

# PRICE & PAYMENT CONSIDERATIONS: MAXIMIZING PRICE & GETTING PAID ON TIME

## 1. Payment in Cash

> 100% at closing and/or subject to escrow/holdback

# 2. Deferred Payment via Promissory Note

- > when payable?
- > any interest?
- interest calculations/payment rules?
- > can borrower prepay?
- > accelerated payments upon triggering events?
- > events of default/consequences of same?
- > ongoing information rights?

## 3. Security for Repayment of Promissory Note

- > upstream guarantee from parent/shareholders of purchaser (with or without security)
- share pledges
- > security over all assets of purchaser and/or target company via general security agreement
- security over specific assets (e.g., collateral mortgage)
- irrevocable letters of credit
- subordination/postponement to purchaser's lender?

## 4. **GSA** Considerations

- > consider covenant patterns and restrictions over borrower's business
- > consider impact on other lenders of borrower

## 5. Payment in Public/Private Company Shares

- > consider type of shares and attributes relative to other security holders
- determine exchange ratio and relative valuations
- consider due diligence on purchaser (vendor is both buyer and seller)
- > consider shareholder arrangements with existing shareholders of purchaser
- consider tax issues deferral/rollover or not?

## 6. Payment via Earn-Out Formula

- clarify formula and pre-determined financial targets
- > consider vendor control mechanisms (including security for payment if applicable)
- consider tracking/measurement tools (divisional/segmented reporting)
- consider impact of different accounting policies
- consider inherent vendor conflicts of interest

## 7. **Price Adjustments**

- > is a closing audit required? if so, what are the mechanics to deal with same?
- consider what consideration gets adjusted cash vs. note, etc.
- > consider how pre-closing actions impact price adjustment formulae

## 8. **Price Assumptions**

- > consider conditions re minimum working capital/retained earnings
- > consider restrictions on vendor's ability to remove surplus before closing