

# **Building Value in Your Business**

Presented by: John W. Edson, CPA/ABV/CFF, CVA

#### What is your Business Worth?

The business is generally the owner's most valuable asset.

Financial security depends on maximizing value and converting that asset to cash.

Having a plan can help maximize the value when it is time to transition or exit the business.

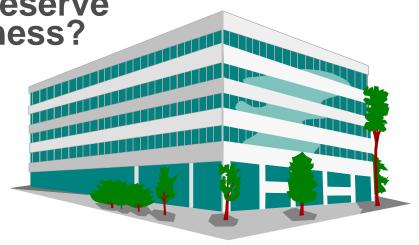


#### Best Case...

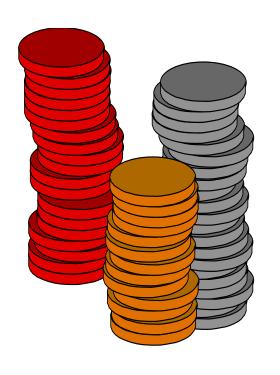
- You own a business.
  - You run it profitably
  - You keep tight control on operations
  - You have a great product or service
  - Can someone else do the same with your business without you?

• What will create and preserve value within your business?

 What allows you to transfer your business profitably



#### Business Value



The value of a business is based upon the perspective of the person buying it.

Willing Buyer & Willing Seller

#### **Business Value**



Like any investment, the value of a business is the benefits received by the buyer (usually cash flow) divided by the rate of return desired.

#### Simple Example

- Business generates cash flow to owner of \$200,000.
- Buyer desires a 20% rate of return on investment.
- Buyer would be willing to pay \$1,000,000.

#### The Driver of Value

What benefits will the buyer receive from owning the company?

**Earnings** 

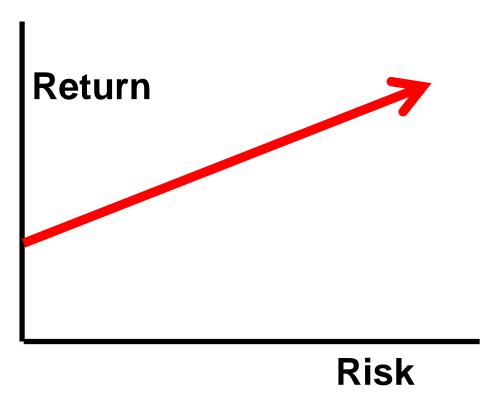
**Cash Flow** 

## Types of Buyers

<u>Investment Value</u> – Value to a specific investor

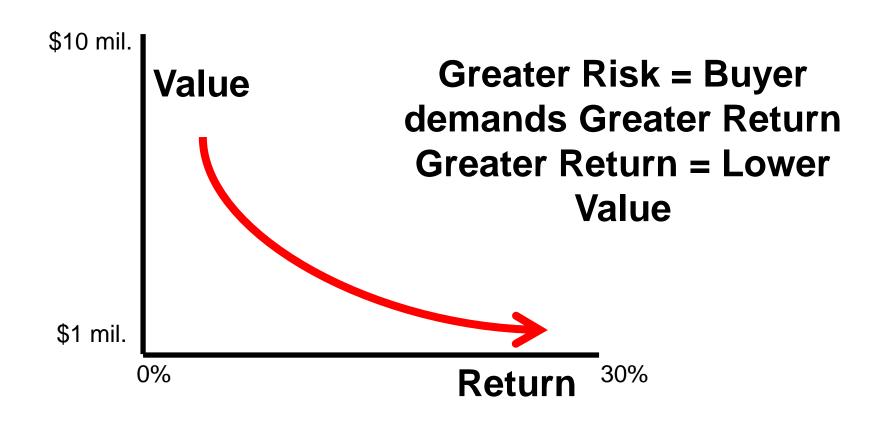
- Financial Buyer Operate business as stand alone.
- Strategic/Synergistic Buyer Blend into an existing business. Gain efficiencies and cost reductions.

## **Investor Expectation**



**Greater Risk = Greater Return** 

## Investor Expectation



#### Valuations Based on ROI

# ROI is determined based on Risk of the investment (Discount Rate)

<ul><li>Discount Rate/ROI=</li></ul>	<u>Co. 1</u>	<u>Co. 2</u>
•Risk free rate +	3%	3%
<ul><li>Equity risk premium +</li></ul>	6%	6%
<ul><li>Size premium+</li></ul>	6%	6%
<ul><li>Company specific risks</li></ul>	4%	10%
TOTAL	<u>19%</u>	<u>25%</u>
Multiple of earnings	5.2	4

#### Valuations Based on ROI

Cash Flow	\$200,000	\$200,000
Capitalization Rate	<u> 19%                                    </u>	<u>25%</u>
Value	<u>\$1,053,000</u>	<u>\$800,000</u>

Objective: Do the things that reduce risk and assure stability

#### Value Drivers

# Implement a strategy to grow the company

- Revenue improvements
  - Develop new revenue stream
  - Develop annuity revenue repeat customers
  - Diversify customer base How large is your largest customer?
  - Develop add on products
  - Develop new markets/diversify markets big fish or a little fish? Make the pond bigger.

#### Value Drivers

# Implement a strategy to improve efficiency

- Develop operating systems that improve sustainability of cash flows -consistent systems and process
- Improve equipment & facilities efficient use and appearance
- Develop employee training program
- Develop employee retention program
- Pay down debt
  - Growth through high debt does not add value to owners

#### Value Drivers

- Build a solid management team.
  - Groom successors
  - Cross train
  - If management team is aging, build successors below them

## What do I want to accomplish?

The way to increase the ultimate value of the business is to:

- -Increase Cash Flow
- -Reduce Risk

## Review the Value Drivers

		1	<b>↓</b>
		<b>CASH</b>	RISK
•	New revenue stream	X	
•	Annuity revenue – repeat customers	X	X
	Reduce costs	X	
•	Pay down debt	X	X
•	Develop operating systems		X
-	Improve equipment & facilities		X
-	Solid management team successors		X
	Develop employees – training		X
	Develop new Markets	X	X
	Develop special processes	X	X
•	Solidify and diversify customer base	X	X

#### What's it Worth Now?

- Assume we increase cash flow from \$200,000 to \$300,000.
- We reduce risks by implementing operating improvements so the company risk factor is now 4% instead of 10%. The capitalization rate drops from 25% to 19%.
- The value of our business is now \$1,579,000.
   (\$300,000 divided by 19%)

We almost doubled the value!

#### Plan Strategically

- What's special about your firm?
- Acquire new niche services
- Develop strong customer ties
- Strengthen your team
- Build a stable income stream
- Strengthen operating systems

# NOT A LAST MINUTE DEAL!

#### **CONTACTS**



- John Edson, CPA/ABV/CFF, CVA
- Principal
- **763-253-1133**
- J.Edson@smithschafer.com



- Ben Turnquist, CPA, CVA
- Manager
- 507-288-3277
- B.Turnquist@smithschafer.com

The Valuation Team:

John Edson, Dean Richards, Gary Turnquist, Ben Turnquist