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Product Launch Free AMA Membership with a Drone Purchase at Best Buy Case Study

Situation

In 2015, drones were quickly becoming a popular mass market product. Drones were the "HOT" gift item for Christmas 2015. The retailer, Best Buy planned a three-month holiday marketing effort to sell drones for Christmas. This involved stocking drones, creating point-of-sale displays and advertising. Retail and online retail competition was expected to be significant. Price point was going to be a key purchase driver. Best Buy wanted a competitive advantage by adding more value to the product. In addition, they wanted to be recognized as promoting safe drone flying. I pitched Best Buy in bundling a free AMA membership (\$75 value) with selected drone purchases. In addition, provide communications to promote safe drone flying.

Timeline: Ten weeks to launch.

Product Development and Launch

Worked directly and coordinated cross-functionally with the Best Buy new product launch team. Gift card development, IT, Product management and buying, Retail merchandising, Product retail training, Marketing communications for public relations and advertising.

Strategy

- 1. Created a gift card for a free AMA membership to be bundled with the purchase of selected drones. Best Buy would compensate AMA \$75 for each gift card redeemed.
- 2. Persuade purchaser of a drone at Buy Best to redeem their gift card for a free AMA membership.
- 3. Educate purchasers about AMA safe flying guidelines and how to fly safely and responsibly.
- 4. Created a unique URL and membership enrollment landing page. It promoted membership benefits, safe flying guidelines and persuaded purchasers to redeem their free membership gift card.
- 5. Best Buy promoted the program in their Sunday inserts and online. Increased awareness for AMA.

Metrics

The three-month program generated 1,485 new members and \$111,375 in dues revenue.