Case Study: NewRelic

Client overview

New Relic One is the most powerful cloud-based observability platform built to help companies create more perfect software. Their cloud-based platform gives engineers, operations, and management a clear view of what’s happening in today’s complex software environments.

Services

- PPC Management
- Strategy

- 34% Decrease in CPA for Branded Search
- 26% Decrease in CPA for Non-Branded Search
- 23% Increase in Total Verified Sign-Ups
New Relic came to Directive amidst a massive business reorganization that left them dealing with rising acquisition costs across paid advertising channels. Due to the organizational shift and lack of closed loop conversion tracking, New Relic was struggling to strategically prioritize campaign optimization. This gap in data made prioritizing optimization strategies based on cost and revenue projections nearly impossible - which was a serious problem in New Relic’s market within search engines, causing expensive average cost-per-clicks for target keywords. They were flying blind with their strategy, and needed help fine tuning their aim.

Directive worked with data architects to implement multiple iterations of custom Google Analytics Events in order to clean up New Relic’s conversion tracking for more efficient budgetary pivots. Directive also ran New Relic’s entire site through a customized unique value proposition (UVP) analysis to optimize their copy and keyword targeting to align better towards their ideal consumer use-cases. After identifying which campaigns were driving the most qualified sign-ups at the lowest cost per acquisition (CPA), Directive would then use Alpha-Beta account structures to optimize New Relic’s ad spend towards campaigns they now confidently knew were driving significant pipeline growth. Properly aligning New Relic’s data-driven strategy would evolve their current ad setup into a structure that allowed for consistently scalable growth.
Directive’s Approach was focused on optimizing the output of New Relic’s campaigns - They needed more wood behind fewer arrows. Supplying the wood and knowing where to aim came down to relying on scalable Alpha-Beta PPC campaigns across multiple platforms while better aligning New Relic’s tracking to their end CRM metrics, respectively.

Custom Google Event Tracking For Closer 1:1 Conversion Ratio

First and foremost, Directive had to properly align New Relic’s tracking with their offline sales stage metrics. This required multiple iterations of Custom Google Event creations working with data architects at New Relic to finetune their goal conversion to a closer 1:1 ratio with what their CRM was reflecting. After properly aligning their tracking, Directive would be able to confidently pivot campaigns and budgets to optimize their paid ad performance towards growing New Relic’s pipeline.
Custom UVP Analysis And Account Wide Copy Optimization

Directive ran New Relic’s entire site through their customized Unique Value Proposal (UVP) Analysis in order to properly align their copy, keyword targeting, and value positioning to their end consumer's ideal use case. These value insights were then implemented onto the site using Optimizely to continuously improve messaging and relevancy based on Directive’s UVP analysis to increase conversion rates and volume. This site wide CRO resulted in a 48.89% lift in conversion rates across the account.

Alpha-Beta Campaign Prioritization To Scale Lead Gen

Now that they had fine-tuned New Relic's tracking to more meaningful KPIs, Directive could confidently shift budget within the account for a more aggressive lead generation strategy. Directive prioritized winning keyword campaigns with an Alpha-Beta structure to aggressively double down budget on winning audiences while testing and optimizing the average-to-low performers in the Beta group. The Alpha-Beta Structure allowed Directive to maximize impression share for top performers in the Alpha while leveraging broader keywords, smart bidding, and new audience targeting in the Beta to search for new ways to boost performance. This allowed Directive to maximize the growth of the account while continually optimizing for lead quality, which allowed for the simultaneous drop in CPAs while increasing lead volume.
The results speak for themselves

Directive’s strategically guided campaign optimizations were able to decrease New Relic’s Cost Per Acquisition across branded search by 34% and non-branded search by 26% (in the First Quarter of 2021 alone). Furthermore — as opposed to what is often the case with decreased CPAs — Directive actually managed to increase New Relic’s Total Verified Sign-Ups, a meaningful metric for both sales & marketing by 23%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Decrease in CPA for Branded Search</th>
<th>Decrease in CPA for Non-Branded Search</th>
<th>Increase in Total Verified Sign-Ups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Why It Mattered

Directive’s emphasis on accurate conversion tracking for the sake of spend & performance projections enlightens marketers to the power of reverse engineered optimization strategies. By properly aligning their KPIs with a closer 1:1 ratio of New Relic’s sales cycle, Directive was able to calculate the projected results of any optimization strategy to better leverage each pivot they made for the campaign.

The results speak for themselves — a continually growing pipeline that both decreases costs while increasing lead volume. That’s what happens when you take the time to make sure you assemble enough wood and take proper aim: You end up hitting the bullseye.

"Bringing down our overall cost per acquisition month over month as we lowered spend, while keeping a high efficiency as we scaled, was more than we could have asked for."

**Michael Ryno**
Senior Marketing Manager, NewRelic
Directive,

Other agencies might help you get discovered in search.

We make you completely unmissable.

Get in touch