# **Channel Program Trends Engaging Tomorrow's Solution Providers**

Continuing Education for IPED Channel Masters





#### **Data Sources**

- Annual CRN Partner Program Guide (281 vendors)
- CRN Annual Report Card (>3,000 solution providers)
- Annual Vendor Benchmark (~100 vendors)
- Extensive channel program assessment & design consulting projects
- Bi-annual Channel Masters trainings (<700 students from 155 companies)</li>

#### Channel Masters<sup>®</sup>





## Vendor Spending on Programs & Staff

**75%** 

indirect revenue as a percentage of total annual corporate revenue

15%

of channel revenue spent on channel investments

\$1.50

Spent on channel programs for every

\$1.00

spent on channel staffing

Source: IPED Annual Vendor Benchmark

## **Program Trends**



PARTNER TYPES & ENGAGEMENT MODELS



**ENABLEMENT** & TRAINING



SALES SUPPORT & TOOLS



PROFITABILITY DRIVERS



MARKETING FUNDS & SUPPORT

## Program Trends



PARTNER TYPES & ENGAGEMENT MODELS



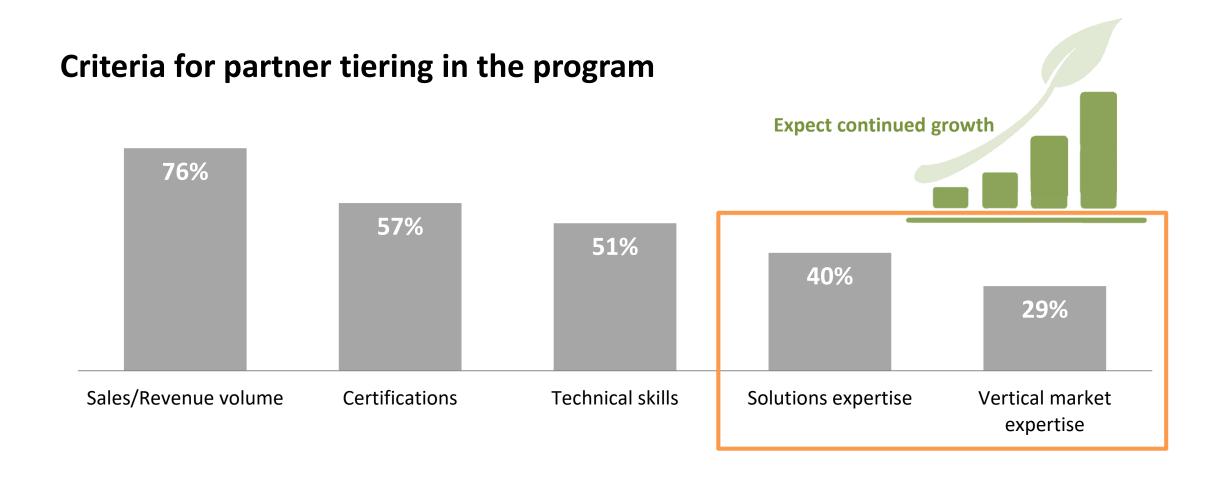
• **CORE BUSINESS MODELS** MSP/CSP, Hybrid service provider

EMERGING BUSINESS MODELS Digital agencies, OT/IT hybrids

TRANSACTIONAL MODELS Value and Volume:

Resale, Sell-To, Consumption/Subscription

Value-based Partner Programs are the norm; increasingly recognize and reward solution, vertical and services expertise



## Cisco: Diverse Ecosystem Model & Commitment to Collaboration



#### Focus on cultivating emerging partner types:

- OT integrators (IoT operational)
- Solution Technology Partner (STP)
- Digital integrators
- Application developers

## 68,000 Partners

The solutions you need. The partners you trust.
All working together.

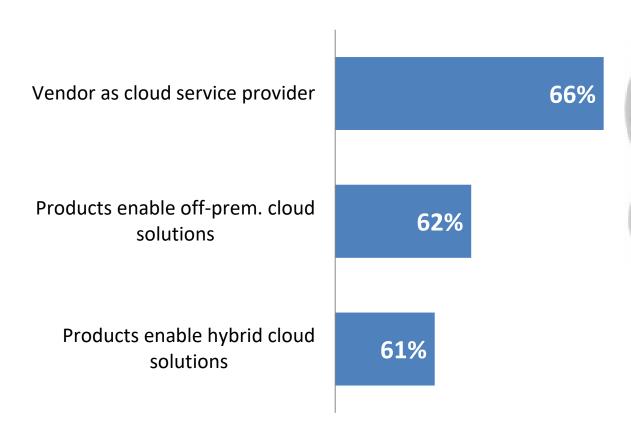
The Cisco Partner Ecosystem is transforming the digital future. Meet our partners at

www.cisco.com/go/meetpartners

### The "Ecosystem Effect"

Cisco conducted 1356 ecosystem enablement events in the last fiscal year, encouraging ISV, IHV, DSI and VAR/solution provider connections

# Programs attract diverse partner types; cloud is now a mainstream product and partner offering



of vendors' core channel program supports the company's cloud products & services

87%

of vendors offer partners

annuity revenue or subscription

services to sell or deliver

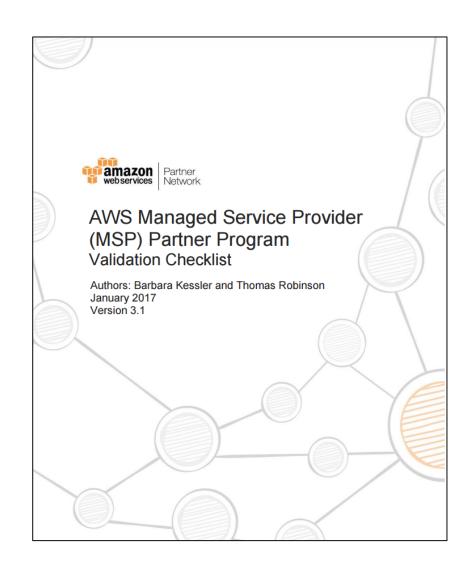
## AWS MSPs: Stringent Recruitment Audits and Program Fees



## **Emerging vendors are NOT encumbered** by the past

Building programs that meet their needs sometimes contradicting traditional behavior

- i.e. AWS Managed Services Program
- Requires validation by 3<sup>rd</sup> party audit firm
- \$3,000 USD audit fee + related travel expenses if applicable
- Represented as "Audited Managed Services Partners" on AWS website/marketplace
- According to AWS Partner finder = only 113 MSP partners



#### **Audit Elements:**

- APN membership
- Business Health
- Partner Capabilities
- AWS Services & Knowledge
- Business Mgmt. Practices
- Billing & Cost Mgmt. Processes
- Solution Design Capabilities
- Infrastructure & Application Mgmt. Capabilities
- Security Mgmt.
- Service Desk Ops. & Customer Support
- SLAs Mgmt. & Optimization
- "Customer Obsession" rating
- Service Reporting

#### EcoStruxure™ - IoT-enabled architecture and platform

EcoStruxure is an open, interoperable, IoT-enabled system architecture and platform. EcoStruxure leverages advancements in IoT, mobility, sensing, cloud, analytics and cybersecurity to deliver Innovation at Every Level. This includes Connected Products, Edge Control, and Apps, Analytics & Services Offerings

## ✓ Verticals & Use Cases



#### Verticals & Use Cases



#### Eco# ftruxure Innovation At Every Level

## Master Builders, Electrical Contractors, etc.

Master EcoXpert companies require

#### In Short

- ✓ Offerings
- ✓ Roles/Biz Models
- ✓ Verticals & Use Cases
- ✓ Call to Action

A truly certified experience.

Through tiered competency training paths, your employees gain the industry knowledge and skill sets needed to enable smarter buildings, more reliable infrastructures and optimized energy efficiency.

#### Certifications

levels: Certifled Ecoxpert or Master Ecoxpert.



✓ Call to Action

#### **Specializations**







segment or service certification. Master EcoXpert Certified EcoXpert **EcoXpert Partner** Partner

The EcoXpert program is built on a tiered structure, using a combination of badges and certifications. Today, there are 2 badges and 3 certifications available in the US.

## **Program Trends**



**ENABLEMENT &** 

**TRAINING** 



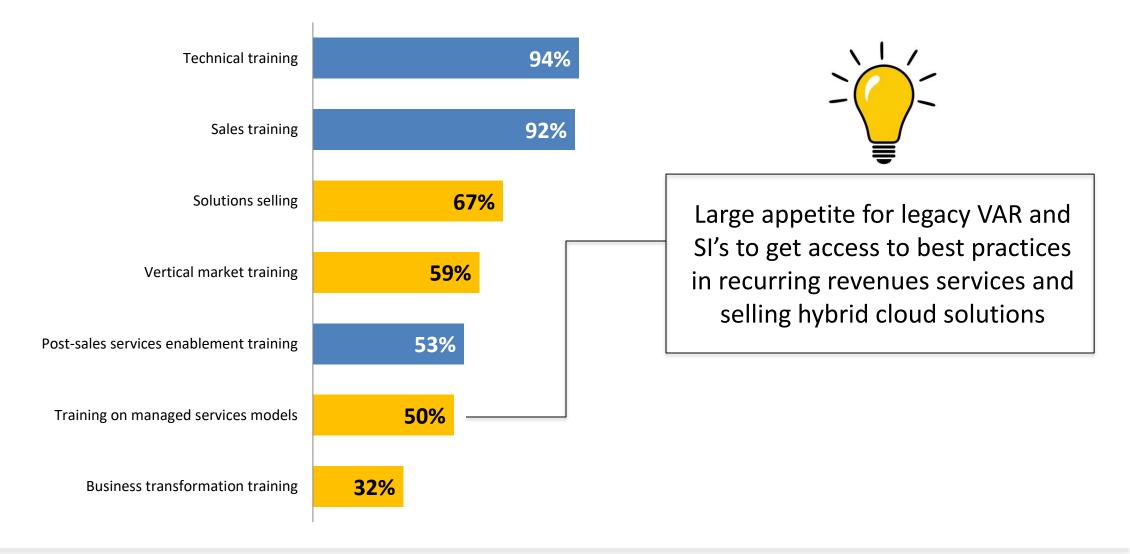
• **SKILLS HONED** Holistic – sales, technical, service-delivery & marketing

• **CONTENT FOCUS** Solutions, with a focus on hybrid on-prem. & cloud

VEHICLES USED Combination of online, classroom, labs and field mentoring

• **CERTIFICATIONS** Vertical market, solutions, service-delivery

## Diverse training curriculum focuses on business model transition, services success & vertical market solutions







## Emerging training vehicles are cross-functional and both HQ and field-driven



- ✓ Self-paced online sales training 83%
- ✓ Virtual instructor led 73%
- ✓ Classroom technical training w/cert. test 59%
- √ Hands-on technical labs 51%



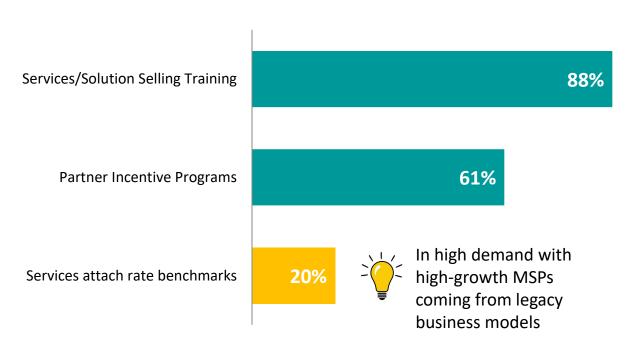
- ✓ Hands on sales training <u>w/whiteboarding</u> 82%
- ✓ Virtual technical labs 41%
- ✓ Marketing skills training / certification 24%
- ✓ Business model transformation training 18%

## Service Sales and Delivery Enablement

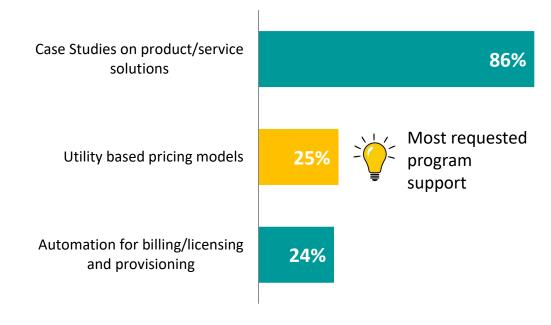


Open sharing of service delivery methods, tools and IP now considered best in class for enterprise class hardware and software solutions

#### **SERVICE ATTACH - RESALE**



#### **SERVICE CREATION & DELIVERY**





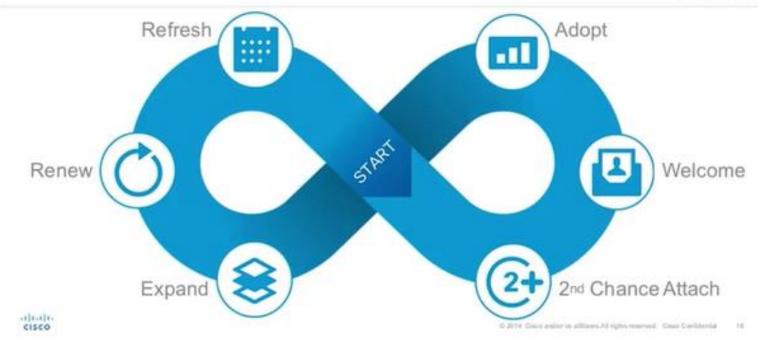
## Cisco Lifecycle Advisor Program

- Helps partners build and reward investments in Lifecycle practices
- Supports partners recurring revenue services and Cisco's investments in subscription services
- Program Support:
  - ✓ Adoption workshops
  - ✓ Digital sales & marketing platform
  - ✓ SuccessHub portal
  - ✓ eBooks, planning guides, webinars
  - ✓ ROI calculator, Customer Success Index
  - ✓ Subscription expansion incentives



## Creating the customer experience

#successtalk



## Microsoft: Cloud Transformation Playbooks



#### Cloud Application Development

Guide customers through development operations and digital media opportunities.



Data Platform and Analytics Build intelligent solutions with advanced business



Cloud Infrastructure and Management Learn about hybrid cloud implementation,

modernization, management, and security.



Enterprise Mobility and Security

Help your customers with identity and access management and information protection.



Security Practice Development Optimize with a security focused practice across a



Al Practice Development Drive new revenue opportunities by implementing All as part of your service offerings.



Cloud Migration and Modernization

Embrace digital transformation by connecting people, data, and processes in the cloud.



Grow Your ISV Business with

Fundamentally transform business to deliver greater value by selling software as a service.

#### Playbooks designed to grow the solution provider's cloud practice on Microsoft:

- Accelerate and optimize your Azure practice in every phase.
- Drive new revenue opportunities, marketing strategies, and lead-capturing tactics.
- Gain access to the technical skills and resources that will keep your team ahead of what's next.

#### **Answering questions, such as:**

- How do I determine what Cloud Solution I should offer?
- What kind of team and resources do I need to get started?
- How do I go to market with Azure?
- What do we charge customers? How do we charge them?



Not sure where to start or looking for more guidance? Follow these steps to integrate new cloud offerings and expand vour business

Learn more

#### Join the community

Connect with partners who have expertise in adding desktop solutions to their practices.

Check it out >

comprehensive development framework.



## Microsoft: Cloud Transformation Playbooks

Built in collaboration among the Microsoft One Commercial Partner group and 12 successful Azure partners

#### Plus

A survey of 364 Azure partners selling cloud migration services







CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS	
Attunix	Hanu
<u>BitTitan</u>	Sentia
CAPSIDE	<u>Inframon</u>
<u>Clear People</u>	Intercept
Cloud Direct	Rackspace
<u>Daisy Group</u>	<u>TCS</u>

#### **IPED**\* Consulting

ABOUT THIS PLAYBOOK PAGE 5

#### Table of Contents

bout this Playbook	2	Availability Options	79
Digital Transformation	5	Customized Virtual Machine Images	8
The Cloud Migration Opportunity	10	Migrating to Virtual Machines	8
efine Your Strategy	11	Migrating Disks	8
The Big Picture of Migration	13	Migrating VMware Workloads	84
Identify Your Target Customers	14	Migration Tools	8!
Define Your Service Offering	16	Business Continuity	8
Defining Your Pricing Strategy	20	Migrating Existing VMs to CSP	81
Apply for Azure Incentive Programs	22	Migrating Databases	8
Build Your Migration Practice	24	Modernizing Apps	9
Landing a Migration Project	25	Modernizing Applications with Azure	9
Executing Your First Migration Project	28	Cloud-Native Architecture and Design	9!
Leverage Reusable IP	29	Cloud Design Considerations	9
Managed Applications	31	Cloud Design Patterns	9
Managing a Migration Program using a Migration Factory	32	Azure DevTest Labs	100
Guide: Optimize and Grow	33	Migrating Applications to Azure App Service	10
ire & Train	34	Microservices and Containers	10
Building a Migration Team	36	What is Docker?	100
Job Descriptions for your Migration Team	37	Modern Data Platform	107
Reskilling for the Cloud	44	Cognitive Services and Al	109
How is the Cloud Different?	45	Optimize & Manage	110
Hiring and Onboarding	46	Cost Optimization	112
Azure Certifications and Exams	47	Azure Cost Management	11
ligration Assessment	53	Automatic Shutdown of VMs	123
Discovery	55	Optimized Architecture	12!
Planning	59	Azure Management Best Practices	13
Evaluation	65	Azure Subscriptions	132
ft & Shift	67	Resource Organization	13!
Building Out the Network	69	Controlling access to Azure Resources	130
Network Appliances	73	Security and Compliance	137
The Virtual Data Center	74	Infrastructure as Code	138
Enabling Hybrid Identity	75	Azure Resource Manager Templates	139
Planning for Storage	76	Automated Scripts	140
File Shares	77	Azure SDKs and REST APIs	14
Choosing Virtual Machines	78	Playbook Summary	142

## **Program Trends**



**SALES SUPPORT**& TOOLS



SALES SKILLS IN FOCUS

Business value, financial modeling, cloud transformation

PRE-SALES EFFORTS

POCs, trials, real-time online demos

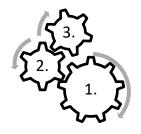
SALES CYCLE TO SUPPORT

Land, expand, adopt, renew; hybrid on-prem./cloud is default

CO-SELLING SUPPORT

Alignment of direct and channel on target markets, solutions and value propositions

Sales support is most wanted to support shift to recurring revenues and selling targeted solutions to high-growth verticals



Enhance our sales methodology and approach - 43%



Enter a new customer segment or vertical - 30%



Increase our sales staffing - 28%

## HP University: Focus on next-gen. sales skills to drive contractual vs. transactional revenues

#### Three areas of focus:



#### Classroom/virtual:

- Strategic Solution selling
- Executive Level Selling
- Intro to Inside Selling
- Hunting: New Business
   Development
- Relationship Mapping
- Storytelling

#### Self-Paced:

- Creating a win strategy
- Effective client communication
- Meeting and call planning
- Fundamentals of negotiation
- Intro to business case development
- Social selling
- Financial Acumen

#### **2** CERTIFICATIONS & SPECIALIZATIONS

#### **New volume certifications:**

- Business PCs
- Printing hardware
- Supplies

#### **Specializations:**

- Sales certifications
- Technical certifications
- Advanced certifications
- 3 PRODUCT TRAINING Print and Personal Systems



# TRANSACTIONAL

- Feature and price driven selling
- Procurement driven
- Reactive





- Solution selling and contractual selling
- Sales, consultancy and services
- Selling at the C-level
- Certifications in critical capabilities

## Sales Campaign & Target Market Alignment: Direct & Indirect Selling

#### **SUPER SIX Sales Initiatives:**

- Led by the corporation's Chief Sales Officer
- 6 core GTM initiatives each with a defined TAM and \$\$ growth target
- Drives a focused set of corporate initiatives that trickle through HPE's direct and indirect sales efforts
- Shows up in the PartnerReady channel program in:
  - Training and competency structure
  - Sales tools
  - Marketing campaigns
  - Service delivery engagement



#### **Short-term (2-3 years)**

Gen 10 Transition

Storage to Flash

Blades Plus

Long-term (now to the next 10 years)

Everything as a Service

Shift to SW Defined

Intelligent Edge

### Sales Support: Fortinet FortiExpress



Two 90' articulated 18 wheeler's dedicated to delivering Advanced Threat Detection; 1200 sq.ft. showroom & classroom











- Lunch n' Learns
- Open house networking
- Digital signage
- Demos & presentations
- Technology showcase





## **Program Trends**



**PROFITABILITY** 

**DRIVERS** 



✓ PRICING MODELS

Resell, sell-to, subscription, commissions referral/agent, consumption

✓ RANGE OF INCENTIVES

Automation supports increasing shift to value-based performance incentive & customer lifecycle services

✓ COST OFFSET

Discounted training, creative use of MDF, Business development funds

## Deal Registrations now drive multiple selling behaviors & teaming

of vendors offer Deal Registration support

----> Only 11% of these require registration without financial incentives



43% offer deal registration incentives for <u>direct-closed</u> deals

27% offer deal registration incentives for deals <u>closed by another partner</u>

## **Consumption Based Pricing Models**



**Biggest Obstacles When Working With Strategic Vendors?** 

#1 Pricing models that supports a XaaS model

### HP Device as a Service (DaaS)

Smart, simplified computing solutions for today's world

Products & Services / Unified Communications / End-of-Sale and End-of-Life Products / Cisco Unified Communications Software Subscription / Data Sheets

Cisco Unified Communications Software Subscription



#### **Total Partner Contribution & Incentives**



#### Salesforce.com Consulting Partners: Partner Value Score (PVS)



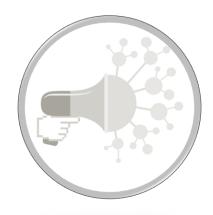
Both
partnersourced and
co-sell
dimensions

Year over Year Technical Sales Service Developer Emerging product focus or specialized services in 1 of 5 target vertical markets

Automated survey over a rolling 18 month timeframe

Referenceable customer projects

## **Program Trends**



MARKETING FUNDS & SUPPORT



**MARKETING SKILLS** 

Digital lead nurturing and brand

building/differentiation

✓ DEMAND GEN. FOCUS

Sustained thought leadership

inbound communications

✓ MARKETING AUTOMATION Full digital marketing platforms;

connected to SFA & Deal Reg. systems

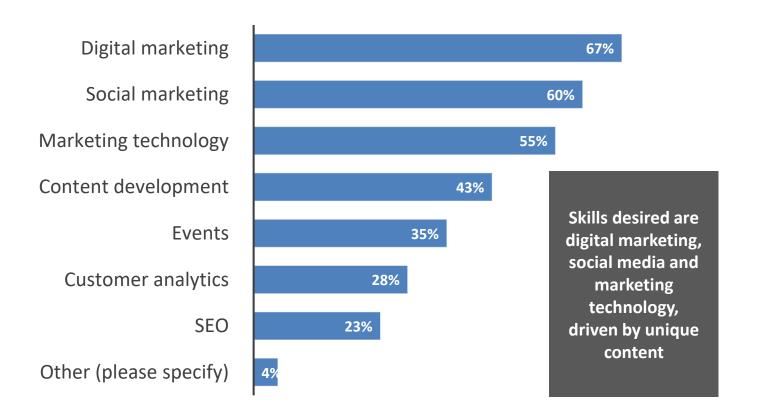
✓ MDF ALLOCATION

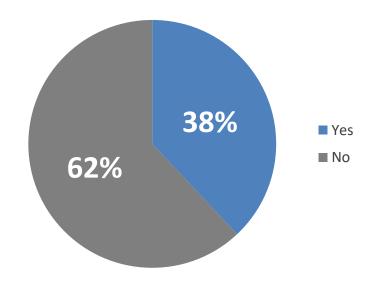
To strategic growth partners (not just

largest) based on plan & proposal

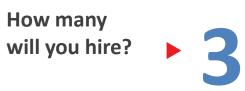
## Investing in Marketing Staff with Digital Marketing Skills

#### SKILLS DESIRED IN NEW MARKETING EMPLOYEES

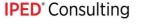




Plans to hire more full-time marketing employees in next 12-18 months?



Source: IPED State of Partner Marketing



Marketing support now often includes concierge services and digital automation platforms

45%

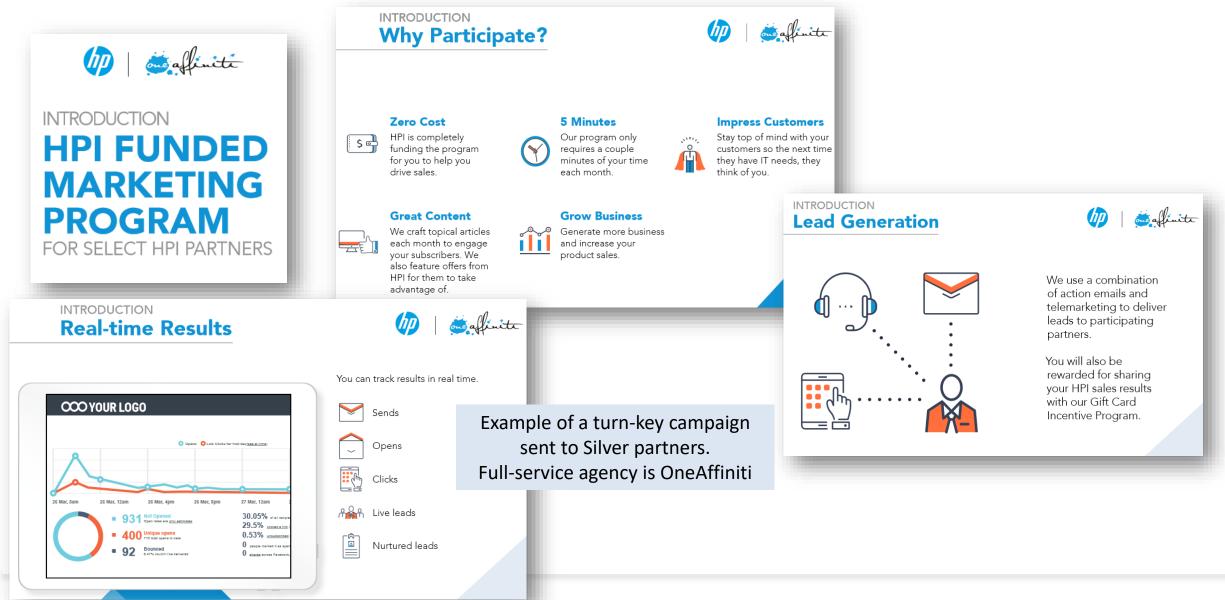
Provide access to an automated marketing platform

20%

Provide full-service marketing support through 3<sup>rd</sup> party providers



## Vendor Managed Campaigns: Subsidized MDF program through concierge agencies



## MDF funding allocations increasing in 2018 as well as breadth of eligible partners

#### MORE MARKET DEVELOPMENT FUNDS (MDF) .....



**46%** of vendors plan to increase MDF dollars to partners in 2018

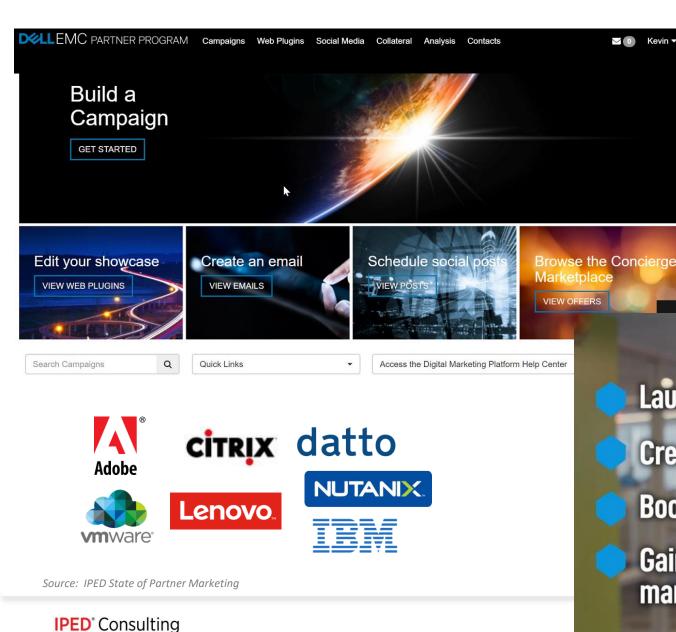
16% of vendors plan to increase MDF by more than 50%

#### To More Partners



## **Digital Marketing Platforms**

© 2018 IPED – The Channel Company





- ✓ Simple portal straightforward interface
- ✓ Robust self-serve content
- ✓ Easily customized content (e.g., client microsites branded to the partner)
- Automated access to proposal-based MDF
- Easy marketing automation to monitor digital lead nurturing campaign responses
   datto

Launch lead generation campaigns
Create custom co-branded collateral
Boost web and social media presence
Gain insight into leads while
managing the sales process

## Research • Market I

- Market Intelligence
- Trending Data
- Vendor Imperatives



#### Insights

- Expert Perspectives
- Proven Practices
- Operational Guidance

Channelytics<sup>®</sup>



#### **Tool Sets**

- Frameworks & Guides
- Playbooks & Templates
- Channel Primers



#### **Advisory**

- Research Readouts
- Inquiry Appointments
- Executive Briefings



#### **Partner Databases**

- SP500
- MPS500
- + More Lists & Awards

# Actionable Intelligence to Grow your Channel

- Research on topics at the forefront of the channel
  - Actionable insights to fully leverage the data
  - Playbooks and tools for quicker execution
  - Advisory services tailored to your objectives
- Executive communities to network and collaborate

























To Learn More About Taking Advantage of Channelytics contact John Machado <a href="mailto:jmachado@thechannelcompany.com">jmachado@thechannelcompany.com</a> or Lisa Sabourin <a href="mailto:lsabourin@thechannelcompany.com">lsabourin@thechannelcompany.com</a>

## **Thank You**



**For More Information Contact:** 

Lisa Sabourin
Director of Engagements
C 561.339.5517
Isabourin@thechannelco.com

The Channel Company thechannelco.com

