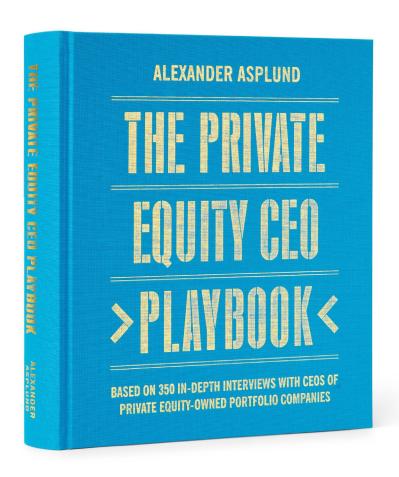
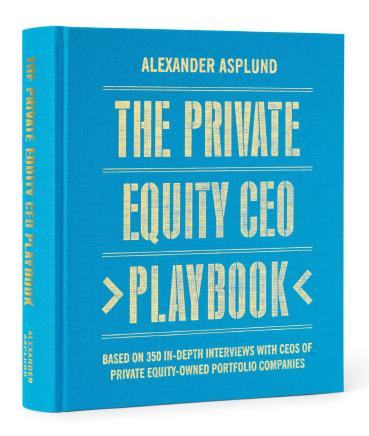
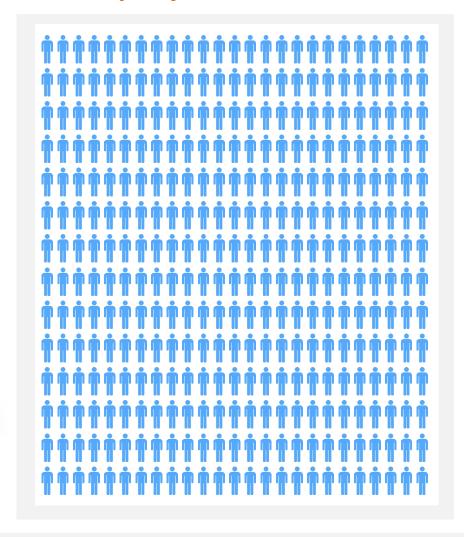
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We Interviewed 350 Portfolio Company CEOs in the World's Largest Best Practice Study



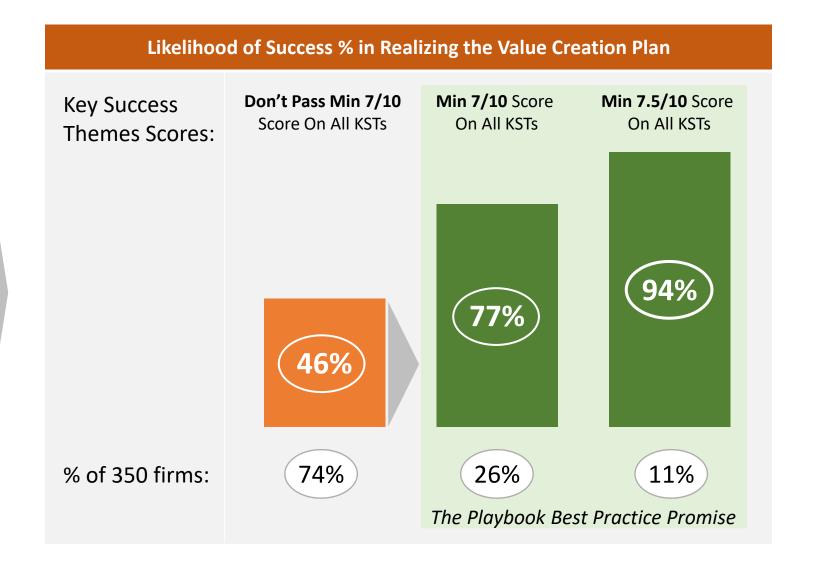




The World's Largest CEO-based Best Practice Study in Private Equity

Increase the Success Rate from 46% to 94% by Applying Playbook's Best Practices





Content

The Author

Executive Summary

Highlighted Themes

Deep Dive: Best Practice Lessons & Checklists

















Supported +50 Portfolio Companies & Managed +100 CDD Cases with 25 Investors

Accance Business Advisory



30 years in Strategy &
Operational Consulting
BCG, Celerant, Nordic Boutique Firms
Wharton MBA; MSc from KTH & ESTP

Supported +50 Private Equity Backed Portfolio Companies

Managed +100
Commercial Due
Diligence Cases &
Supported 25 PE Firms

Key Support to Companies

Market, Customer & Business Analysis

Growth Strategy & Business Plans

Margin Improvement & Operational Excellence

Project Management & Implementation Support

Key Support to Investors

Commercial Due Diligence Analysis

Value Creation Plans

Program Office & Implementation Support

Exit Preparation

Support on Playbook Themes

Performance Measurement

Performance Benchmarking

Gap Assessment & Improvement Potential

Improvement Strategy & Action Plan

The Accance Mission is to Accelerate Value Creation

Accance Has A Strong Extended Team with International Reach

International foot-print via i2D Partners - experts on market research & analysis



ANJA CHEMNITZ THYGESEN Based in: Copenhagen Covering: Scandinavia, UK

Profile: Industry and market analyst with over 18 years' experience. Previously with Quartz+Co, A.T. Kearney Sectors: Construction, building materials, FMCG



IRENE KOREN Based in: Brussels Covering: BENELUX, France

Profile: Over 20 years of experience in managing pan-European research projects. Previously with McKinsey, Roland Berger Sectors: Network industries, Industrial Goods and services,



TERESA RAMIREZ Based in: Lisbon Covering: Spain, Portugal, France

Profile: More than 18 years of experience in business intelligence, market research and corporate investigations. Sectors: Pharmaceuticals, Automotive



MARKUS GRUNDKE i2D Founding Partner

Based in: Stockholm & Munich Covering: Sweden, Norway, Germany, Austria,

Profile: Founder and MD of i2D Partners. Over 17 years of experience in market and industry intelligence in various sectors. Previously with BCG.

Sectors: Industrial Goods, Medtech, Automotive



JUHANI "JUSSI" KIISKINEN Based in: Helsinki Covering: Finland

Profile: Business information and marketing professional holding holds several board member positions in business information and marketing companies. Sectors: B2B, Digital marketing



Dr. Cornelia Engelhard i2D Partner Based in: Munich Covering: DACH

Profile: 20 years of experience in market research, competitive and business intelligence, and branding. Sectors: Consumer Goods and Services, Retail, Media



MATTEO BOEMI Base: Bologna Covering: Italy, Spain

Profile: Over 17 years experince in market research and analysis, competitive intelligence.

SENIOR NORDIC EXPERTS



MATTI RAASAKKA, CHANGE & OPEX EXPERT Based in: Stockholm

Profile: Founder of Commodo Consulting. >20 years in strategy implementation, operational excellence and change management.



ANDERS FINNE, Founding Partner A-Zeta Ov Based in: Finland

Profile: Senior change management expert focused on helping companies, organizations and leaders.

STRONG TEAM OF MARKET RESEARCHERS & ANALYSTS



TOVE



ALICIA



MATHIAS



KEVIN



EMIL

ROBIN





CARL









MATTIAS



MATTIAS



MARCUS

Working with Alexander Asplund & Accance = Senior Expertise and Proven Best Practices

Alexander Asplund
Represents Senior Expertise

Experienced in Private Equity & Value Creation Logic

Leverage Proven Best Practices
of 350 interviewed CEOs

Experienced in Rapidly Scaling Entrepreneurial Businesses

Fact-based Analysis and Primary Interviews with Customers & Market Participants

- 30 years of experience of strategic and operational management consulting
- Senior expert in driving profitable growth and value creation in companies based on +100 growth strategy assignments and +60 profit improvement / implementation projects
- Expert in Private Equity since 2005; having supported 25 Nordic private equity investors with +100 investment analysis cases
- Provided hands-on support to +50 portfolio companies with PE/active owners; supporting market assessment / potential analysis, value creation plan development and implementation support
- Alexander is the author of The Private Equity CEO Playbook (2024) the world's largest CEO-based best practice study in private equity, based on interviews with 350 portfolio company CEOs
- The best practices as reported by 350 CEOs are applied in all portfolio company support to maximize success and avoid the common mistakes
- Alexander and the Accance team frequently supports fast-growing, entrepreneurial-led companies embarking on international expansion with acquisitive agenda
- We understand the need for pragmatic approaches and leveraging the entrepreneurship spirit
- Key to fact-base the attractiveness and potentials in the market; understanding the competitive dynamics and customer buying behavior; we secure insights by large # of primary interviews
- Pressure-test and reality check the value creation ambitions and plans

Accance Applies Proven Best Practices from 350 Interviewed Portfolio Company CEOs

350 CEOs on Best Practices in Playbook (new in 2024)



We Avoid the Common Mistakes as Experienced by 350 Portfolio Company CEOs

Lack of Alignment with A common mistake is developing the business plan without sufficient engagement and collaboration with the owner representatives (lead investors / the board) -> lack of alignment **Owner Representatives** • A common mistake is developing the business plan without sufficient engagement of key people in **Lack of Organizational** the organization, keeping the work only to a tight management group -> lack of org. commitment **Commitment & Ownership** ■ Too rushed process/too few workshops, doings things too fast -> lack of quality, lack of alignment **Lack of Validating Market** A common mistake is to not sufficiently fact-base the market understanding and the market **Potentials & Reality Checks** potentials; rising questions on the feasibility of targets and plans -> lack of focus & reality checks Although a full-potential mindset is important; a frequent mistake is having too many initiatives at Aiming for Too Much at the same time -> creates a lack of focus and reduces implementation success the Same Time Often confusion b/w EBIT impact initiatives and enabling projects (and repositioning moves) The Plan is Too Abstract, Not ■ To secure organizational commitment and implementation effectiveness, the plan needs to be A Useful Tool for Execution operationally broken down to functional team-level with clear deliverables, milestones, KPIs etc.

Content

The Author

Executive Summary

Highlighted Themes

Deep Dive: Best Practice Lessons & Checklists









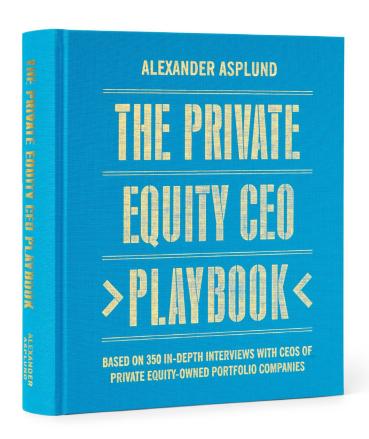


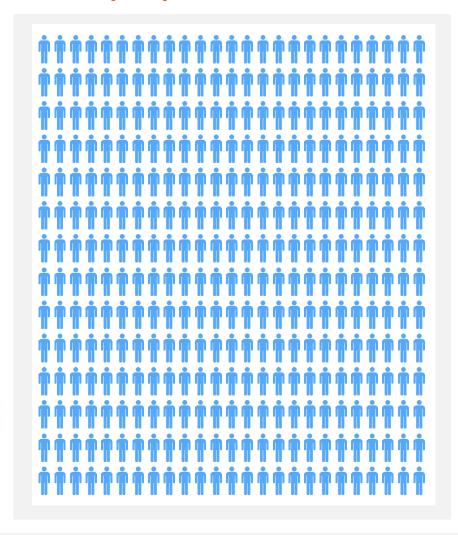






We Interviewed 350 Portfolio Company CEOs in the World's Largest Best Practice Study¹

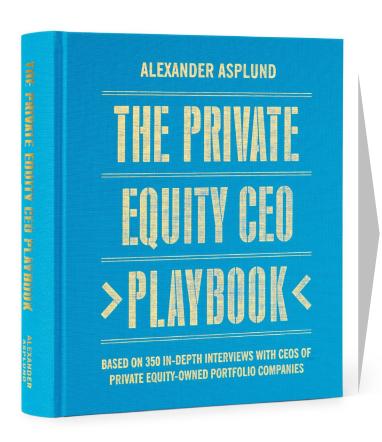






¹The World's Largest CEO-based Best Practice Study in Private Equity

Leverage Best Practice to Enhance Value Creation and to Build Stronger Businesses



The Objective is Value Creation and Stronger Businesses ...

... Enabled by Mastering Key Success Themes on Management & Collaboration

Capture the Potential From Frequently Good to Consistently Great Performance ...

... by Systematically Leveraging Best Practice Lessons from 350 CEOs



Systematic Application of Best Practice Lessons Can Increase the Success Rate of Value Creation Plans by +15-40% on a Portfolio Level

The Playbook Answers 5 Key Questions

1. Which are the Key Success Themes?

2. What is the Impact of the Key Success Themes?

3. What is the Performance Level?

4. Which are the Key Success Factors & Performance Gaps by Theme?

5. How to Close
Gaps and Deliver
Champion Leaguelevel Performance?

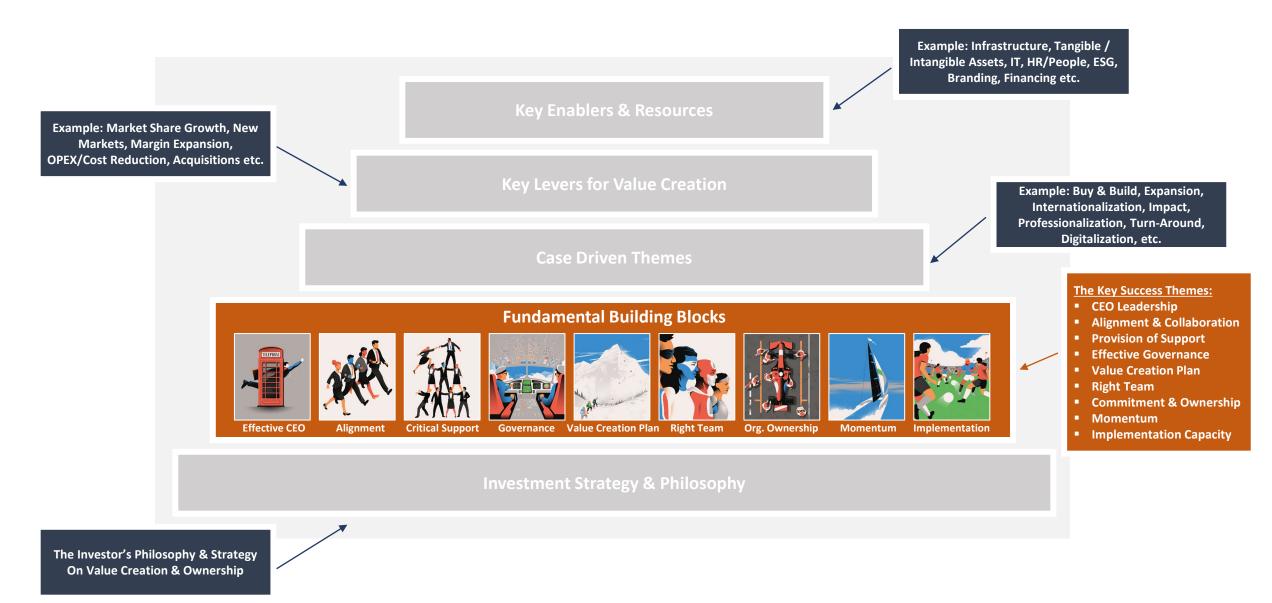
"A newcomer to Private Equity has limited access to insight about the road ahead, because there is so little specific guidance in print about the portfolio-company CEO role."

- McKinsey & Company

"As a new CEO without prior experience working with active owners, everything is new and there is so much to learn ... a best practices Playbook like this would have been a fantastic asset."

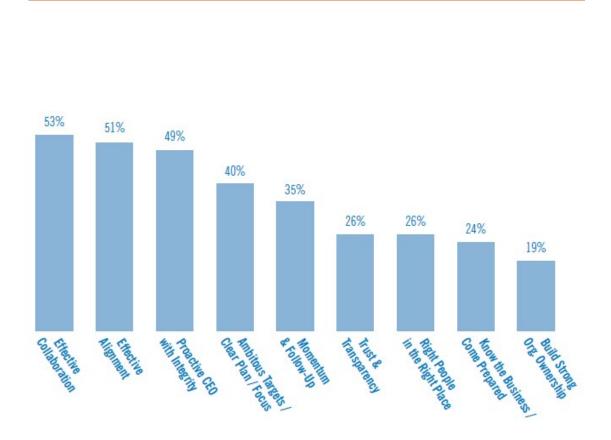
- CEO, the Playbook Study

The Best Practice Lessons Centers On the Fundamental Building Blocks

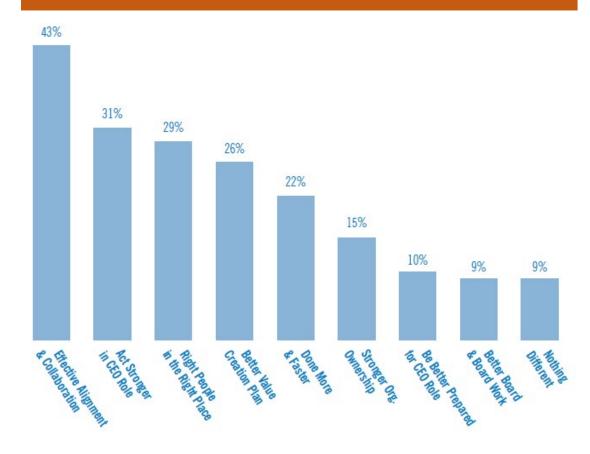


The 350 CEOs Shared Their Best Advice and Main Regrets





Your Top 2 Main Regrets / What Should Have Been Done Better?



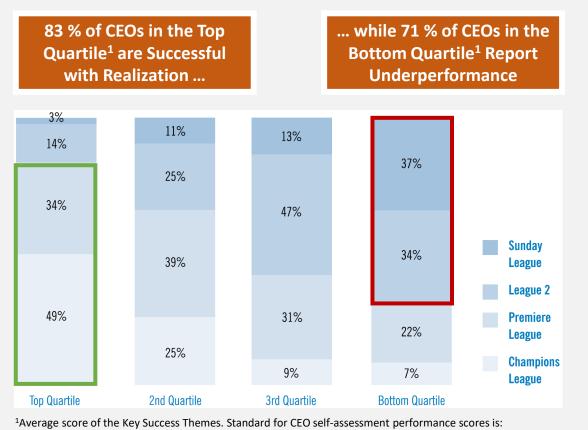
The Objective is Achieving "Champions League-level" Performance



Description of the methodology for performance assessment

The Key Success Themes Determine Realization Success or Failure





¹Average score of the Key Success Themes. Standard for CEO self-assessment performance scores is: Champions League (9-10): Premier League (8-8.5): League 2 (7-7.5): Sunday League (<7) on a 1-10 scale.

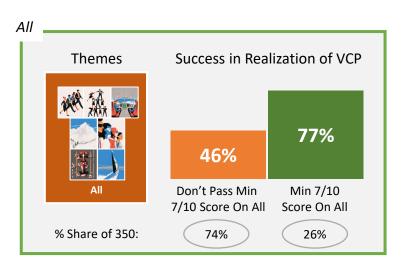
Top Quartile Performance Requires Average Score of 8.1/10 for the Key Success Themes

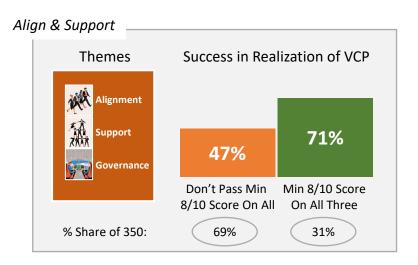
Strong Performance on Key Themes Significantly Increases Likelihood of Overall Success

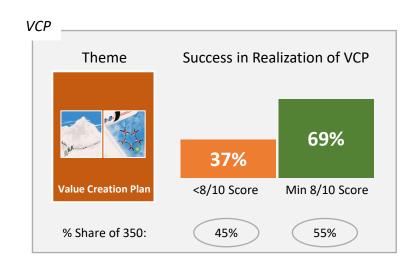


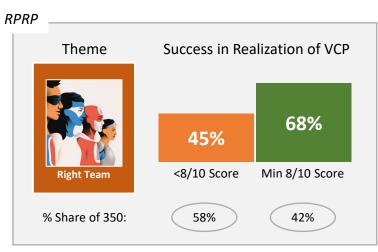


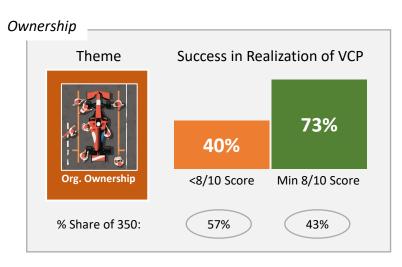
Strong Performance on Each Theme Also Increases Likelihood of Overall Success

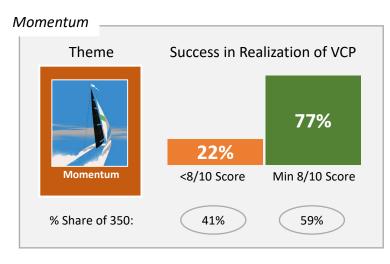






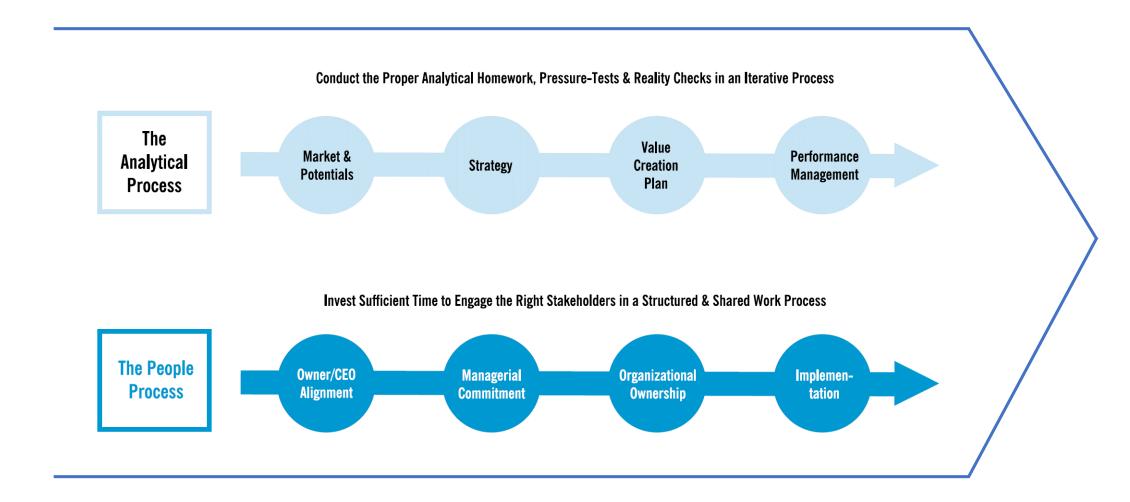






Close Performance Gaps with *Playbook* Best Practice Lessons and Accance Methodology

Championship-level Performance Requires Mastery of Two Key Dimensions

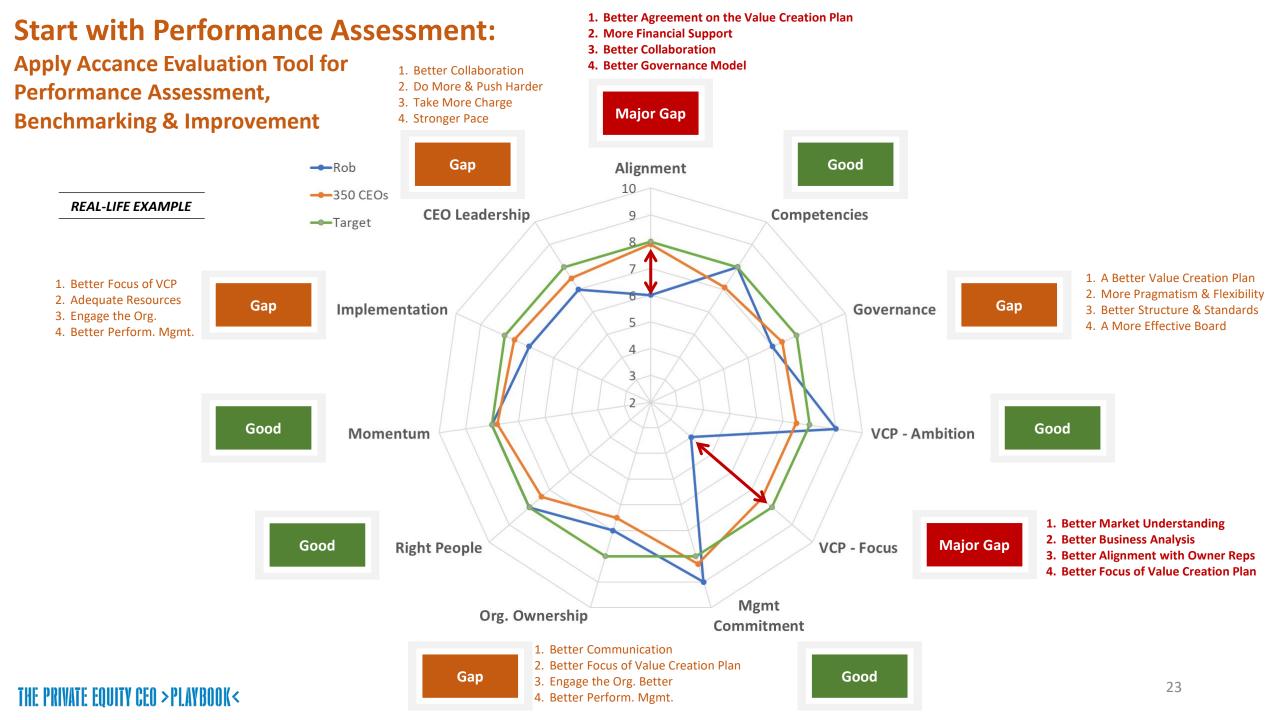


Marry the Financial and Operational Perspectives in the Value Creation Plan

Value Creation Ambition: Key to Realization: The Operational Perspective The Financial Perspective A Full-Potential All-In on Few Mindset **Must-Wins Avoid Common Mistakes:** Lack of Reality-Checked Ambitions & Plans ■ Too Many Initiatives at Same Time Lack of Clear Focus & Priorities Abstract Ambitions & Plans Plans Not Aligned in Organization

Corner Stones for the Active Owner / Management Collaboration





Content

The Author

Executive Summary

Highlighted Themes

Deep Dive: Best Practice Lessons & Checklists

















The Overarching Success Themes

"The owners should provide tangible support; serve as strategic sounding board & provide best practice methods."

"Get the right team in place as quickly as possible. Spend a lot of time getting the management team together. Then you can move mountains!"



"I should have taken control much faster. When you are new to the role, you get very reactive to the owner's requests. Put yourself in the driver's seat." "The owners, along with the consultants, pushed for overly aggressive targets that were unrealistic."

"Make sure you use your mandate to the fullest and, within those limits, 'whip the hell' out of the business."

Reflections on Best Practice Lessons: Active Owner Perspective

1

The Next Level of Active Ownership

- Objective of Value Creation and Building Stronger Businesses
- Next Level Value Adding Partner
- Next Level Providing Best Practice Expertise

2

The Next Level of Building Stronger Businesses

- Next Level Ambition & Scope
- Next Level Right Operational Model
- Next Level Effective Collaboration Model
- Right Capabilities etc.

3

Apply Playbook
Best Practice Lessons

- Share Playbook Best Practice Lessons + Secure Systematic Application
- Evaluate Performance with Accance Evaluation Tool
- Assess Gaps and Potentials
- Set Performance Targets on Key Success Themes
- Launch Systematic Improvement Initiatives

Highlighted Best Practice Themes 1/3



Best Practice on Alignment & Collaboration

■ In It Together: Engagement, Trust & Transparency, Relationships

Sample Themes

- Co-Develop the Value Creation Plan
- Effective Sounding Board & Support
- Troika as Work Model
- Providing or Enabling Critical Support



Best Practice on Provision of Critical Support

Engagement

In-Depth Understanding of the Business

- Enable Relevant Industry & Topic Expertise
- Effective Sounding Board
- Balance Push vs Pull

Sample Themes



Best Practice Regarding
The Board

Understanding of Private Equity & Value Creation

Expertise Critical to Company Success

- Engaged & Qualified to Support
- The Right Chair

Sample Themes

27

Highlighted Best Practice Themes 2/3



Best Practice on The Value Creation Plan

Co-Develop the Value Creation Plan

- Engage the Organization Early On
- Full Potential Approach
- Go All-In on Few Must Wins
- Do the Homework & Apply Reality Checks



Best Practice on CEO Leadership

■ Be Proactive & Take Ownership

Sample Themes

Sample Themes

- Manifest Constructive Integrity: Straight Talk, Transparency & Trust
- Set High Ambitions: Do More & With Speed
- Hands-On Leadership & Effective Communication
- Engage the Organization



Best Practice on Right People in the Right Place

- Act Sooner
- Trust Instinct More
- Invest More Effort
- Leverage Network & Resources

Sample Themes

Highlighted Best Practice Themes 3/3



Best Practice on Organizational Ownership

Engage the Organization in the Value Creation Plan Process

Sample Themes

Sample Themes

- Tell & Sell the Vision
- Breakdown Initiatives to Clear Deliverables
- Delegate & Empower
- Practice Hands-On Leadership



Best Practice on Momentum & Implementation

Secure A Committed Organization

- Program Management Office
- Frequent Milestone Meetings & Progress Tracking
- **■** KPI-Driven Performance Management
- Agile Decision Making



Best Practice on Governance & Performance Management

■ Governance Should Support Management: Don't Overburden

Sample Themes

- Leverage Best-Practice Standards
- Apply Leading KPIs
- Secure Local Ownership of KPIs
- Measure Analyze Improve

29

Content

The Author

Executive Summary

Highlighted Themes

Deep Dive: Best Practice Lessons & Checklists





















Effective CEO Leadership



"Next time, I will seek greater support from the owner. I will focus more, push harder on key initiatives, and work harder to get the organization on board."

- CEO in the Playbook Study



The Wheel of Success for Effective CEO Leadership

The Wheel of Success & Key Performance Gaps



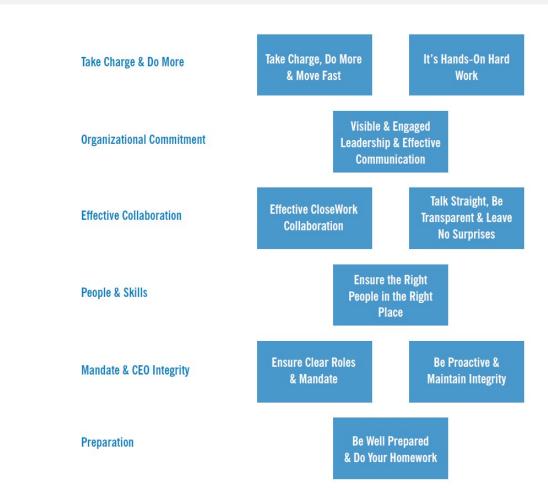




The Key Building Blocks

Key Building Blocks for Effective CEO Leadership





33



#1 - Be Proactive & Maintain Integrity

The Wheel of Success & Key Performance Gaps



#1 Be Proactive & Maintain CEO Integrity / Clear Roles & Mandate MANDATE MORE #3a Take Charge & PEOPLE **#2 Right People** Move Fast / Do More **EFFECTIVE CEO** in the Right Place & Push Hard LEADERSHIP 00 #4 Visible & Engaged It's Hands-On Hard Work Leadership #5 Be Well-Prepared CLOSEWORK #3b Effective Closework Collaboration Talk Straight & Be Transparent



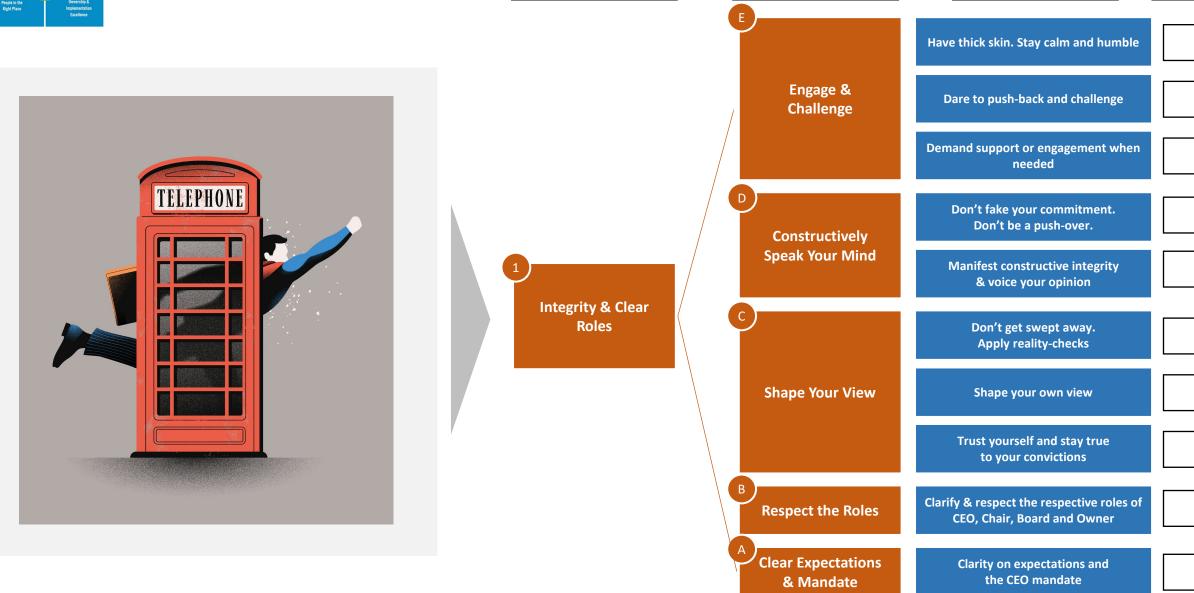
#1 - Be Proactive & Maintain Integrity

Key Lever

Check-list

Score

Gap Category





#2 - Secure the Right People in the Right Place

The Wheel of Success & Key Performance Gaps

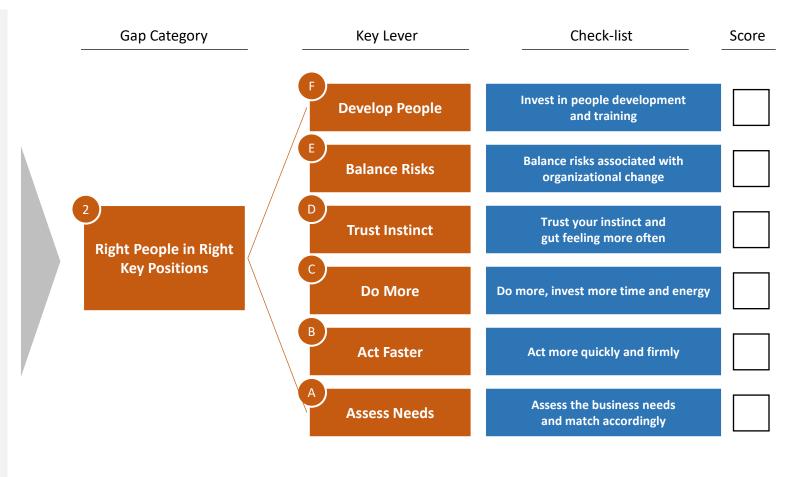






#2 - Secure the Right People in the Right Place

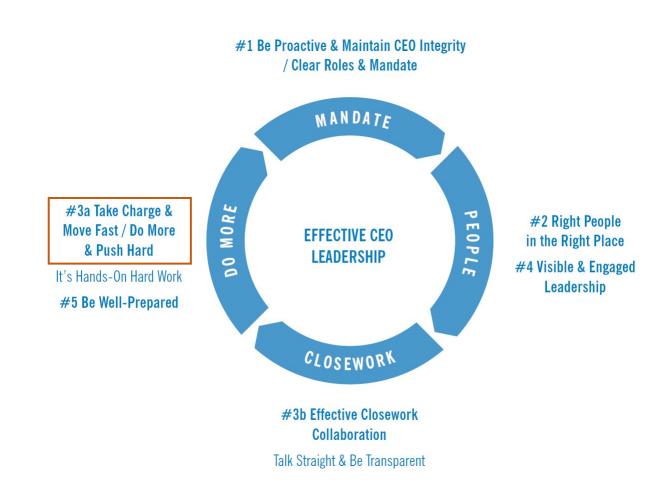






#3a - Take Charge & Push Hard

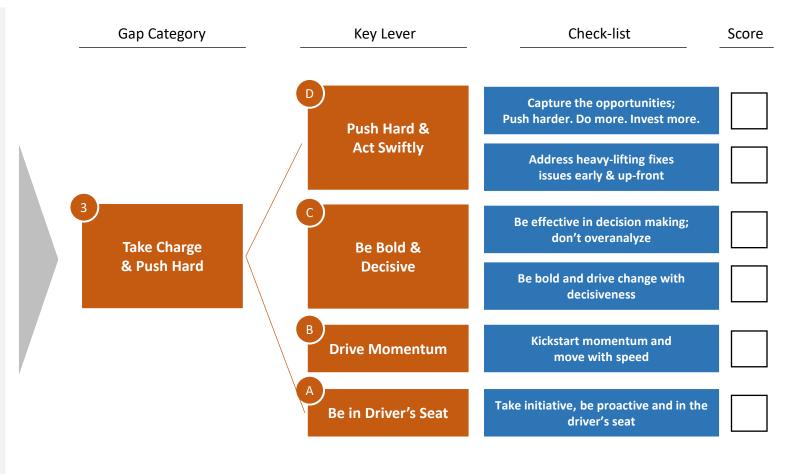






#3a - Take Charge & Push Hard



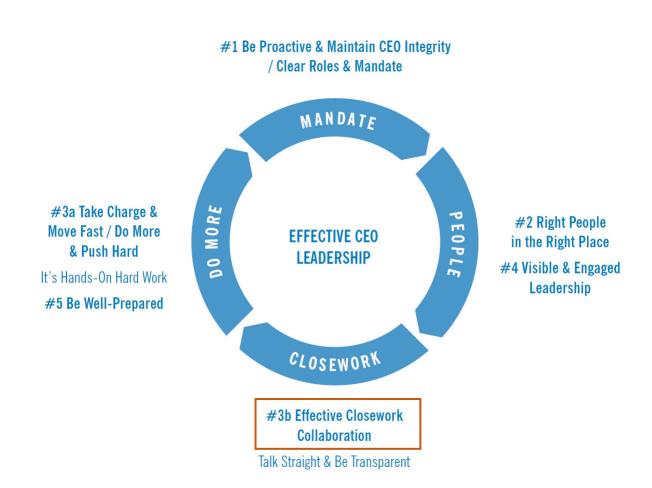


39



#3b - Ensure Good Collaboration







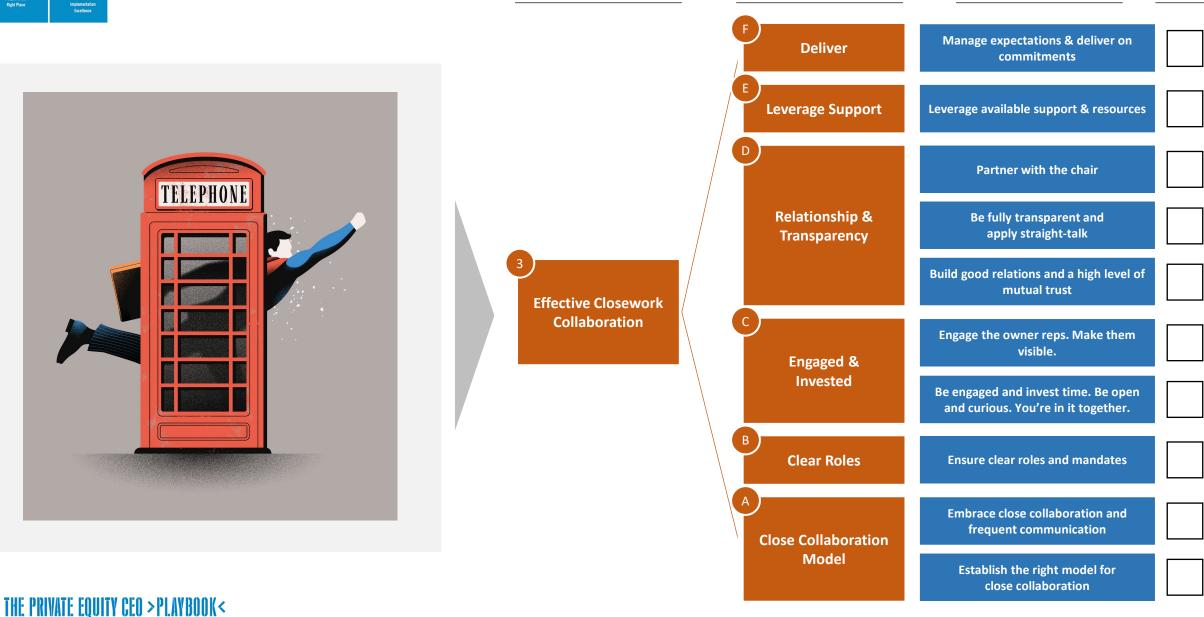
#3b - Ensure Good Collaboration

Gap Category

Key Lever

Check-list

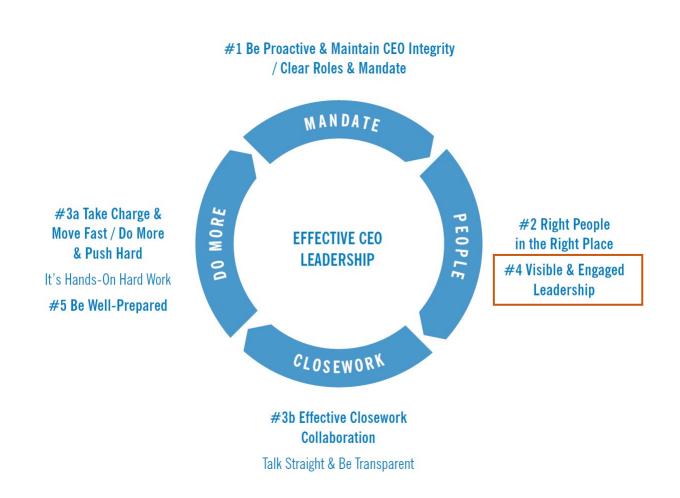
Score





#4 - Hands-On Leadership

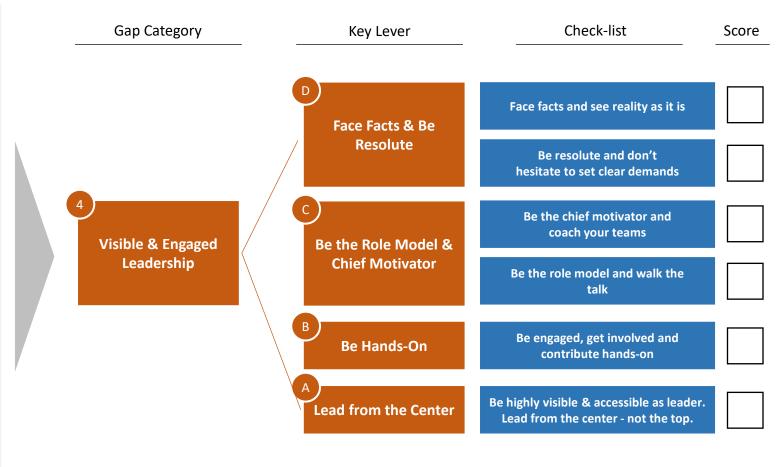






#4 - Hands-On Leadership

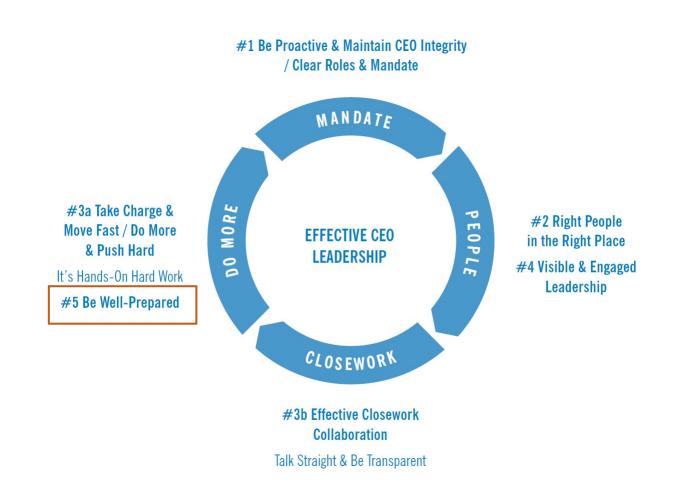






#5 - Come Well-Prepared

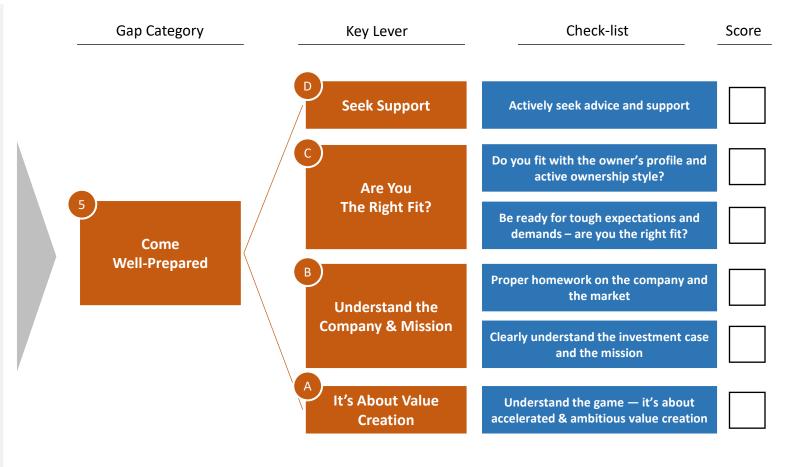






#5 - Come Well-Prepared





45

Content

The Author

Executive Summary

Highlighted Themes

Deep Dive: Best Practice Lessons & Checklists



















Effective Alignment & Collaboration



"We offer partnership, deep sector knowledge, capital and experience to help companies and achieve their full potential..."

"...through partnership, expertise and collaboration we help companies maximize their potential, supported by internal & external resources with deep operational expertise."

"...based on best practices of 125 portfolio company investments, we have developed operationally focused sector playbooks."

- A Nordic Private Equity Firm



Effective Alignment & Collaboration – The Troika Concept



"We didn't have a good cooperation between the board, the management and us. We went in with a hypothesis that we changed over time. We shouldn't have done that...

...After six to seven years, we sold the company with only 1 percent return. After that, we developed the **Troika concept** where the company's chairman and CEO and responsible deal partner work together."

- A Nordic Private Equity Firm



The Wheel of Success for Effective Alignment & Collaboration







The Key Building Blocks

Key Building Blocks for Effective Alignment & Collaboration

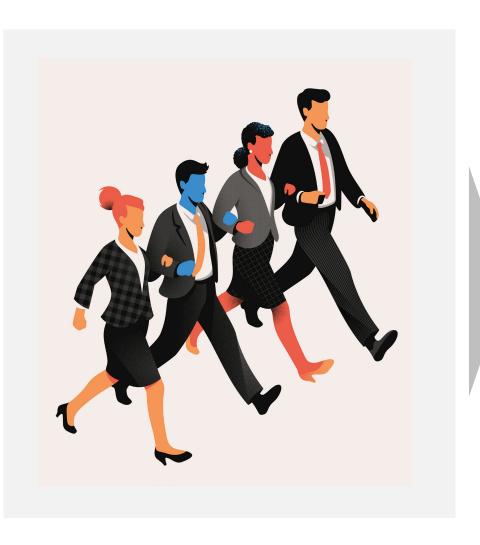


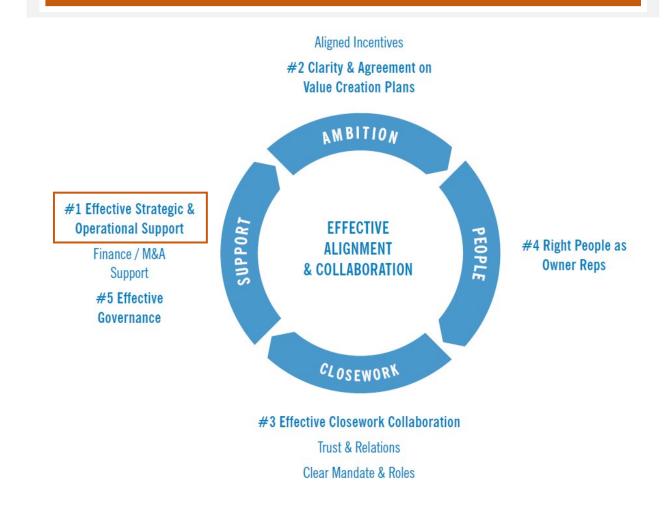
Share Success Aligned Incentives Strategic & **Provide Real Support Financial Support Operational Support Right People Clear Mandates Right People & Clear Roles** Representing & Roles the Owners Effective **Effective Closework Effective Collaboration** Communication Respect & **Good Relations** Trust & Transparency **Good Relations** Clear & Agreed Value **Right Governance Right Foundation Creation Plans** Structure

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#1 - Deliver Effective Support







#1 - Deliver Effective Support

Key Lever

Check-list

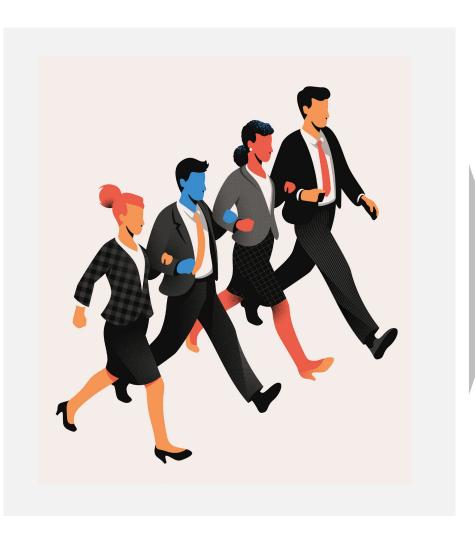
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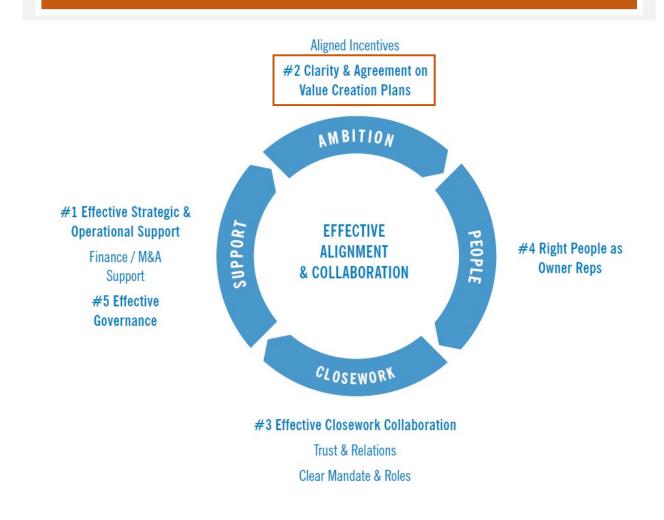
Gap Category





#2 - Align on the Value Creation Plan







#2 - Align on the Value Creation Plan

Key Lever

Check-list

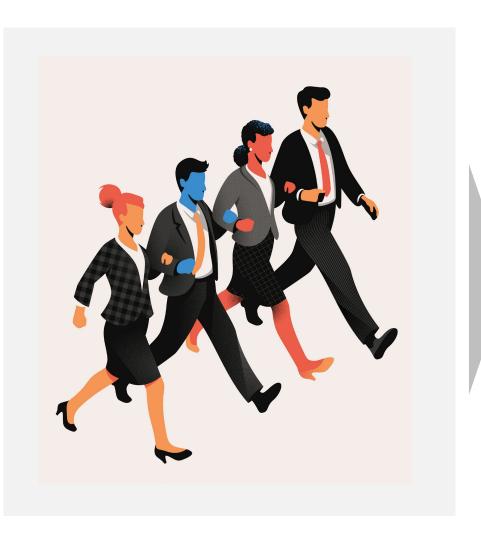
Score

Gap Category





#3 - Secure Good Collaboration

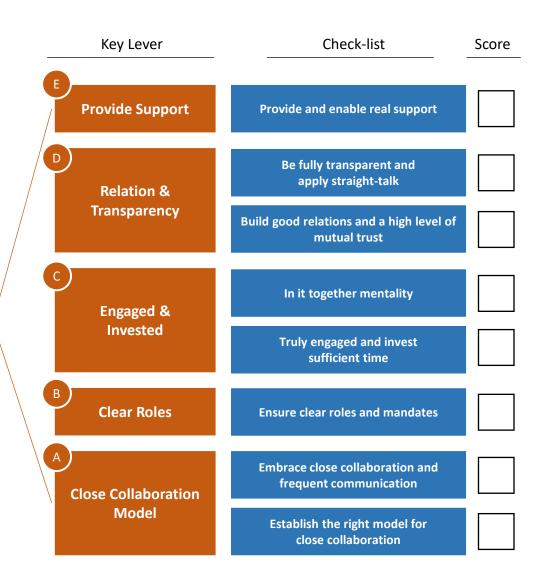






#3 - Secure Good Collaboration

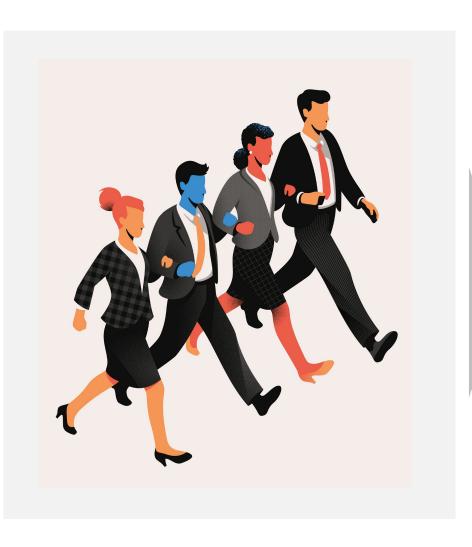


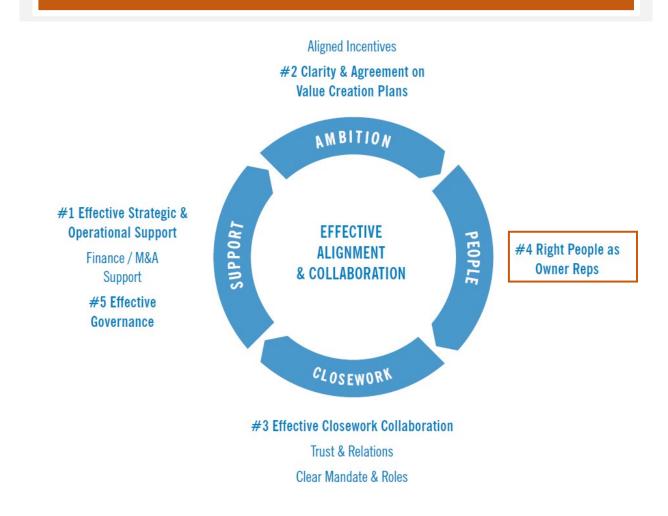


56



#4 - Right People as Owner Representatives

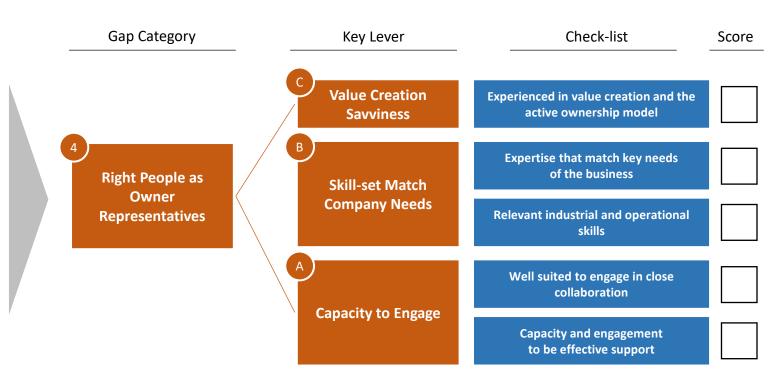






#4 - Right People as Owner Representatives







#5 - Optimal Governance

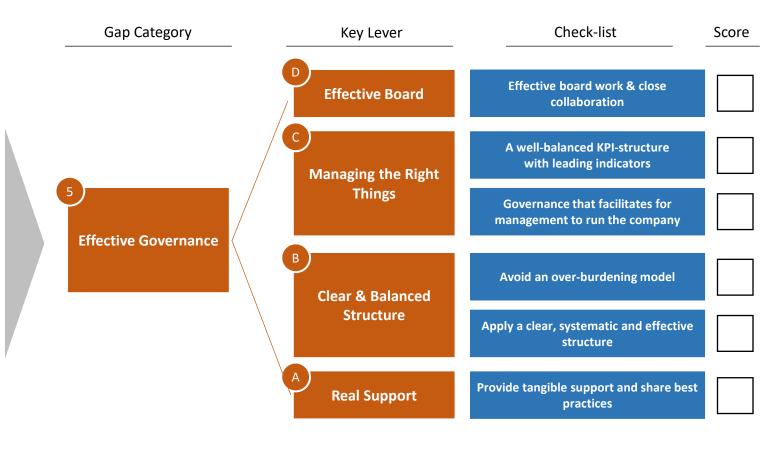






#5 - Optimal Governance





THE PRIVATE EQUITY CEO > PLAYBOOK <

Content

The Author

Executive Summary

Highlighted Themes

Deep Dive: Best Practice Lessons & Checklists



















Provision of Critical Support



"We partner with ambitious management teams and provide additional operational know-how, experience, and investment to help unlock companies' full potential.

"We build better businesses for the longterm, through an experienced team of investors, operators, and specialists, with a dedicated value creation unit comprising operational and functional specialists in key areas such as full potential, ESG, digital etc."

- A Nordic Private Equity Firm



Provision of Critical Support – The Board



"The board should consist of leaders who have accomplished great things. The CEO should respect and look up to the board members. The members can't be less qualified than those reporting to the CEO."

"Need a qualified board that understands international environments and has been through this themselves. We operate 19 factories with 98 percent of sales abroad. You must understand and master complexity."

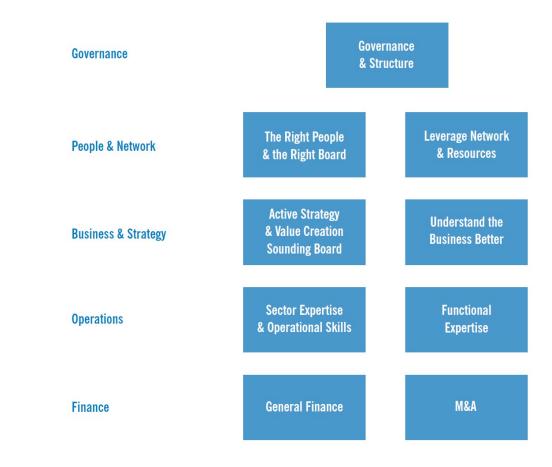
- Former Chairman of Globally Leading Truck Manufacturer



The Key Building Blocks

Key Building Blocks for Provision of Critical Support







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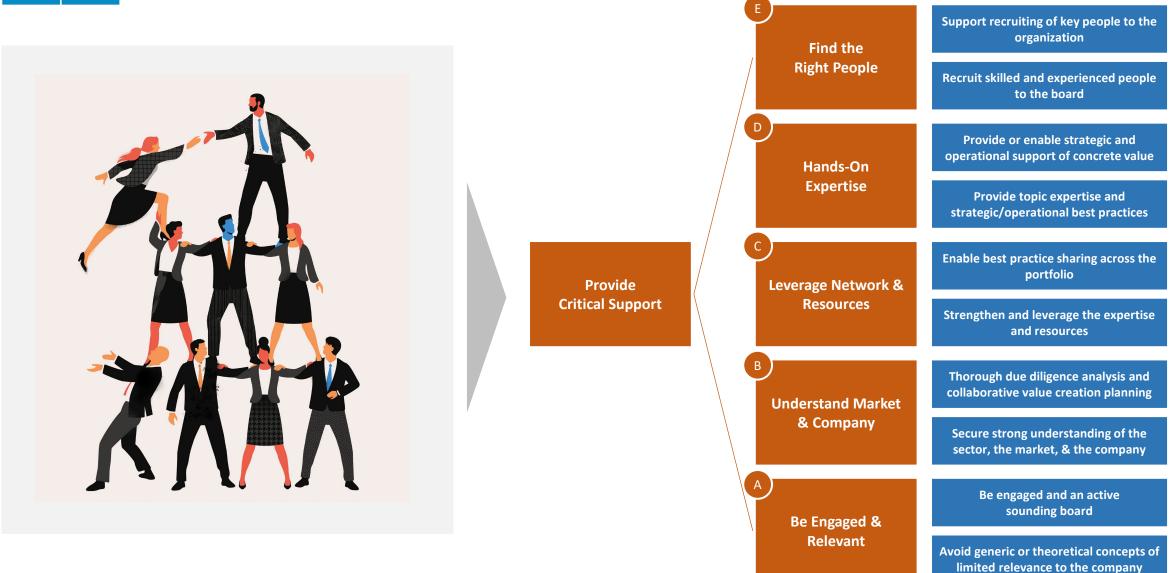
Engagement, Sounding Board & Relevant Expertise

Key Lever

Check-list

Score

Gap Category



Content

The Author

Executive Summary

Highlighted Themes

Deep Dive: Best Practice Lessons & Checklists

















Effective Alignment & Coltaboration VE CEO LEADERSHIP The Right People in the Right Place Levelierce Levelie

Effective Governance



"The governance model is designed to enable accountability, promote fast decision-making and empower portfolio companies' CEOs, while also allowing for informal free-thinking and limiting internal politics."

"An important pillar is the TROIKA forum that enables smooth **communication**, **transparency** and **efficient governance**."

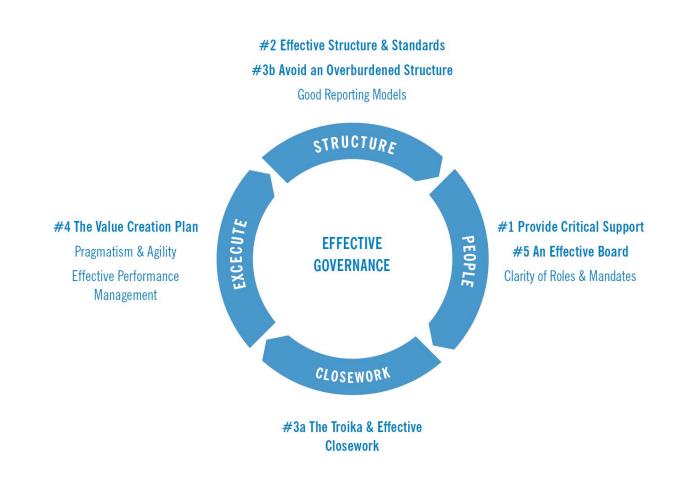
- A Nordic Private Equity Firm

67



The Wheel of Success for Effective Governance







The Key Building Blocks

Key Building Blocks for Effective Governance

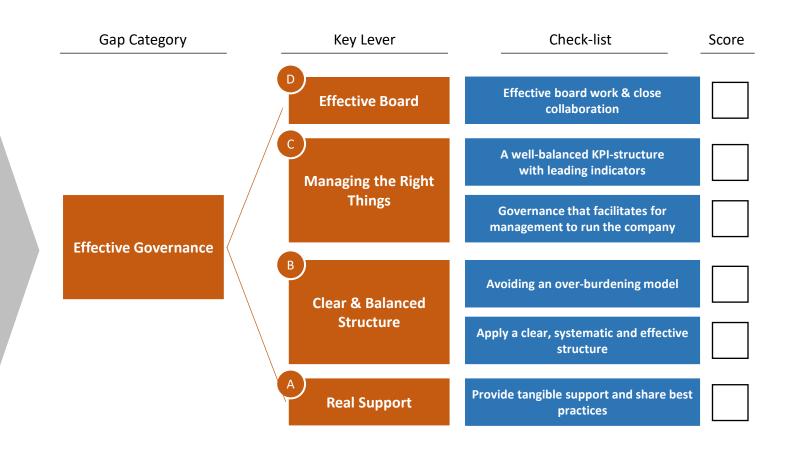


Provision of Effective Troika & Active **Effective Collaboration** Competence **Board Work Sounding Board** & Support **Clear Mandates** Clear Roles & Roles Effective **Performance Management** Performance Management A Clear Value The Value Creation Plan **Creation Plan Effective Stucture** A Good Reporting **Balanced Scope Stucture & Standards** & Standards Model



An Effective Board and Applying the Right Focus & Balance





Content

The Author

Executive Summary

Highlighted Themes

Deep Dive: Best Practice Lessons & Checklists



















Effective Ambitions & Forested Value Creation Plan Collaboration LEADERSHIP The Right Operation The Right Place Describe In Disciplementation Incidence of Disciplement Control of Disciplement Cont

Ambitious & Focused Value Creation Plan



"Together with the management team, we work as allies to build a truly world-class business. We look at how we can maximize the full potential of the company, benchmarking the operating targets against the most admired companies."

"Partnership starts with the development of a shared value creation plan, owned by the Management team and fully supported by us as majority investor."

- Two Nordic Private Equity Firms



The Wheel of Success for Ambitious & Focused Value Creation Plan

The Wheel of Success & Key Performance Gaps

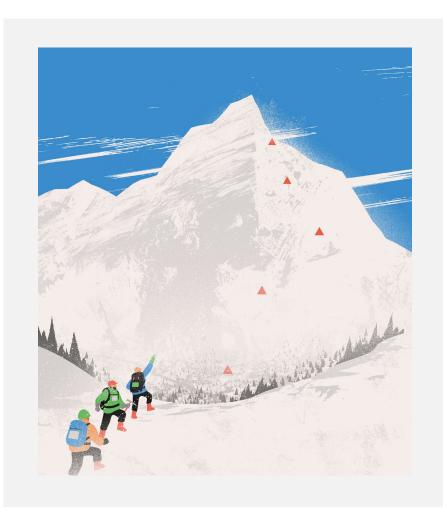


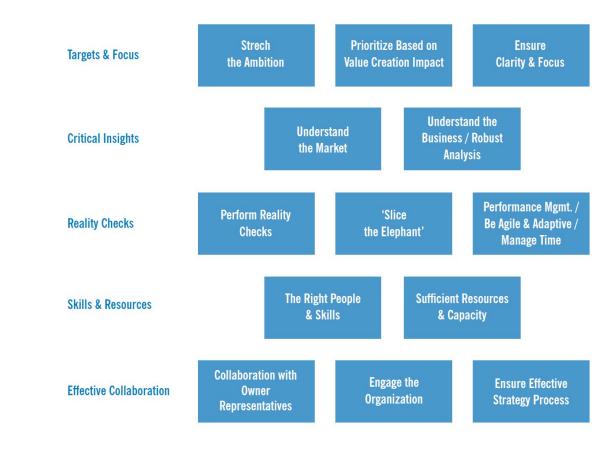
Value Creation Impact #2a Strategic Clarity #3a Robust Market Analysis & Business Insights #3b Reality Checks POTENTIAL CLOSEWORK EXECUTE **#5 Effective Performance AMBITIOUS #1 Effective Alignment** Management & FOCUSED VALUE & Closework Collaboration Adjust & Support **CREATION PLAN** PROCESS #2b Sharp Focus & Clear Priorities #4a Engage the Organization #4b Right Skills & Resources



The Key Building Blocks

Key Building Blocks for Ambitious & Focused Value Creation Plan





74

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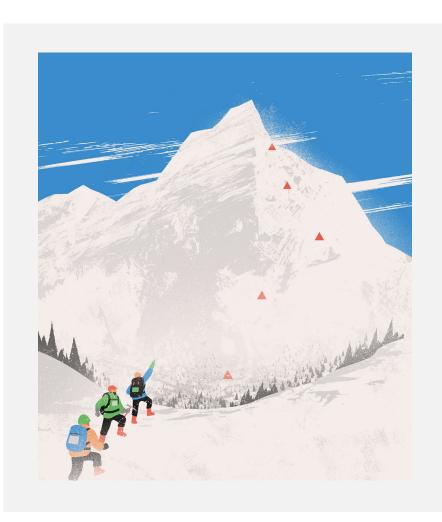
#1 - Secure Alignment

#5 Effective Performance

Management

Adjust & Support

The Wheel of Success & Key Performance Gaps



Value Creation Impact #2a Strategic Clarity #3a Robust Market Analysis & Business Insights #3b Reality Checks

POTENTIAL CLOSEWORK EXECUTE **AMBITIOUS** & FOCUSED VALUE **CREATION PLAN** PROCESS

#1 Effective Alignment & Closework Collaboration

#2b Sharp Focus & Clear Priorities #4a Engage the Organization #4b Right Skills & Resources



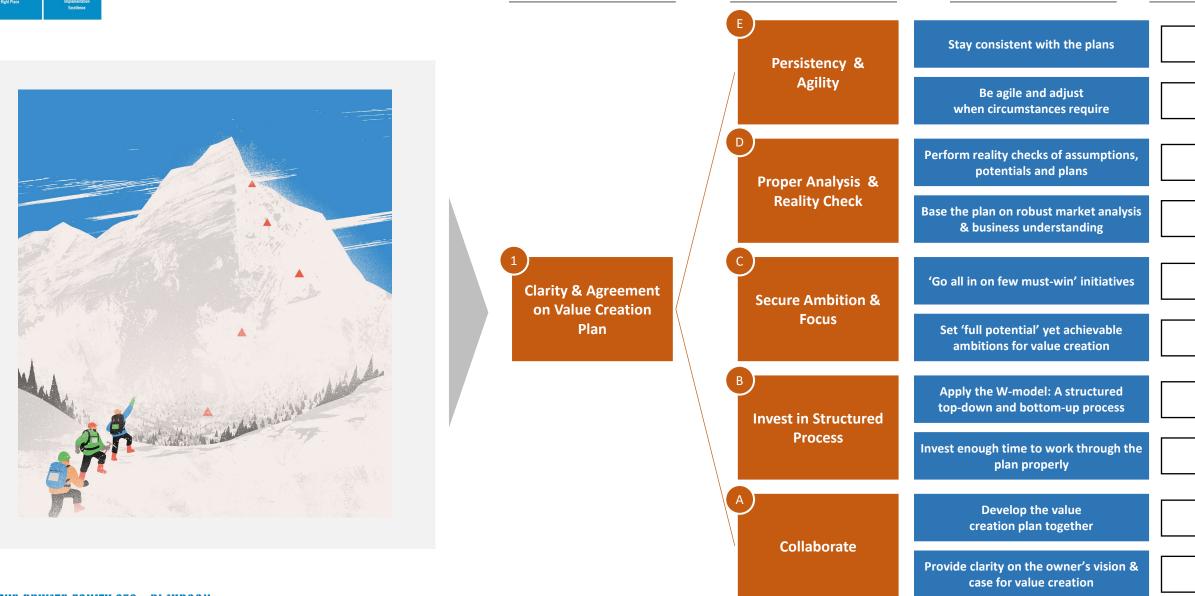
#1 - Secure Alignment

Key Lever

Check-list

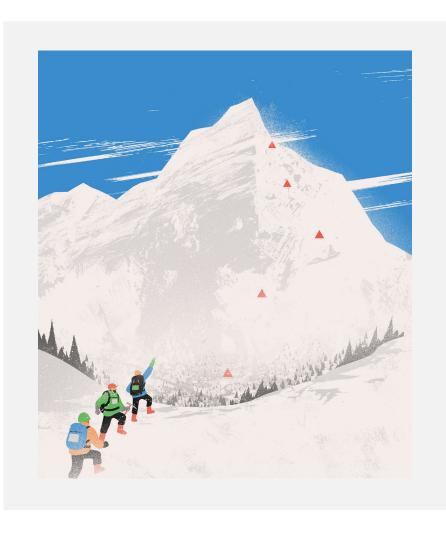
Score

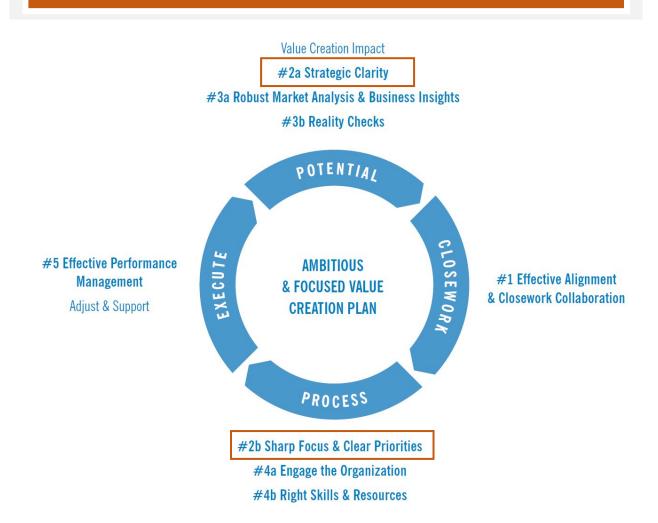
Gap Category





#2 - Achieve Clarity & Focus

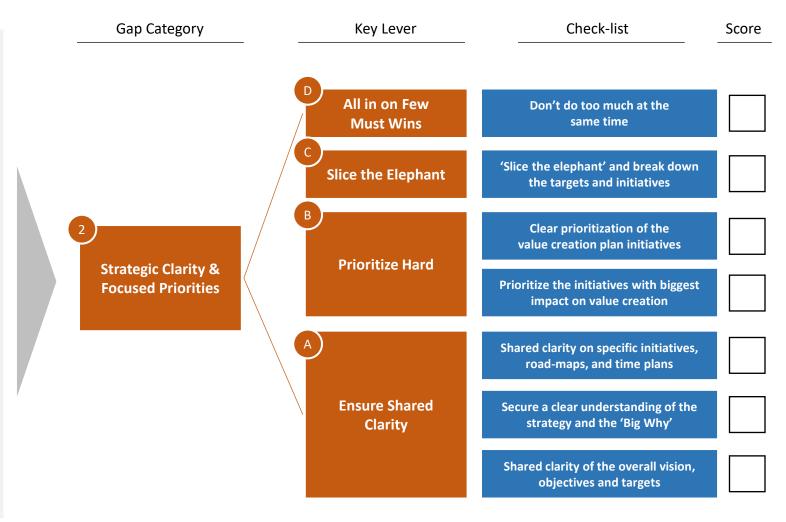






#2 - Achieve Clarity & Focus



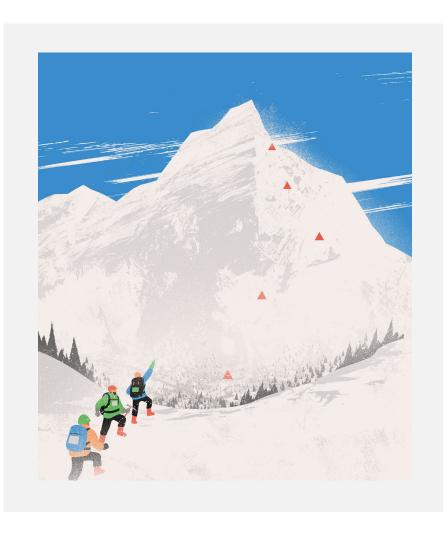


78



#3 – Do the Homework & Reality Checks

The Wheel of Success & Key Performance Gaps

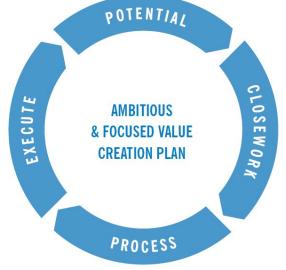


Value Creation Impact
#2a Strategic Clarity

#3a Robust Market Analysis & Business Insights
#3b Reality Checks

#5 Effective Performance
Management

Adjust & Support



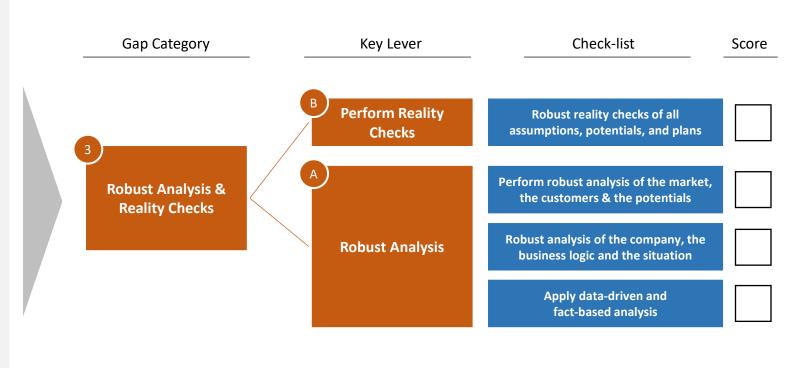
#1 Effective Alignment & Closework Collaboration

#2b Sharp Focus & Clear Priorities #4a Engage the Organization #4b Right Skills & Resources



#3 – Do the Homework & Reality Checks





80



#4 - Engage the Organization

The Wheel of Success & Key Performance Gaps



Value Creation Impact

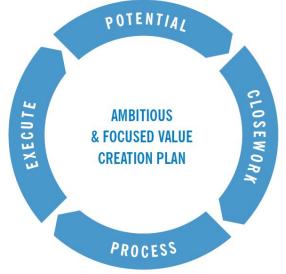
#2a Strategic Clarity

#3a Robust Market Analysis & Business Insights

#3b Reality Checks

#5 Effective Performance
Management

Adjust & Support



#1 Effective Alignment & Closework Collaboration

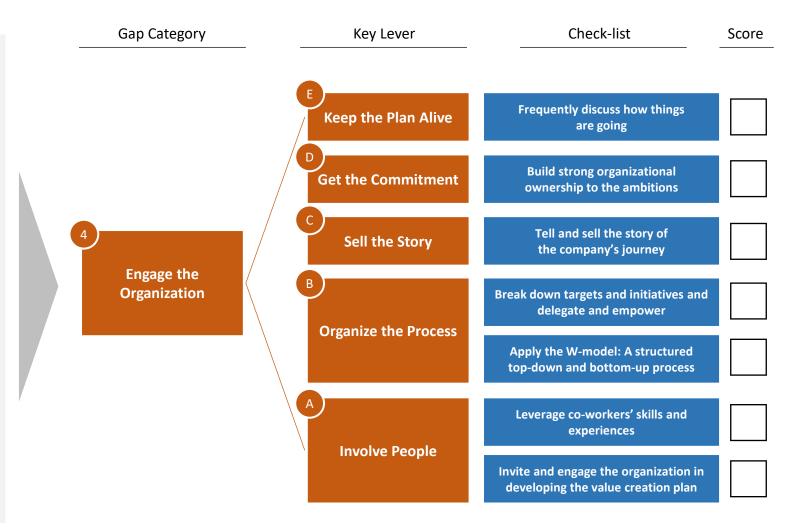
#2b Sharp Focus & Clear Priorities

#4a Engage the Organization #4b Right Skills & Resources



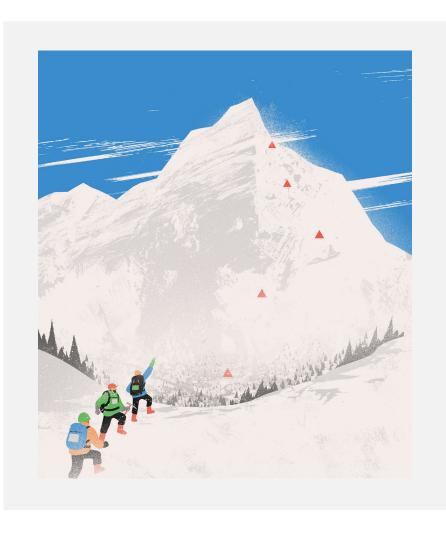
#4 - Engage the Organization







#5 - Manage Performance Effectively

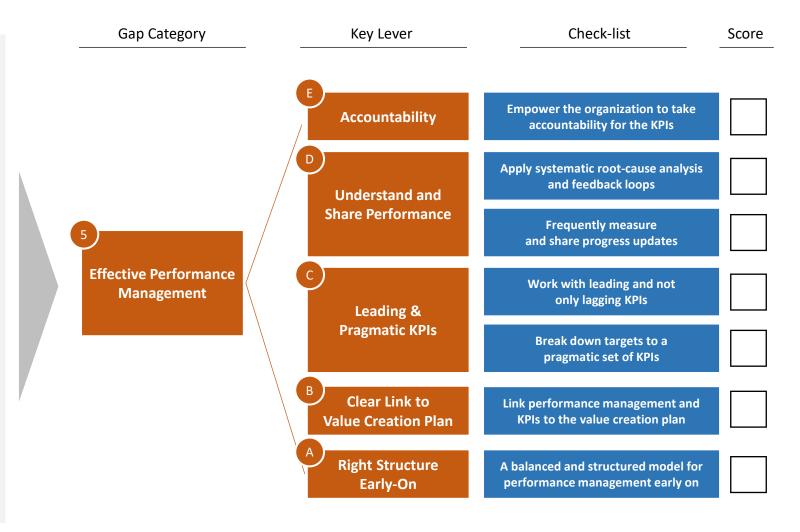






#5 - Manage Performance Effectively





Content

The Author

Executive Summary

Highlighted Themes

Deep Dive: Best Practice Lessons & Checklists



















The Right People in the Right Position



"We partner with **ambitious management teams** and provide additional operational know-how, experience, and investment to help unlock companies' full potential."

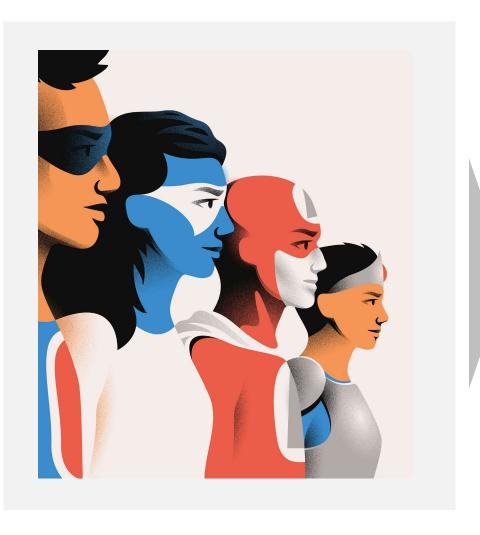
"A thorough assessment of the strength and suitability of the management team, and the wider organizational capacity to deliver on the strategic themes are critical."

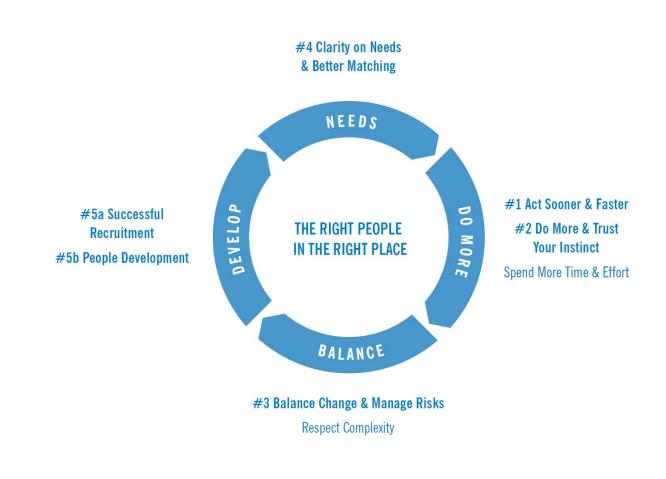
- Nordic Private Equity Firm

- **OPX Partners**



The Wheel of Success for The Right People in the Right Position

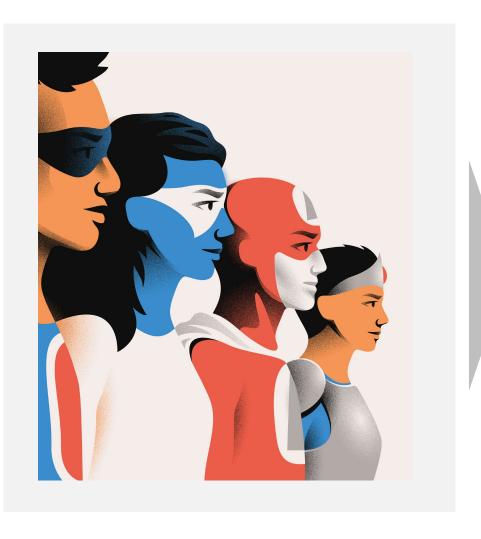






The Key Building Blocks

Key Building Blocks for Right People in the Right Place

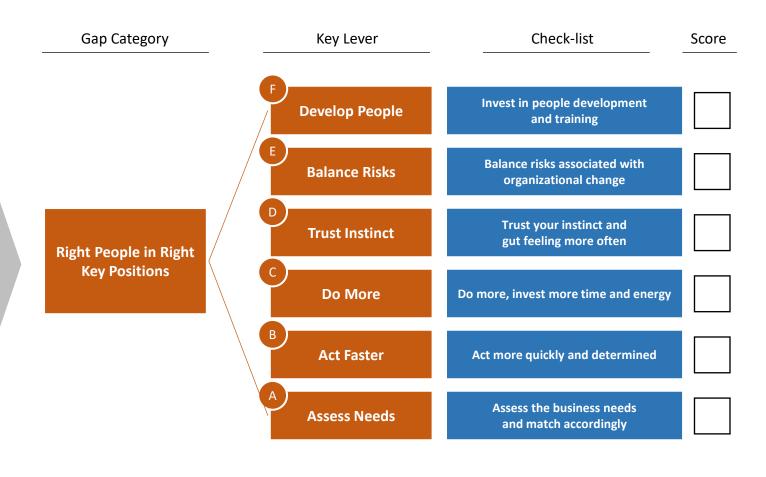






In Short - Act Sooner & Do More





89

Content

The Author

Executive Summary

Highlighted Themes

Deep Dive: Best Practice Lessons & Checklists





















Organizational Ownership



"Companies that create a winning culture are five times more likely to be top performers; and they have five times higher EBIT Growth over a 5-year period"

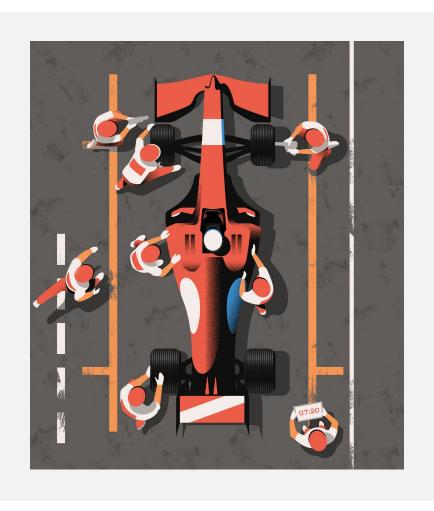
"In high-performance organizations people are **empowered** to make decisions, given the **resources** to get things done and held **accountable** for delivering results ...and also **energized & motivated** to tackle challenges"

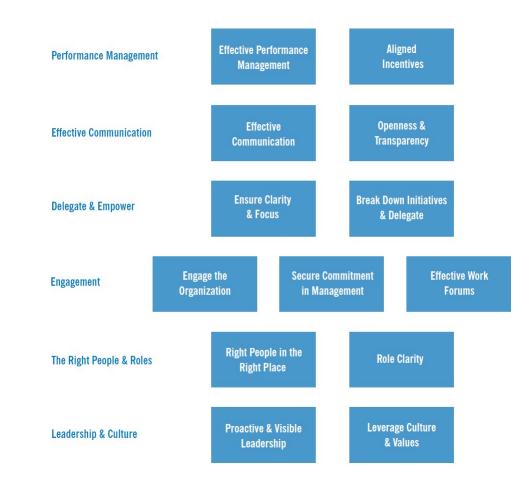
- Bain & Company



The Key Building Blocks

Key Building Blocks for Organizational Ownership

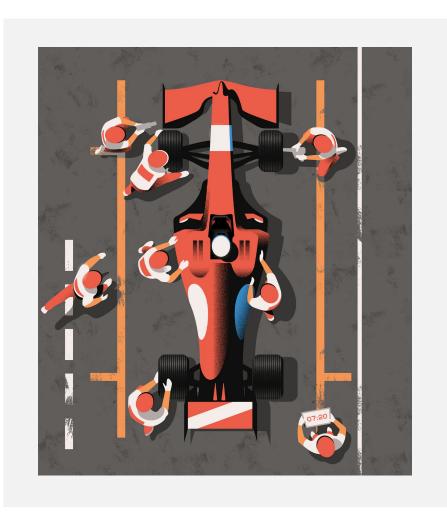


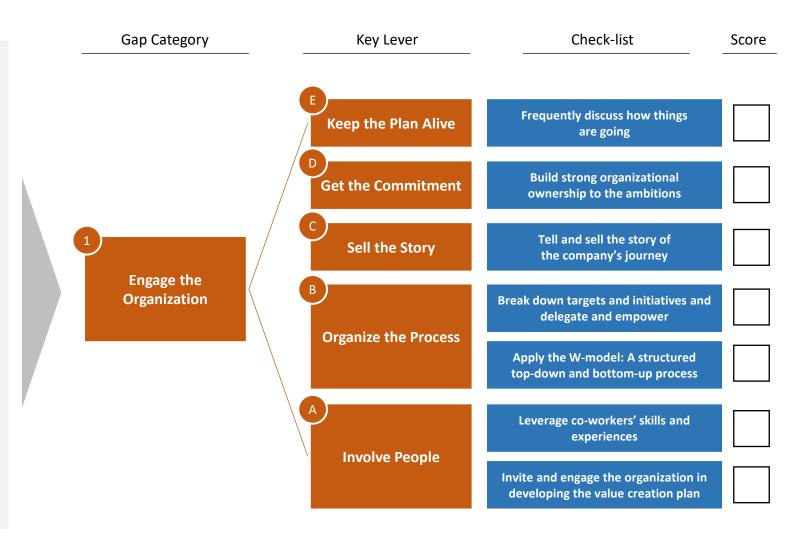


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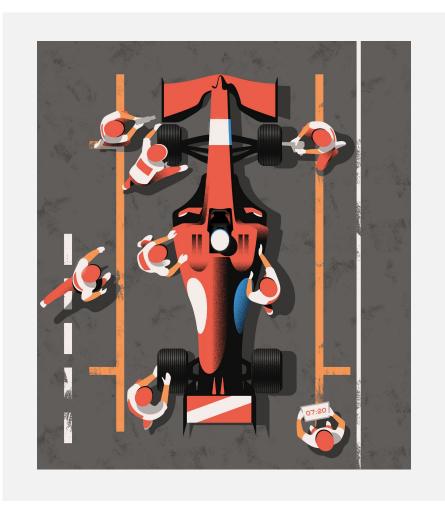
#1 - Engage the Organization

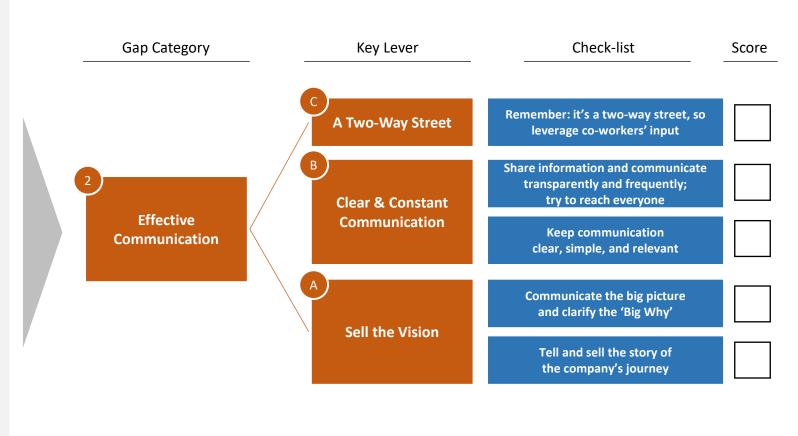






#2 - Communicate Effectively



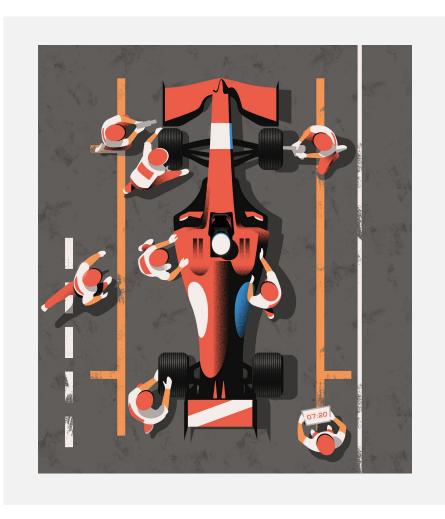


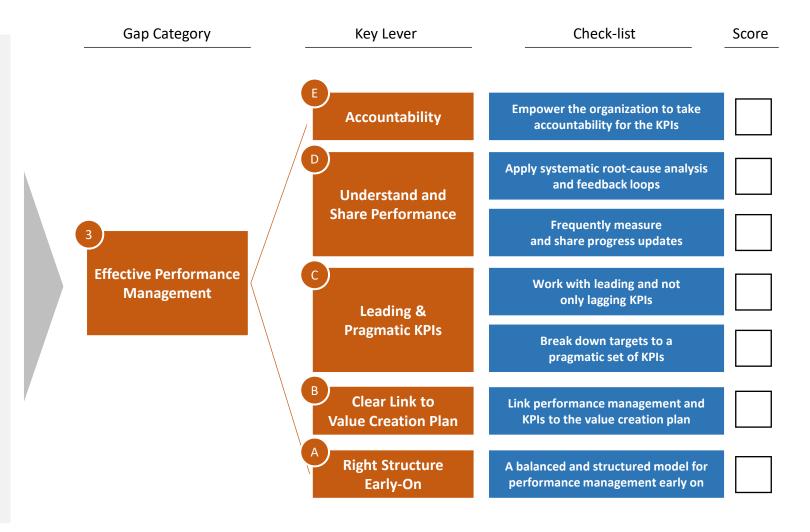
94

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#3 - Manage Performance Effectively



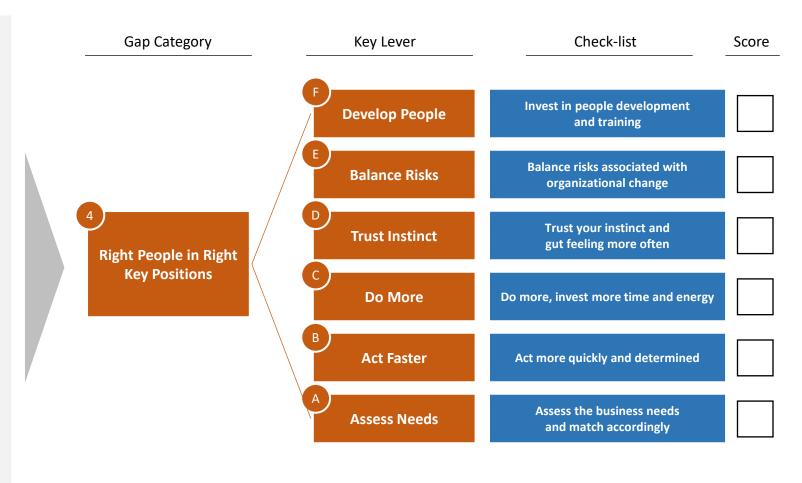


95



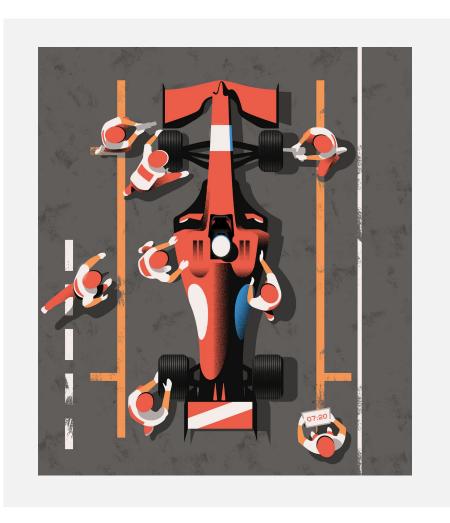
#4 - Ensure the Right People in the Right Place

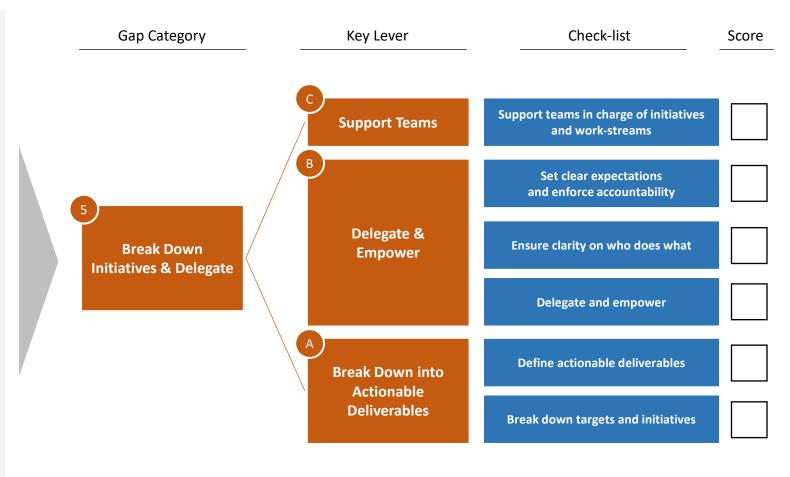






#5 - Break-Down Initiatives & Delegate





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Content

The Author

Executive Summary

Highlighted Themes

Deep Dive: Best Practice Lessons & Checklists





















Strong Momentum & Implementation Success



"We form close partnerships with management and seek to realize the full potential of our businesses by applying our owner philosophy:

- Big and bold goals
- Low number of high impact initiatives
 - World class leadership at all levels
 - Accelerate & Capitalize on strong momentum"

- Nordic Private Equity Firm



The Wheel of Success for Momentum & Implementation Success



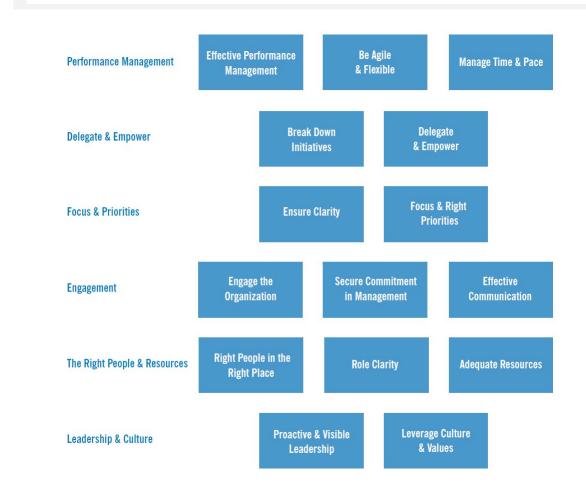




The Key Building Blocks

Key Building Blocks for Momentum & Implementation Success



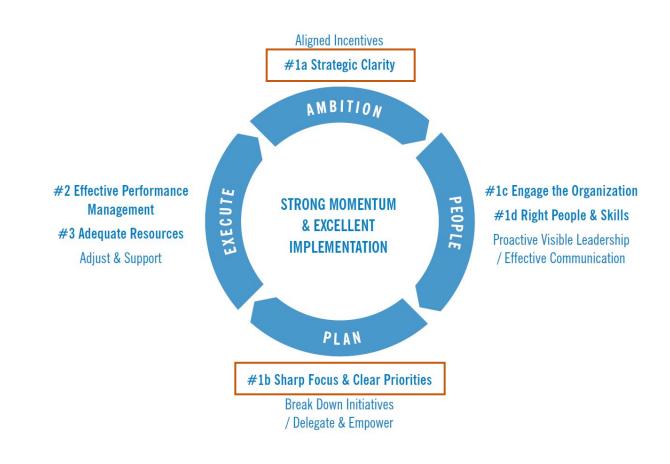


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#1ab - Ensure Clarity & Focus

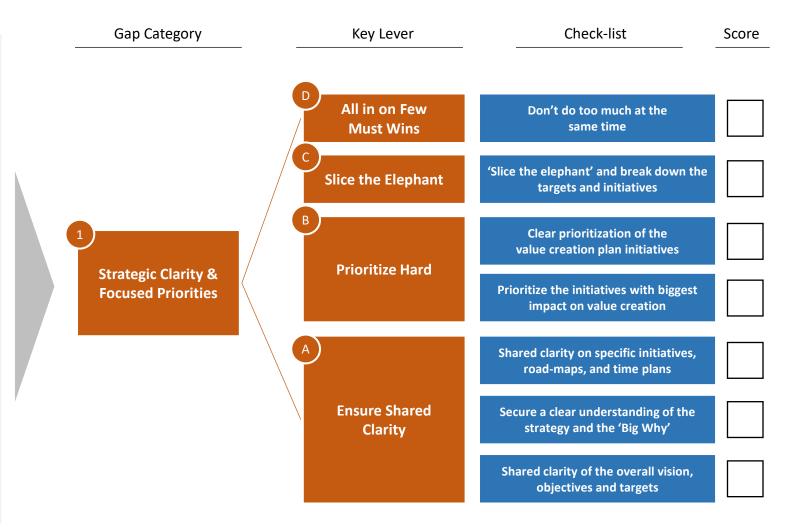






#1ab - Ensure Clarity & Focus







#1c - Engage the Organization

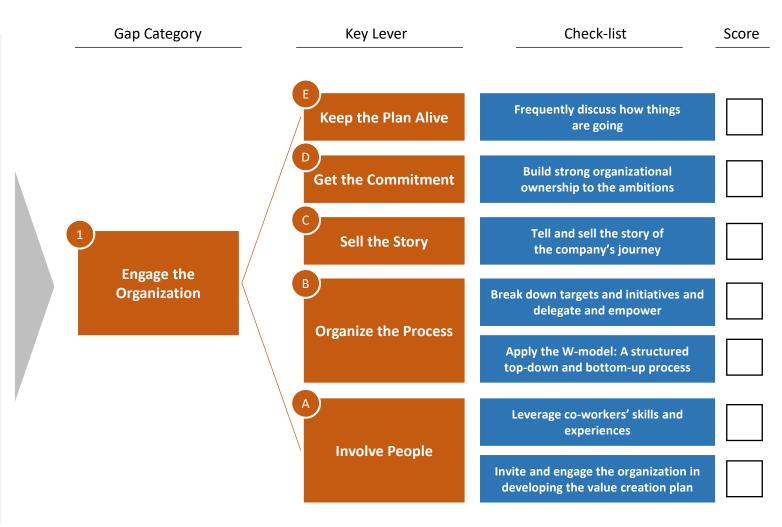






#1c - Engage the Organization





THE PRIVATE EQUITY CEO > PLAYBOOK <



#1d - Right People in the Right Place

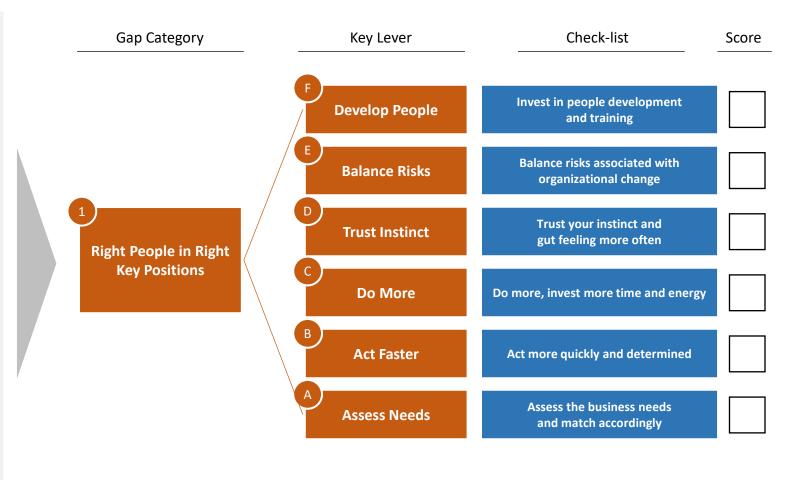






#1d - Right People in the Right Place







#2 - Manage Performance Effectively

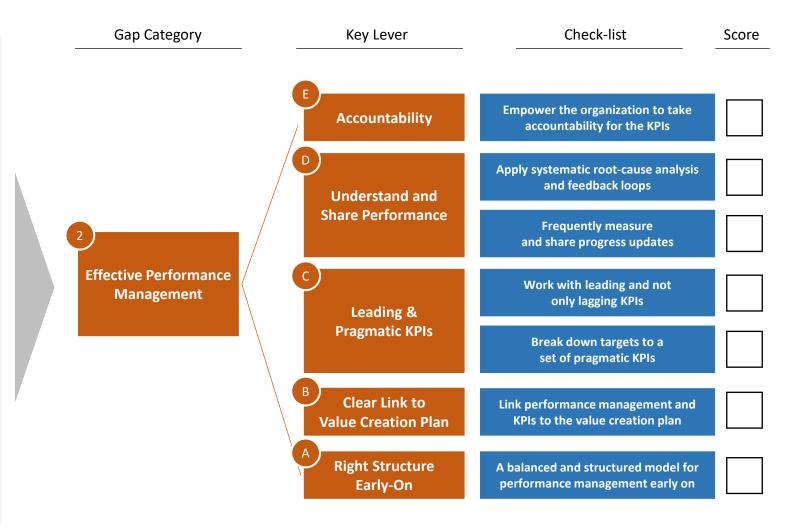






#2 - Manage Performance Effectively





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#3 - Secure Adequate Resources

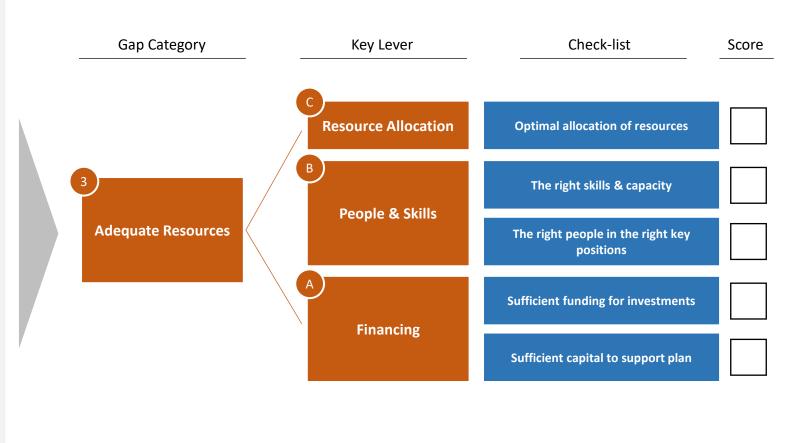






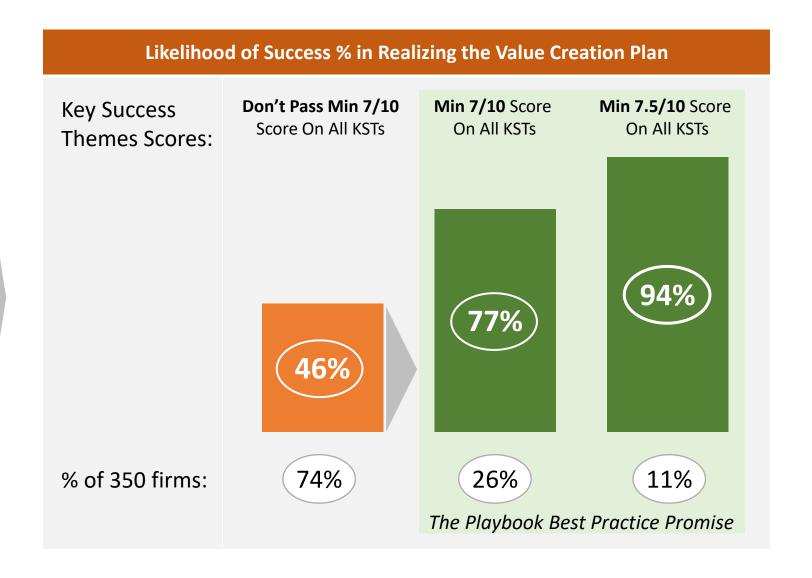
#3 - Secure Adequate Resources



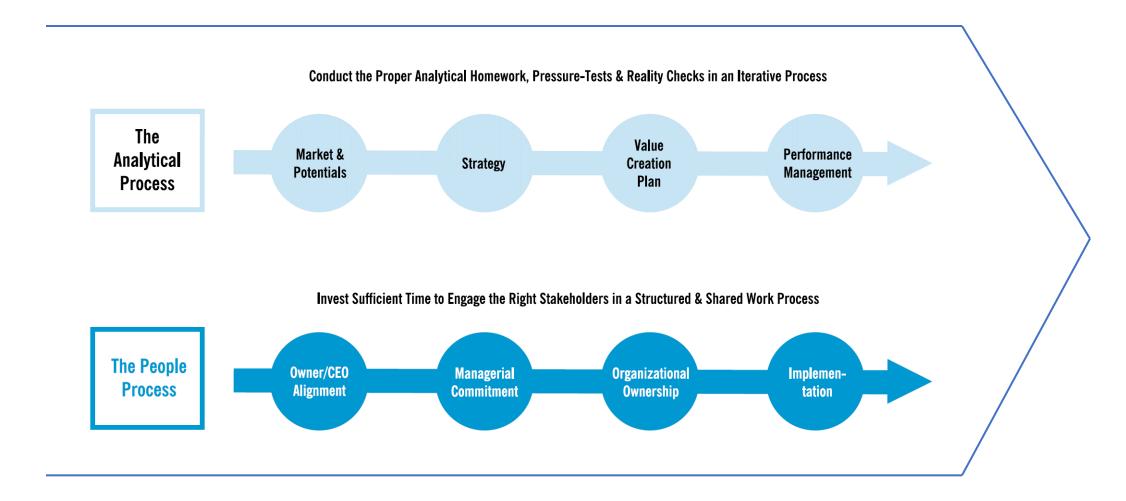


Summary: Increase the Success Rate from 46% to 94% by Applying Playbooks' Best Practices





Summary: Championship-level Performance Requires Mastery of Two Dimensions



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