Design guidelines for B2C e-commerce in virtual worlds

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Guidelines for B2C e-commerce in virtual worlds were derived, based on interviews with consumers in Second Life. The guidelines include usability and customer relationship management principles.

Pre-purchase stage guidelines
1. Attract the consumer’s attention to the product
2. Facilitate product discovery
3. Communicate the brand identity

Purchase stage guidelines
4. Facilitate navigation and accessibility
5. Support real world-like interactions
6. Provide product information in text form
7. Facilitate consumer-to-consumer interactions
8. Provide an aesthetically pleasing experience

Post-purchase guidelines
9. Provide post-purchase customer support
10. Support an online brand community