## BERMUDA TOURISM AUTHORITY

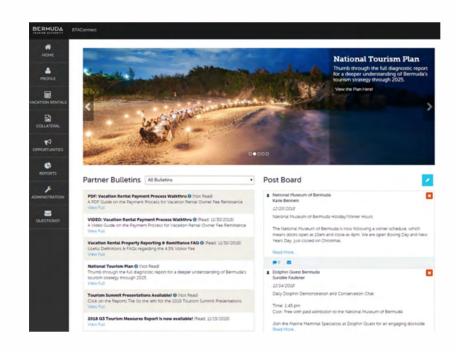
## Q4 2018 Report

# Research & Business Intelligence

## During Q4 of 2018, the Research & Business (RBI) Intelligence Division accomplished the following:

#### 1. CRM Management:

- a) The partner portal called "BTA Connect" was launched in October 2018 at the Annual Tourism Summit. This allows stakeholders to update their profiles on gotobermuda.com, access special reports and news. Vacation Rental owners/agents can also remit tourism authority fees through this portal.
- Stakeholder training was held in October and November and a vacation rental payment portal tutorial video was also created.



2. Continued Personal Information Inventory and PIPA compliance process.



3. Successfully completed soft launch of online visitor arrival form, available to visitors in advance of arrival at bermudaarrivalcard.com. The information with visitors on events and activities prior to arrival. It also reduces the manual processing of visits allows the BTA to share or arrival forms.





#### WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE COMING TO VISIT

Thank you for filling out your visitor arrival form in advance. Please print a copy of the PDF attached to this email and show immigration officials in Bermuda along with your passport. That's it! Before you know it you'll be through the airport and living the island life.







#### Visitor Info

Last Name

Midde Initial

Smith

E

First Name

Male

George Citizenship/Nationality

Passport number

Expiration Date

United States

1234567 02/04/2026

Email

gesmith22@gmail.com

Oate of Birth 06/01/1976 07/30/2018

AA1416

Home Address

Number / Street Name / Unit

123 Madison Avenue

NEW YORK

City/Parish

State/Province/Region

NEW YORK

NEW YORK

United States

Zip/Postal Code 10016

First trip to Bermuda?

Yes

Intendent stay # nights

Primary Purpose of Visit

Vacation

Accommodation

**Fairmont Southampton** 

#### In addition, RBI continued the following:

- 1. Monitor and provide analysis on:
  - a. Air service to Bermuda:
    - i. Monthly reports on capacity, load factors and route performance
    - ii. Existing and potential new routes
    - iii. Future schedules for projections and use by staff, partners & stakeholders
  - b. Future demand projections
  - c. Local perception of the BTA and the Tourism Industry to assist with stakeholder and public outreach strategies.
- 2. Report monthly and quarterly on:
  - a. Tourism Key Performance Indicators, including air, cruise, yacht arrivals, air service, visitor expenditure, visitor satisfaction, hotel performance, future projections, etc.
  - b. Corporate objective status to staff and Board of Directors.
- 3. Meet quarterly with hotel partners (in conjunction with Sales & Marketing team) to review data, trends identify opportunities.

## Product & Experiences

## During Q4 of 2019, the Product & Experiences Division accomplished the following:

#### 1. BTA Experience Investment

The 2018 Tourism Experiences Investment Process received 52 total applications, of which 25 were approved for support as they demonstrated overall alignment with BTA's objectives and strategy for 2019. Of the 25 successful applicants, four will receive support for the first time.

Just over half of the supported experiences focusing on sports and adventure will look to build on BTA's brand positioning as a year-round sports destination, while increasing air arrivals and on-island visitor spending. The remaining experiences will continue to provide authentic and immersive offerings to enhance Bermuda's arts and culture assets. The list of approved experiences can be accessed here:

https://www.gotobermuda.com/bta/tourism-experiences-investment

## 2. BTA Activations and Sponsored Experiences Highlights

Gombey International Festival Pilot Package (October 6) – In partnership with the Department of Community & Cultural Affairs, the BTA piloted its first visitor package offering for the Bermuda International Gombey Festival. Certified Tourism Ambassadors and a local Gombey enthusiast hosted visitors for an immersive cultural experience at one of Bermuda's most popular fall offerings. The pilot sold 26 out of 30 packages. Visitor feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Guests enjoyed a pre-event cocktail hour and private photo opportunity with Gombeys, along with special reserved seating to watch performances by Bermuda Gombey troupes, international stilt walkers and other guests.

Bermuda Street Food Festival (October 28) – Expanding our culinary experience for visitors during the fall, the Bermuda Food Truck Festival evolved into the Bermuda Street Food Festival. The event was designed to provide visitors and residents with wider options highlighting Bermuda's diverse food culture. Participants included food trucks, pop-up vendors and local "mom and pop" businesses from across the island. First-time participants included Big B's Barbeque, Sid's Seafood, St. David's Seafood, Simple Café, Jamaican Grill, Confections and the Dockyard Brewing Company Beerpod. In total, this first-time event registered 1771 attendees, of which 611 were cruise and air visitors.





#### 2. BTA Activations and Sponsored Experiences Highlights cont.

Airbnb Experiences Information Session (November 28 & 29) – The BTA's new partnership with Airbnb will see locally-led Bermuda experiences hosted on the popular online lodging and hospitality site commencing Spring 2019. Airbnb Experiences are activities designed to provide visitors with a unique look at a destination through the lens of a local resident. To prepare the community for the launch of this new initiative, the BTA hosed two information sessions with Airbnb representatives on November 28 and 29. Over 130 people attended the sessions; there was a high level of enthusiasm and engagement for this new opportunity for local experience providers. It is anticipated that Airbnb Bermuda Experiences will formally launch by April 2019.

**Bermuda Pilot Gigs Regatta** - The 2nd Bermuda Pilot Gigs Regatta was another successful event on Bermuda's sailing calendar and took place from October 21 - 27. The Regatta attracted visitors mainly from the UK and Europe. The event hosted 60 international visitors with a total of 312 room nights.

Bermuda Squash Challenge (November 8 – 10) - For the 11th consecutive year, the Bermuda Squash Challenge took place with 16 teams and 4 international players competing over three-day period. This event attracted 40 overseas visitors and generated 52 room nights.

**BLTA Junior ITF Tournament (October 13 - 20)** - Forty-two competitors and their support teams visited Bermuda for the 14th Bermuda ITF Junior Open. The tournament generated positive feedback from participants and extended promotion of Bermuda as a prime destination for competitive play.



#### 2. BTA Activations and Sponsored Experiences Highlights cont.

**Goslings Invitational Golf Tournament** - TakiTaking place November 26 - 30, the Goslings Invitational welcomed 80 participants with a total of 210 room nights. This year the tournament introduced new format changes to enhance the overall experience from the standpoint of tournament play and social elements.

Goodwill Golf Tournament - The 66th Goodwill Invitational tournament took place December 2 - 5 and was and attracted 30 teams and a total of 110 players, generating a total of 250 room nights.

Round the Sound - The 2018 event took place October 6th and attracted 327 international visitors who participated in an open water swim with varying distances.

#### 3. Cruise Service Highlights

**Disney Bermuda Cruises Launched** - Disney Cruise Line began its inaugural regular Bermuda call schedule beginning October 2018. The Disney Magic began a five-call schedule from New York, between October 6 - 31. Disney Magic carries up to 2,700 passengers and 945 crew and berthed at Dockyard.

The P&E Division's work with local entrepreneurs and Disney Port Adventures officials resulted in over 40 new or enhanced Bermuda experiences and excursions being offered to Disney's guests. The goal to provide new opportunities for tourism industry entrepreneurs into the fall with this partnership was achieved, within the overall strategy to expand Bermuda cruise ship season. Feedback from local experience operators, as well as Disney guests and management subsequent to the cruises was very positive.



#### **3. Cruise Service Highlights**

**Expanded Cruise Ship Schedule 2019** – by quarter-end it was confirmed that the 2019 cruise ship schedule would bring 192 calls to Bermuda, vs. 180 in 2018, and an estimated 544,000 passengers, a rise of 14% on the previous year. The increase in passengers is expected to generate \$7.9 million in tax revenue and increase visitor spending. BTA has successfully expanded calls in non-summer months and continued to seek additional calls to St. George's and Hamilton.

#### **Experience Development Site Visit - Norwegian Cruise Line**

– Successful meetings were held with the Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) leadership to discuss the 2018 cruise ship season, future development plans, onshore experience development in addition to opportunities related to the ITU Grand Final event. Subsequently, a follow-up site visit by NCLH's head of Destination Services & Shore Excursions took place December 12 – 13. A comprehensive schedule of meetings with local experience operators along with visiting on-island venues and facilities yielded product development assessments of mutual benefit. Feedback from NCLH was extremely positive as they look to grow and enhance on-island offerings for their guests.



#### 3. Destination Services Highlights

Hosting, logistics and on-island account liaison/support was successfully provided for a variety of clients and groups during the quarter, including BTA's own Tourism Summit on October 24 and:

Family Travel Association Summit (October 7-11th, 2018) - The BTA sponsored a 150-person welcome reception on Sunday, October 7th at the Commissioner's House in Dockyard to kick off the group's two-day Summit October 8th-9th. A post-summit site visit was held October 10-11th for the trade travel and media attendees who visited attractions, walked, cycled and boated with local tour guides, dined at local restaurants and utilized transport and caterers on the east and west end of the island.

Athlete's Summit - USTAF (Thursday October 18th to Sunday, October 21st, 2018) - Athletes from the USA Track and Field's Athletes Advisory Committee (USATF) chose Bermuda for its annual Elite Athlete Summit. The group planned to set its strategic goals and to boost the development of local athletes. The summit hosted 45 athletes and their security team at the Hamilton Princess and Beach Club.

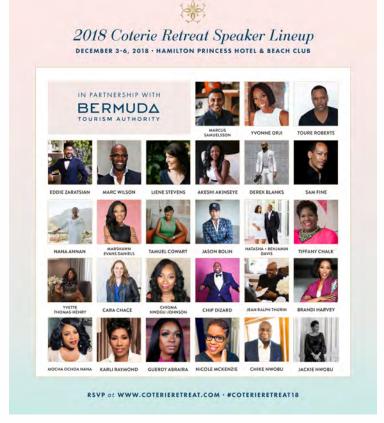
**Encompass Insurance site visit (October 13-16, 2018)** - The soccer team from Alberta, Canada trained in Bermuda from 29th July - August 6th at the National Sports Centre. The group Willow Bank Hotel and participated in a variety of island activities. The team and their parents were also guests in the BTA's Cup Match Visitor's Viewing experience.



#### 3. Destination Services Highlights cont.

CHICOS (November 7-9<sup>th</sup>)- HVS' Caribbean Hotel Investment Conference & Operations Summit (CHICOS) returned to Bermuda for a second consecutive year. The three-day event was held at Fairmont Southampton, hosting 250 persons made up of international investors and operators, governmental representatives, opinion leaders, developers, bankers/lenders/investment funds, tourism officials, hotel brand executives, and many more. the BTA sponsored a 'Bermuda-themed' 150-person welcome reception, as well as a post-summit cruise for 50 persons to conclude the conference.

Coterie Retreat (December 3-6<sup>th</sup>) - The Coterie Retreat is a three-day conference for wedding and event professionals that service the multicultural market. Bermuda was chosen as the location for this 5th annual event held at the Hamilton Princess. As sponsor, the BTA hosted a 120-person White Party at the Coral Beach Club complete with Bermuda wedding-themed inspirations. We also connected the organizers with local suppliers that extended on-island spend of the event



## Sales & Marketing

## Travel, Roomnights Group & PR Dashboard

KEY METRICS	YTD 2017	YTD 2018	2017 YEAR END ACTUAL	PLAN GOAL 2018	% OF PLAN GOAL YTD	% Δ YOY (YTD)
Total Visitor Spending Influenced by BTA	\$92,188,937	\$91,678,556	\$92,188,937	\$87,200,000	105%	-1%
Visitor Spending Leisure	\$52,591,006	\$57,423,972	\$52,591,006	\$56,700,000	101%	9%
Visitor Spending Group	\$39,597,931	\$34,254,583	\$39,597,931	\$30,500,000	112%	-13%
Sales Group Spending	\$30,424,841	\$25,970,204	\$30,424,841	\$24,400,000	106%	-15%
Product Group Spending	\$9,173,090	\$8,284,379	\$9,173,090	\$6,100,000	136%	-10%
Total Room Nights Influenced by BTA	131,029	139,566	145,541	137,500	102%	7%
Total Leisure Room Nights	82,969	108,087	87,560	95,900	113%	30%
Total Group Room Nights	48,060	31,480	57,981	41,600	76%	-34%
Sales Group Room Nights	31,392	24,662	31,392	31,500	78%	-21%
Product Group Room Nights	15,609	6,818	15,609	10,100	68%	-56%
S&M Group Sales Leads	505	471	505	610	77%	-7%
S&M Group Sales Calls	454	502	454	527	95%	11%
Number of Journalists Assisted	2,446	6,760	2,446	2,500	270%	176%
*Earned Media Generated	\$17,662,754	\$7,446,061	\$17,662,754	\$8,000,000	93%	-58%
*Coverage in Top 100 US Outlets	69	92	61	61	151%	33%
*Average Quality Coverage Score	71%	81%	71%	71%	114%	13%
PR Impressions Generated	1,831,831,204	1,194,601,236	1,831,831,204			-35%

## Digital Dashboard

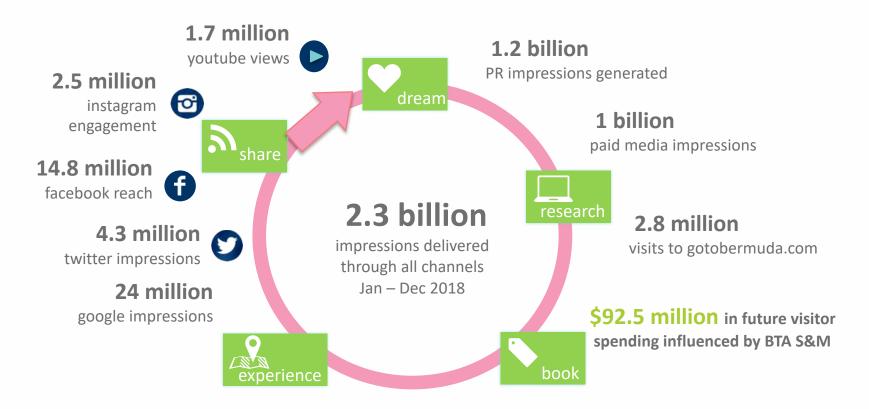
KEY METRICS	YTD 2017	YTD 2018	GOAL 2018	% OF GOAL YTD	% Δ YOY (YTD)
Total Website Visits	2,377,466	2,802,796	2,448,790	114%	18%
Desktop Traffic	992,312	966,168			-3%
Mobile Traffic	1,023,630	1,105,616			8%
Tablet Traffic	267,062	259,050			-3%
Website Page Views	5,655,727	6,832,918	5,655,727	121%	21%
Time on Site	2:04	2:11	2:04	106%	6%
Newsletter Subscribers	243,672	259,609	250,982	103%	7%
Newsletter Open Rate	11%	15%	12%	121%	38%
Consumer Inquiries	594	804			35%
Internet/Email	257	378			47%
Phone	337	426			26%
Brochure Requests	36,371	85,817			136%
Individual	6,752	12,552			86%
Bulk	22,986	9,454			-59%
Brochure Downloads	6,633	84,096			1168%

### Social Dashboard

KEY METRICS	YTD 2017	YTD 2018	GOAL 2018	% OF GOAL YTD	% Δ YOY (YTD)
Facebook Followers (month gained/YTD total)	347,222	357,414	372,062	96%	3%
Facebook Total Reach	14,890,181	14,789,653	21,590,762	68%	-1%
Facebook Total Engagement	1,665,138	3,075,538	2,414,450	127%	85%
Facebook Engagement (likes/comments/shares)	515,173	3,075,538			497%
Facebook Engagements (clicks/video views)	1,149,965	0			
Twitter Followers (month gained/YTD total)	25,713	27,859	28,857	97%	8%
Twitter Impressions	3,396,832	4,317,628	4,132,521	104%	27%
Twitter Engagement	123,565	209,795	160,635	131%	70%
Instagram Followers (month gained/YTD total)	42,796	58,074	54,809	106%	36%
Instagram Engagement	848,316	2,459,093	933,147	264%	190%
Instagram Story Engagement		0	2 1		
Instagram Story Impression		0			
YouTube Subscribers (month gained/YTD total)	1,942	2,234	2,330	96%	15%
YouTube Total Views	1,659,955	1,701,788	3,734,899	46%	3%
YouTube Minutes Watched	1,428,977	1,400,055	2,572,159	54%	-2%
Pinterest Followers (month gained/YTD total)	2,440	2,507	2,635	95%	3%
Pinterest Repins	1,884	997	1,959	51%	-47%

### BERMUDA

## 2018 YTD Marketing Snapshot



## Sales & Event Engagement

### Sales

Event	Location	Start	End
Virtuoso Webinar	NYC	10/02/18	10/02/18
Travel Agent FAM	Bermuda	10/07/18	10/10/18
IMEX America	Las Vegas, NV	10/16/18	10/18/18
American Express Platinum & Centurion Call Center	Sunshine, FL	11/01/18	11/01/18
Luxury JetSetter Group Press Trip	Bermuda	11/03/18	11/06/18
Financial & Insurance Conference Planners (FICP)	Orlando, FL	11/04/18	11/07/18
Virtuoso FAM Trip	Bermuda	11/05/18	11/09/18
AAU/Harvard Sports/ Fam Trip	Bermuda	11/05/18	11/08/18
Client Familiarization Trip	Bermuda	11/09/18	11/11/18
ALHI Luxury Showcase	NYC	11/13/18	11/13/18
Attend MPI Philly Chapter Event sponsored by Fairmont Southampton	Philadelphia	11/14/18	11/14/18
David Tutera site visit	Bermuda	11/17/18	11/19/18
Munaluchi Coterie Retreat	Bermuda	12/03/18	12/05/18
Virtuoso Fam Trip	Bermuda	12/03/18	12/07/18

## BERMUDA

## Sales Engagement Highlights – Destination Training

Virtuoso Webinar - October 2

**Trained 25 agents** 

Family Travel Association - October 7 - 10

Trained 120 agents

American Express Platinum & Centurion - November 1

**Trained 75 agents** 

### Sales Engagement Events - Meetings Market

IMEX America Las Vegas, NV October 15 - 18

Participated in 50 one-on-one meetings 6.352 attendees

ALHI Luxury Showcase New York, NY October 30

Participated in table top reception. 130 attendees

FICP Orlando, FL November 4 - 7

Networking Events with 1,200 attendees

MPI Philadelphia November 14

Participated in reception with 50 attendees 20 certified meeting planners

Co-Hosted Event (Chili Party) Vineyard Events November 9 – 12

40 New York clients, 6 co-hosts





### Sales Engagement Events - Sports Market

WTS Store Activation
New York, NY
Bryn Mawr, PA
Millburn, NJ
December 11 - 13
300 attendees, 8 on-site registrations





## Sales Engagement Events - Site Visits & Educational Trips

Family Travel Association Fam Trip October 10 - 12

9 travel professionals

Virtuoso Fam Trip November 5 - 9 5 clients

Meeting Planners Fam Trip November 9 - 12

4 clients

Virtuoso Fam Trip December 3 - 7

7 agents







## Paid Media & Partner Marketing

### **Overview**

- Over 170.6MM gross impressions (inclusive of offline + online media)
- 801,659 digital media web visits
- 5.8MM non-web engagements (i.e. video views, rich media engagements and custom content engagement)
- Cost-per-Engagement averages \$0.18 in Q4 (well below our goal of \$2.00)
- Q4 Arrivalist Data:
  - 5,896 arrivals reported by Arrivalist in Q4 (inclusive of both 2017 + 2018 media)
  - 92.7MM exposures
  - \$208 Cost-Per-Arrival (slightly higher than our goal of \$200 or less)

### BRAND RESULTS

High level overview of performance for all paid media under the Brand and Integrated Packages campaigns

- 119.3MM Impressions
- 5,296,643 Engagements
- \$0.12 Cost-Per-Engagement
- 1,665 Signals of Intent; Click-to-Book
- 2,050 Arrivals recorded by Arrivalist
- Top performers for driving web traffic in Q4: TripAdvisor, Digilant, Sojern, Adara, and Facebook/Instagram
- TripAdvisor Sponsored Content Page Views are approx. 30% higher than at the end of Q4 2017

#### **Broadcast**

#### **NEW YORK**

#### **ABC October Weather Sponsorship**

- Flight Dates: October 1 October 31
- Good Morning America & ABC7 Eyewitness News
- Customized :10s billboard including BTA footage leading in or out of weather segment
- :30s spot following billboard
- 5x per week

#### **BOSTON**

#### **ABC October Weather Sponsorship**

- Flight Dates: October 1 October 31
- Good Morning America
- Customized :10s billboard including BTA footage leading in or out of weather segment
- :30s spot following billboard
- 3x per week

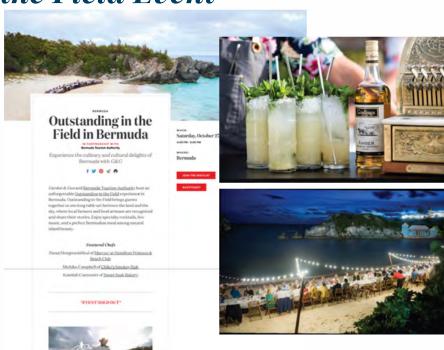
## Garden & Gun: Outstanding in the Field Event

#### Garden & Gun Event Partnership - October 27

- A showcase of Bermudian culinary and musical artists
- 154 qualified consumers in attendance

#### **Event Promotion included**

- Full-page promotion in June/July 2018 issue
- Email to 19,132 opt-in subscribers
- Outstanding in the Field newsletter to 70k subscribers
- Social promotion via Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter



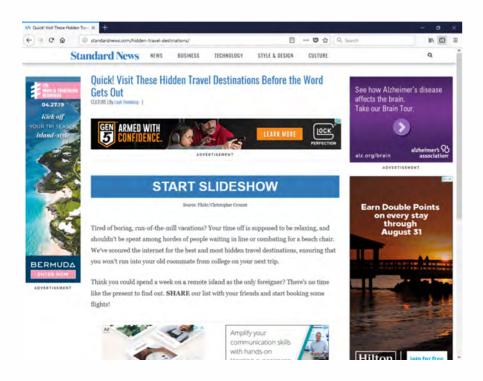


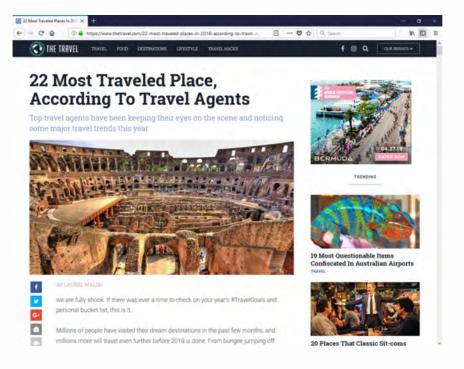
### ITU OVERVIEW

#### **CAMPAIGN DETAILS**

- Objective: Reach marathon runners/triathletes to bring Bermuda's April ITU event to their attention and encourage registration sign ups
- Flight Dates: 11/8/18 3/27/2019
- Geo-Targeting:
  - New York Tri State, Boston, DC Metro, Chicago, Philadelphia, Toronto, Hartford, San Fran
- Channels:
  - Digital Display
  - Dedicated Email
  - Paid Social Facebook + Instagram

## Triathlon Digital Creative





## OTA Program Highlights

#### **ACTIVITY**

- OTA encompasses Expedia (includes Travelocity, Hotels.com, Orbtiz, etc.) and TripAdvisor
- Total OTA Q4 Impressions: 8.54MM
  - Expedia generated 4.99MM of total impressions, driving traffic both on-site and off-site
  - TripAdvisor generated the remaining 3.55MM impressions in Q4
- TripAdvisor remains the top driver of Arrivals reported by Arrivals
  - TripAdvisor: 741 Arrivals from 2018 + 2017 media combined (Q4 Arrivals Only)
  - Expedia: 121 Arrivals from 2018 + 2017 media combined (Q4 Arrivals Only)
- TripAdvisor Sponsorship Page generated over 244.8K page views in Q4
  - Approx. 30% increase from this same time period in 2017
- Expedia reports a gross decrease of -2% in hotel bookings YoY in Q4 alone
  - All previous quarters saw steady increases, Nov and Dec are the only two months in 2018 that saw a decrease in Hotel Gross Bookings

## Web Metrics

## Total Site Traffic & Goals

- 101% more YOY site sessions (visits) Q4 2018
- 121% more YOY page views Q4 2018
- 30% of all sessions completed a conversion goal in Q4 2018
- Conversion Goal Completion
  - Time on Site Over 3:00 158,100 211% increase vs Q4 2017
  - Hotel Inquiry 10,821 41% increase vs Q4 2017
  - Booking Widget Clicks (New in 2017) 7,745 30% increase vs Q4 2017
  - Brochure Downloads 8,660 82% increase vs Q4 2017
  - Brochure Orders 1,963 166% increase vs Q4 2017
  - eNews Registration 3,356 257% increase vs Q4 2017

## Total Site Referrals Traffic

- Total Partner Referrals 50,904
  - Profile referrals 33,016
  - Deal referrals 14,263
  - Event referrals 3.625
- Total Partner Pageviews 287,390
  - Profiles 129,577
  - Deals 136.736
  - Events 21,077
- 18% Click through rate to Partners

# SEM Performance

Month	Impressions	Clicks	CTR	CPC	Spend	Conversions
October	953,405	36,790	3.86%	\$ 1.12	\$ 41,353.78	13,133
November	837,038	28,612	3.42%	\$ 1.30	\$ 37,256.79	9,298
December	768,152	27,728	3.61%	\$ 1.49	\$ 41,233.86	8,762
Total	2,558,595	93,130	3.64%	\$ 1.29	\$119,844.43	31,193

- In Q4'18, SEM campaigns saw a decrease on cost per conversions; dropping from \$4.17 (Q4-'17) to \$3.84, allowing us to see 12.6k+ more conversions than the same period last year.
- Our CTR fluctuated, but remained competitive with an average of 3.64% for the quarter. (Up 0.16% quarterly, Up 1.11% YoY)
- Total spend for the quarter was \$119,844.43, with 31,193 total conversions (up 68% YoY).

# eNewsletter Overview

# Overview & Highlights

## **OCTOBER ENEWSLETTER**



Open Rate: 31%

Click-to-open Rate: 4%

Top Clicked Link: Main CTA

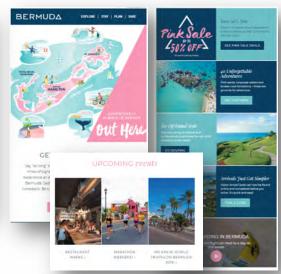




Open Rate: 10%

Click-to-open Rate: 17%
Top Clicked Link: Video

## **DECEMBER ENEWSLETTER**



Open Rate: 21%

Click-to-open Rate: 16% Top Clicked Link: Pink Sale

# Canadian Newsletter Overview & Highlights

#### **OCTOBER 2018**



Open Rate: 18%

#### **NOVEMBER 2018**



Open Rate: 17%

### **DECEMBER 2018**



Open Rate: 17%

# Promotions & PR

# **North American Coverage Highlights**

# YTD COVERAGE SNAPSHOT

Number of Articles: 204

Impressions: 1,262,769,446

Media Cost: \$6,370,075.76

Average Score: 81

 Distributed 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Bermuda Festival, 12 Days of Holiday Fun, Bermuda and Airbnb partnership, and Splash Sale announcements via PR Newswire.



*NBC: Today Show - October 16 Bermuda Triangle Feature* 

# **North American Coverage Highlights**

# HEMISPHERES.



Hemispheres - November 1
Destination Feature

# TRAVELAGE WEST



TravelAge West - October 1
Destination Feature

# The Washington Post

WHAT'S THE DEAL? This week's best travel bargains

#### around the globe.

- Save 10 percent on a hasp minute goursest package at minute goursest package at Tuesang. The deal costs \$727 per person double and includes three nights' accommodations; a bottle of wine; daily organic breakfast; pasta cooking class, tour of the property's farm, honey-making operation and lab, where jams, soaps, sunces and more are made, free-course in made, free to the visit of the package of the particular with the package of the particular particular vivilt the Emeranda Tourism

- With the Bermanda Durásm Authority's Splash Sair, awe 30 to 50 percent on more than a dozen island properties. For example, rates start at \$255 a might at the Fairmont Southampton (down from \$539), \$338 at the Hamilton Princess Hotel & Beach Club (vs. \$639) \$238 at the Hamilton Princess Hotel & Beach Club (vs. \$639) Februl (vs. 81,79). Taxes included, Book by Oct. 16 for travel through April 30. Info:

 Warwick Paradise Island Bahamas, an adults-only all inclusive, is offering a Fall Into the Holiday Spirit sale, with savings of up to 45 percent. For example, a four-night stay over Thanksgiving weekend starts at \$1,406 per couple, including taxes, a savings of \$1,150. Rate includes all meals, snacks and beverages, including a special Thanksgiving dinner; WiFi; daily activities, including a picnic excursion to Cabbage Beach; gratuities; and taxes. Valid through June 30. Info: 888-645 5550, warwickhotels.com.

#### Sea

 Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection is offering 20 percent off India, Egypt,

Vietnam and Cambodia saffines in 2018 and 2019. For additional savings, combine the Explore the Exotics promo with a 10 percent early-booking discount, For example, the 10-night India's Solden Triangle & the Sacres Ganges trip departing Jan. 3 starts at \$4,900 per person double, plus \$170 taxes - a savings of \$2,099. Price includ three nights' hotel in New Delhi. transfers: flight from Jairour to Kolkata: and seven-night cruise Book by Oct. 31. Info: 800-257 2407, uniscorld.com.

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Info: united.com.

- Aid China has sale fares from
Washington Dulles to several
cities in China. For example, the
round-trip fare to Xiamen starts
at \$646, including taxes, other
airlines are matching, but fare
typically starts at about \$910.
Restrictions vary by destination,
Book by Cet. 31 at airchina.us.

#### Package • Aer Lingus Vacation Store is

offering \$100 savings on select trips to fredand. For example, a six-night fredand Bed & Rendafast Plan Dublin vacation departing in November starts at \$508 per person double and \$2508 per person double and Washington Dulles to Dublin, two night's hole in Dublin, for which are the person of the person of the present of the person of the person person of the person

lingusvacationstore.com. Carol Sottili, Andrea Sachs

Prices were verified at press time Thursday, but deals sell out and availability is not guaranteed. Some restrictions may apply.



United is waiving surfboard fees for passengers flying to or from California, saving them \$150 to \$200 each way.

The Washington Post - October 14 Splash Sale Feature

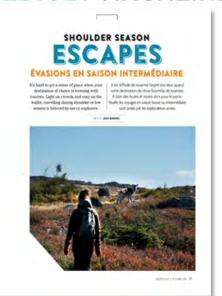
# **North American Coverage Highlights**

#### MODERN LUXURY



Modern Luxury Manhattan, Boston Commons, Capitol File, Jezebel, LA Confidential, Michigan Ave, Palm Beach, Philly Style, and Silicon Valley - November 1 Destination Feature

# WESTJET MAGAZINE



WestJet Magazine - October 1
Destination Feature

#### THEOPRAHMAGAZINE



O, The Oprah Magazine - December 14
Destination Feature

# Holiday Native Content Highlights

# FATH\*M

# The Only Bermuda Guide You'll Ever Need







# goop

#### The Bermuda Mini Guide

BERMUDA

Mention Bermuda and some people imagine the perfect place for a golfing weekend. Some imagine a tropical destination of pink sand beaches. Some imagine a mysterious triangle that has a history of disappearing any vessel that gets too close. In facts, a big part of the appeal of the island is that it is many things to many people. (One of the only things Bermuda is not is in the Caribbean, as many believe—it's closer to North Carolina then Floridia, and a quick two-hour flight from most East Coast cities.) A British territory since 1612, Bermuda has a coulture steeped in tradition and history. Candy-colored eighteenth-centry buildings pructuate the tity capital of Hamilton, cricket is easily the most popular sport, and you'll still see men wearing the blazer, tie, Bermuda shorts, and knee socks combo. That's not to suggest Bermuda is stuck in the past. On the contrary, elegant new hotels have added a shot of claimoru, with

the best you'll find anywhere (and did w winter temperatures hover around seve weekand away.



#### Hamilton Princess & Beach Club

The isonic Hamilton Priscess responsed in 2016, known locally as the "pink palace" for obvious reasons. In addition to a top-to-bottom refresh of all 410 guest rooms, a big investment was made in the art collection and the creation of a contemporary gallery within the hotel. You'll find piaces from Jeff Koons, Andy Warhol, Damien Hirst, and Robert. Rauschenberg. And even if you aren't staying here, you can sign up for a guided tour to learn about it all.



#### Rosewood Bermuda

Fresh off a brand-new renovation, Rosewood's palepink Bermuda property is small in size (only eightyeight guest rooms) but has the amenities of a fullscale resort. Spread across 240 acres in Tucker's Point, there are three restaurants, a (12,000-squarefoot spa, a private pirk sand beach, infinity pools, and a golf and tennis club. We especially love the dive and watersports center, where you can arrange epic shipwrack (the island is famous for them) and reef scuba diving, snorkeling trips, and kayaking along the coastline. Rooms are serene and pristine, outfitted in creams and whites, with views of either the ocean or the harbor.



# North American Press Trips

### PRESS TRIP UPDATES

## **Group press trips**

- Family Travel Association Summit 14 outlets
- Luxury FAM 4 outlets
- Mountain Biking in Bermuda 2 outlets
- CHICOS 3 trade outlets

## Individual press trip

Holiday Native Content - 1 outlet

# Canadian Media Coverage Highlights





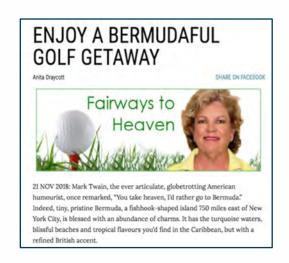
Le Journal de Montreal - October

Coup de Pouce Magazine - October

# Canadian Media Coverage Highlights



CTV Ottawa - November



**Travel Industry Today - November** 

# Canadian Media Coverage Highlights



BT Toronto - December



En Route (print) - December

# Social

# Top-Performing Posts



Reached Users: 68,860 Reactions: 3,770 Post Clicks: 3,637



Impressions: 11,599 Engagements: 964 Retweets: 80 Likes: 161



Likes: 3,800 Comments: 84

This quarter, winter arrived and content moved off the beach. The posts across all channels were a balance of scenery, history, holiday information, sale teasers, and general culture that took place across link clicks, photo, and video. This quarter also played into the weather FOMO being felt on the east coast, and worked hard to educate about Bermuda as a year-round destination. December especially was a month with no shortage of great content, with holiday videos, the Pink Sale and its teasers, the travel style quiz plus year-end wrap ups. At the same time, content was being added to and revamped on the website which meant we had countless new content options to choose from. Mid-November through December is usually a very competitive time on social, and while some results reflect that, many still exceeded expectations.

# Operations

# During Q4 of 2018, the Operations Division focused on the following:

During Q4, Operations remained focused on the Hamilton Waterfront Visitor Services Centre build-out and the rollout of collection process, procedures and communication with the implementation of the newly legislated Vacation Rental Property Act.

# **Operations, General**

**Human Resources** - As at December 31, 2018 BTA had 43 employees in the Bermuda and New York offices. This includes full time, full time/permanent contract, and interns.

**Recruitment** - Recruitment efforts continuing in Q4 included:

Business Development Specialist - Sales & Marketing Brand Events Manager - Sales & Marketing (Filled December 2018) External Relations Coordinator - Product & Experience (Filled November 2018)

BVSC Ltd. filled three of five full-time, permanent staff positions in Q4: Manager, Operations (start date of January 7, 2019), and two hourly supervisors (filled by former seasonal contractors).

**Employee Changes** - Chief Investment Officer (CIO), Roland "Andy" Burrows, resigned his position with the BTA on November 30th. Both the CIO and the Assistant Investment Manager position, which was a direct report, transitioned to the Bermuda Development Agency on December 1, 2018.



# **Vacation Rental Properties**

Implementation of the reporting and fee collection process started in Q4, via the BTA's stakeholder portal 'BTA Connect'. All Vacation Rental Properties (VRP) registered with the Bermuda Government received directions on the use of the portal to file the required data on visitor stays for the relevant month (beginning with November 2018), as well as calculate and remit the 4.5% fee where required.

# **Standards & Training**

#### **National Service Standards Introduced**

During Q4 Standards and Training focused on the promotion and execution of the National Service Standards Programme, as well as creating more value for NSSP awardees. The following additional benefits were rolled-out to further highlight certified businesses to visitors and locals:

NATIONAL SERVICE STANDARD CERTIFICATION DO TOURISM AUTHORITY OW O 8 d ON THE PROPERTY OF THE P

- · Acknowledgement of certification in Destination Magazine
- Business promotional videos
- Special Facebook highlight and congratulations
- Acknowledgment at our annual Tourism Summit
- Acknowledgement in all BTA seasonal brochures
- Promotional videos displayed in theatres
- Videos placed on business profiles on gotobermuda.com

The teams continued promotional efforts resulted in 13 new businesses, from multiple industry sectors, registering for the programme during the fall intake process.

# **Standards & Training cont.**

## **Recertified & Newly Certified Businesses**

A number of businesses are currently in the recertification period, where they must again demonstrate their continued ability to meet or exceed the required service principles, and to have maintained their required levels of service throughout the year.



With 2 new businesses receiving certification during this quarter, the total number of certified businesses as of December 2018 stands at 18.

### **Newly Certified Businesses**

- Rosedon Hotel
- & Partners

#### **Existing Certified Businesses**

- 27 Century Boutique
- · Alexandra Mosher Studios
- Beauty Queen Day Spa
- · Bermuda Bride
- · Bermuda Fun Golf
- · Bermuda Transit
- Choxstix Fusion
- Dolphin Quest

- · Flanagan's Irish Pub
- Inverurie Executive Suites
- · Lili Bermuda Front Street
- Newstead Belmont Hills Golf Resort and Spa
- PTIX
- The Bermuda Perfumery (St. Georges)
- Tobacco Bay
- Tuck INN Rentals

# **Standards & Training cont.**

## **Certified Tourism Ambassador Programme (CTA)**

At year-end, the team focused on CTA retention via the following initiative:



**Phone Banking Event -**S&T Following on the successful event held at the end of Q3, the team enlisted the help of 8 CTA volunteers to personally call to remind, record points and take payments over the phone to encourage CTA's to renew.

At the close of the renewal period, 362 CTA's renewed their certification which represented 43% of CTA's eligible to renew. While this was a small increase over the 42% renewal rate obtained during the same time last year, it exceeded expectations due to the high volume of CTA's comprised of America's Cup volunteers requiring renewal in 2018. (see comparison chart below)

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018
Newly Certified CTA's	440	335	612	243
Total CTA's Eligible to Renew	2	439	585	849
Total CTA's with No Renewal	0	207	341	487
Percentage of CTA's Renewed	100%	53%	42%	43%
Total CTA's Renewed	2	232	244	362
Total CTA's- YE	440	567	856	617
Discrepancy	1	-18	7	0

Notes: Chart represents activity occurring in that year

2017 was a steep increase due to Americas Cup volunteers

Total CTA = total amount of CTA's at year-end, after the official renewal period has closed. If a same report was run though-out the year, the amount would be higher.

Discrepancies are due to CTA's choosing to renew outside the official timeframe (and occurring penalty fees), or unresolved duplicates in the database.

# **Standards & Training cont.**

### **Mystery Shopper Programme**

Driven by the increase in businesses in the NSSP programme, the application process to accept new mystery shoppers opened in Q4. A CTA designation is a prerequisite to acceptance and 17 CTA's, from multiple ages brackets and backgrounds, became new mystery shopper. They joined 11 CTA's already on the team, resulting in 28 shoppers in the programme heading into 2019.

# **Bermuda Visitor Services Centre LTD. (BVSC)**

**Hamilton Waterfront VSC** - The new Visitor Services Centre going up along the Hamilton waterfront is part of a strategic approach to increase the amount of money travellers spend on-island by more seamlessly connecting them with tourism entrepreneurs.

Video advertising, online booking and touchscreen kiosks are hallmarks of the new Visitors Services Centre model.

Currently in place at the Dockyard VSC, these features are the cornerstone of what's planned for the Hamilton location

The two-level (plus roof deck) Hamilton waterfront Visitor Services Centre is on a five-year lease with the City of Hamilton. The new facility will have visitor services and branded merchandise on the first floor, event space on the second level and the opportunity for pop-up vendors on the second level and rooftop. All levels of the space will provide lovely views of Hamilton Harbour.



## Bermuda Visitor Services Centre LTD. (BVSC) cont.

### **BVSC - Dockyard Monthly Breakdown in Q4Retail**

#### October 2018

- In the month of October, based on our Foot Fall Counter, The VSC in Dockyard received 25,006 visitors. This number of visitors is directly related to the extended and densely packed cruise ship arrivals in dockyard during this month.
- Retail sales saw an increase of \$5,523.00 over plan. Plan: \$7,086.00 Actual: \$12,609.00
- Transportation sales saw an increase of \$149,427 over plan. Plan: \$142,068.00 Actual: \$291,995.00
- Tours and Experiences bookings came to 31 bookings for a revenue capture of \$155.00 or 5 dollars per booking.
- Wages paid saw a decrease of \$7,943.00 below plan. Plan: \$37,046.00 Actual: \$29,103.00. This can be related to a
  decrease in frontline staff and increased use of Senior/Roaming Ambassadors in an informational and booking
  capacity within the VSC locations.
- Ambassador Wages saw an increase of \$5,002.00 over plan. Plan: \$7,500.00 Actual: \$12,502.00. This can be related to the increased use of Senior/Roaming Ambassadors within the VSC locations.
- Labor percentage for the month of October came in at 9.6% of net sales totaling \$304,604.17. This labor percentage does not include Senior/Roaming ambassadors. Only frontline staff scheduled in our NCR Console program.



## Bermuda Visitor Services Centre LTD. (BVSC) cont.

## **BVSC - Dockyard Monthly Breakdown in Q4Retail**

#### November 2018

- In the month of November, based on our Foot Fall Counter, The VSC in Dockyard received 14,239 visitors. This number of visitors is directly related to the extended cruise ship arrivals in dockyard during this month.
- Retail sales saw an increase of \$8,307.00 over plan. Plan: \$1,130.00 Actual: \$9,437.00.
- Transportation sales saw an increase of \$102,079.00 over plan. Plan: \$19,631.00 Actual: \$121,710.00.
- Tours and Experiences bookings came to 30 bookings for a revenue capture of \$150.00 or 5 dollars per booking.
- Wages paid saw a decrease of \$4,654.00 below plan. Plan: \$25,419.00 Actual: \$20,765.00. This can be related to a
  decrease in frontline staff and increased use of Senior/Roaming Ambassadors in an informational and booking
  capacity within the VSC locations.
- Ambassador Wages saw an increase of \$3,749.00 over plan. Plan: \$2,000.00 Actual: \$5,749.00. This can be related to the increased use of Senior/Roaming Ambassadors within the VSC locations.
- Labor percentage for the month of November came in at 15.7% of net sales totaling \$131,146.25. This labor percentage does not include Senior/Roaming ambassadors. Only frontline staff scheduled in our NCR Console program.



## Bermuda Visitor Services Centre LTD. (BVSC) cont.

## **BVSC - Dockyard Monthly Breakdown in Q4Retail**

#### December 2018

- In the month of December, based on our Foot Fall Counter, The VSC in Dockyard received 3,098 visitors. This amount of visitors is directly related to the extended and densely packed cruise ship arrivals in dockyard during this month.
- Retail sales saw an increase of \$2,171.00 over plan. Plan: \$612.00 Actual: \$2,783.00. Majority of the retail sales came from the Hamilton container site.
- Transportation sales saw an increase of \$5,475.00 over plan. Plan: \$3,530.00 Actual: \$9,005.00
- Tours and Experiences bookings came to 23 bookings for a revenue capture of \$115.00 or 5 dollars per booking.
- Wages paid saw a decrease of \$5,934.00 below plan. Plan: \$21,759.00 Actual: \$15,825.00. This can be related to a
  decrease in frontline staff and increased use of Senior/Roaming Ambassadors in an informational and booking
  capacity within the VSC locations.
- Ambassador Wages saw an increase of \$250.00 over plan. Plan: \$1,000.00 Actual: \$1,250.00. This can be related to the increased use of Senior/Roaming Ambassadors within the VSC locations.
- Labor percentage for the month of December came in at 132.7% of net sales totaling \$11,787.77. This can be directly
  related to the reduced amount visitors to our VSC's, rapid decrease in cruise arrivals and needing to have 2 staff
  members in each location for security and coverage. This labor percentage does not include Senior/Roaming
  ambassadors. Only frontline staff scheduled in our NCR Console program



# Strategy & Corporate Communications

# During Q4 of 2018, the Strategy & Corporate Communication accomplished the following:

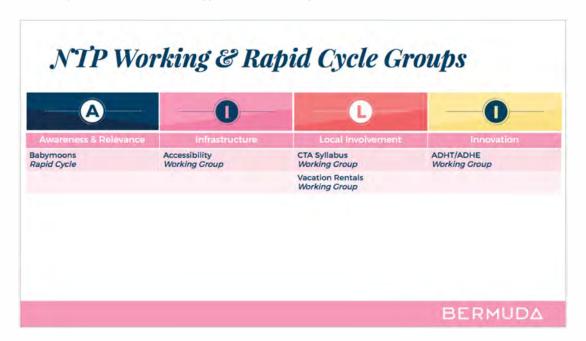
## **National Tourism Plan**

Hundreds of Bermuda tourism stakeholders participated in interviews and working groups to shape the country's National Tourism Plan. Additionally, nearly 800 members of the public weighed in via telephone and online surveys. The collaborative approach undertaken to complete this plan was essential. It was critically important that the National Tourism Plan not merely be the Bermuda Tourism Authority's plan, but the country's plan.





As 2018 came to a close, it was clear that the same commitment to collaboration used to create the plan would also be required to execute it. Working groups - including members of our BTA team, partners from the public sector and stakeholders from the private sector - are now tasked with working together to champion the action items in the plan. Additionally, public forums will be an important tool for engaging the public in making the plan a reality. By the end of 2018, a comprehensive implementation strategy was underway.



# **Financials**

## **Income Statement**

#### Income

**Grant** - this includes \$0.75m of the additional "ring-fenced" \$1m provided for specific activities, namely: \$0.5m for marketing partnerships to create new opportunities; \$0.4m for training initiatives in the tourism sector and; \$0.1m to support the Beach Economy vision. To date, only the Beach economy monies have been expended.

**Tourism Authority Fee** - these are currently \$268k above budget and \$208k ahead of the prior year. This also includes \$2k of revenue from Vacation Rentals (the fee is only due on new bookings made after 1 November 2018).

#### **Direct costs**

Overall direct costs are \$2.7m below budget which includes \$1.0m of budgeted spend on the specific activities noted above (spend to date on these is \$0.1m). Details of each of the division's activities are elsewhere in the report.

#### **Structure, General & Administration**

These are generally on, or under budget with the exception of:

**Premises** - this includes the cost of moving the new office in New York. There was no budget for this in 2018 as the original lease ran until November 2019, but cost savings were achieved by moving in 2018.

Professional fees - includes fees in relation to the migration to a new IT platform.

## **Balance Sheet**

Accounts receivable and accrued income - this represents the hotel fees for December (not payable until 15 January) and any amounts overdue from previous months. Of the \$246k of accounts receivable, \$225k is current debt.

Accruals - this is mainly to payroll related costs and Sales and Marketing costs.



## **Income Statement**

## **Bermuda Tourism Authority**

For The Period Ended December 31, 2018

	Quarter 4			Year To Date		
	Actual	Budget	PY	Actual	Budget	PY
Income	7,909,084	8,148,613	7,741,691	33,922,974	33,904,663	32,390,189
Direct costs	5,133,857	4,504,036	4,903,796	21,082,802	23,792,532	21,584,537
Direct surplus (deficit)	2,775,227	3,644,577	2,837,894	12,840,172	10,112,131	10,805,651
Structure, general & administration costs	2,722,389	2,552,495	2,554,169	9,864,522	10,039,760	9,311,686
Operating surplus (deficit)	52,838	1,092,082	283,726	2,975,650	72,371	1,493,966
Net finance costs	15,452	11,448	18,959	55,327	46,700	66,203
Net surplus (deficit) for the period	37,386	1,080,634	264,767	2,920,323	25,671	1,427,763

## **Income Statement**

## **Bermuda Tourism Authority**

For The Period Ended December 31, 2018

	Quarter 4			Year To Date		
	Actual	Budget	PY	Actual	Budget	PY
1. Income						
Grants, subsidy & contribution income	6,500,000	6,749,998	6,250,000	25,750,000	26,000,002	24,425,000
Tourism authority fee	1,409,084	1,398,615	1,491,691	8,172,974	7,904,661	7,965,189
=	7,909,084	8,148,613	7,741,691	33,922,974	33,904,663	32,390,189
2. Direct costs:						
Sales & Marketing	4,061,158	3,498,587	3,983,242	17,327,416	19,355,248	18,158,928
Product development & experience	593,481	478,074	466,590	1,606,435	2,046,296	2,061,411
Research & business intelligence	251,002	123,375	269,789	588,740	626,988	611,289
Operations	228,217	404,000	184,175	1,560,212	1,764,000	752,909
_	5,133,857	4,504,036	4,903,796	21,082,802	23,792,532	21,584,537
3. Structure, general & administration costs:						
Staff costs	1,660,539	1,714,118	1,834,208	6,645,000	6,842,578	6,637,850
Communications & IT	107,036	126,975	135,764	480,264	550,305	509,479
General expenses	308,815	349,258	226,639	887,400	1,105,866	777,159
Marketing	1,807	1,300	1,305	4,452	10,400	8,448
Premises	353,146	200,394	190,150	949,792	800,811	760,637
Professional fees	113,199	65,950	121,533	524,549	339,800	265,974
Transport	-	-	-	-	-	1,328
Grants / Investments	132,401	80,000	80,000	282,401	320,000	320,000
Equipment	45,446	14,500	(35,430)	90,664	70,000	30,811
<u> </u>	2,722,389	2,552,495	2,554,169	9,864,522	10,039,760	9,311,686



ASSETS		<u>Dec-18</u>
Current Assets		
	Cash & Bank	5,939,147
	Accounts Receivable	264,671
	Inventory	88,755
	Accrued Income	146,676
	Prepaid Expenses	155,979
	Total Current Assets	6,595,228
	Non-current Assets	1,863,241
Total Assets	- -	8,458,469
EQUITY & LIABILITIES		
Equity		
	Accumulated Surplus (Deficit)	2,794,809
	Net Income	2,920,324
	_	5,715,134
Liabilities Current Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	Vendor Payables	1,050,607
	Accruals	1,542,728
	Deferred Income	150,000
	-	2,743,335
Total Equity & Liabilities	<del>-</del>	8,458,469

# BERMUDA

