# "Succeed in Raising Capital"

How to Attract Investors and Raise Capital

A guide for what you need to succeed



#### BE ORGANIZED FROM THE START

#### The reality of the "Cap Raise":

- SIMPLE and PREPARED matters a lot.
- Getting investor interest is hard, but sustaining it is even harder.
- Nothing is worse than an unprepared founder.
- Investors are looking for any excuse to disqualify you.
- There are 1000s of deals out there, why will YOU succeed?
- DO NOT LEAVE ANYTHING TO CHANCE!



## What is Generally Needed....The Minimum



### 1) Pro Forma Projections:

The "4-Bs": Believable, Bull, Bear, and Break-Even cases.



#### 2) Business Plan

- The document everyone <u>needs</u> but nobody reads...



#### 3) Investor Pitch Deck

- "10,20,30 rule" — Guy Kawasaki (10pages - 20 minutes- 30pt font (this is 10pt BTW))



## 4) Term Sheet + 1 Pager

- Don't be greedy. Make it worth an investor's risk.



## 5) Risk Disclosure & Subscription Agreement:

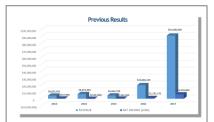
- CYA & How to wire money? Whom do I sue when you lose it?



## Step 1: Financial Projections...Start HERE!

#### Create a Sound Business FINANCIAL MODEL...

- "Your Projections are Fantasy" is heard a lot, so make them believable.
  - Know where your **break-even** is. Project from prior sales if possible.
  - Have a bull case, a bear case, and a break-even case. This builds trust.
- Numbers are scary for most people, so make them easy to read.
  - Show the #s in detail in Current Business Plan.
  - Show a "rolled up" set in Pitch Deck, Executive Summary, & Business Plan.
- Go out 5 years and do a valuation that is reasonable.
  - How can you price the offering if you don't know the Terminal Value?
  - Look at comps but don't assume you get x% of the market...you'll be wrong.









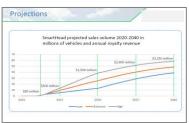


# Step 2: The Business Plan...with Projections

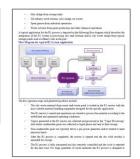
#### Why do a **BUSINESS PLAN**?

- The business plan is for you... NOT them.
  - If you don't have one, then your investor deck is based on nothing.
  - The document every company needs. Serious investors will ask for one!
- "Working document" business plan for you.
  - All ideas, all failures, all contacts, all pivots, all comps....in Appendix X
  - Start with Liveplan.com if you are new, then export and modify as needed.
- "Abbreviated" business plan for them.
  - A "pretty" 20page+/- Current document of key sections with PICTURES!
  - Full financial model and a graphical P&L KNOW YOUR BREAKEVEN!











# Step 3: The Pitch Deck: Simple but Complete.

#### Dos and Don'ts of the **Investor Presentation**

- More Bullet Points and Pictures...less "War and Peace".
  - People DO NOT READ so limit text and use pictures to back up your points.
  - You have 2-10 secs to grab their attention for <2 minutes until the next page.</li>
- Be graphically "pleasing" but don't obscure your message.
  - Don't use a black/dark background you will burn up all my toner!
  - Don't use fancy backgrounds that distract from your <u>key text</u> and <u>IMAGES</u>.
- Get to the point!
  - By Page #~6, show 5-10yr cashflows, UOP & Terms. Then sell WHY & HOW.
  - The ROI is most important to 99% of investors. It's your baby, not theirs.











# Step 4: Executive Summary + Term Sheet

#### This is an investor's "First look"...before they read your Deck.

- Everyone wants to see a "one-pager" first. "Just send me the 1 pager."
  - It's to see if they can understand your company in 1-2 paragraphs.
  - Have the <u>offering terms</u> on the "one pager" (it's always 2 pages, BTW)

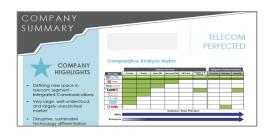
#### – Add Pictures!

- If I am going to invest, I want to SEE what I am buying into.
- Show revenues graphically and when the break-even point is reached.

#### Make it readable and compelling

- Don't use a 6-point font! Nobody wants to read that much.
- It is your first and only chance to impress someone. Make it compelling.







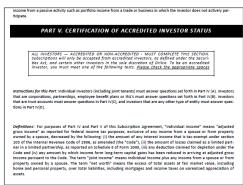


## Subscription Agreement and Risks:

#### Getting their Money and how you will might lose it

- Wire instructions
- How much are they buying
- Any terms of conversion
- Investor Questionnaire (suitability)
- Escrowed or Direct to the company
- Capitalization table of other stockholders
- How and when they receive shares/units.
- A whole boatload of risks:
  - Stating the obvious of a risky investment.
  - Not a liquid investment
  - No control of the company
  - Further Dilution
  - Acts of God and other CYA points.
  - On and on and on. Engage a lawyer. We know some good ones.







## Other Items and Helpful Tools

#### Some other items for due diligence:

- Prior offering docs
- Company formation docs, meeting minutes, and bank statements
- Patents, trademarks, licenses
- Background checks and "Bad Actor" disclosures
- Absolutely NO commissions paid to unlicensed "finders" (not even a little bit!)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party technology validation and or valuation is a big plus.
- 40+ other items I don't have time to discuss here.

#### Data Warehouse:

- Trackable, i.e., login needed. You are supposed to keep track of who reads this.
- Make a limited number of folders (no blank folders!)
  - Best with 2 main folders: 1) offering materials, 2) additional due diligence
- Use "Docsend" or other services to track who reads what, how often, and when.



## **Funding Options To Raise Startup Capital**

#### Some Ways to get early-stage capital:

- Bootstrapping Your Startup Business "Just Do It"™
  - Fund it from Savings/Cashflow and the 3 F's (Friends, Family, Fools)
- Crowdfunding As A Funding Option
  - 506(b) and 506(c), Need to File Reg D exemption with the SEC.
- Angel Investment In Your Startup
  - National and regional angel groups. Usually, \$1mm or less.
- Venture Capital For Your Business
  - Usually "B" or "C" round. Can sometimes be onerous terms.
- Business Incubators & Accelerators
- Raise Funds By Winning Contests and Grants



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END OF PRESENTATION (This is 30pt font BTW)

