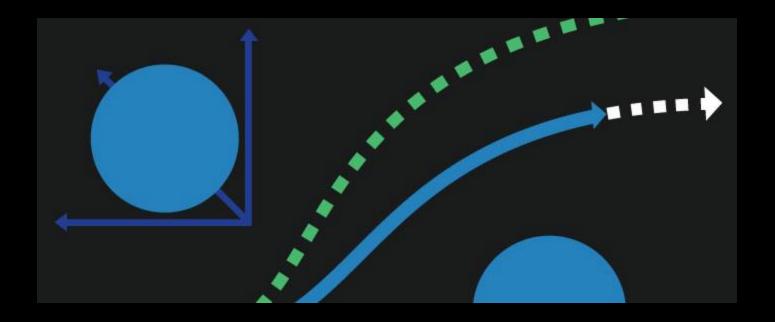
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Intelligent Strategies. Successful Ventures.



# Ways to Drive Sales in a Services Business

Presented by: Peter F. DiGiammarino

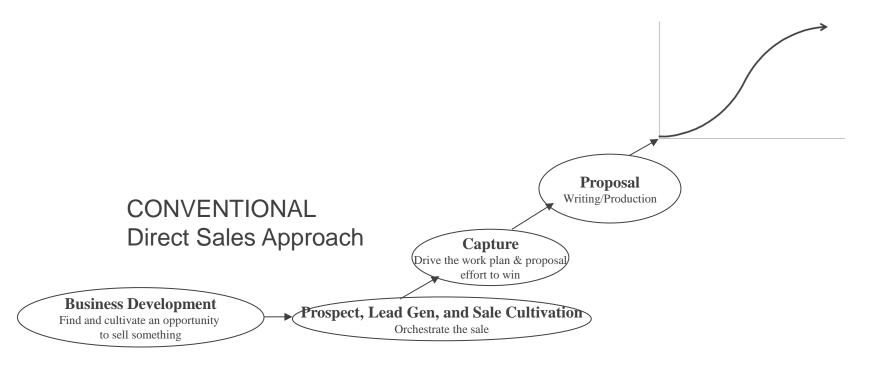
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Moderated by: Raymond F. Strecker

**Promontory Financial Group** 

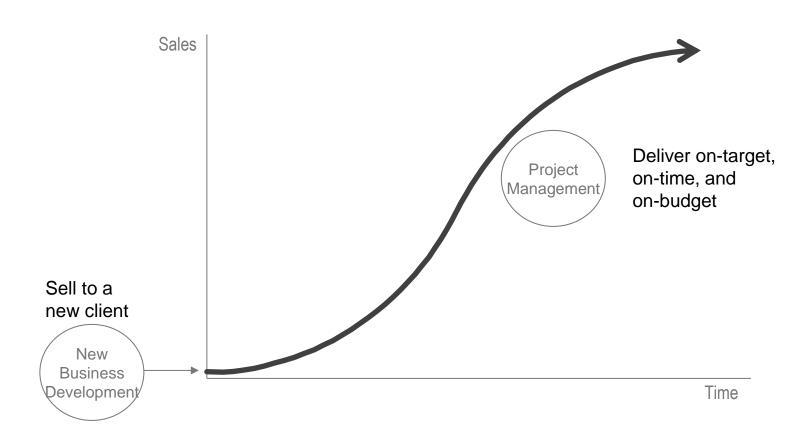
#### Tasks Leading to a Sale

#### **Conventional Approach**



#### A New Sale

Lands a project to deliver value.



### Sales is too important to be left to chance. Do you have a sales model that answers questions like these?

- How can delivery teams sell when they work flat-out on projects?
- How can non-experts in our products and services sell them?
- The next customer always seems to find us but can we count on this?
- Don't a lot of other organizations need the same thing we are delivering now? How do we reach them?
- Shouldn't we hire someone who knows everyone in the industry to find new customers?
- Shouldn't our engagement leaders do the selling?
- How do we come up with the next big thing?

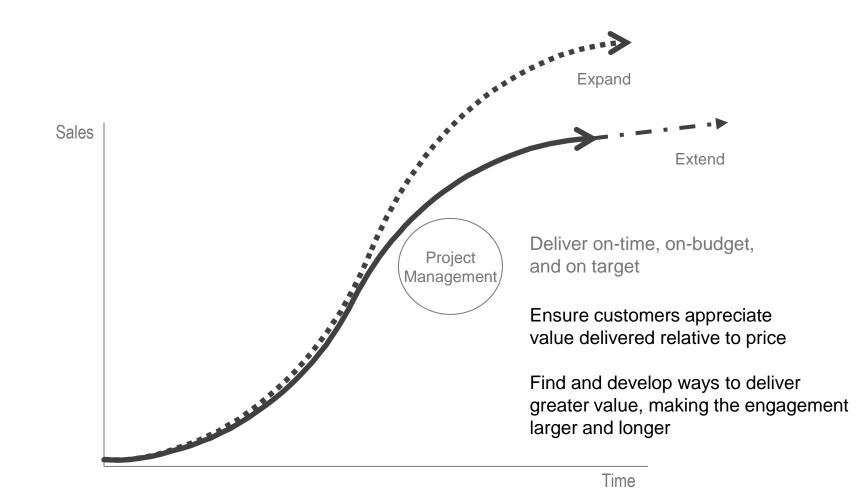
## Early-stage ventures often try to address sales by hiring those who have sold successfully for others.

| "Pure Sales" Professionals   | Seller/Doers   |
|--|--|
| <ul> <li>Coin-operated – need clear incentives.</li> </ul>                                 | <ul> <li>Ultra-strong personal relationships<br/>with senior people at a small number<br/>(as few as one) of large customers.</li> </ul> |
| <ul> <li>Any list of contacts dries up over<br/>~two years.</li> </ul>                     | <ul> <li>Keep 35 to 50 people billable indefinitely.</li> </ul>  |
| <ul> <li>Only some sales professionals<br/>are good at making new<br/>contacts.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Groom and spawn next generation.</li> </ul>   |
|  | <ul> <li>Work independently; little shared<br/>knowledge or cross-player leverage.</li> </ul>  |
| Success may be due to circumstances/luck.  | <ul> <li>Organization can accommodate any<br/>number that achieve and sustain<br/>their revenue base.</li> </ul>                         |

- Success takes more than great players.
- Hiring without a model can mean disappointing results.

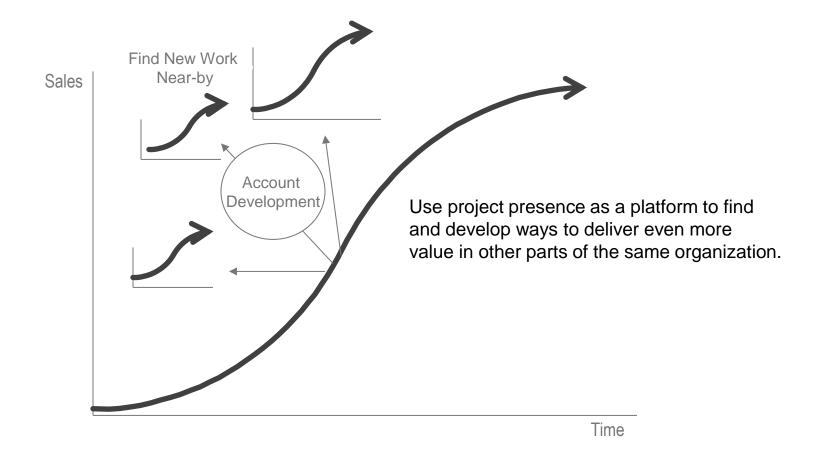
#### Quality delivery leads to opportunities to

Extend and Expand to deliver even more value.



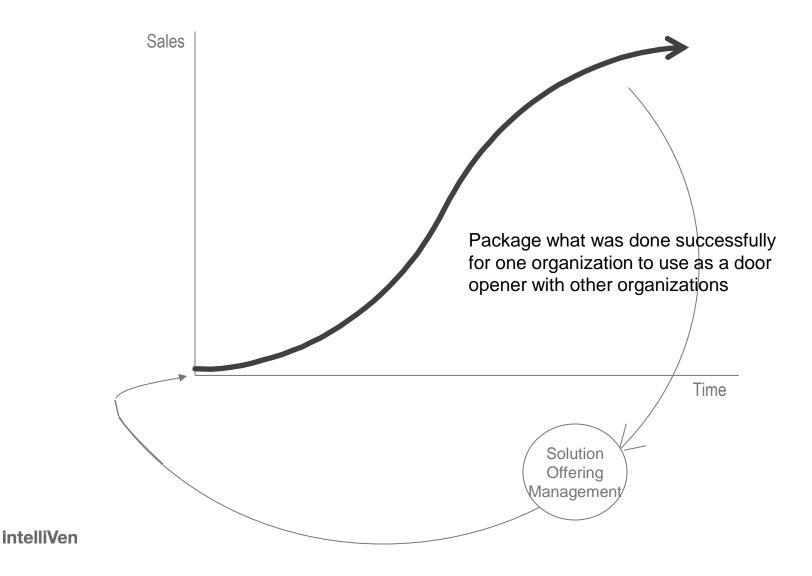
#### **Account Development**

Project presence is a chance to navigate more broadly.



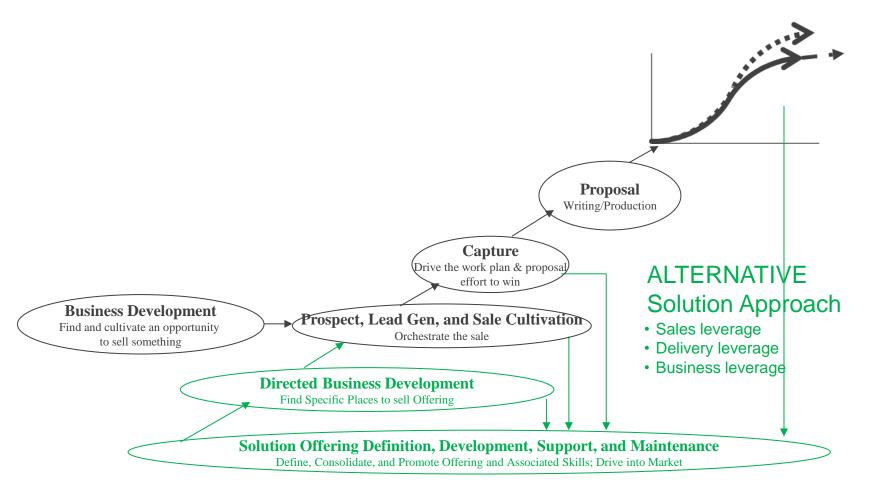
#### **Solution Offering**

What works for one will work for others.



#### Tasks Leading to a Sale

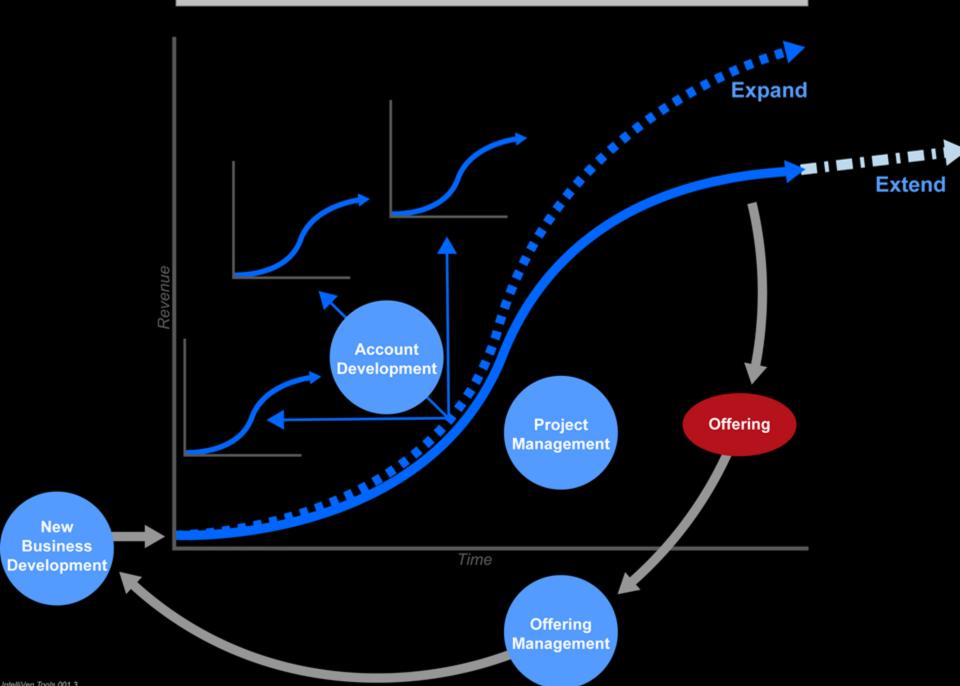
#### Solution Offering Approach



#### **Solution Offering-Led Sales**

- Systematically sell and deliver a solution to an important, pervasive, persistent problem.
- Critically dependent on assets (offering, methodology, data, knowledge).
- Can efficiently and rapidly grow.
- Takes investment up-front to select and package offering(s).
- Can devolve to In-Do-Out vs. In-Do-Extend/Expand/Find New.
- Requires Unit Leaders to drive sales and delivery and develop people.
- Target only so many attractive niches that play to corporate strengths.
- Value delivered must drive a price that gives a fair profit after cost of development, support, and sales to a tight market.
- Requires upfront investment.

#### Summary of Ways to Drive Revenue in a Services Practice



#### **Distinct Sales Roles**

Breadth of skills required drives individuals to perform best in one of these specific roles.

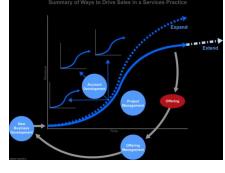
| Role                       | Description   | Performance Metrics  |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| New Account<br>Salesperson | Finds and cultivates prospects through to closed sales.   | New account sales relative to quota.   |
| Sales Manager              | Plans, tracks, drives, and sells through a team of salespeople.   | New account sales relative to quota across a team of salespeople   |
| Project Manager            | Manages assigned resources to complete contracted work on time, on target, on budget.   | Client reference; financial targets achieved; extend and expand engagement to deliver even more value to existing customer relative to a plan; growth of team members. |
| Account Manager            | Finds and cultivates opportunities to deliver more value in other parts of client organization.   | New work in other parts of organization currently being served.  |
| Offering Manager           | Collects, consolidates, and disseminates lessons learned; drives offering development in response to customer needs, competition, and technology. | Customer retention, growth in revenue connected to offering, and indirect expenses all in line with plan.  |
| Unit Manager               | Sets and achieves a plan to perform and grow revenue across clients in a market.  | Contribution to corporate profit net of all direct and indirect costs including bonus awards.  |

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#### **Implications of Sales Roles**

- Each role requires specific skills, orientations, and focus.
- Roles can be assigned in ways that lead to poor results. E.g.:
  - No one has responsibility for selling more to existing customers in favor of focusing just on **delivery** and **finding new** customers
  - Delivery teams get assigned do it all.
- No one person can do a good job at all of the roles at the same time.
- Most people perform distinctly better at one role than the others.
- A good strategy is to decide who does what by matching needs with abilities and interests.
- All the roles are important and pay off if done well.

#### **Summary**



- Assign qualified personnel to develop a plan and who then:
  - Deliver on target, on time, and on budget; ensure customers appreciate the value delivered; Extend and Expand current work (longer and more)
  - Find new opportunities to deliver value in other areas of the same customer
  - Package past success to pitch to new customer who will benefit from value provided to others
- Convene executive forums for leaders to conduct
  - Sales Reviews
  - Project Reviews
  - Customer Reviews
  - Solution Reviews
  - Unit Reviews

cover: plan, actions, results, lessons, next steps, and what has to go right.

#### **Next Steps**

- Prepare for and conduct <u>Account Reviews</u>
- Subscribe to intelliven.com
- Sign up to attend upcoming IntelliVen Insight Sessions on Clewed:
  - Idea-to-Benefit
  - Approach for Developing Solution Offerings

#### **Selected References**

- IntelliVen Post: <u>Sales Whose Problem is it Any Way?</u>
- David Maister: <u>Managing the Professional Service Firm</u>
- Ford Harding: <u>Rainmaking: Attract New Clients No Matter</u>
   What Your Field
- Peter Block: Flawless Consulting
- Peter DiGiammarino: <u>Manage to Lead</u>

## Thank you.

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