# Turn Your Business into a Profit Machine Specific ways to cut costs, increase cash flow, and grow profits

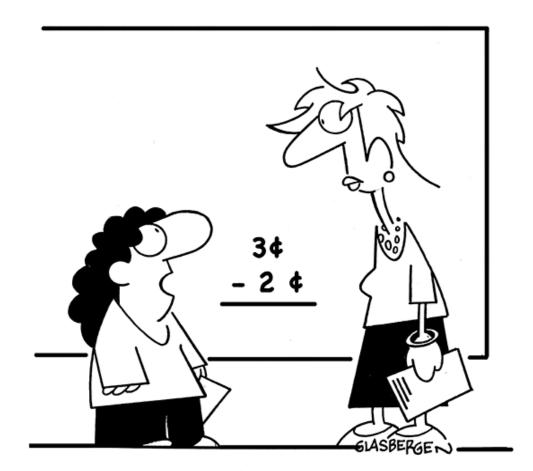
### "Why am I spending my lunch with you?"

- Boost Profits Through Operations and Finance
  - Increase Revenue
  - Decrease Expenses
  - Streamlining Processes
  - Incorporating Tech
- Overall: Improve my business



### How am I going to do it....specifically?

- Gross Profit Margin
- Process Reengineering and improvement
- Six Sigma
- Technology
- Focus on...?



"Do you want my answer in school math, government math or corporate math?"

## A Different Approach: Gross Margin

When it comes to improving the bottom line profit, 9 out of 10 small business owners usually tell me they need to increase the number of customers or reduce their expenses.

Rarely, if ever, do they mention the need to improve their gross profit margin.

Whether you sell products or services, your gross margin is a key profit lever in your business.

So here's five ways to increase yours:

- 1. Promote the heck out of premium or higher margin products. A lot of small businesses promote lower-margin products and services, then try to up-sell the customer into something better. Why not do the opposite. Use your marketing budget to support sales of the good stuff — and let lower margin options become the alternate for those who can't afford the best.
- 2. Look for ways to reduce 'product or delivery' costs so more profit falls to the bottom line. Renegotiate with vendors, eliminate slowmoving products or streamline your delivery procedures to reduce labor costs.
- 3. Find alternate, cost-effective ways to get your products or services to customers joint ventures or the web are just a couple examples.
- 4. Identify effective ways to add value that customers will pay for so you can raise prices more than the cost of the value added. Not sure what you can add? Talk to your customers.
- **5. Differentiate yourself so you stop competing on price.** Give them other reasons. What do you do well? What makes you better than your competitors? Price is certainly one consideration don't make it the only one.

### Process Reengineering

- In today's constantly changing world, the only thing that doesn't change is 'change' itself. In a world increasingly driven by the three C's: customer, competition and change,
- companies are on the lookout for new solutions their business problems. Recently, some of the more successful business corporations in the world seem to have hit upon an incredible solution: Business Process Reengineering (BPR).
- Some of the recent headlines in the popular articles read, "Walmart reduces restocking time from six weeks to 36 hours." "Hewlett-Packard's assembly time for server computers reaches new low – four minutes."
- The reason behind these success stories: Business Process Reengineering!



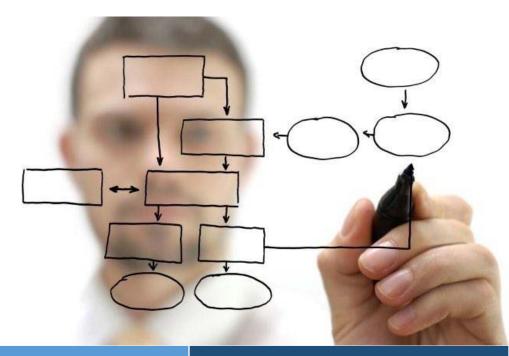
### What is Business Process Reengineering?

- "Business Process Reengineering (BPR) is the fundamental rethinking and radical redesign of business
  processes to achieve dramatic improvements in critical measures of performance such as cost, quality,
  service and speed.
- BPR focuses on processes and **not** on tasks, jobs or people.



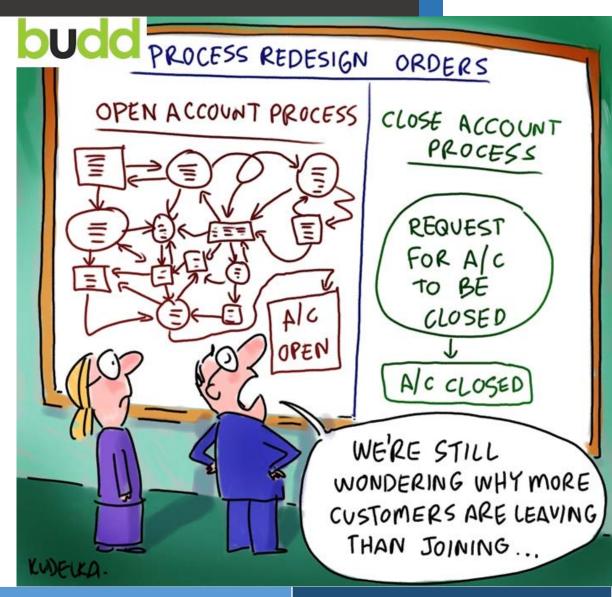
### What to Reengineer?

- A business process is a series of steps designed to produce a product or service. It includes all of the activities that deliver particular results for a given customer.
- Talking about the importance of processes, just as companies have organization charts, you should also have what are called process maps to get a picture of how work flows through the company.

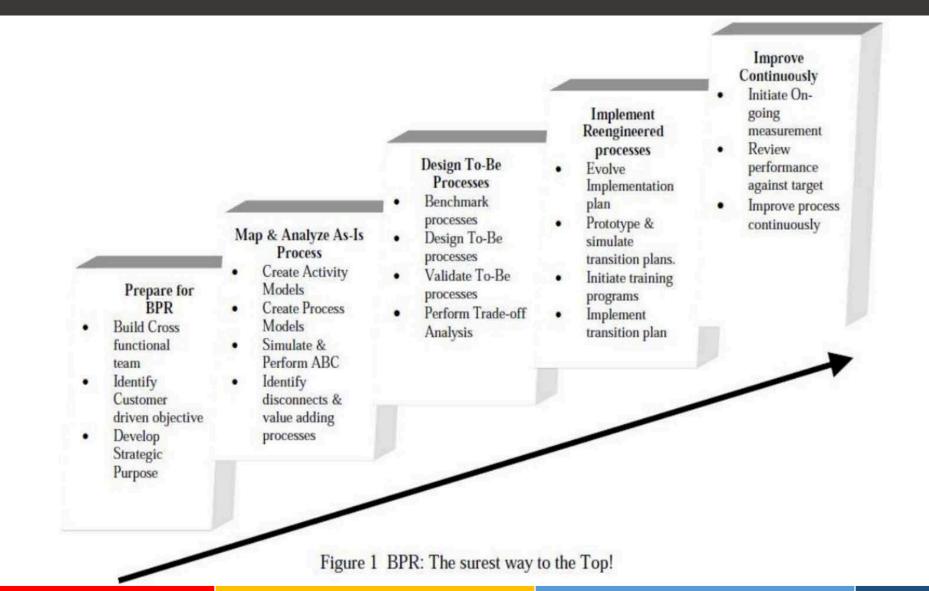


## Why Reengineer?

- Historical 'reality' for businesses:
  - High level of demand: organizations are order takers
  - Management focus efficiency and control of operations
- Modern 'reality' since 1990s:
  - Hyper-competitiveness
  - Globalization
  - Very Demanding Customers
  - Management focus: Innovation, responsiveness/speed, quality and service.



### BPR Principles – 5 steps



### Prepare & Identify for Reengineering

- "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail".
  - Planning and preparation are vital factors for any activity or event to be successful, and reengineering is no exception.
  - Before attempting reengineering: "Is BPR necessary?"
  - There should be a significant need for the process to be reengineered
  - Another important factor to be considered is to understand the expectations of your customers and where your existing process fall short of meeting those requirements.
  - Having identified the customer driven objectives, the mission or vision statement is formulated.
- This is perhaps most important step to get very clear on why the company needs to reengineer and where you need to be in the future.
- It is vital to articulate two key messages to everyone in the organization.
  - 1. "Here is where we are as a company and this is why we can't stay here."
  - 2. "This is what we, as a company, need to become."

### Identify

You now have the vision and the compelling argument in place. Next comes the burning question: what is going to get reengineered?

No company can reengineer all its high-level processes at once. So it's important to choose the right process, or processes, to begin with. Hammer and Champy suggest using three criteria to make your selection.

- The first criteria is *dysfunction:* which processes are in the deepest trouble? When looking for dysfunction, the most obvious processes are those that you already know are in trouble. An example might be a product development process that hasn't come up with anything new in years.
- The second criteria is *importance:* which processes have the greatest impact on your customers? While customers generally have no reason to know your processes in detail, they can still be a good source of information for comparing the relative importance of those processes.
  - Ask your customers about their most important issues, such as cost, on-time delivery, or product features. Then, use their answers to create a priority list of the processes that most affect their critical issues.
- The third criteria is *feasibility:* which processes are currently the most amenable to process redesign? Here, you examine the factors that will determine whether or not a particular reengineering effort will succeed.
  - Perhaps the most important factor is scope. The larger a process, and the more organizational units it involves, the broader its scope. You get a larger payoff with a broader scope, but you also lower your chances for success.
  - At the same time, high cost also reduces feasibility. The greater the cost of the reengineering effort, the more hurdles you have to overcome.

### Understand the Current Process

- Before you can proceed to redesign the process, you should understand the existing process.
  - The best place to begin to understand a process is to look at it from the customer's point of view.
    - What are their requirements?
    - What problems do they have?
    - What do they say they want and what do they really want?
    - How do they use the output of your process?
- The ultimate goal of your redesign is to create a process that increases your ability to meet customer needs. Therefore, it's important that you truly understand those needs.
- The main objective of this phase is to identify disconnects (anything that prevents the process from achieving desired results and in particular, information transfer between departments or people) and value adding processes.
- Once you understand what the customer needs, you have to look at what the process currently
  provides. The goal is to understand the 'what' and the 'why,' not the how. You should be less
  concerned with how the process works today and focus more on what the new process will have to do
  to meet the identified customer needs.

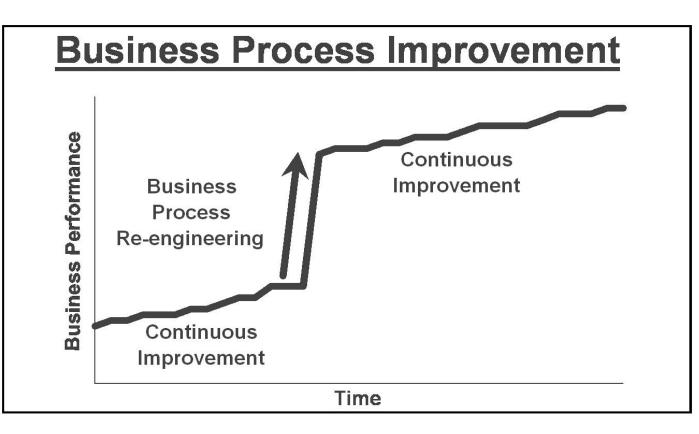
### Redesigning the Process

- The objective of this phase is to produce one or more alternatives to the current situation, which satisfies the strategic goals of the company.
- The creative part of the reengineering process.
- A downside to redesigning a work process is that it isn't algorithmic or routine. There are no set procedures that will mechanically produce a radical new design process. On the other hand, you don't have to start with an entirely blank slate.
- There are techniques available that have worked well for some companies. So, although there are no hard and fast rules for process redesign, there are principles and precedents that can help you get through this stage of the process.

### Redesigning the Process

- Search out and destroy assumptions
- Look for opportunities for the creative application of technology
  - The key is to use technology to help you redesign the new process, NOT to make the old process better.
  - This requires inductive thinking the ability to recognize a powerful solution and then seek problems that it might solve, in some cases problems you aren't even aware you have. Instead of asking, "How can we use new technologies to get better at what we are doing?" ask, "How can we use new technologies to do things we are NOT already doing?"
  - Keep in mind the following lessons learned from companies who have already undertaken extensive reengineering efforts:
- You don't need to be an expert to redesign a process.
- Being an outsider helps.
- You must discard preconceived notions.
- It's important to see things through the customer's eyes.
- Redesign is best done in teams.
- You don't have to know much about the current process.
- It's not hard to have great ideas.
- Redesign can be fun.

### Recap BPR



- Start with what you have
- Troubleshoot dysfunction, importance and feasibility
- Analyze impact
- Create greater efficiencies with a newly design process
- Continue to analysis

## Six Sigma



## Technology

## Got CRM?

A \$24 billion market.

The Big Names:

- Salesforce
- Microsoft Dynamics
- Zoho CRM
- Insightly
- Method
- Sage
- Sugar
- GoldMine/ACT

The 3 Benefits:

- Nothing Falls through the cracks
- Everyone knows
- You build intangible value

The 3 Laws:

- Have an administrator
- Need senior buy-in
- Rely on and require reports

### Inexpensive Techs To Keep Your Clients and Community Happy

### Stay Top of Mind...increase referrals...grow revenue

E-Mail Communications:

- Constant Contact
- Emma
- MailChimp
- JangoMail
- Active Campaign

On Paper:

- FeltApp Hand-written notes
- BeFunky Photo Editing

Voice and Text:VoiceShot

- Interactive messages
- Tatango
   Short Codes

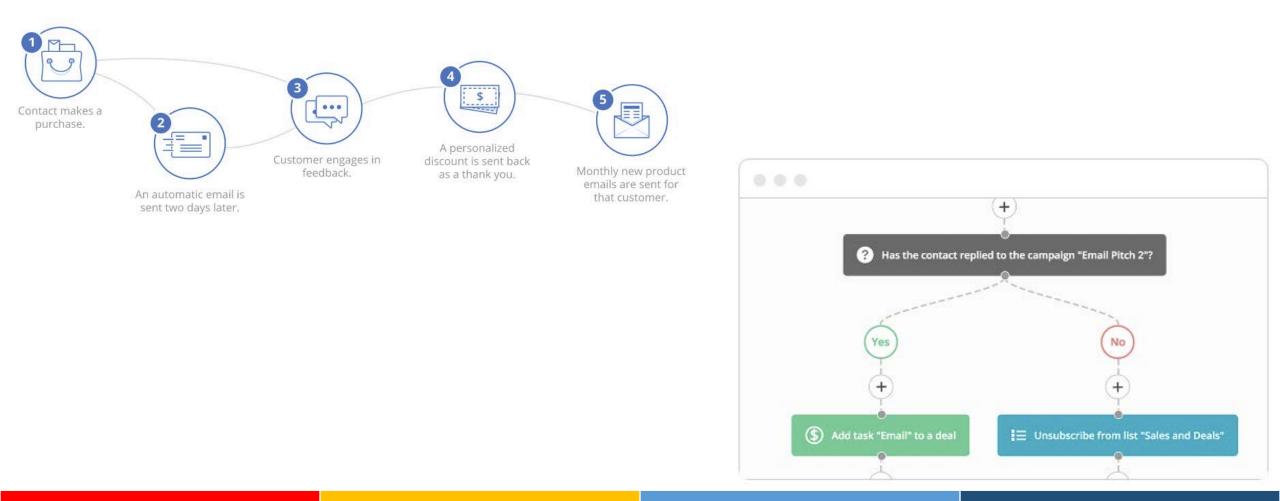
Your Online Community:

- GetSatisfaction
   Customer Surveys
- Zopim Live Chat

### My Choice: Active Campaign

### Automatically engage with your contacts

Welcome emails, birthday emails, trigger campaigns from actions, sales follow-ups and more.



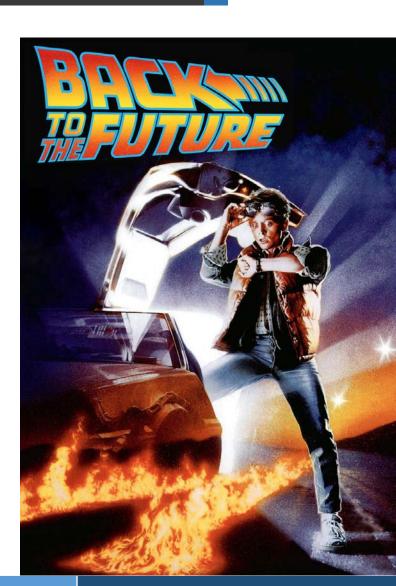
## Cloud Accounting is Exploding!

Many Choices:

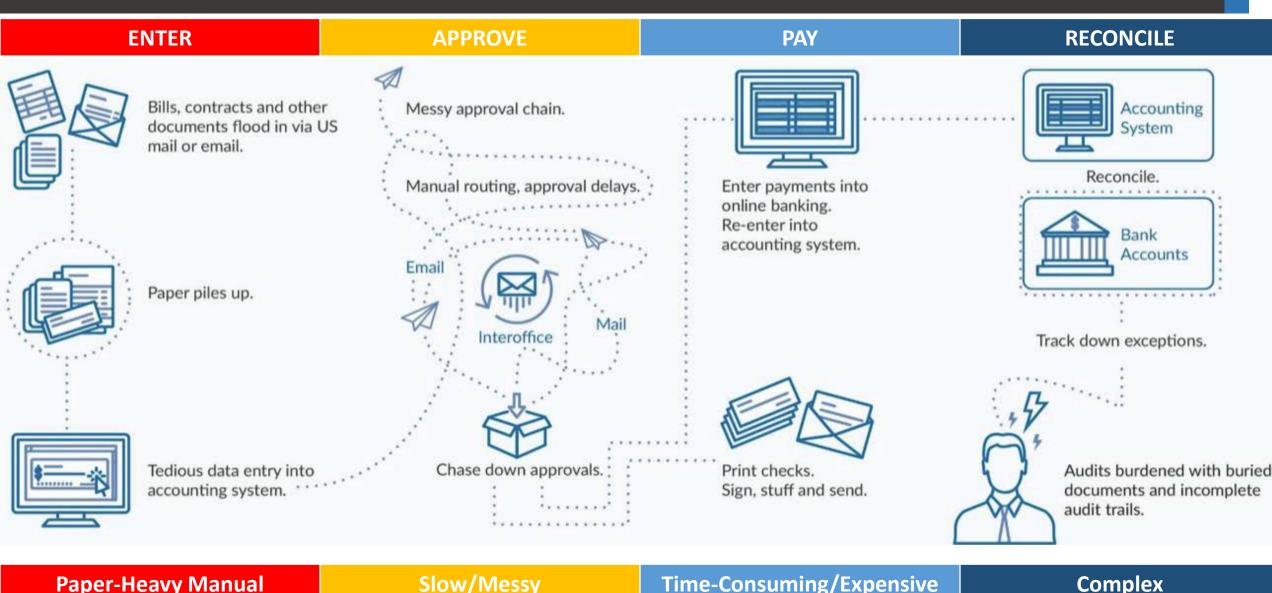
- Xero
- QB Online
- Intaact
- NetSuite
- Wave
- inDinero

A change in Payables and Receivables Management:

- Bill.com
- Receipt bank
- EntryLess
- Expensify
- Concur



### SMB Accounts Payable – Manual, Messy, Expensive



**Paper-Heavy Manual** 

Slow/Messy

Time-Consuming/Expensive

### Payables





### **Current Process**

1. Pick Up Mail

2. Open Mail

7. Generate Check Run

10. Reconcile Bank Account

9. Mail Checks

- 8. Stuff Checks
- 3. Process Bills
- 4. Post Bills in QuickBooks
- 5. Send Report to Approver Repeat...
- 6. Review with Approver

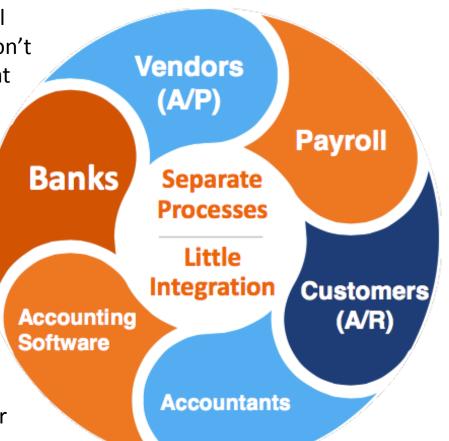
### Repeat...

Average Cost to Pay a Single Bill?



## Old School: Separate Processes – All Independent

- Paper Invoicing, Manual
- Can email, but Many Don't
- No Visibility for Payment Schedules
- Online Banking
- ACH Payments
- No Document Attachments
- Mostly Desktop
- Doc Attachments Rare
- Manual Data Entry
- Heavily Reliant on Paper
- Fraud Risk



- Mostly Paper Checks
- Mostly Desktop
   Solutions
- Manual Entry
- Error Prone and Costly
- Mostly Pay by Check
- Grouping Deposits
- Trips to Bank
- Manual Processes
- Paper Based
- Complex Reconciliation
  - More Time and \$\$\$

## Looking Forward



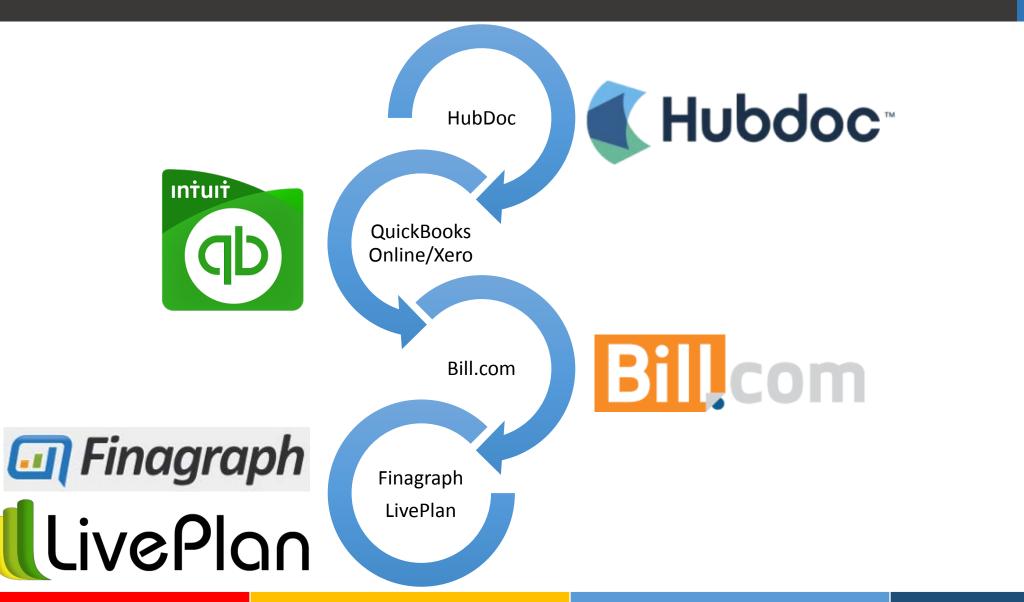
### What if I could turn this...into this.



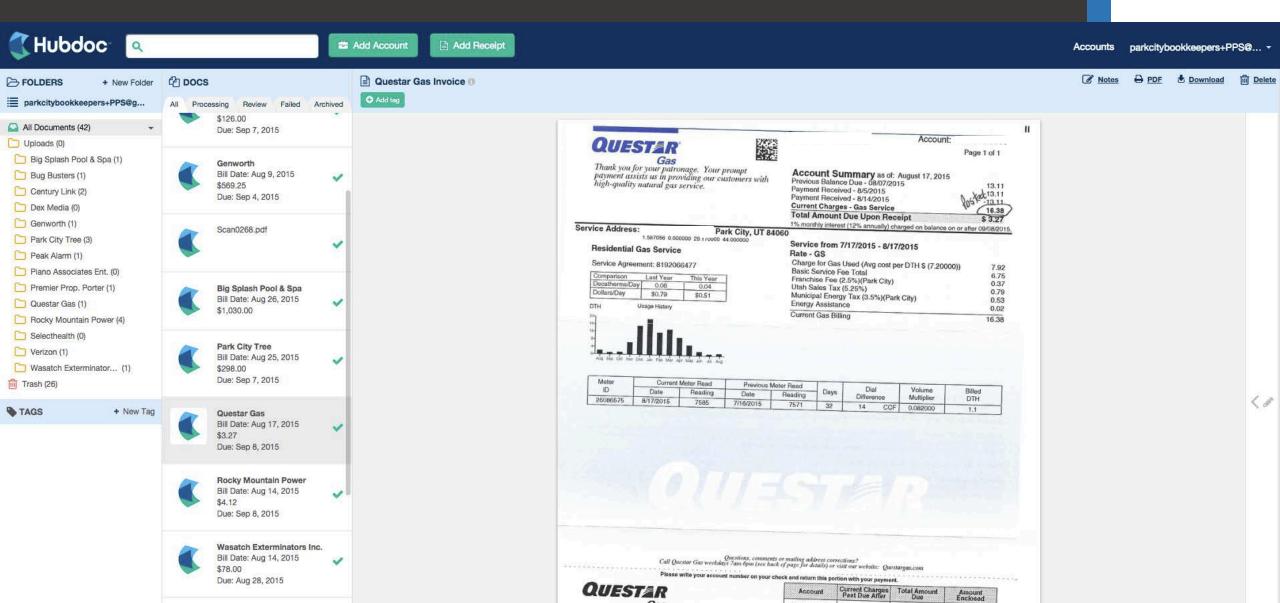
## What if?

- What if I never had to keep another receipt, vendor invoice, or check stub to protect myself in case of an audit?
- All my business documents (vendor invoices, expense receipts, etc.) were not only stored in the cloud behind bank-level 256 bit encryption, but also attached to the actual transaction in your accounting software?
- I could nearly <u>automate</u> my Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable process?

### How Do I Do It?



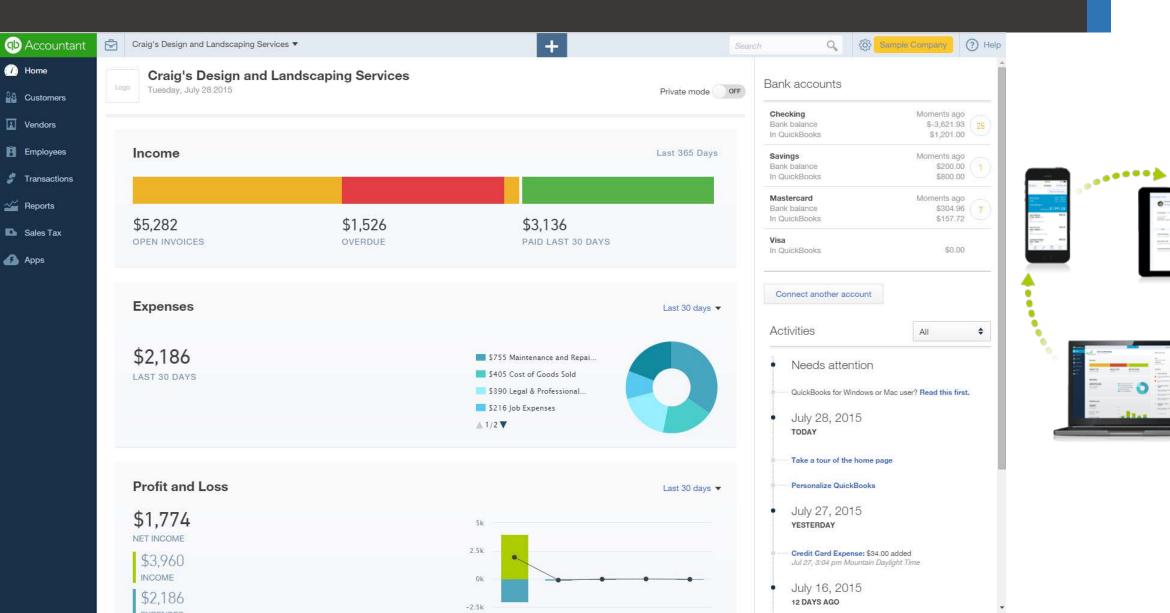
### HubDoc



### HubDoc

	Hubdoc 🤍	Add Account	Accounts	Upgrade and Pricing Park City Bookkeepers -
Ø	All Processing Review Failed Archived	Questar Gas Invoice  Add ting		중 Notes 음 PDF 분 Download 🛍 Delete
	Questar Gas Bill Date: Jul 23, 2015 \$16.52	Gas         Account Summary as of: July 27, 2015           Thumk you for your patronage. Your prompt payment assists us in providing our customers with high-quality natural gas service.         Account Summary as of: July 27, 2015           Previous Balance Due - 07/14/2015         29.42           Current Charges - Gas Service         25.23           Total Amount Due Upon Receipt         \$25.23           Total Interest (12% annually charged on balance on or aller 08/18/2015.		Publish & Proceed next >
	Questar Gas Bill Date: Jul 23, 2015 \$25.23	Service Address:         Park City, UT 84060           27.72446         0.000000         20.000000         Service from 6/23/2015 - 7/23/2015           Residential Gas Service         Rate - GS         Charge for Gas Used (Avg cost per DTH \$ (6.89130))         15.85	*Document Type:	Invoice \$
		Comparison         Last Year         This Year         Franchise Fee (2.5%) (Park City)         0.75           Deatherms/Day         0.09         0.08         Utah Sales Tax (5.25%)         1.22           Dollars/Day         \$1.14         \$0.84         Municipal Energy Tax (3.5%) (Park City)         0.81           True         Lenergy         Assistance         0.03         0.03	*Vendor:	Questar Gas 🕴
		Current Gas Billing 25.23	*Date: Due Date:	2015-07-23
>		Mitter Current Meter Read Previous Meter Read Days Dial Volume Billed 10 Date Reading Date Reading Days Otherence Multiplier DTH 36097106 7/23/2015 8054 6/22/2015 8026 31 28 OCF 0.082166 2.3	AMOUNT *Currency: *Total: Paid Status:	USD \$ 25.23 O Paid
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		Gas     8/18/2015     \$25.23       Ouestar Gas Company PO Box 45841	*Publish To:	<ul> <li>Autosync</li> <li>Save configuration</li> <li>Bill \$</li> </ul>
		Salt Lake City, UT 84139-0001	*Account:	Choose \$
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### QuickBooks Online



Bill.com

Bill.com	Search		Q	\$ \$	E Wheeler [DEMO] Bob's Bait Shop
HOME INBOX PAYABI	LES RECEIVABLES	DOCUMENTS RE	EPORTS NETWORK		
DASHBOARD CASH FORECAS	T FORECAST TRANS	ACTIONS			
To Do List		Upload Your Bills			0
<ul> <li>Pay: 20 bills overdue   20 bipaid</li> <li>Process 1 document in Inbo</li> <li>Track: 5 invoices overdue</li> <li>Additional Security Setup</li> </ul>		Choose File No file ch Setup your email			g & drop files here
Go To Vendor	Viewall	Cash Forecast			?
Quick Links		Opening Balance: \$	5,204.46 as of 09/28/15		Details
Enter bill with documents Enter bill without document Pay Vendors via ePayment Manage users View chart of accounts					<u>\$5.8K</u>

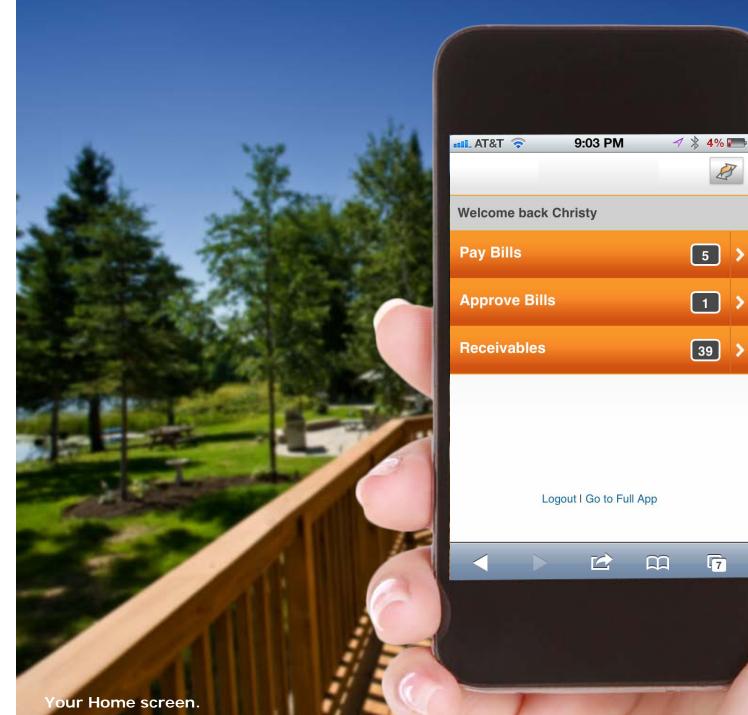
\$5 AK

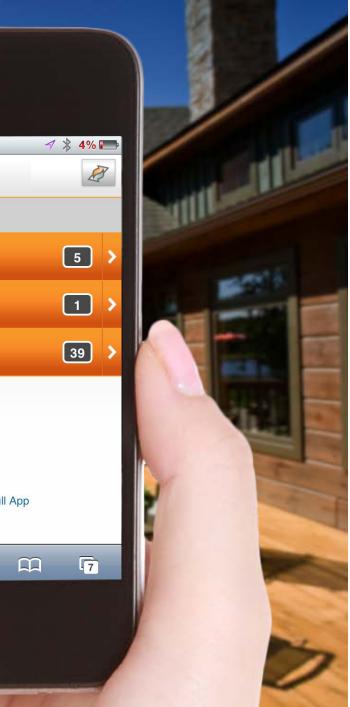
### Bill.com

APPROVAL STATUS Any	DUE DATE	21 TO 21	GO		Sort By Du	ie Date  🛟
Unpaid bills					Selec	: [ All   None ]
BILL INFORMATION	DUE DATE	APPROVAL STATUS	<b>BILL AMOUNT</b>	PAYMENT AMOUNT	PROCESS DATE	SELECT
Délicieux Catering Services	08/18/15	Unassigned	\$100.00	\$100.00	09/29/15	
inv # - DCS 00144					Check - Arrives by 10/02/1	5
Délicieux Catering Services	08/20/15	Unassigned	\$100.00	\$100.00	09/29/15	
inv # - DCS 00145					Check - Arrives by 10/02/1	5
Logan Web Design	08/21/15	Unassigned	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	09/29/15	
inv # - LWD - 10/15/11					Check - Arrives by 10/02/1	5
Délicieux Catering Services	08/22/15	Unassigned	\$100.00	\$100.00	09/29/15	
inv # - DCS 00146					Check - Arrives by 10/02/1	5
Délicieux Catering Services	08/25/15	Unassigned	\$100.00	\$100.00	09/29/15	
inv # - DCS 00147					Check - Arrives by 10/02/1	5
Rodriguez, Fineman, and Goldstein	08/25/15	Unassigned	\$7,344.91	\$7,344.91	09/29/15	
inv # - 09/19/11					Check - Arrives by 10/02/1	5
Délicieux Catering Services	08/27/15	Unassigned	\$100.00	\$100.00	09/29/15	

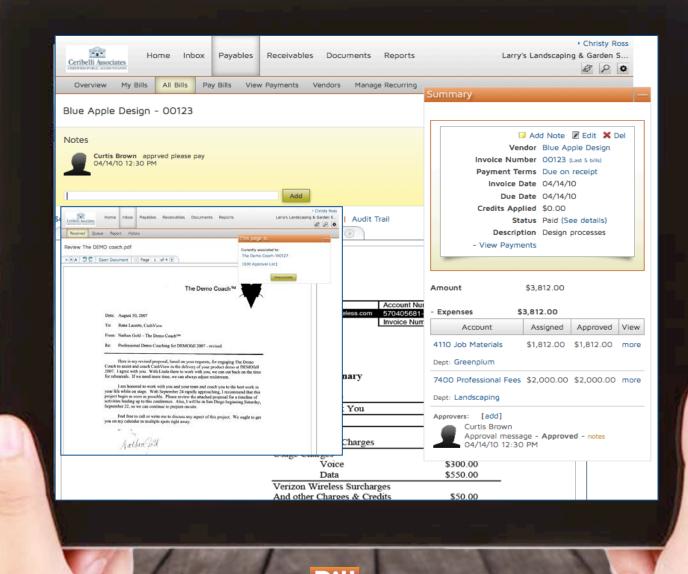
inv # - DCS 00148

Check - Arrives by 10/02/15





### Complete View of Transactions



**Bill**com

### Payables





### THEN

-1. Pick Up Mail	9. Generate Check Run
2. Open Mali	10. Stuff Checks
3. Process Bills	11. Mail Cheeks
4. Post Bills in QuickBooks	12. Reconcile Bank Account
-5. Sond Report to Approver-	13. Repeat
-6. Review with Approver	

7. Repeat...

35

### NOW

- 1. Bills emailed Accounts Payable Department from vendor
- 2. Categorize & Route for Approval
- 3. Approved by You via phone app or website with one click
- 4. Paid (ePayment)

Including....

- Built-In Audit Trail and cleared check images
- Workflow Management
- Electronic Document Storage
- Accounting Software Synchronization

### Financial Intelligence On Demand

QUARTER

MONTH

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						-

YEAR

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ROI

2009

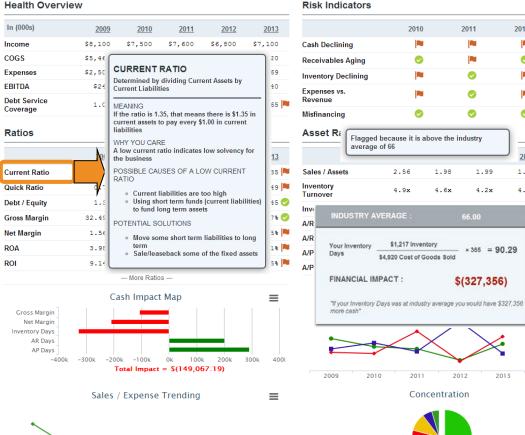
2010

2011

2012

Large chart

2013





2013

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2012

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2012

1.

4.4x

2011

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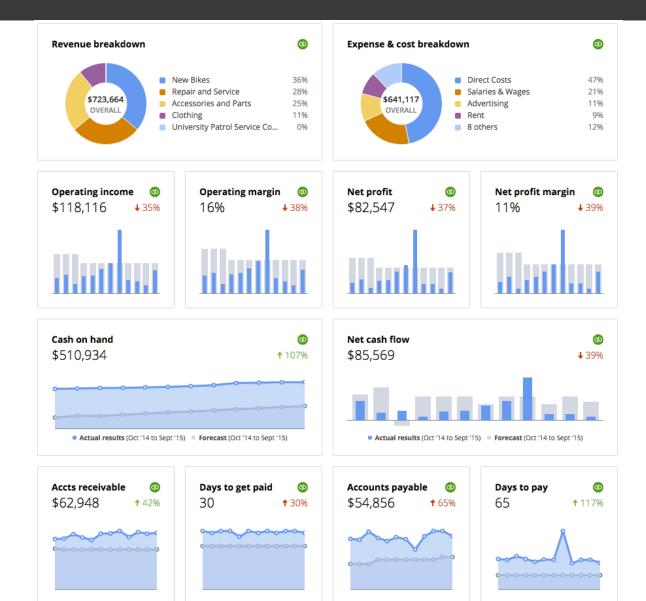
1.99

4.2x

× 365 = 90.29

\$(327,356)

### Financial Scorecard



### Recap Technology

- Use a CRM
- Keep your community happy with inexpensive tech
- Your current AP process is inefficient and costs you time and money
- Tech solutions exist to save 4-8 hours per week
- Financial Statement Analysis doesn't need to be a headache



# ON your business not IN your business

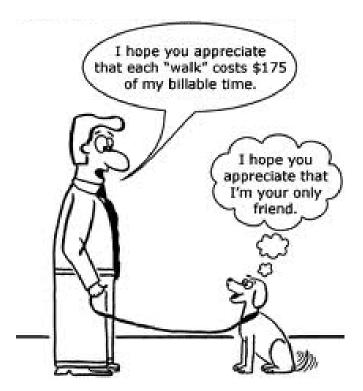
Business Development Marketing Sales

### Focus....

### Determine your Opportunity Cost and ROI

C.	
roi=	(gain of investment - cost of investment)
101-	cost of investment

Figure out your competitive advantage



### Questions?

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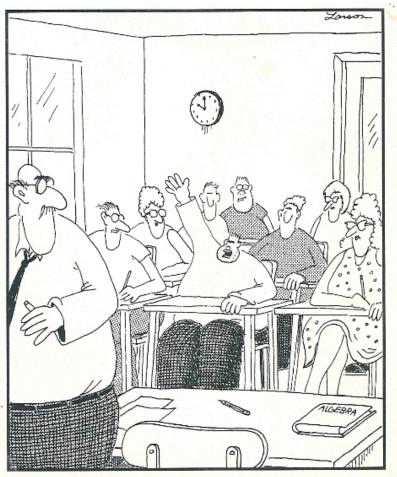
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Facebook: www.facebook.com/parkcitybookkeepers





"Mr. Osborne, may I be excused? My brain is full."