

# **BUSINESS VALUATION 101**

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**FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

**ILLINOIS BUSINESS CONSULTING GROUP**

**TIM HOERR**



# THE SERRA TEAM



Tim Hoerr, Managing Partner



Dennis Beard, Managing Partner



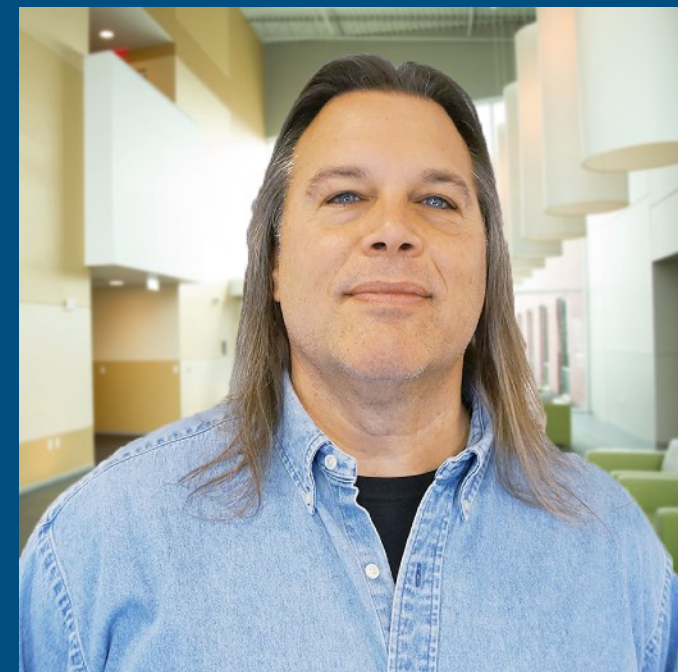
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Drew Beard,  
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# SERRA FAMILY OF FUNDS

**86 PORTFOLIO INVESTMENTS**

**11 EXIT TRANSACTIONS**

**59 ACTIVE COMPANIES**

**\$100 MILLION**

**IN ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT  
FOR FUND I, II, & III; TWO SIDE CAR  
FUNDS; SERRA AG TECH; AND CO-  
INVESTMENT FROM LPS**

# SERRA RELATIONSHIPS

**200+**

**UNIQUE LIMITED  
PARTNERS**

**CO-INVESTMENTS WITH OVER 80  
VENTURE FUNDS**

**RELATIONSHIPS WITH 25  
ACCELERATORS & INCUBATORS**

# SERRA DISTINCTIVES

## DEEP RELATIONAL NETWORK

SERRA HAS DEVELOPED A STRONG AND GROWING NETWORK WITH ACCELERATORS, VENTURE FUNDS, INFLUENCERS.  
GREAT NETWORK = BEST OPPORTUNITIES.

## RIGOROUS EVALUATION PROCESS

SERRA EVALUATES 1000 DEALS PER YEAR, RESULTING IN BEST-IN-CLASS PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION.

## ENTREPRENEURIAL COACHING

SERRA'S TEAM OF FORMER TECH ENTREPRENEURS PROVIDES ROBUST HANDS-ON ASSISTANCE TO PORTFOLIO TEAMS.

## TRANSPARENCY, INTEGRITY, EXCELLENCE

THE SERRA TEAM IS STRONGLY COMMITTED TO DOING BUSINESS ANCHORED BY TIMELESS CORE VALUES.

# TIM'S BUSINESS VALUATION BACKGROUND

- ▶ Formerly an Accredited Senior Appraiser, American Society of Appraisers.
- ▶ McGladrey & Pullen Firmwide Business Valuation Director.
- ▶ Author, McGladrey & Pullen Business Valuation Practice Aid.
- ▶ Member, National AICPA Committee on Business Valuation Services.
- ▶ Over 500 business valuation projects

# KEY SITUATIONS INVOLVING BUSINESS VALUATION

RAISING CAPITAL: AT WHAT VALUE WILL THE INVESTMENT TAKE PLACE?

STOCK OPTION PLANS: AT WHAT VALUE WILL OPTIONS BE GRANTED?

SHAREHOLDER BUY-OUT:  
AT WHAT VALUE WILL THE PARTIES AGREE TO BUY OUT EACH OTHER?

SALE/LIQUIDITY EVENT: WHAT PROCEEDS CAN BE EXPECTED?

DIVISION SPIN OUT: DOES IT MAKE SENSE TO DIVEST A DIVISION OF SUBSIDIARY  
FROM A VALUATION PERSPECTIVE?

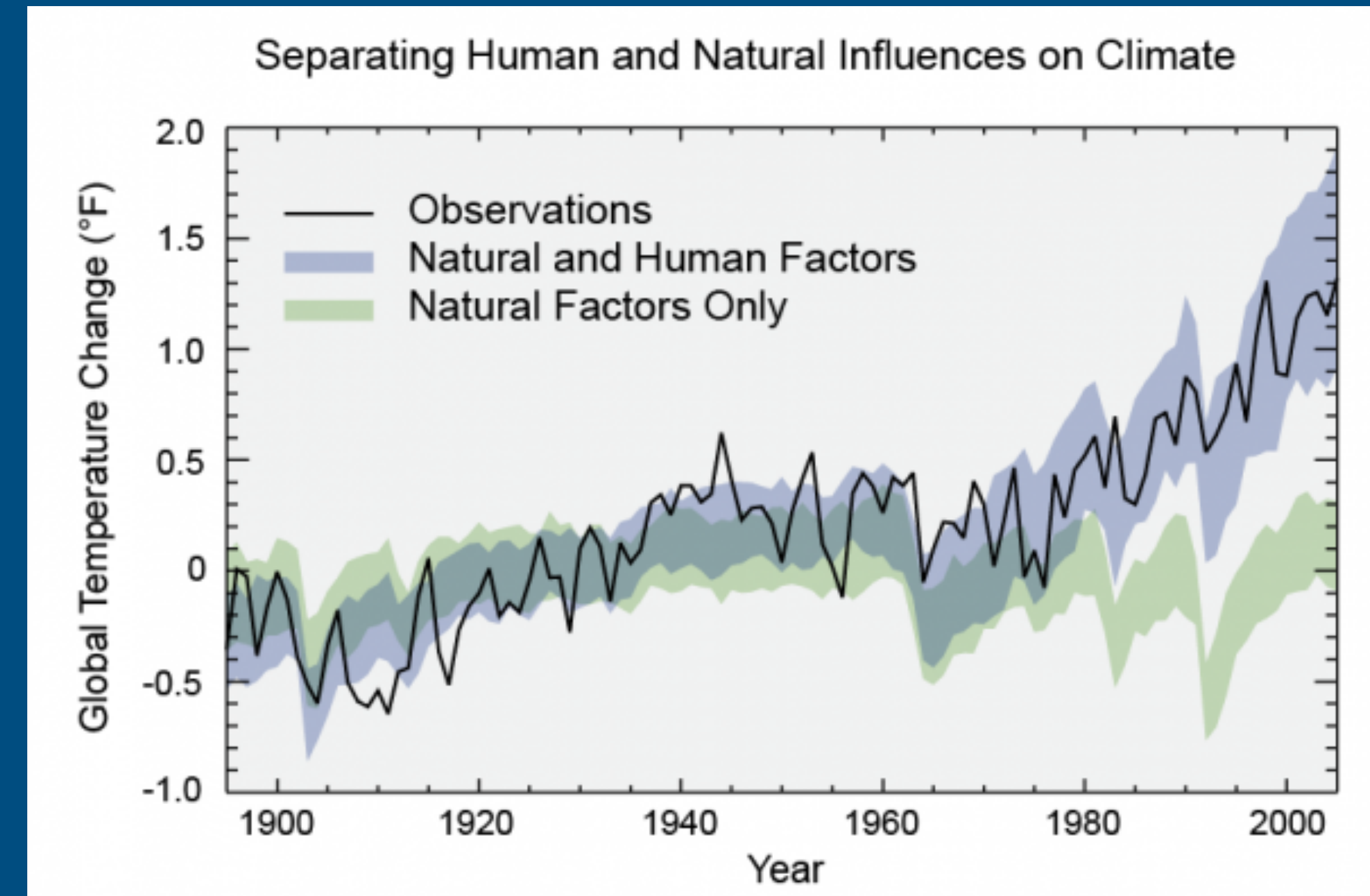
# BUSINESS VALUATION DEFINED

USING A COMBINATION OF ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES, METHODOLOGIES AND COMMON SENSE TO DETERMINE THE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF A BUSINESS ENTERPRISE.

- ▶ The ultimate test of accuracy/validity of a business valuation is: AT WHAT VALUE DOES AN ACTUAL TRANSACTION CONSUMMATE?
- ▶ When a willing buyer and willing seller, neither acting under compulsion, come to an agreement on value, that meets the ultimate test.
- ▶ Everything else is conjecture, speculation, negotiation and posturing.



# BUSINESS VALUATION: ART VS. SCIENCE



# TRADITIONAL BUSINESS VALUATION METHODOLOGIES

INCOME

MARKET

ASSET

# INCOME METHODOLOGIES

- ▶ These methods value a business based on its expected income or cash flow stream.
- ▶ Two most common measures of "income" are Sales Revenue and Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation & Amortization (EBITDA)
- ▶ May use history (in some cases) as a base-line predictor of the future.
- ▶ Often involves preparation of detailed financial projections.
- ▶ Involves determination of some kind of RATE or MULTIPLIER to be applied against the selected income stream.

# INCOME METHODOLOGIES EXAMPLE: EBITDA MULTIPLIER

- ▶ EBITDA = \$300,000
- ▶ Industry multiplier range = 3 to 5 X EBITDA
- ▶ Valuator selects 4X as the multiplier based on analysis of company tangibles and intangibles
- ▶ Calculation:

$$\$300,000 \times 4.0 = \$1,200,000 \text{ Entity Value}$$

# INCOME METHODOLOGY EXAMPLE #2: DISCOUNTED CASH FLOW

Valuator selects discount rate of 25% based on analysis of all company factors; prepares cash flow projections

Projected Cash Flow	25% Discount Factor	Calculation
Year 1 = (\$100,000)	0.80	(\$80,000)
Year 2 = \$0	0.64	0
Year 3 = \$150,000	0.512	76,800
Year 4 = \$425,000	0.4096	174,080
Year 5 = \$600,000	0.3277	196,620
Year 6 & Beyond = \$1,000,000	(Divide by .25) x .3277	\$1,310,800
Deduct Debt		(\$150,000)
DCF Value		\$1,528,300

Terminal value  $(\$1,000,000 / .25) \times .3277 = \$1,310,800$

Calculation: DCF Sum =  $(\$367,500) + \text{Terminal value } (\$1,310,800) - \text{Debt } (\$150,000) = \$1,528,300$  Entity Value

# MARKET METHODOLOGIES

- ▶ These methods value a business based on comparison to similar companies or portions of companies being bought/sold in the marketplace.
- ▶ Requires access to information on COMPARABLE sales or sales of shares in companies which are sufficiently similar to the subject company.
- ▶ Can be quite difficult to find true comparables to the subject company
- ▶ Involves determination of some kind of RATE or MULTIPLIER from the comparable data, which is then applied against a selected income stream (as in the Income Methodologies).

# MARKET METHODOLOGY EXAMPLE #1

- ▶ Net Revenue of Company \$1,600,000
- ▶ Average Price/Revenue Ratios of Selected Publicly Traded Comparable Companies is 2.5
- ▶ Valuator applies Discount for Lack of Marketability of 40%
- ▶ Calculation:

$$\$1,600,000 * 2.5 * (1-.40) = \$2,400,000 \text{ Entity Value}$$

# ASSET METHODOLOGIES

- ▶ These methods value a business based on the value of the assets.
- ▶ Common asset methods include the Book Value Method, Adjusted Book Value Method, Replacement Value Method and Liquidation Method.
- ▶ Can often be used to calculate a FLOOR value.
- ▶ Not terribly meaningful in most operating company situations.



# ASSET METHODOLOGY EXAMPLE

	Book Value	Adjustment	Adj. Book Value
Cash	50,000	–	50,000
Accounts Receivable	250,000	(40,000)	210,000
Inventory	175,000	(20,000)	155,000
Fixed Assets	300,000	400,000	700,000
Intangible Assets	0	100,000	100,000
Total Assets	<b>775,000</b>	<b>440,000</b>	<b>1,215,000</b>
Accounts Payable	75,000		75,000
Long Term Debt	300,000		300,000
Total Liabilities	<b>375,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>375,000</b>
Net Equity	<b>\$400,000</b>		<b>\$840,000</b>

# "RULES OF THUMB" METHODOLOGIES

- ▶ Differ from industry to industry
- ▶ Can be somewhat useful
- ▶ Need to be tested against other methods

An example:

Guy Kawasaki's Law of Pre-Money Valuation

- ▶ For Each Engineer add \$500,000
- ▶ For Each MBA subtract \$250,000

# VALUING THE TECH START-UP

- ▶ Traditional valuation methods are very difficult to apply to start-ups:
- ▶ Often, no revenue or EBITDA metrics; insufficient history
- ▶ No meaningful "comparables"
- ▶ Income/cash flow projections are very difficult or are suspect

# A PRE-REVENUE, PRE-EBITDA VALUATION MODEL FOR START-UPS

KEY FACTOR	RATING	VALUE ASSIGNED
Team with tech and business talent; Experience a plus.	0 to 5	\$0 - \$500,000
Large scale market opportunity; Demonstrated customer need and interest.	0 to 5	\$0 - \$500,000
Disruptive technology; Novel I/P with freedom to operate	0 to 5	\$0 - \$500,000
Evaluation of Risks/Intangibles	0 to 5	\$0 - \$500,000

# START UP RISKS FACED

TECHNOLOGY RISK

EXECUTION RISK

FINANCIAL RISK

I/P  
FREEDOM-TO-OPERATE  
COMPETITIVE RISK

MARKET RISK

# EXCEPTIONS TO THE MODEL

- ▶ There are always exceptions to the model!
- ▶ Supply and demand of funding impacts the range of \$0 to \$500,000 assigned to each element of the model.
- ▶ A combination of the "right stuff" inherent in the start-up can impact the model.
- ▶ The ultimate test of "fair market value" is a willing buyer and willing seller coming to mutual agreement.

# VALUATION TIPS AND TRAPS

- ▶ Understand that the Market for Start-up Capital is what ultimately sets your value
- ▶ Be flexible and willing to negotiate value with investors
- ▶ Remember that valuation is only one element of a successful term sheet for funding....it's called a term sheet for a reason!
- ▶ An over-valued first round of financing can really mess things up down the road
- ▶ Seek professional guidance in establishing your valuation expectations

# CONTACT INFORMATION

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