



Creating and Measuring Value in Public Companies – Part I

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What is Value?

- What is Value?
 - Fair market value?
 - Fair value?
 - Price?
 - From who's perspective?
 - » Management
 - » Shareholders
 - » Analysts
 - » Auditors / regulators





What is Value?

- Fair market value
- Fair value
- Price
 - The only true way to determine the price achievable for a business is to expose it to the open market and negotiate a transaction with another party





- Value drivers
 - Cash flow
 - Risk





How is Cash Flow Measured?

- Revenue
 - Normalized operating costs
 - Income tax
 - Changes in working capital
 - Sustaining and growth capital expenditure
 - = After-tax discretionary cash flow





What Risk?

- Probability of cash flow being realized
 - Near term (1-2 years)
 - Future (3-5 years)
 - » Terminal value (after projection period)
 - The majority of value is in the terminal value





From Who's Perspective?

- Perceptions
 - Management's
 - Market's
 - Auditors / Regulators
- The higher the <u>perceived</u> risk the higher the discount rate



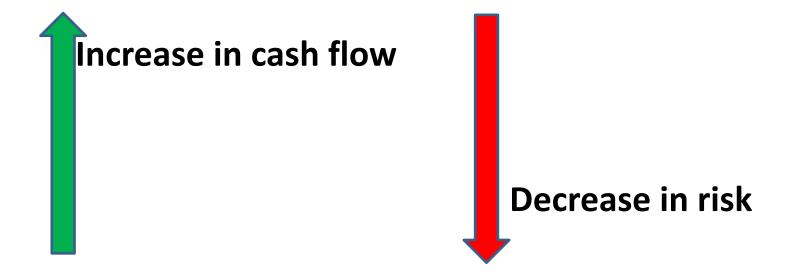


How is Risk Measured?

- If used in a DCF model the discount rate is almost always the Weighted Average Cost of Capital ("WACC")
- [After-tax cost of debt * % Debt financing] +
 [Cost of Equity * % Equity Financing]
 - _ Example: [8%*(1-.25) * 10%] + [20% * 80%] = 22%
 - Risk is contained in both the cost of debt and the cost of equity











Factors impacting cash flow

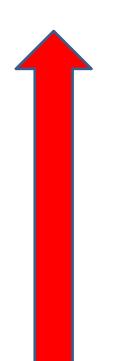
Revenue
Gross margin
Operating margin
EBITDA

Costs
Taxes*
Working capital*
Capital expenditure*





Factors impacting risk



Aggressive projections

Unsupported inputs

Conservative working capital /capital expenditure

Economic / industry changes or uncertainty

Change in management

Other





 The more cash flows are adjusted for risk (probability) the lower the discount rate needs to be





Summary

- Understand the terms of value
- Value is in the eye of the beholder
- Increase maintainable after-tax discretionary cash flow
- Decrease risk





Principle #1

Value is determined at a specific point in time





Principle #2

Value is prospective





Principle #3

The market dictates the appropriate rate of return





Principle #4

The higher the underlying net tangible asset value base, the higher the going-concern value





Principle #5

Two distinct components: (i) commercial value; and (ii) noncommercial value





Principle #6

Value is influenced by liquidity





Principle #7

The value of a minority interest may be worth less than a value of a controlling interest





- Two Approaches
 - Liquidation approach
 - Going concern approach





- Liquidation approach
 - » Used if not a going concern
 - » Net asset value less latent taxes and disposition costs





- Going concern approach
 - Asset based
 - Income based
 - Market based





- Asset based approach
 - Company isn't generating sufficient return on its assets to justify intangible value
 - Value = net asset value
 - Many smaller or unprofitable public companies are valued on this basis





- Asset based approach
 - Strengths / Weaknesses
 - » Simple
 - » Easy to understand
 - » Doesn't rely on assumptions / inputs
 - » Doesn't capture future value!





- Income based approach
 - Discounted cash flow
 - Capitalized
 - » Earnings
 - » EBITDA





- Income based approach
 - Involves
 - » Determining cash flow / earnings/ EBITDA
 - » Building up discount rate or capitalization rate
 - » Discounting cash flows back
 - » Capitalizing earnings etc





- Income based approach
 - Strengths / Weaknesses
 - » Captures future value
 - » Relatively easy to use
 - » Relies on inputs and assumptions
 - » Building up discount rate or capitalization rate requires some skill





- Market based approach
 - Involves
 - » Determining cash flow / earnings/ EBITDA
 - » Referencing multiples of other comparable companies
 - » Multiplying CF / earnings / EBITDA by the observed multiple





- Market based approach
 - Strengths / Weaknesses
 - » Easy to use and abuse
 - » No truly comparable companies
 - » Should only be used in conjunction with another approach





- Market based approach
 - Examples of misuse
 - » Use of P/E multiples
 - » No consideration of characteristics of "comparable" companies





The Solution

- Consider all three approaches
 - Asset approach sets the lower limit
 - Income approach represents future value
 - Market approach used to get comfort on whether the answer is
 - » 1st Plausible
 - » 2nd Supportable
 - » 3rd Reasonable





The Solution

Example

- Net assets = \$5 million
- Income approach using DCF = EV of \$8 million to \$10 million
- Implies EV/EBITDA of 8x to 10x
- Market approach (somewhat comparable companies report NTM EV/EBITDA multiples of 10x to 12x)
- Reasonable given size, market, diversification, etc.





Thank you ... Stay tuned for Part 2!



