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Planning & Execution

STRATEGIC CAPACITY REPORT

Creating Predictable Profits, Sustainable Growth & Transferable Value

prepared for

Stackflow

Best-in-class operations have high Strategic Capacity. Here is how your business scores.

Understanding your Strategic Capacity is critical for fine-tuning your business so that it can deliver your goals. Congratulations, you've taken the first step.

Prepared for:		Jack Stack
Business Name:		Stackflow
Industry:		Manufacturing (31-33)
Gross Revenue:		\$10,000,000.00
Profit:		\$1,000,000.00
Headcount:		50
Email:		tonyasmithconsulting@gmail.com
Mobile Phone:		
Goals:		
Stabilize Cashflow Grow Reve	nues Prepare for Sale	Make Business Easier to Run
Your #1 Goal: This is your strategic intent		
Stabilize Cashflow Grow Reve	nues Prepare for Sale	Make Business Easier to Run
Your top bottleneck:		

Strategic Capacity

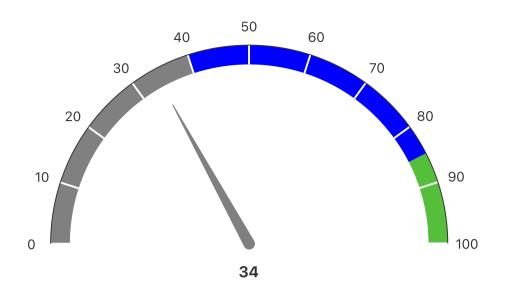
- Strategic Capacity describes a business' ability to outperform its peers at delivering growing profits and maximized transferable value. The two contributors to Strategic Capacity are Growth Capacity and Value Capacity. Strategic Capacity should be considered in the same context as the discount rate in a Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) valuation: high Strategic Capacity creates a low discount rate
- Growth Capacity: a business' current ability to predictably grow profits and cash flow compared to best-in-class companies
- Value Capacity predicts M&A transaction readiness. Value Capacity is a business' current ability to deliver high transferable value, considering accepted due diligence standards for a successful M&A or similar transaction.
- The Strategic Capacity score compares this business to best-in-class operations

• Best-in-Class businesses typically score above 85 of 100, indicating they have high capacity to generate predictable cash flow, sustainable growth and can maximize transferable value

These businesses demonstrate strength in the three dimensions of business growth and typically

- 1. out-compete on positive cash flow
- 2. are operationally efficient (easier to run), and
- 3. are more likely to earn top multiples in an M&A or similar transaction

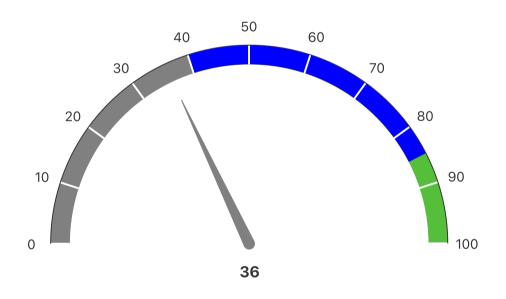
STRATEGIC CAPACITY REPORT



Strategic Capacity: 34

- ✓ Become a best-in-class competitor by increasing your strategic capacity
- ✓ You will create a business engine that delivers predictable profits and growth, with high transferable value
 - ✓ Leading your business to become a best-in-class competitor also generates wealth and peace of mind

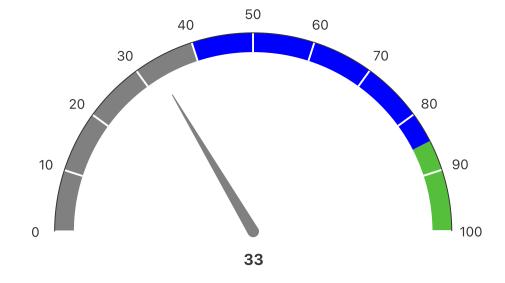
STRATEGIC ELEMENT 1: GROWTH CAPACITY



Growth Capacity: 36

Growth Capacity scores your business' current ability to deliver sustainable growth compared to best-in-class operations.

STRATEGIC ELEMENT 2: VALUE CAPACITY



Value Capacity: 33

Value Capacity predicts M&A transaction readiness. Value Capacity scores your business' current ability to monetize equity value.

Range of Value and Strategic Capacity

- 1. Strategic Capacity impacts positive cash flow, growth and transferable value
- 2. For every industry there is a normalized M&A trading range of multiples, for example 2X-6X earnings (Gross Revenues or EBITDA, depending on the industry)
- 3. EBITDA is Earnings before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortization

Understanding the Range of Value Chart:

- 1. The upper-right box shows the calculation of value for the respondent business at the top multiple. This is the total existing value of the business; financial acquirers (such as Private Equity Groups, 3rd parties and Recapitalization) generally discount total existing value to account for company-specific risk aka Strategic Capacity
- 2. The lower-right box shows the calculation of value for the respondent business at the representative low multiple; lower multiples are applied to businesses whose risk profile is at the low end of acceptable investment parameters
- 3. 'Current Transferable Value' is a calculation of the business value net of company-specific risk, and correlates to the price that might be offered after completing due diligence in an M&A or similar transaction; it is calculated by applying Strategic Capacity to the tota value at the top end of the normalized range of trading multiples
- 4. Increasing Strategic Capacity can increase transferable value

Market Perspective of Transferable Value: Range of Value

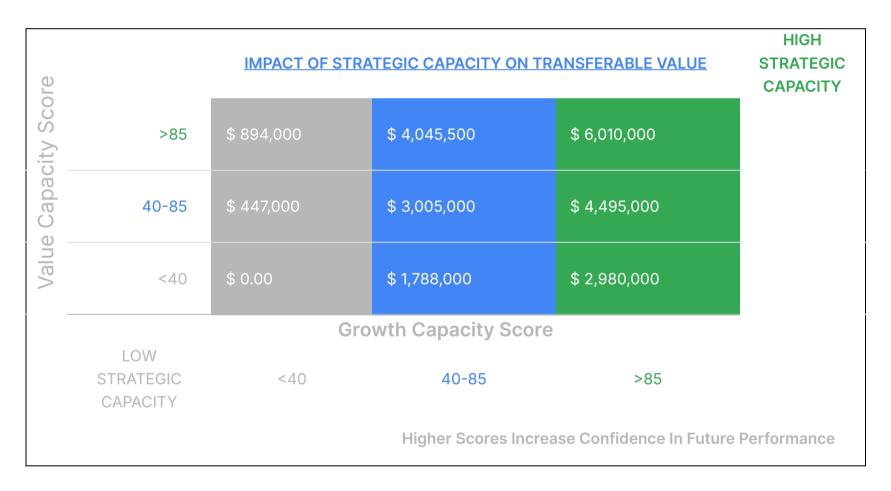
Transferable Value at High Strategic Capacity

Current Transferable Value

\$ 6,010,000

\$ 2,043,400

\$ 3,966,600



Note: Calculation of value for business planning purposes. Not a formal valuation.

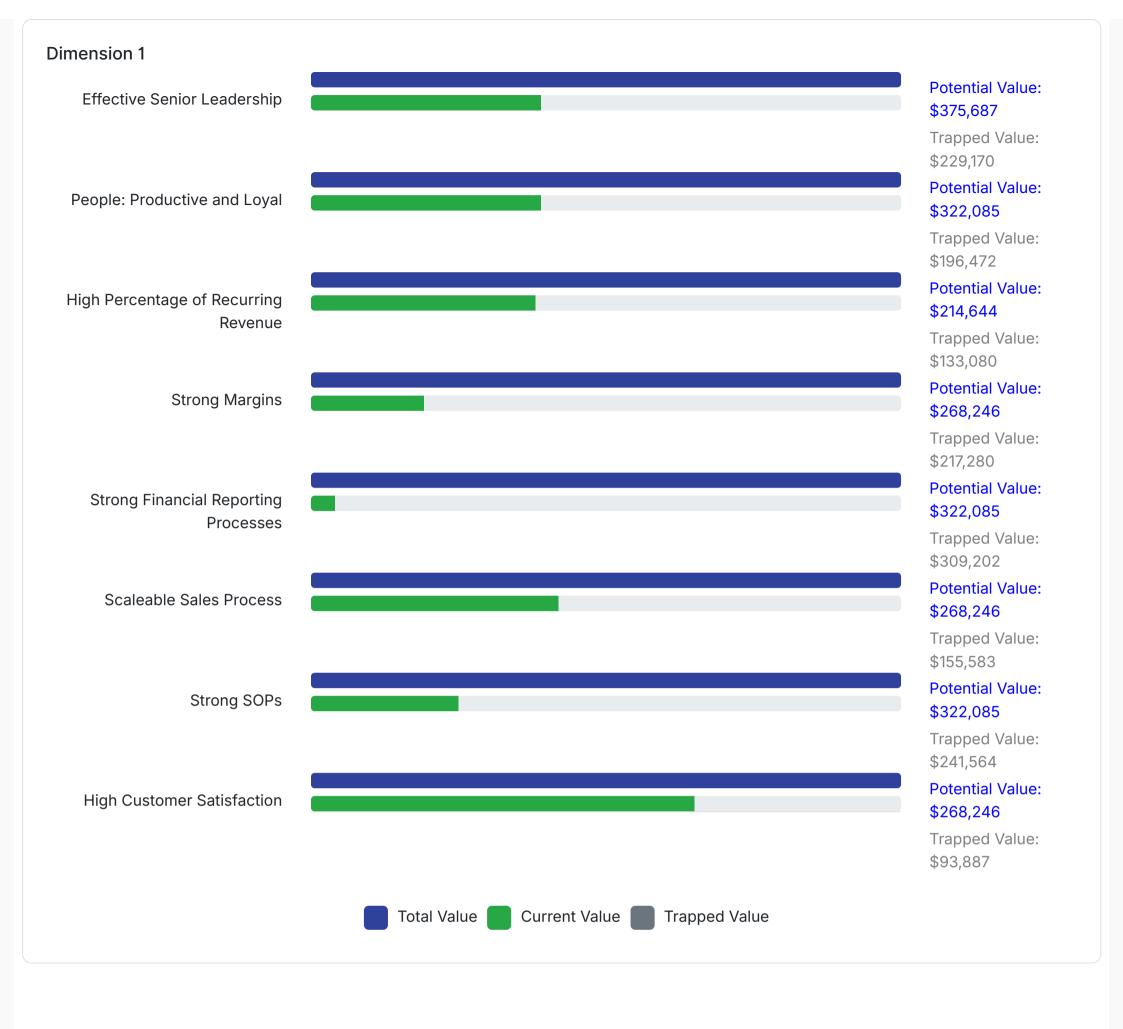
Strategic Capacity: 34
Growth Capacity: 36
Value Capacity: 33

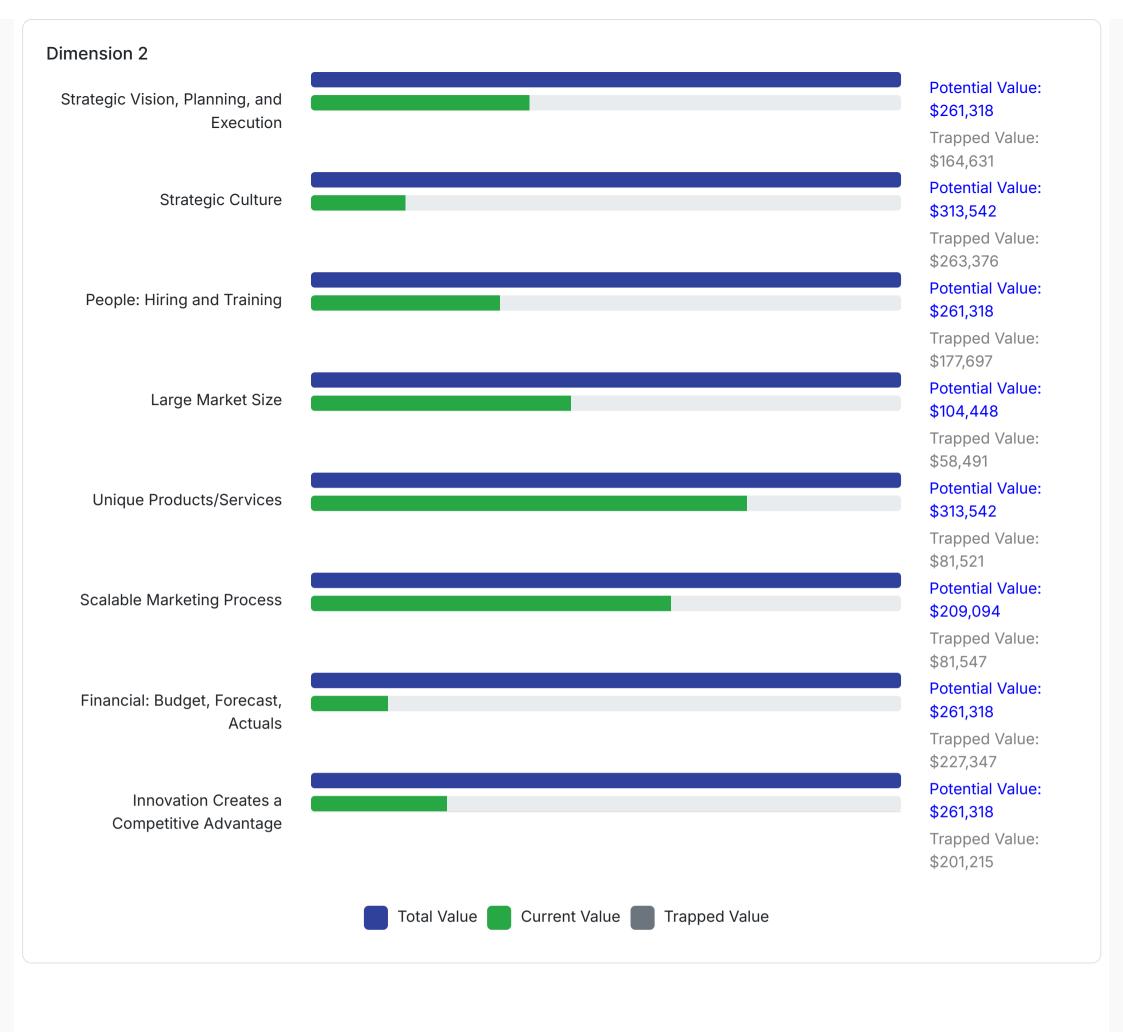
Return on Investment (ROI) from increasing Strategic Capacity

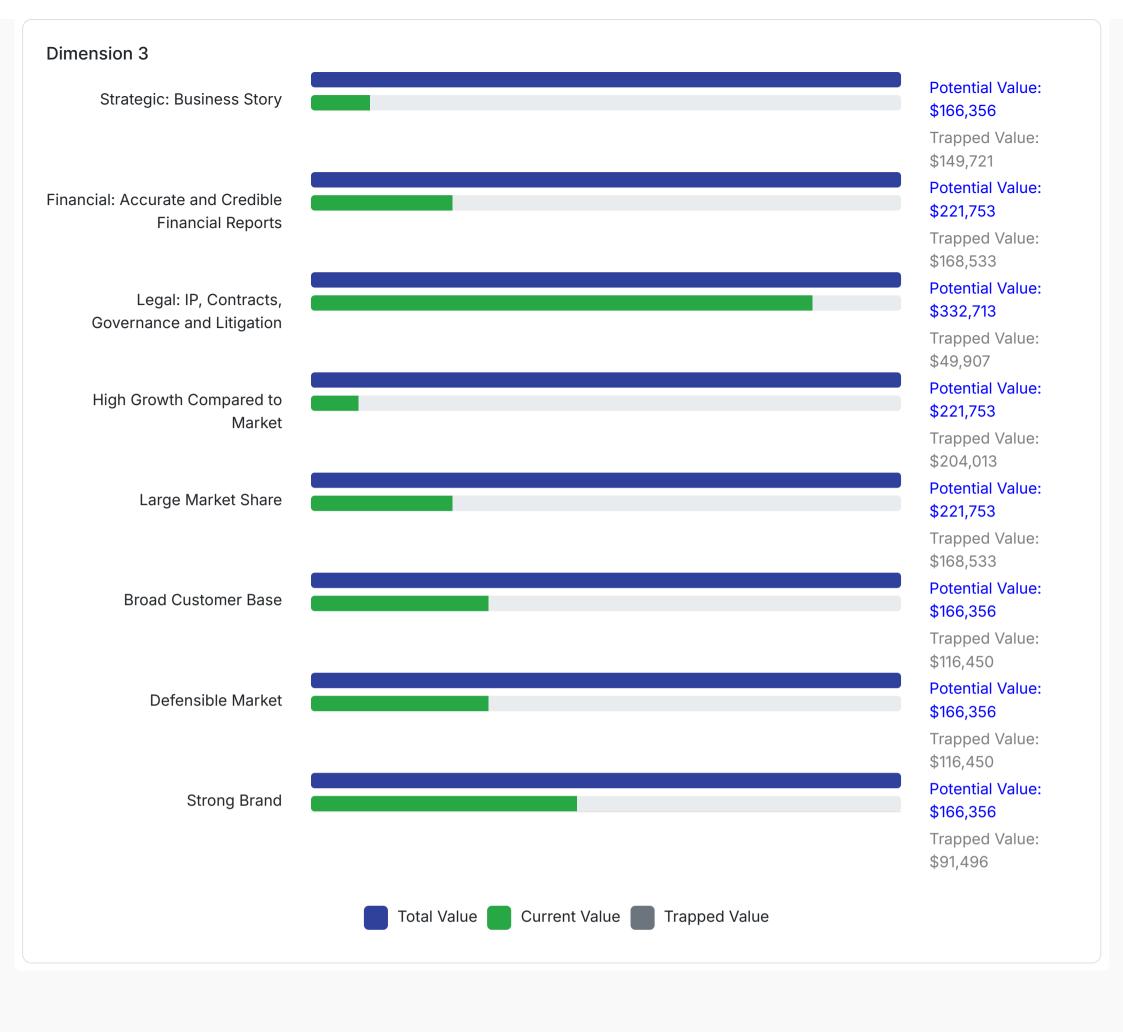
- 1. Investments of time and dollars to increase Strategic Capacity and mitigate company-specific risks tend to increase transferable value
- 2. Your return on these investments (ROI) is the dollar value captured and created from attaining high Strategic Capacity; ROI is calculated by subtracting transferable value from the existing top value of the business

 ROI = Top Value Transferable Value
- 3. The total ROI is the total cost of risk and can logically be allocated between the various contributors to total risk Chart: Total ROI and ROI allocated among the three dimensions of business growth:









Analysis for Individual Growth-Driving Objectives

- 1. The following analysis compares how the subject business' compares with generally accepted best practices
- 2. Best practices are described using the proven OKR methodology
- 3. OKRs, which stands for "Objectives and Key Results," is a goal-setting methodology used to set and track measurable goals for teams and organizations. The main components of OKRs are:
 - a. Objectives: These are qualitative descriptions of what you want to achieve; they are aspirational and provide direction to teams; each Objective includes constituent Key Results
 - **b.** Key Results: These are quantitative measures used to track the achievement of the objective; they are metrics that indicate progress toward accomplishing the objective
- 4. OKRs help in creating alignment and engagement around measurable goals and are often incorporated by leadership to execute strategy and ensure everyone is working towards common goals
- 5. In our system there are twenty four growth-driving objectives (eight in each of the three dimensions of business growth) each with an average of five constituent key results

Current Best Practices, Growth Killers and Deal Killers

Your Survey Highlights:

Current Best Practices:

Legal: IP, Contracts, Governance and Litigation

Growth Killers: Business is below best practices in

Effective-Senior-Leadership People: Productive and Loyal

High Percentage of Recurring Revenue

Strong Margins

Financial Reporting Processes

Scaleable Sales Process

Strong SOPs

Strategic Vision, Planning, and Execution

Strategic Culture

People: Hiring and Training

Large Market Size

Financial: Budget, Forecast, Actuals

Innovation Creates a Competitive Advantage

Broad Customer Base

Deal Killers: Business is below best practices in

Effective-Senior-Leadership

High Percentage of Recurring Revenue

Strong Margins

Strategic Vision, Planning, and Execution

Large Market Size

Strategic: Business Story

Financial: Accurate and Credible Financial Reports Legal: IP, Contracts, Governance and Litigation

High Growth Compared to Market

Large Market Share Broad Customer Base Defensible Market

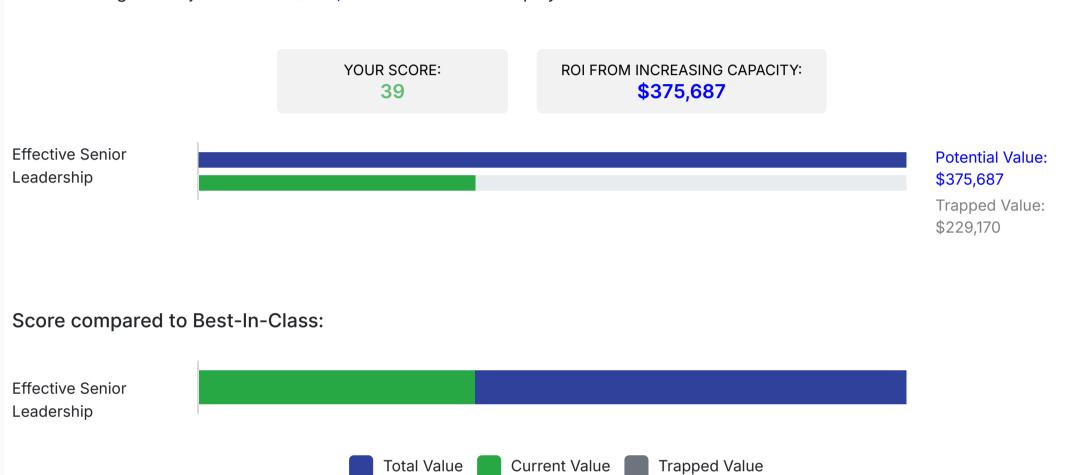
Strong Brand

Effective Senior Leadership

Growth-Driving Objective: our business has an effective leadership team that is aligned with and accountable to the business' vision and mission, helping the shareholders achieve their objectives.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$375,687 to Transferable Equity Value



Effective Senior Leadership

Your business has an effective leadership team that is aligned with and accountable to the business' vision and mission, helping the shareholders achieve their objectives.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

The shareholders have written time-bound goals for the business which are shared with the senior leadership team.	The senior leadership team understands and is aligned with the shareholder goals.
O True and we can document	O True and we can document
O More true than not	O More true than not
Mostly false	• Mostly false
○ Not true	O Not true
Senior leadership is accountable to the business vision, mission and strategy.	Senior leadership is accountable to the shareholder goals.
O True and we can document	O True and we can document
More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	Mostly false
O Not true	O Not true
Senior leadership meets regularly to review and discuss progress towards the shareholder goals.	The business runs smoothly in the CEO's absence.
O Senior leadership meets weekly and keeps reports	O The CEO can take a prolonged absence without disrupting positive business performance
O More true than not	• More true than not
Mostly false	O Mostly false
○ Not true	O Not true

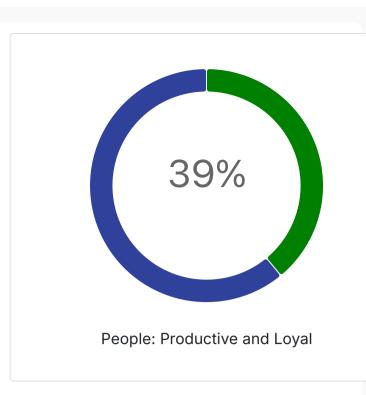
The business has a succession plan for each senior leader.
O True and we have a document that is up-to-date
O More true than not
Mostly false
○ Not true

Effective Senior Leadership Team

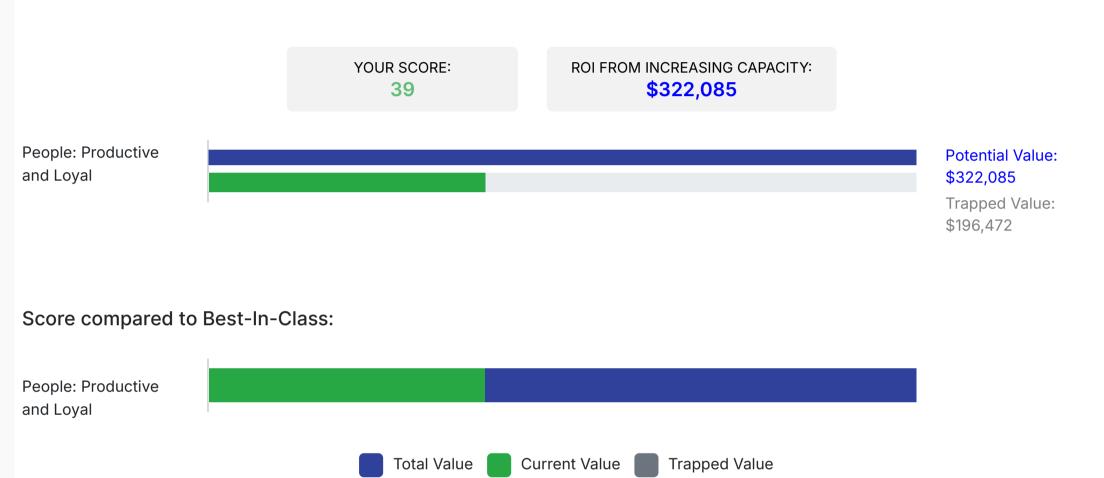
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Bottom line up front, best-in-class businesses leverage the collaborative accountability of a leadership team rather than of a single individual. The fundamental role of the CEO is to maximize shareholder value within the context of the business' vision and mission; the leadership team is accountable for operations and results. The team is guided by a clearly defined vision and mission that provide a sense of purpose. In turn, strategic objectives help set priorities for executing the mission. Effective communication of the vision, mission and strategy ensures alignment throughout the organization, driving motivation and focus. Encouraging shareholder involvement fosters transparency and accountability, ultimately enhancing the company's profit and value performance. Top businesses have a succession plan that ensures business continuity by identifying and grooming future leaders, reducing risks associated with leadership transitions.

People: Productive and Loyal

Growth-Driving Objective: Every employee and contractor understands their role and the metrics defining their success, both individually and for their team contributing to the business.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$322,085 to Transferable Equity Value



People: Productive and Loyal

Every employee and contractor understands their role and the metrics defining their success, both individually and for their team contributing to the business.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

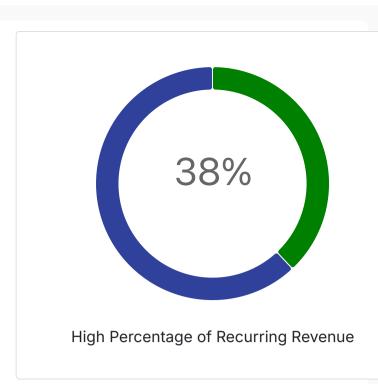
Employees can explain in 1-2 sentences the businesses mission, strategy and goals and their role in executing them.	For every employee and contractor the exists a written role, accountabilities and function mapping.
O True and we can document	O True and we can document
More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	Mostly false
○ Not true	○ Not true
Every employee and contractor understands the one number that defines success in their role; these metrics are documented.	Every employee and contractor is a member of a team and every team has documented metrics that define its success.
O True and we can document	○ True and we can document
More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
○ Not true	Not true
Every team meets frequently to review and discuss progress towards business goals.	Compensation and benefits for all employees are in line with industry norms and include performance-based incentives.
O Every team meets weekly and keeps reports	○ True and we can document
More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	• Mostly false
○ Not true	○ Not true

People: Productive and Loyal

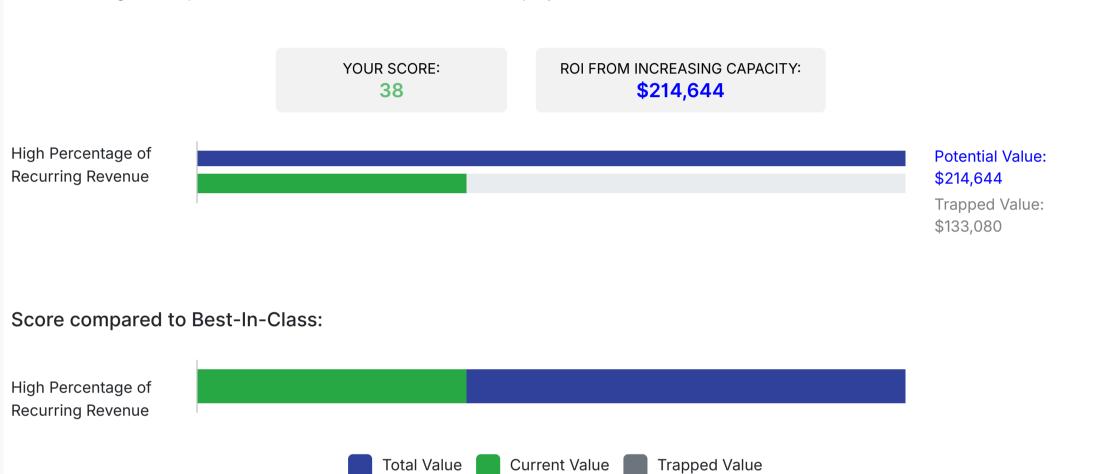
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: A skilled and loyal workforce is vital for sustained success. Training and upskilling programs enhance employee productivity and expertise, directly impacting the bottom line. Feedback systems clarify role expectations, reducing misunderstandings and inefficiencies. Team meetings align employees with the business mission and strategy, promoting a unified and motivated workforce.

High Percentage of Recurring Revenue

Growth-Driving Objective: Your business can predict a significant portion of future revenue from customers through contracts or other means.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$214,644 to Transferable Equity Value



High Percentage of Recurring Revenue

Your business can predict a significant portion of future revenue from customers through contracts or other means.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

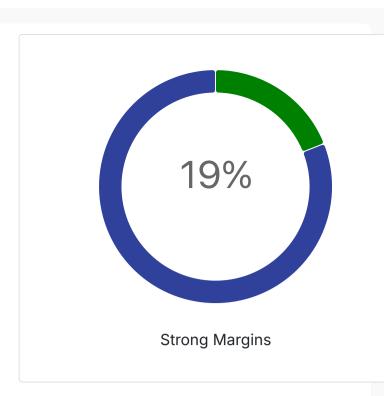
e business can predict 50% (good) to 80% (better) of future revenue ough contracts or other means.	The business uses contracts, loyalty programs, retained method payment, automatic renewals and other strategies to ensure a handle percentage of predictable revenues.
We can predict 80% or more	O True and we can document
O We can predict 50%	O More true than not
We can predict 20%	Mostly false
O We can't	○ Not true
ao husinass lavaragos quetomor relationshins to mavimizo	
	The business can defend 3 or more reasons why it will generate a percentage of recurring revenues going into the future.
ne business leverages customer relationships to maximize redictable recurring revenues. True and we can document	
redictable recurring revenues.	percentage of recurring revenues going into the future.
True and we can document	percentage of recurring revenues going into the future. O We can document and defend 3 or more
True and we can document More true than not	percentage of recurring revenues going into the future. O We can document and defend 3 or more O We can document and defend 2

High Percentage of Recurring Revenue

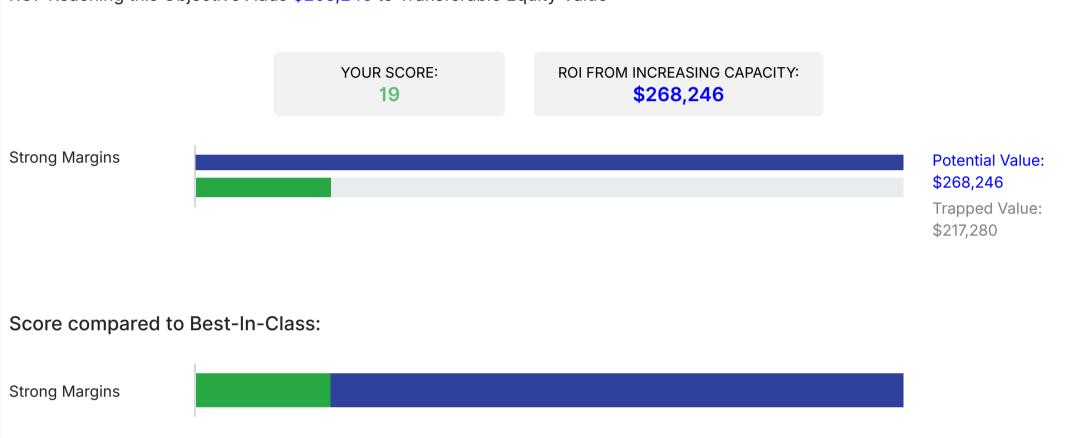
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Recurring revenue stabilizes cash flow, providing financial predictability. Implementing auto-renewal systems ensures ongoing customer retention. Loyalty programs incentivize long-term commitment, reducing customer churn. Offering long-term contracts with benefits secures revenue streams, enhancing financial stability.

Strong Margins

Growth-Driving Objective: Your business has a history of gross and net margins greater than the industry norm.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$268,246 to Transferable Equity Value



Current Value

Total Value

Trapped Value

Strong Margins

Your business has a history of gross and net margins greater than the industry norm.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

The business documents its gross and net margins.	The business documents gross and net margins for its industry and niche.
O True and we can document	○ True and we can document
O More true than not	O More true than not
Mostly false	
O Not true	O Mostly false
	Not true
The business has gross margins above its industry and niche.	The business has net margins above its industry and niche.
The business has gross margins above its industry and niche.	The business has het margins above its industry and hiche.
O We are >20% above and can prove it	○ We are >20% above and can prove it
○ We are ~10% above and can prove it	○ We are ~10% above and can prove it
O We are at standards	We are at standards
We are below	O We are below
The business can state 3 reasons it can defend forecasts of future gross and net margins at or above its industry and niche.	
O We can document and defend 3 or more	
O We can document and defend 2	
We can document and defend 1	

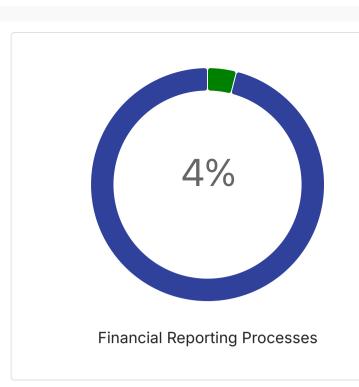
Strong Margins

O We cannot

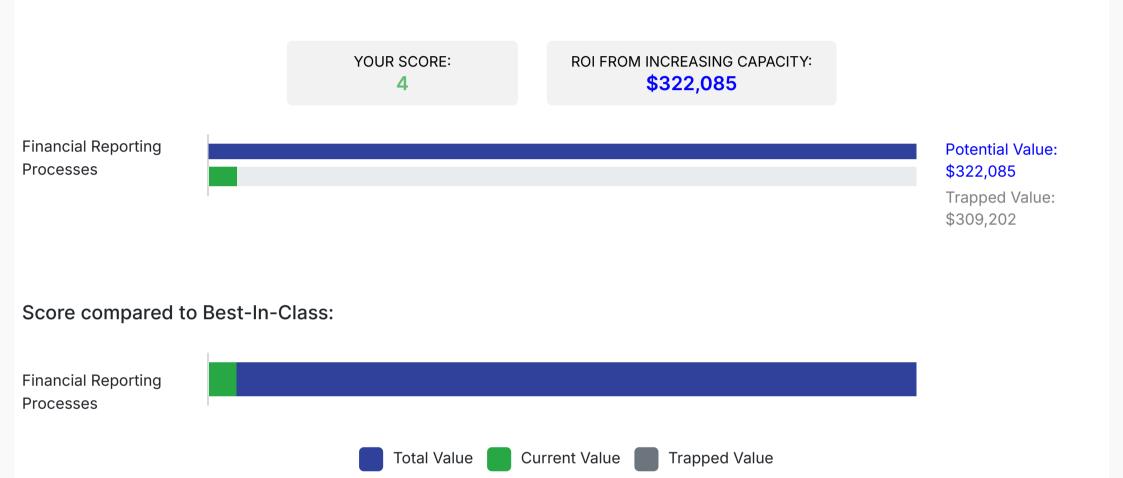
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Strong margins are essential for profitability and sustainability. Cost-reduction strategies improve the bottom line without compromising quality. Regular benchmarking helps maintain competitive pricing. Innovations can justify higher prices, increasing profit margins and competitiveness.

Financial Reporting Processes

Growth-Driving Objective: You regularly prepare and share P&L, Balance Sheet and Cash Flow reports; and weekly you prepare, distribute and discuss Flash Reports tracking the key metrics needed to analyze and predict business performance as a tool for reaching business goals.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$322,085 to Transferable Equity Value



Financial Reporting Processes

 $\bigcirc \ \mathsf{Mostly} \ \mathsf{false}$

You regularly prepare and share P&L, Balance Sheet and Cash Flow reports; and weekly you prepare, distribute and discuss Flash Reports tracking the key metrics needed to analyze and predict business performance as a tool for reaching business goals.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTR	ATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:
You follow industry best practices for preparing financial and operating reports.	The Chart of Accounts reflects the business you are in.
O We understand and follow best practices	O True and we can document
O More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	Mostly false
• We don't know what industry best practices are.	O Not true
The business prepares and shares the P&L and Balance Sheet within 10 days of each month's end.	The business prepares and shares the Cash Flow Report on the same day every week.
O True and we're confident these are 100% accurate	O True and we're confident these are 100% accurate
O More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
Not true	Not true
The business prepares and shares a weekly one page Flash Report tracking key performance indicators; previous reports are stored.	Senior leadership discusses the weekly Flash Report and it is used to manage the business.
O True and we can document	○ Yes
O More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
Not true	Not true
The business tracks revenue and profitability by product or service,	
and for each client	
O True and we have the data to prove it	
O More true than not	



Financial Reporting Processes

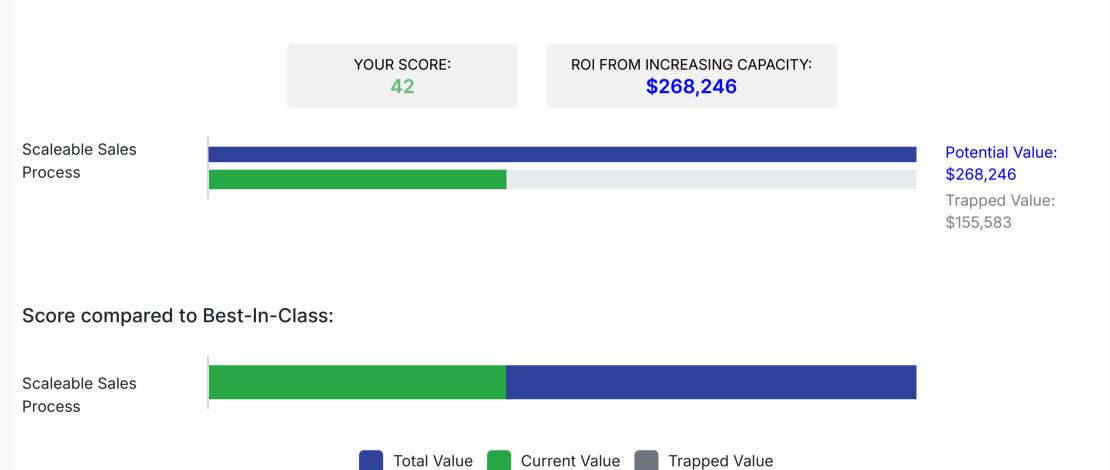
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Accurate financial reporting and tracking KPIs enables informed decision-making. Best-in-class businesses have internal trust and transparency and use a weekly scorecard to measure business flow. Scorecards can promote collaborative accountability in the senior leadership team, increasing performance and reducing reliance on the CEO. Modern software streamlines reporting, saving time and reducing errors. Regular financial reviews ensure performance aligns with goals. Training the finance team ensures compliance with industry best practices, reducing financial risks.

Scaleable Sales Process

Growth-Driving Objective: You have a documented sales process with a proven track record of success that is universally applied and scalable.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$268,246 to Transferable Equity Value



Scaleable Sales Process

You have a documented sales process with a proven track record of success that is universally applied and scalable.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

RET REGOLIO TIIAT DEMICITORIA	THE OBJECTIVE TO BETTO WILL.
The business uses a written sales plan.	The business uses a written sales process.
O We have a written plan to which all of sales is accountable	O We have a written process that everyone follows
O More true than not	• More true than not
Mostly false	O Mostly false
O We don't have a sales plan	Our sales come from people, not process
The business uses and tracks sales performance metrics. O We measure process effectiveness with written metrics and	The sales team actively uses an up-to-date customer relationship management software (CRM) to track prospects and customers at every stage of the customer journey, from prospect to evangelist,
compensation considers performance	including former customers.
More true than not	O Completely true
O Mostly false	O More true than not
O We don't use performance metrics other than revenues.	Mostly false
	O Not true
This CRM is used by senior leadership to understand why customers do and don't purchase products and services from the business.	
O Senior leadership tracks this weekly	
O More true than not	
Mostly false	

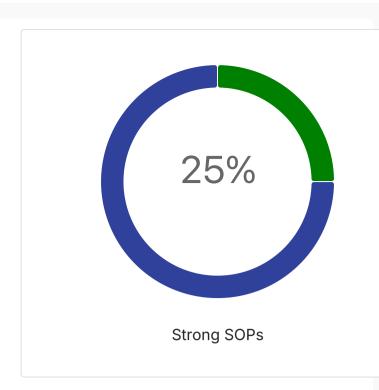
Scaleable Sales Process

O Not true

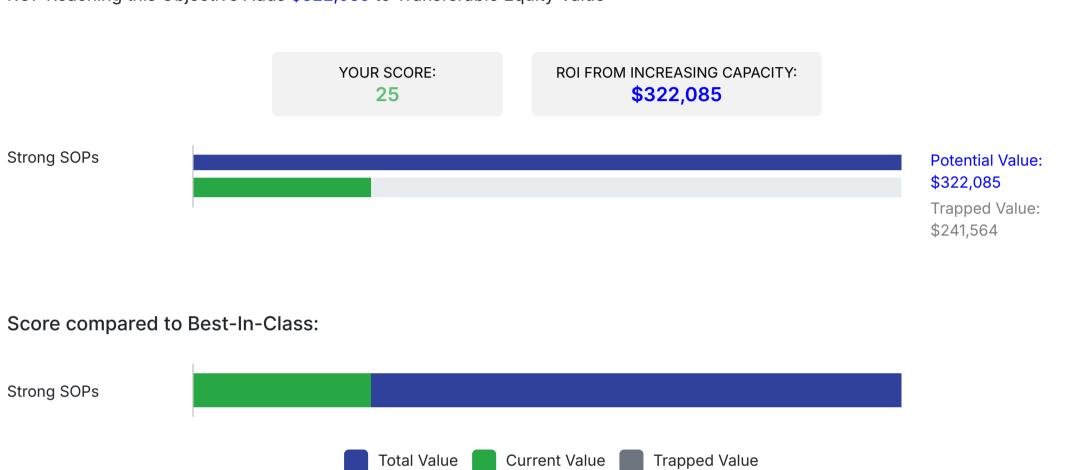
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: A sales plan and process can increase sales performance while mitigating risk from team turnover. Successful sales processes are stable and promote predictable cash flow; they are also scalable which drives growth. CRM software helps manage and track sales efficiently. Sales training ensures alignment with strategy, maximizing revenue potential. Monitoring sales metrics allows for data-driven refinement, optimizing sales strategies for long-term success.

Strong SOPs

Growth-Driving Objective: Your business has strong, documented standard operating processes that ensure consistent successful delivery on the promises made to the marketplace by sales.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$322,085 to Transferable Equity Value



Strong SOPs

Your business has strong, documented standard operating processes that ensure consistent successful delivery on the promises made to the marketplace by sales.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

The business has strong documented standard operating procedures ensuring smooth delivery of all products and services.	The business tracks delivery to quality specifications.
O We do, they're up-to-date and followed by all	O We have a written process and track quality at every step from production through delivery
O More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
• We don't	• We don't
The business tracks delivery to time specifications.	The business shares performance metrics on delivery quality and time across the entire organization.
O We have a written process and essentially always deliver on time.	O We share this data weekly and throughout the organization.
O More true than not	O More true than not
Mostly false	Mostly false
○ We don't	○ We don't
The business shares performance metrics on delivery quality and time with the market.	The business applies a documented cybersecurity program using best practices for the industry and has never experienced a data breach.
O We routinely update the market about our delivery performance as a competitive advantage.	○ We are 100% confident.
O More true than not	More true than not
Mostly false	O Mostly false
○ We don't	○ We don't

Strong SOPs

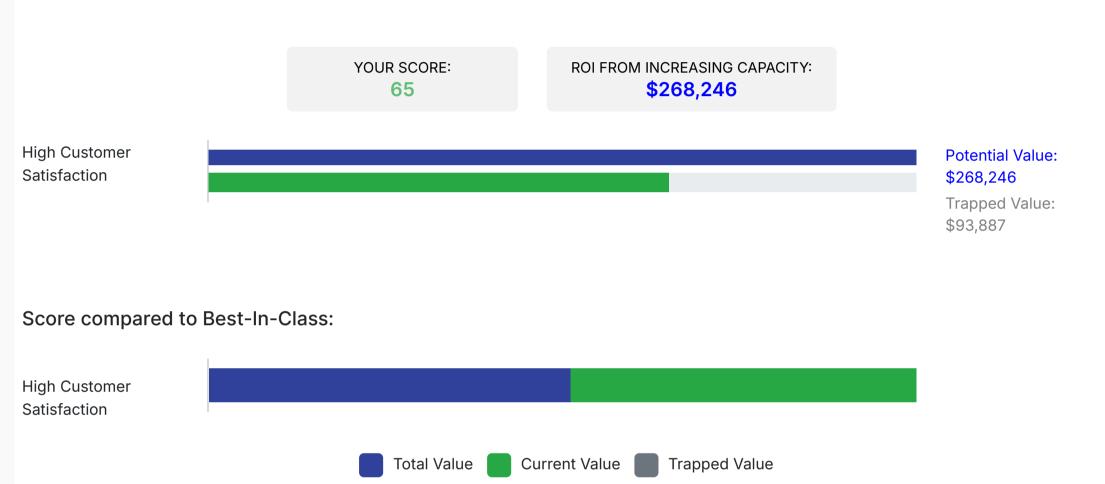
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) ensure consistency and quality. Strong SOPs are key to delivering high customer satisfaction, recurring revenues and potentially higher margins. Regular reviews keep SOPs aligned with business needs, reducing operational errors. Employee training on SOPs ensures compliance and efficiency. Technology automates checks, enhancing quality control.

High Customer Satisfaction

Growth-Driving Objective: Your business routinely measures customer satisfaction and uses this information to manage and improve performance.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$268,246 to Transferable Equity Value



High Customer Satisfaction

Your business routinely measures customer satisfaction and uses this information to manage and improve performance.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

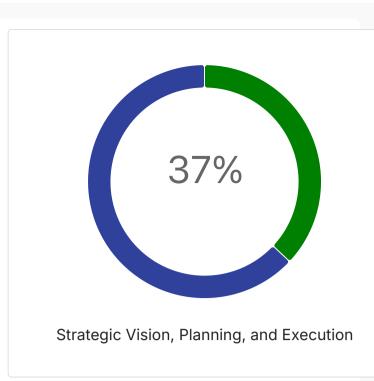
The business has a documented process to measure customer satisfaction.	The business routinely measures customer satisfaction, including a mix of surveys and customer interviews.
O We do, it is up-to-date and followed by all	O We do, it's up to date and applied to over 80% of customers
Two of these are true	• More true than not
One is true	O Mostly false
○ We don't	○ We don't
The business has a documented process to collect customer ideas for improving products, services, and processes.	The business regularly shares customer satisfaction data, both internally and externally.
We can document that we exceed industry best practices	O We do, its up-to-date and used routinely.
O More true than not	• More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
○ We don't	○ We don't
Customer satisfaction data is routinely used to manage the business.	
O We do this weekly	
• More true than not	
O Mostly false	
○ We don't	

High Customer Satisfaction

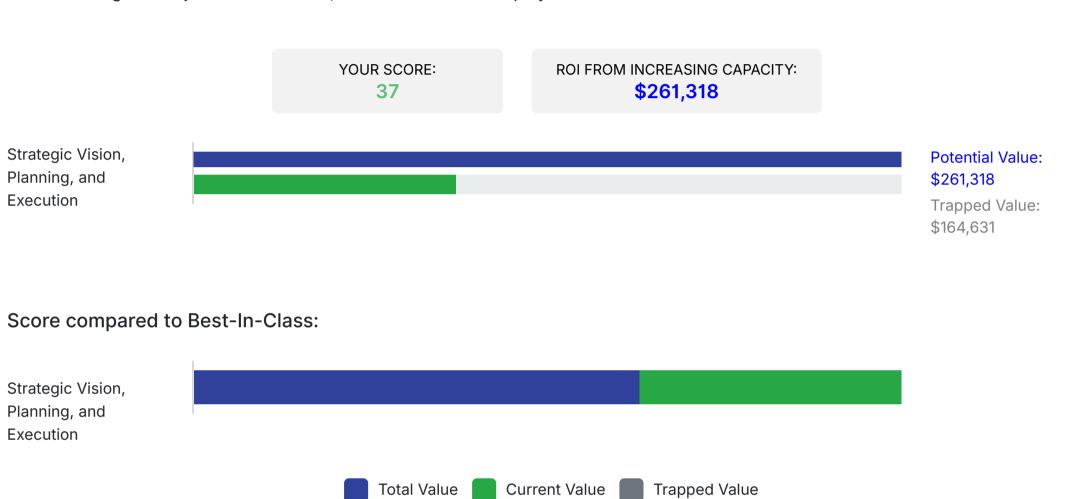
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Satisfied customers drive revenue and reputation. Feedback systems gather insights for improvement. Swiftly addressing concerns retains customers and fosters loyalty. Regular updates based on feedback enhance product/service quality, maintaining customer satisfaction and loyalty.

Strategic Vision, Planning, and Execution

Growth-Driving Objective: You document, are transparent and communicate your business' vision & mission, strategy, performance, SOPs, and culture both internally and externally; you have the capacity to execute.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$261,318 to Transferable Equity Value



Strategic Vision, Planning, and Execution

You document, are transparent and communicate your business' vision & mission, strategy, performance, SOPs, and culture both internally and externally; you have the capacity to execute.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

The business has a published vision and mission.	The business uses a written strategy to execute its mission and meet shareholder profit and value growth goals.
O We do, it's up to date and known by all	O We do, and successfully executing our strategy is the top priority
More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	Mostly false
○ We don't	○ We don't
	O we don't
Senior leadership manages the business in line with the strategic plan.	Senior leadership analyzes and considers strategic capacity in all planning and execution projects.
O Its our #1 priority	O Increasing strategic capacity is our #1 focus
O More true than not	O More true than not
Mostly false	
○ We don't	Mostly false
	○ We don't
You actively and continuously use an execution methodology to deploy your strategy.	
O We do, and it is embraced by all	
O More true than not	

Strategic Vision, Planning, and Execution

Mostly false

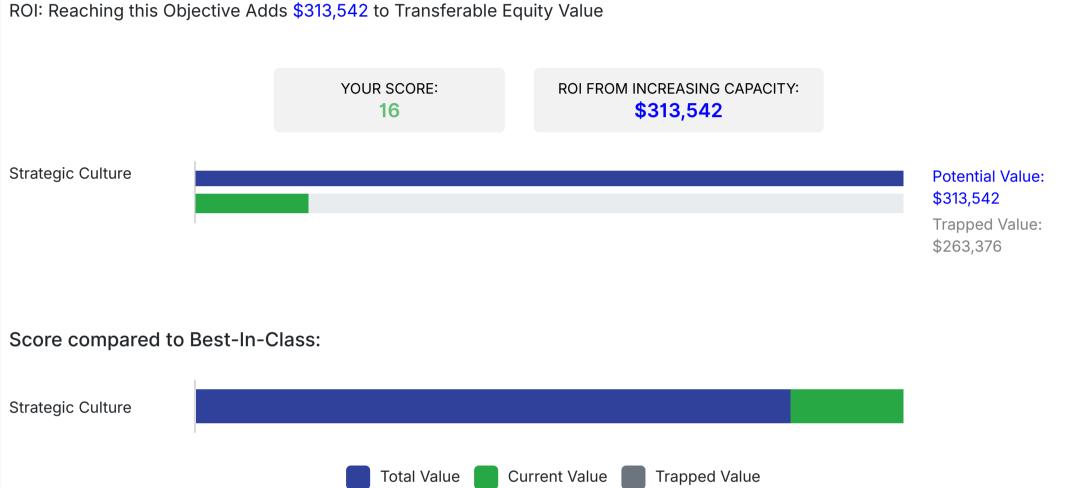
O We don't

- Why this matters to a private business CEO: best-in-class businesses operate following a strategic plan and constantly work on their capacity to execute. These businesses are operated using an execution leadership system focusing on regular communication and transparency. Conducting annual planning and quarterly strategic review meetings with senior leadership ensures alignment on the company's direction. Monthly and weekly tactical meetings drive strategic execution into daily business operations. Aligning department goals with the overall strategy promotes coordinated efforts. Utilizing business intelligence tools enables data-driven decision-making, optimizing resource allocation and strategy implementation.

Strategic Culture

Growth-Driving Objective: Your business culture helps deliver your vision, mission and strategy.





Strategic Culture

Your business culture helps deliver your vision, mission and strategy.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

The business has written guiding principles that support execution of the vision, mission and strategy.	The senior leadership team is aligned with the guiding principles.
O We do, and they can be recited by all.	O We live them every day; these guide hiring and performance review
○ Two of these are true	O More true than not
One is true	Mostly false
	○ We don't
○ We don't	
Employees and contractors are aligned with the guiding principles.	The business understands that maintaining a positive culture is a
O We live them every day; these guide hiring and performance review	purposeful exercise and invests time and treasure in promoting the guiding principles.
O More true than not	O We routinely focus on this as a top priority
O Mostly false	O More true than not
• We don't	Mostly false
	○ We don't
The culture greates an 'ownership' copes of belonging for all	An outsider can easily understand the business guiding principles.
The culture creates an 'ownership' sense of belonging for all employees and contractors.	
O We're 100% confident and can prove it	Our guiding principles are published for all to see and brought to life through our behaviors
O More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
We don't	We don't

Strategic Culture

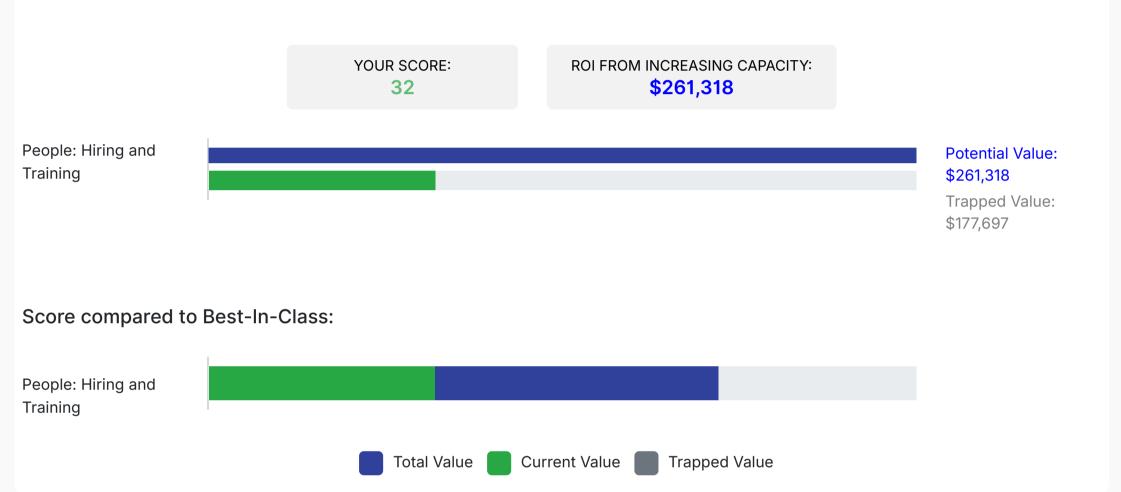
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: A strong strategic culture is created and constantly nurtured to foster unity and purpose among employees. The best cultures foster an ownership mentality amongst all employees and stakeholders. Communicating and behaving in line with established guiding principles strengthens collaboration and commitment. Encouraging open communication and feedback ensures employees understand and embrace guiding principles. Recognizing and rewarding employees who embody the culture reinforces desired behaviors. Culture contributes to brand promise, the value or experience a company's customers can expect to receive every single time they interact with the business.

People: Hiring and Training

Growth-Driving Objective: You have a documented and effective process to hire, onboard and train people that has a proven record of creating productive and loyal contributors to the business' success.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$261,318 to Transferable Equity Value



People: Hiring and Training

You have a documented and effective process to hire, onboard and train people that has a proven record of creating productive and loyal contributors to the business' success.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

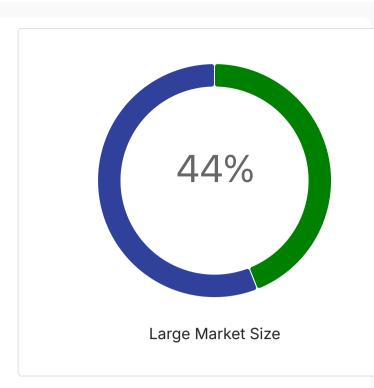
The business has a documented and proven process to identify and hire employees and contractors.	The business has a documented and proven process to onboard employees and contractors.
O We do and it's up to date	O We do and its applied to every new team member
O More true than not	O More true than not
Mostly false	Mostly false
○ We don't	○ We don't
The business has a documented process to train new employees.	Compensation and benefits for all employees are in line with industry norms and include performance-based incentives.
O We do, its up-to-date and they become productive quickly	O We stay up-to-date with and meet or exceed industry norms
O More true than not	O More true than not
Mostly false	Mostly false
○ We don't	○ We don't
Compensation and expenses for the CEO and other senior leaders is in line with industry norms.	
O We stay up-to-date with and meet or exceed industry norms for every senior leader	
O Two of these are true	
One of these is true	
O We don't, or we don't know	

People: Hiring and Training

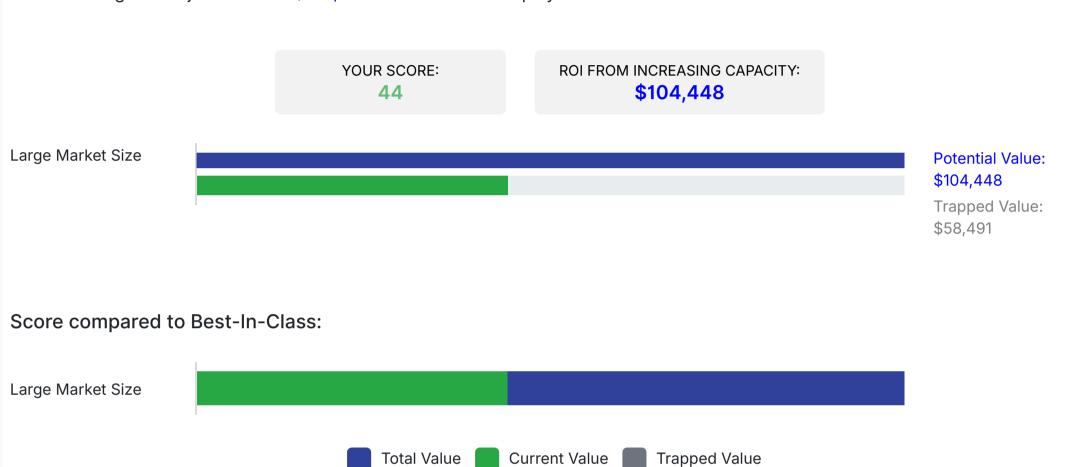
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Hiring and training impact talent acquisition and retention. A standardized onboarding process improves new hires' integration and productivity. Collaborating with experts enhances training effectiveness. Regularly reviewing and updating compensation structures to stay aligned with industry best practices ensures competitiveness in attracting and retaining top talent.

Large Market Size

Growth-Driving Objective: Your market supports significant growth of the business including one or more of geographic opportunities, diversifying revenues from current customers, non-cannibalizing new sales, and strategic acquisitions.



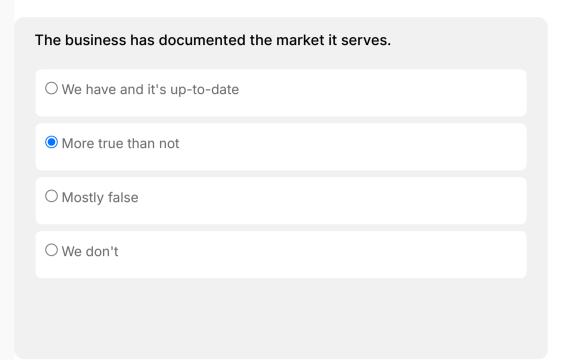
ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$104,448 to Transferable Equity Value

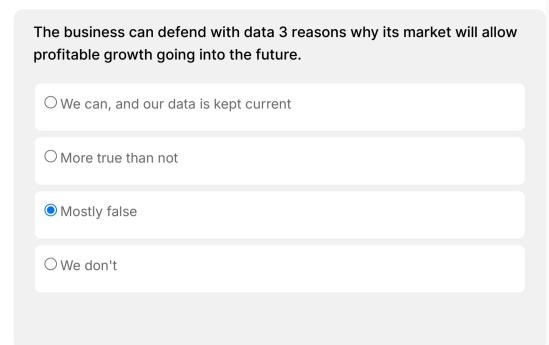


Large Market Size

Your market supports significant growth of the business including one or more of geographic opportunities, diversifying revenues from current customers, non-cannibalizing new sales, and strategic acquisitions.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:



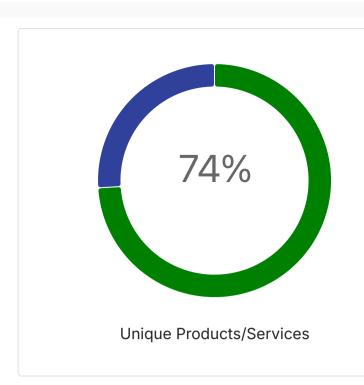


Large Market Size

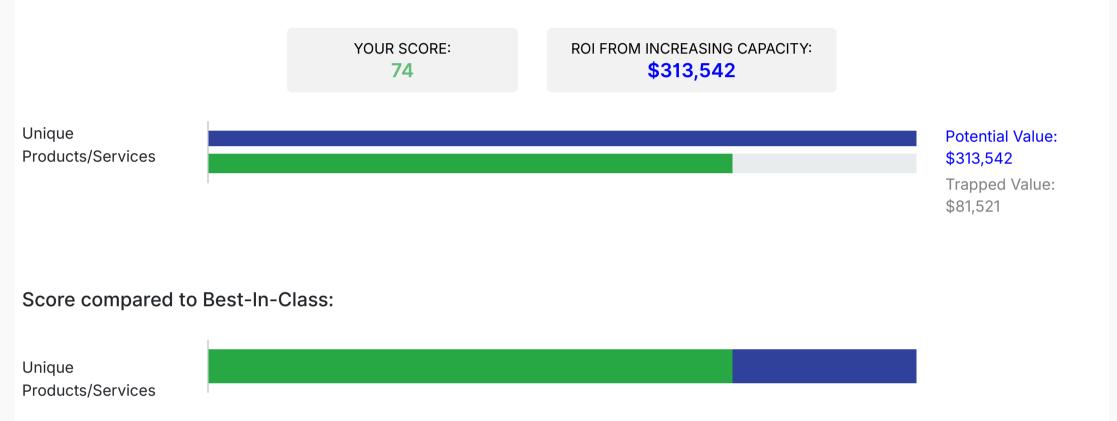
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Understanding market size informs growth strategies. Investing in market research identifies untapped opportunities. Implementing targeted marketing strategies expands market presence. Establishing partnerships or collaborations leverages resources for broader market reach.

Unique Products/Services

Growth-Driving Objective: Your products/services have unique characteristics that allow you to sell on value not price.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$313,542 to Transferable Equity Value



Current Value

Trapped Value

Total Value

Unique Products/Services

Your products/services have unique characteristics that allow you to sell on value not price.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

The business maintains a document that compares and contrast its products and services against the competition.	The business can explain why its products are the best possible fit for customers.
We do and it's up-to-date	O We can, and we keep this messaging up-to-date
O More true than not	• More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
○ We don't	○ We don't
The business uses a pricing strategy that focuses on value rather than price.	The business understands the life cycle for its products and services
○ We do	 We can document the life cycle for everything we sell and it's up-to- date
More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
○ We don't	○ We don't
The business has a process for designing and introducing new products and services	
O We have a documented process that is applied regularly	
More true than not	
O Mostly false	

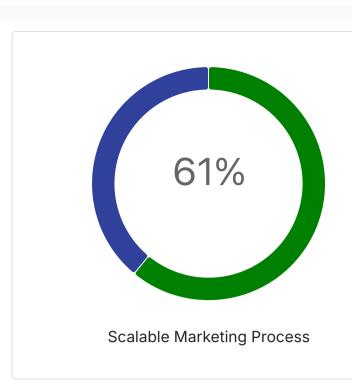
Unique Products/Services

O We don't

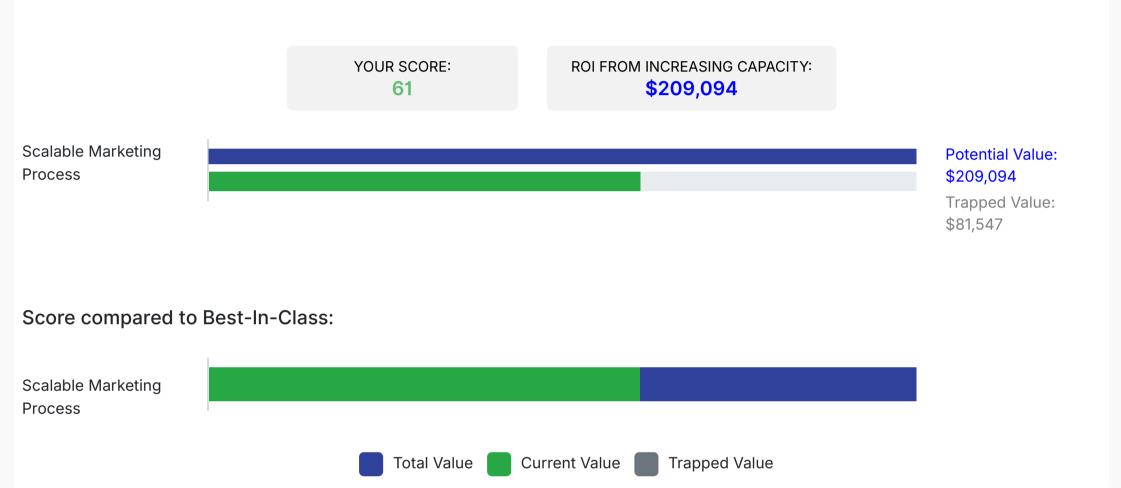
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Product uniqueness sustains competitiveness. Investing in research and development maintains relevance and innovation. Regularly reviewing the competitive landscape identifies differentiation opportunities. Developing a feedback loop with sales and marketing ensures product offerings align with market demands.

Scalable Marketing Process

Growth-Driving Objective: Your business can produce leads in a proven and systematic way, ensuring adequate potential customers at each stage of the buyer's journey.



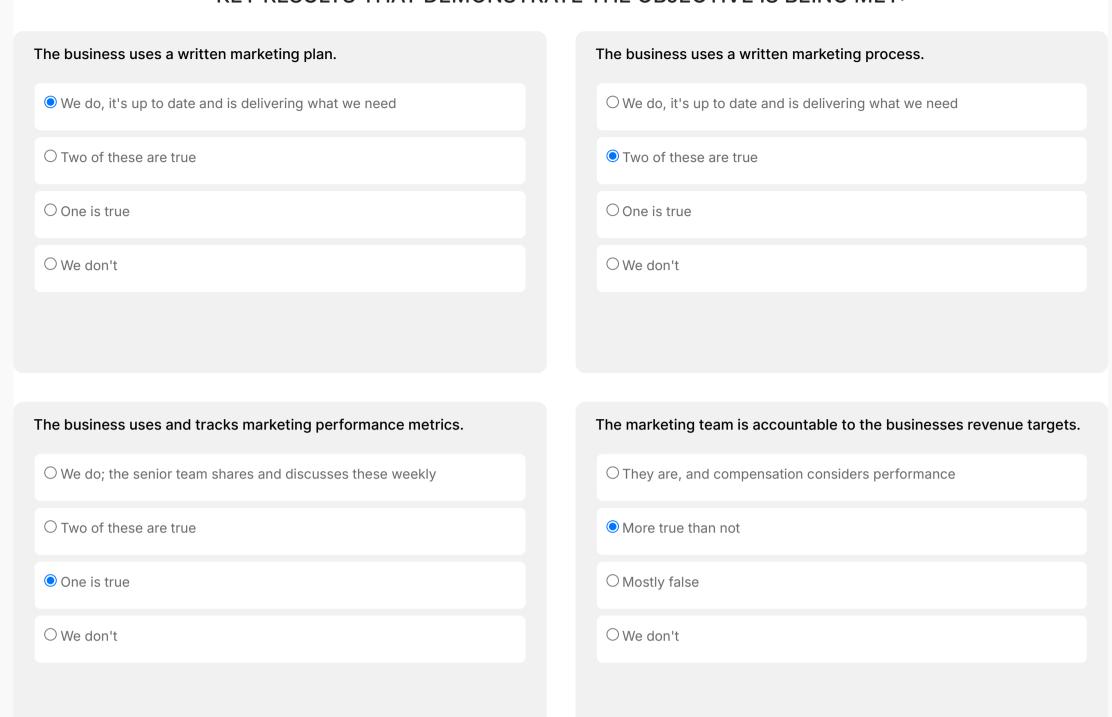
ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$209,094 to Transferable Equity Value



Scalable Marketing Process

Your business can produce leads in a proven and systematic way, ensuring adequate potential customers at each stage of the buyer's journey.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

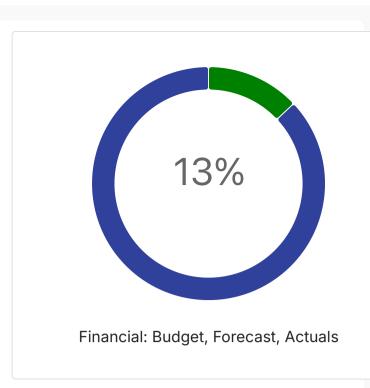


Scalable Marketing Process

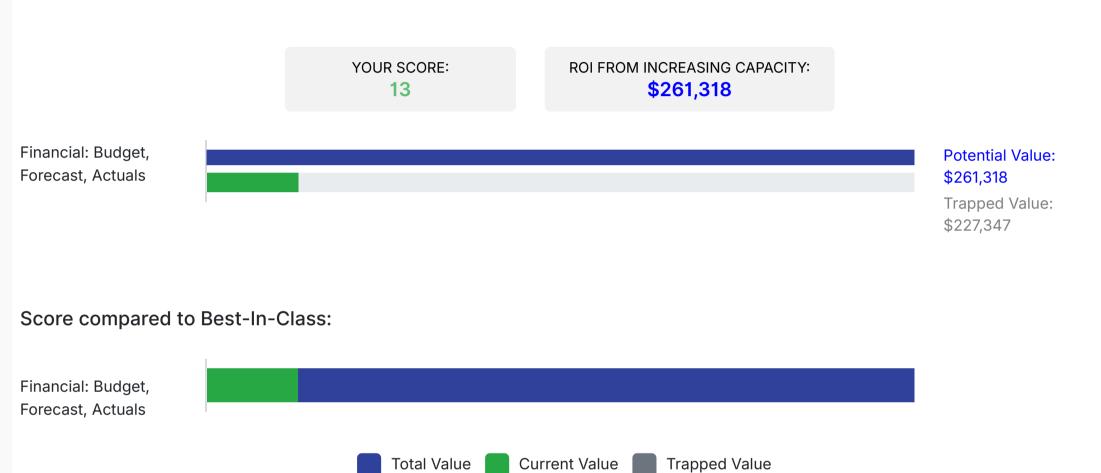
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Scalable marketing drives business growth. Utilizing digital strategies reaches a wider audience efficiently. Regularly optimizing the marketing funnel improves lead conversion rates. Training the marketing team on industry trends and tools keeps strategies current and effective.

Financial: Budget, Forecast, Actuals

Growth-Driving Objective: You manage finances using a budget and forecasts, and have a documented history of actual financial performance at or above forecast.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$261,318 to Transferable Equity Value



Financial: Budget, Forecast, Actuals

You manage finances using a budget and forecasts, and have a documented history of actual financial performance at or above forecast.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTR	ATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:
The business is managed to a budget.	The business forecasts future performance including both operational and financial metrics.
○ We do	O We do, and meeting these forecasts is a key focus of our strategic plan
O More true than not	execution
O Mostly false	O More true than not
• We don't	• Mostly false
	○ We don't
The business tracks actual performance against forecasts.	The business can accurately forecast performance for the next quarter.
O We do this weekly	O We do our forecasts are CMART D and have a preven record of
O More true than not	 We do, our forecasts are SMART-D and have a proven record of accuracy (Significant, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time Bound and Discussed)
O Mostly false	O More true than not
• We don't	O Mostly false
	We don't
The business can accurately forecast performance for the next year.	
O We do, our forecasts are SMART-D and have a proven record of accuracy (Significant, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time Bound and Discussed)	
O More true than not	

Financial: Budget, Forecast, Actuals

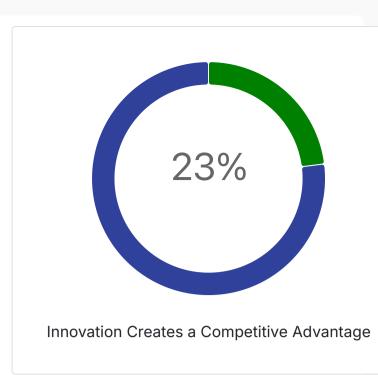
Mostly false

O We don't

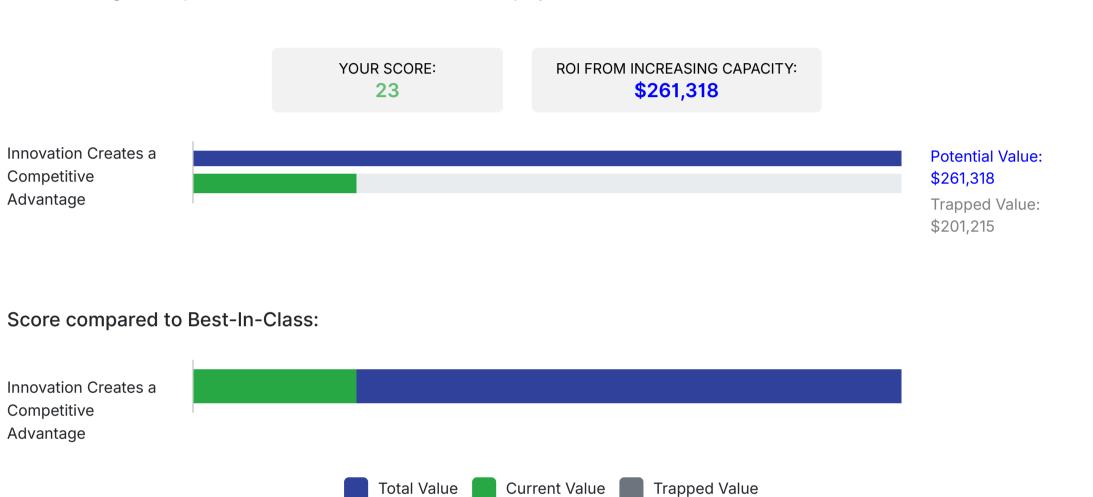
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Growth is expensive and cash-starved businesses cannot deliver sustained growth. Effective financial management is crucial. Implementing a financial dashboard provides real-time budget monitoring. Predictive analytics tools enhance forecasting accuracy. Conducting monthly financial planning and reviews ensures fiscal responsibility and adaptability.

Innovation Creates a Competitive Advantage

Growth-Driving Objective: Your business understands the value of innovation and has a proven and systematic way to drive and capture innovation from employees, vendors, customers and the market at all levels and for every area of the business.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$261,318 to Transferable Equity Value



Innovation Creates a Competitive Advantage

Your business understands the value of innovation and has a proven and systematic way to drive and capture innovation from employees, vendors, customers and the market at all levels and for every area of the business.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

The business actively seeks innovation of products, services and processes.	There exists a documented process for collecting and evaluating new ideas from employees, contractors, customers, vendors, and the market.
O This is a constant focus using a documented process	O There is, its up-to-date and applied routinely
More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
○ We don't	We don't
There exists written guidelines for implementing valuable innovations.	The business protects the intellectual property created by its employees and contractors using contracts such as work for hire,
O There is, its up-to-date and applied routinely	nondisclosure, noncompete, non-raid, and similar legal documents. These documents are up-to-date and easily accessible.
O More true than not	○ We are 100% confident and can prove it
O Mostly false	O More true than not
We don't	O Mostly false
	• We don't
The business uses technology and automation as a force multiplier, ensuring that it creates and maintains a competitive advantage going into the future.	
O We do, and our performance meets or exceeds industry best practices	
More true than not	
O Mostly false	

Innovation Creates a Competitive Advantage

O We don't

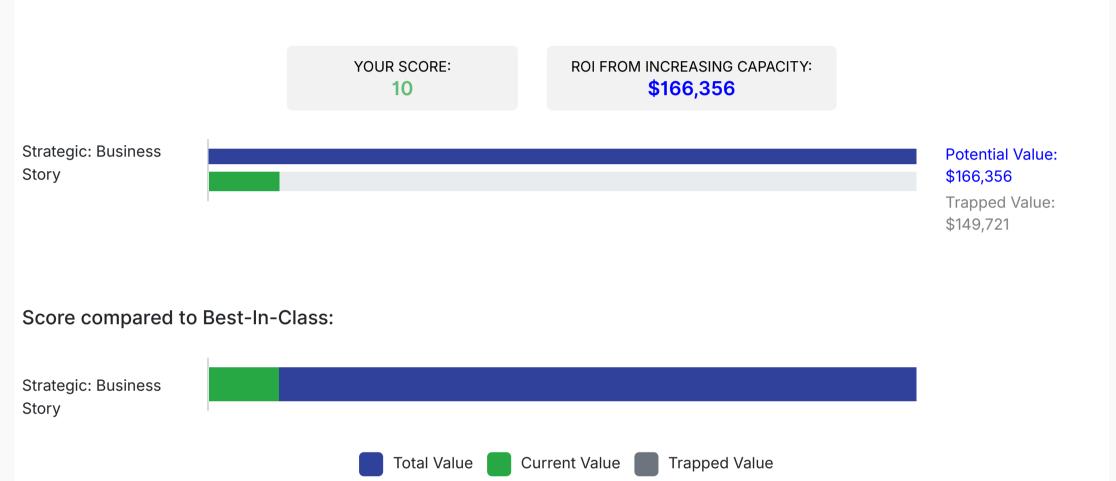
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Innovation drives competitiveness. Fostering a culture of innovation encourages creative problem-solving. Allocating resources for experimentation fuels new ideas. Developing partnerships with academic institutions or research organizations accesses external expertise, enhancing innovative capabilities.

Strategic: Business Story

Growth-Driving Objective: You have documented your business industry, niche, history (in words and financial results), organization and locations and have published the information that allows an outsider to quickly gain a clear understanding of what your business does, how it does it, and the business' promise to the market.



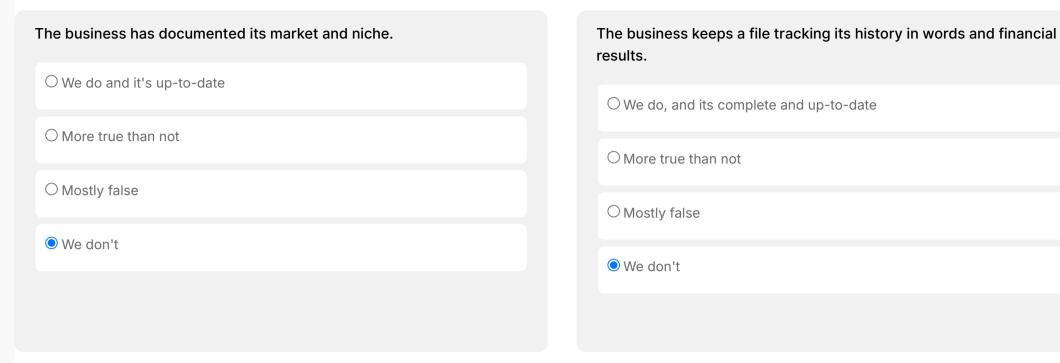
ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$166,356 to Transferable Equity Value



Strategic: Business Story

You have documented your business industry, niche, history (in words and financial results), organization and locations and have published the information that allows an outsider to quickly gain a clear understanding of what your business does, how it does it, and the business' promise to the market.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:



The business publishes its promise to the market and the policies it uses to keep this promise.
O We do and our policies are applied routinely
O More true than not
Mostly false
○ We don't

Strategic: Business Story

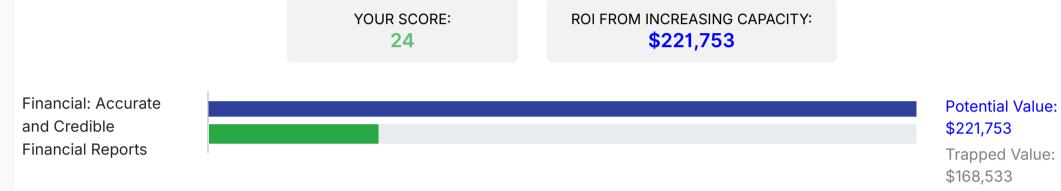
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Creating a detailed business portfolio or dossier is crucial as it provides a comprehensive view of the company's strengths, achievements, and future potential. This matters because it can attract potential investors or lenders, helping secure necessary capital for growth and development. Regularly updating business achievements and milestones in public profiles not only showcases progress but also builds credibility and trust among stakeholders. Furthermore, engaging with public relations experts to enhance business storytelling ensures that the company's narrative aligns with its strategic goals and resonates with the target audience, ultimately contributing to brand image and market positioning.

Financial: Accurate and Credible Financial Reports

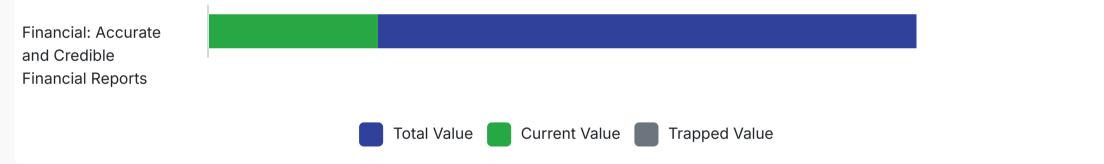
Growth-Driving Objective: Your business' financial reports are routinely reviewed by independent outside experts which confirms your financial performance and tax compliance, and your business could successfully complete an audit, quality of earnings, M&A due diligence or similar outside inspection.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$221,753 to Transferable Equity Value



Score compared to Best-In-Class:



Strategic: Business Story

Your business' financial reports are routinely reviewed by independent outside experts which confirms your financial performance and tax compliance, and your business could successfully complete an audit, quality of earnings, M&A due diligence or similar outside inspection.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

The business uses a written process to create timely and accurate financial reports.	The business financial reports are routinely reviewed by an outside expert.
O We do and we're 99.9% confident they are accurate	O We had someone look at them in the last 12 months
O More true than not	O We had someone look at them in the last 3 years
Mostly false	We had someone look at them in the last 5 years
○ We don't	○ We haven't

An certified public accounting firm has reviewed the accuracy of the financial reports for one or more of the past five years through review, audit and/or quality of earnings review.

ac	direction, or quality or cultimigo review.
	They have in the past 12 months and we've documented how we cleared any negative findings
	O More true than not
	Mostly false
	○ We haven't

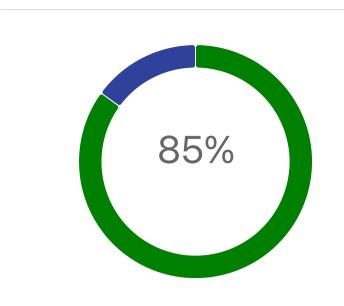
The business can document compliance since inception or for the past 10 years with all relevant tax obligations.
O We can using complete returns prepared by certified tax professionals.
O More true than not
O Mostly false
We don't

Financial: Accurate and Credible Financial Reports

- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Private business CEOs must prioritize accurate and credible financial reporting for several reasons among which is M&A readiness. Engaging a reputable third-party firm for annual financial audits in the years preceding a sale, recapitalization or other transfer enhances transparency and trust with investors and creditors. Implementing rigorous internal checks and balances for financial reporting safeguards against fraud and errors. Additionally, training the finance team on the latest financial reporting standards and best practices ensures compliance with regulatory requirements, reducing legal risks and bolstering the company's financial reputation.

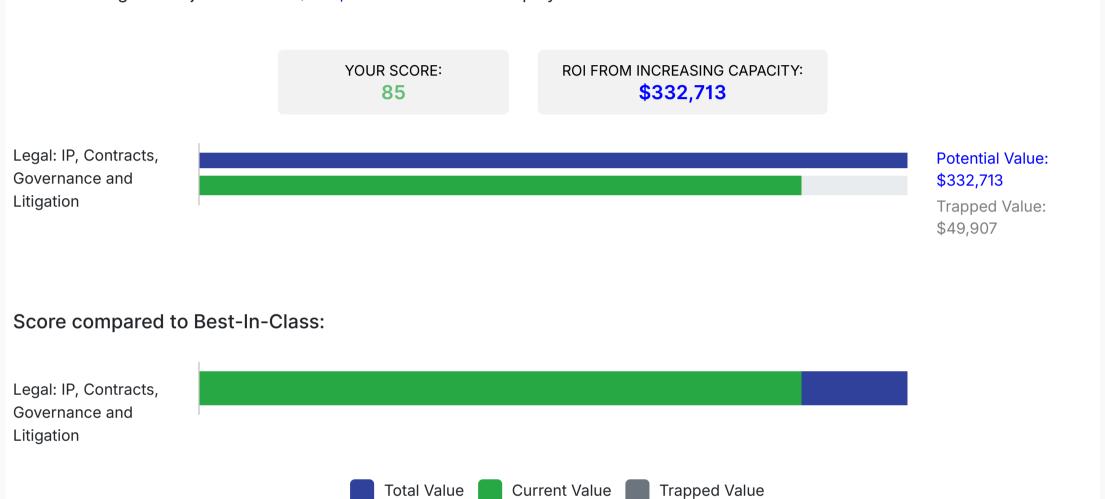
Legal: IP, Contracts, Governance and Litigation

Growth-Driving Objective: You have up-to-date legal documentation for key business areas including IP, Employees, Contractors and Vendors, and Corporate Governance and there is no litigation involving the business.



Legal: IP, Contracts, Governance and Litigation

ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$332,713 to Transferable Equity Value



Legal: IP, Contracts, Governance and Litigation

You have up-to-date legal documentation for key business areas including IP, Employees, Contractors and Vendors, and Corporate Governance and there is no litigation involving the business.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

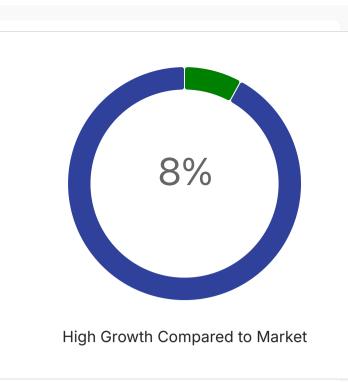
The business protects its intellectual property through published copyrights, trademarks, and patents. These documents are up-to-date and easily accessible.	The business uses contracts to define the roles and responsibilities of all suppliers and delivery contractors. These contracts are up-to-date and easily accessible.
○ We do and it's up-to-date	We do, and our records are complete and up-to-date
More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
○ We don't	○ We don't
The business maintains a record from inception to today detailing the rights and obligations of all shareholders and or partners in the business.	The business maintains a complete record, since inception, detailing the rights and obligations of all business lenders and other creditors.
O We do, and our records are complete and up-to-date	We do, and our records are complete and up-to-date
More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
○ We haven't	○ We don't
The business has maintained since inception a record of all corporate governance meetings including board meeting minutes, and has a written record of compliance with all government mandated filings.	There is no pending litigation against the business or involving senior leadership in connection with their business duties.
We do, and our records are complete and up-to-date	There is no pending litigation or unresolved legal dispute
O More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
○ We don't	O Litigation is a current problem
rights and obligations of all shareholders and or partners in the business. We do, and our records are complete and up-to-date More true than not Mostly false We haven't The business has maintained since inception a record of all corporate governance meetings including board meeting minutes, and has a written record of compliance with all government mandated filings. We do, and our records are complete and up-to-date More true than not Mostly false	the rights and obligations of all business lenders and other creditors.

Legal: IP, Contracts, Governance and Litigation

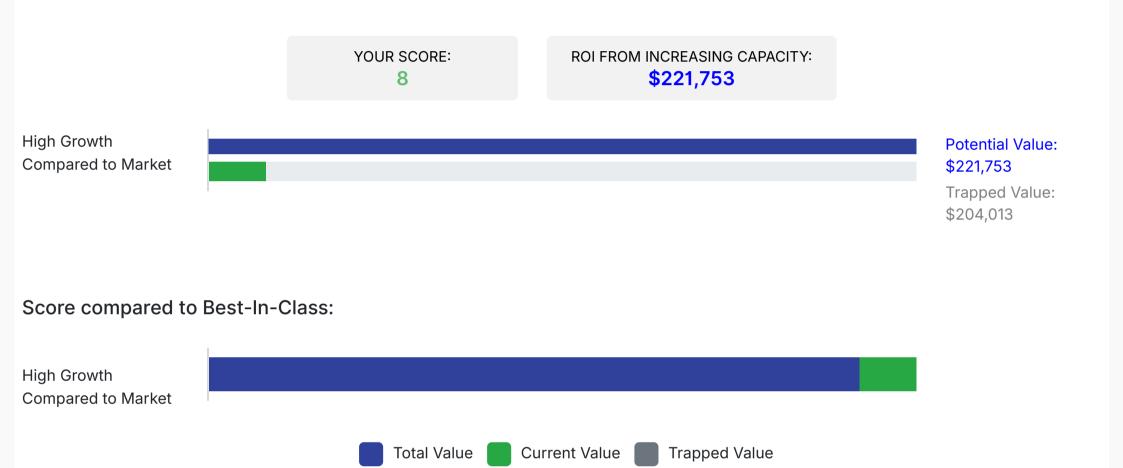
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Legal matters such as intellectual property protection, contracts, governance, and litigation hold significant importance. Regularly reviewing and updating all legal documentation is essential to stay compliant with evolving laws and regulations, reducing legal risks that could harm the business. Litigation is a growth and deal killer. Collaborating with legal experts for compliance checks ensures that the company operates in compliance with relevant law. Moreover, ensuring that all business dealings, partnerships, and collaborations are backed by legal contracts provides legal protection and clarity, mitigating potential disputes and liabilities.

High Growth Compared to Market

Growth-Driving Objective: You document and discuss your business growth compared to your past performance, to competitors and to the market, and you can defend growth projections looking into the future.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$221,753 to Transferable Equity Value



High Growth Compared to Market

You document and discuss your business growth compared to your past performance, to competitors and to the market, and you can defend growth projections looking into the future.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

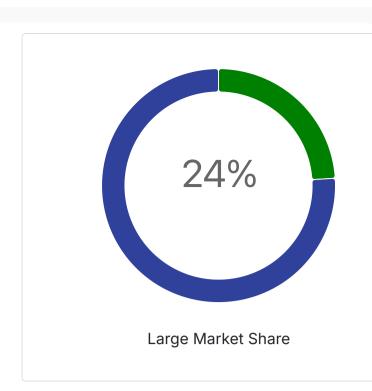
The business can document growing revenues and profits.	The business tracks financial performance against key competitors.
O We can and our records are both accurate and up-to-date	O We can and our records are both accurate and up-to-date
O More true than not	O More true than not
Mostly false	O Mostly false
○ We don't	• We don't
The business tracks financial performance against the market.	The business can defend 3 or more reasons why it will continue to grow compared to key competitors and the market.
The business tracks financial performance against the market. O We can and our records are both accurate and up-to-date	
	grow compared to key competitors and the market.
O We can and our records are both accurate and up-to-date	grow compared to key competitors and the market. O We have an up-to-date document listing 3 or more reasons
We can and our records are both accurate and up-to-dateMore true than not	grow compared to key competitors and the market. O We have an up-to-date document listing 3 or more reasons O We have an up-to-date document listing 2 reasons

High Growth Compared to Market

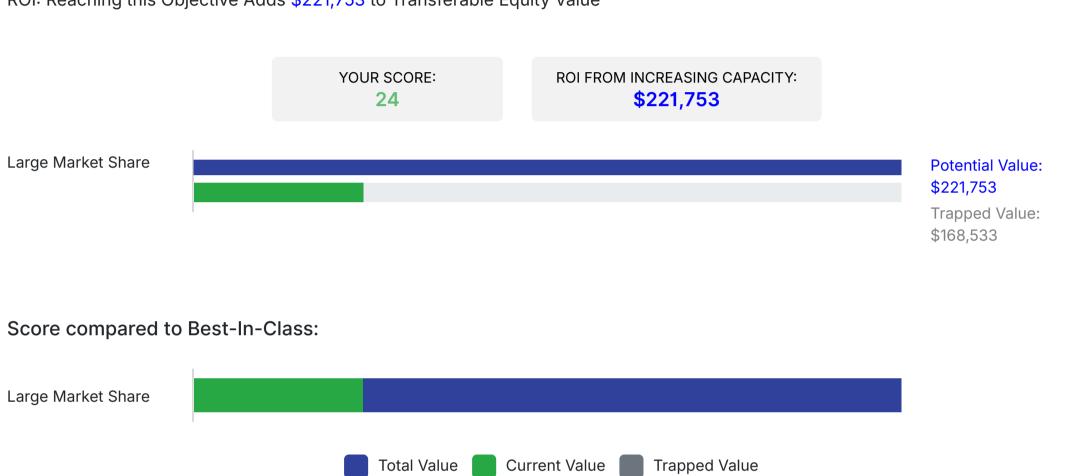
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Monitoring market trends and adjusting business strategies accordingly is essential for a private business CEO to achieve high growth compared to the market. By staying attuned to industry shifts and customer preferences, CEOs can make informed decisions that keep the company ahead of competitors. Investing in innovation and research and development (R&D) helps create differentiated products or services that attract customers and drive growth. Collaborating or forming strategic alliances enables businesses to capture a larger market share by leveraging complementary strengths and resources. High growth compared to the market creates confidence in potential investors and lenders.

Large Market Share

Growth-Driving Objective: Your have defined your market and niche and have data showing you have dominant market share vs key competitors.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$221,753 to Transferable Equity Value



Large Market Share

Your have defined your market and niche and have data showing you have dominant market share vs key competitors.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

The business can document the size of the market it serves.	The business has identified all key competitors, real and perceived.
OW/s and an analysis and both a summation and the date	
 We can and our records are both accurate and up-to-date 	○ We can and it's up-to-date
O More true than not	O More true than not
Mostly false	Mostly false
○ We don't	○ We don't
The business documents its market share.	The business can document and defend 3 reasons why it will achieve
The business documents its market share.	The business can document and defend 3 reasons why it will achieve or maintain dominant market share.
The business documents its market share.	
	or maintain dominant market share.
O We have current data showing our market share	or maintain dominant market share.
O We have current data showing our market share	or maintain dominant market share. O We have an up-to-date document listing 3 or more reasons O We have an up-to-date document listing 2 reasons
 We have current data showing our market share More true than not Mostly false	or maintain dominant market share. O We have an up-to-date document listing 3 or more reasons
 We have current data showing our market share More true than not	or maintain dominant market share. O We have an up-to-date document listing 3 or more reasons O We have an up-to-date document listing 2 reasons
 We have current data showing our market share More true than not Mostly false	or maintain dominant market share. O We have an up-to-date document listing 3 or more reasons O We have an up-to-date document listing 2 reasons O We have an up-to-date document listing 1 reason

Large Market Share

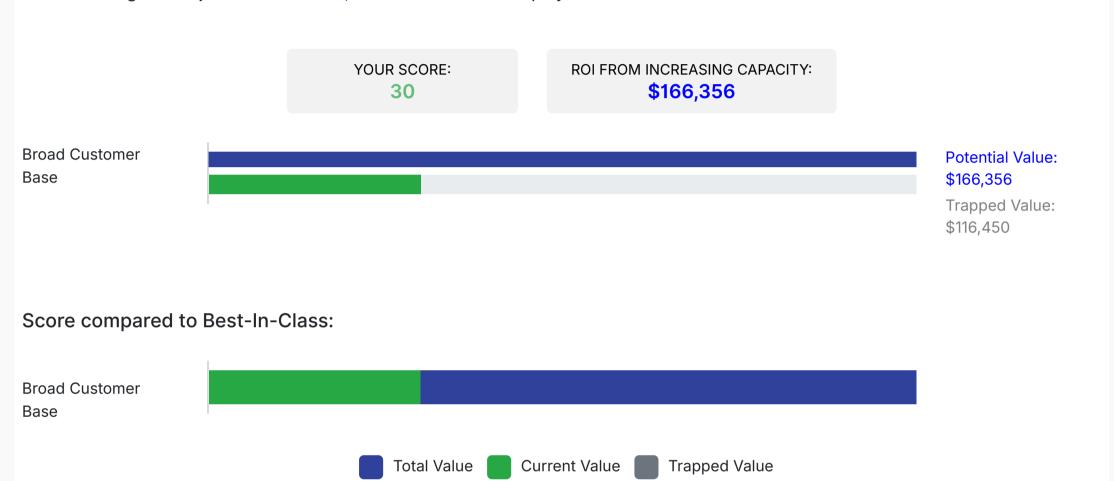
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Maintaining a large market share is vital for a private business CEO. Regular market analysis helps identify areas of growth and dominance, enabling strategic decision-making. Developing targeted marketing campaigns in areas with potential for increased market share allows CEOs to capitalize on opportunities and expand their customer base. Strengthening relationships with key stakeholders in the market, such as suppliers, distributors, and customers, fosters loyalty and support, further solidifying the company's market position. Large market share creates confidence in potential investors and lenders.

Broad Customer Base

Growth-Driving Objective: Your business generates revenue from a large number of customers, and no more that 20% of revenues come from your largest customer.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$166,356 to Transferable Equity Value

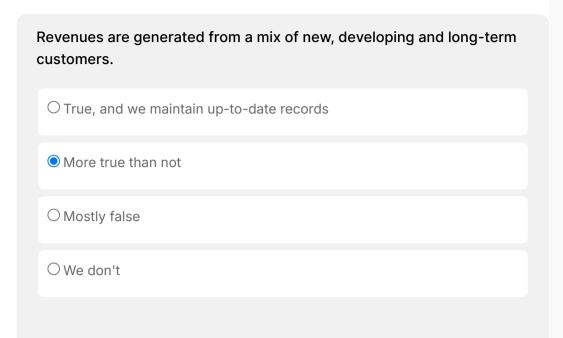


Broad Customer Base

Your business generates revenue from a large number of customers, and no more that 20% of revenues come from your largest customer.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

No one customer generates more than 20% of gross or net revenues.
○ True, and we maintain up-to-date records
O More true than not
Mostly false
○ We don't



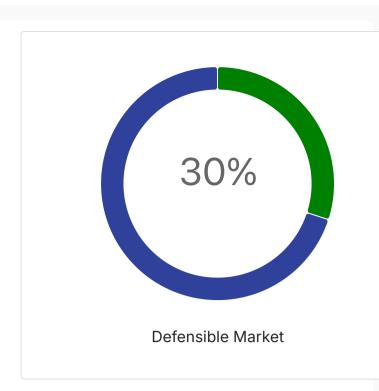
The business can defend 3 or more reasons why it will have diversified revenue streams going into the future.
O We have an up-to-date document listing 3 or more reasons
O We have an up-to-date document listing 2 reasons
O We have an up-to-date document listing 1 reason
• We can't

Broad Customer Base

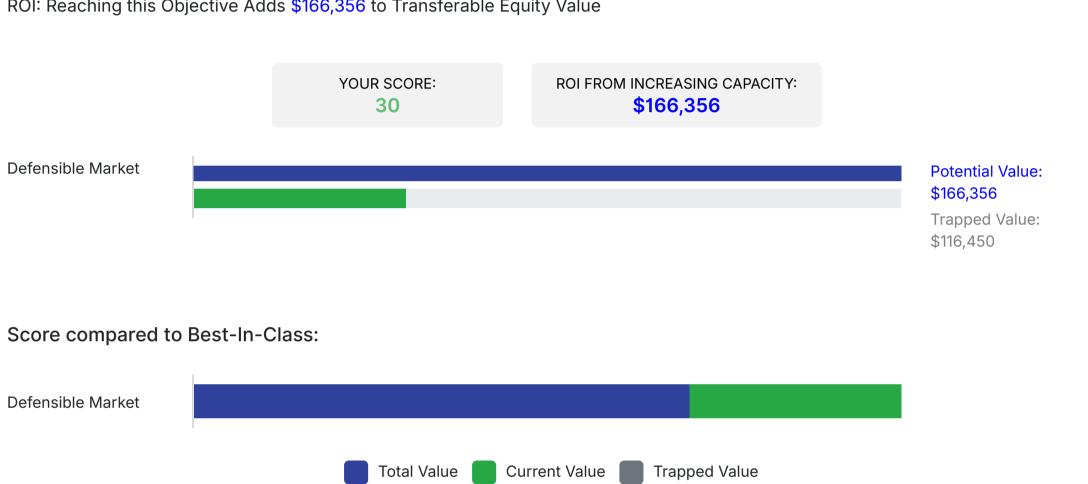
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Diversifying product or service offerings is crucial for attracting a wider customer base. Best-inclass businesses generate profits from a large number of customers who in turn equally represent every stage of the customer life cycle. Exploring untapped markets or demographics opens up new revenue streams and reduces dependency on a single market segment. Developing partnerships or collaborations to cross-sell or co-market products leverages the customer base of partners, increasing exposure and sales potential.

Defensible Market

Growth-Driving Objective: You can defend your market and future revenues from new competitors using legal, financial, SOP or other barriers.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$166,356 to Transferable Equity Value



Defensible Market

You can defend your market and future revenues from new competitors using legal, financial, SOP or other barriers.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

There are documented capital barriers protecting your future revenue.	The business has protected intellectual property that would prevent or hamper other entrants into the market.
O We do and our records are up-to-date	O We do and our records are up-to-date
More true than not	O More true than not
O Mostly false	O Mostly false
○ We don't	• We don't

There are other documented barriers protecting your future revenue.
O There are several
O More true than not
Mostly false
○ We don't

Defensible Market

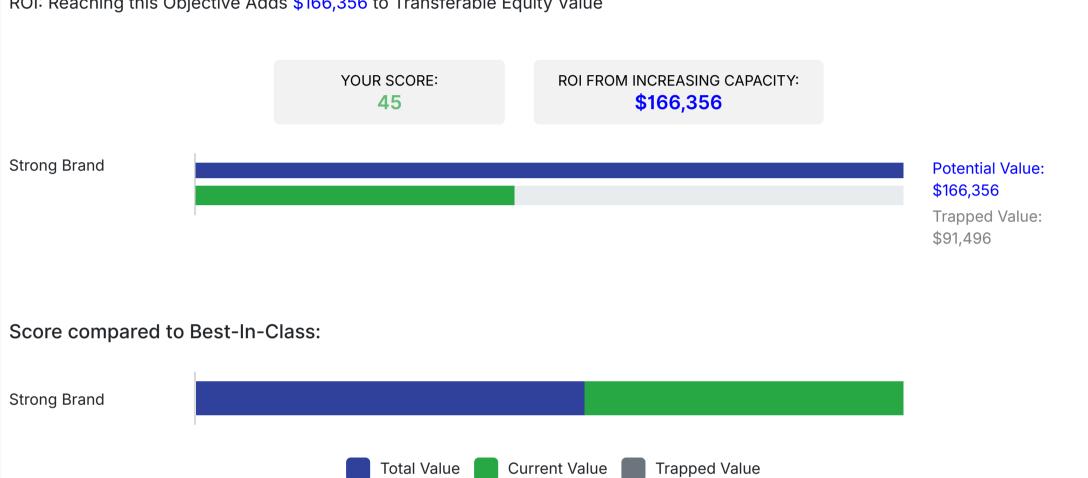
- Why this matters to a private business CEO: CEOs should invest in research and development (R&D) to develop proprietary technologies or solutions, creating a defensible market position. Strengthening legal protections around business assets and intellectual property safeguards against competitors infringing on proprietary innovations. Developing strong brand loyalty through quality products and excellent customer service ensures customer retention and protection against market encroachment.

Strong Brand

Growth-Driving Objective: Your brand is a valuable competitive tool that supports your vision, mission and strategic execution.



ROI: Reaching this Objective Adds \$166,356 to Transferable Equity Value



Strong Brand

Your brand is a valuable competitive tool that supports your vision, mission and strategic execution.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

The business has written brand usage guidelines.	The business can document the value of its brand through pricing and other metrics.
O We do and it is applied uniformly and routinely	O We have data and it is up-to-date
O More true than not	O More true than not
Mostly false	• Mostly false
○ We don't	○ We don't
The brand supports the business vision, mission and strategy.	We actively work on our brand promise which is an outward reflection of our strategic culture.
Our brand is a strategic asset and we have data to prove it	O We have a written process which we use routinely
More true than not	• More true than not
O Not really	O Mostly false

Strong Brand

O No real brand

- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Brand is the external manifestation of strategic culture. The brand projects the business' guiding principles as a promise to the market. Developing and implementing a strong brand marketing strategy is essential as it builds brand recognition and loyalty. Regularly engaging with customers and stakeholders through feedback mechanisms and communication channels enhances brand loyalty and trust.

O We don't

Bonus: Strength of M&A Market

Growth-Driving Objective: The market for selling your business is strong.

KEY RESULTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE OBJECTIVE IS BEING MET:

Bonus: The market for selling your business is strong.			
Our plans consider how the market impacts our equity value			
O Partly true			
O Not really			
We don't track this			

Bonus: The market for selling your business is strong.

Bonus: Strength of M&A Market

- Why this matters to a private business CEO: Staying updated on market trends that affect merger and acquisition (M&A) opportunities is crucial for private business CEOs. The M&A market generally trends with the national and global economies. Timing M&A and similar transactions to align with positive market trends can deliver higher transferable value. Moreover, businesses with top strategic capacity may earn premiums in any market. Building strong relationships with potential investors or acquirers can open doors to strategic partnerships, investments, or exit opportunities. Achieving and maintaining high strategic capacity ensures that the business is well-prepared and adaptable, increasing its attractiveness to potential buyers or investors in a competitive M&A market.