



# **Digital TV Brand Extensions**Selected Examples Worldwide

Henner Jürgens, Matthias Puschmann VAST MEDIA (Germany)



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There are many different approaches to promoting and extending television programs online. As shows of all genres are being extended online before, during and after broadcast time, different platforms and strategies are being used by broadcasters to extend the on-air experience of television. But despite the variety of the available options for broadcasters, these initiatives are always launched in order to create more significant and effective ways for the audiences to engage with the program and channel's brands, both on-air and online.

What follows is a **selection of 15 digital TV brand extensions** created by broadcasters around TV shows during the past 3 months. These examples have been selected **to illustrate recent, original and unique initiatives** while also covering a variety of different types of digital practices.

Among these examples, some feature **impressive interactive online creations to immerse fans** into the program's universe and brands. Such is the case of UNIVERSES OF FRINGE, and GET COMMITTED, websites launched to accompany the returning season of series "Fringe" and "American Horror Story" in the USA, or of FRESH MEAT HOUSE, in the UK. Similar extensions are created **to both activate a program's audience as it returns on screen and to promote the launch of new shows**: such has been the case of COMMAND CENTER and SILICON VALLEY STATUS, created to buzz around two new shows in the USA.

**Alongside important online interactive efforts, more punctual and limited initiatives exist.** We notice examples of this in relation to special dates (PRETTY LITTLE LIARS HALLOWEEN'S PARTY, for instance). These examples of more simple and punctual extensions are significant inasmuch as they illustrate the capacity of broadcasters to create online extensions for programs in diverse and versatile ways.

#### DIGITAL TV BRAND EXTENSIONS: INTRODUCTION



In this, **Twitter remains television's best (social) friend** as it continues to inform many of the extensions broadcasters are creating, that are often build around this social network putting it at the heart of the online experience. The ZOMBIE ATTACK ON TWITTER campaign created by NT1 and Darewin in France to promote the launch of series "The Walking Dead" is only one of the recent examples of how **Twitter**, **and Social TV more generally**, **is today key in engaging with audiences** and in particular with younger demographics.

While examples have been selected worldwide, numerous examples of innovative and successful digital extensions to TV programs exist today outside the Anglo-Saxon markets – for instance in Germany, in the Netherlands and in France – where digital extensions are also becoming commonplace. But the USA and the UK remain to date the most active markets globally as to extending television outside the box.

## **DIGITAL TV BRAND EXTENSIONS: SELECTED EXAMPLES**



FRINGE: UNIVERSES OF FRINGE // FOX // USA	p. 05
LAST RESORT: COMMAND CENTER // ABC // USA	p. 06
FRESH MEAT: FRESH MEAT HOUSE // CHANNEL 4 // UK	p. 07
START-UPS: SILICON VALLEY: SILICON VALLEY STATUS // BRAVO // USA	p. 08
MOONSHINERS: TWEET-POWERED DISTILLERY // DISCOVERY CHANNEL // USA	p. 09
THE WALKING DEAD: ZOMBIE ATTACK ON TWITTER // NT1 // FRANCE	p. 10
PRETTY LITTLE LIARS: PLL HALLOWEEN PARTY // ABC FAMILY // USA	p. 11
SONS OF ANARCHY: SOA APP RELOADED // FX // USA	p. 12
THE VOICE OF HOLLAND: SINGING SUNDAY APP // RTL4 // NETHERLANDS	p. 13
THE VOICE: JOIN THE TEAM // PROSIEBEN // GERMANY	p. 14
THE AMAZING RACE: GRAND JEU AMAZING RACE // D8 // FRANCE	p. 15
REVOLUTION: POWERED BY THE PEOPLE // NBC // USA	p. 16
AMERICAN HORROR STORY: GET COMMITTED THE EXPERIENCE // FX // USA	p. 17
LE MEILLEUR PATISSIER: SOCIAL SHOP // M6 // FRANCE	p. 18
BOARDWALK EMPIRE: NEW YORK VINTAGE RIDE // HBO // USA	p. 19

















#### MOONSHINERS: TWEET-POWERED DISTILLERY // DISCOVERY CHANNEL // USA





#### THE WALKING DEAD: ZOMBIE ATTACK ON TWITTER // NT1 // FRANCE





#### PRETTY LITTLE LIARS: PLL HALLOWEEN PARTY // ABC FAMILY // USA









#### THE VOICE OF HOLLAND: SINGING SUNDAY APP // RTL4 // NETHERLANDS

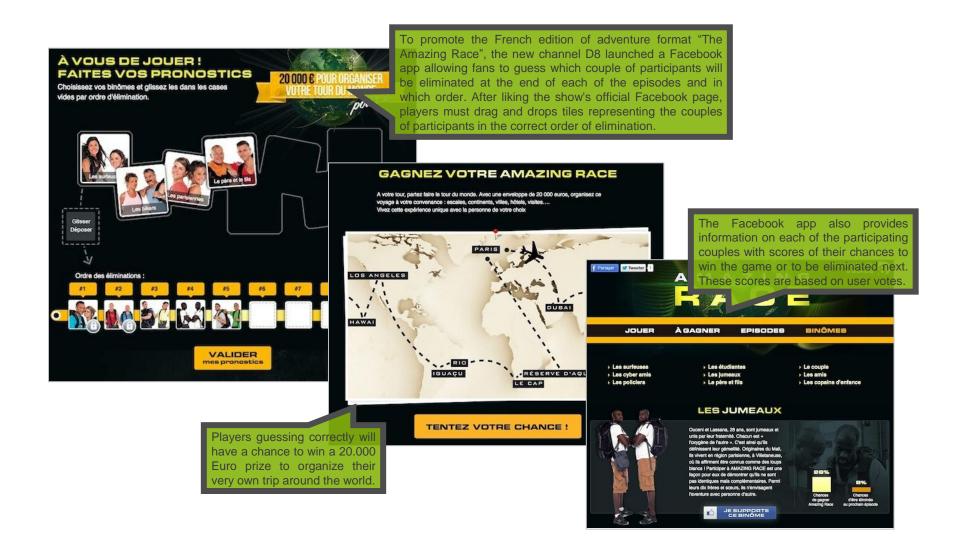
















To promote the first season premiere of J.J. Abrams "Revolution" series, NBC ran a campaign called "Powered By The People". For a start, users were given the chance to vote eleven cities in the country to host a prepremiere theater screening of the show's pilot episode.

Inspired by the series' theme (the world facing an inexplicable permanent power blackout), the screening in New York then was accompanied by a bigger special event: 80 "power pedalers" on exercise bikes, including series star Tim Guinee, manually generated the electric power necessary for the screening. The organizers, who had teamed up NGO called a local Transportation Alternatives, encouraged guests to bike or walk to the venue, and provided bike valet on









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## About the author



**VAST MEDIA** is a Berlin-based company specializing in providing competitive market analysis in Social TV. We are tracking how international broadcasters and producers promote TV shows online and extend their brands digitally in order to drive engagement with audiences on different platforms.

The **TV@WEB DATABASE** is part of VAST MEDIA's unique tracking services for the television and digital entertainment industry around the world. Daily updated, it contains hundreds of best practices ranging from Social TV campaigns and multiplatform storytelling to second-screen apps, play-along games and branded content.

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