



Business Growth Optimization

Exit Strategies – Selling at the Highest Valuation













Erick Simpson

Founder & Chief Strategist at ErickSimpson.com

Author, Consultant and Creator of the MSP Mastered® Methodology



https://ericksimpson.com

https://www.linkedin.com/in/ericksimpson









Selling Recurring Revenue Services Changes... EVERYTHING!

 Value Proposition
 Products/Services
 Bundles/Tiers
 Pricing

 Marketing
 Sales
 Delivery/Maintenance
 Increases Valuation











11 Metrics Every SaaS Company Should Care About*

...and you should too – as it affects your company valuation!

*Source: Hubspot's 11 Metrics Every SaaS Company Should Care About https://blog.hubspot.com/service/saas-metrics







REVENUE CHURN



CUSTOMER LIFETIME VALUE (CLV)



CUSTOMER ACQUISITION COST (CAC)



MONTHS TO RECOVER CAC



CAC TO CLV



CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT SCORE



QUALIFIED MARKETING TRAFFIC



LEADS BY LIFECYCLE STAGE



LEAD-TO-CUSTOMER RATE



CUSTOMER HEALTH SCORE











Why Sell?







IT'S A BUYER'S MARKET

– AN OFFER YOU CAN'T

REFUSE

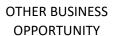


RETIREMENT



LIFESTYLE CHANGE – TAKE RISK OFF THE TABLE







PARTNER PROBLEMS



HEALTH OR OTHER PERSONAL ISSUES



GROWTH IS STAGNANT

- YOU'VE TAKEN THE

COMPANY AS FAR AS

YOU CAN

Courtesy of Jay McBain - Forrester®



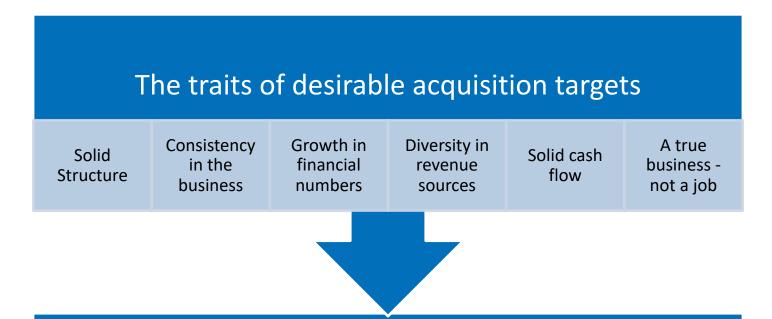








What are Buyers Looking For?



Buyers will have their own criteria of what is most important to them...

Courtesy of Jay McBain - Forrester®









What is a Business Worth?

- Valuation Can Be
 Significantly Influenced by
 the Type of Buyer
 - Financial Buyer
 - Strategic Buyer
- 2 Important Factors
 - Valuation
 - Evaluation

- Business valuation is not just based on gross revenue but on profit and cash flow
 - Typically, an industry-based multiple of EBITDA
 - Gross revenue multiples used if profits match
 - Other methods possibly used are discounted cash flow (also known as income capitalization) and MRR
 - Normally 2 or 3 methods involving 3 years of financial data are implemented and an average taken

EBITDA: Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization

A measure of a company's financial performance, acting as an alternative to other metrics like revenue, earnings or net income. In its simplest form, EBITDA equals a company's Net Profit + Interest + Taxes + Depreciation + Amortization.











High Performer Gross Margin Targets



Gross Margin Goal

Target = >60% for Services & Subscriptions, 30% for Hardware

Higher is Better



SG&A Goal

Target = <30%

Lower is Better



EBITDA Goal

Target = 18%

<u>Higher is Better</u>











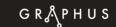
How Will Your Business Be Valued?

Valuation Basis	Non-MRR/ARR Business Model	MRR/ARR Business Model
Revenue Multiple	0.2-1.5x	2-6x
EBITDA Multiple	2-2.5x	5-14x



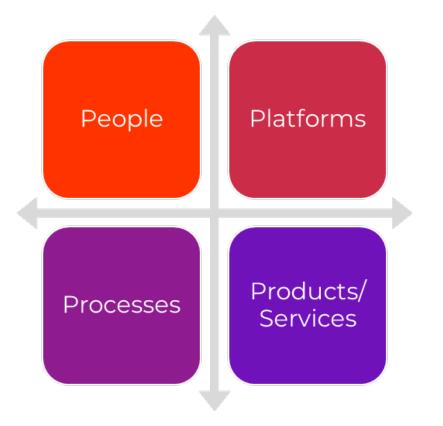


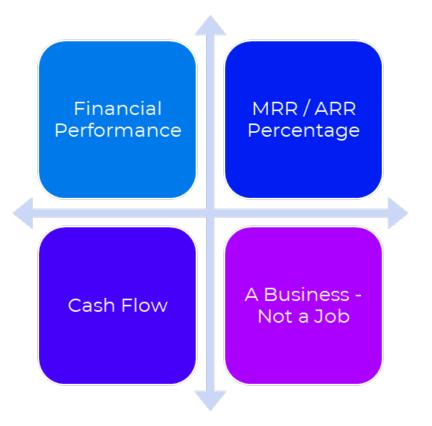






What is the Business **Evaluation Criteria?**







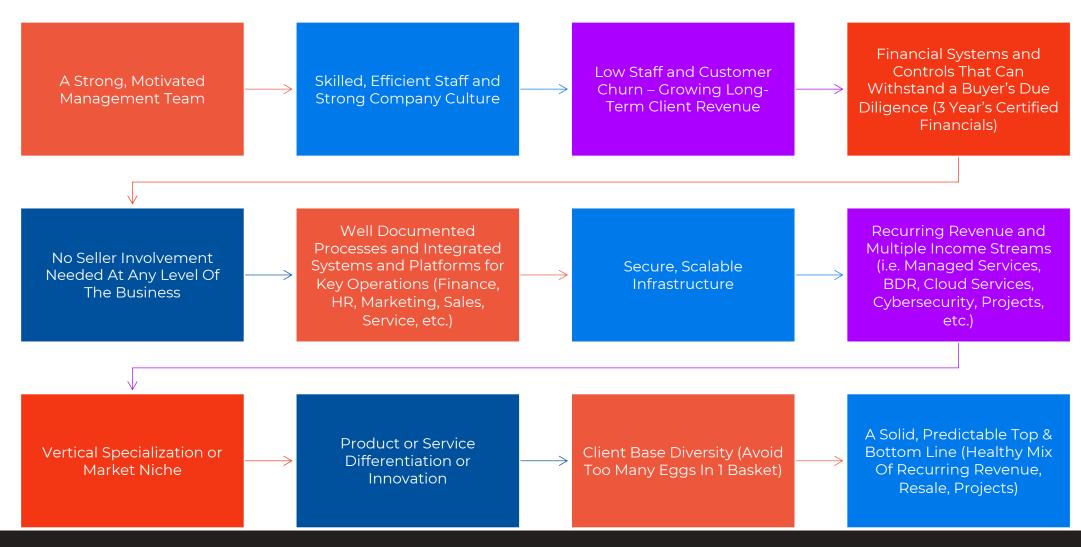








How Can You Maximize Your Business Value?













What Else Influences a Higher Business Valuation?



Profit is maximized



Time is used productively and is well managed



Business does not rely on the owner to function on a day-to-day basis



Operational functions of the business are predictable, systematized, and/or automated



Clients are more ideal & well managed minimizing the need for constant new clients



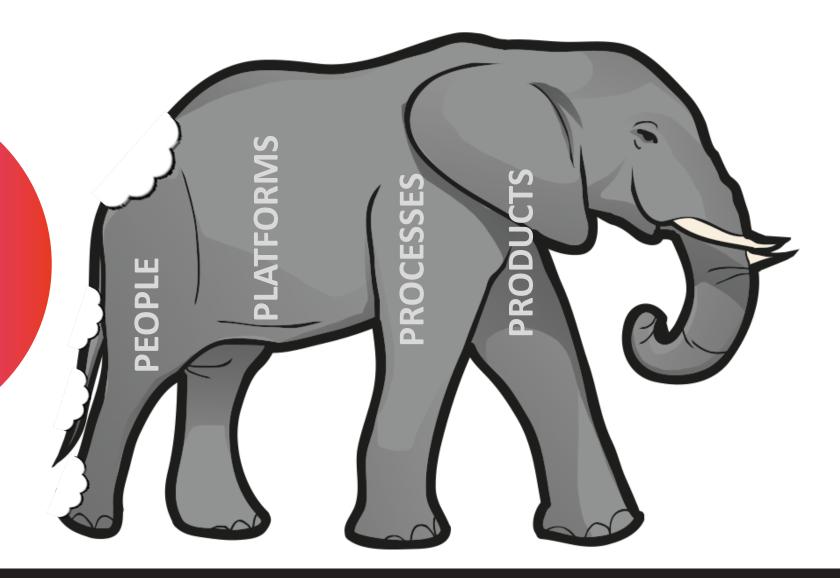






The Four "Ps"

Eating The Elephant -Growing **Business Value** One Bite at a Time











Maximizing People Value



Behavioral Assessment

DISC, Motivators, Leadership, Morale, Role Suitability



Talent Management

Hiring, Performance, Comp Plans, Training, Mentoring, Competencies, Utilization, KPIs, Profitability, "Seat on the Bus"



Capacity Planning

Org Chart, Tiering, Resource Allocation, Succession Strategy, Help Desk, Sales, Back-Office









Maximizing Platform and Systems Value



Internal PSA, RMM, **Documentation Systems**

Integration Optimization **Automation** Reporting



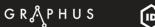
External 3rd Party Services and Solutions Systems

Deployment Management, Maintenance and Updating Security, Scalability, Reporting











Maximizing Process Value



- It's All About Documentation
 - Provisioning, Service Desk, Call Center, NOC,
 Dispatch, Incident Mgmt, Change Mgmt,
 Communication Mgmt, Risk Mgmt, Lifecycle Mgmt,
 Project Mgmt, Alerting, Escalation, Q/C, Ticket
 Closure, Documentation, Reporting, R&D, Security,
 Backup, Business Continuity, Disaster Recovery,
 Vendor Mgmt, QBRs, New Customer On-Boarding,
 Internal Meetings, Marketing, Sales, Hiring, Events









Maximizing Product and Services Value

Vendor Services SLAs Agreements **Partners Exclusions** Profitability Pricing Security **Applications** Liability SOWs Outsourcing









Financial KPIs













Marketing KPIs



Marketing Activities



Sales Revenue Generated



Number of Marketing Qualified Leads Generated (MQL)



Number of Sales Qualified Leads Generated (SQL)



Cost Per Lead (MQL, SQL)



Customer Acquisition Cost (CAC)



Customer Lifetime Value (LTV)



Marketing ROI











Service Desk KPIs

Tickets Received Tickets Resolved Time to First Response First Contact Resolution Rate Average Resolution Time **Customer Satisfaction** Cost Per Ticket Profit Per Ticket **SLA Success Rate** Technician Utilization/Realization/Profitability











Project Management KPIs

Number of Active/Scheduled Projects

Overdue Tasks

Missed Deadlines

Percentage of Tasks Completed

Resource
Utilization/Realization

Percentage of Projects Completed On Time/ On Budget Number of Changes Requested/Approved (Change Management)

Budgeted Cost

Actual Cost

Gross Profit/Net Profit









What Does the Buying/Selling Process Look Like?

- A Confidential Information Memorandum (CIM) is created to interest buyers
- A Potential Buyers/Sellers List is created and marketed to
- NDAs and Confidentiality Agreements are Signed, CIMs are Sent to Interested Buyers
- Interested Buyers Will Send an Indication of Interest (IOI) or Letter of Interest (LOI) Detailing Initial Valuation and Deal Structure Parameters Should Due Diligence Support CIM and Business Performance Representations (Price, Earn-Out, etc.)
- Due Diligence Phase Valuation & Evaluation Occurs (operational, financial and legal history is scrutinized along with management and staff, customer information and agreements, marketing, sales and service processes, etc.)
- Negotiation Where the Post-Sale Transition Details are Hammered Out Between You and the Buyer (Purchase and Sale Agreement, Transitional Service Agreement, Non-Compete Agreement, Transition Agreement are Finalized)
- Purchase is Completed and the Post-Sale Transition Process Begins











Expect To Provide Prospective Buyers:

Last 3 Years of
Bank Statements,
Certified Financials
and Tax Returns

Corporate Records

Current Year
Financials with
Variance
Explanations

A/R, A/P Aging Report

Fixed Asset and Inventory Reports

Property Leases

All Insurance
Policies, Licenses
and Permits

Employee Benefits
Policies

Org Chart, Employee Resumes and Compensation

Customer Agreements

Vendor Certifications and Agreements Operational Processes, Policies and KPI Reports

Sales Pipeline

Intellectual Property











The most complex sales transaction in your life

Don't go it alone!



















