

## Entrepreneur's Total-Wealth Optimization Process (ETOP)

Our approach offers a meaningfully differentiated value proposition to current and former successful entrepreneurs with whom we work. This process was born out of our background as entrepreneurs during the '90s and our experience advising and helping entrepreneurs over a cumulative 70 years.

|               | Evaluate<br>12+ months before sale  | Take Charge       6 months before sale  | Optimize<br>6 months after sale   | Provide reassurance<br>12+ months after sale  |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|
| Us            | <ul> <li>Review</li> <li>Discuss your personal, professional and business goals and \$s needed to fund lifestyle goals</li> <li>Educate you on process to help generate returns to achieve spending goals post-sale</li> <li>Determine sale price required to achieve lifestyle spending goals</li> <li>Analyze your estate planning to determine if changes are warranted that could materially enhance your personal benefit from a sale</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Implement         <ul> <li>Quantify which sale offers optimally help you achieve your goals utilizing sophisticated modeling</li> <li>Develop strategic process to help generate returns to achieve spending goals post-sale</li> <li>Develop post-sale personal transition plan for life post-sale</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Invest         <ul> <li>Allocate sales proceeds to safe, short-term investments</li> <li>Design long-term investment strategy that maximizes your probability of achieving your lifestyle spending goals</li> <li>Implement investment strategy averaging capital into it over an agreed-to time period</li> </ul> </li> <li>Grow and Preserve         <ul> <li>Manage your assets so they maintain post-inflation spending power while protecting what you have worked so hard to earn</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Monitor         <ul> <li>Stay on top of your portfolio and adjust according to changes in your personal goals and/or financial markets</li> <li>Conduct rigorous ongoing due diligence on all investments and managers making changes as needed</li> <li>Stay abreast of tax/legal changes and help adapt planning to optimize your situation</li> </ul> </li> <li>Educate         <ul> <li>Educate you and family on how to live off assets so they enable you to live the life you want</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| Us and<br>You | Interview           - M & A bankers to find optimal one to<br>market company           - Trust and estate attorneys to review and<br>implement planning changes           - M & A attorneys to properly represent you           - CPAs to audit finances = no surprises           - Employment attorneys to negotiate your<br>employment contract with acquirer   | Hire<br>– M & A bankers<br>– Trust and estate attorney<br>– M & A attorney<br>– CPA<br>– Employment attorney  | <ul> <li>Evaluate</li> <li>Determine short-to long-term liquidity requirements</li> <li>Review your balance sheet including an assessment of your liabilities</li> <li>Discuss with your philanthropic goals and plan options to best achieve these</li> <li>Analyze your insurance coverage to make sure you are properly protected and optimized for wealth transfer purposes</li> </ul>  | Review<br>– Meet regularly to review your investments,<br>liabilities, goals and market changes<br>– Discuss the potential complete transition out  |
| You           | <ul> <li>Diversify revenue base</li> <li>Strengthen management team</li> <li>Establish adequate systems/controls</li> <li>Straighten out business records</li> <li>Clean up contractual issues</li> <li>Clean up any tax or cap table issues</li> <li>Eliminate/spin-off non-core products and services</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Prepare for due diligence</li> <li>Prepare presentation materials and sales<br/>memorandum</li> <li>Identify prospective buyers</li> <li>Create market for company</li> <li>Meet with potential acquirers</li> <li>Review offers and negotiate sale</li> <li>Maintain focus on business to hit all numbers</li> </ul>      | <ul> <li>Take vacation and recharge batteries</li> <li>Maintain focus to hit earnout/contractual targets</li> <li>Motivate team to work under new owner</li> <li>Transition company to new owner</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Determine if you want longer-term role in<br/>new company</li> <li>Determine what you want to do for the next<br/>chapter of your life</li> </ul>  |

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## **Entrepreneurs Group**

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