



MOTION,

# Ready for takeoff

How to prepare your company for a liquidity or transition event

**RSM** 

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## With you today





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Agenda

- Planning and form of transition well in advance
- Owner and company readiness for transition
- Maximizing value in transition
- Pre and post transaction tax strategies



## Learning objectives



By the end of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- 1. Identify key strategic issues when planning a transition
- 2. Explain what emotional issues can often stall the process
- 3. Discuss key considerations of valuing a company
- 4. Communicate key strategies to capture maximum value prior to a transaction
- 5. Summarize key pre-transaction planning on structuring deals to minimize tax impacts



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# PLANNING



## Transition requires careful planning

- Cornell University estimates that there is \$10 trillion dollars of wealth in the process of changing hands
- Over 2/3 don't know what their transition options are, with modest attention paid to planning, if at all
- 40% have no plans for illness, death or forced exit, yet 50% of exits are not voluntary and 50% of business owners who have "partners" don't have a buy/sell in place
- Most businesses won't be sold and less than 25% of those who want to will
- 33% haven't thought about management succession, and only 25% are comfortable that their managerial team would be successful if the owner wasn't involved after the transition





### Panel question





What are the critical issues you have encountered when transition planning does not take place?



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# **EMOTIONAL**



## Emotion often affects options and pace of transition

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- 1 out of 3 owners doesn't believe the next generation of leaders is ready or perhaps capable
- Key employees are often kept beyond their utility which can impact business valuation and management succession
- Family succession plans often have design flaws that create inequity to those who work in the business versus those that are owners
- Many founders have difficulty letting go, and creating room for the next generation to learn and grow
- Board and C-Suite governance is often inadequate in closely held companies







#### Panel question





What are some of the more challenging "elephants in the room" you have had to deal with?



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# VALUE DRIVER



## What is the value of the company now, and what can you do about it?



- Less than half of owners have an inkling of what their business is worth
- Business value drivers
  - Leadership and management
  - Finance
  - Planning
  - Infrastructure and technology
  - People
  - Operations and product development
  - Sales and marketing
- High multiples today are driven less by excellence of the target, more by a lack of quality supply of targets or people





### **Panel Question**





What examples of impacts on the ultimate value of a business have you seen dealing with your various clients?



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# LIQUIDITY EVENT



### Key issues surrounding a liquidity event

#### **Pre-liquidity**

planning (months 36 to 0)

#### **Business issues**

- Valuation of equity/enterprise value
- Optimal deal structure
- Developing go-to-market strategy
- Minimizing tax impact
- Multiple entity tax structures
- Strategy for successful transition
- Risk assessment and management
- Intellectual property
- Retained interest

#### Family issues

- Assessing post-transaction wealth and cash flow needs
- Proactive estate planning
- Tax implications/impact
- Funding charitable inclinations
- Personal and family legacy
- Role of family members post-liquidity
- Selecting the right team of advisors
- Post-liquidity risk allocation/portfolio objectives



#### **Post-liquidity**

building the future

#### Top issues

- Confronting uncertainty
- Realigning/restructuring advisor team
- Operationalizing values
- Post-event estate planning/management

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- Life event changes
- Ongoing investment strategy
- Reevaluation of tax planning/strategy
- Deferred sale payments
- Risk management
- Equity-carry
- Business wind-down activities



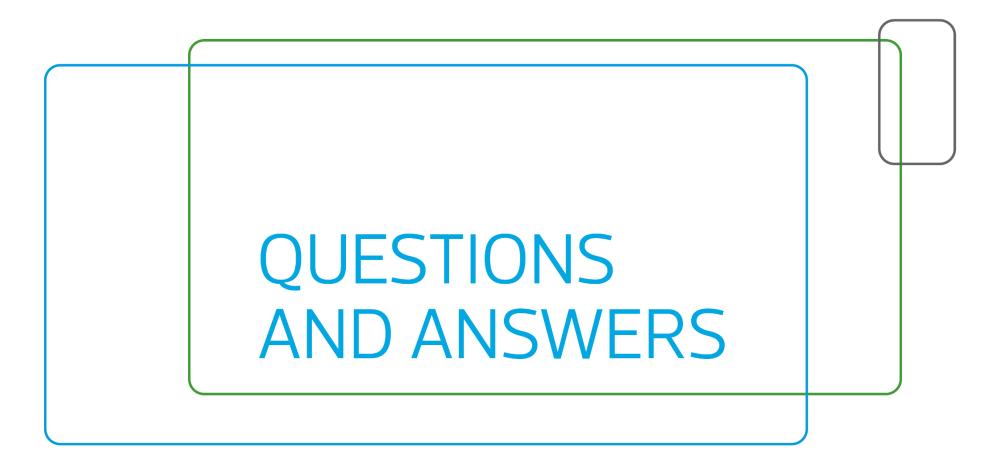
### Panel question



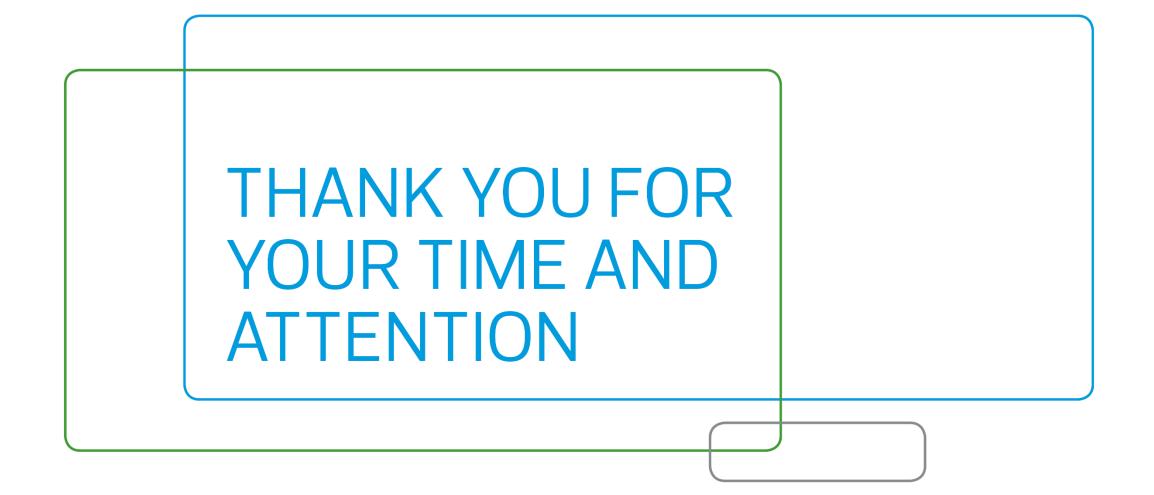


What ideas have you seen with proper tax planning pre liquidity event?













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