARPhealthcare.com Optimization**

#### Challenge:

Optimize the customer experience by providing health coverage resources and tools in a consumer/user-friendly web environment.

- Increase web referral rate through optimization of site design, product focused navigation and intuitive path flow
- Opportunity to increase organic traffic to the site (SEO friendly page titles, product and education content)





#### **AARPhealthcare.com Optimization**

#### What We Did:

Conducted usability to understand pain points for users throughout the site.

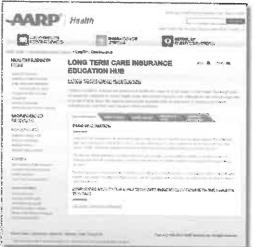
#### Old Design: Homepage

- · Site navigation confusing/unclear
- Design and layout across site can be customized for better user experience
- Limited relevance in site content
- · Complex left navigation, extensive, unscannable copy
- · Difficult to find product within content

#### Old Design: Education Landing Page

- No tie in with product and education content
- · Tab design structure
- Update copy and enhance formatting







#### **AARPhealthcare.com Optimization**

#### Results:

Optimized site design based on usability research discovery and learning.

#### New Design Optimizations: Homepage

- Product and category focused navigation
- Responsive design easily convertible across devices
- Personalized product interest sections, design for 50+, social media integration
- Streamlined and created tie-in with content across product and education hubs

#### New Design Optimizations: Education Landing Page

- Page design, use of color and layout drew positive reaction
- · Tab structure made it easy to go to next section
- Participants responded positively to video content for additional education
- · Differentiation between products and education







#### Elmers.com

#### Challenge:

Based on insights drawn from analytics and a shifting consumer landscape, we proactively recommended redesigning Elmers.com to add value for Elmer's customers. We wanted to strengthen relationships with their core audiences by integrating content that would keep them coming back.

#### What We Did:

Elmer's is the go-to for school and craft supplies—and they're associated with projects because of it. We saw a connection between that and the customers' need for creative ideas, class lessons, and helpful tips. We concentrated on four main audience groups (parents, teachers, crafters and DIYers), we categorized curated projects, blog posts, printables, video and lesson plans. We enriched the user experience and gave equal prominence to products and content.

In addition to partnering with Discovery Channel, PBS Parents and ABC Teach, we also sourced content from the most influential people of all—the parents and teachers themselves. This gave consumers a chance to both interact with content, and influence it.



#### Elmers.com

#### Results:

We rebuilt the site to add value to the experience, beyond showcasing products. Custom-tailoring content, we empowered customers and encouraged creativity, which led to a deeper consumer connection.

- 50% increase in site traffic year over year
- 24% increase in page views year over year
- 4,500+ projects printed





# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

3.7 Provide a listing of clients whom you provided services similar to the services being requested in this RFP over the last three years.

# Attachment A, 3.7 Listing of Clients for Similar Services



Influent50 and Mindstream Interactive have worked on similar projects for the following clients.

Influent50	National Council on Aging Services  AARP Services, Inc.		
Mindstream	AARP	Genie	
Interactive	AARP Services, Inc.	Krazy Glue	
i	Abrasive Technology	Nationwide Insurance	
	Bed Bath & Beyond	Plaskolite	
	Bob Evans	Surescripts	
	Bruegger's Bagels	Value City Furniture	
	Channellock	Wayne Dalton	
	City Gear	Whirlpool	
	CollegeAdvantage 529	X-ACTO	
	Elmer's Glue	Zaner Bloser	

### Attachment A, 4.1 Approach



#### **Travel Insights**

- Travelers use online review sites, like Trip Advisor, and show preference for word-of-mouth feedback, traveler submitted reviews are most widely used online feature in travel shopping
- 25-34 year olds show the highest incidence of leisure travel
- While Boomers have the disposable income and time to enjoy travel
  - Those who are 50+ take about 6 non-business trips at least 50 miles from home per year
  - Top two reasons to travel for a Boomer 1) spending time with family/friends or 2) vacation of 5+ nights
  - Vast majority of Boomers use websites to plan and book non-biz travel

#### **Other Tourism Sites**

Tourism sites range from country to state to city/town to aggregated "experience-driven" sites—some are done well and others succumb to often-seen pitfalls. Some best practices that we've seen are sites that:

- Integrate the personality of the state within the site and the brand identity is ownable
- Leverage simple, easy-to-understand navigation focused on: to see, to do, to stay, eat & drink, local
  events
- Include fun and interesting engagement tactics like tools to help you plan your trip, areas to learn what other travelers did and recommend, video clips and local event calendars, a place to sign up for new information, etc.

### Attachment A, 4.1 Approach



Challenges (What Are the Key Barriers That Could Be Keeping People From Visiting WV)

- Top reasons to stay home: 1) financial reasons 2) no time to travel 3) no desire to travel
- Of US States, WV is ranked 44<sup>th</sup> when chosen for 55+ on most recent trip
- WV online presence is confusing with multiple sites and a cluttered user interface
- People may not be aware of the natural beauty, cultural attractions and outdoor recreation activities that WV offers

Benefit (Why WV, What Is the Benefit and Value vs. Another State)

West Virginia is a close-by and convenient location for a long weekend or a 4-5 day getaway with a range of activities from outdoor adventures like white-water rafting to cultural and historical attractions to a relaxing spa or golf weekend.

Key Takeaway (What We Want People to Think and Do After Visiting the Website)

West Virginia, Wild and Wonderful, is a beautiful destination with many activities (relaxing or adventure) that I enjoy. It is close-by and easy to get to. I'm going to visit West Virginia for my next long weekend getaway. And, I'm going to use GoToWV.com to plan my trip.

#### START A STORY IN



# WILD W WONDERFUL

#### **WEST VIRGINIA**

Vacations start as a small dreamy desire to break away from the routine, a promising setting and a cast of characters. Family. Friends. A loveable, but ornery dog. Or a few co-workers with a shared craving for a stress-relieving road trip. They can evolve into cherished stories with multiple scenes and experiences that are permanently inscribed on your brain, and recited at the drop of a hat. They're told over and over. And they often end with a nostalgic sigh, smile-masked longing to do it all over again, and an earnest recommendation for the listener, "you gotta go experience it for yourself. Here, look at this picture on my Instagram..." These stories are powerful examples of word-of-mouth marketing, so let's create a GoToWV.com site that serves as the starting point for Wild and Wonderful stories and inspires travel to the state.

West Virginia is the perfect setting for legendary getaway stories, providing range of opportunities for people to enjoy the outdoors, meet amazing locals, relax, enjoy the moment and dial back the routine—while dialing up the Wild and Wonderful.



On the following pages, you will find the results of initial creative exploration for a refreshed GoToWV.com. The designs are meant to spark your imagination and ignite discussion about website possibilities. When we have the opportunity to work with you, we will embark on a thorough, collaborative journey to create a website that meets your needs, drives traffic, and attracts visitors.







#### **WELCOME TO DIGITAL WEST VIRGINIA**

Find your Wild and Wonderful here.

As soon as you cross the digital border into West Virginia, you'll be greeted by a simple, elegant, user-friendly website that reflects the soothing beauty of the state, the exciting experiences down the road and great local people that will bring your vacation story to life. No matter the vehicle—laptop, tablet, or smart phone—the responsive design of this website will ensure that you have a great experience navigating, exploring, and planning your West Virginia adventure. Your vacation begins as soon as you GoToWV.com.



#### WELCOME HOME



Sit back, get comfortable, and explore.

On the refreshed GoToWV.com, you'll find simple navigation, striking imagery, fast-loading videos, and many other features to help inspire you to find your Wild and Wonderful.

- Use the Wild and Wonderful slider to start exploring experiences that fit your getaway style. As you move the slider left or right, the imagery behind it and content tiles beneath it will change dynamically. If you're super-adventurous, slide it far to the left. You'll see single-track mountain bike adventures, challenging Dolly Sods hikes, and an invitation from Smooth Ambler to swing by for a visit. If you love nature, but you don't want to try to outdo her, then slide it to the right. You'll see a package deal from The Greenbrier, a walking-tour of historic Lewisburg, and great place to sample wines from across the state, including the award-winning Riesling from WineTree Vineyards.
- Something catch your eye? Then click on heart in the content tile to drop it into your Wild and Wonderful online guide.
- You've got many options to explore digital West Virginia. Check out the top navigation and turn to the next page.

NOTE: This website approach will provide ample opportunities for in-state partners, businesses and attractions to be highlighted or featured prominently.

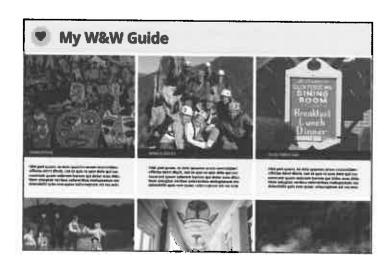




#### YOU'RE SO CLOSE TO ALMOST HEAVEN

You're almost native. If you click on map in the top navigation, you'll see that you're within driving distance of some great, unique experiences. And if you're lucky to live within the state, you'll be surprised by what you'll find when you use this feature. Great vacation stories are easy to reach.

- Enter your zip code and the map will reveal a mix of destinations and experiences that are close in proximity to where you live. The content tiles beneath the map will change dynamically based on your location.
- If you have something in mind, click on eat, stay, play or events to change what you see on the map and beneath it.
- Click on a map pin to reveal a photo of the destination, distance from you, and an opportunity to take a closer look.





#### My Wild and Wonderful Guide



Done exploring? Click the heart at the top of the page to review the places and experiences that caught your eye. And when you're ready to start building your vacation story, click on the links within your picks to make reservations.

NOTE: In order to use this feature on the website, we will ask visitors to provide their email address and other information. It's a great way to start a conversation about what they liked and offer incentives to travel.

#### Wild and Wonderful Travel Show

If you're looking for suggestions on how to start a Wild and Wonderful story, see Andrew. He's the friendly host of the Wild and Wonderful Travel Show and he's always up-to-date on new attractions, what's loved by locals, and upcoming events.

NOTE: In order to minimize costs, this video series will be filmed in our in-house studio in DC. We envision filming the host against a simple backdrop and incorporating motion graphics that the into the look and feel of the website. The videos could be created once or twice a month.



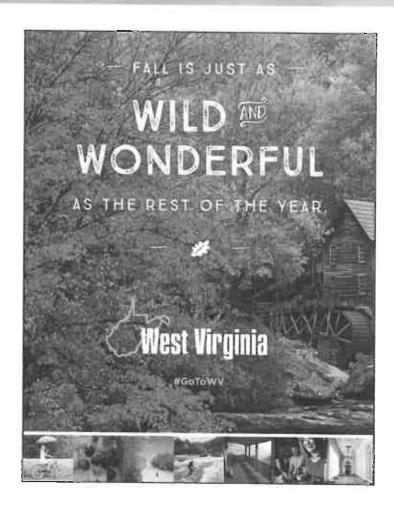
#### #GoToWV

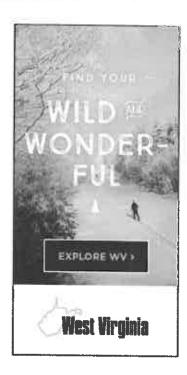


Click on #GoToWV to see what the locals like, get recommendations from travelers like you or read some great Wild and Wonderful stories. If you enjoy travel reviews, this section is for you.

"You gotta meet Elvis Sparky Puddinghead on the North Fork Mountain trail. Ok, so maybe that's not his real name. We made it up. But this dog joined us one day and hiked with us for 4 out of 7 days on this awesome trail. He howled like he was singing "Blue Christmas," scaled rocks ten times his size and even ventured off the mountain with us to get water at the Seneca Rocks visitor center. Speaking of water, if you're going to do this trail, be prepared to carry lots of it. But the amazing views are well worth the extra weight. Plus, you may get to meet Mr. ESP. Fingers-crossed for you. #GoToWV

NOTE: This section harnesses the momentum behind the #GoToWV hashtag to create a powerful repository of word-of-mouth marketing. It will include social media feeds, blog posts submitted by travellers, the Governor, and hopefully a celebrity or two.







#### **ALWAYS WILD AND WONDERFUL**

No matter if you're on Washingtonpost.com or driving down I-79, you'll see advertising that connects to the look and feel of the experience that you had or will have on GoToWV.com



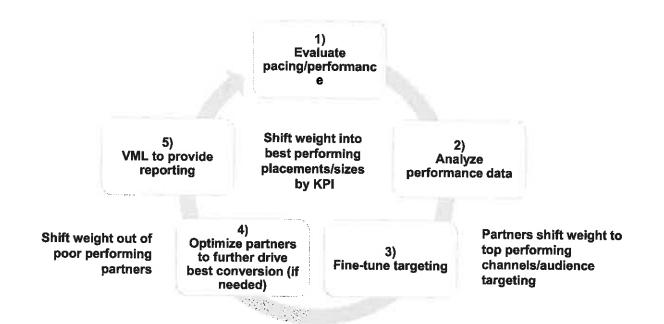
NOTE: We look forward to partnering with your agency of record to bring an integrated campaign to life. This website concept will translate easily to other mediums, helping create a cohesive experience for anyone interacting with the Wild and Wonderful brand. Thank you for the opportunity to present our initial creative vision.

# Attachment A, 4.1 Approach



#### **Digital Media Strategy**

- Drive qualified site traffic and engagers/bookings through highly targeted Digital media mix, reaching a specific audience who are likely to be interested in traveling to WV
- Invest in Digital Media as a Continuity Marketing Channel with a phased test & learn approach increasing weight during key travel and/or promotional time periods
- Aggressively test and optimize throughout campaign entirety to achieve maximum efficiency



# Attachment A, 4.1 Approach



# **Digital Media Opportunities**

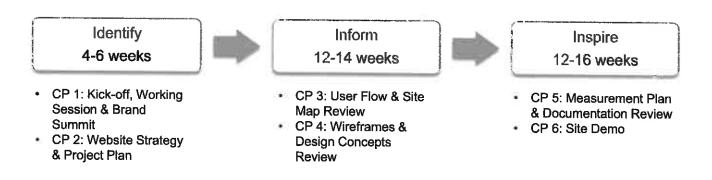
Paid Search	Paid Social	Retargeting Display	Programmatic Display	Travel Booking Sites
WV branded travel keywords, unbranded travel and key activity related (i.e. rafting, kayaking, etc.)	Those who reside in WV, outside WV that have shown interests in traveling	WV Tourism first party data targeting through DSP partner and/or Acxiom	Enhanced Look- alike modeling, contextual, and behavioral	Those who have researched travel information and pricing
Google YAHOO!		Google Display Network acxiem	Facebook YAHOO!  theTradeDesk	tripadvisor Expedia

Cross-Channel and Platform (Display, Mobile, Tablet)

# Attachment A, 4.2 Collaboration Plan



To ensure an environment of collaboration throughout site development, Influent50 has set checkpoints—face-to-face meetings for all key stakeholders as designated by the WV Client—built into their overall web build process.



Ongoing tactics to/for key stakeholders include: Bi-weekly Team Status Meetings, Weekly Status Reports and Sharing Documentation like Google Docs.

# Attachment A, 4.3 Brand Identity Integration



Influent50 will work with the WV Client and the Advertising Agency of Record to ensure that we represent the WV brand identity appropriately across all marketing efforts.

This will entail informal, ongoing conversations and ideally the following:

- WV Tourism Brand Identity Summit
- WV Tourism provides established brand guidelines and standards
- All Creative Executions should undergo brand review by WV Client





# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

4.4 Online components to collect data. Develop a plan for email collection, storage and outbound distribution.



#### **Email collection and distribution**

No single channel has been more effective at attracting and continually engaging customers over the course of digital marketing's existence as email. Once thought to be fading, with the growth of mobile, it's actually seen resurgence and has solidified its place as the key to successful loyalty and reengagement programs for brands in a multitude of verticals.

Travel and tourism customers are particularly receptive to email communication because it provides a low-pressure way to regularly see what promotions, events and offers their favorite destinations are making available during any given season.

This is a major benefit for tourism boards, resorts and related groups as well. Especially in a multi-season destination like West Virginia, email can be used to effectively re-engage previous visitors, and to entice visitors who may have only planned on visiting during one season (like winter, for skiing) into coming during their personal "off" season for another trip.

In this scenario, a simple email is a win-win for West Virginia. It not only doubles visit and spending frequency, but also helps the traveler enjoy another world-class experience.

#### Growing our list and optimizing frequency

The website experience will be key to actively soliciting opt-ins for our outbound email communication. It can also be a powerful tool for letting our existing email list tell us what content they're interested in and how frequently they'd like to hear from us.



### Creating and capitalizing on conversion points

The key to maximizing the email acquisition potential on your site will be in combining overt, or encouraged, opt-in opportunities with more covert and natural ones.

While we'll want to spend time with your team digging deep into your unique customer journey and conversion funnel, based on our experience with the travel and tourism space, as well as extensive knowledge of effective strategies and tactics across other channels, including retail, consumer products and healthcare, we think the following tools could make sense for WV Tourism.

#### **Initial Visit or Key Page Overlay**

Sometimes called "violators" or "blockers", this technique is extremely effective in capturing emails to initiate an ongoing relationship. And, when done well, they can actually be extremely useful in providing a logical, context-appropriate next step.

#### **Ever-present Opt-In CTA**

Many users will want to opt-in on their own terms—and that's often how you gain many of your most qualified leads. Providing an easily accessible link, button or promotional space on all pages or through navigation gives them access to the functionality when they need it and stays out of the way when they don't.



#### Conversion-driven Opt-In

There will be key points in the planning and booking process when users will be asked to complete forms or provide their email address for transactional purposes. In conjunction with these tasks, it's common (and expected by users) for brands to also provide the opportunity to opt-in to marketing emails. As we plan the user experience, we can make sure we identify these opportunities and provide visible, but non-intrusive opt-in messages to build our list, while still successfully facilitating a booking.

#### Managing Preferences & Retaining Through Opt-Down Options

There will be times when your customers are tempted to discontinue their relationship with you—and that's certainly something they're entitled to. However, it's possible they may simply want to manage the frequency or content focus, as opposed to closing all lines of communication, and you can provide them the tools to do just that.

#### **Facilitating Ongoing Engagement Via Email**

Building an email list is only half the battle. Once we have leads—both new and returning—it's critical to understand the composition of the list and to engage its membership regularly in a way that adds value to the relationship.

#### Segmenting the List

An easy way to ensure the right message is connecting with the right customer is to break the list down into logical groups that are small enough to be manageable, but still large enough to provide a meaningful impact when you reach out to them. We'll work with you to identify and prioritize these groups and put together an email plan that aligns to their needs and can be taken on successfully by the organization.



## **Combining Planned and Triggered Emails**

In addition to breaking the list down, it's critical that you have an email communication plan that is equal parts proactive and reactive.

While the tactical execution of the strategy will be defined following our discovery work, we're recommending that you plan for an email program that combines a calendar and promotion/offer-driven backbone with an action-driven series of triggers designed to activate, or re-activate, users based on how they have chosen to, or not to, interact with the site and WV Tourism's digital footprint as a whole.

The end result? The user feels like the brand is informative without being pushy. Present without being "Big Brother." And that balance is key in keeping them coming back for more.



#### **Choosing the Right Email Service Provider**

Like your CMS, choosing the right Email Service Provider (ESP) is critical in setting your team up for success and growth over the course of the next 3-5 years.

A number of factors go into narrowing down your choice for ESP, including:

- Current and anticipated future size of your email list
- Anticipated frequency of email outreach
- Fidelity and depth of desired reporting
- Required amount of mobile-friendly features
- · Anticipated number of templates
- Extent of personalization and dynamic content features
- Potential need for automation
- Need to integrate with CMS and other internal systems
- Amount of "non-coder" skill needed to manage lists and email campaigns
- Budget

We believe we have a good feeling for the general needs for the program, based on the RFP and your response to our initial questions. Using that understanding, we've identified a potential vendor at each cost/feature "tier" to help shape our search.



## **Initial Email Service Provider Options**

We've aligned potential ESP fits based on your needs as we currently understand them. These basic requirements include:

- Ability to accommodate 750K-1.5MM members in email list over next 2-3 years
- Ability to integrate email signup form on site OR to pull on-site signup into email database
- · Moderate level of ease of use in email creation for non-coders
- High level of ease of use and quality of reporting tools
- High level of mobile-friendliness
- Ability to segment (capability to increase with features and functions of ESP)
- Ability to personalize content (capability to increase with features and functions of ESP)

We'll work closely with your team to narrow down requirements and arrive at a final recommendation.

Basic: Mailchimp, Constant Contact, AWeber

Mid-level: WhatCounts, Silverpop

Enterprise: ExactTarget, Responsys, Epsilon





# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

4.5 To develop and implement an industry partner portal to be accessible by industry partners for the purpose of updating and inputting listing data.

# Attachment A, 4.5 Partner Portal



#### Implementing a Partner Portal

Given the potentially large number of partners who could be contributing either directly or indirectly, it will be critical to have a plan and tools in place for allowing those outside of the WV Tourism team the ability to safely add content to the website.

In our experience, these types of tools become heavily adopted when a handful of factors are addressed:

- The tool is easily accessible from outside the brand's internal environment (via the web)
- Access is tied to a login/unique user credential(s) with discrete roles
- The tool is robust enough to provide users the ability to input all necessary information/assets, but is still narrowly focused on the task(s) at hand
- There are clearly labeled, easy-to-navigate paths for discrete tasks
- Users of the tool are trained on its use, either via in-person sessions or a readily-accessible set of (ideally video-based) instructions
- Partner updates are made in a staging/other non-live environment and an internal team member(s) governs and approves updates before they go live
- There is a feedback loop, which can be as simple as email, in place for users to provide the brand with input and raise their hands to solicit help, if and when necessary
- The portal is supported and regularly updated to ensure prime functionality and access

# Attachment A, 4.5 Partner Portal



Given what we know so far, we anticipate the primary role of the partner portal to be one of supporting individual partner listings (i.e. name, address, etc.), events (i.e. a seasonal berry festival) and offers (i.e. \$50 Off your total stay of 3 nights or more).

These and other similar tasks can be easily folded into one portal, which we would recommend to have layered visibility, in order to allow the *right* users to update the *right* information.

Also, we strongly recommend maintaining the portal as a part of the site's overall domain (whether it be through a subdomain or as a potentially hidden directory) if possible. This will allow you to maximize your investment in your CMS, facilitate an easier interface of data with the public-facing site itself and maintain easier visibility into third-party services (like analytics tracking packages).

We will work with your technical, marketing and partner teams (if applicable) to craft the right system to provide robust enough functionality to meet the project and user needs without over-engineering our solution.





# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

4.6 To develop an easily editable, user-friendly site. Utilize a CMS that is user-friendly, provides the Agency flexibility and allows the Agency to be trained to update and add content to the website.



### Our Approach to Choosing the Right Content Management System (CMS)

The selection of a content management system that will meet your needs, both now and in the future, as well as your budget is key to the success of the program as a whole. Finding that balance between key features and a reasonable investment will set your team up for success and ensure a smooth development and deployment of the site.

When we're narrowing down and ultimately recommending a CMS for our clients, we take a number of factors into account.

#### **Existing Infrastructure**

First and foremost, our responsibility is to ensure our CMS recommendations maximize any investments you've already made or are planning for your internal infrastructure. Beyond the obvious financial benefits, this approach also ensures a significantly easier implementation and integration with your current environment and will make any handoff to internal teams smoother.



## Our Approach to Choosing the Right Content Management System (Continued)

#### **Workflow and Governance**

The post-launch plan for production, maintenance and management of content directly implicates your CMS selection. As we get to know you better, we'll work through your plan for success.

We'll consider key features that will directly impact how your team and any potential partners will manage the site, including:

- Distinct user roles with varying levels of administrative access
- · Automated vs. manual approval of content
- The ability for users to edit only certain sections of site content (like travel or offer listings)
- Management of external analytics, email and other third-party systems
- Lead management system access and integration

Where we land with respect to requirements for these and other features will shape your organizational workflow for years to come. We'll ensure it meets your needs.



### Our Approach to Choosing the Right Content Management System (Continued)

#### Personalization and Presentation of Content

Helping users uncover the information they're looking for as quickly and efficiently as possible is critical to the success of an overall user experience. The right CMS will facilitate this wayfinding without adding features and functionality you don't need. It will help you highlight promotions from your partners through things like on-site banner ads and potentially even establish triggers that could influence subsequent email and offsite outreach in the future.

#### **Future Planning and Scalability**

Understanding where your organization is going and anticipating future needs of your users based on today's trends will help ensure that you're not revisiting your CMS selection in six months. We work closely with our clients and their internal teams to set aggressive, but achievable progress goals in their roadmap and then align our CMS recommendations to those goals.



#### **Our Initial Take: Sitefinity**

While we wouldn't make a hard and fast recommendation for the CMS without going through proper discovery and planning activities, we've started reviewing potential matches that can guide our search once we start working together. Based on what we know about you and the project so far, one CMS solution that could be a good fit is Sitefinity.

### Sitefinity's capabilities align nicely with known (or anticipated) requirements

Based on some key facts we've received from the RFP and your response to agency questions we've identified this high level list of qualifications necessary to meet your CMS needs:

- An internal preference for .NET technology
  - This requirement is assumed based on examining the existing site only—should you have a
    preference for another platform, we can alter our CMS recommendation.
- Need for multiple levels of users with varying content management permissions
- Flexibility in page format and templates, including responsive design
- Need to include potentially personalized/segmented banner ads and cross-sells
- Potential for user login (future requirement)
- Ability to accommodate and manage multimedia content (video, images, etc.)
- Need for vendors & partners to be able to readily edit offers, packages, etc. through a partner portal
- Ability to accommodate robust functionality (trip advisors, itinerary planning tools, calendar of events and promotional packages)
- Potential integration with lead management system, email service provider and social platforms/content



Our team has successfully developed dozens of sites on the Sitefinity platform with requirements comparable to where you are right now and where we anticipate you'll be going in the next 2-4 years. We're confident it can meet these requirements and scale to incorporate more as they evolve.

#### Sitefinity Also Allows for Self-paced Platform Evolution

As we noted previously, one of the keys to long-term success is scalability that aligns with organizational evolution. Sitefinity's ability to grow and evolve through upgrades and additions of new bundles of features is one of the reasons it has been so successful for many of our clients.

Sitefinity, which is a Telerik product, offers four distinct editions, each with increasingly robust features and functionality. This lets you truly customize the CMS to meet your specific needs.

At its most basic level, Sitefinity brings a high-caliber execution of core content management features and functionality for organizations of all sizes, exceeding "standard" basic CMS solutions like WordPress and Drupal.

When additional groupings of features are added, available functionality extends to include eCommerce, email marketing, load balancing, custom content approval workflow and more, giving it the ability to rival enterprise solutions like Adobe CQ and SDL Tridion, but at a much more reasonable price.

With that kind of scale available to you, you can align upgrades with the digital roadmap to ensure the CMS grows alongside your needs.





# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

4.7 To ensure a plan is in place for future updates, website maintenance, hosting and reporting functions.

# Attachment A, 4.7 Maintenance, Hosting & Reporting



#### Hosting

Neither Influent50 nor Mindstream Interactive offer in-house hosting services. Rather than attempt to create and maintain a best-in-class hosting facility in house, we facilitate all hosting services through our hosting partner, Rackspace.

#### A Flexible Market Leader

Rackspace is a global leader in hosting services. They offer public cloud, private cloud, hybrid cloud and dedicated physical servers. Rather than providing a one-size-fits-all hosting solution, they work with their clients and their agencies to provide hardware and services that meet the specific needs of the application they will be hosting, thereby ensuring a smoother launch, easier maintenance, and scalability for the future.

#### 100% Uptime - Guaranteed

Rackspace guarantees 100% network uptime. This means that their data center network—the portion of the Rackspace network extending from the outbound port on your edge device to the outbound port of the data center border router, including Rackspace-managed switches, routers and cabling—will be on 100% of the time.

In the unlikely event that Rackspace's network was to go down, they have a standing guarantee to credit your account 5% of the monthly fee for each 30 minutes of network downtime, up to 100% of your monthly fee for the affected server.

# Attachment A, 4.7 Maintenance, Hosting & Reporting



#### **Full Access**

With Rackspace we have full access. This gives us the ability to completely manage the setup and deployment of your website and to maintain it on an ongoing basis.

Of course, your team would also have complete freedom to manage the application as you see fit, should you not prefer the I50/MI team to handle maintenance on an ongoing basis.





# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

4.8 To ensure mobile functionality.

## Attachment A, 4.8 Mobile



#### **Staying Mobile Friendly**

As an industry there has been exponential growth in the access of content from mobile devices—particularly in the last 12 months. Many sites are seeing mobile devices (phones and tablets) account for more than 50% of their monthly traffic. And, if you're marketing in any way to lower income or minority audiences that number increases even more, as mobile is often the primary way those audiences access the internet.

Travel is seeing an increase even more significantly than many other service-based industries, with more than 40% of Americans booking travel via mobile in Q1-Q2 of 2014 (stat via Criteo Travel Flash Report, September 2014)—a trend that we only anticipate increasing going forward. Staring these trends in the face, we know it's important that the site we build together is accessible via as many screens and devices as possible, with the ability to scale to new devices as they gain market share.

### How we'll do it: Mobile-first design and responsive development

A major focus in the industry over the course of the last year has been on designing and developing websites and portals mobile-first and responsively. These two complementary philosophies allow us to create a web experience that will effectively communicate and convert across whatever device the user chooses to engage with us.

# Attachment A, 4.8 Mobile



#### Mobile-first design

Often times, the user experiences for websites and web-based tools are envisioned on the largest screen possible first—the desktop—and then pared back for tablets and mobile phones. However, in our experience, we've found that by prioritizing the mobile experience and then adding and modifying features and presentation tactics as you increase screen size you ensure that, even on the smallest screen your core message, hierarchy and calls-to-action are still front and center, working as hard for you as possible.

For the WV Tourism team, this will be particularly important when considering how to scale travel planners, event and accommodation booking and events calendars, as these will be tools that your customers will likely not only refer to during the planning phase of their travel, but will also want to reference throughout the course of their trip.

We recommend planning for three discrete presentation layers of the site—one for mobile, one for tablet and one for desktop.

### Attachment A, 4.8 Mobile



#### Responsive development

After the user experience has been designed with mobile in mind, we'll code the site to recognize the user's screen size and optimize its presentation on the fly to display one of our three site views. This ensures an optimal user experience, regardless of device.

And, as opposed to creating a mobile-only version of the site, which typically requires the team supporting it to maintain two discrete implementations of the site, updating both in tandem, the responsive approach will allow us to have ONE site for ALL devices—a major advantage when maintaining and updating content, too.

We'll use a combination of HTML5, JavaScript and CSS (as well as other front-end libraries and tools) to execute this functionality in conjunction with the CMS's core site templates and modules.





# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

4.9 To provide a designated person to this account.

# Attachment A, 4.9 Designated Point of Contact



Influent50 believes in a high level of client service and will provide a dedicated Account Team for one consistent point of contact to avoid miscommunication.

count Team Member	Role	Availability
Evan Moglin Account Supervisor	Account Team day-to-day lead and WV contact to ensure client needs and strategic priorities are met across all program and campaign elements.	50%
TBD Account Executive	Day-to-day client contact and project owner including project brief deliverables, ongoing communications and status reports.	50%

In addition, the WV Tourism Client will be provided with access to subject matter experts, like the Development Manager in case technical questions should arise outside of the Account Team's purview.





# **ATTACHMENT A: VENDOR RESPONSE SHEET**

**Bios for Dedicated Team Members** 



#### **Bios—Digital Strategy**

#### Gaurav Bhatia, Chief Digital Strategist

Gaurav Bhatia, Vice President of Digital Strategy has over fifteen year's online marketing and digital expertise. In his current role he is responsible for digital strategy and execution of digital capabilities for products and services across web, e-mail, mobile and social media.

He has extensive experience in both business-to-business and business-to-consumer digital marketing. He is a digital marketer with expertise in building digital assets to drive business growth. He has led large scale digital transformation projects to help with digital transformation for large organizations.

He has held senior leadership positions at several large Fortune 500 including Capital One, Sabre Holdings (parent of Travelocity.com) and NIIT Technologies. His proven results leveraging technology and marketing include online consumer portals for banking, finance and travel.

Gaurav holds a Master's Degree in Information Systems, MBA in Strategy and a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering.



#### Bios—Data & Analytics

#### Yunki Kim, Data Analytics Director

Yunki Kim is the Data Analytics Director at ASI. Yunki has over 15 years of experience in direct marketing and data analytics and is a seasoned professional with unique combination of expertise in business intelligence, web analytics, data mining, marketing technology and database marketing in both start-up and Fortune 50 companies. He earned joint Master's Degrees from Columbia University in International Affairs and Business Administration and a Bachelor's Degree from Clark University in Political Science.

#### Daniel Deng, Data Analyst

Daniel is an experienced marketing analytics expert with strong business acumen. He has 7+ years of hands on experiences in top marketing agencies and delivering data analytics solutions for clients across different industries. Focus areas include: marketing campaign design and measurement, predictive modeling for acquisition, retention, customer profile and segmentation, marketing mix modeling, web analytics, etc.



#### **Bios—Account Management**

### Melissa von Stauffenberg, VP Director of Account Management

As VP, Director of Account Management for Influent50, Melissa leads the Account Team to ensure excellent client service and flawless program management including strategic implementation and tactical execution.

Melissa's experience is centered around relationship marketing across both digital and traditional marketing channels. She has built and refined her account management skills for over 13 years from DC to New York working at Wunderman-DC and Digitas. Some of the companies and brands she has collaborated with include Grand European Travel, Collette Travel, Avis Budget Group, EyeMed, National Council on Aging Services, Otsuka, Bayer, Sanofi-Aventis, FedEx, Ann Taylor, American Express and Seagrams.

Melissa has a Bachelor of Arts with a degree in Psychology from Wake Forest University.

#### Evan Moglin, Account Supervisor

As Account Supervisor for Influent50, Evan is responsible for the planning, strategy, delivery, and client communication for all campaign and project deliverables.

Prior to joining Influent50, Evan was an Account Supervisor for Wunderman-DC, where he successfully launched 2 pharmaceutical drug marketing campaigns including the management of multiple responsive websites. Prior to Wunderman, Evan worked for Publicis Healthcare in New York City on myHumira services and packaging. He traveled to France, Argentina, Hong Kong, and Dubai to facilitate medical education advisory boards with Key Opinion Leaders in the field of infectious disease prior to the launch of the Prevnar13 Adult vaccine.



#### **Bios—Account Management**

#### Catie Hackett, Traffic Coordinator

After living the California dream for a few years, Catie recently relocated back to the DC area. She grew up in southern Virginia and attended East Carolina University (Go Pirates!) in North Carolina. After college, she moved to DC and worked at The Washington Post. Within a few years of living in DC, she had the opportunity to move to San Francisco and live in the warm California sun. In SF, Catie worked on the publishing and ad agency side of advertising and gained a lot through those experiences. Although she still dreams of palm trees and beautiful sunsets, she is very happy to be back in DC and working as a Traffic Coordinator with the Influent50 team. Some of her interests include traveling, hiking, crafting, reading, cooking, and now exploring everything DC has to offer!



#### **Bios—Creative Team**

#### Scott Collin, VP Chief Creative Director

Scott has built and shaped the Influent50 creative department from computer #1 all the way up to its current award-winning team. Scott offers a unique balance of both Direct and Brand experience, including fully integrated campaigns for Amtrak, Time Warner Cable, Merck, Land Rover and Audi North America to name a few.

Most notably, Scott created the "Meet Virginia" campaign for Virginia Tourism, which won the Mercury Award for Best Overall Marketing Program – the top award from NCSTD – and an Effie Award, the preeminent award in the advertising industry. The Meet Virginia campaign increased print inquiries 200 percent, and unique visitors to Virginia.org increased by 107 percent.

### Greg Newcomb, Associate Creative Director

Versatile, strategic designer/art director with a clean, simple approach to design. He's created integrated brand experiences, art direction, campaigns, and designs for a range of clients such as AARP, Florida Tourism, The Discovery Channel, Time Warner Cable, Weight Watchers, Dell, and Microsoft. He's spent the last 2.5 years at Blackboard helping to steward and launch their current brand.



#### **Bios—Creative Team**

### Ben Hawkins, Associate Creative Director (Lead Writer)

Ben was raised in Parkersburg, graduated from WVU, and is happy to provide West Virginia factoids or getaway recommendations to anyone in the DC area. His love for the state budded in junior high when he competed for a Golden Horseshoe. Ben began his career at McCann Erickson, working on campaigns for Marriott and US Airways service to the Caribbean and Florida. He spent the last 13 years at +gmmb, where he focused on social marketing, behavior change, and advocacy campaigns for corporations, nonprofits, political candidates, and government organizations.

#### Brett Marden, Production Artist

For over 20 years, Brett Marden has provided production and art direction for award winning print & web design. Previous clients include SAP, Amtrak, Choice Hotels, BMW, Penske, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, GlaxoSmithKline, IRS, FDIC, Laughing Cow, Nature Made and Discovery Channel. Brett's skill sets include InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, Quark and many others. As a studio designer, His passion is for perfection in all the work he does for Influent 50 clients.



#### Bios—Subject Area Specialist

#### Matthew Phillips, Director, Travel

Matt oversees the portfolio of travel suppliers and providers who offer relevant products and services to AARP members. His team of Relationship Managers is responsible for the hotel, car rental, cruise, tour, destination attractions, and ancillary travel services available to members. In prior roles, he has created online marketing and advertising campaigns for companies looking to target AARP members. Matt has been with ASI for nearly a decade.



#### **Bios—Development**

#### Steve Agganis, President, Columbus

Steve has a passion for digital marketing and over 20 years of unmatched experience. Having worked with some of the best brands in retail and consumer goods, Steve strategically leads large-scale eCommerce initiatives and holistic digital experiences with measurable success.

Client Experience: Jamaica Tourist Board, Limited Brands, Victoria's Secret, VS Pink, Best Buy, Bose, Bed Bath & Beyond, Value City Furniture, Big Lots, Wal-Mart, 1-800 Flowers, Clairol, P&G, OhioHealth, Bacardi, Deutch Bank, HoneyBaked Ham and America Online, among others.

### Alison Trickett, SVP, Account Services

Alison brings 15 years of experience and an immeasurable amount of enthusiasm to the table. She's worked with top retail brands, leading several re-designs, omni-channel digital programs and roadmaps, and conversion testing. Alison has managed and created first-ever digital circulars and social media programs, as well as conducted countless stakeholder interviews and focus groups.

Client Experience: Express, Limited Brands, Victoria's Secret, AARP, VS Pink, Best Buy, Bare Necessities, Ashley Stewart, Bed Bath & Beyond, OhioHealth, City Gear, Value City Furniture, SpartanNash, Elmer's among others.



### **Bios—Development**

### Joe Sano, SVP, Operations & Integrated Services

Dedicated to digital experiences, Joe brings 14 years of experience to the table. He has impacted a multitude of projects, including launching entire site redesigns, creating highly technical mobile apps and developing incentivized eCommerce experiences for retail brands.

Client Experience: AAA, Bed Bath & Beyond, Big Lots, buybuy Baby, Value City Furniture, Channellock, Elmer's, Krazy Glue, AARP, Bob Evans, Barbasol, Shearer's Potato Chips, Solo Cup, Pure Silk, X-ACTO, Subway, Huntington Bank, and more.

### Billy Peake (WV Tourism Project Manager), Director, Account Services

Billy has 15 years of experience and dedication to project management and account service. Tackling big ideas and innovative projects, Billy has proven success with mobile apps, social media campaigns and aggregators, and multiple site redesigns, including groundbreaking responsive experiences (RWD).

Client Experience: Elmer's, Victoria's Secret, Purina, Aussie, Krazy Glue, City Gear, X-ACTO, Kohler, Bacardi Global Brands, Bombay Sapphire, Dewar's Whisky, Surescripts, and Alliance Data, among others.



#### **Bios**—Development

## Kyle Meadows (WV Tourism Business Analyst), Senior Director, Strategy

Kyle has 9 years of experience shaping meaningful user experiences of all sizes. With project focus spanning multi-year enterprise-level learning management systems to ecommerce and campaign-focused experiences for some of the best names in the Fortune 500, Kyle balances the needs of the user and the goals of the brand.

Client Experience: Bob Evans, Wendy's, Victoria's Secret, McGraw Hill Co., Procter & Gamble, American Express, Owens Corning, The National Cancer Institute and more.

# Jason Feldheim (WV Tourism Dev Manager), Senior Director, Technology

Jason has 15 years of experience developing solutions and leading teams of technical experts. Highly regarded for his ability to creatively solve complex technical problems for clients across a multitude of industries, Jason has built enterprise-level software applications and eCommerce websites, integrated client internal systems with multiple ESPs, mobile applications and more.

Client Experience: Victoria's Secret, Elmer's, Channellock, Big Lots, Bed Bath & Beyond, Burton Snowboards, AARP, Bob Evans, Plaskolite, among others.



#### **Bios—Development**

#### Brett Berliner, Lead Developer

Brett has 9 years of experience developing scalable software solutions for clients across numerous industries. An expert in software and database architecture and design, over the course of his career he has developed self-serve email and SMS messaging platforms, architected complex back-ends and completed extensive third-party platform and web service integrations on projects ranging from campaign-driven microsites to enterprise web experiences.

Client Experience: AARP, Grange Insurance, JP Morgan Chase, Elmer's, Channellock, Plaskolite, American Electric Power, Duke Energy, Whirlpool, OhioHealth, CollegeAdvantage 529, National Grid, Surescripts and more.

### Britt Mills, Senior Developer

Britt brings more than 10 years of diverse software development experience to bear on every project he takes on. A Software Engineer with capabilities in a wide range of technologies, Britt is well-versed in all phases of the software development lifecycle and process management. He focuses on optimizing the integration of design into his technologies in order to maximize their performance and provide the best user experience possible.

Client Experience: Best Buy, Starbucks, Goodwill Industries, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services—Columbus, Columbus Association of Realtors, Keller Williams - Columbus



#### **Bios—Development**

### Sean Sefcik, Lead Front End Developer

Sean has 15 years of experience developing modern front-end code for desktop, tablet and mobile. His highly collaborative mindset and commitment to identifying progressive technological options has resulted in top-tier work spanning large-scale site redesigns, business applications, outbound email and paid media marketing solutions and responsive mobile experiences.

Client Experience: Nationwide Insurance, Cardinal Health, Bacardi Global Brands, AARP, Bed Bath & Beyond, Value City Furniture, Alliance Data, Elmer's, Krazy Glue, X-ACTO and more.

### Darren Wissler, Front End Developer

Darren has 10 years of invaluable experience in both interactive design and development. Fluent in CSS and HTML, he has successfully contributed his front-end prowess to a variety of projects across many platforms, including Ektron, Drupal, and WordPress. He also has experience developing robust ASPX websites, brand logos, and flash animations.

Client Experience: Jani-King, CertaPro Painters, Handyman Connection, ARCO ampm, Budget Blinds, PostNet, IFA, Yosemite, Tailored Living, The UPS Store