

Assignment 09

Why are we exclude cash while calculating working capital?

Cash is typically excluded from the calculation of working capital in certain contexts, particularly in more advanced financial analysis because cash is indeed a current asset doesn't directly contribute to a company's operational efficiency or its ability to generate revenue from core business activities. Here's a more detailed explanation.

Focus on operational efficiency:

Working capital measure that efficiency with within a company manager its short term asset and liability to its day to day operation including cash. equally access cash that is not immediately need for operation could asset PM before working capital requirement of the business.

for example: excess cash holding is a bank amount detail tell how will the company managing receivable inventory or payable which are more closely tied to operational performance.

Cash is often a Residual balance:

Cash can accumulate for various reasons (profit financial activities asset sales) and it may not be related to how well the company is managing its working capital cycle as such including cash may give an inflated view of liquidity without showing how efficiently the company is running its core operation.

Excluding cash helps focus the analysis on payable and inventory which directly reflect the working capital need to support the business.

Better understanding of operating liquidity

When we exclude cash the resulting calculation (called non-cash working capital) provides a clear view of the operational liquidity of the company. This means the analysis focuses on how well the company can value its short-term obligations from sales and operation without valuing on excess cash reserve.

Cash flow vs working capital

Cash is better organized in terms of cash flow (such as in a cash flow statement) rather than in working capital connection cycle (CCC). (How long it takes to convert working capital into cash) is a better metric for understanding how cash is generated from operations further than simply including cash in the working capital.

Example:

If a company has £ 5,00,000 in current assets (including £ 1,00,000 in cash) and £ 3,00,000 in current liabilities its working capital (using traditional formula) would be

$$\Rightarrow \text{working capital} = \text{current assets} - \text{current liabilities}$$

$$= £ 5,00,000 - £ 3,00,000$$

$$= £ 2,00,000$$

~~2x Non-cash working capital~~
$$= (£ 5,00,000 - £ 1,00,000) - £ 3,00,000$$

$$= £ 1,00,000$$