# How to adapt in times of change The story of b2match and Corona

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## How did the B2Match event management platform adapt to fully online or hybrid events?



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## Who we are?

## Facts & Figures

- 2013 Founded
- Offices in Vienna & Zagreb
- 30+ Employees
- 30% yearly growth rate
- 850 Events in 2020
- 1000+ Events in 2021

## B2Match | THE Event & Networking Platform

When 1:1 connections should be more than only small-talk.

## 1:1 connections should be about more than only small-talk – meetings based on rich content profiles promise more targeted requests



#### b2b Matchmaking Software

Your event, your rules. A customizable and powerful platform with potent features.



#### Smart Event Management

Fully create an event framework that maximizes connectivity – trusted event software of the EU Commission and GDPR compliant.



## Participant Registration & Ticketing

Tailor your events registration process according to your needs and utilize flexible ticket options.



#### Event Communication & Marketing

Easily and professionally promote your upcoming event with essential marketing tools our platform includes.



#### Extensive Event Agenda

Represent any event agenda in a user-centred way that makes the program easily consumable and interactable.

### Since 2013 we have...

helped create over

5'000

b2match events

facilitated over

800'000

matchmaking meetings

collaborated with over

800

event organizers

## Indeed, Corona cause a huge change to how Networking Events are managed

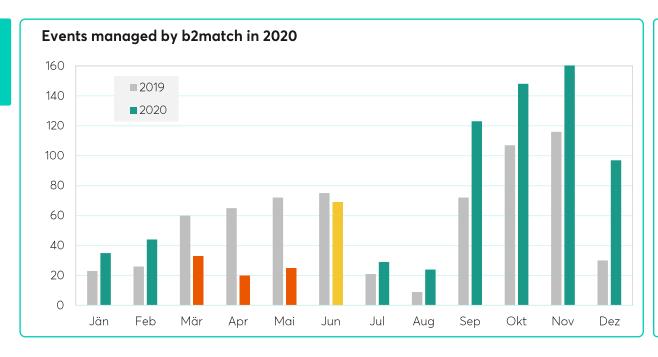
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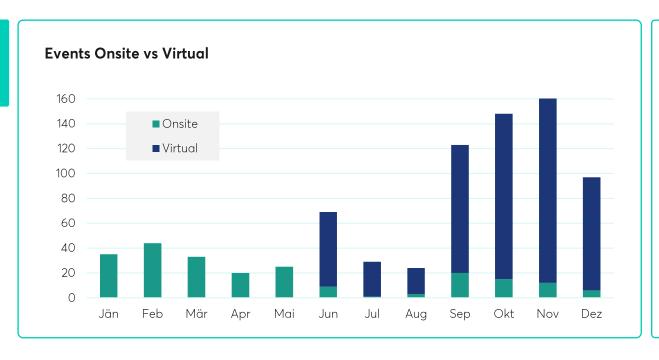
### B2match – some quick facts



#### 2020 in a nutshell

- Jan-Feb | 30%+ Promising figures
- Mar-May | EU wide Lock-down
   70% decrease in Sales
- June | First Virtual Events go live
- Jul/Aug | Summer Season for Events
- Sep Dec | Virtual Events → The new standard?

### B2match – some quick facts contd.



## How Corona has changed the way to manage events

- Jan-Feb | 100% onsite Events
- Jun Dec | 90% Virtual Events
- Oct Dec | Some first Hybrid Events

## How did the B2Match event management platform adapt to fully online or hybrid events?

#### Through innovative staff:

- Doing more than expected
- IT DEV Team worked 60 hours/week from March to June 2020
- A 70% decrease in turn-over can really mobilize hidden forces

#### **Through Technology:**

- Finding software replacements for
- 1:1 Meetings at tables
- Workshops
- Large Presentation

#### **Switching from:**

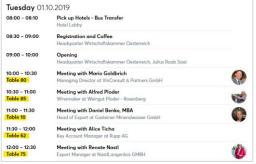
- 1:1 Tables meetings to 1:1 Video
   Calls
- Workshops to Video
   Conferencing (Webinars)
- Key-note presentation to Livestreaming

### 1) Switching 1:1 meetings from Tables to 1:1 Video Calls

The targeted selection and management of 1:1 meetings based on meaningful company profiles is B2Match' DNA. That's why this was given the highest priority

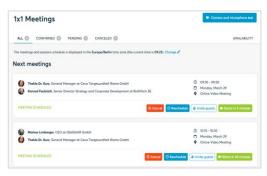
#### **Onsite**





#### **Virtual**





#### Technology used for 1:1 Video Calls

Twillio.com

A world wide premium Provider for Video Calls providing a server Infrastructure around the globe

Don't re-event the wheel. Integrate 3<sup>rd</sup> party software tools and speed-up innovation where it makes sense.

#### 1:1 Meeting Features

- 1:1 Video Call 100% Browser operated
- · Invite up to 6 Guests in a 1:1 Video Call
- · Sharing screens / Chats
- · Re-scheduling

#### Lessons learned

- · 20 min works best
- More meeting as no table number limitations
- 20% more no-shows as a Virtual meeting is not that much binding than a physical one
- Video Call's have proven well for a first Go/No-go decision for potential future collaboration

### 2) Switching from Workshops to Video Conferencing (Webinars)

#### **Onsite**

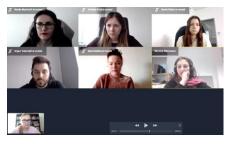


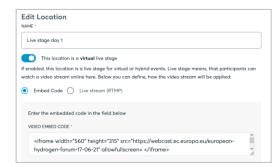
#### **Video Conferencing | Webinars**

B2match offers 2 options how Video Conferencing can be managed:

- Build-in Solution via Daily.co
   A 3<sup>rd</sup> party provider offering easy integration of Webinars on any website
- Easy integrating of external Webinar tool provider e.g. Zoom, Teams, Webex, GoTo, ...

#### **Virtual**





#### Lessons learned

#### Daily.co

- max. 20-30 participants
- 1-click activation
- No external costs
- For typical breakout session

#### Zoom, Teams, Webex, GoTo

- For up to 100-200
- Many more options
- Moderator/ Speakers role management

## 3) Switching from large key-note presentation to Live-streaming

#### **Onsite**



#### **Live-streaming**

B2match offers 2 options how live-streams can be managed:

- Integrating of external providers
   Vimeo, YouTube-Live & other players
- Build-in Solution via MUX.com RTMP streaming on b2match platform

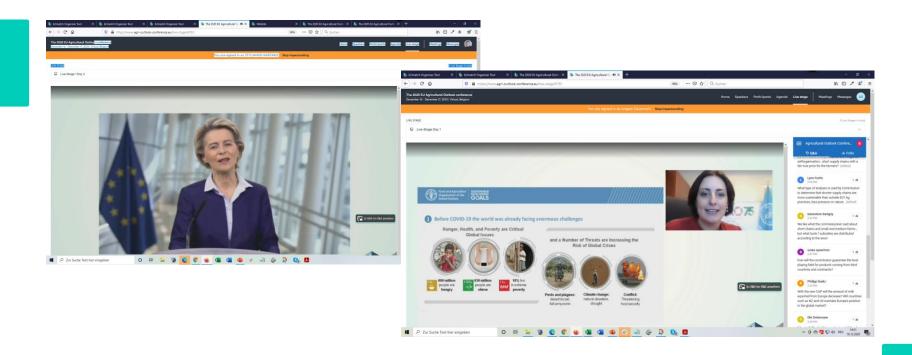
#### **Virtual**





	Video Conferencing	Streaming
Scope of application	Workshops	Large Plenary sessions
Interactivity	Medium Chat & Voice	Low Chat only
Size of audience	20-200	200-10,000
Tools	Zoom, Webex, Teams, GoTo,	Vimeo YouTubeLive, etc
Requirements	Low e.g. Zoom	Medium e.g. Zoom & Vimeo

## Live-streaming | Integration in b2match



### Streaming for large & important Conference

Behind the scene | How it looks like if you want to make it perfect



## How did the B2Match event management platform adapt to fully online or hybrid events?

#### Direct integration of 3<sup>rd</sup> party Software tools into the b2match platform to speed-up development

- Twillio.com
   Managing 1:1 Meetings Video Calls
- Daily.co
   Providing a Webinar infrastructure
- MUX.com
   Offering integrated streaming

## Providing simple interfaces allowing connection to popular Video conferencing tools

- Teams, Zoom, Webex, GoToWebinar
- Viemo, YouTube Live, Re-stream, etc

#### Simple setup & customisation

#### 1) Asking for type of attendance

- How do you want to join this event?
- Onsite
- Remote
- Don't know yet

#### 2) Workshop Sessions are customized as

onsite, remote or hybrid session

Based on this setup b2match determines who can sign-up for which sessions. e.g. A remote participant can not sign-up for a not streamed onsite session

#### 3) 1:1 Meetings

- Both meeting partners are onsite
   -> Meeting scheduled on a Table
- One or both attend from remote
  - -> Meeting scheduled as Video Call

### Onsite | Virtual | Hybrid

## Some findings and impressions

	Onsite	Virtual	Hybrid	
2015-2019	~ 100%	~0%	~0%	
3/2020 – 6/2021	~10%	~90	5%	
Q3-4/2021 +	~30%	~30%	~40%	
Effort & Costs	High	Low	Very High	
Participants	100%	200-300%	200-300%	
Camera Crew & Video Studio	No	No	Larger conferences	
Main advantages			2 2	250 225 200
Participants & Composition		More participants from remote regions Higher internationality		.50 .25 .00 75
1:1 Meetings	A more personal touch			25

