Hi everyone,

I'm happy to announce the launch of L1 Category Browse Pages on the Lexington Platform in the US, UK, DE, and AU!

Overview

Category Browsing used to live exclusively on RPP Flexihub. Last year, the Browse team created Browse Nodes for L2-L7 Categories as well as Cross-Category and Category + Aspect pages; however, L0s, L1s and Virtual Categories continued to live on RPP Flexihub.

L0s and L1s are the top-level category browse pages on eBay. These pages are high-touch with manual curation because they represent the first step into category-browsing; therefore the site merchandisers work hard to curate the best content eBay has to offer. This allows eBay to put its best foot-forward.

This year, the Verticals team and Browse team are partnering to migrate L0s, L1s and Virtual Categories from RPP Flexihub onto Lexington in order to continue making the best Category Browse experience in ecommerce!

Why this matters

The goal of this project is to bridge the gaps between the algorithmic curation of Browse Nodes and the manual curation of RPP Flexihubs in order to create a hybrid of algorithmic and manual content on top-level category browsing. Moving to Lexington not only gives the Business Unit more flexibility, but it also gives our customers more exposure for on the core shopping experience.

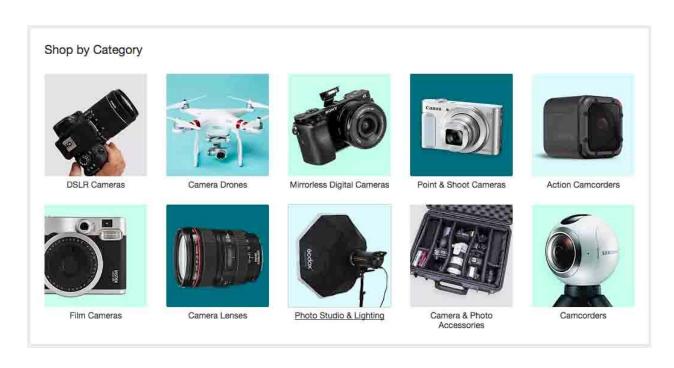
An added benefit of this migration is moving experiences out of Kiosk (the old Content Management System for Deals, Events, and RPP Flexihubs) and onto Spotlight, which is a newer, faster, and smoother platform.

This migration optimizes for both internal customers through Spotlight and external customers through Lexington.

What was launched

Manually Curated L1s on Browse Nodes launched with the following new modules on Lexington:

- 1. Curated Visual Navigation
 - a. http://www.ebay.com/rpp/camera-photo
 - b. https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B76oYR4IPdNnVmpFLWlxS3JGMW8



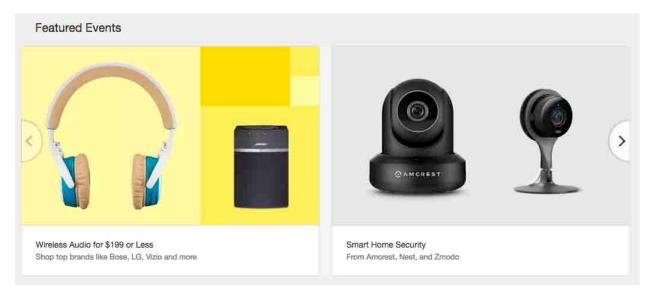
2. Promotional Banners

- a. http://www.ebay.com/rpp/mens-clothing
- b. https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B76oYR4IPdNnakFZTEV4bnVBRIU



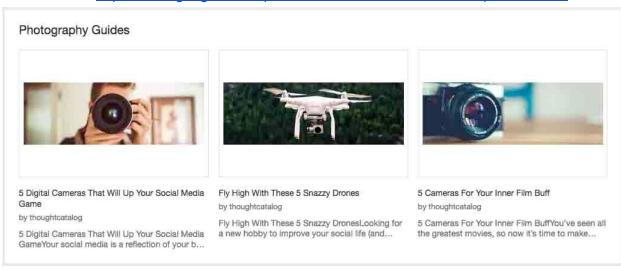
3. Event Doorways (featuring multiple Events)

- a. http://www.ebay.com/rpp/tv-video-audio
- b. https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B76oYR4IPdNnTDBxR0VoYXg3T0U



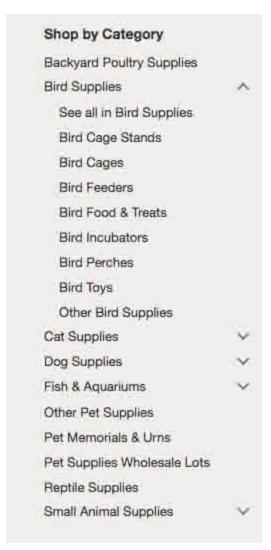
4. Curated Guides

- a. http://www.ebay.com/rpp/camera-photo
- b. https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B76oYR4IPdNnd2M4bHpVVW00bGc

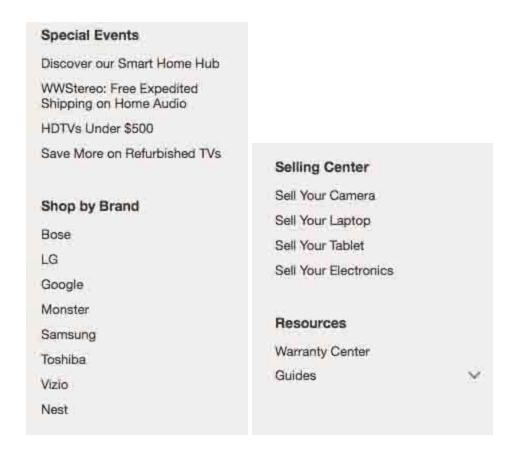


5. Accordion Left Hand Navigation Category Navigation

a. http://www.ebay.com/rpp/pet-supplies



- 6. Accordion Structured Links
 - a. Linking to Brands
 - b. Linking to Events
 - c. Custom Links
 - d. http://www.ebay.com/rpp/tv-video-audio



New features for L1s

L1s on Browse Nodes gained the following new capabilities that were not available on RPP Flexihub:

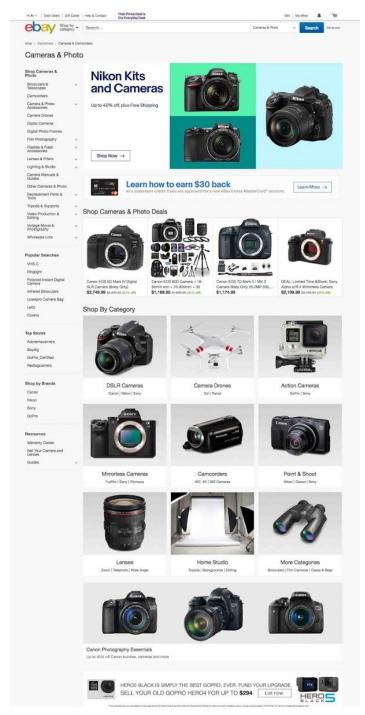
- 1. Top Deals
- 2. Top Products
- 3. Save On
- 4. Event Banner with Listings
- 5. Curated Products
- 6. Curated Browse Guidance Module
- 7. C2C Banner
- 8. AMP Layout on mobile (coming soon)
- 9. Accessible from Native Apps (coming soon)

The Magic

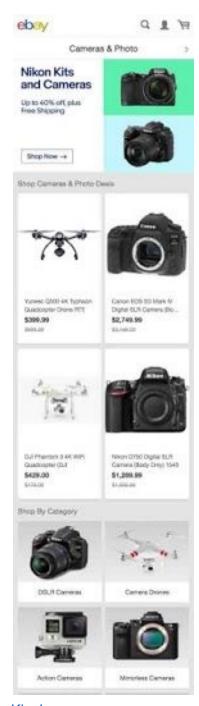
Below are some examples of L1s that are live today!

Before - http://www.ebay.com/rpp/camera-photo

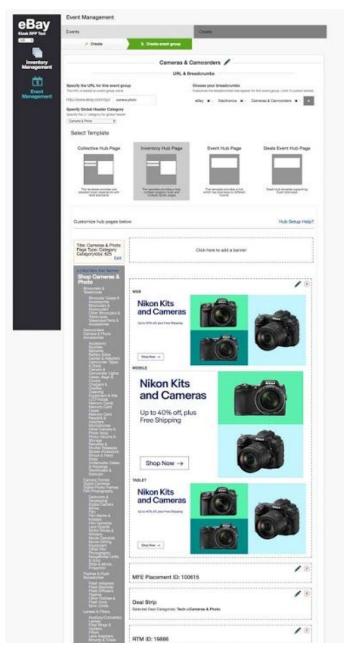
Desktop



Mobile



Kiosk



After - http://www.ebay.com/rpp/camera-photo

Desktop





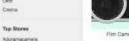
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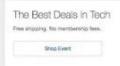






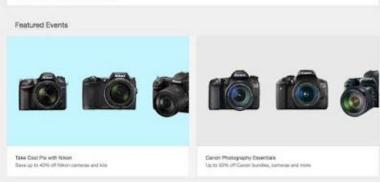










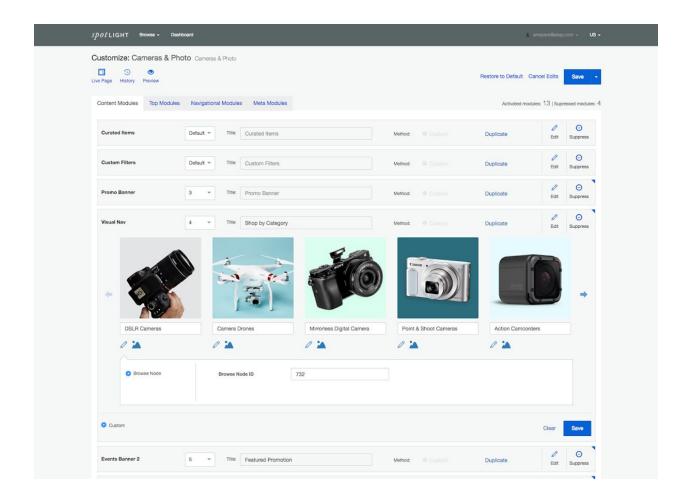




Mobile



Spotlight



Some Example Pages

- 1. http://www.ebay.com/rpp/mens-clothing
- 2. http://www.ebay.com/rpp/tv-video-audio
- 3. http://www.ebay.com/rpp/camera-photo
- 4. http://www.ebay.com/rpp/pet-supplies
- 5. http://www.ebay.com.au/rpp/home-decor
- 6. http://www.ebay.com.au/rpp/womens-clothing
- 7. http://www.ebay.de/rpp/spielzeug
- 8. http://www.ebay.co.uk/rpp/mobile-home-phone

More Improvements

- Bradford Shellhammer, Stephen Bamonte, and Antonio Aguiar have been working with Katie Carroll and myself to revamp imagery on our L1 Browse Pages to match the new Brand.
 - This is reflected in the US Fashion and Electronics Verticals. This will carry over to all Verticals globally.

- Time to first byte is down 100ms, and perceived page load performance is about 1500-2000ms improvement.
- L1s will maintain their RPP URLs until Google re-indexes the pages with their new page content. Then the URL will flip from RPP to each page's respective Browse Node URL.
- Page performance metrics are still being compiled based on the new experience.

What's next

- 1. Finish migrating individual L1s that were delayed for unique business use-cases
- 2. Launch 3P Ad Placement on L1s (which will be reused for L0s)
- 3. Build additional modules for the L0 Launch on Lexington in Q3
- 4. Expose L0s and L1s in native apps
- 5. Migrate Virtual Categories to Lexington
- 6. Migrate Retail Moments and other RPP Flexihub use cases to Lexington
- 7. Launching L1s on Lexington in FRITES

Special Thanks

This project spanned almost every team in Buyer Experience in Product, Engineering and Design. It also touched upon every Vertical in all of the regional BUs. This was a massive team effort that could not have happened without everyone's support.

Super mega kudos to **Katie Carroll**, **Yaniv Shimony**, and **Venkat Medapati** who respectively led efforts with coordinating the Global Business Unit requirements and roll-out plan, managed the Browse engineering flow and requirements, and managed the Spotlight engineering flow and requirements.

PD

- Browse
 - Winfred Jebasingh
 - o Prashanth Patlolla
 - Bokai Chen
 - Sujith Mankala
 - Aadhith Ramesh
 - Shikha Khare
- Verticals
 - o Viraj Pateliya
 - Ramneet Bhatia
 - Vidit Aggarwal
 - Senthil Manoharan
 - Boski Shah
 - o Anu Vermuri

- Kalyana Gundamaraju
- Shiv Chandrashekhar
- Shane Yong
- ATM
 - o Ani Khanna
 - Dhaval Patel
- More in Buyer Experience
 - Chuck Zheng
 - Lakshimi Duraivenkatesh

QΕ

- Browse
 - o Ramesh Venkata
 - Ram Arunjunairajan
 - Lili Yeung
 - Kandakumar Doraisamy
 - o Amanpreet Ghotra
 - Srikanth Rentachintala
- Verticals
 - Krishna Abothu
 - o Ann Del Rio
 - Ting Tong
- ATM
 - Sagar Shah
 - Devesh More

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 - o Greg Levinson
 - Jennie Tat
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 - o Paul Rebello
 - Gianmarco Leoncavallo
 - Sheryll Dotillos
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 - Christa Jones
- More in Buyer Experience
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- John Hanley
- o Remelle James
- o Remi Delcros
- Lenny Cohen
- DE
- Simone Reinhardt
- Sven Krause
- o Effie Harland
- Kaja Unger
- AU
- o Fiona Lim
- Neil Flood
- Greg Tarry
- FRITES
 - o Giovanni Ruosi

Product

- Browse
 - o Yaniv Shimony
 - Syeda Hudda
 - o Don McAllister

- Nate Carrier
- Dennis Marshall
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 - Venkat Medapati
 - o Manoj Babu Chandrasekaran
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 - Enoch Chen
- SEO
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 - Wallace Yan
 - James Lane
 - Pete Dainty
- Engagement
 - o Bradford Shellhammer
- Experimentation Platform
 - o Carissa Muljadi
- Structured Data
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 - Jasper Kamperman
 - Jean-Dominique Boffa
 - Beck Kloss
- More in Buyer Experience
 - o Shervin Moghaddam
 - o Patricia Garcia-Rubio
 - o Rami Amir
 - Mohan Patt

Thanks to everyone who helped make L1s great again!

Alex Meyers