
From: Brett Hurt
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2011 8:28 PM
Subject: Confidential and privileged communication

Chris, Neeraj, and Tom,

With the time we have this quarter, I would like for Stephen to embark on a second round of discussions with PowerReviews to explore an acquisition prior to our new IPO timing in February of 2012. To assist in developing the acquisition case, we'd like to work with Imran Khan at Credit Suisse. Please note that his assistance will not constitute a formal engagement for investment banking services only advisory efforts as part of Credit Suisse's role as a lead underwriter.

The case for this acquisition is based upon the assertion that reach and scale constitutes the most critical competitive advantage we can obtain and that future solutions are dependent on building the largest network possible with the greatest consumer reach. Client retention will be greatly enhanced as well if we have critical mass and significant share of reach. In other words, this is an audience and data acquisition opportunity to drive long-term enterprise value not so much driven by the value of their existing SaaS business. It is my belief that we have a network-reach-data driven business opportunity long-term and our greatest opportunity to create shareholder value can be derived from solutions that leverage these elements of our business and competitive advantage. Advertisers seek reach at scale and when network economics are in play often a winner-take-all outcome is the result. As an example, P&G has a \$9BB advertising budget. They are not going to spend a huge amount of time and effort splitting their spend between one social commerce player or another. They will identify the leader with the most reach and scale and probably the best solution overall and 100% of their spend will be allocated to the leader. Our threats then are not necessarily direct competitors but other options for the advertiser to achieve their objectives in a different way. Advertisers value audience and funds will flow to the providers who can deliver audience. Features and functionality of software without reach at scale will have diminished value to the advertiser.

PowerReviews, while considerably smaller than us today in terms of revenue, still has a relatively significant reach and from this base they could mount a significant challenge especially if acquired by a well capitalized player in the social commerce or social media marketing solutions space. Thus, leaving them out there is a significant risk. Even today, we are impairing the value of our solutions by competing for dominant share because surely they too know this is a winner-take-all game (as we wrote in our S-1). From the IR 500 data, we know they have 78 IR 500 clients that generated \$17BB in retail sales. We have 148 IR 500 clients with about \$60BB in retail sales. Combined, we would be approaching the 50% share point of the IR 500. There is no other US competitor with more than 10 clients and 104 do not have any solution or are using an in-house solution. The cost in time and money to displace PowerReviews from these clients is surely a very big number. And because network economics drive a winner-take-all outcome, I do not believe having a direct competitor makes us a better company and more competitive. If we were strictly competing on software features and service, perhaps this might be true but I believe that the marketplace does not desire the competition because they value reach at scale and if we can provide that in one place we will derive a financial benefit from providing the efficiency to the marketplace.

Also, I believe that a pre-IPO transaction would be well-received by prospective investors and we would likely achieve greater than \$1:\$1 accretion to our market capitalization as a combined entity because of the aforementioned dynamics at play with regard to network economics. Here is a list of other potential benefits from a combination:

1. No meaningful direct competitor. Shortened sales cycles, less pricing dilution.
2. Dramatic increase in reach and overall market share making future competition extremely difficult and will increase switching costs.
3. Our audience reach would increase to the point that we cover almost every US online shopper.
4. More data.
5. SMB footprint with alternative brand if we want to go to market this way and with a cost effective solution.
6. Engineering talent and know-how, especially in the increase margin areas we are focusing R&D talent on.
7. Help us to focus 100% on our strategy without the whipsaw effect of reacting to a competitor that will only be focused on disrupting our lead position as the market is not likely to support two players.
8. Likely cost synergies as there would be some redundancies.

Considering the favorables and considering that the deal will likely be accretive at IPO, a purchase price at 15% of our company should be considered seriously in my opinion. I'd like Stephen, Brian, and his team to work with Imran and you to develop a strategic case and valuation analysis and then to develop an engagement strategy to see if we can make something happen. Stephen's approach might be to go right to their Board or lead investor as opposed to management. He'll be reaching out to you directly for your advice. I'm stayed focused on sales and recruiting all quarter, and Stephen will take the ball on this and is highly capable to do so.

Thanks,
Brett

Brett Hurt

Chief Executive Officer

o: +1.512.551.6736

e: brett@bazaarvoice.com

[Site](#) | [Blog](#) | [Twitter](#)

To: Chris Pacitti <cpacitti@austinventures.com>, Neeraj Agrawal <Neeraj@Battery.com>, Tom Meredith <Tom@mfiaustin.com>

CC: Stephen Collins <Stephen.Collins@bazaarvoice.com>, Bryan Barksdale <Bryan.Barksdale@bazaarvoice.com>, Paul Tobias <PTobias@wsgr.com>

BCC: