

Our Capabilities

Mergers and Acquisitions IS Due Diligence and Integration

During mergers and acquisitions, information systems (IS) present a number of challenges and opportunities.

Since 1991, Pitcher Partners Melbourne has grown to become the leader in our market and the fifth largest Melbourne based accounting firm with 41 partners and more than 500 professional and support staff. This means we are large enough to have technical depth and breadth and yet our flat structure allows us to maintain close and personal involvement with clients and each other.

IS Due Diligence and Integration Experience

During mergers and acquisitions, information systems (IS) present a number of challenges and opportunities. In particular these include:

- Identification and mitigation of any IT related risks;
- Ensuring appropriate identification, valuation and transition for information systems and infrastructure;
- Inclusion, in sale agreements, of appropriate transition services that ensure continuity of business operations;

- Design and implementation of new operational processes and information systems that deliver planned synergies.

Our IT and business consultants are experienced at assisting clients during Mergers and Acquisitions and in the specific issues above. Particular examples of such assignments include:

- Conducting an IS due diligence and risk assessment within the financial services industry;
- Developing the IS transition agreement for a large food manufacturer during its purchase of a new subsidiary;
- Management of the IS integration during the merger of two wholesale fabric businesses.

Proven Methodology

Key objectives during any Merger and Acquisition are:

- Ensuring no risk or disruption to short term business operations; and
- Delivery, in the longer term, of improved performance and business synergies.



“With Pitcher Partners, you get the team rather than the company, which means the quality and timeliness of responses is excellent. You get good advice quickly.”

Client testimonial

Critical to achieving these objectives is the use of a proven process. At Pitcher Partners we map such a process to the following six steps:

Selection

1. Screening
2. Candidate evaluation

Decision

3. Detailed evaluation
4. Sale agreement

Implementation

5. Execution of merger/acquisition
6. Operational review

IS Focus

- Identify IS implications for financial model.
- IS due diligence
- Contractual clauses
- Shorter term IS transition
- Delivery of business improvement

IS Due Diligence Checklist

The following are some of the areas to be addressed during the IS due diligence process:

- Map information systems to business sites and functions

- Number of employees within each function/site and number of users for each information system
- Analysis of IT skills and organisational structure
- IT infrastructure and systems including:
 - data and call centres/help desk
 - local and wide area network
 - servers/operating systems
 - desktop PCs/operating systems
 - enterprise applications
- Contractual and commercial agreements including:
 - software licences
 - support agreements
 - disaster recovery
 - hardware leases
- Current and planned IT expenditure
- IS governance, policies and procedures including:
 - IT strategy and planning
 - systems development
 - change control
 - configuration management
- Risk identification and mitigation



National and Global Networks

Pitcher Partners is an association of independent accounting firms, located in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth. This gives clients access to 85 partners and more than 800 professionals located around Australia.

Pitcher Partners is also an independent member of Baker Tilly International, an Australia wide and global network of like minded independent firms who all believe in providing exceptional client service.

Pitchers Partners is able to call upon member firms around the world when needed to provide our clients with local expertise in all major overseas market places.

For further information please contact:



Frank Zahra
Partner/Executive Director
T 03 8610 5192
E frank.zahra@pitcher.com.au



Rob McKie
Associate Director
T 03 8610 5443
E rob.mckie@pitcher.com.au



Pitcher the difference

Melbourne
Telephone +61 3 8610 5000
partners@pitcher.com.au

Sydney
Telephone +61 2 9221 2099
partners@pitcher-nsw.com.au

Perth
Telephone +61 8 9322 2022
partners@pitcher-wa.com.au

Adelaide
Telephone +61 8 8179 2800
partners@pitcher-sa.com.au

Brisbane
Telephone +61 7 3222 8444
partners@pitcher-qld.com.au