



VERNOCONSULTING

# HOW WHOLESALERS MAKE MONEY AND MANAGE PROFIT

NBWA NEXT GEN: SUCCESS IN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

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# TOPICS WE WILL COVER

## **UNDERSTANDING THE P&L BASICS**

### **THE BREAKEVEN CONCEPT**

How to use Breakeven Concept to Make Decisions

Calculating Breakeven on Price Discounts or Price Increases

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF MANAGING GROSS PROFIT MARGIN**

### **COST PER STOP**

Gross Profit Per Stop: the Most Important Key Operating Indicator

How to Impact Profitability Per Stop



# UNDERSTANDING P&L BASICS

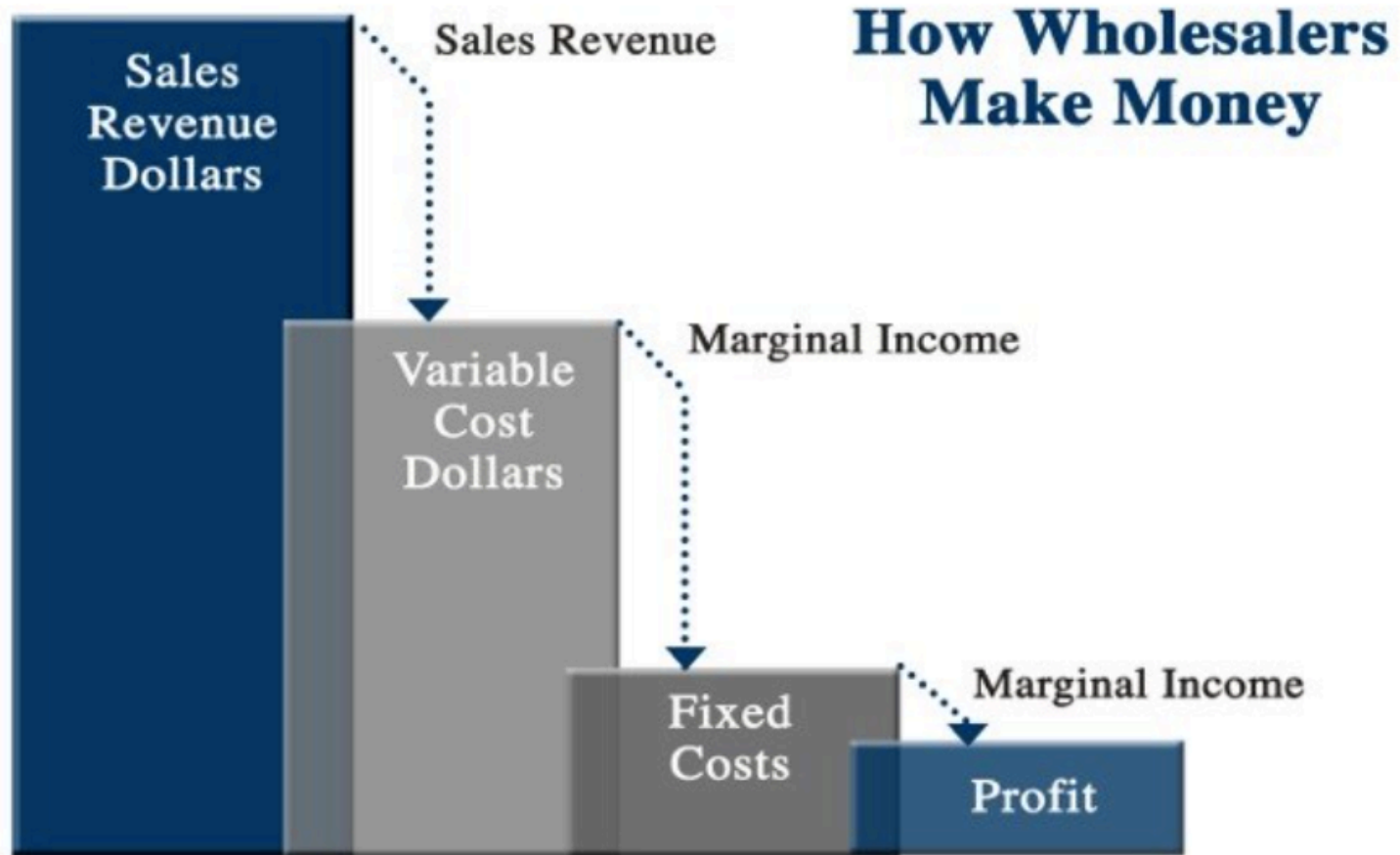
# P&L BASICS: DEREK JETER DISTRIBUTING COMPANY

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Sales Revenue	\$100,000,000
<u>- Cost of Goods Sold</u>	<u>\$75,000,000</u>
Gross Profit	\$25,000,000
<u>- Operating Expense</u>	<u>\$20,000,000</u>
Operating Profit	<b>\$5,000,000</b>



# HOW REVENUE FLOWS TO PROFIT





# THE BREAKEVEN CONCEPT

- HOW TO USE THE BREAKEVEN CONCEPT TO MAKE DECISIONS
- CALCULATING BREAKEVEN ON PRICE DISCOUNTS OR PRICE INCREASES

# COMPANY BREAKEVEN TERMS DEFINED

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- **Company Breakeven** is the amount of sales in dollars or units, required to cover all the wholesalers costs.
  - The **Breakeven** is where the wholesaler does not show an operating loss or profit.
  
- **Margin of Safety** is the portion of sales that can be lost before the wholesaler starts showing a negative profit.
  - The **MOS** can be expressed in sales dollars, cases or percentage.

# THE BIG VARIABLE COST DEBATE

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## ➤ Which costs are fixed and which are variable?

- Variable costs are costs that move up or down as sales dollars or units move up or down.
- If you sell **1 less case** of beer, which costs will go down?
  - Cost of Good Sold (the \$ you pay the brewery for the beer including freight)
  - Sales or delivery commissions if you pay a % of sales or cents per case
  - Other costs that will decrease?

## ➤ **The simplest way to calculate breakeven is to use your Gross Profit % as your Marginal Income % and assume all your operating expenses are fixed.**





# THE COMPANY BREAKEVEN FORMULA

## Company Breakeven \$

$$\boxed{1} \quad \frac{\$25,000,000}{\text{Gross Profit \$}} \quad / \quad \frac{\$100,000,000}{\text{Sales Revenue \$}} \quad = \quad \frac{25\%}{\text{Gross Profit \%}}$$

$$\boxed{2} \quad \frac{\$20,000,000}{\text{Operating Expenses \$}} \quad / \quad \frac{25\%}{\text{Gross Profit \%}} \quad = \quad \frac{\$80,000,000}{\text{Company Breakeven \$}}$$

## Margin of Safety

$$\frac{\$100,000,000}{\text{Sales Revenue \$}} \quad - \quad \frac{\$80,000,000}{\text{Company Breakeven \$}} \quad = \quad \frac{\$20,000,000}{\text{Margin of Safety \$}}$$

The Breakeven and the Margin of Safety can easily be expressed in terms of CEs by dividing the Breakeven \$ or Margin of Safety \$ by the Average Sales Dollars per CE.

# QUESTION?

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- With a Company Breakeven Point of \$80,000, if you sell \$80,000,001, how much profit did you make?
  - A. \$5,000,000
  - B. \$2,000,000
  - C. \$1
  - D. 25 cents



# HOW TO USE BREAKEVEN TO HELP MAKE DECISIONS

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## ➤ Assumptions to be used on exercises found on slides 12 & 13:

- Payroll costs for a position include auto, health insurance, retirement, and payroll taxes
  - On premise sales rep all-in costs = \$70,000
  - Craft sales rep all-in costs = \$75,000
- The average cost of a delivery including the sales rep and driver and associated costs = \$100
- Average gross profit per case = \$5.00
- Craft gross profit per case = \$7.50



# HOW MANY MORE CASES DO YOU NEED TO SELL TO COVER THE INCREMENTAL COSTS?

USE ASSUMPTIONS ON SLIDE #11

1) You want to add another another craft only sales rep with an annual all-in cost of \$75,000.

Show your work here:

$$\frac{\$75,000}{\$7.50 \text{ GP / Craft CE}} = \text{Additional CE of Craft / Year}$$

**10,000**

2) An account wants you to increase their delivery frequency from 1x/week to 2x/week.

Show your work here:

$$\frac{\$100 \text{ Cost / Delivery}}{\$5.00 \text{ GP / CE}} = \text{Additional CE / Delivery}$$

**20**

$$20 \text{ CE} \times 52 \text{ Weeks} = \text{1,040 Additional CE/ Year}$$



# HOW MANY MORE CASES DO YOU NEED TO SELL TO COVER THE INCREMENTAL COSTS?

USE ASSUMPTIONS ON SLIDE #11

3) Your on premise manager wants to take 100 accounts off tel-sell and add another sales route.

Show your work here:

$$\frac{\$70,000}{\$5.00 \text{ GP / CE}} = \text{Additional } 14,000 \text{ CE / Year}$$

4) Your out of code beer costs have increased from \$35,000 annually to \$100,000 annually.

Show your work here:

$$\begin{aligned} & \$100,000 - \$35,000 = \\ & \$65,000 \text{ of incremental OOC} \\ & \frac{\$65,000 \text{ OOC}}{\$5.00 \text{ GP / CE}} = \text{13,000 CE / Year to Cover Incremental OOC} \\ & \frac{\$100,000 \text{ OOC}}{\$5.00 \text{ GP / CE}} = \text{20,000 CE / Year to Cover 100\% of OOC} \end{aligned}$$



# PRICE DISCOUNT / INCREASE BREAKEVEN DEFINITION AND FORMULA

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- **Price Discount Breakeven** – Amount of incremental volume the wholesaler would need to sell at the discounted margin in order to make the same amount of gross profit made at the current margin.
- **Price Increase Breakeven** – Amount of volume the wholesaler can lose and still make the same amount of gross profit made at the current margin.

$$\frac{\text{Current Margin per Case}}{\text{New Margin per Case}} = \text{Breakeven}$$

# PRICE DISCOUNT BREAKEVEN

## ➤ Price Discount Scenario:

- Current sales = 25,000 CE
- Supplier recommends a more aggressive discount of \$2.00 per case
- Wholesaler's share of the deeper discount (assume 50/50 split) = \$1.00 per case
- Current Margin = \$6.00 per case
- New Discounted Margin = \$5.00 per case

1) What is the Price Discount Breakeven?

Show your work here:

$$\frac{\$6}{\$5} = 1.2 \text{ or } 120\%$$

2) How many incremental cases do you need to sell to breakeven?

Show your work here:

$$1.2 \times 25,000 \text{ CE} = 30,000 \text{ CE}$$
$$30,000 \text{ CE} - 25,000 \text{ CE} = 5,000 \text{ Incremental CE}$$

You would need to increase sales by 20 % or 5,000 CE to replace the lost gross profit resulting from the price discount.

# PRICE INCREASE BREAKEVEN

## ➤ Price Increase Scenario:

- Current Sales = 25,000 CE
- Supplier recommends a \$2.00 per case PTR increase
- Wholesaler's share of the Margin Increase = \$1.00 per case
- Current Margin = \$5.00 per case
- New Increased Margin = \$6.00 per case

1) What is the Price Increase Breakeven?

Show your work here:

$$\frac{\$5}{\$6} = .83 \text{ or } 83\%$$

2) How many less cases can the wholesaler sell and still breakeven?

Show your work here:

$$\begin{aligned} .83 \times 25,000 \text{ CE} &= 20,750 \text{ CE} \\ 25,000 \text{ CE} - 20,750 \text{ CE} &= \\ &4,250 \text{ Less CE} \end{aligned}$$

You could lose 17 % or 4,250 CE of your volume and still make the same gross profit as before the price increase.





# THE IMPORTANCE OF MANAGING GROSS PROFIT MARGIN

# CALCULATING GROSS PROFIT MARGIN

$$\frac{\text{Gross Profit \$}}{\text{Sales \$}} = \text{Gross Profit Margin \%}$$

1) What is Derek Jeter Dist. Co.'s Gross Profit Margin %?

Show your work here:

$$\frac{\$25,000,000}{\$100,000,000} = 25\%$$

2) If the Gross Profit Margin decreases from 25% to 24.5%, how much would the Gross Profit decrease?

Show your work here:

$$\begin{array}{l} 25\% \times \$100,000,000 = \$25,000,000 \\ 24.5\% \times \$100,000,000 = \underline{\$24,500,000} \\ \text{Difference} = \underline{\$500,000} \end{array} \quad \text{-or-} \quad \begin{array}{r} .5\% \\ \times \underline{\$100,000,000} \\ \underline{\$500,000} \end{array}$$



# IMPACT GROSS MARGIN HAS ON PROFITS

- If the Gross Profit Margin decreases from 25% to 24.5%, the Gross Profit would decrease **\$500,000**.
- Can Derek Jeter Distributing Company cut enough costs to make up for the .5% decrease in gross margin?

**\$500,000 in cost reduction is equivalent to:**

- 10 employees @ 50,000 each, or
- 25,000 cases of out-of-code, or
- 3 sales and 3 delivery routes, or
- 2+ executives, or
- A combination of portions of the above

Key Takeaway  
It is very difficult to cut enough expenses to make up for a meaningful loss in Gross Profit Margin





# COST PER STOP

- GROSS PROFIT PER STOP: THE MOST IMPORTANT KEY OPERATING INDICATOR
- HOW TO IMPACT PROFITABILITY PER STOP

# DIRECT COST PER STOP

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➤ Definition of direct costs:

- **Delivery**

- Cost of the truck = lease payment, maintenance, fuel, taxes, licensing and insurance
- Cost of the driver = annual pay, payroll taxes, and fringe benefits

- **Sales**

- Cost of the sales rep = annual pay, payroll taxes, and fringe benefits
- Cost of sales rep vehicle = car allowance or total of lease payment, maintenance, fuel, taxes, licensing, and insurance

# DIRECT COST PER STOP EXAMPLE

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Avg. Driver Comp	\$50,000
Driver Benefits @20%	\$10,000
<b>Total Driver Cost</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>
Avg. Sales Rep Comp	\$55,000
Sales Rep Benefits @20%	\$11,000
<b>Total Sales Rep Cost</b>	<b>\$66,000</b>
Avg. Annual Cost for 1 Truck	\$20,000
Avg. Annual Cost for 1 Sales Car	\$5,000
<b>Total Vehicle Cost</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>

**Total Direct Sales  
and Delivery Cost  
per Route**

\$151,000 / Year

\$604 / day



# DIRECT COST PER STOP EXAMPLE

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## Total Direct Sales and Delivery Cost per Route

\$151,000 / Year

\$604 / day

Delivery Stops / Day	Direct Sales and Delivery Cost per Stop	Cases Required to Cover Direct Costs at \$5 GP / Case
12	\$50	10 cases
15	\$40	8 cases
20	\$30	6 cases

# NOT INCLUDED IN DIRECT COST PER STOP EXAMPLE

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- The direct cost breakeven in the previous example **ONLY** covers the direct costs.
  
- It **DOES NOT** cover any of the following costs:
  - Owner's costs
  - Warehouse and warehouse labor
  - Marketing and brand management costs
  - Sales management and supervision
  - Out-of-code
  - Administration Costs (admin, accounting, IT)
  - Financial costs (interest, depreciation, amortization, taxes)



# FOUR STRATEGIES TO DRIVE ACCOUNT LEVEL PROFITABILITY

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- 1) Make Loser Accounts Into Winner Accounts
- 2) Reduce Loss on Loser Accounts (Eliminate Loser Accounts or Improve costs or sales in Loser Accounts)
- 3) Make Winner Accounts Into Bigger Winners
- 4) Find More Winner Accounts



# USING SALES TO IMPROVE GP/STOP

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- Sell additional cases of current brands
- Sell higher-end products with higher GP per case
- Sell new brands or SKUs
- Improve pricing
  - Control bridge buying
  - Make sure discounts are passed on to consumers
- More displays / in-store promotions
- Replace slow moving SKUs with higher potential products
- Reduce Stock outs



# MANAGING COSTS TO IMPROVE GP/STOP

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- Reduce total number of deliveries
  - Reduce off days deliveries
  - Decrease delivery stop frequency
  - Produce perfect orders
  - Combine draft and package delivery
  - Implement delivery minimum
  
- Increase driver efficiency so they can make more deliveries / day
  - Make routes more geographically efficient
  - Load by stop
  - Use more bulk delivery to reduce unnecessary helpers on routes

# OTHER WAYS TO IMPROVE COSTS / STOP

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- Decrease the sales costs
  - Have a less expensive person take the order
  - Use tel-sell to take orders
  - Reduce sales frequency
  
- Reduce driver and/or merchandiser overtime
  
- Eliminate wasteful merchandising stops

# GP / STOP KEY OPERATING INDICATORS

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- Average GP \$ per Stop versus GP \$ per Stop Goal
- # of Stops Below the GP \$ per Stop Target
- # of Accounts that Average Below the GP \$ per Stop Target
- Average Margin per Case versus Margin per Case Goal
- Average Cost per Stop versus Cost per Stop Goal
- Average Cases per Stop versus Cases per Stop Goal
- # of Off Day Deliveries and Hot Shot Deliveries



# WRAP UP

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- Copy of this presentation and other helpful tools:

[www.verno-consulting.com/seminars/nextgen-2017/](http://www.verno-consulting.com/seminars/nextgen-2017/)

- Relevant issues of *Verno's Beer Brief*

- How Wholesalers Make Money
- Preparing Next Generation Owners
- Using Breakeven Analysis
- Service Policy Strategy
- Delivery Route Cost Reduction
- Warehouse Efficiency Killers
- Managing Craft ROI
- Sales Best Practices
- Being Scalable

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