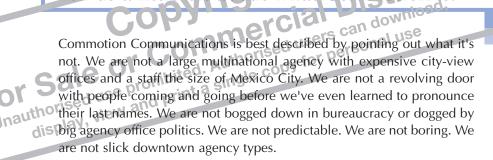
What's All the Commotion About?



Talking with Lawrence Binding, Founder, President, Partner Commotion Communications Inc.

Commotion Communications Inc., *The Brand Momentum Agency*, has been helping clients build brands and build market share for more than five years. Now the little whirlwind that could is looking forward to the future and a continued commitment to excellence in pharmaceutical marketing.

Tell us a little bit about what Commotion is.



Call us escapees on a mission. We got out of the big agency world to start a small, privately-owned shop that delivers smart strategies, great ideas and outstanding creative, in an increasingly competitive world. We create pharmaceutical marketing that breaks new ground and sets new strategic and creative standards. We are fast becoming known as "the small agency with very big delivery."



Airport billboard advertising WCOG 2005 for Axcan Pharma



Lawrence Binding



Scott Bradford

How is Commotion different from other agencies?

Some agencies in Canada seek to establish themselves as agencies that deliver *better strategic thinking*. Others try to be *most creative*. We have a simple question for Canada's brand managers and marketing directors: Are you really ready to accept an agency that's weak in either of these two critical capabilities? We thought not. So here we are, going out on a limb, proclaiming Commotion among Canada's advertising leaders in both important areas. Call us. We'll prove it! Here's what one of our customers had to say about us recently:

"The team at Commotion has allowed the Axcan Pharma brands to reach levels of performance not witnessed prior to their deployment. They have truly become integral members of our marketing and sales teams because of their continued focus on the strategic imperatives of our brands, and their ability to provide superlative creative campaigns." Mike Thiel, VP Marketing, Axcan Pharma.

You call yourselves *The Brand Momentum Agency*. What do you mean by that?

Brands lead—products follow. Some drug names come to mind instantly and are regularly chosen over equally effective, equally safe competing drugs because they are constantly driven by sound strategy, innovative tactics and surprising creative. That's what we call *Brand Momentum*. It can be created and sustained with smart, strategic and tactical planning. To help achieve this we devised a process that develops innovative strategic and tactical plans that serve as the platform upon which dominating creative is produced. We call this process DOMIN8TM.

What is **DOMIN8**TM?

DOMIN8TM is a deceptively simple eight-step communications planning system designed to gather information, create insightful knowledge and identify dynamic marketing and communications strategies and tactics to take a brand or company to a category-dominant position. The final product is a communications platform that distinctly brands your product, plans strategically driven tactics, and sparks category-dominating creative to life. When you put it all together, you have a communications program that generates sales momentum.















30 second DTC television for a cancer treatment called Photodynamic light therapy

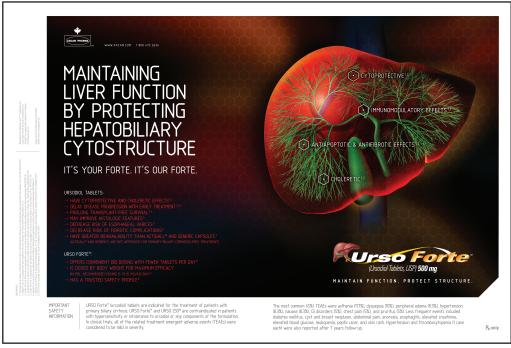
Who Heads Up Commotion?

Lawrence Binding, President, Partner Montreal, Quebec Office.

I've enjoyed over 20 years in the agency business, almost equally split between account management in multinational consumer agencies and pharmaceutical agencies. I guess you could describe me as quietly passionate about Commotion, the relationships we have with our customers and the work on which we collaborate. My contribution at Commotion revolves around client service support. I'm a life-long account guy and a bit of a creative junkie. So it should come as no surprise that I believe that great strategies and great ideas, both tactical and conceptual, are the backbone of almost anything noteworthy in marketing. And when an account person is passionate about both, then and only then is he/she capable of inspiring great creative from our friends in the creative group.

Scott Bradford, VP Creative Director, Partner Cambridge, Ontario Office

Scott Bradford has also spent more than 20 years in the advertising business. His first 15 years were spent in consumer marketing developing great campaigns for brands as diverse as Michelin tires, A&W restaurants and Finesse shampoo. But eight years ago a long-time fascination with medicine turned into a full-time focus on medical marketing. This led Scott to join Marketforce as Creative Director, developing many long-running campaigns. Scott and I had remained close friends since our early years in advertising and in 2001 he joined Commotion and became an integral part of our brand building success. His creative leadership is stamped on more than 20 pharmaceutical brands and counting.



U.S. journal advertising for Urso Forte

Unique people and unique systems combine to spark inspired ideas. The partners at Commotion are supported by a talented staff of graphic designers, PR personnel, medical writers, and media relations partners who are committed to crafting communications and advertising campaigns that deliver on strategic objectives.

Do you have a working "philosophy" at Commotion?

At Commotion, building strong relationships is the foundation of our success – and our clients' – success. Our clients trust us to contribute intelligent strategic insight and superb tactical execution to provide the brand with the communications support it needs to dominate in its category and maintain momentum.

The Relationship

A successful client-agency relationship requires both parties to deliver on three basic promises:

- 1. We are 100% committed to mutual success.
- 2. We are confident that the other party is fully engaged and contributing resources, material and mental, to the maximum possible.
- 3. Each party must feel certain that he can trust the other.

Key Commotion Belief:

Without commitment, confidence and certainty, the relationship will fail and the brand will pay the penalty.



Journal advertising, Direct Mail, and Visual Aid for Axcan's Salofalk brand.

Strategy & Tactics

Strategy is the art of planning. Tactics is the science of doing.

Your agency must be capable of contributing intelligent strategic insight and superb tactical execution to provide the brand the communications support it needs to dominate and maintain momentum!

Strategy

A strategy is the foundation upon which a business rests. If the strategies are solid, the foundation is capable of supporting almost unlimited brand growth. If the strategies are weak or of uneven quality, the foundation will crumble and sales will fall off or slide into the laps of your competition.

Key Commotion Belief:

If a brand is built on a great foundation, it will last and support full brand growth potential.



Journal ad for CADx digital cancer detection systems.

Tactics

If strategy is the unseen brain behind your brand, tactics are its body.

Key Commotion Belief:

Tactics must always be well coordinated and superbly executed and implemented to deliver a strategic objective.

Sales Support

The sales force is the most important element a pharmaceutical company has to leverage its brand. It must provide the sales group with marketing support that is worthy of a category leader. The sales force is also a key source of information and regular meetings should be held with them and key agency personnel to keep us aware of threats and opportunities and to help us generate more and better ideas. The sales training group is also an important source of knowledge and agency personnel should have an opportunity to meet yearly with trainers.

Key Commotion Belief:

If you want to develop sales support materials and programs that the sales people will actually use and value, get to know them, learn from them, and get into the field with the materials you developed.

Research

Great research is rare. But when research is intelligently planned, you get the answers to your questions. The key is to ask the right questions in the right way, at the right time.

Key Commotion Belief:

Research is like a compass. If you know where you want to go, it can lead you in the right direction. Used improperly, it can get you badly lost. So know where you want to go, and then use the compass to guide you.

Advertising

The most effective pharmaceutical advertising solution is often so simple that it can be compared to a billboard. It is a great analogy to keep in mind when evaluating ads. Journals are read very quickly by physicians. They seek out specific information and gloss over everything else.

Key Commotion Belief:

A journal ad should be considered like a billboard, with one exception. When launching a new brand you have a unique opportunity to use the medium to deliver more information ... simply because the physician knows nothing about the brand, and may stop to read something new.

Any last words for the pharma marketing community?

Whether it's to learn more about our trademarked DOMIN8TM communications planning system, our striking creative work, our consumer expertise and pharmaceutical prowess, or even simply for a breath of fresh air, give us a call – it may well lead you down some very exciting roads.





Airport boards for Axcan Pharma



Journal ad announcing Urso DS 500mg.

Commotion Communications Inc., The Brand Momentum Agency, is a full-service pharmaceutical communications agency, serving clients in Canada and the USA, with offices in Ontario and Quebec.

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