

# **Managing Optimization**

How a subscription company applies the conversion heuristic throughout the customer journey

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### Session speaker



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Jacob Baldwin
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Jacob Baldwin is the Digital Marketing Manager for America's largest group messaging service, One Call Now. During his time there, Baldwin has pioneered such endeavors as creating the digital marketing testing and optimization program, the personabased content marketing program and its marketing automation systems. He has contributed to many notable publications such as *Inc., Website Magazine*, Dell's TechPageOne Blog and MarketingSherpa.

# **About One Call Now**

- 11 years old
- SaaS provider of group messaging services for multiple markets:
  - Business/enterprise
  - Education
  - Nonprofit organizations
- Subscription-based service



### I'm going to tell you what I am going to tell you

Optimizing for the click

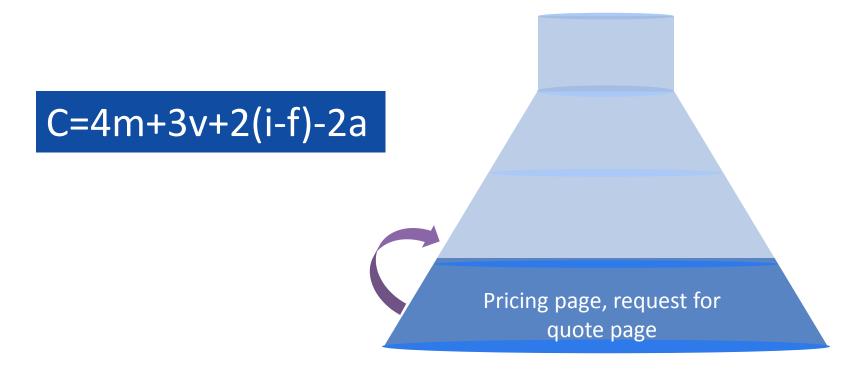
Optimizing for the post-conversion

Optimizing the conversion experience

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### Journey Up the Funnel: Applying the heuristic





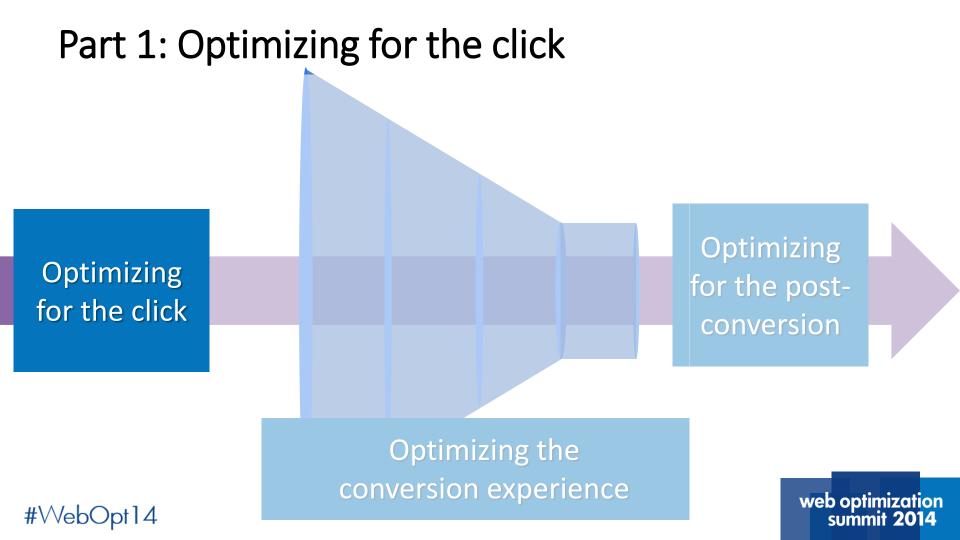
## Journey Up the Funnel: Applying the heuristic

C=4m+3v+2(i-f)-2a

It's not an equation, it's a framework.

quote page





### **Experiment 1: Background**



**Experiment ID: OCN REL Pricing Page** 

Location: OneCallNow.com/religious/pricing

Test Protocol: TP0005

#### **Research Notes:**

**Background:** Number of conversions on this page have been declining for a while.

**Objective:** To increase the number of conversions initiated on this page.

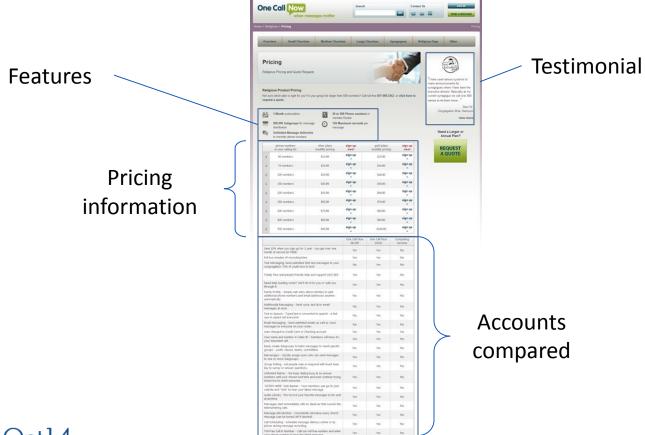
**Primary Research Question:** Which version of the REL product pricing page will

inspire a greater number of conversion initiations?

Test Design: Sequential

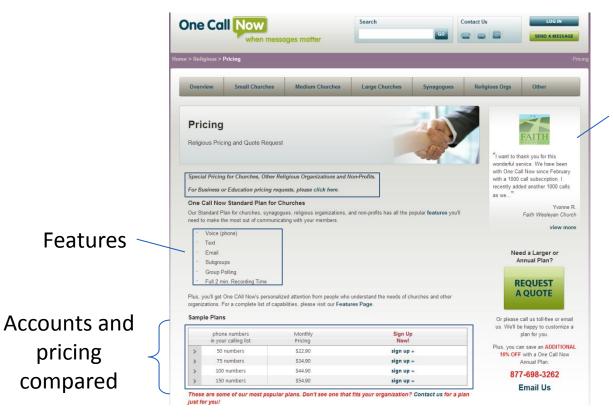


### **Experiment 1: Pricing page control**





### Experiment 1: Pricing page treatment

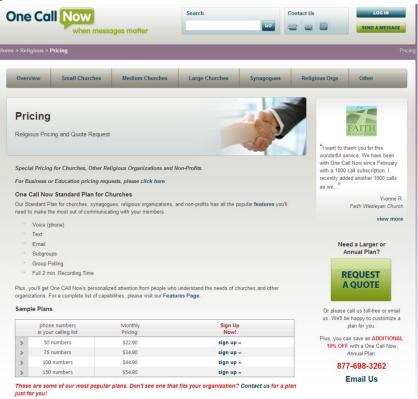


**Testimonial** 

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Experiment 1: Side by side





### **Experiment 1: Results**



### 92.18% increase in conversion rate initiation

The paradox of choice ...

Page	Conversion Initiation Rate
Control – Lots of clickable options	7.29%
Treatment – Fewer clickable options	14.01%
Relative Difference	92.18%



Don't overwhelm people with options: Less really is more, most of the time ...



# The paradox of choice





Sheena Iyengar: The Art of Choosing

### **Experiment 2: Background**



**Experiment ID: OCN RFQ Button Copy** 

Location: OneCallNow.com

Test Protocol: n/a

#### **Research Notes:**

**Background:** My curiosity led me to test the Request a Quote button copy on our homepage.

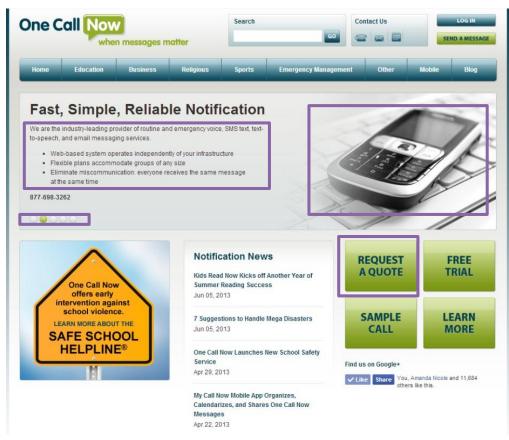
**Objective:** To increase the number of people clicking the Request a Quote button.

**Primary Research Question:** Which button copy will produce the desired outcome?

Test Design: Sequential



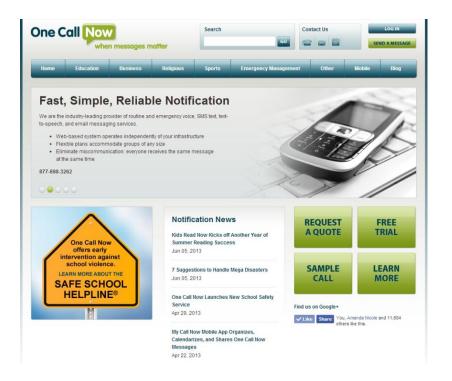
### **Experiment 2: RFQ control**

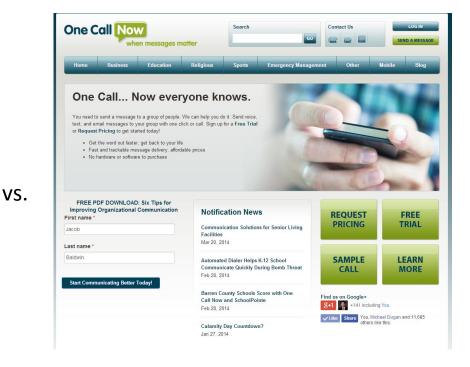


### Experiment 2: RFQ treatment



### Experiment 2: Side by side





Original

**Treatment** 



### **Experiment 2: Results**



### 95% increase in conversion initiation

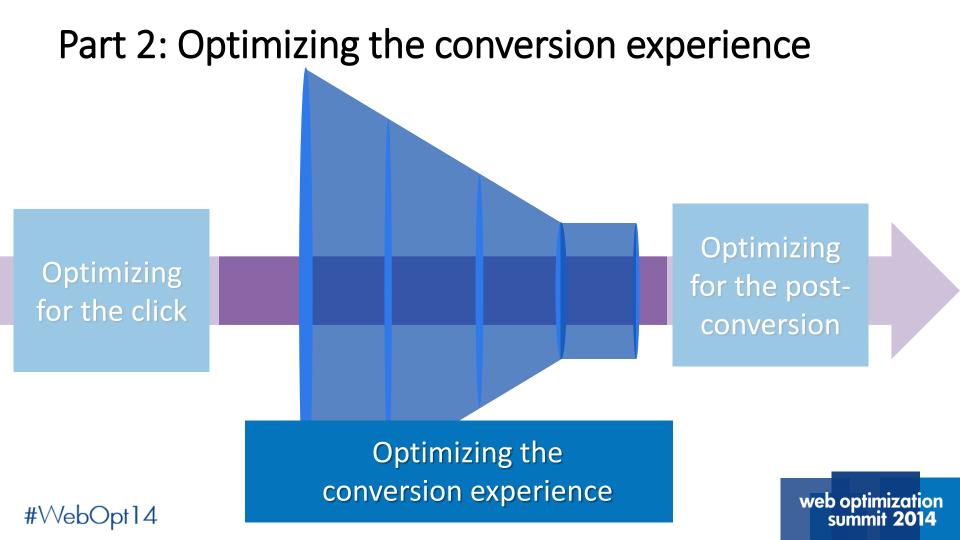
Led to an 82% increase in number of quote requests.

Test Page	Button Click Rate
Control – Button copy read "Request a Quote"	1.98%
Treatment – Button copy read "Request Pricing"	3.88%
Relative Difference	95.96%

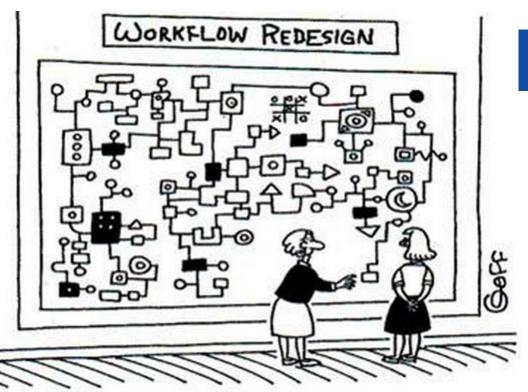


**Language matters**: Changing three words in your button copy can make a very large difference.

That's great – but we're trying to convert!



### Part 2: Optimizing the conversion process



C=4m+3v+2(i-f)-2a

- Reducing friction
- Reducing anxiety

<sup>&</sup>quot;And this is where our ED workflow redesign team went insane"

### Experiment 3: Background



Experiment ID: One Call Now Free Trial Sign-up Process

Location: Homepage

Test Protocol: TP0004

### **Research Notes:**

**Background:** Looking for ways to optimize the free trial conversion process.

**Objective:** To increase free trial completion rate.

Primary Research Question: Which version of our free trial sign-up process will

produce a higher conversion rate?

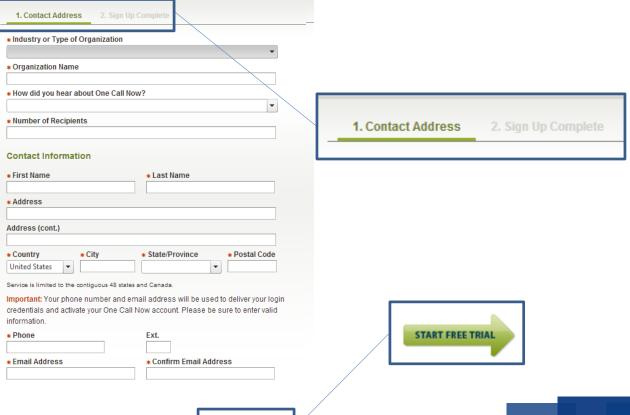
Test Design: Sequential



### Experiment 3: Free trial control



### Experiment 3: Free trial treatment



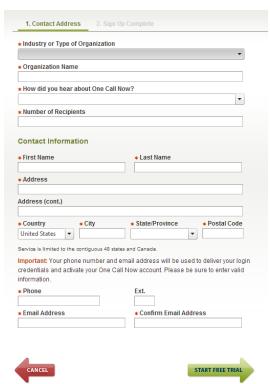




### Experiment 3: Free trial side by side



Original



**Treatment** 



### **Experiment 3: Results**





By shortening the sign-up process and changing the language in the CTA, we were able to see significant conversion rate increases from our free trial form.

Test Page	Conversion Rate
Control	15.65%
Treatment	24.3%
Relative Difference	55.3%



**Reduce friction**: Don't make your visitors work unnecessarily hard to convert.

### **Experiment 4: Background**



Experiment ID: One Call Now Free Trial Optimization V2

Location: Homepage

### **Research Notes:**

**Background:** After optimizing the sign-up process, I wanted to see if I could do more.

**Objective:** To increase conversion rate of free trial form.

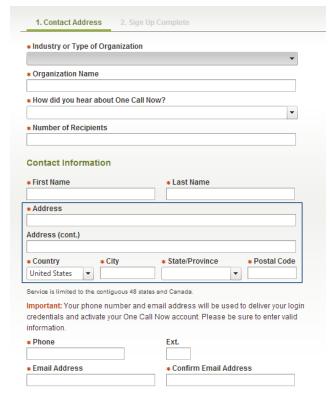
**Primary Research Question:** Which version of the free trial sign-up form will produce

higher conversion rates?

Test Design: Sequential



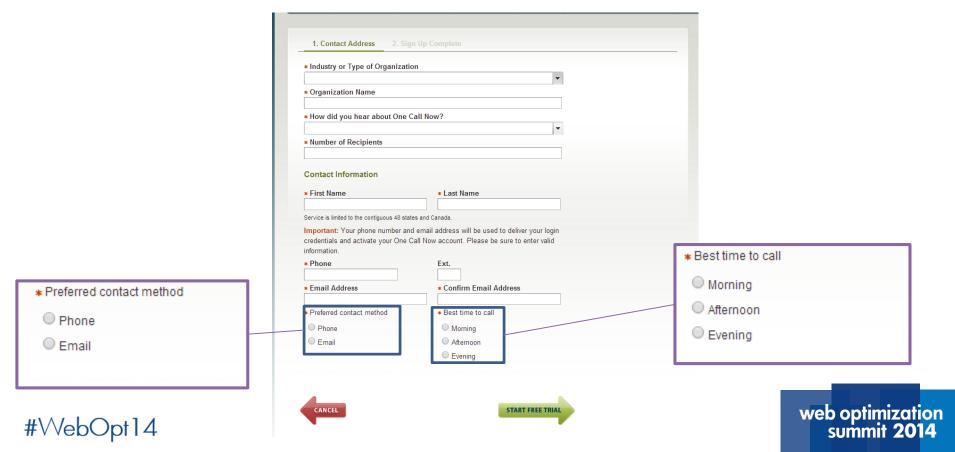
### Experiment 4: Free trial opt. version 2 control



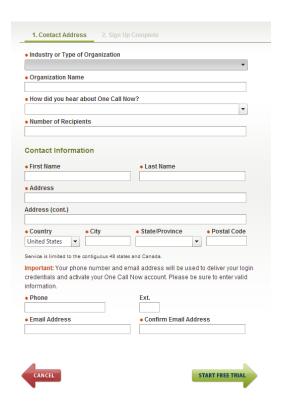


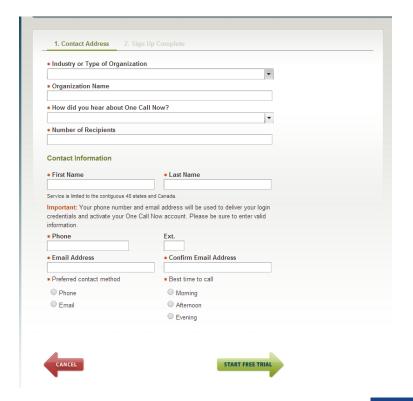


### Experiment 4: Free trial opt. version 2 treatment



### Experiment 4: Side by side







### **Experiment 4: Results**





By removing unnecessary fields from the free trial sign-up process, we were able to see significant **incremental** conversion rate increases from our free trial form.

Test Page	Conversion Rate
Control	22.67%
Treatment	29.36%
Relative Difference	29.51%



Never stop optimizing: Even if you get a big win, you can always do better.





# Optimization doesn't end here!



# Part 3: Optimizing for the post-conversion

Optimizing for the click

Optimizing for the post conversion

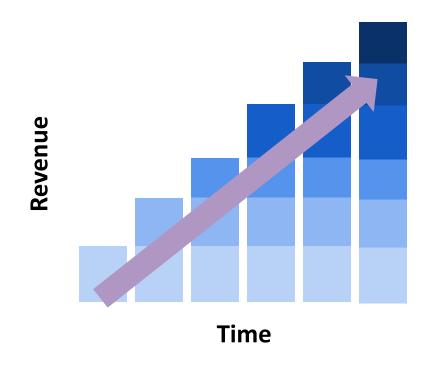
Optimizing the conversion experience

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"SaaS companies are unprofitable for the first 12-24 months of a given customer's lifecycle..."



#### It's all about customer retention



#### It's all about customer retention

# Sticky customers are the lifeblood of subscription-based businesses

**Time** 



#### One Call Now Case Study: The situation

The situation: We were welcoming new One Call Now clients aboard with an unoptimized onboarding process, with no metrics for measuring onboarding success. The customer renewal process also was not fully optimized.

**Project charter:** "To improve the client onboarding experience"





#### One Call Now Case Study: The situation

"Before" Process:

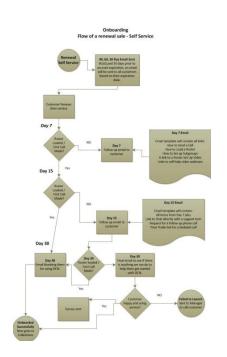


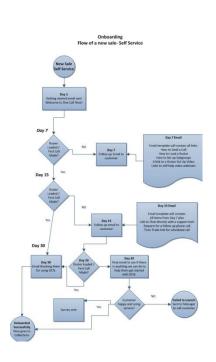
Metric for Success = Roster Load Time



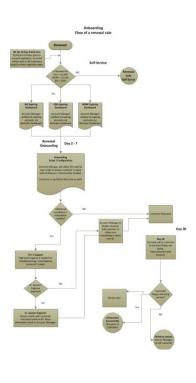
#### One Call Now Case Study: The solution

"After" Process:



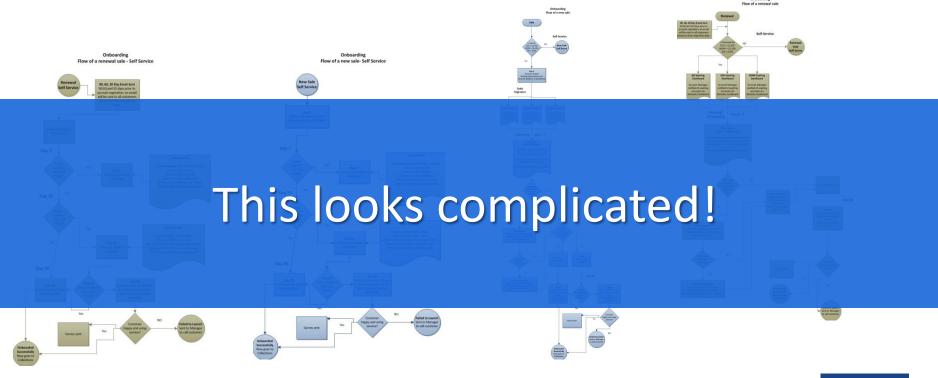




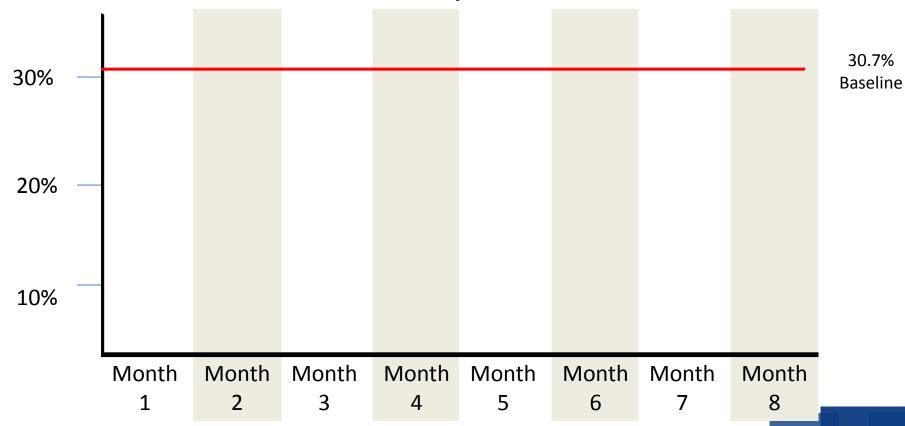


#### One Call Now Case Study: The solution

"After" Process:

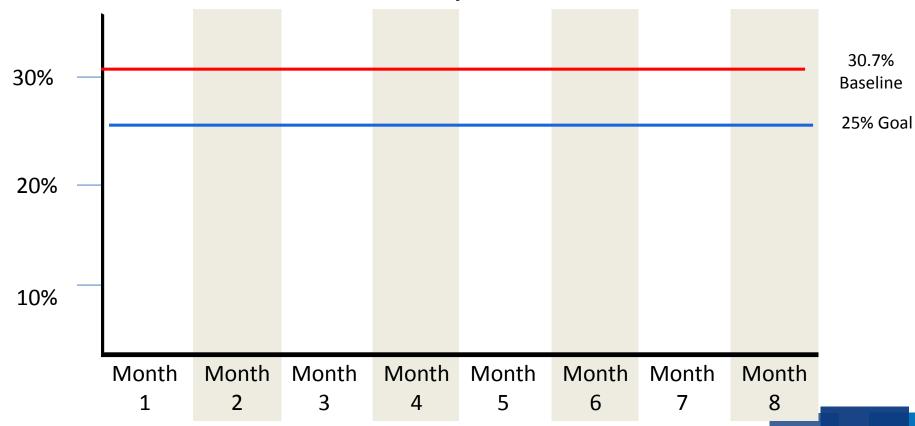






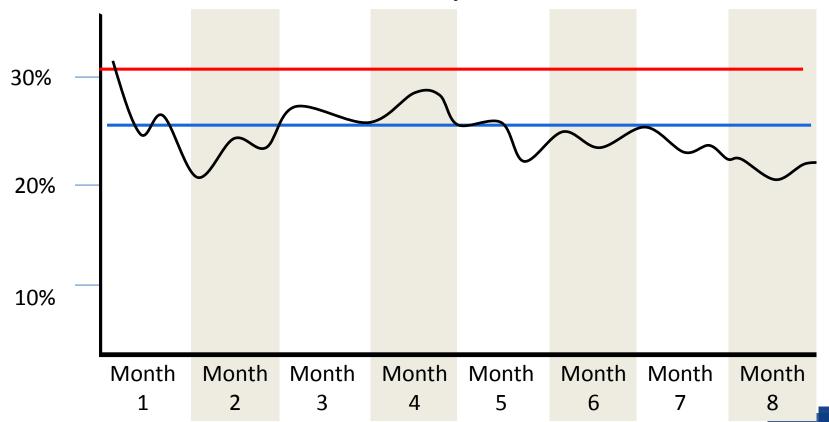
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30.7%



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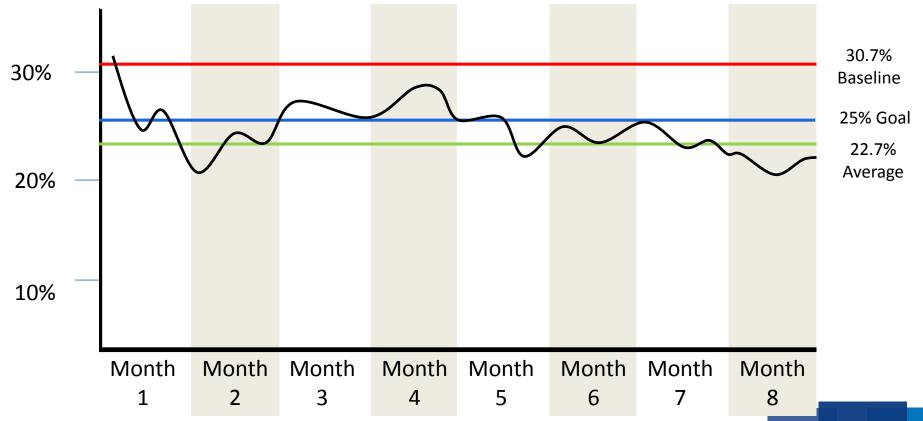
30.7%



30.7% Baseline

25% Goal

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VebOpt 14 web optimization summit 2014

#### Results



#### 22.7% decrease in unloaded rosters

Average roster load time significantly improved by immediately onboarding all new customers.

Test Page	Rosters Unloaded
Control	30.7%
Treatment	23.73%
Relative Difference	-22.7%



Help customers realize your products' value: Onboarding processes for your customers help them realize the value of their investment sooner through quicker use of the product.

## Main takeaways

- 1. Don't overwhelm. Remember the paradox of choice.
- 2. Language matters.
- 3. Reduce friction and anxiety by applying the conversion heuristic across the entire experience.
- 4. Optimization doesn't end with the sale, especially for subscription-based businesses.

## Thank you!



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