

Management Assessment





Management Assessment



- Introduction & Objective
- Analysis to be Performed
- Data Requirements



Introduction & Objective



- Pre-requisite for success
- Management issues characterize or sustain crisis companies
- Sources of Management issues
- Characteristics required of **Turnaround Managers**
- Observation methods -Determine Management's fit with the issues



Analysis to Be Performed

- Recognize the signs of management problems
- 2. Look for the sources of management problems
- 3. Consider management resource in terms of turnaround abilities





Recognizing the signs of Management Problems

- 1. Lack of Management Control
 - No effective monitoring systems
 - High staff turnover or absenteeism
 - Cost overruns
 - **Project Delays**
- 2. Lenders lost confidence in management
- **Management Denial** 3.
 - Attachment to strategy rather than objectives
 - Intolerant of bad news
 - "Hope springs eternal" viewpoint



Recognizing the signs of Management Problems

- Belief that new money is available
 - Never Foreclose.
 - Offer additional funds in a cash crisis (in so deep)
 - Be replaced by another financier
- "Sales down but backlog strong"
- Misplaced sense of integrity
- Misplaced sense of loyalty
- Afraid / resistant to change
- Inability to admit failure
- Do not take personal responsibility
- Inadequate systems



- 1. One-Man Rule (Dictatorship)
- 2. Lack of Management depth
- 3. Inbred, bureaucratic management Nepotism evident
- 4. Unbalanced / Dysfunctional Senior Management Team
- 5. Ineffective, non-participant board members ("Old Boy Network")
- 6. Ratio of Executive to non-Executive Board Members



- **Dishonesty**
- 8. Ineffective / poor culture
 - Lack of accountability
 - Frequent meetings but no decisions
 - Hockey stick plans or forecasts
 - Initiative / enterprise not nurtured or rewarded from above
 - Poor communications (eg. No meetings)
 - Accept and Expect to Lose



9. Weak Financial Structure

- Poor financial reporting
 - Not using appropriate metrics
 - Not measuring at right time
 - Inaccuracies / lack of discipline (eg. Costs / revenues coded inconsistently in reporting
- Reactive rather than Pro-active
 - Inaccurate or nonexistent business forecasts
 - Didn't foresee credit squeeze earnings or shortfall against target



- Not "in the know"
- Poor financial Management
 - Over extension of credit
 - Excessive inventories
 - Excessive fixed assets
 - Excessive debt
 - Inadequate capital and/or liquidity





Consider Management Resource in Terms of Turnaround Abilities

1. Key Roles

- Architects of strategy
- Implement strategy
- Organizational leader

2. Necessary Management Skills

- Entrepreneurial instincts
- "Hands on" operating experience
- Excellent listening skills
- Quick decision making under uncertainty
- Action oriented
- Ability to admit mistakes and change outcomes
- Negotiating and interviewing skills



Consider Management Resource in Terms of Turnaround Abilities

- 3. Consider the above against key positions
 - President (CEO, Managing Director, COO, etc.)
 - Chief Financial Officer
 - Other top management
 - Board Members
- 4. Will they enable change or defend status quo / failed strategy?



Data Requirements – Objective & Subjective

- Monthly financial reporting pack
- Board Packs
- Other Committee packs
- Management Information Systems
- Cash reports (A/R and Capex)
- HR reports (staff turnover, absenteeism)
- Minutes of Lender Group Meetings
- Credit / Loan Agreements and associated amendments



Data Requirements – Objective & Subjective

- Most recent planning and strategy documents
- Minutes of Operational Review Meetings
- Management Interviews
- Sales Forecasts
- Year-on-Year Sales Backlog
- Organizational Charts, current & historic
- Operational Process Charts, current & historic
- Crisis / Flash Reports



Data Requirements – Objective & Subjective

- Senior Management Resumés
- Company Board Structure
- Bio' of each Company Board Member
- Minutes of Operational Reviews
- Staff & Management Incentive Programs
- Tour of Head Office / Management Facility