

## 2.7 Content Production Cost Calculation Details

Table 4 in the article presents the cost of content production and savings induces by applying the content writing machine. In this section, we elaborate on the calculations for Table 4. We took available working times and salary statistics for the human reviser / SEO expert necessary (i.e., as stated in the Table's footer: 39 hours available working time per week, 1,567 hours per year; 45,000 € of salary per year) and calculated the times, cost and possible output per year when using the manual way vs. the machine for text generation. To estimate the time spent per unit of content, information was provided by both the company and the experiment participants. Based on this information, we can calculate expected outputs and labor cost per year. The calculation in Table 4 in the main manuscript are based on the following inputs, with the values from Table 4 appearing in quotations:

- “Human labor time for content production” = empirically determined
- “Server cost per unit (€)” = empirically determined
- For human groups: “Produced content units” = 1,567 hours per year / “Median (hours)”  
For example, for the column “Company (real)” in Table 4:  $1,567/9.5 \approx 164.95$
- For machine to keep total costs at 45,000 € (i.e., the same as the human costs): “Produced content units” =  $45,000 \text{ €} / (\text{“Labour cost per unit (€)”} + \text{“Server cost per unit (€)”})$ . For example, for the column “Revised Machine” in Table 4:  $45,000/(15.79+5.00) \approx 2,164.03$
- “Production level (%)” = (“Produced content units” (e.g., of the revised machine) / “Produced content units” Company (real))\*100-100. For example, for the column “Revised Machine” in Table 4:  $(2,164.03/164.95)*100-100 \approx 1,211.95$

- “Labor cost per unit (€)” =  $45,000 \text{ €} / \text{“Produced content units”}$ . For example, for the column “Company (real)” in Table 4:  $45,000/164.95 \approx 272.81$
- “Cost for 164.95 units (€)” = (“Labour cost per unit (€)” + “Server cost per unit (€)”) \* 164.95. For example, for the column “Company (real)” in Table 4:  
 $272.81 + 0 * 164.95 \approx 45,000$
- “Cost for 2,164.03 units (€)” = (“Labour cost per unit (€)” + “Server cost per unit (€)”) \* 2,164.03. For example, for the column “Company (real)” in Table 4:  
 $272.81 + 0 * 2,164.03 \approx 590,369$
- “Produced content units” (“Possible real financial impact (2015 to 2019)”) = empirically determined
- “Cost (€)” =  $439 * (\text{“Labour cost per unit (€)”} + \text{“Server cost per unit (€)”})$ . For example, for the column “Company (real)” in Table 4:  $439 * (272.81 + 0) \approx 119,765$
- “Possible savings (€)” = “Cost (€)” of the Company (Real) – “Cost (€)” of specific comparison group. For example, for the column “Revised Machine” in Table 4:  $119,765 - 9,127 \approx 110,638$

## Appendix References

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