

Budgeting Best Practices for Fuel Dealers

KEY TERMS + CONCEPTS

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

A cash flow statement is a summary of a company's cash sources and uses.

BALANCE SHEET

- Shows what a company owns (assets) vs. what a company owes (liabilities).
- Balance Sheet Eq.:
 Assets = Liabilities + Equity.
- Review your current ratio to evaluate your short-term liquidity.

INCOME STATEMENT

- Shows what has been sold to generate revenue and the related expenses.
- EBITDA (earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, and amortization) – eliminates impact of mgmt. discretion in funding sources and accounting methodologies. Used by bankers to assess operating health. Used for acquisition valuations.

GENERAL

- Accrual basis accounting provides better visibility on a monthly basis by matching revenues and expenses.
- Liquidity ratios address: Do you have the assets on hand right now to meet your obligations over the next year?
- Solvency ratios address: Is your business generating enough profit to meet your total obligations now and in the future?

Valuations.

BUDGETING BEST PRACTICES

- Create an annual budget every year using actual data
- Communicate goals to department managers and others
- Align employee incentives with company goals, ensure pay is financially sustainable
- Regularly **review your actuals vs. budget** and address variances
- Maintain consistency of reporting over time for comparability purposes
- Optimize cost structure based upon benchmarking of similar companies
- Employ accrual basis accounting in all areas
- Close books monthly
- Assess liquidity and fund fixed assets with term debt where appropriate
- **Ensure that all divisions are profitable** no loss leaders
- Manage working capital funds separate from customer deposits

KEY CREDIT RATIOS

Current Ratio

TIP: Higher is better. The goal is >1.0x

Current Assets

Current Liabilities

Debt Service Coverage Ratio

TIP: Higher is better. The goal is >1.25x

Net Income + Amortization & Depreciation + Interest - Distributions

Annual Principal & Interest + Capital Lease Payments

Total Funded Debt / EBITDA

TIP: Lower is better. The goal is <5.0x

Total Principal Owed to All Lenders + Average Line Balance

Net Income + Amortization & Depreciation + Interest

Receive a Complimentary Mini-Budget and Company Review

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