

# OVERVIEW OF CREDIT AND COMMERCIAL LENDING PROCESS

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By  
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# Credit

- Credit is a form of trade where present purchasing power is traded for future purchasing power
- It is the exchange of value for a promise
- Both lender and borrower gain from the trade
- Financial Intermediaries specialize on this trade

# Credit Risk

- Risk of default by the borrower is Credit Risk
- While market risk provides opportunities for profit as well as loss, Credit Risk can result only in loss.
- The most common reason by far for the failure of banks is loan losses.

# Sources of Credit Risk

- Reliance on promises
- Information Asymmetry and Adverse Selection
- Pricing
- Weak monitoring and control

However, credit risk cannot be avoided. The key is to manage it carefully and keep it under control.

# Business and Commercial Lending: Stages and Steps

## Stage One: Preliminary Opportunity Assessment

Owners/Managers or  
Development of Targeted  
Bank Call List



Preliminary Screen for  
Business and Portfolio Fit



Preliminary Screen for  
Business Financial and  
Nonfinancial Qualifications



## Business and Commercial Lending CURRICULUM

# Understanding Business Borrowers

# Business and Commercial Lending: Stages and Steps

## Stage Two: Credit Proposal Development and Approval

## Business and Commercial Lending CURRICULUM

Initial Meetings with Business  
Develop Credit proposal  
Structure, Assign Risk Rating  
to the Transaction/Borrower



Bank Approves, Modifies or  
Denies Credit Proposal



Preliminary Screen for  
Business Financial and  
Nonfinancial Qualifications



**Analyzing Business  
Financial  
Statements**

**Qualitative Analysis  
and Determining a  
Credit Risk Rating**

**Business and Commercial Lending  
CURRICULUM**

**Stage Three: Presentation of Loan Proposal**

**Customer Accepts, Denies or Seeks  
Modified Credit Proposal**

**Stage Four: Loan Documentation  
and Closing**

**Loan Agreement is Structured based  
upon Agreed Terms and Conditions;  
Loan is Closed**

**Stage Five: Loan Monitoring**

**Monitor Loan performance and Credit  
Risk Rating**

**Stage Six: Problem Loan  
Assessment and Action Steps**

**Take Appropriate Problem loan Actions  
if Business Does Not Perform as Planned**

**Loan Structuring,  
Documentation,  
Pricing and  
Problem Loans**

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# UNDERSTANDING BORROWERS

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# Business Sectors



Diversity- the biggest challenge  
for Relationship Manager

# Business Sectors and Operating Cycles

**The lender needs to screen for general fit within the portfolio and goals of the bank.**

Questions arising

- Is the firm in an acceptable or targeted industry?
- Is the firm within the bank's defined market area?
- Does the loan cause the bank to exceed bank limits for the industry or the type of loan to be made?
- Does the loan meet regulatory requirements? (such as Productive Sector, Deprived Sector etc.)
- Does this loan allow the bank to earn an acceptable return given the probable transaction risk?

# Understanding the Borrowers- Business Sectors and Operating Cycles

Understanding the industry, type of business, and operating cycles helps in developing Financial and Non-financial assessment of risks, since it is typically done prior to an in-depth analysis of detailed financial information.

## Business Sectors



# Operating Cycles

The operating cycle is the average period of time required for a business to make an initial outlay of cash to produce goods, sell the goods, and receive cash from customers in exchange for the goods.

- ▣ **EVERY BUSINESS HAS AN OPERATING CYCLE.**
- ▣ **IT PURCHASES RAW MATERIALS OR PRODUCTS, PREPARES PRODUCTS FOR SALE, MARKETS AND SELLS THE PRODUCTS OR SERVICES.**
- ▣ **THIS PROCESS OF CONVERTING ASSETS TO CASH IS THE CORE OF ALL BUSINESS ACTIVITY.**
- ▣ **THE BETTER YOU UNDERSTAND THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A BORROWER'S ASSET CONVERSION CYCLE, THE EASIER IT WILL BE FOR YOU TO ANTICIPATE OPPORTUNITIES TO PROVIDE BANKING SERVICES.**

# Operating Cycles

A business operating cycle illustrates how a company uses cash to produce a product or provide a service. The cycle begins and ends with cash.

## Typical Operating Cycle



# Operating Cycles

The length of the operating cycle varies among industries and businesses. It affects the amount of **working capital** needed.

## Operating Cycles of Various Businesses

[Understanding Borrowers- Operating Cycle\Operating Cycle- Agriculture and Manufacturer.docx](#)

[Understanding Borrowers- Operating Cycle\Operating Cycle- Wholesaler and Retailer.docx](#)

[Understanding Borrowers- Operating Cycle\Operating Cycle- Service Business and Construction Company.docx](#)

# Sectorial Characteristics and Risks

## Agricultural Business

Agricultural Loan Purposes	Agricultural Business Risks	Agricultural Business Financial Characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Purchase seed, plants, fertilizer, or livestock</li><li>• Purchase equipment</li><li>• Finance land</li><li>• Fund living and operating expenses</li><li>• Pay labor</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adverse weather</li><li>• Falling crop prices</li><li>• Increasing seed, fertilizer, and operating costs</li><li>• Maintenance and repair costs</li><li>• Quality of labor</li><li>• Declining land values</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fixed assets are largest asset at about 50 percent of total assets</li><li>• Inventory is next largest asset, but only 18 percent of total assets</li><li>• Liabilities evenly split between current and long-term</li><li>• Leverage as high as 4.0x</li><li>• Gross profits about 35 percent of sales</li></ul>

# Sectorial Characteristics and Risks

## Manufacturer

Manufacturer Loan Purposes	Manufacturer Risks	Manufacturer Financial Characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fund raw materials purchases</li><li>• Fund work-in-process and labor</li><li>• Carry accounts receivable</li><li>• Purchase plant or make improvements</li><li>• Purchase equipment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inability to sell product</li><li>• Quality of raw material used</li><li>• Labor costs and availability</li><li>• Collection of accounts receivable</li><li>• Efficiency of plant operations</li><li>• Knowledge of operating costs</li><li>• Accurately assigning costs to products</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inventory is largest asset</li><li>• Fixed assets are next largest</li><li>• Current liabilities more than double amount of long-term liabilities</li><li>• Leverage as high as 2.5x</li><li>• Cost of goods sold is largest expense</li><li>• Very thin (1 percent) net profit margin</li></ul>



# Sectorial Characteristics and Risks

## Wholesaler

Wholesaler Loan Purposes	Wholesaler Risks	Wholesaler Financial Characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fund finished goods purchases</li><li>• Fund new product purchases</li><li>• Carry accounts receivable</li><li>• Purchase plant or expansions</li><li>• Purchase equipment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Quality of product</li><li>• Inability to market product</li><li>• Credit approval policies</li><li>• Collection of accounts receivable</li><li>• Relationship with vendors</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inventory and accounts receivable are largest assets at about 30 percent each of total assets</li><li>• Fixed assets are next largest at about 15 percent of total assets</li><li>• Current liabilities comprise about 80 percent of total liabilities, with accounts payable as largest liability (about 25 percent of total)</li><li>• Leverage as high as 2.5x</li><li>• Gross profits about 8-15 percent of sales</li><li>• Stronger (2.2 percent) net profit margin</li></ul>

# Sectorial Characteristics and Risks

## Retailer

Retailer Loan Purposes	Retailer Risks	Retailer Financial Characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fund permanent inventory purchases</li><li>• Fund seasonal inventory purchases</li><li>• Fund leasehold improvements</li><li>• Purchase equipment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inability to sell product</li><li>• Product quality and mix</li><li>• Service provided by employees</li><li>• Employee theft (shrinkage)</li><li>• Relationship with vendors</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inventory is largest asset at about 50 percent of total assets</li><li>• Fixed assets are next largest at about 20 percent of total assets</li><li>• Current liabilities (mostly accounts payable) about 2.5x the amount of long-term liabilities</li><li>• Leverage as high as 2.5x</li><li>• Gross profits about 40 percent of sales</li><li>• Net profit margin of about 2 percent</li></ul>

# Sectorial Characteristics and Risks

## Service Industry

Service Business Loan Purposes	Service Business Risks	Service Business Financial Characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Carry accounts receivable</li><li>• Fund fixed asset purchases</li><li>• Fund leasehold improvements</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Quality of service provided</li><li>• Credit approval process</li><li>• Collection of accounts receivable</li><li>• Quality and capacity of fixed assets</li><li>• Demand for service</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accounts receivable is largest asset at about 35 percent of total assets</li><li>• Fixed assets are next largest at about 30 percent of total assets</li><li>• Liabilities evenly split between current and long-term</li><li>• Leverage as high as 2.5x</li><li>• Gross profits about 100 percent of sales</li><li>• Net profit margin of about 7.5 percent</li></ul>

# Sectorial Characteristics and Risks

## Construction Business

Construction Business Loan Purposes	Construction Business Risks	Construction Business Financial Characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fund construction materials purchases</li><li>• Pay subcontractors</li><li>• Fund equipment purchases</li><li>• Pay operating expenses</li><li>• Standby letter of credits</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Under-bidding projects</li><li>• Labor costs and availability</li><li>• Collection of accounts receivable and retainages</li><li>• Subcontractor work quality</li><li>• Completing projects on time (weather and other disruptions)</li><li>• Unexpected conditions such as poor soil</li><li>• Change orders</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accounts receivable is largest asset at about 40 percent of total assets and consisting primarily of progress billings</li><li>• Cash and equivalents are next largest at about 20 percent of total assets, with a relatively small 15 percent in fixed assets</li><li>• Liabilities primarily short-term, with about one-half in trade payables</li><li>• Leverage as high as 2.5x</li><li>• Gross profits low at about 17 percent of sales</li><li>• Net profit margin of about 2.5 percent</li></ul>

# Analyzing Financial Data

Typical Financial Profiles for Various Businesses (Wood Tables Example)

	Agriculture (logging)	Manufacturer (wood furniture)	Wholesaler (furniture)	Retailer (furniture)	Service (ware-housing)	Contractor (industrial buildings)
Accounts receivable	10%*	22%	37%	14%	18%	40%
Inventory	13%*	33%	29%	50%	2%	2%
Net fixed assets	53%*	28%	13%	18%	55%	16%
Accounts payable	5%*	15%	22%	18%	8%	30%
Long-term debt	30%*	21%	9%	11%	7%	7%
Gross profit	31%**	31%	29%	41%	100%	15%
Operating expenses	28%**	28%	27%	39%	83%	13%
Profit before taxes	<1%**	1%	1%	2%	8%	2%

\*Percent of total assets or total liabilities and equity \*\*Percent of sales

# Business Sectors and Operating Cycle- Exercise

[Understanding Borrowers- Operating Cycle\Business Sector and Operating Cycle Exercise I.docx](#)

[Understanding Borrowers- Operating Cycle\Business Sectors and Operating Cycles Exercise II.docx](#)

[Understanding Borrowers- Operating Cycle\Suggested Results for Exercise I.docx](#)

[Understanding Borrowers- Operating Cycle\Suggested Results for Exercise II.docx](#)



# Thank you