

Key Considerations During Stressed & Distressed Situations

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Ryan Gamble



Andrew Bekker



Maryam Nicholes



Zac McGinnis

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Topics We'll Cover Today

Defining the Spectrum of Performance

Stages of Stress and Distress

Strategic Issues and Steps You Need to Take Now









Defining the Spectrum of Performance





Key Questions to Determine the Extent of Distress

Liquidity Constraints	Leverage Profile	Declining Stakeholder Support	Organizational Stress	Worsening Operating Performance
How much visibility do you have into short- term liquidity?	Have you explored all capital markets solutions to 'buy time'?	Are your vendor payment terms contracted recently?	Have you streamlined the organizational structure in response to new operating environment?	Do you understand the underlying drivers of operating performance shortfalls against your annual budget?
Have you experienced unforeseen increases in your working capital?	Have your lender group(s) become more active in demanding information from you?	Are your lenders becoming increasingly proactive?	Are there flight risk issues with key employees?	Have you rapidly and aggressively reduced operating costs?

How much experience do you have in dealing with stressed or distressed situations?



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Indicators and Considerations by Stage



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Comparing the Four Stressed and Distressed Stages



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Stress

Indicators

Operations

External Forces

- Falling stock/bond Prices
- Geopolitical and macroeconomic factors

KPIs trending downward

- Significant impairment charges
- Working capital challenges

Financial

- Raising high-yield debt
- Credit rating downgrades
- Questionable strategic outlook

Financial and Operational Considerations

- Liquidity assessment
- Topline and profitability planning
- Cost reduction measures (labor and non-labor)
- Proactive engagement with key stakeholders
- Working capital management
- Development of asset and market strategies

Tax Considerations

- Evaluate legal entity structure
- Identify existing tax attributes (NOLs, credit carryforwards, etc.)
- Review investments and receivables to confirm value

Accounting, Audit, and Financial Reporting Considerations

- Assess accounting model
- Impairment concerns
- Covenant violation potential and financial reporting impacts
- Inventory valuation and obsolescence matters
- Accounts receivable valuation allowance and bad debt review
- Internal control considerations, significant deficiencies, and material weaknesses



Early Distress

Indicators

Operations

External Forces

 Continuation of falling stock/bond prices and geopolitical and macroeconomic factors Extended period of declining KPI trends

Financial

 Negative free cash flow and/or cash flow insufficient to service debt

Financial and Operational Considerations

- Weekly cash flow forecasting
- Stakeholder management (creditors, suppliers, potential investors)
- Cost reduction measures
- Business plan development
- Contingency planning (e.g. asset sales, dilutive equity raises, restructuring events, etc.

Tax Considerations

- Test whether COD income created by loan modifications or forgiveness
 - Safe Harbors allow some changes in loan terms without causing COD income
- Begin planning for path of distress review recent valuations

Accounting, Audit, and Financial Reporting Considerations

- Continuation/update of the Stress phase accounting considerations with the potential of additional distress considered more likely
- Discontinued operations and assets held for sale (carve out)
- Impacts to financial statement footnote disclosures
- Potential review of going concern
- Ongoing SEC reporting disclosure updates, as needed, if public



In your industry, what is the likelihood that stress will occur during the next 12 months?





Late Distress

Indicators

Operations

Financial

 Peers retaining bankruptcy counsel and/or filing for Chapter 11

External Forces

- Increasing vendor pressure/stretching vendor payments
- Failure to service debt
- Breach of debt covenants

Financial and Operational Considerations

- Weekly cash flow forecasting daily cash management with tight controls
- Optimization of working capital
- Implementation of strategic transactions
- Development of value creation plan
- Scenario planning for possible insolvency proceedings

Tax Considerations

- Determine whether Company is insolvent for tax purposes
- Model various outcomes for insolvency or bankruptcy
 - Legal entity level analysis, including disregarded entities
 - Use NOLs to offset gain from asset sales/COD income

Accounting, Audit, and Financial Reporting Considerations

- Continuation/update of the Stress & Early Distress phase considerations but likelihood now more certain
- Scenario planning for possible accounting models, financial reporting impacts and deliverable/decision dates
- Begin to consider financial reporting impacts of Chapter 11 and potential accounting under applicable GAAP ASC 852
- Ongoing SEC reporting disclosure updates, as needed, if public
- Communication and coordination with legal counsel, financial advisors, and restructuring officers

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Insolvency

Indicators				
External Forces	Operations	Financial		
 Capital markets closing 	 Vendors stop shipping goods or providing service Unable to make payroll 	 Limited/no borrowing availability under credit facilities 		

Financial and Operational Considerations

- Intense cash flow management
- Ensure funding for any insovlency proceedings (DIP financing)
- Value creation plan implementation (5-year)
- Crisis communication

Fiduciary obligation to the corporation

Tax Considerations

- Estimate COD income realized from debt exchange, relief, or forgiveness
- Determine tax attributes to be reduced
- Plan for emergence from insolvency
- Project taxable income in future years and remaining tax attributes available to reduce cash tax

Accounting, Audit, and Financial Reporting Considerations

- Finalize ASC 852 Fresh Start Accounting two-step test:
 Step 1 - Solvency
 Step 2 - Change of control Potential for other applicable accounting model upon emergence:
 - Business Combination
 - Extinguishment or Modification
 - TDR
 - Chapter 7 Liquidation
 - Quasi-Reorganization
- Communication and coordination with legal, financial, valuation, and restructuring advisors
- Ongoing SEC reporting disclosure updates, as needed, if public
- Need for the application of bankruptcy-specific accounting

What macroeconomic factors will most likely impact your organization?



Rising interest rates



Supply chain issues







Steps to Take Now



Stages of Stress and Distress

Strategic Issues and Steps You Need to Take Now







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Of the strategic issues highlighted on the previous slide, which is an area you are least familiar with?



Debt capacity and liability management



D M&A/Divestitures

Liquidity







Q&A and Additional Resources



Addressing the Tax Impacts of Cancellation of Debt Income When Restructuring



<u>Today's CFOs Walk</u> <u>Tightrope of Growth,</u> <u>Caution</u>



Moving to Strategic M&A When Debt Is Not the Strongest Path

<u>Riveron</u> is a leading business advisory firm. We partner with the office of the CFO, private equity, and other capital providers to elevate performance across the transaction and business lifecycle. Contact us.



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