CFO share 5 signs your finance team is under-performing

A guide for small business owners.

LJ Suzuki – Fractional CFO

Quick Survey...

- We do my own books
- We have a contract bookkeeper
- We have a W-2 bookkeeper/accountant
- We have a finance team of 2-5 FT employees
- We have a finance team of 6+ FT employees





Results of bad finance team



Surprise results



Cash shortages



Reactive management



Inability to be funded



Sleepless nights



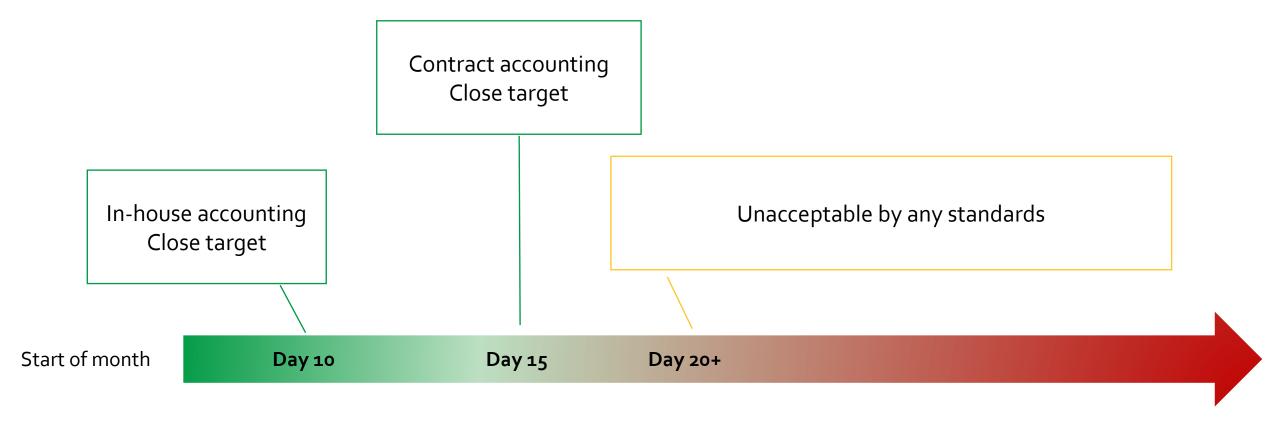
Low exit value



5 ways to evaluate your finance team

#1: Closes books in under 15 days

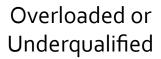
Reliable timing for monthly deliverables

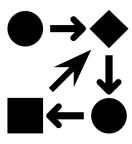




Causes for long close







Inefficient



Stuck in Old Ways (e.g. QuickBooks Desktop)



#2: No red flags in financial statements

Can you identify red flags in financials?



List of Red Flags in Financial Statements

Balance Sheet:

- Negative balances in:
 - Loans
 - Cash
 - AR
 - AP
- Excessive balances in:
 - Inventory
 - AR
 - AP
 - Prepaid expenses
 - Any current asset account
- Any balance in:
 - Uncategorized _____
 - "Suspense" or "clearing" accounts
- Large retained earnings but low cash balances
 - Unless offset by owner distributions
- "Opening balance equity" amounts

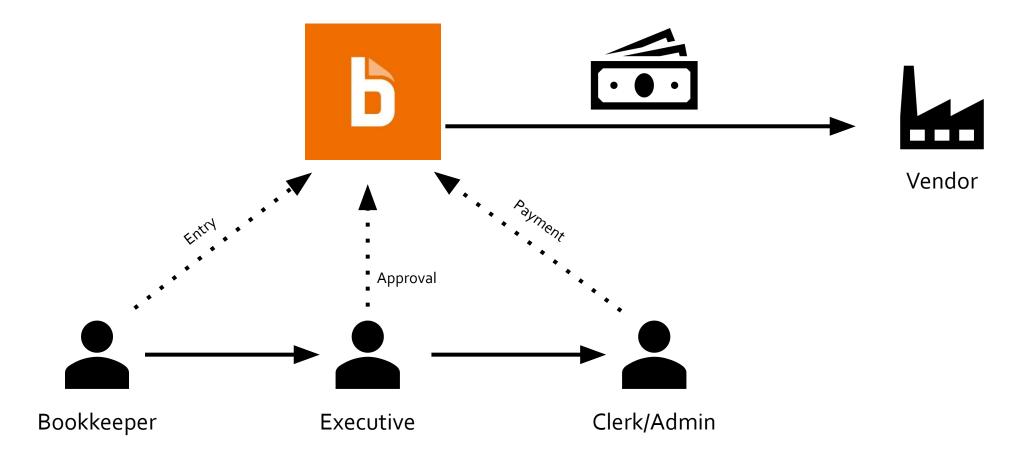
Profit and Loss:

- Negative amounts in:
 - Revenue
 - COGS
- No COGS during a period with sales
- Irregular gross margins
- Uncategorized anything
- Reconciliation discrepancies
- Excessive number of accounts
- Improperly grouped accounts



#3: Insists on proper controls

Controls involve 2-3 parties on bill payments, expense reports, and high-value purchase orders.

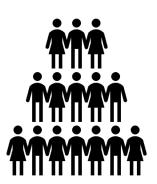




#4: Forecasts more than P&L + cash



Balance Sheet



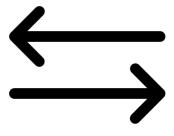
Headcount planning



12-month outlook



Sales leading indicators



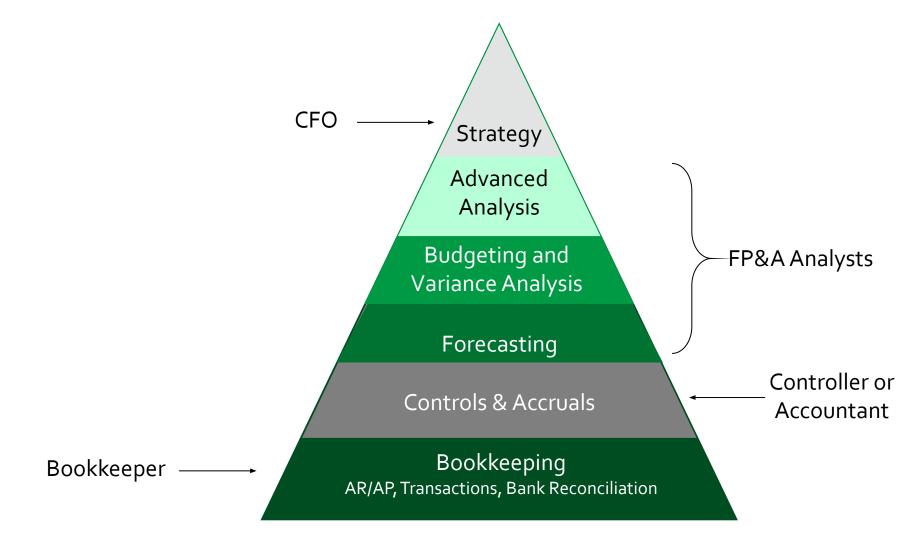
Cash Flows





What if your finance team is underperforming?

Identify where the team is falling short.





Get a second opinion

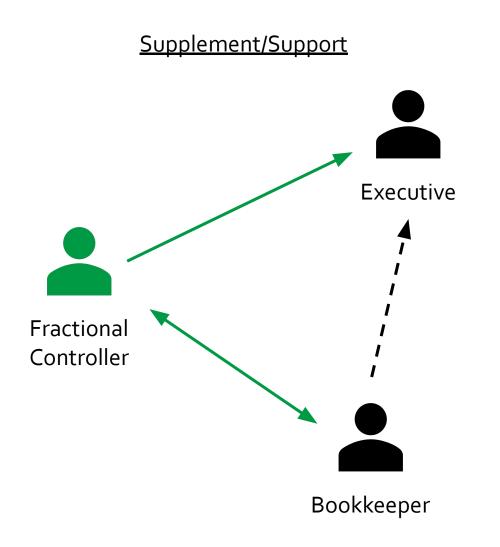
Consult a finance professional for validation

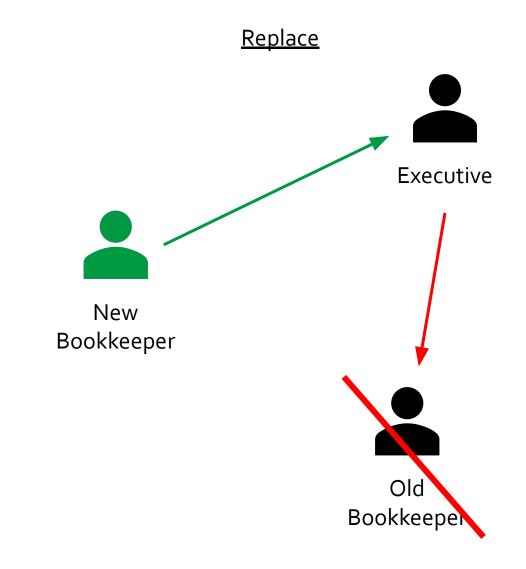
- Business advisor
- Board member
- An agency like CFOshare (<u>info@CFOshare.org</u>)





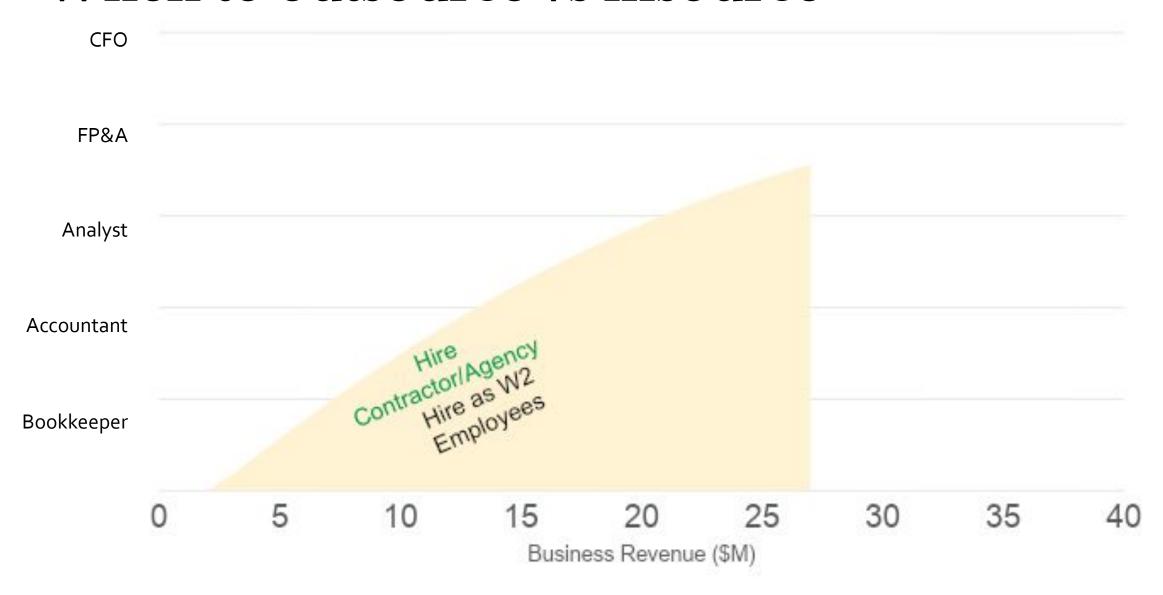
Hire to supplement, support or replace







When to outsource vs insource





Final thoughts

Stay focused on growth by hiring someone you trust



Delayed Accounting Costs More



Hire Someone You Trust



CFOshare

Questions?

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