#### Maximizing the Value of Your Business

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### Business Owners Journey





#### Foundation

Accounting and Administration

- A Cleaned Up Accounting System
- Internal Processes That Work
- Timely Close of the Accounting Systems and Monthly Internal Financial Reports
- Insurance Policies, Employee Benefits, HR Policies and Contracts
- Strong CPA and Banking Relationship



#### Health

- Cash Flow, Operations and Banking
  - Forward looking cash flow projections with cash flow breakeven analysis
  - Meaningful weekly metrics and Key Performance Indicators/KPIs
  - A strong banking relationship and access to capital for short term funding needs
  - Understanding of operating costs/profit margins
  - Short term operating forecast and budgets
  - Reducing Risk

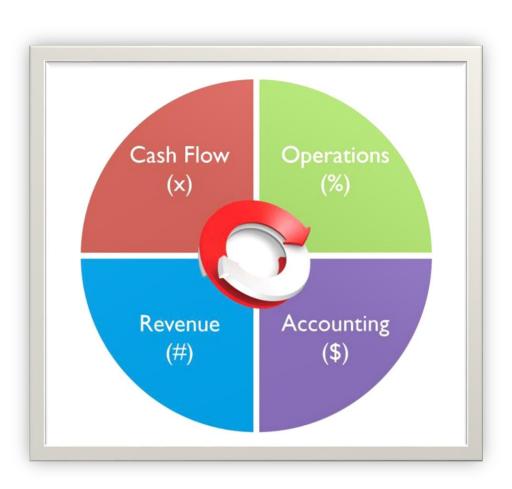
#### Growth

- Profitability by Customer and Product Line
- Healthy Sales Criteria-recurring revenue
- Sales Growth Strategy and Pipeline Forecast
- A Well Documented Vision-Mission and Company Goals Statement
- Budget and Projections
- Written Strategic Plan
- Management Depth

### Value

- Sale, Succession or CTR/Continue to Run
- Defined owner goals and path forward
- Options clarified
- Healthy, growing company with real value
- Strong Internal Management Team
- Team of Advisors to help with goals
- High valuation/multiple with managed debt

# The Key To Creating Value Is A Strong COAR of Business Systems



### Cash Flow



# Increasing Sustainable Cash Flow

- Increase your revenues
  - Does not always mean increased value
- Improve your gross margin
  - Your most important number
  - Selective Price Increases
  - Lower Cost of Sales (Materials and Labor)
    - Lean Processes
    - Rebidding Suppliers
- Lower your operating expenses

# Focus on Cash Flow from Operations

- C-F-O is the Key Driver
  - Cash flow from Operations (CFO) primarily measures the cash-generating abilities of the company's core operations rather than from its ability to raise capital or purchase assets.
- Cash Flow from Operations is used to:
  - Purchase capital equipment
  - Service debt principal
  - Returns to shareholders
  - Remaining cash stays in business for future needs

• Healthy businesses have consistent sources of cash, ideally generated internally, to fuel the growth of the business

#### Cash Flow

#### Question To Consider

• How good are you at estimating the amount of cash that you will have on hand at any one time, project trends in cash inflow and outflow, and evaluate whether a shortfall or surplus in cash could potentially occur?

# Operations



## Operational Efficiency

- **Efficiency** "A measure of whether the right amount of resources have been used to deliver a process, service or activity. An efficient process achieves its objectives with the minimum amount of time, money, people or other resources."
- **Effectiveness** "A measure of whether the objectives of a process, service or activity have been achieved. An effective process or activity is one that achieves its agreed objectives."

## Operational Efficiency

• Improve the speed of the tasks

Remove human error and manual activity

• Improve quality as well as reducing cost

## Operational Efficiency

- Simplification and Standardization are often the keys to increasing operational efficiency;
- Create repeatable standard processes and remove duplication and bottlenecks
- If you deliver services or products which meet your customer's needs at an acceptable cost your business value will increase

## Operating System

#### Questions to consider

- Are you maximizing the value of your resources?
- What could you improve?
- Have you established specific, measurable goals for the operational team?
- Do you know what investments to make to improve your operational efficiency?

## Accounting



## What is Important to You?

What happened last month?

 What is happening yesterday, today and tomorrow?

What is happening 3 months from now?

 What will your cash look like today and as you push forward?

# Plan: Budget and Forecast

- Develop a financial plan for what you *WANT* to happen
  - If you can't make it work on paper, you don't have much chance of making it in real life
- Forecast Operating Results and Cash Flow from Operations
  - How do you get healthy?
  - How do you fund growth?

# Financial Systems and Controls

- Basic record-keeping is an essential requirement
- You must have an up-to-date picture of your cash position
- Effective cash management is a key ingredient in demonstrating your financial control to lenders and investors.
- Your financial controls help you to comply with tax requirements. For example, you need accurate information to complete tax returns and pay any tax required.

# Financial Systems and Controls

• Financial management is at the heart of running a successful business. It affects every aspect, from managing cash flow and tracking business performance to developing plans that ensure that business owners can make the most of opportunities.

## Accounting System

#### **Questions To Consider**

- Are your financial statements current and accurate?
- Do you do any forecasting for future growth and identifying any financial risk from current financial decisions or results?
- Do you utilize any business reports that can be made from the financial data, including accounts-payable aging, accounts-receivable aging and reports about company profitability?

### Revenue



## Not All Sales Are Healthy

#### Examples of unhealthy sales

- Too much revenue from one customer
- Not enough revenue from one customer
- Gross margin is too low to cover your overhead costs
- Sales commission exceeds gross margin
- Client pays too slow
- Orders cause too many disruptions

# How to know if you have healthy sales

- First, get the data
  - Sales by customer
  - Sales by salesperson
  - Margin by customer
  - Accounts Receivable
- Second, look for trends/problems
  - You might be surprised at what you will find

# Improving Growth Strategies

- Growth Strategies
  - Increase Sales Effort
  - Selective Price Increases
  - Develop New Products or Service
  - Expand Your Geographic Reach
  - Strategic Acquisitions

### Revenue System

#### Questions to consider

- Do you have a process in place for building and tracking a sales pipeline?
- Do you track your leads and client conversion rates?
- How is your profitability by customer performing? Are profit margins increasing?
- Does more than 10% of your revenue come from one customer or does more than 25% of your revenue come from your top 5 customers?
- Are you developing new product or service offerings to help your business grow? What financial importance would you place on getting new business in the next 12 months?

## Keys To Improve Business Value

- 1. Increase profitability
- 2. Establish recurring revenue agreements
- 3. Create seamless processes and routines
- 4. Keep key employees on board
- 5. Differentiate your product or services

- 6. Increase internal cash flow
- 7. Reduce business risk
- 8. Have a strategic plan
- 9. Utilize Budgeting and Forecasting
- 10. Have great advisors and over communicate with them

#### Grow Your Value

Increasing Cash Flow





Decreasing Business Risk



Improving Growth Prospects

#### ANY FINAL QUESTIONS?

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