How artisan fashion marketplace Ad Hoc used Onport to give visibility to bespoke Italian brands



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GIOVANNI FRIGGI Co founder

HANDMADE FASHION, 100% MADE IN ITALY

Ad Hoc Atelier is a bespoke online fashion marketplace, showcasing the very best in Italian artisan fashion.

Formed during the 2020 lockdown, Ad Hoc was created to help bring the Made In Italy badge of quality to a wider audience and to help hand-craft fashion brands gain greater visibility online.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO CREATE AN ONLINE FASHION MARKETPLACE?

Ad Hoc

ATELIER

Onport

So during the lockdown, I was in Barcelona, doing my masters with two friends and we saw that ecommerce was booming but realized that Italy is a country that always falls behind when it comes to ecommerce.

The term Made in Italy carries a lot of prestige abroad but Italian companies have always struggled to adapt to digital transformation so we decided to change things. We ended up interviewing many potential partners, 20 - 30 and from there we kept onboarding new partners and then got some funding to help bring the marketplace online. That's how Ad Hoc Atelier came to be.

WHAT VALUE DO YOU FEEL MARKETPLACES GIVE TO FASHION BRANDS?

What we have seen is that many Italian brands artisan brands don't have the know-how when it comes to getting online and they remain tied to their traditional channels - since we work just on commission, they see the opportunity to showcase their products on a highly valuable platform which shares their beliefs and values as well as the possibility to sell abroad.

We have over nearly 100 partners so far and plan to reach 150 by the year's end.

WHAT VALUE DO YOU FEEL MARKETPLACES GIVE TO CONSUMERS?

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I believe that the products that we are selling are nearly impossible to find in a normal shop, especially for customers outside of Italy, for instance in Germany. I think marketplaces give customers the opportunity to find products that are unique, sustainable, and durable - I feel customers that increasingly searching for that features and turning away from fast fashion, even if that means paying more.

HOW DID YOU FIRST HEAR ABOUT ONPORT?

So before using Onport, we once had a situation where an order had been placed but the item wasn't available - one of our partners told us about how they used Onport to manage their operations so we decided to try it out. Onport has always worked very well for us, and we can see the value we get for the price as Onport is vital to our business model.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ONPORT HAS AIDED YOUR OVERALL PERFOR-MANCE, IN WHICH AREAS DID YOU SEE THE MOST IMPROVEMENT?

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Up to now, I feel like we have yet to use Onport to its full potential, we primarily use it for inventory optimization as we have integrated with partners and manage their stock. We do plan to make use of the shipping and returns management functions within the coming months but at the moment, we mainly use the inventory management function as it's crucial to us, especially for some of our high volume brands.

HOW WELL DO YOU FEEL THAT ONPORT ALLOWS YOU TO RESPOND QUICKLY TO CHANGES IN YOUR MARKET?

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The biggest added value of Onport is that everything is automatic - our feeds are continuously updated and respond automatically to our partner inventory feeds so we know that Onport is crucial because it removes the need to manually update feeds ourselves.

When we upload products, I know that everything is being taken care of and that we don't have to worry about things like changes in order quantities.