MEASURING CASH CREATION AND FLOW

Calculating Free Cash Flow

James P. Weston

Professor of Finance

The Jones School, Rice University

FREE CASH FLOW

- FCF = Operating Profit (after tax)
 - Increase in WC
 - + Depreciation
 - Capital expenditure
 - + After-tax salvage value

LET'S WALK THROUGH A SIMPLE EXAMPLE

Year	0	1	2	3
Revenue		\$500	\$500	\$500
Total costs		\$300	\$300	\$300
Depreciation		\$100	\$100	\$100
EBIT		\$100	\$100	\$100
Taxes (30%)		\$30	\$30	\$30
NOPAT		\$70	\$70	\$70
Capital Spending	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net PP&E	\$500	\$400	\$300	\$200
Cash from operations	\$0	\$170	\$170	\$170
Working Capital	\$150	\$100	\$50	\$0
Terminal (Asset Sales)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200
Free Cash Flow	-\$650	\$220	\$220	\$420