

Find service providers and contractors for less money

Could this possibly be the next big thing on the internet? Undertool.co.uk, the original underbid auction site, has just launched in the UK.

The secret to Undertool's success is rather simple. Anyone needing a job done around the house wanting to save time on finding a service provider can go to the website www.Undertool.co.uk. On the Undertool website they enter a description of the job and a maximum price that they would be willing to spend. Tradespeople and service providers can then review the job advert and place a bid. The best bid, and possibly the cheapest, will then get the contract.

It works like Ebay, except that the lowest bid has the best chance. Undertool offers its users the chance to get quality work done at an affordable price. Instead of having to tediously search for an affordable contractor, the contractors come to them. The user saves time and energy and has a wider range of contractors to choose from than they would get by using the Yellow Pages and phoning around for quotes. It works for everything from gardening to having a home computer network set up.

How can users be sure that the work will be good quality? Undertool has a whole range of measures in place that protect the user from shoddy workmanship. First of all, before a contractor is able to place a bid they need to prove they are certified to do a certain type of work. There are different levels of membership for tradespeople ranging from silver and gold to platinum, depending on the level of certification they have provided. To reach platinum level for example a trade company needs to prove that they are licensed, bonded and insured.

In addition Undertool has a rating system, which gives customers a picture of how well a service provider has performed in previous jobs. If the user wishes to, they can restrict a job offer only to bidders above a certain level, e.g. only service providers of gold status and higher. And finally, unlike Ebay, a contractor does not get paid in advance, but only after completion of the job. For the user there is practically no risk involved. Placing an ad is completely free and it is even possible to just place a non-binding estimate request.

Will this mean the end of fair pay for tradespeople? The answer is a clear No! Job offers with an unrealistically low initial starting price will not be successful on Undertool. Contractors have the ability to post a bid above the initial starting price and to leave a comment informing the client of the market value of certain jobs. None of the parties on either side will be forced into having to accept an unwelcome deal.

Undertool is a great way for businesses to increase revenue and enlarge their customer base. Undertool saves the company money by taking the contractor straight to the customer demand, thus helping to decrease the time and resources needed to generate new business leads. Contractors and service providers are in competition with each other in order to get a contract – but a job well done could easily result in further job requests from the same customer and will provide positive ratings. Undertool helps both customers and service providers to achieve the results they want.

Undertool.co.uk spokesperson Jürgen Bauer is in high spirits about the launch of undertool.co.uk in Britain:

"Undertool.co.uk is the first auction portal for contracts with trade as well as with service firms. Other than with Ebay, bids don't go up, but down. Less is more here. I am thrilled to bring this concept that has been so successful in other countries to the United Kingdom. I believe that in these economically challenging times it can help with getting things done while saving money at the same time."

About Undertool

Undertool was the first auction platform worldwide to offer jobs and services using the principle of underbidding. Undertool was founded in Germany in 2003 by Thomas Groschalwski and was the first website worldwide to offer underbidding for the trade and the service sector. The German site now has over 50,000 members and has seen a steady growth in registered members. On the 6th of March 2008 the American website Undertool.com went live during the computer fair "Cebit". The most popular job requests are in the construction sector. Undertool has been tested by different consumer organizations and has received the seal of approval from the German Technical Inspection Agency (www.tuv.com).

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