

THE SKILLS CONNECTION CASE STUDY

# Medium Enterprise Consumer Services Company

### Introduction

This case study of a medium enterprise consumer services company is based on a November 2016 survey of The Skills Connection customers by TechValidate, a 3rd-party research service. The profiled company asked to have their name blinded to protect their confidentiality.

"I credit The Skills Connection with conveying the art and science of mastering analyst relations, particularly as related to the Gartner Magic Quadrant research process. We rely on a strong performance in the MQ report to maximize awareness, drive market differentiation, and accelerate sales cycles, in addition to improving all of the processes giving shape to our service. The Skills Connection helped us manage certain risks and uncertainties to attain the top spot in the Gartner annual Magic Quadrant report."

"I have found their guidance to be instrumental in making the best use of our time and resources for influencing Gartner analysts of the vision and execution behind our services. Excellent service, excellent insights across the process. Unsurpassed professionalism balanced with a cheerful yet challenging camaraderie."

## Challenges

The business challenges that led the profiled company to evaluate and ultimately select The Skills Connection:

Engaged with The Skills Connection for the following reasons:

- Wanted to learn how to effectively differentiate themselves from their
  - competitors when talking with analysts Wanted to change their position in the MQ/Wave/Marketscape to
  - generate new business Were concerned that coverage of their product / services by analysts
  - would negatively impact their business

# Use Case

surveyed company uses: Uses The Skills Connection to:

The key features and functionalities of The Skills Connection that the

- Provide the necessary expertise to effectively engage analysts
  - Show them how to gather the right information for analysts
  - Show them how to effectively communicate their story to analysts Help them improve their position in an MQ/Wave/Marketscape
  - Focus just on what was needed, and avoid wasting time on anything
  - analysts Create compelling evidence-based cases for analysts

Provide the tools and best practices needed to build a strong case for

# Results

Connection:

Experiences gained with The Skills Connection:

The surveyed company achieved the following results with The Skills

- Confidence communicating the unique value of their solution to analysts
  - The ability to create a strong evidence-based case to analysts covering their product / service
  - The skills needed to communicate with analysts in the future Unique insights about their solution that were instrumental in winning
  - over analysts
  - Benefits from working with The Skills Connection:
  - Made the most effective use of their internal resources Generated new business by improving the clarity of their market story
  - Positively shifted their position in the MQ/Wave/Marketscape Received better results than when they had engaged with analysts

Provided their internal team the tools and skills to effectively engage

- with analysts Effectively communicates the unique value of their products / services
- Agrees with the following statements:
- Met their internal schedules and deadlines: strongly agree
- agree Facilitated the co-ordination of activities across their internal response

Ensured they met schedules and deadlines for the analysts: strongly

- team: strongly agree Acted as an extension of staff: strongly agree
  - Enabled them to focus on what was needed and avoid wasting time on anything else: strongly agree
  - Agrees with the following statements: Collaborative: strongly agree
  - Knowledgeable: strongly agree
  - Service-oriented: strongly agree
  - Value for money: strongly agree Best practice focused: strongly agree

### Company Profile

The company featured in this case study asked to have its name publicly blinded because publicly endorsing vendors is against their policies.

TechValidate stands behind the authenticity of this data.

Company Size: Medium Enterprise

**Consumer Services** 

Industry:

#### **About The Skills** Connection

The Skills Connection helps technology companies to

get the right results from analyst engagement. They work with technology clients that want to optimize their chances of success in a Gartner MQ or Forrester Wave assessment. In addition, they work with elite analyst firms, providing coaching and training services to sharpen delivery and improve client satisfaction and renewal rates. Learn More:

The Skills Connection