

April 2013

Below is a summary of the marcoms M&A3 (mergers & acquisitions, alliances and alternatives) activity in Asia for April 2013.

Australia / New Zealand

- Adobe partnered with digital agency ArdentDigital to expand its digital marketing offering,
- GroupM relaunched its search business, Outrider Australia, as 'M' with expanded offering.
- Online affiliate marketing agency Dgm launched new Melbourne office.

China

- Aegis acquired 100% of digital planning and buying agency WonderAd (创世奇迹), specialising in China's online gaming industry.
- WPP Digital-invested ad measurement firm Miaozhen Systems (秒针系统) raised Round C (US\$ tens of millions).
- Havas WW launched social media agency Socialistic.
- Mobile marketing network and services provider Madhouse closed Series C, having raised total of US\$30m since 2006.
- Blue Focus (蓝色光标) acquired the remaining 89% of media agency BoJie Media (西藏山南东方博杰广告有限公司).
- Mindshare China merged TV and Online TV into a single integrated multi-screen investment team.
- Integer set up new division Insight & Strategy to focus on shopper behavior, drivers of behavior and how to change consumer behavior.
- Blue Focus (蓝色光标) acquired 19.8% stake in Huntsworth.
- Charm entered strategic partnership with Baidu focusing on consumer research insights.

India

- McCann Worldgroup bought majority stake in Bangalore-based database marketing company End To End Marketing Solutions.
- Publicis Groupe acquired Bangalore-based technology services provider Neev, to be called Razorfish Neev.
- Publicis Groupe using acquisition of Neev to launch Razorfish in India.
- Mindshare opened office in Kochi.

Japan

 Dentsu Marketing partnered with Vision Critical to provide insight communities for market-research purposes in Japan.

Malaysia

• Local integrated CRM/loyalty-led communications agency On-Target Marketing Solutions launched FlashRewards, a mobile app that acts as e-wallet on smartphones, storing and organising loyalty cards.

Myanmar

• JWT signed affiliation agreement with Mango Marketing.

Singapore

- U.K. content marketing agency White Horse Digital entered Asia with office in Singapore.
- Social media monitoring software provider Synthesio opened first Asian office in Singapore.

Sri Lanka

- Edelman established footprint in Sri Lanka with appointment of PR Wire as exclusive affiliate member.
- Retail and Shopper Marketing specialist BBDO Proximity Shop launched Proximity Shop in Sri Lanka as arm of BBDO Lanka.
- Digital and Social Media Agency Neo@Ogilvy signed MOU with Sri Jayawardenapura University to develop digital marketing course as part of Marketing Management BSc Degree.

Thailand

 GroupM's audience buying company Xaxis launched via partnership with mInteraction, the digital unit of GroupM Thailand.