

# 11 Biggest Sales Trends in 2023 Written by: Sydney Smith & Denise Horan

#### Creativity is the new sales hack

- To thrive in these new times, businesses should work smarter by taking calculated risks and seeking a first-mover advantage, emphasizing the need for unconventional techniques and approaches in sales.
- Creativity is identified as a significant sales trend in 2023, necessitated by challenging circumstances such as the aftermath of the pandemic, extreme inflation, global conflicts, and impending recession.

#### **Implement** sales automation

- Automation streamlines routine tasks, freeing up time for sales professionals to brainstorm and devise more creative and personalized sales strategies, resulting in a win-win situation
- Eliminates incompetent agents, reduces manual data entry, and provides quick, accurate responses to customer inquiries, thanks to unified databases and efficient workflow management, ultimately enhancing customer service.

#### **Implement value-based selling**

• Instead of focusing solely on price or discounts, adopt a value-based selling strategy. Understand your prospect's needs and tailor your offers to highlight the benefits and outcomes your product or service can provide. Emphasize the value it brings to the customer.

#### Bring your teams closer together

 Implementing a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system ensures that both sales and marketing teams have access to essential lead information, their position in the sales pipeline, and the required marketing strategies to facilitate conversion, promoting team collaboration.

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# Social Selling is Essential

- Businesses increasingly embrace social selling as a must-practice, focusing on planting the idea in prospects' minds rather than pushing immediate sales.
- Dedicate daily time to being active on social media, engaging through posts, sharing market insights, liking, and leaving valuable comments.

#### Customer success over customer support

- Shifting from traditional customer support to prioritizing customer success is crucial in 2023. Customers now seek a holistic experience and assurance that the product or service will genuinely contribute to their business success.
- Building strong relationships and proactively engaging with customers, including personalized demos, walk-throughs, and regular check-ins, is essential.

### Multi-Channel, personalized experiences

• Businesses must adapt to the digital landscape, recognize that the buyer's journey is now independent and varied, and offer a seamless, consistent customer experience across a wide range of channels.

#### Video for sales

• Embrace the power of video content to effectively communicate the value of your offer and streamline your sales process, as exemplified by the success of companies like MediaValet, which reduced their sales cycle by half through video integration.

#### Don't invest in strategies you can't vouch for

- Businesses must prioritize data-driven sales strategies, making Customer Relationship Management (CRM) updates a team habit to ensure clean and reliable data.
- This approach helps identify wasteful practices and promotes the scaling and replication of successful sales strategies while conserving resources.

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# Artificial Intelligence (AI) is taking over

- The sales process increasingly relies on AI-powered analytics, which provides more accurate and time-efficient sales forecasts.
- Al-driven insights help optimize strategies, ensuring high precision and adaptability in a dynamic market environment.

#### A Conversational Customer experience

- Businesses are shifting away from traditional cold calling and embracing conversational customer experiences with live chat and chatbots, leveraging AI for better personalization, improved customer support, and increased sales.
- It's crucial to balance digital and human communication to meet customer preferences and needs effectively.

#### Overall

In the face of ongoing global challenges, businesses have a choice: view them as threats or seize them as opportunities for innovation and growth. The key is to select and adopt sales trends that align best with your business, positioning yourself as a cutting-edge company that can thrive even in times of economic downturn.

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