

New Notified/PRWeek Survey Sheds Light on the Evolving Nature of Influence

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Findings Reveal Challenges and Opportunities Across Influencing Stakeholders, Building Trust and Al Adoption

NEW YORK, July 25, 2024 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Notified, a globally trusted technology partner for investor relations and public relations professionals, today published <u>The Evolution of Influence</u> in partnership with <u>PRWeek</u> – the latest communications industry survey that showcases how public relations is changing and how communicators can stay ahead.

Among the findings, the majority of PR pros believe it's more challenging than ever to influence stakeholder awareness, trust and sentiment, given the proliferation of digital platforms and information sources. The data also shows a rising trend in Al adoption, as respondents use the technology to enhance storytelling, build consumer trust, reach new audiences and maintain message consistency.

"In 2024, no organization has a straightforward path to influence due to the proliferation of digital channels. Our data shows that nearly every communications team faces pressing challenges in building trust, improving brand favorability and managing the corporate narrative," said Adam Christensen, Chief Marketing Officer at Notified. "In this new era of influence, communicators must adopt the latest tech tools to solve the latest tech problems or risk being left behind. Al is just one way in which PR pros can enhance storytelling, reach new audiences, glean data insights and maintain a competitive edge."

The survey asked 155 agency and in-house leaders about the factors and challenges directly impacting the ability to do their jobs – including decentralized digital channels, the adoption of AI, building and maintaining consumer and stakeholder trust and the rise of deepfakes/fake news.

Additional findings include:

- Building Trust Is More Difficult Than Ever Before: As sources of influence spread beyond traditional media, communicators face the daunting task of pinpointing audience engagement and cultivating trust. 69% foresee challenges in maintaining consistent, high-quality messaging across various platforms. Only 35% believe decentralized influence will foster transparency, authenticity, and enhanced stakeholder trust and engagement.
- The Increased Threat of Deepfakes and Fake News: Communicators recognize the peril posed by fake news and deepfakes, with 79% acknowledging their measurable threat to brand reputation. Surprisingly, 70% devote less than 10% of their time to safeguarding against these risks, underscoring the urgent need for increased focus on reputation management and strategy.
- Al Can Help PR Pros Tell More Powerful Stories: Communicators are embracing Al to elevate storytelling and boost PR effectiveness. 64% now see Al as a significant enhancer of storytelling (up from 54% last year), while 23% believe it can unlock new, untapped audiences. Moreover, 36% rank Al among their top-four essential skills today, with a remarkable 77% predicting its enduring importance over the next five years.

"What excites me most about this report is how it clearly reveals a shifting conversation among communicators when it comes to AI," added Gideon Fidelzeid, Editorial Director of Custom at PRWeek. "Gone, for the most part, is chatter about losing jobs to technology. While there are still concerns, much talk is now focused on how AI can help PR pros not only do their jobs better, but even prove the discipline's value in more concrete ways than ever before. This report truly is a study in evolution on many fronts."

To access the complete data and insights, download the full report.

A Media Snippet accompanying this announcement is available by clicking on this link.

About Notified

At Notified, we champion the corporate storyteller. We empower investor relations and public relations professionals with the tools, technologies and expertise to tell their stories powerfully, effectively and flawlessly.

Relied on by more than 10,000 global clients, we enable IR and PR teams to stay in control of their corporate narrative with a suite of world-class, award-winning solutions and dedicated customer service team. Our end-to-end communications solutions include everything from GlobeNewswire press release distribution, social listening and media monitoring to earnings calls, IR websites and investor days.

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About PRWeek

PRWeek epitomizes the modern business publishing brand, spanning online, print, events, and social media, incorporating a paid-for content strategy and gated website. Launched in November 1998, it is the essential title for PR pros.

PRWeek reflects an industry playing a more pivotal role than ever, not only in the marketing strategies of companies, brands, and organizations, but also within boardrooms and in the C-suite.

In the transparent world epitomized by social media, corporate reputation is crucial. Executives need timely, authoritative, insightful content to navigate this landscape — that's where PRWeek comes in.

Breaking news, analysis, and opinion fuels PRWeek's content. And the brand extends into the iconic PRWeek Awards, annual conferences, roundtables, webcasts and virtual forums.

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