



Marketing in Motion

Where Technology Meets Humanity in Modern Marketing

2025 Mid-Atlantic MarCom Summit & ADWKDC
Key Takeaways

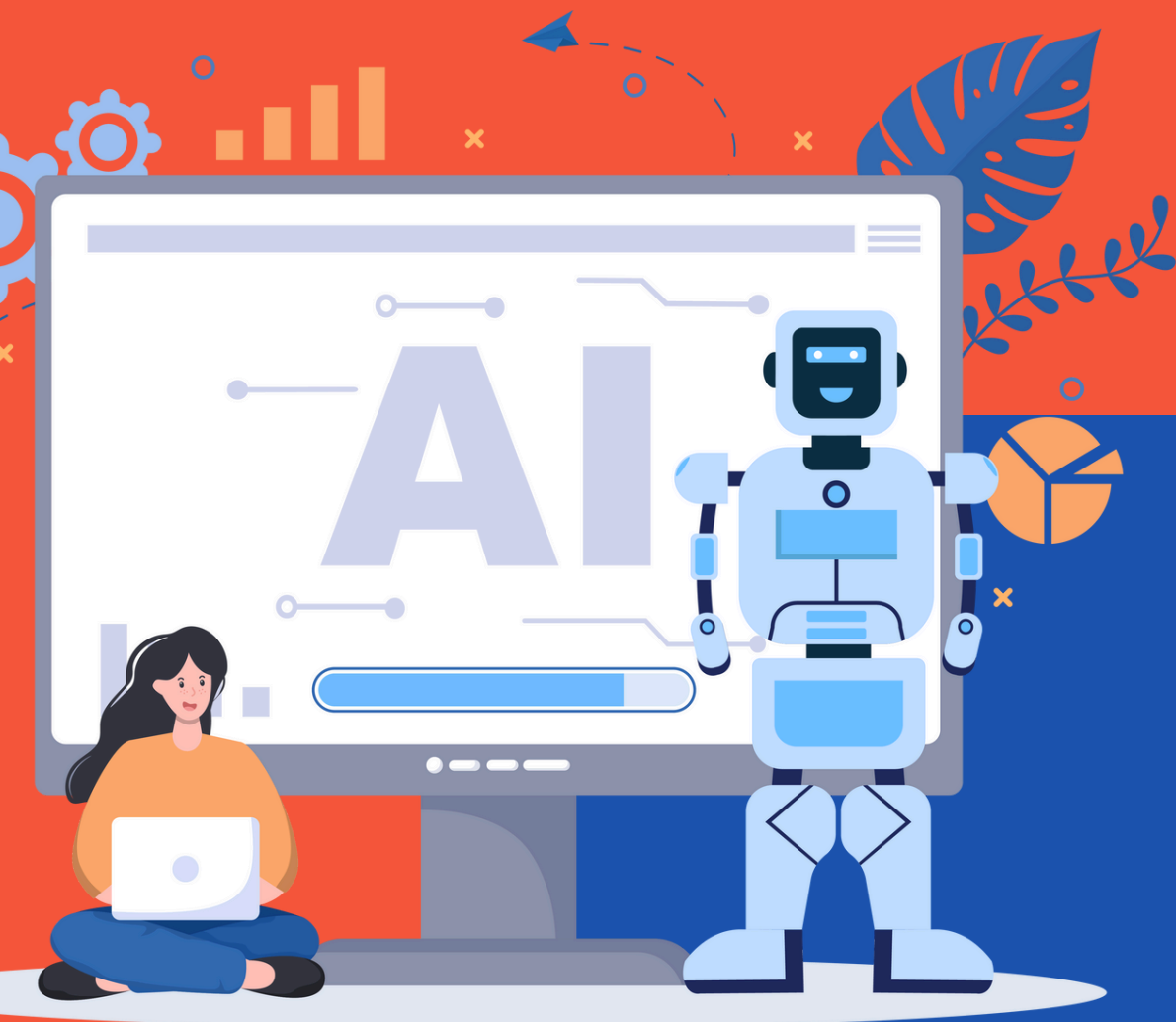


The Mid-Atlantic MarCom Summit & ADWKDC continues to bring together the brightest thinkers, innovators, and communicators across marketing, PR, media, and technology.

Paul Sherman, Paul Duning, Gretchen Carswell,
Robert Udowitz, Stephanie Geiger

Planning Committee

Marketing in Motion: How AI, Data, and Authenticity Are Redefining the Human Connection.



From AI-driven marketing ops to trust-driven storytelling, each panel revealed one simple truth: the future belongs to those who master both technology and empathy.

This eBook distills the most important takeaways, definitions, tools, and quotes, turning a full day of ideas into an actionable field guide for communicators and marketers.

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AI in Action: Creativity, Content and Scalability

AI is not replacing creativity, it's multiplying it.

Drafting and ideation

AI-assisted copywriting for headlines, subject lines, and tone adjustment ("make this sound like the Financial Times").

AI video creation

Human-like avatars for multilingual campaigns (tools like HeyGen) for customer testimonials and global outreach.

Scalability

Translating and localizing content into 8+ languages with limited staff.

The "AI Teammate" concept

Every team member has an AI assistant built with internal data to test messaging, improve research, and validate tone.



- Treat AI like a collaborator, not an autopilot. It gets you 80% there, but human QA ensures authenticity.
- Never skip the credibility check. AI tends to "please," filling gaps with false data – your brand reputation depends on manual review.
- Experimentation zones: Assign one team member as your AI Experimenter to test new tools, document learnings, and teach the rest.

Data is the New Language of Marketing

We're moving from data collection to data democratization.



ACTION STEPS:

Map all existing data sources and centralize them in one hub.

Audit for consistency: are your departments using the same definitions and metrics?

Empower all teams (not just analysts) to explore insights through dashboards.

Data is no longer just a reporting tool, it's a shared decision engine.

Coaching with Data: AI + Sales Enablement

A standout case study described how one organization triangulated sales call recordings (Gong) with research data (Clay AI) and their custom GPT to evaluate call quality.



The Result:

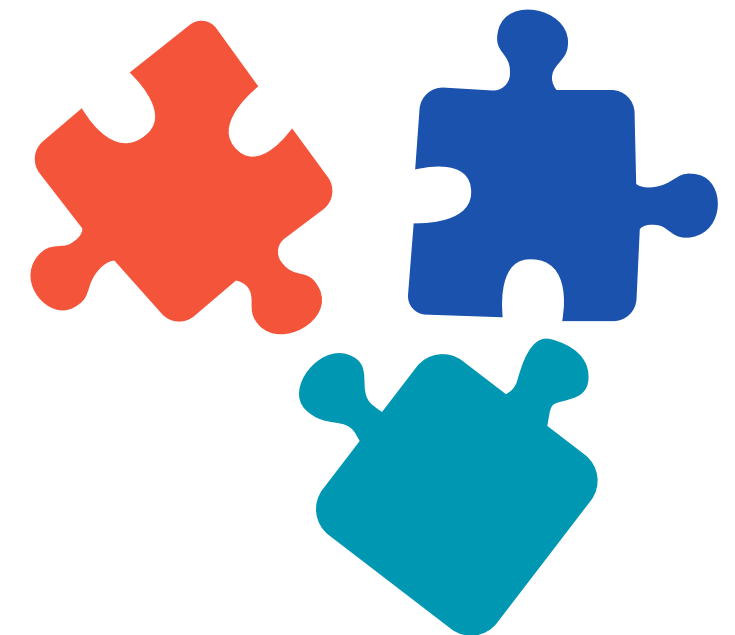
Each rep receives an AI-generated “performance score” post-call — highlighting empathy, product mentions, and customer listening ratio.

Why It Works

Turns AI into a coaching ally, not a surveillance tool.

Provides insights into what top performers do unconsciously.

Enables personalized feedback loops and replicable success.



Breaking Through in B2B and B2G Marketing

Challenge:

Decision-makers in both business and government sectors are becoming harder to reach and slower to trust.

Innovations in Approach:

- **Conversational copilots:** Field-based agents using voice-based AI (e.g., "Hey Didi") to get job data and sales intel while on the move.
- **LinkedIn remains king** for professional outreach where authenticity over volume wins.
- **Community strategy:** Find where your niche actually gathers – review sites, Slack groups, Reddit threads, or specialized forums.
- **Generative Engine Optimization (GEO) and Review Visibility:** Reviews on G2, TrustRadius, and Gartner Peer Insights now influence AI citation ranking.

Key Metric:

Generative Engine Optimization is the new SEO. It's not about clicks – it's about being cited and trusted.

Earned Media and the New Visibility Economy

Shift in Focus:

- Top-tier media isn't the only path – trade and niche publications often carry more AI authority signals.
- Authenticity in sourcing now affects whether your content appears in ChatGPT and Google's AI overviews.

Modern earned media strategy includes:

- Building credibility in smaller, specialist communities.
- Developing authoritative review presence (G2, YouTube, Reddit threads).
- Leveraging brand sentiment monitoring inside AI tools.



GEO: Generative Engine Optimization Explained

The process of structuring and optimizing digital content to be more easily understood, summarized, and cited by AI-powered search engines and large language models.



GEO Playbook



Strengthen EEAT (Experience, Expertise, Authoritativeness, Trust).



Add structured Q&A and FAQ sections.



Include author bios and credible sourcing.



Keep content fresh – AI devalues stale stats quickly.



Test and track with SEMrush, ChatGPT, Gemini, Perplexity, etc.

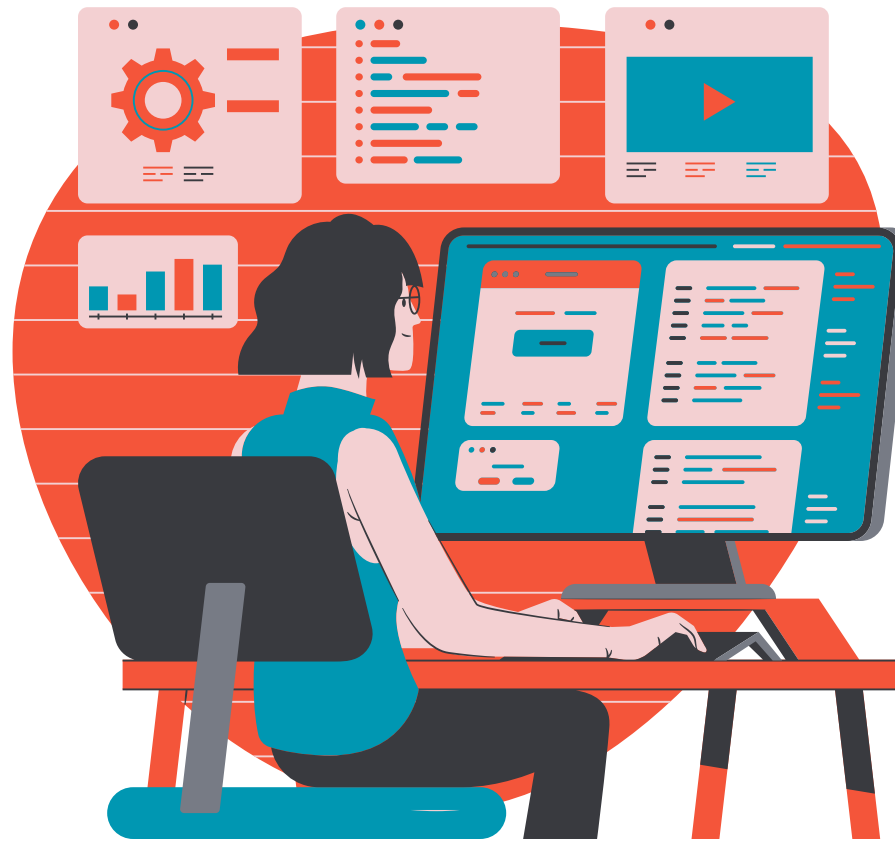
Metrics to Watch:

- Mentions and citations in AI responses
- Share of voice across LLMs
- Sentiment of generated summaries
- Time-to-index in generative engines

Monitoring, Governance, and Ethical AI Practices

LLM Visibility Tracking: Use accessible tools (GA4 + manual audits) before investing in premium analytics.

Schema-first design: Structured data, text-based tables, and readable markup boost AI trust.



Chatbot QA: Always define purpose, include human handoff, and monitor failure rates.

LLMS.txt (experimental): A simple file summarizing key info in markdown form to help AI parse pages efficiently.

AI should make bandwidth better, not empathy smaller.

Final Takeaways

Technology doesn't replace connection. It amplifies it.

AI + Human Oversight
= Scalable Creativity

Data Without Context
Is Noise

GEO: Be Cited, Not
Just Found

Empathy Is a Metric
and Trust is the New
KPI



The future of marketing isn't about replacing humans with machines. It's about using technology to amplify what only humans can do – trust, empathy, creativity, and storytelling.



Your Action Plan



Audit your content for author credibility, freshness, and structure.



Audit your content for author credibility, freshness, and structure.



Test AI visibility using ChatGPT + Gemini + Perplexity.



Align your data stack and storytelling – don't separate them.



Reimagine your social strategy around empathy, not algorithms.



Build trust loops – reviews, local coverage, real voices.



Thanks

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