Community Engagement Toolkit

Last Modified on 10/13/2021 10:32 am EDT

This article will help you get familiar with the HBA's member-only community, where members share resources, creative solutions, advice and build their networks. Various Communities within provide forums for individuals to connect with others around the world, with similar special interests and more. Please see our full toolkit deck here: Community toolkit.pptx 📎

- *Need help getting started?* Jump into the HBA member forum to introduce yourself to your fellow members, search for other members, and so much more.
- Not only can you find members within your region, but you can also seek out like-minded individuals:
  - Directory
  - Regional member communities
  - Affinity Groups
- Explore open leadership opportunities to develop new skills and advance your career
- Need help? Visit the Community Help Center.

DO's:

- Fill out your profile, add a profile photo, and include a brief bio so community members know who you are
- Browse discussion threads to familiarize yourself with "hot topics" of the community
- Use the member directory to search and connect with colleagues
  - The "advanced search" option allows you to search by company type, role title/contributor level, or region
- When posting, always make sure there is a call to action, even something very simple
- When promoting an event, be sure to link to your event's registration page; including a quick blurb about the event is also a great best practice
- Tag your colleagues! Start with an "@" and begin typing - if they are an HBA member, their name should appear
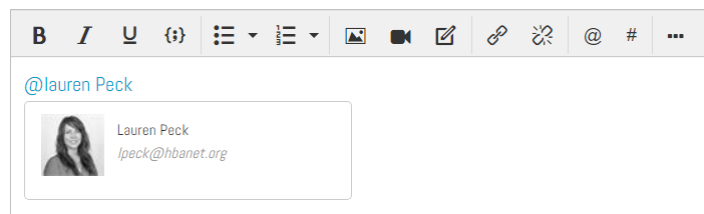
- Spread the love: take a look at our list of unanswered threads - can you help?

DONT'S:

- Post a reply to every discussion thread
- Contact members personally in response to a post unless it is strategically decided upon as the best course of action
- Contradict or correct "wrong" answers or information provided by other members
  - Inaccurate answers will be dealt with strategically and will come from one dedicated voice of the community (i.e. the community manager)
- Post any material that could be construed as marketing or advertising