Common QuickBooks & Enterprise Mistakes (Part II)

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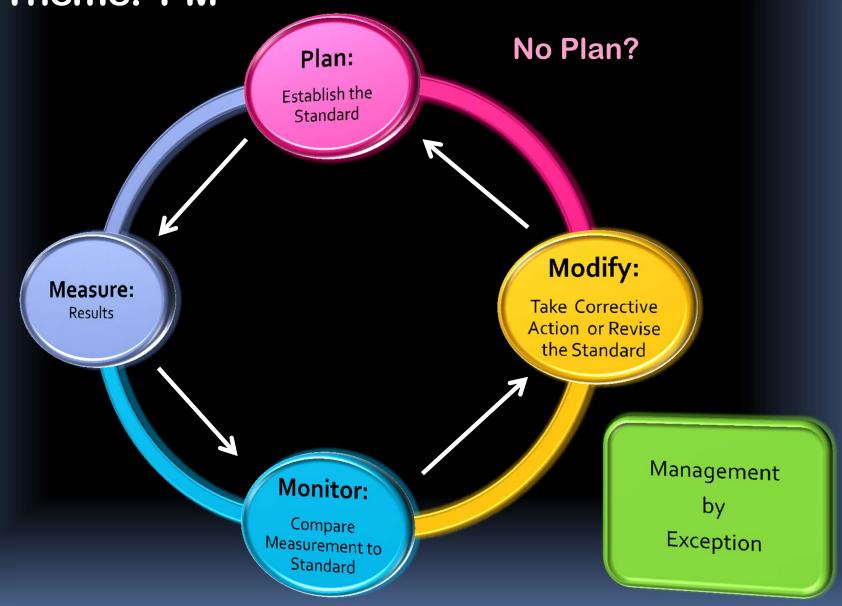


Part I – 1st 5 Mistakes...

- Shaky foundation (Chart of Accounts)
- Framing askew (Item List)
- Unskilled labor (Training needed)
- Improper permits (File & Personal Preferences)
- Illegible blueprints (Reporting deficiencies)



- No community plan
- Blueprints non-existent or lost
 - Resources...
- Sloppy materials handling
- Leaking pipes





- "No community plan" = Not creating or using a financial plan (budget).
 - ✓ Imagine... no planning commission, no zoning, no building codes, no appearance ordinances, no policing, no limits... vs. a planned community
 - ✓ Required by national "improve your business" networking groups, and banks – why?
 - ✓ Make it work "on paper" FIRST!



- "No community plan" = Not creating or using a financial plan (budget).
 - ✓ Why is such a powerful tool so seldom utilized?
 - Urgent vs. Important (Covey)
 - Negative associations ("budget = restrictions")
 - Hard to predict the future?
 - Fear of facing reality
 - Lack of "know how" or experience



"No community plan" = Not creating or using a financial plan (budget).

Instead:

- ✓ Export QB reports for accounts, history, etc.
- ✓ Easy to enter budget into QuickBooks ...by Account, by month
- ✓ Use Budget vs. Actual Reports (YTD is best)





- "Blueprints non-existent or lost" = Not entering Estimates into QuickBooks – why?
 - Estimating may be informal (or kept "close" to the vest)
 - Estimate may be created in another system
 - Disconnect: When standards not communicated
 - To accounting staff
 - To supervisors or workers
 - Variances not tracked or controlled



- "Blueprints non-existent or lost" = Not entering Estimates into QuickBooks – why?
 - ✓ Perception #1:
 - QB estimating system isn't powerful enough
 - ✓ Response:
 - Goal is control "Estimate vs. Actual" variance reports are critical!
 - Structural setup is the key
 - Customize: Establish Items in job stage order
 - Limit the detail (e.g. materials)



- "Blueprints non-existent or lost" =

 Not entering Estimates into QuickBooks why?
 - ✓ Perception #2:
 - QB estimating system isn't "pretty" enough to present to clients
 - ✓ Response:
 - Repeat: Goal is control "Estimate vs. Actual" variance reports are critical!
 - Templates can be customized to show customers what you want them to see
 - Work-arounds available...



A New Affordable Resource...

Online webinars & coaching from:

BuildYourNumbers.com

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Goal:

- To provide <u>online training and coaching</u> that helps YOU...
- Create a job cost and financial info system that
 - ✓ Provides the <u>useful data</u> that you need
 - ✓ To control job costs and business results.
 - ✓ So you can run your company more

Effectively – Efficiently – PROFITABLY



We believe you should:

- Be able to attend training sessions when and where you choose
- Have regular access to <u>experienced accounting</u> pros who understand your industry
- At an <u>affordable price</u>



- "Sloppy Materials Handling" = Not taking advantage of Purchase Orders.
 - ✓ PO's avoid the "Be 'bouts" that drain your bottom line
 - ✓ PO's "force" clear thinking before buying
 - ✓ PO's hold vendors accountable for meeting budget, quality, timing and performance or quality standards (PO → contract)



- "Sloppy Materials Handling" = Not taking advantage of Purchase Orders.
 - ✓ PO's built from Estimates create <u>faster</u>, <u>easier</u>, <u>more accurate</u> data entry
 - ✓ PO's create control over expenditures:
 - So that billings do not exceed planned expenditures
 - Act as double check on Change Orders
 - Multi-billings Can be set to "draw down"



- "Leaking pipes" (drip, drip, drip...)
 - = Not tracking and billing for **every** Change Order:
 - ✓ Lost CO's = Direct hit to the bottom line!
 - ✓ Turn CO's into a <u>higher</u> GP return
 - ✓ EVERY Change Order needs to be documented, formalized, and entered to Estimates & PO's
 - ✓ Clear communication with customer
 - ✓ Legal/contract purposes
 - √ Variance reporting
 - ✓ Timely billing → collection



Part II - More Mistakes...

- No community plan (Company budgets)
- Blueprints non-existent or lost (Estimates)
- Sloppy materials handling (Purchase Orders)
- Leaking pipes (Change Orders)
 - Resources...

Remember the Drawing!

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In closing...

Will you continue to do what you've always done, and continue to get what you've always gotten?

Or

Are you **ready** to make a change? To do what it takes?





The <u>right kind of training</u> + motivation, commitment and practice – is the key to mastering any new skill

We've helped lots of other people get their numbers under control – so we know that <u>YOU</u> can do it too!



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