newsvine

What is Newsvine?

Newsvine is a community-powered, collaborative journalism news website, owned by msnbc.com, which draws content from its users and syndicated content from mainstream sources such as The Associated Press.

Users can write articles, seed links to external content, and discuss news items submitted by both users and professional journalists.

Acts as a social news platform for the community which has grown around it. Members decide with their actions what news makes it onto the site and what news is removed, and the Newsvine staff works to keep the platform operating and evolving.

How Newsvine is different from the major news site?

Newsvine is a giant collection of news from all over the world, contributed and controlled entirely by Newsvine users like yourself. Whether it comes from the Associated Press, The New York Times, or the BBC, you'll see it here. Newsvine employs no editors because you decide what appears here. When you read a story you like, leave a comment on it or click the "vote" button above the headline and your input is automatically calculated into the story's popularity score. What you see on the Newsvine front page every day is a direct reflection of the community's actions on the site.

Site Demographic

Based on internet averages, newsvine.com is visited more frequently by users who are in the age range 55-64 and received some college education.

Vineacity

Vineacity is a measure of six elements that contribute to a Newsvine user's overall rating as a positive influence to the Newsvine community. Earned as 'branches' on a Newsvine logo icon displayed next to the user's name, the six areas of excellence include:

Courtesy - earned when a user's positive feedback outweighs any abuse reports they may have received.

Longevity - earned when the users has been active for at least two months after registering.

Fruitfulness - earned when the user has submitted a substantial amount of content or comments that have received votes.

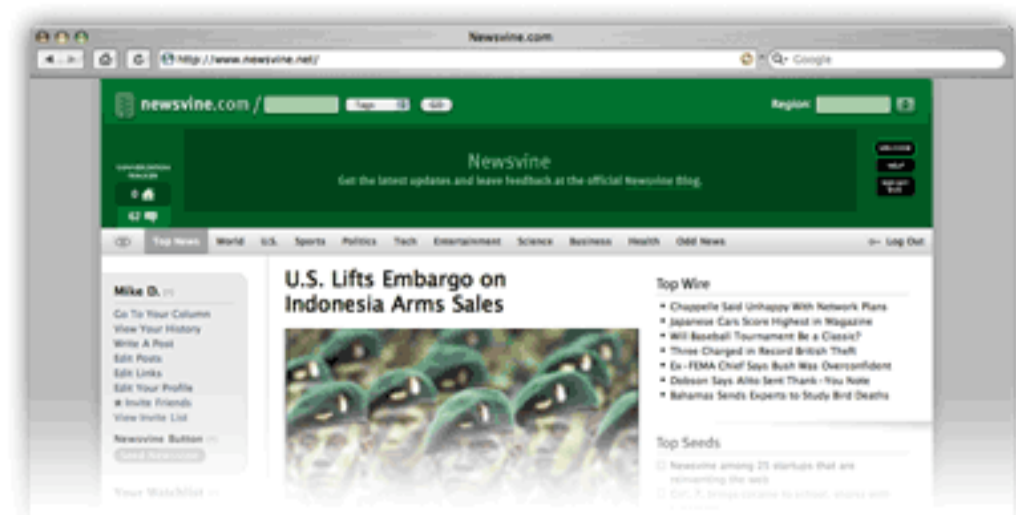Connectedness - earned when the user appears on a substantial number of watchlists and/or friendlists.

Random Act of Vineness - earned for an exceptional moment of greatness on Newsvine.

Lifetime achievement - earned when a user has received a combined number of votes on all articles, links and comments around Newsvine.

Welcome Page

Newsvine. Get smarter here.™

Welcome to the Newsvine collective. A place where anyone can read, write, and influence the news.

If you're just into **reading**, you'll find thousands of Associated Press articles posted and indexed faster than any site on the web. If you'd like to **discuss** the news, you'll find places to **chat** and **comment** within every article. If you'd like to **write** your own column – and collect ad revenue from it – Newsvine will publish it for you. And finally, if you'd like to create your own public trail of interesting stories you've read around the web, **seeding** Newsvine is for you.

📖 read

Browse and discuss articles from all around the web – straight from the Associated Press, ESPN and thousands of other sources.

Head to the Front Page

✏️ write

Start your own Newsvine column at "*yourname*.newsvine.com" in less than a minute and keep your own ad earnings.

Begin Writing

🌱 seed

You don't need to write to influence the news. Point readers to articles you've read elsewhere on the web with one easy click.

How to Seed

METHOD

The research methods were focused on experiment the Users of the community exploring the features established to evaluate is work, the quality control actions by others users and motivations to keep using the site as registered user, the goal is obtain a qualitative measure. It will be used a combination of interviews and observations to random leaderboard users to understand their behavior. With this method is expected to find the motivations of newsvine users community.

It will be tested the interest on reporting when members use inaccurate information, duplicate story, advertise and miscategorized/off-topic article. It will be interesting to measure how a user that is recurrently a target of reports on these issues and do nothing to correct it, what are the consequences.

RESULTS

The observations and interviews performed allowed to understand that exist a mix of registered users, one type that contributes more creating new articles or seeding news from other sites, and a second type that contributes more leaving comments in articles. The results show that majority newsvine leaderboard users write about Politics.

The report button is mainly used to report spammers, if the articles have inaccurate information or other non-spam related information users uses the public discussion space to post.

The main reason why contributors keep using newsvine is due to the ad revenue with observation revealing that users have clearly more seeds pointing to articles that they have read in another place on the web.

When a user creates an account and writes an article or seeds a link, Newsvine places an ad on that user's content. Results reveal several users using a seeded link to a personal blog or site with ads that generate revenue when someone visits. It does violate the user agreement in that the users are linking back to their own content outside of Newsvine and that the content falls under advertising, a reportable infraction. In fact results show users very happy with this system of writing some useful information and generate profit, however other users is very angry, they claim to use the system according to policy rules and have seen their account suspended.

This was experienced when observation analysis were performed with the behavior of the reporting system. with one account was written a few articles with appropriate information and comments to others articles, acting as normal user. With another account was used to report about the first, using the report button to report about advertise and inaccurate information. In the next day without any notice the account of the affected user has been suspended.

CONCLUSIONS

Newsvine staff mostly works to keep the platform working and left the quality of contents to be controlled by members, Newsvine offers different resources to its members to get involved and because who writes needs exposure, be a member of this community is a legitimate way to gain more visibility and also earn money with ad revenue on their personal newsvine page. This earnings are based on traffic to articles and seeds and 10% percent go to whoever referred the user to Newsvine, because of this exists a relevant part of articles in service of spammers. While there are many spammers abusing Newsvine, there's also an active group members, newsvine anti-spam that any user could join, using their personal newsvine page specifically for the clipping of articles/seeds found on Newsvine that are spam, advertising, self-seeding, SEO link-farming, for ease of reporting to staff and tracking.

Due active community actions to control the quality of contents this not always works as expected, the report feature allows to someone malicious to report as many times you want on users articles and because of that the user account is automatically disabled without further notice, this causes a backlash from the affected user that does not know why it was removed. An e-mail notice to the affected user would be recommended, before disable his account.