

Driving Site Traffic: Outbound marketing techniques for increasing website traffic

Patrick Hansen and Kenan Pollack Senior Interactive Consultants









Q & A

Submit questions by typing them into the question text box and then hitting the "Ask" button.







About Us



Patrick Hansen
Senior Interactive Consultant

- Eight years experience non-profit web site development, database development, and marketing
- Four years R&D with IBM
- Published author with 12 patents
- Manager of the Convio Go! Program
- Client list includes Feeding America, National Relief Charities, National Women's Law Center, Yellowstone Park Foundation



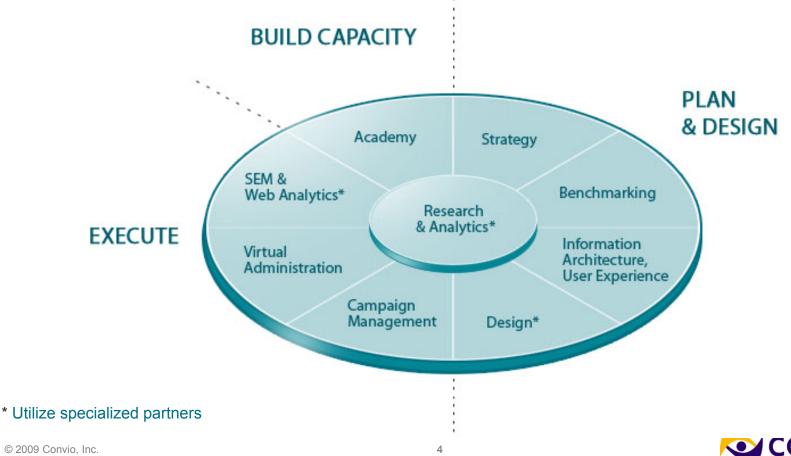
Kenan Pollack
Senior Interactive Consultant

- Twelve years experience Web site development, content management and marketing
- Four years Web site and IT management at Aid to Artisans
- Published book author and former national newsmagazine reporter
- Client list includes FairTax.org, World Wildlife Fund, Multiple Sclerosis Association of America

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About Convio's Client Success Services

50+ person agency within Convio to provide clients with the strategy, interactive services and online marketing best practices to achieve ongoing success













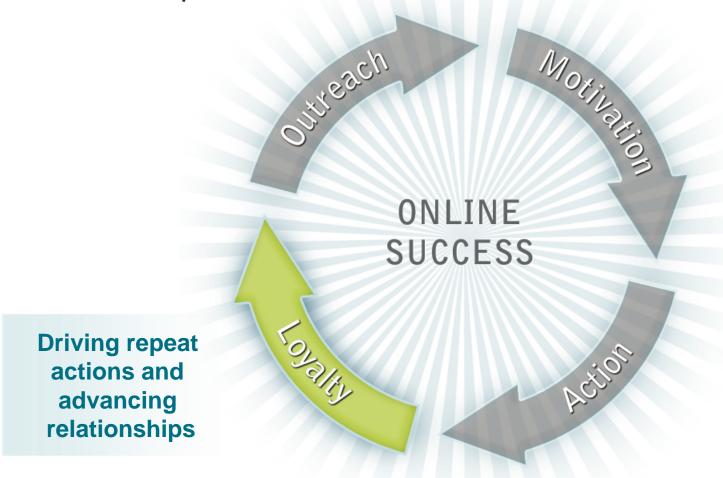


eCRM is the practice of using the Internet to build life-long relationships with constituents



Encouraging interaction with your organization







Today's Objectives: Outreach

At the end of today's session, you should feel empowered to:

- Understand the basics of website traffic
- Evaluate various site traffic-building opportunities
- 3. Begin analyzing your own site's traffic patterns
- Start planning initial tactics and strategies to grow your organization's website traffic



Your Homework...

Watch this space for ideas on what you can start doing now...



Today's Objectives: Outreach

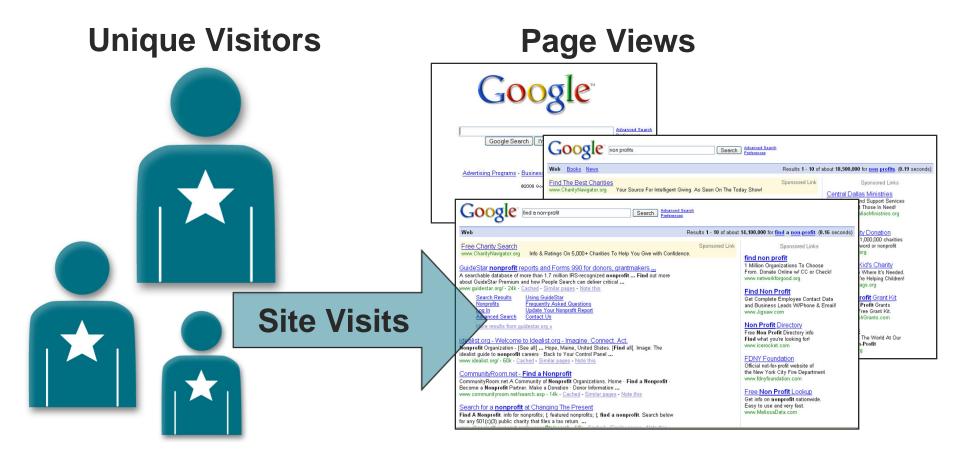
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Basics: Web Traffic Terms & Definitions



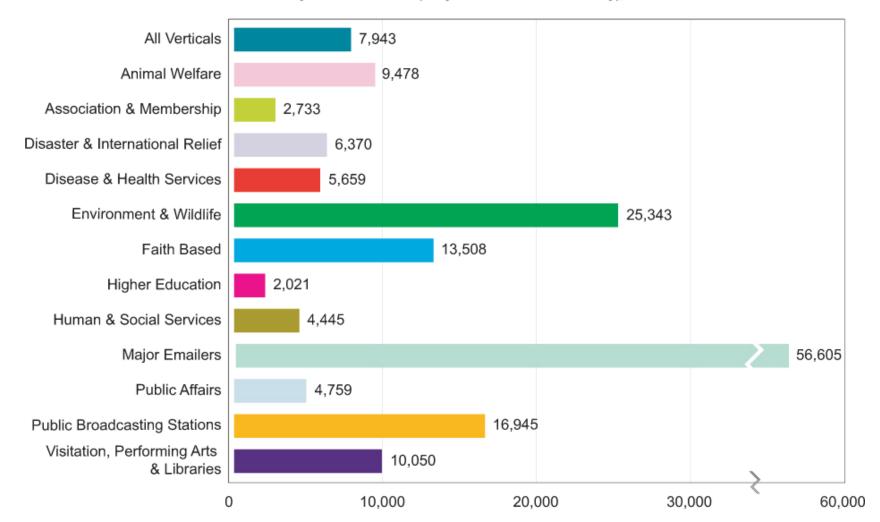
Note: Page views are not the same as "hits"



Non-Profit Web Traffic Trends

Monthly Website Traffic by Vertical

Median Visitors July 2006 - June 2007 (Fully Convio Hosted Sites Only), n = 195



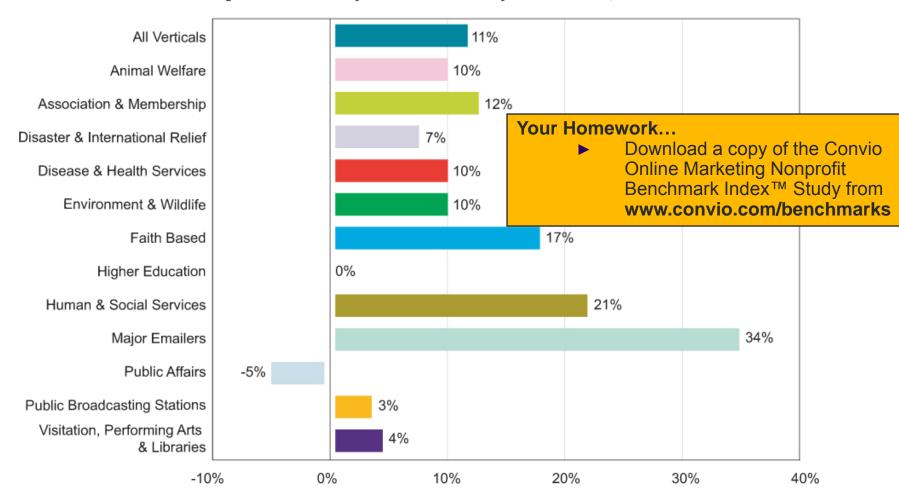


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Non-Profit Web Traffic Trends

Website Traffic Growth by Vertical

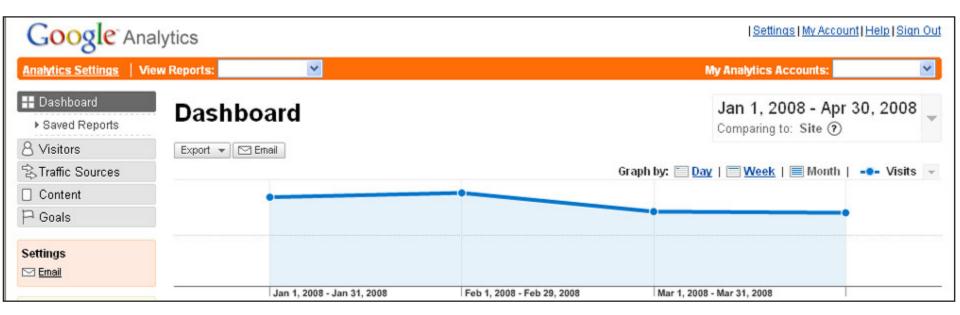
Median Change in Visitors from July 2005 - June 2006 to July 2006 - June 2007, n = 116





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Understanding Your Website Traffic Patterns



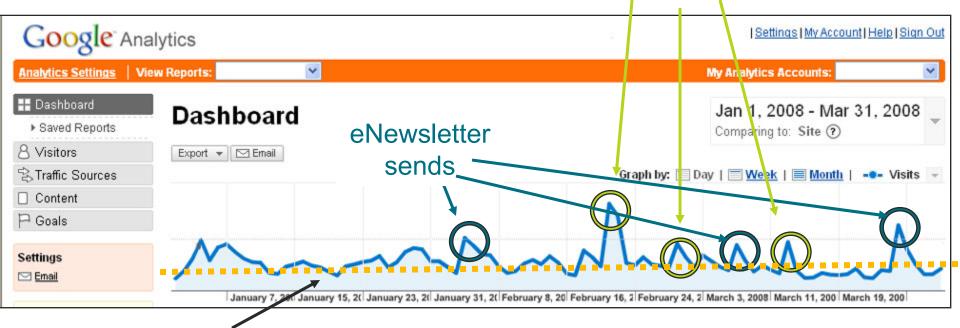
At the 35,000-foot **monthly** view, the traffic seems pretty smooth and consistent, but let's take a closer look by day...



Understanding Your Website Traffic Patterns

- Site traffic is more likely is a series of troughs and peaks; the latter often generated by outbound marketing
- Baseline traffic is really a measure of your URL "Equity"

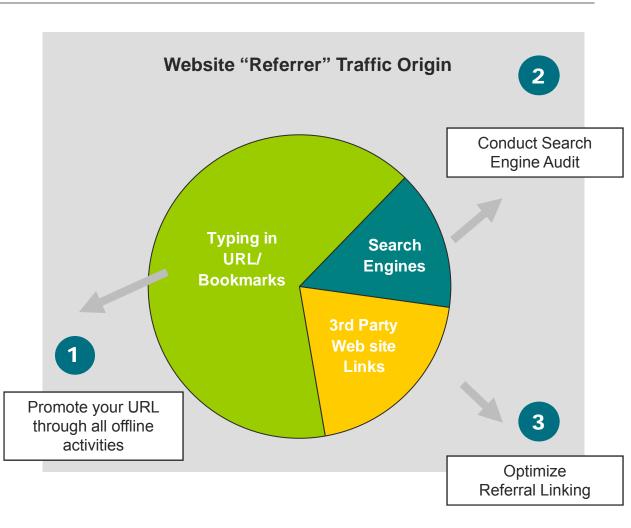
Fundraising appeals and follow-ups





What Drives Baseline Site Traffic

- What comprises your baseline traffic and where does it come from?
- What websites are driving traffic to your site?
- What key words are users entering to find you on search engines?
- What offline sources are driving this awareness?



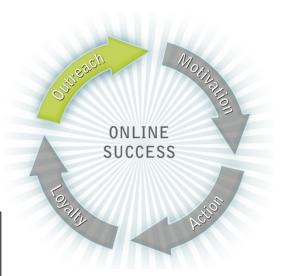


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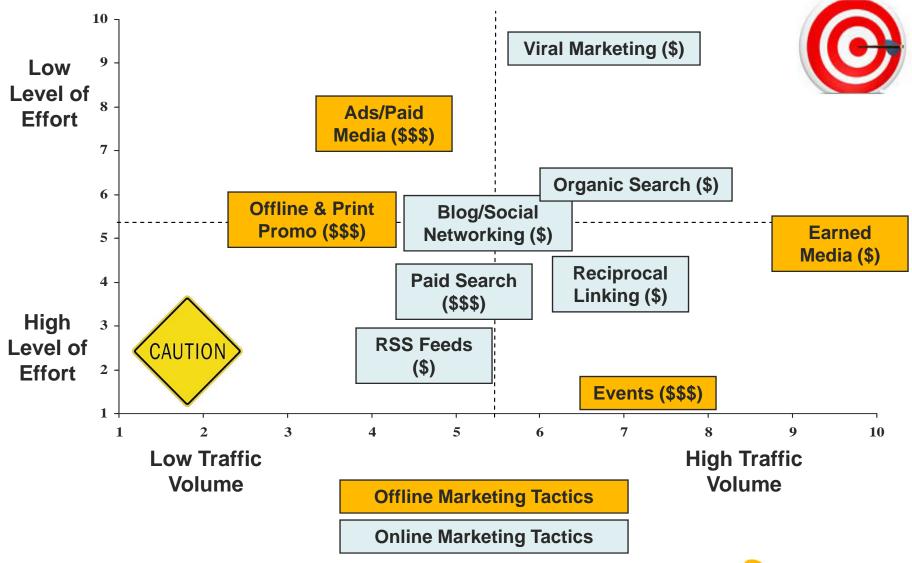
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Tactics for Building Baseline Traffic



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Baseline Traffic: Promote your Site Offline

How can we go beyond a one-way informational relationship?

- Use story continuations to drive cross-over traffic
 - Additional photos
 - Related content (videos, letters, etc.)
- Feature specific calls-to-action that are only available online:
 - Solicit reader responses to specific articles
 - Invite participation in surveys and polls
 - RSVP online for special events
- Feed online-generated content into your offline communications:
 - Publish poll and survey results
 - Choose reader responses or quotes to feature
- Highlight online relationship management
 - Update your mailing address online if you've moved Change subscription preferences





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Baseline Traffic: Search Engine Optimization (SEO)

- Follow Best Practices
 - Identify your target keywords
 - Incorporate keywords into homepage, Web pages, title and meta description tags; keep single issue per page.
 - Pay special attention to the Title Tag
 - ► Focus on reciprocal links from other sites
 - Search Engine Submission Links
- Conduct a Search Engine Audit
 - How much of your Web site traffic currently comes from search engine referrers
 - ► Benchmark your performance for target keywords; Are other non-profit sites coming up instead?
 - Conduct competitive analysis
 - Monitor over time
- Have funds? Consider investing in SEO services



Baseline Traffic: Search Engine Optimization (SEO)



<meta name="description"</pre>

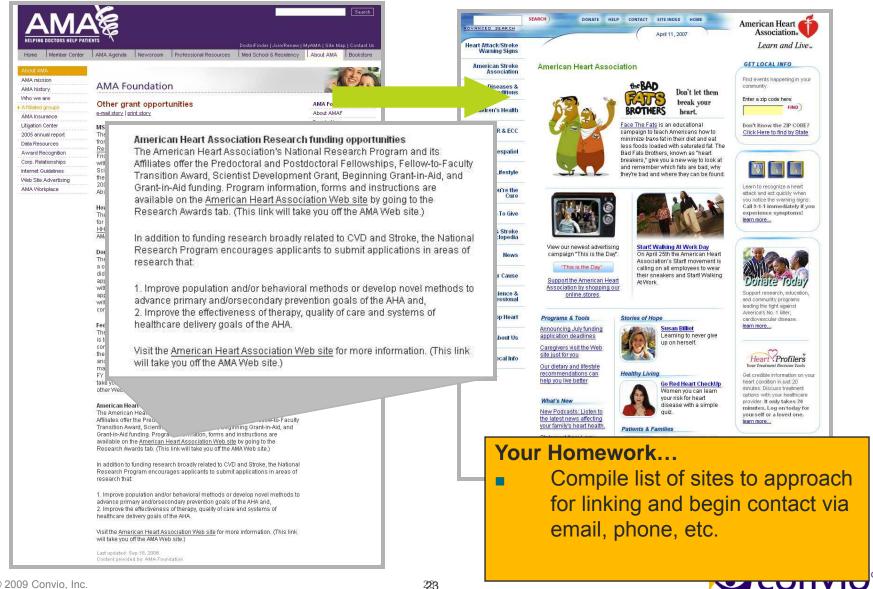
content="Social Security is one of America's most successful government programs. It has helped millions of Americans avoid poverty in old age, upon becoming disabled, or after the death of a family wage earner.">

<meta name="keywords" content=",
Center for American Progress,
American Progress, progressive,
ideas, progressive ideas, strong,
free, just, America">

<title>Saving Social Security Center for American
Progress</title>



Baseline Traffic: Encourage Reciprocal Linking



Baseline Traffic: Search Engine Marketing (SEM)

- Strategically utilize paid search
- "Purchase" keywords to promote visibility
 - "illinois" and "child abuse"
 - "illinois" and "homeless"
 - "illinois" and "food bank"
- Searchers are pre-qualified prospects -- compel them to visit your Web site and act
- Craft offers designed to drive traffic and registrations
- Paid SEM acquisitions can be driven down to below \$1, but cost to convert to donor still significant

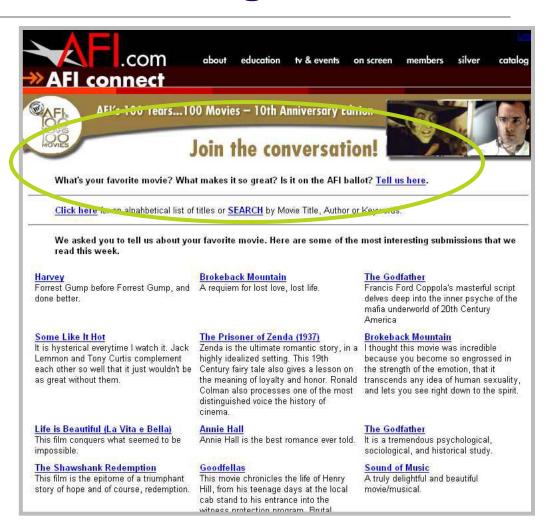




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Baseline Traffic: Viral Marketing

- Offer compelling content that warrants pass-along
- Productive technique for many nonprofits:
 - ➤ Tell-a-Friend, eCards connected to voting, petitions, etc.
- AFI Results:
 - Asked constituents to "vote" on favorite movie
 - Over 7,000 <u>new</u> email addresses collected
 - Grew email file 22% in 90 days





Baseline Traffic: Social Networking Sites

- Extend your organization's online presence to social networking sites like Facebook, YouTube, Flickr and Gather
- Use personal outreach tools to empower supporters to extend their fundraising campaigns to their online social networks











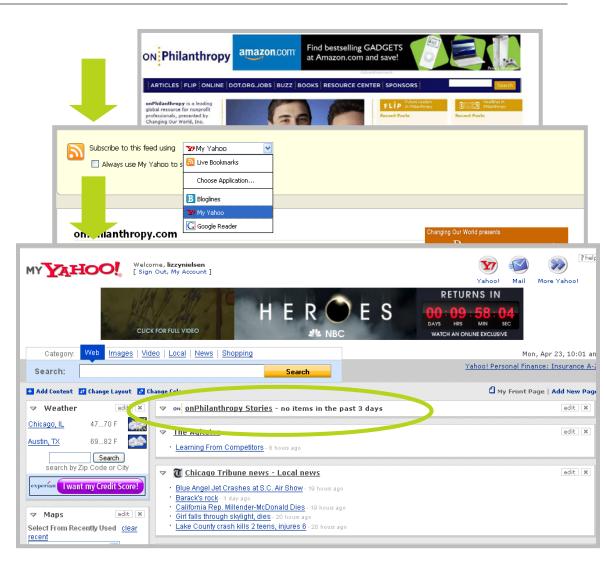






Baseline Traffic: Blogs & RSS Feeds

- Offer convenience by serving content directly to users where and when they want it
- No need to rely solely on email marketing to reach out to constituents
- Must provide fresh, relevant content, update regularly





Outbound Marketing: Email Communications

- Scheduled Communications: Email communications whose timing and execution can be planned well in advance (i.e. appeals, eNewsletters, policy briefs, Executive Director letters).
- Timely Communications: Based upon specific events—legislation, disaster, etc.—which can drive awareness but may arise unexpectedly in the course of the year.

Your Homework...

Develop an editorial calendar for all scheduled communications

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 Create plan around "Timely" communication needs



Outbound Marketing: Email Appeals

- Think of your fundraising campaign as having a coherent beginning, middle, and end.
- Does not require fancy design, just a cohesive message.

Launch: Define need & goals



Update: Underscore need and show progress



Last-Chance: Redefine need & goals cultivate non-donors



Thank-You: Steward donors &





Outbound Marketing: Email Newsletters

- Forward to a Friend and Donate links above the fold
- Excerpt-style newsletter, with monthly headline feature
- Look remains consistent from issue to issue
- Headlines and features change from month to month
- Speaks to reader through clear calls to action like "Update Your Address," "Forward to a Friend," and "Learn more"

If you are unable to view the message below, Click Here to view this message on our website THE YELLOWSTONE PARK FOUNDATION

Forward to a Friend | Donate | www.ypf.org

In this Issue

April 2008 Dear System, You are receiving Yellowstone eNews at support@convio.com.

> Click here to update your profile >>

Donate Now

Online Roving Rangers

Now you can download a Yellowstone Ranger to your computer or iPod Read more

Volunteer Anglers Needed

Yellowstone asks fly-fishing visitors for help with native trout conservation

Cycle for Yellowstone

The 11th Annual Spring Cycle Tour benefits the Yellowstone Park Foundation

Winter is gradually coming to an end in Yellowstone. Annual wolf collaring was recently completed, roads are being plowed, and groundbreaking will soon occur for the new Visitor Education Center. Read on to learn what's happening this spring in Yellowstone, and how you can get involved...

Wolf Research is a Year-Round Effort



Each winter, Yellowstone Wolf Project staff and volunteers brave frigid temperatures and unpredictable weather on a daily basis to conduct essential research on the Park's wolf packs. A typical day begins before first light with teams heading into the field to locate and document wolf movements, kill

rates, hunting techniques, pack numbers, and wolf behavior. Days are long and rarely end before dark. But the payoff is the opportunity to contribute to one of the longest continuous wildlife monitoring programs in Yellowstone.

Spring Beckons Active Visitors to Yellowstone



Spring biking and hiking are great ways to enjoy Yellowstone. Some greenery is starting to sprout, waterfalls are thundering with spring runoff, and Park visitation is lighter than in the summertime.

For a limited time, certain roads are plowed and made available to bicyclists and other non-motorized activities. And even though Yellowstone usually still has snow on the ground in the springtime, there are numerous trails suitable for spring day hiking.

Learn More >>

Contract Awarded for Visitor Education Center



Around three million people each year visit Yellowstone, and most of them make a stop at Old Faithful, Unfortunately, too many leave the Park without ever having an opportunity to learn about Yellowstone's volcanic past and the workings of the world's largest concentration of geysers and hot

springs. But soon all that will change.

Learn More >>

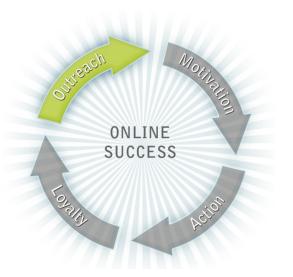


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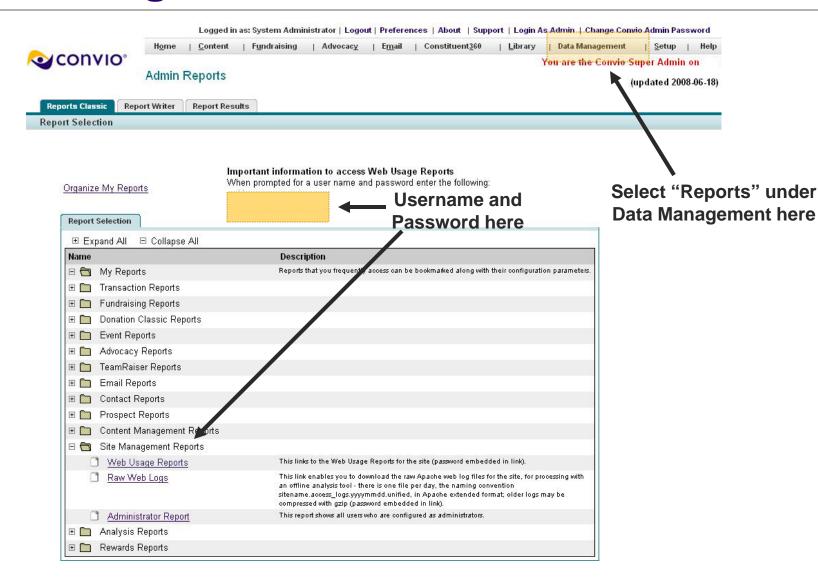
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Measuring Your Results: AW Stats





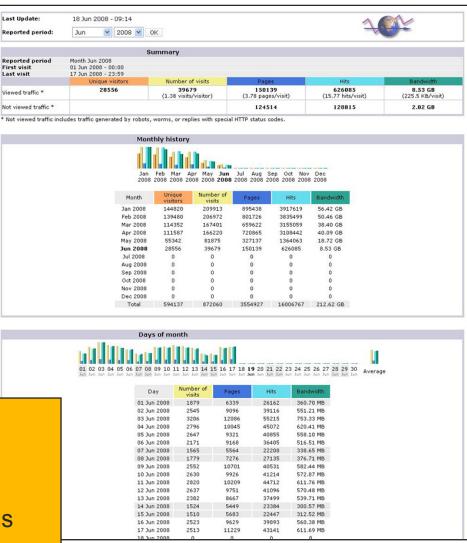
| Setup | Help

Measuring Your Results: AW Stats

- Provides basic data including:
 - Visitors
 - Page views
 - Most viewed pages
 - Month/day/hour
 - Referring URLs/Sites
 - Browser breakdown
- Caveats:
 - Only tracking traffic on Convio-powered pages
 - Many "Page Not Found" errors

Your Homework...

- Login into your AW Stats account
- Review your current and historical site traffic patterns





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Measuring Your Results: Google Analytics

Provides AW Stats-type data plus:

- Can run across multiple sites if you're not just using Convio for hosting
- Provides goal setting and tracking
- "Google-friendly" with clean, easy-to-use interface
- It's free!



Your Homework...

- ► Learn more at: http://www.google.com/analytics
- Get instructions for adding Google Analytics to your account at: http://customer.convio.com/site/News2?page=NewsArticle&id=10579



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Thank You!

