

## **Strategy, Portfolio & Risk Management**

A Value-driven ERM Perspective

Decision Analysis Affinity Group April 21st and 22nd, 2010

## Historically, ERM grew out of a control focus that while important, is not nearly enough to achieve true ERM

# From: Control Focus



# To: Strategic, Value Focus

Solving a crisis

Operational

**Deterministic** 

Forensic

Checklist focused

Silo-driven

Framing the future

Analytical

**Probabilistic** 

Forward looking

Value orientation

Enterprise-wide

#### A few helpful commentaries:

- Report of the National Association of Corporate Directors Blue Ribbon Commission, "Risk Governance: Balancing Risk and Reward" (Oct. 2009):
  - "Risk is not merely something to be avoided, mitigated, and minimized; risk is integral to strategy and essential for a business to succeed."
- Dirk Beeuwsaert, CEO GDF-SUEZ Energy International:
  - "Risk management and risk control are two very different things: we need to not get them confused."
- Strategy Panel Moderator, Committee of Chief Risk Officers Annual Risk Priorities Summit (Mar. 2010):
  - "Our board's biggest concern is the 'unknown unknowns'. Typically, that is an indication that the toughest and hardest to quantify risks have not been discussed."

## Integrated ERM: Building on the different perspectives

Perspective / Approach to ERM

**Description / Main Components:** 

Effective for:

ERM as a Key part of Strategic Value Creation

- Integrated approach to managing strategic, financial, and operational risks
- Identify, quantify, and manage risk exposures with a focus on shareholder value creation and protection

 Strategic, financial, and operational risks

ERM as
Governance, Risk
& Compliance
(GRC)

- Includes corporate governance and risk management requirements from entities such as stock exchanges (NYSE) and rating agencies
- Governance, policies and procedures

Business Continuity Planning

- Focus on disaster preparedness and emergency response planning
- IT recovery, business impact analysis, pandemic planning

- IT Security and Recovery
- Disaster preparedness

ERM as Compliance & Audit

- Expanded to include Sarbanes Oxley in the wake of corporate scandals in the US in 2000 - 2002
- COSO\* Framework
- Preserve assets, protect people, and comply with laws

Improving internal controls and compliance

Integrated Risk Programs

- Dealing with different risks and hazards
- Risk transfer and insurance

Hazards

Transferable / insurable risks

\* Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission report on internal controls (1987)

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#### We need to face three challenges to achieve Value-Driven ERM.

- Coverage: Are all business risks being covered? Let's not miss anything!
  - This includes avoiding being blindsided by "unknown" risks—almost all of which can be anticipated.
- Consistency: Are the risks being valued and treated on a comparable basis?
  - A corollary to this is ensuring economically consistent decisions on levels, costs, and benefits of specific risk treatments.
  - Organizations tend to ignore risks that are not explicitly quantified.
- Value creation: In business, no risk→ no return! So how do we engage in taking risks that create value and manage these risks well?
  - This requires capturing the total uncertainty in the value of the enterprise, including upside value uncertainty and downside risks.

## Value-driven ERM meets these challenges with a unifying perspective and superior methodology.

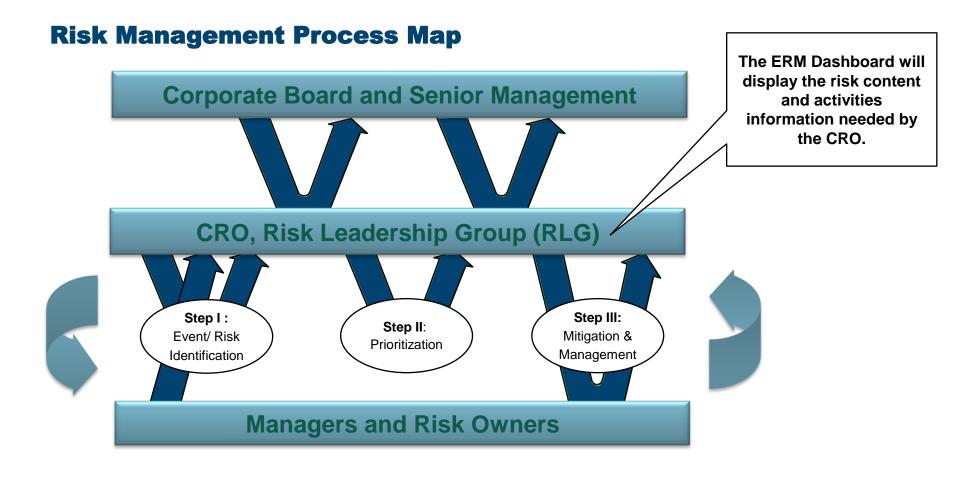


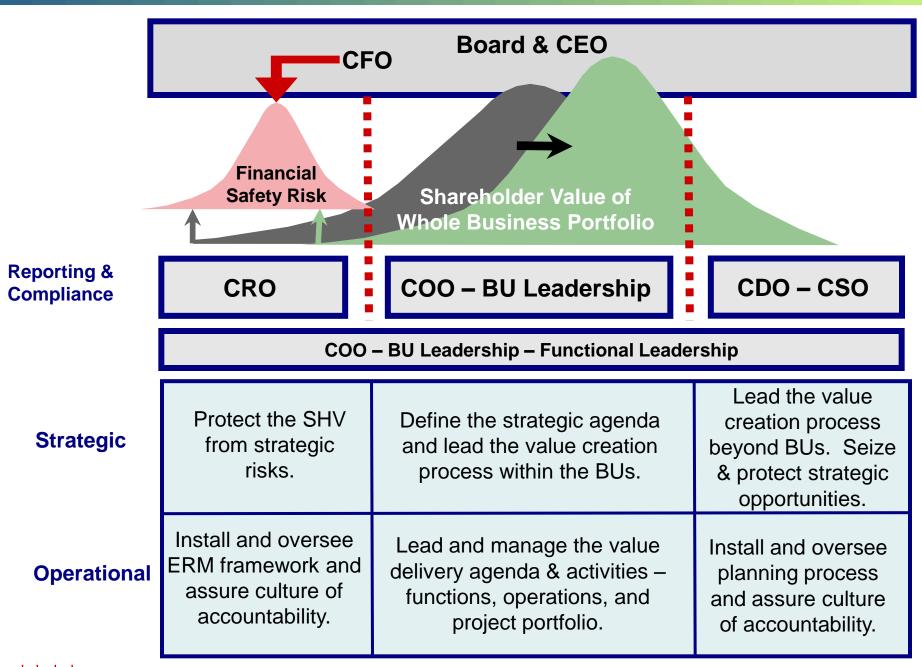
- Coverage: is ensured with bottoms-up integration of specific risk domains and a top-down valuation perspective, plus better means of identifying and quantifying risks. You still have to do all the blocking and tackling – but we have a consistent measure of importance.
- Consistency: is ensured by evaluating all risks on the same basis of impact on total enterprise value and applying a consistent risk appetite.
- Value creation: is covered by an approach that focuses on quantifying the full range of uncertainty in the enterprise value and the key risk drivers, rather than only low-probability, high-impact negative events.

#### **Common failure modes in ERM programs include:**

- Backwards-looking methodology for future risks
  - Actuarial methods
  - Not considering systematic shifts (i.e. not "normal times") major discontinuities appear to be a recurring phenomenon
- An ad hoc and organizationally dissonant approach to risk tolerance
- Bogging down in an extensive risk inventory
  - Lack of a value-driven perspective: everything is important
- Focus on event risk and missing value drivers
- Missing interconnectedness and downstream decisions (strategic options)
- Failure to account for psychological distortions in risk judgment
- Focus on only the downside (i.e., risk is a four-letter word)
- Compliance mentality only

# ERM is process-intensive and must be monitored and communicated, both upward and downward.





## A few concluding commentaries:

- ERM is essential to strategy and the risk management function needs to be engaged right up front in its formulation
- Both the CSO and CRO need to be a facilitators who engage the entire organization in useful dialogue – they might even be the same person
  - Must not be an isolated "smartest guy in the room" speaking in incomprehensible jargon
  - Communication skills are essential e.g. risk means that we must talk about probabilities and do so in a way that makes key concepts transparent – clarity about correct definition of terms is essential
- A good process is critical
  - Comprehensive
  - Consistent
  - Ongoing