

eCONTROLFor Nutritional Supplement Brands

e | control | ē | kən-'trōl

The process through which brands exert control over their online sales to ensure high-quality distribution and protect brand equity.



Vorys eControl

Integrates multi-disciplinary services including business and legal strategy, investigation, enforcement, technology, data insights, and implementation support to provide comprehensive online sales control solutions that protect brand equity and support long term growth in the eCommerce age.

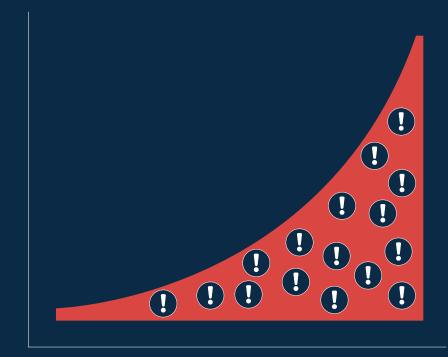
Recipient of Global Innovation Award from the College of Law Practice Management for our one-of-a-kind, innovative, holistic approach.



Provides online sales control solutions for over 500 companies in the US and internationally.



Exponential Ecommerce Growth



Overwhelming
Number of
Violations Disrupting
Sales & Brand
Value

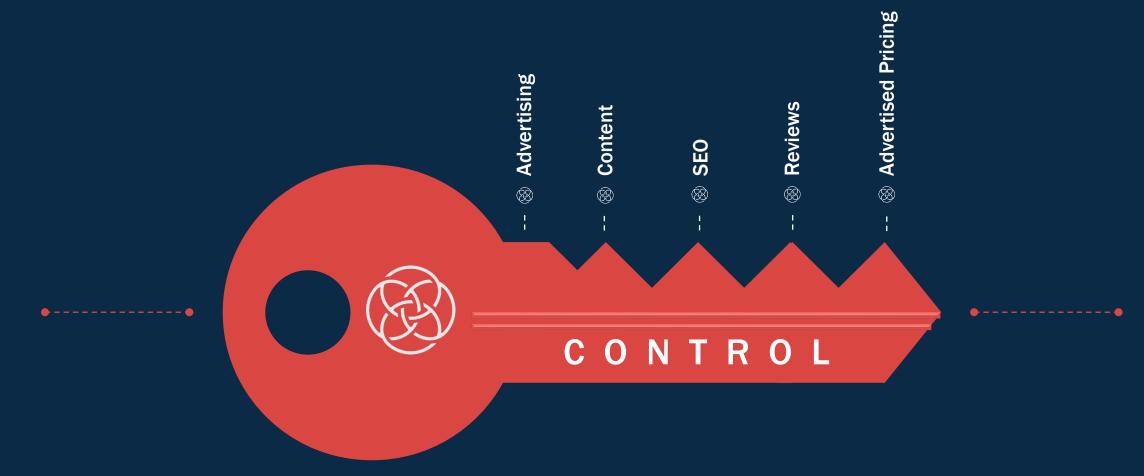


These Violations Are Always Changing



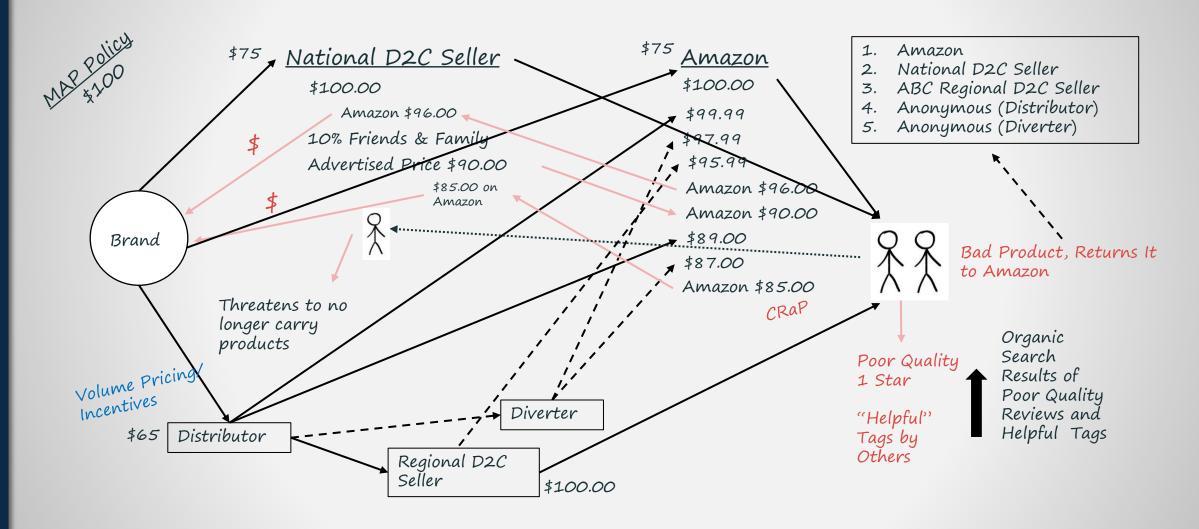


Control is Key to Optimal Marketplace Sales

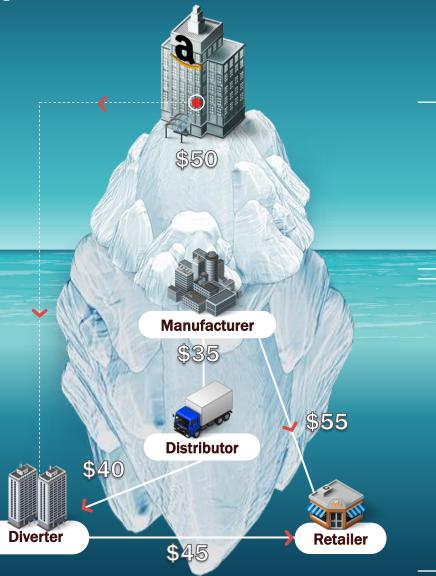




...And Is Also Key To Preventing Omni-Channel Disruption



Brands Must Approach Problem Holistically...



Unauthorized Amazon Seller/Sales

Brick & Mortar Businesses & Unauthorized Sales



The Nutritional Supplement Category is Susceptible to Online Disruption



BRAND

image,
brand quality &
consumer experience
are critical



COMPETITION

is fierce



RISKS

Significant diversion risks

Small package sizes

Higher price points



DISTRIBUTORS

Major distributors supply professional eCommerce sellers



The Category Faces Threats From Many Different Types of Violators...





These Violators All Have Varying Impacts on Brands...



Some take a lot of sales, others very little



Some cause serious price disruption, others very little



Some sell products
low quality that
harm review scores,
others don't



Some cause
negative reviews
that harm brand
score, others don't



How Do I Fix Brand Erosion & Problems From Unauthorized Sales on Marketplaces?

Brand Protection

You should identify IP infringement and remove them with our software.

MAP/Price Monitoring

You should use our MAP monitoring and enforcement software.



Law Firms

You should draft and implement tighter policies and conduct legal enforcement.

Scary Letters

You should let us send a lot of scary letters.



If the only tool you have is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail.

Abraham Maslow (1908-1970)



There is a limited amount of

BUDGET & TIME



that brands can spend addressing online violations

Precision eControl



Analytics, Science Algorithms







Precision eControl Data & Insights



eControl Industry Specialist

Team of Experts



Legal foundation team



Channel management



Investigators



Enforcement center



Ecosystem of global partners



Enables Custom & Holistic Precision eControl Solutions

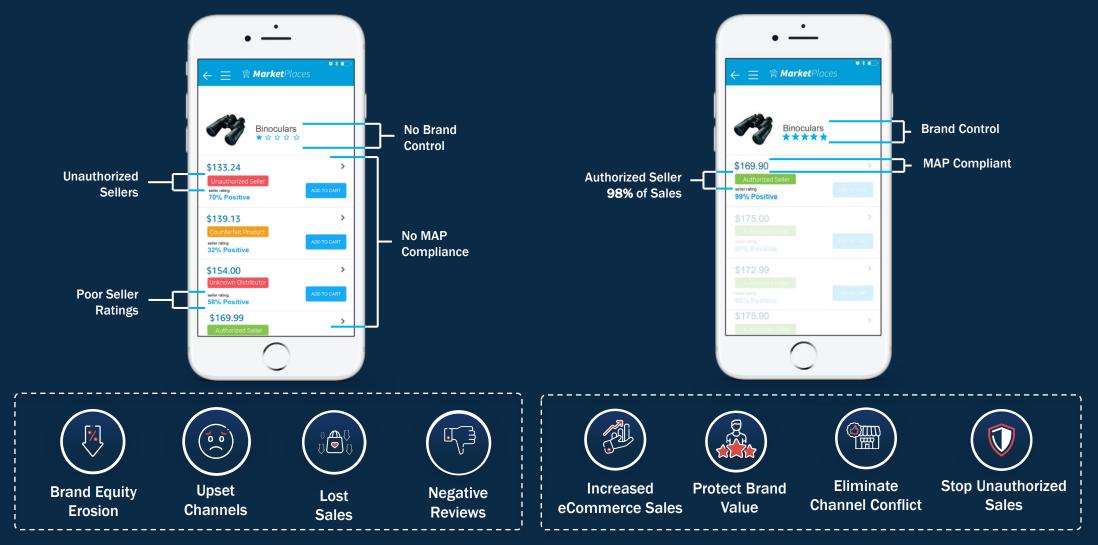


Define KPIs and GTM



Define KPIs & Go-to-Market Strategy

Optimal Marketplace KPIs

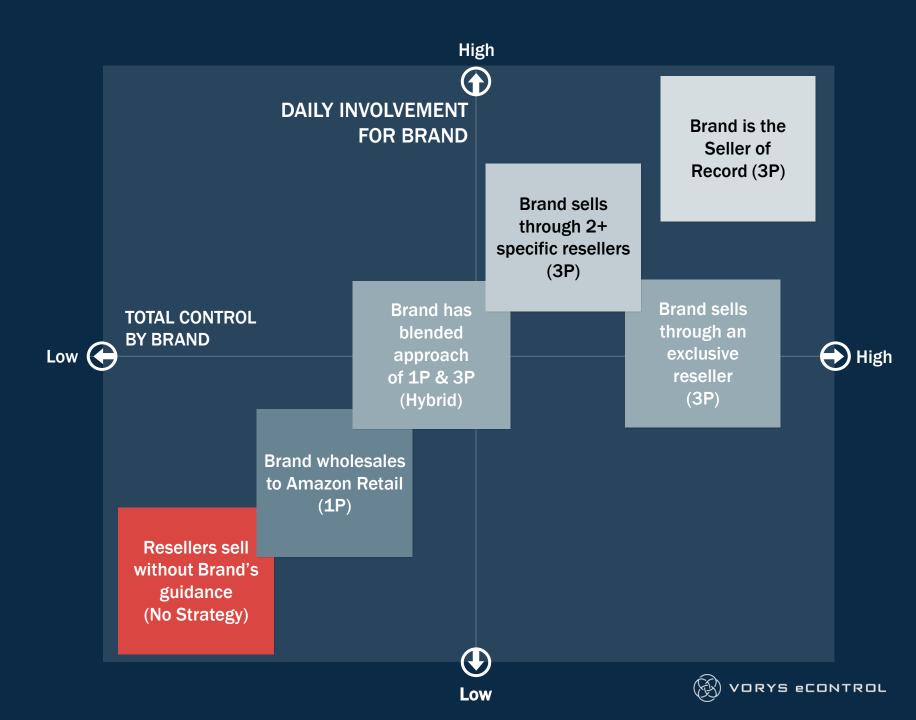


Develop Online Marketplace Sales Strategy

Product Entire catalog? Strategy Only portions of catalog? Key **Considerations** Multiple marketplaces? Sales Unique sellers aligned to distinctly unique assortments? Strategy Amazon 1P or Seller Brand 3P storefront or Expert 3P seller



Determine The Level Of Desired Marketplace Selling Control



Obtain Key Stakeholder Alignment





Authorized Reseller Program

Authorized Reseller Program



Provides means to
identify and manage
authorized sellers
those who buy products from
Brand or Authorized Distributor

Policies/agreements must cover all sales channels and all levels of distribution

Policies/agreements will:

- Establish channel controls the rules regarding where, how and to whom products may be sold
- Serve as vehicle for conveying quality controls and customer services expectations

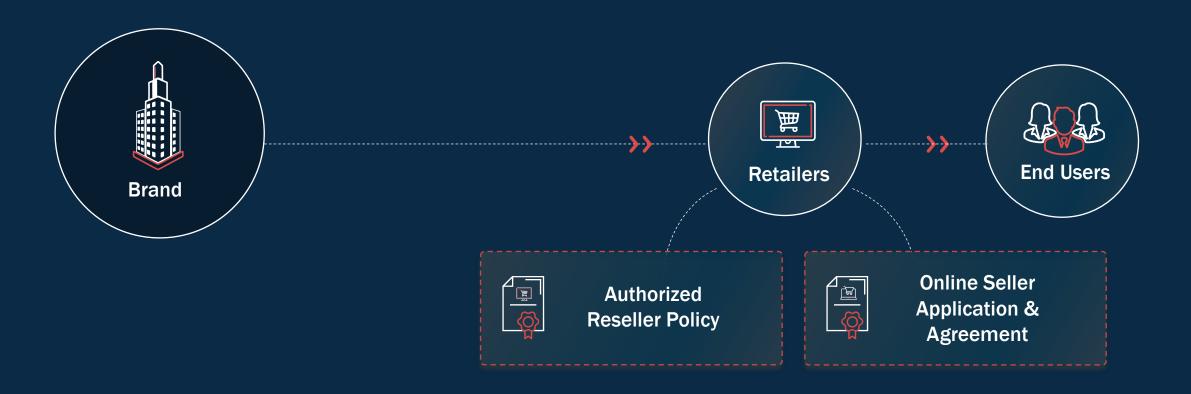


Authorized Reseller Program Enables a Deliberate Channel Strategy



FROM THIS.... TO THIS... **BRAND BRAND AUTHORIZED** Unauthorized MARKETPLACE **DISTRIBUTORS RETAILERS** CO-OPS **Distributors** Marketplace **SELLER** Co-ops **Sellers DEALERS RETAILERS** Retailers **Dealers RETAILERS END CUSTOMERS END CUSTOMERS**

Direct-To-Retailer Channel Example



Authorized Retailer Policy

KEY PROVISIONS



Recipients



Implementation



Permissible Customers



Online Sales

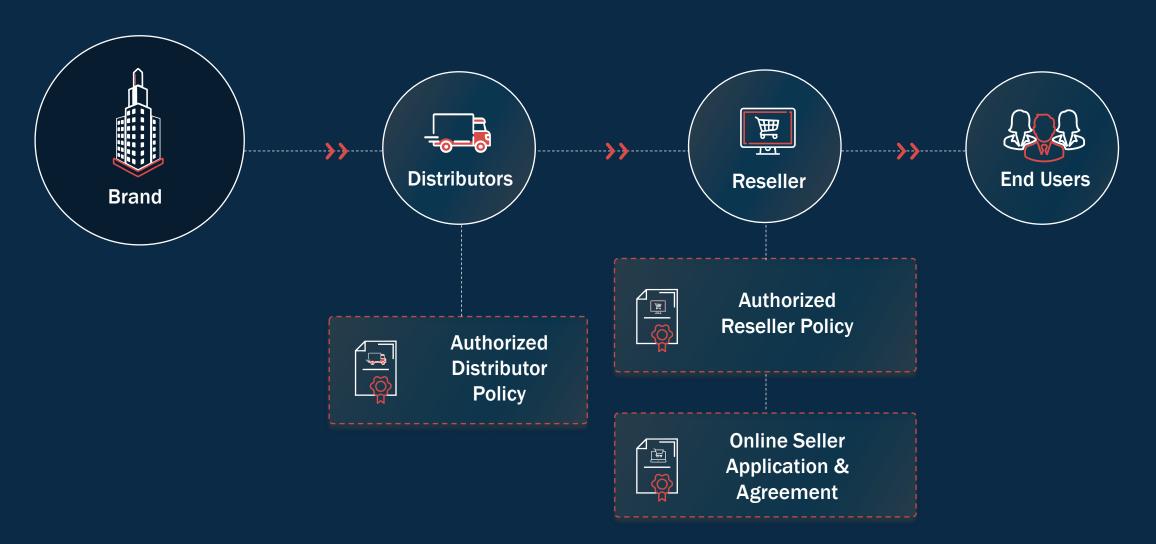


Quality Controls & Customer Service Requirements

- <u>All</u> retailers
- No signature required
- Brand provides directly to the retailer
- Sell only to End Users
- No sales to any person or entity for purposes of resale
- Territory U.S. only
- Sell on own proprietary website (ABC Retailer operates www.ABCretailer.com)
- No sales as third-party sellers on marketplace websites without Brand's consent through Online Marketplace Seller Agreement
- Baseline Product Quality Controls applicable to all sales
- Online Sales Quality Controls applicable to proprietary website sales



Two-Step Distribution Channel Example



Authorized Distributor Policy

KEY PROVISIONS

	Recipients	•	All Distributors
	Implementation	•	No signature required
	Permissible Customers	•	Sell only to Authorized Resellers No sales to End Users No sub-distribution without consent No sales to entities that operate online marketplaces (e.g., Amazon) Territory – U.S. only
	Online Sales	•	No sales on publicly accessible websites (websites intended to transact with ultimate consumers) May sell to Authorized Resellers through online order portal (no product pricing info displayed without logging in)
<u>~</u> •—	Quality Controls & Customer Service Requirements	•	Baseline Product Quality Controls applicable to all sales
•••	Other		Provide applicable policies/info to Authorized Resellers



Authorized Reseller Policy

KEY PROVISIONS



Recipients



Implementation



Permissible Customers



Online Sales



Quality Controls & Customer Service Requirements

- <u>All</u> Resellers (customers of distributors)
- No signature required
- Distributor provides to the Reseller
- Sell only to End Users
- No sales to any person or entity for purposes of resale
- Territory U.S. only
- No online sales without Brand's consent through Online Seller
- Application and Agreement
- Baseline Product Quality Controls applicable to all sales



Online Seller Application And Agreement

KEY PROVISIONS



Recipients



Implementation



Application



Agreement

- Only Resellers (customers of distributors) that wish to sell online
- Signature required
- Reseller requests Application from the Brand/Online Application
- Seller provides business information (fulfilment, operating history, sources)
- Seller identifies requested websites/marketplace storefronts
- Brand evaluates seller and websites and decides whether to authorize
- Identifies approved websites/storefronts
- Seller agrees to sell only on approved websites' storefronts
- Seller agrees to follow Online Sales Guidelines
- If applicable, Seller agrees to follow Online Marketplace-Specific Quality Controls

Online Marketplace Seller Agreement

KEY PROVISIONS



Recipients



Implementation



Authorization



Quality Controls & Customer Service Requirements

- Only Retailers who Brand authorizes to sell on third-party online marketplaces
- Signature required
- Identifies approved marketplaces and storefront names
- Specifies Online Marketplace-Specific Quality Controls and Customer Service Requirements



Key Practices for Category Brands

Strong anti-diversion provisions

Careful oversight of order volumes
/ impose quantity limits on new
accounts



Condition rebates / incentives on sell-through data

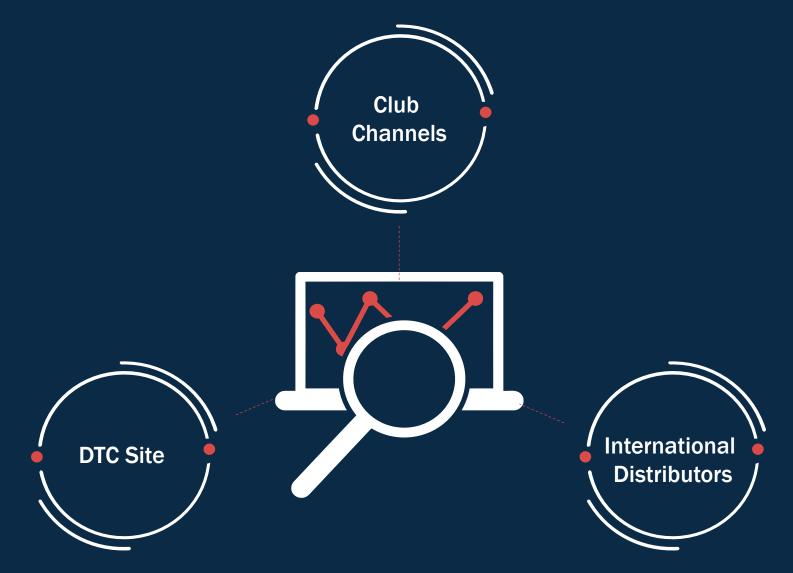
Careful vetting of new accounts (particularly professional and direct sales brands)

For direct sales brands

- prohibit marketplace sales -
- prohibit sales to known resellers -
- require periodic sell through data -
- inventory buybacks for terminated consultants -



Pay Close Attention to Other Potential Problem Areas:







MAP Policies & Programs

Implement Effective MAP Policy



MAP Policy is a Tool,
Not a Strategy

Complements foundation established by Authorized Reseller Program and grey-market controls

Design a MAP Policy that:

- **Complies** with law
- **Overs** appropriate products and advertising
- **Solution** Brand is willing to enforce consistently

Implement at the right time



Implement Effective MAP Policy



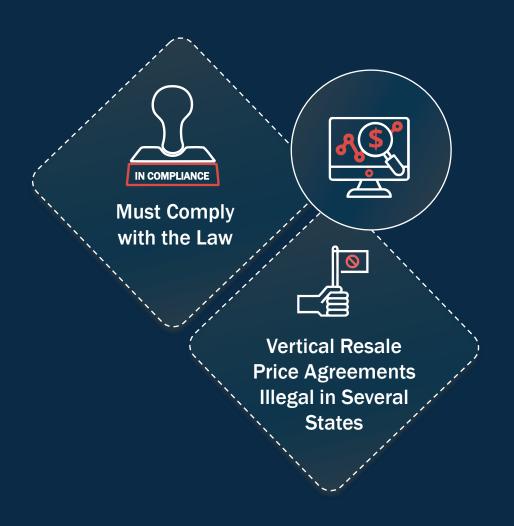
MAP Not Appropriate for All Products

Focus on:

- **Order** Products at higher price points
- Products that differentiate brand in the market (innovative, new)
- Products with strong brand value or a premium image that brand wishes to protect



Implement Effective MAP Policy



Mitigate risk under federal and state antitrust laws by:

- Making all decisions unilaterally
- **Training sales team and MAP Administrator**
- **Over the Example 2** Avoiding agreements

MAP Administrator handles all MAPrelated communications

No discussions with channel partners regarding compliance



Implement Effective MAP Policy



- Consequences should be applied consistently, regardless of violator or egregiousness of violation
- Consequences must be applicable to both direct customers and indirect customers
 - Indirect through "Do Not Sell" List
- Avoid consequences that could be deemed coercive (e.g., loss of discounts)
- **Avoid "menu" approach**



Implement Effective MAP Policy



- Consider suspending MAP or delaying implementation until *after* channel clean-up
- Premature implementation penalizes authorized retailers that are matching unauthorized sellers
- Align MAP Holidays to Common Promotional Periods



Unauthorized Seller Legal Foundation

First Sale Doctrine

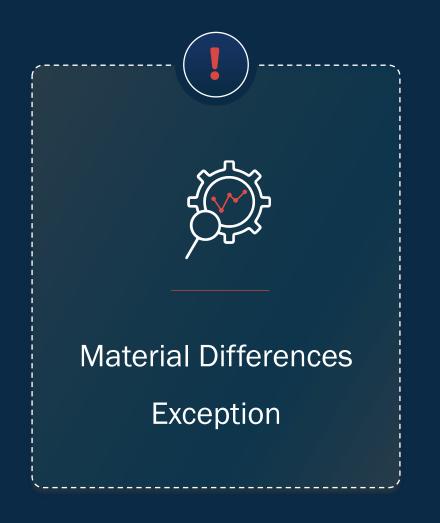
It is legal to buy and resell

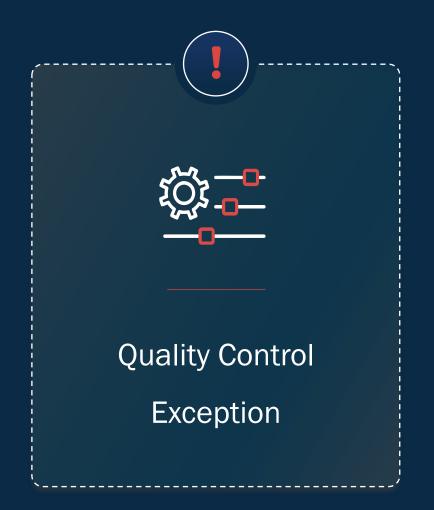
legitimate products without

repercussion in the United States



Exceptions to The First Sale Doctrine







Material Differences



Subtle differences most easily confuse customers.

One difference is sufficient.

Material Differences Don't Have to be Physical





Warranty/Satisfaction Guarantee

- Well-recognized by courts as strong material difference
- Limit warranty or guarantee for products purchased from Authorized Sellers
- Implement internal policies/procedures to effectuate limitation in practice
- Train customer service reps on questions to ask and how to handle exceptions to policy
- Ensure compliance with all applicable laws

Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act

FTC Advertising Regulations

Consumer Protection Laws

New York General Business Law 369-B



Quality Control Exception



The first sale doctrine does not apply when products being resold are not subject to a company's quality controls

For This Exception To Apply

- A company must have quality controls that are legitimate, substantial, and not pretextual;
- The company must follow its quality control procedures; and
- It must be shown that sales of products that do not abide by the quality controls will create a likelihood of confusion and diminish the value of the company's trademark(s);
- Courts hold that, like with material difference exception, a likelihood of confusion is presumed if a seller is selling products that are not subject to a company's legitimate quality controls.



Age of eCommerce Calls For Heightened Quality Controls

No vetting of sellers on marketplaces

Sellers are free to sell anonymously

Quality and counterfeit issues lead to negative online reviews for brands

Consumers' top concern with eCommerce is quality

Many products sold online are counterfeit or of poor quality

Online marketplace design creates confusion

Consumers cannot inspect products prior to purchase





Baseline Quality Control Standards

All Authorized Sellers of a Brand's Products must:

- Inspect products for damage/defect
- Adhere to recommended storage guidelines
- Maintain product freshness/expiration standards
- Not repackage products or alter product labels or packaging
- Cooperate with Brand in event of a recall
- Possess product knowledge requirements
- Promptly respond to customer inquiries
- Assist Brand in investigating quality issues associated with seller's sales





Heightened Quality Control Standards for Online Sellers

All Authorized Online Sellers must:

- Not sell anonymously approved websites must identify seller and provide contact information
- Maintain accurate, up-to-date product descriptions/images
- Gain approval for any use of third-party fulfilment services
- Respond to customer inquiries within 24 hours
- Deliver fast, reliable shipping
- Adhere to special packaging or handling requirements
- Cooperate in resolving negative reviews
- Adhere to data security, privacy, accessibility laws and industry standards





Additional Quality Control
Standards for Online
Marketplace Sellers

All Authorized Online Marketplace Sellers must:

- Ensure no commingling of inventory
- Opt out of Amazon refurbishment programs
- List products only on approved ASINs (Amazon)
- Report seller performance metric data to Brand each month
- Maintain acceptable seller feedback score
- Purchase products only from the Brand





Ensure Compliance Through
Quality Control Auditing
Programs

Online Quality Control Audits:

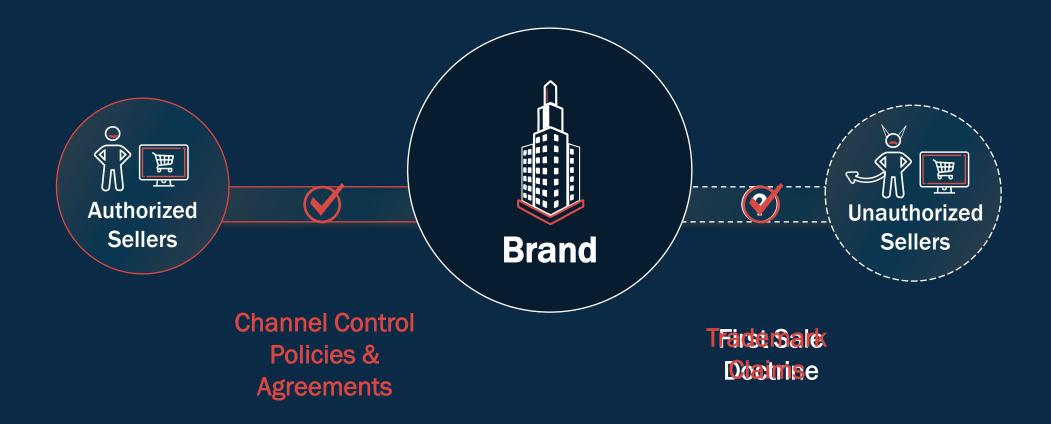
- Monitor product and seller reviews
- Test purchases from authorized sellers
- Review websites for compliance with content requirements

Brick-and-mortar Quality Control Audits:

 Inspections by sales team members or thirdparty vendor



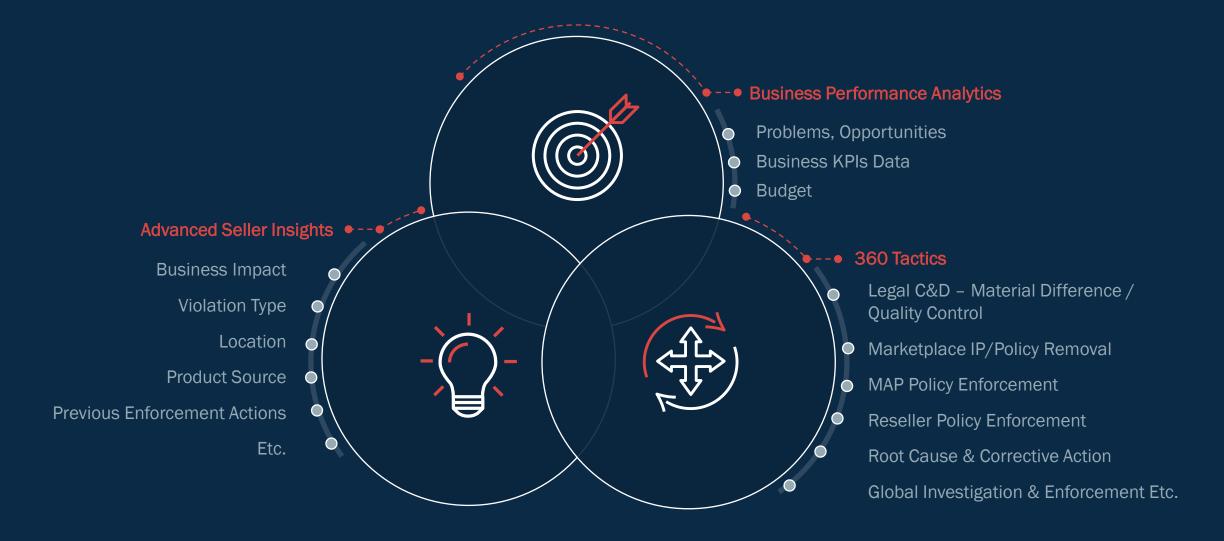
Controlling Online Sales





Data-Driven Precision Enforcement

Precision eControl





Optimal eControl Performance





Our Team of Experts is Obsessed with Surfacing Data-Driven Insights for Our Clients

We have invested deeply in Data, Science, Technology and Process Design to create and continually evolve a comprehensive end-to-end solution for our clients



Meera Butler

Director of Data
Science & Analytics



Denise Zmuda

COO & Channel Management Expert



Jennifer Yeazel

CIO



Amanda Day

Portfolio Manager & Lean 6 Sigma Expert



Precision eControl: Insight Generation











Marketplace Sales Data
Seller Intelligence
Client Account Data
Pricing Data
Performance Data
Review Data
Etc

Amazon Buy Box %

Amazon Sales & Price Disruption Score for Each Seller

Suspect Counterfeit

Source of Sellers Products

Enforcement Intelligence

Amazon 3P Sales & Profit Estimates



Vorys eControl's Unique Volume & Scope of Aggregated Data

Seller Investigation **Client Sales and Marketplace Data 3rd Party Investigation Databases Client Ongoing Enforcement 3rd Party Data Providers** Enforcement

960,000+ Seller & Diverter IDs

60,000+ enforcement actions

330,000 sellers + 350,000 Products Actively monitored up to 96 times per day across 100+ marketplaces/Websites.



Business Performance Analytics





Client

AMAZON KPI REPORT

\$2.89K Dec 2020 Unauthorized

Seller Revenue

\$372.55K

Jan-Dec Running Total Unauthorized Seller Revenue

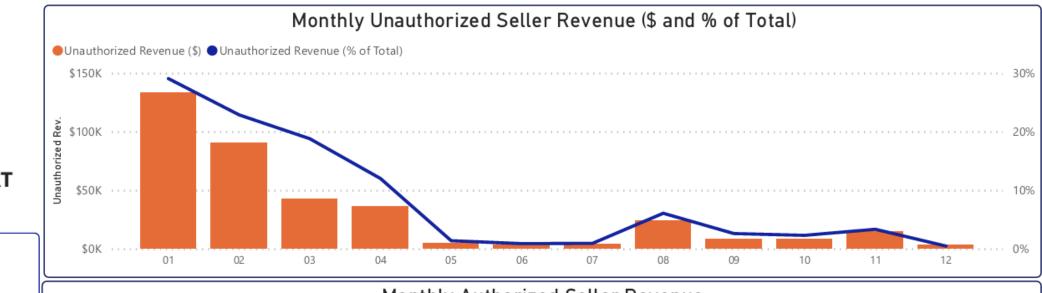
\$651.54K \$4.32M

Dec 2020 Authorized Seller Revenue

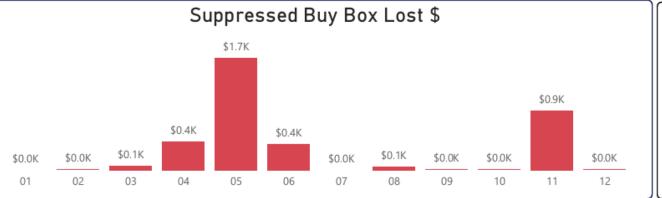
Jan-Dec Running Total Authorized Seller Revenue

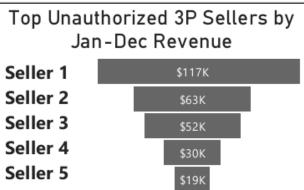


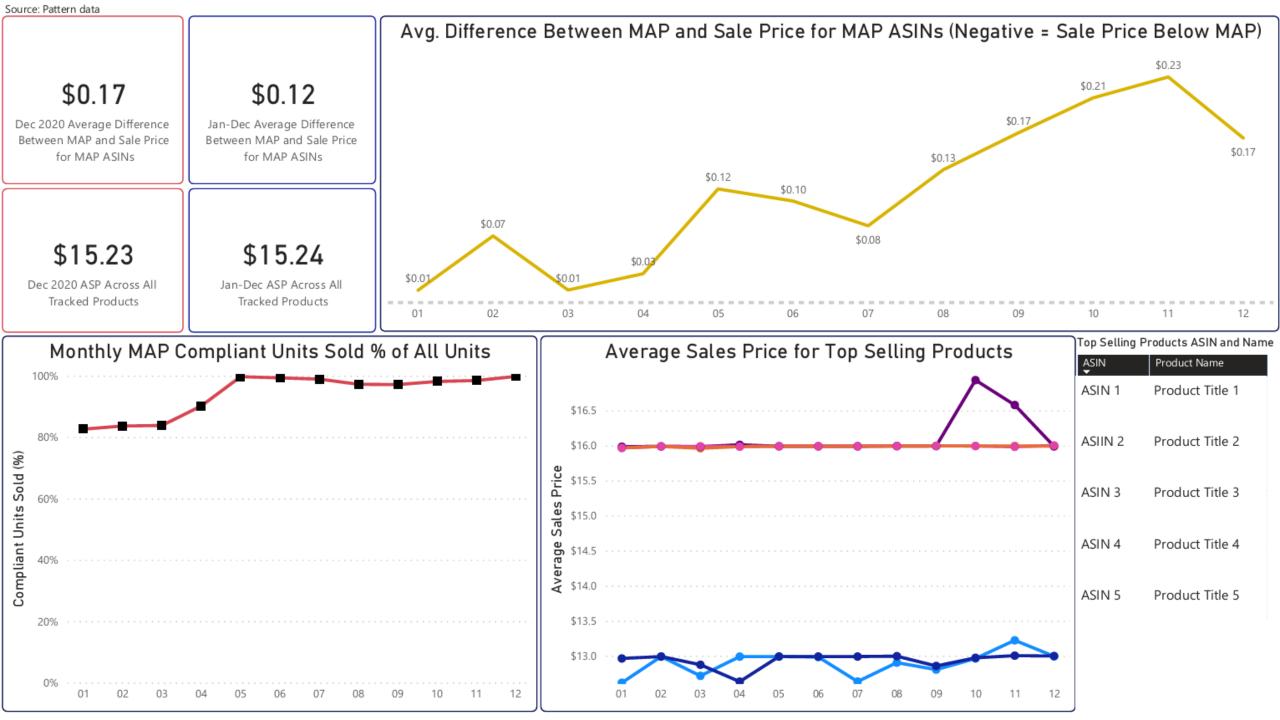










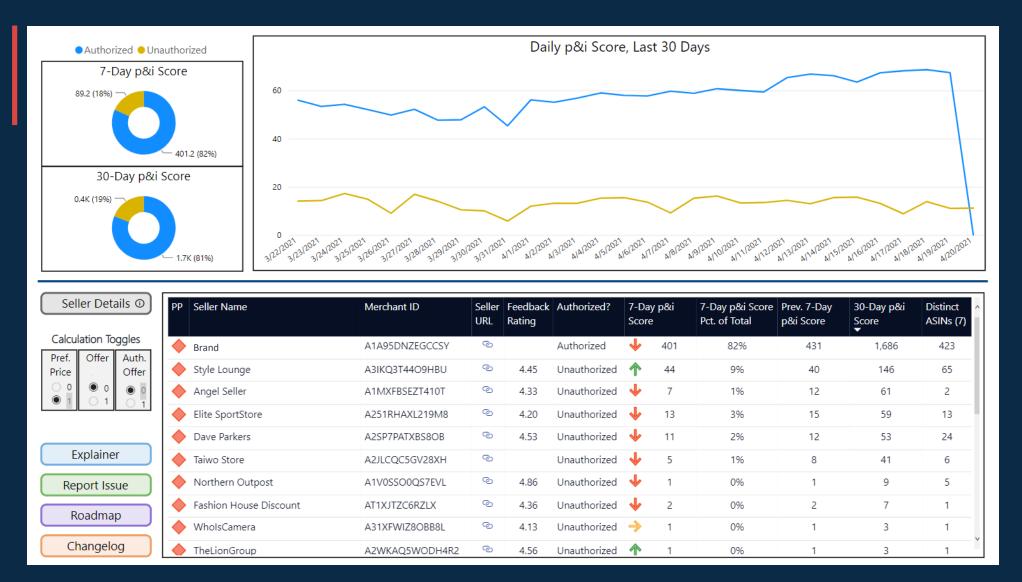


Advanced Seller Insights:

Inform Enforcement Decisions



Disruption Score





Disruption Score





Proprietary Four Week Stats Revenue **Estimates**

3/21/2021 - 4/17/2021

Source: Estimates based on Amazon Vendor Central Account for ASINs monitored by Pattern and ASINs sold 1P available through EDI

Current Seller Name	Amazon Seller Identifier	Authorized	Estimated Revenue ▼	Time in Buy Box %	# of ASINs Listed	# of Non-Compliant ASINs Listed	# of ASINs with Buy Box	# of Non-Compliant ASINs with Buy Box
Amazon.com	AMAZON	Unauthorized	\$280,929	83%	24	11	23	11
Royal Meds	A32AZZZEEH80IJ	Unauthorized	\$2,286	3%	12	6	5	3
Supply Cosmo	A1ETJAXA0X00Z7	Unauthorized	\$1,685	3%	1		1	
Avila	A2MII774KJ8M56	Unauthorized	\$1,389	0%	1		1	
Pharmapacks	ASEVS99O6FS73	Unauthorized	\$1,063	1%	4	2	3	2
		Unauthorized	\$1,016	1%	3		2	
OTCRx4u	A3KGCU4HM6EAVD	Unauthorized	\$482	1%	1	1	1	1
bluemed	AKGQ69TTJ5VEW	Unauthorized	\$387	0%	3	2	2	1
Rock Ridge Sales, Inc	A39HSYH5TCDA32	Unauthorized	\$194	1%	5	3	4	1
Trusted Online Superstore	A3RARV1SSL9R1Q	Unauthorized	\$175	0%	2		2	
Baqir Distribution	A30O4NH5B8POU5	Unauthorized	\$124	0%	1		1	

			ASIN and Seller Detail by Week				
Week Beginning	Current Seller Name	ASIN	Product Title	% of Total Buy Box for ASIN for Week	Estimated Revenue	Average List Price for Week	PP
4/11/2021	Amazon.com	ASIN 1	Product Name 1	100%	6 \$309	\$5.77	\$6.73
4/11/2021	Honest Medical	ASIN 2	Product Name 2	0%	6 \$0	\$7.25	\$6.73
4/11/2021	Qwik Goods	ASIN 3	Product Name 3	0%	6 \$0	\$8.16	\$6.73
4/11/2021	Royal Meds	ASIN 4	Product Name 4	0%	6 \$0	\$7.83	\$6.73
4/11/2021	Amazon.com	ASIN 5	Product Name 5	24%	6 \$170	\$6.66	\$6.41



Enforcement Intelligence:

Identifies Actions To Take For Most Effective, Efficient Results.



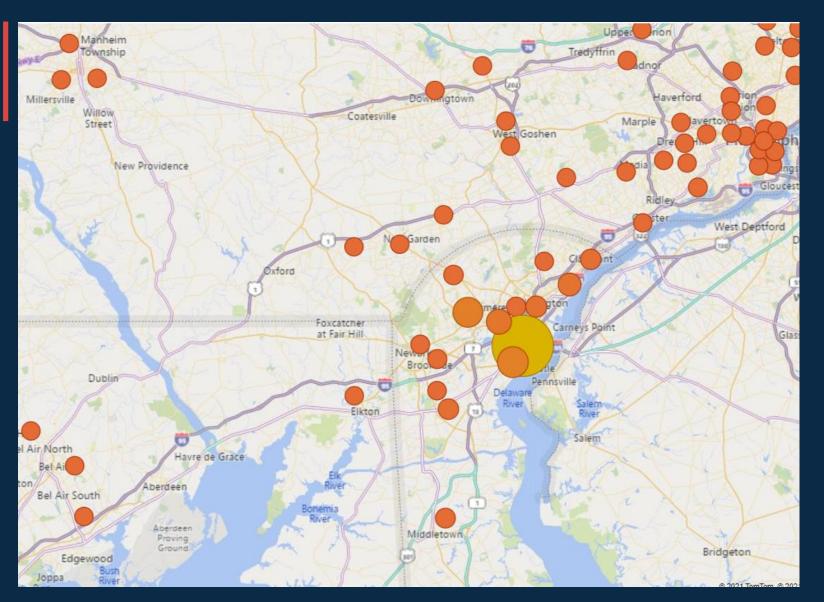
Seller ID & Address Location

Enforcement Insights: Active Amazon Sellers

Most Recent Status Change	All Enforcement Actions	Notes	All Contact Information	Amazon Storefront URL	PDD URL	PDD Related Sellers		
	Physical C&D - 2018-09- 28; Draft Complaint - 2020- 04-15	; Delivery failure to 18228 Middlebelt Rd., Apt. 103, moved	313-208-6630; Crystal Smith 11533 Deering St., Livonia, MI 48150	9	Ø.	Crystal Smith		
2019-02-28	Physical C&D - 2018-09- 28; Follow-up Letter - 2019- 01-07; Draft Complaint - 2019- 02-18	**	Deborah Ayers 45149 Horseshoe Cir., Canton, MI 48187-5040	0	Ø.	Deborah Ayers		
	Standard eC&D - 2018- 01-31	Sent By: Vorys	Jason Kleiner 10472 Stapeley Dr., Orlando, FL 32832; Jason Kleiner 14 N. Chatsworth, Apt. 4D Larchmont, NY 10538; Jason Kleiner 150 W 74th St., Apt. 1D New York, NY 10023; Jason Kleiner 6846 Cavatina Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89139; Amy Kleiner 10472 Stapeley Dr. Orlando, FL 32832;	0	9	Amy Kleiner, Jason Kleiner		



Location Intelligence





Behavioral Insights

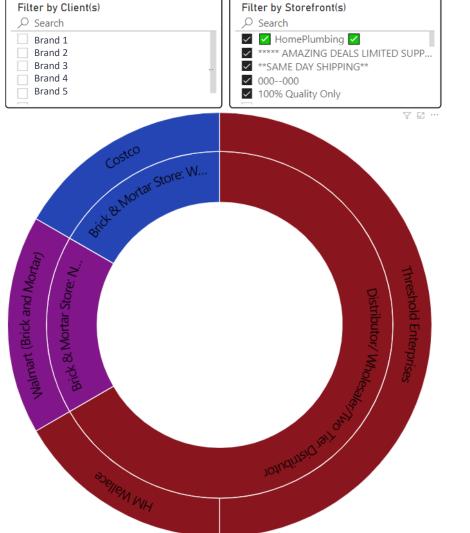
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Seller Source Intelligence







Seller Sales Trends

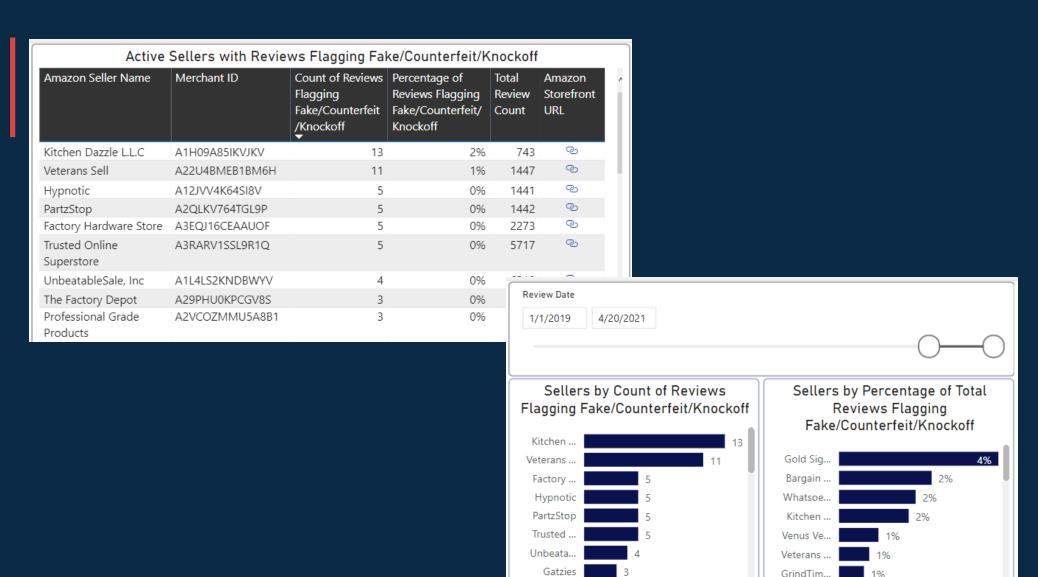
Enforcement Insights: Active Amazon Sellers

X BY

Seller Name	Merchant ID	Compliant Listing Count	Non- Compliant Listing Count	Total Listing Count	Total Time in	Previous 30-day % of Total Time in Buy Box			Previous 30-day Est. Revenue	30-d Est. Volui		Previous 30- day Est. Volume	Enforcement Actions	Most Recent Enforcement Action	Most Recent Enforcement Action Date
vapantik	A68GRK9UQ 6NQW	3	8	11	0%	1%	1	\$33,214	\$31,927	1	766	753			
OmniStarship	AJ7EOHOFQ MPST	1	2	3	0%		1	\$31,477		1	748				
Ruslan Mayilovstr	A1Y5CZZJR1 ZCPG	1	0	1	0%	0%		\$22,329	\$43,076		602	1015			
RizaleX Distribution	A33IUA5TDP OC2Y	0	6	6	0%	0%	1	\$20,685	\$18,858	1	530	433	3	Draft Complaint	2021-03-15
USA Herb	A352Y41TN O5V9N	0	1	1	1%	2%		\$19,128	\$51,599		577	1817	5	Draft Complaint	2021-04-02



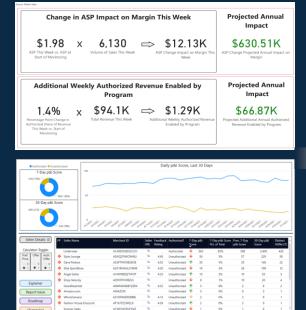
Counterfeit Flagging





Precision eControl Approach

This approach aligns actions to KPIs and informs the **precise** targets and actions that will drive the maximum ROI, ensuring that the enforcement team does not waste time and resources on meaningless sellers and actions that do not impact established KPIs.





- Legal C&D Letter
- MAP Enforcement
- Enhanced Seller Investigations
- Product Test Buys
- Reseller Policy Enforcement
- Marketplace Policy Violation Takedowns
- Removal from Marketplaces Based on IP Violations
- Diversion Diagnostics and Root Cause Determinations
- Counterfeit Enforcement
- Marketplace Patent Enforcement
- Escalated Legal Enforcement

Example Enforcement Process

Find Illegitimate Sellers

Identify Sellers & Diversion Sources

Cut off Sources / Revoke Authorized Status

C&D Letter w/Trademark Claims

Draft Complaint

Recommendation Based on KPIs





Beware

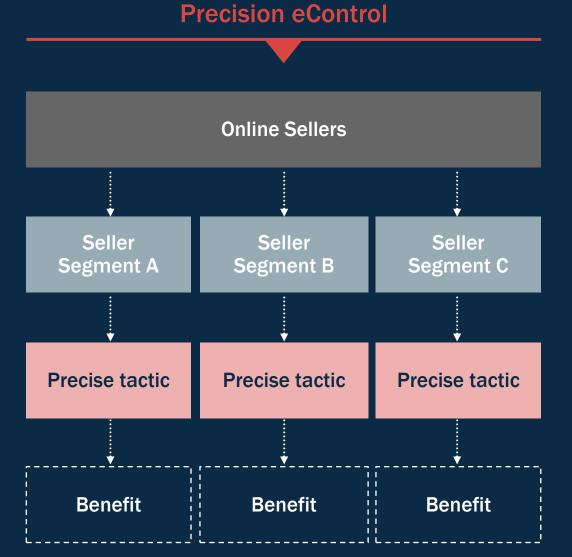




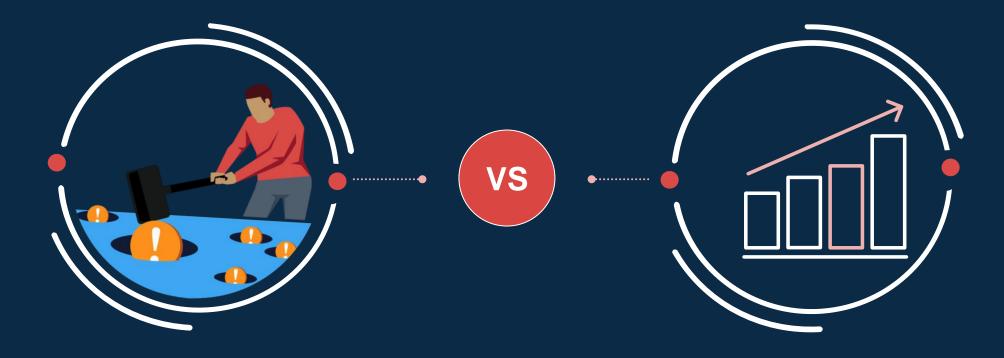




VS







Online Brand Protection

Precision eControl



Why Precision eControl?



Reduces Legal
Risk By
Eliminating
Unsupported
Actions



Targets Most
Relevant Violations
W/Most Effective &
Efficient Tactics
Based On Seller
Attributes



Saves Time and Money By Mitigating Unnecessary and Ineffective Actions



Improve Success & ROI



eControl Three Step Process



STRATEGY

Initial business impact assessment

Determine online marketplace distribution strategy

Determine eControl goals and solution framework

Conduct strategy and education workshop

Obtain key stakeholder alignment



FOUNDATION

Design customized eControl program based on channel strategy, capabilities and objectives

Draft policies and/or agreements to support program

Program Implementation: internally and externally



ENFORCEMENT

Develop custom enforcement plan, budget and associated documents

Analyze seller data and prioritize enforcement targets

Investigate and identify sellers and source of gray market leaks

Enforce against authorized and unauthorized sellers

Assess root cause and corrective actions

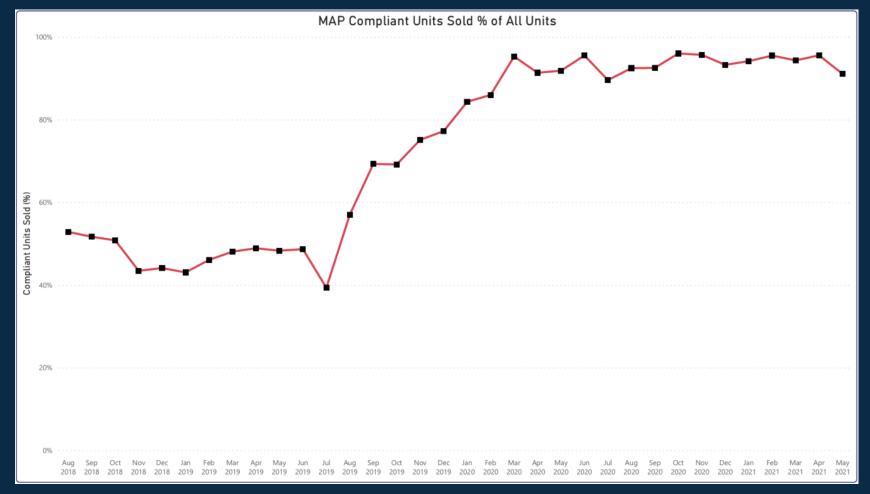


Case Studies



Direct Sales Brand

MAP Compliance is Improving

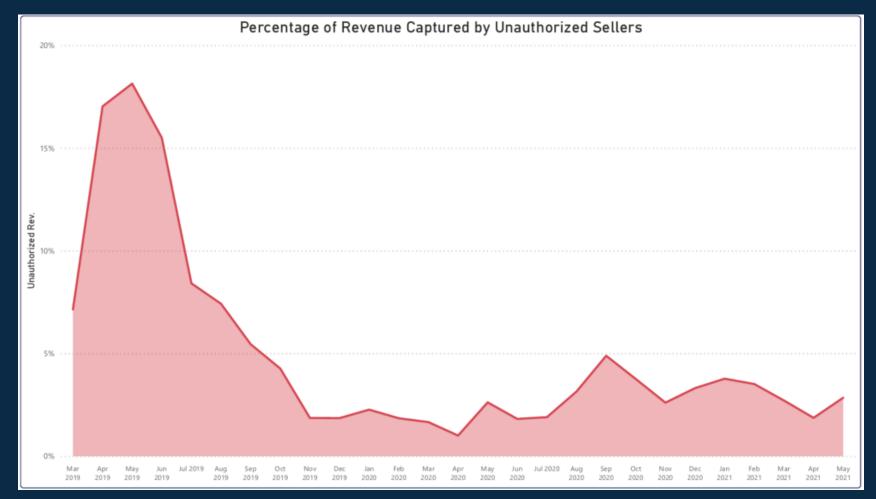


Since enforcement began, MAP compliance increased by 72%



Mass Market Brand

Unauthorized seller revenue is decreasing

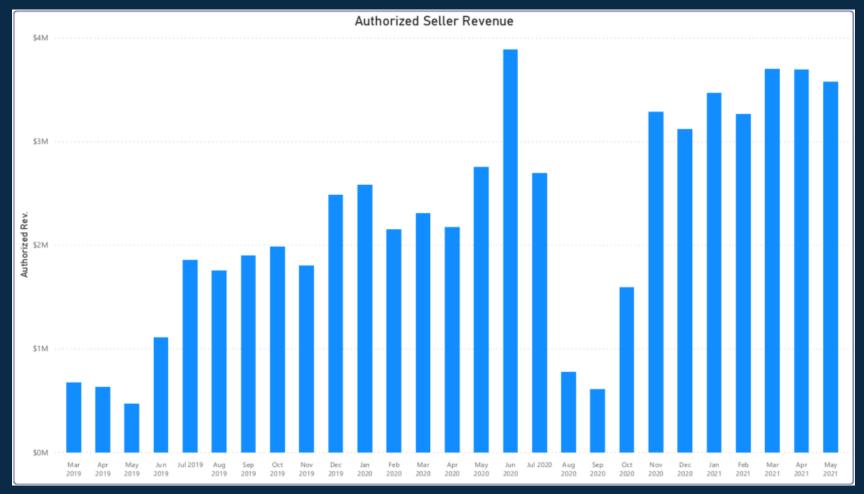


Unauthorized sellers are consistently capturing less than 5% of revenue, down from a peak of 18%



Mass Market Brand

Authorized seller revenue is increasing consistently

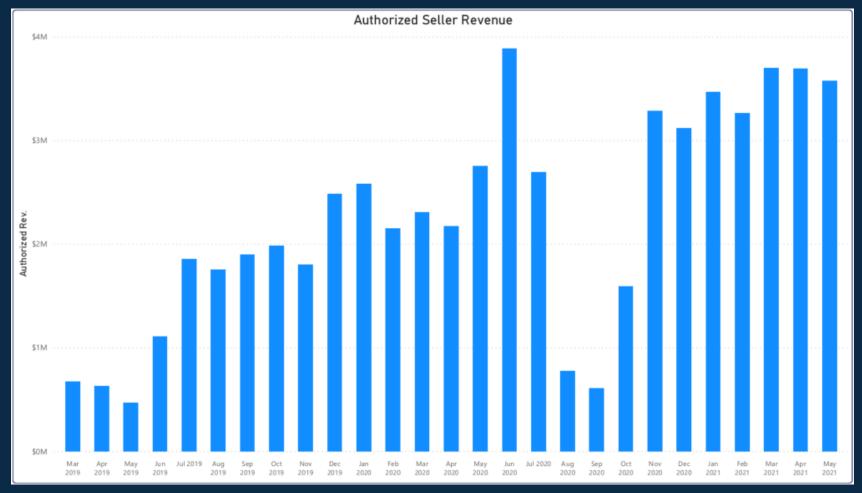


Since enforcement began, monthly authorized revenue has increased by \$2.87M (434%). This equates to an additional \$34.44M annually



Mass Market Brand

Authorized seller revenue is increasing consistently

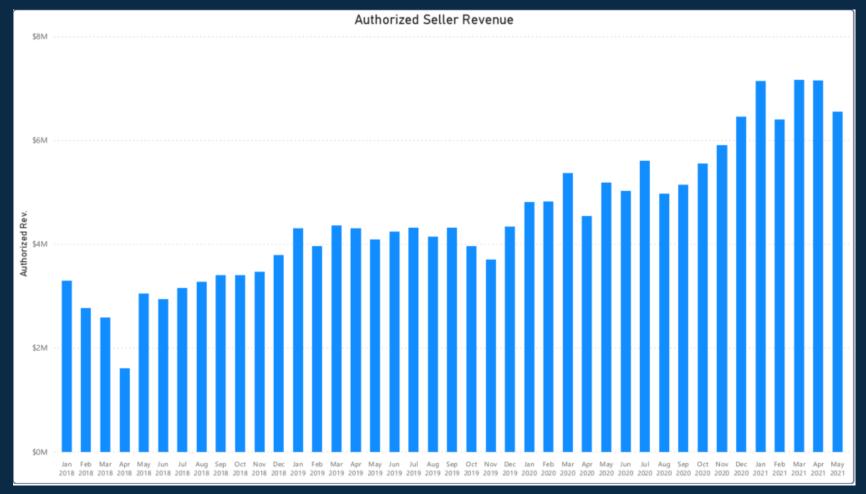


Monthly Authorized Seller revenue has increased by \$1.56M since enforcement began. This equates to an additional \$18.72M annually Source: Pattern



Professional Brand

Authorized seller revenue is increasing consistently over time



Monthly Authorized Seller revenue has increased by \$3.26M since enforcement began. This equates to an additional \$39.12M annually



Questions?





Thank you



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