### REDWOOD ADVISORS

Sample materials:

Ops planning for B2B SaaS

### Case Study: Arcadia Software Ops Planning

#### **Context:**

- The Arcadia Software team has had trouble clearly aligning on high-level strategies, objectives, & next steps
- RWA worked with Arcadia Software to craft an annual operating plan tied to their overall strategy
- The effort focused on pinpointing Arcadia Software's strategic priorities & key objectives from those priorities
- The team identified key actions, timing, owners, and resources needed in order for Arcadia Software to execute on each of their key objectives for the fiscal year

#### Top illustrative insights:

- Arcadia Software believes doubling down and upselling out current clients is the best opportunity to maximize organic revenue growth
- The top blockers are the lack of a rigorous customer prospecting efforts and thorough customer feedback models
- Clear dashboards, reporting systems, and data collection are the top resource needs to get to action on the key objectives

## **Operations planning efforts consist of three key phases: annual goal setting, objective identification, & implementation planning**

Phase

Annual goal setting & Objective identification
Collect & organize key
Identify potential

- Key illustrative activities
- **Collect & organize key facts** from interviews
- Review & refine overall
   OKR system as needed
- **Draft & approve annual goal** with key stakeholders (e.g., executives, team leaders, etc.)
- Key illustrative • outputs
  - Set clear annual goal
     Annual operating plan based on overall strategy & ability to execute

Illustrative case study follows

- **Identify potential objectives** tied to key strategic priorities
- **Develop a high-level plan** for pursuing and achieving the key objectives
- Key objectives & top result overviews based on clearly defined strategic objectives
- RASCI owners and projected timing for key objectives
- **Top actions & timeline** to act on the key objectives

 Develop a high-level, view of key resource needs (e.g., people, tech, processes) to achieve objectives

**U** Implementation planning

- **Stand-up a governance model** for driving progress on key objectives
- Current-state resource overview by objectives
- Additional resource needs by objective
- Key meetings overview including agendas, attendees, dashboards, etc.

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### **RWA worked with Arcadia Software leaders to identify key** stakeholders to drive the overall 20XX effort

		C-suite level Dept. level
Key roles	Stakeholders	Role overview
Executive Sponsor	Executive AA	<ul> <li>Sponsor Ops effort and help set overall goals and plan</li> <li>Provide ongoing input and direction to the team</li> <li>Engage and support on key objectives</li> </ul>
Key Project Supports	<ul><li>Executive BB</li><li>Executive CC</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Provide key input and insights to identify and prioritize key objectives</li> </ul>
OKR Chief	• Person XX	<ul> <li>Drive overall Ops efforts &amp; the supporting OKR system, including driving governance model</li> <li>Provide key input and insights (e.g., value drivers, feasibility of initiatives)</li> </ul>
OKR Champions	<ul><li>Person AA</li><li>Person BB</li><li>Person CC</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Drive efforts on individual objectives &amp; key results</li> <li>Lead problem solving effort with OKR chief and supports</li> <li>Own key project work streams including deliverable creation, analysis, high level model development, etc.</li> </ul>
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drive the Ops effort

### The team worked with stakeholders to prioritize the top 3 objectives based on Arcadia Software's aspiration & 1-year goal

Aspiration	Aspiration Become the leading provider of custom B2B SaaS solutions for medium & large sized distributors & retailers					
1-year goal	Drive accelerated bottom-line EBITDA growth across our core markets with a focus on new customers (e.g., medium sized distributors)					
Objective	Accelerate bottom-line EBITDA growthSignificantly reduce customer churn		Further diversify core revenue streams			
Rationale	Maintain a consistent core growth in the businessEnsure our product quality by retaining our core customers		Ensure long term stability & mitigate risks to revenue			
Key results	<i>Next step:</i> Work with stakeholders to identify ~1-2 key results for each objective					

## For each key result, the team set 3 different goals (budget, target, and stretch)

Goal type	Overview	Use case
Budget	Goal we are confident in hitting (80%+ probability)	Share with our investors and in public announcements & posts
Target	Goal that we would like to hit and can reasonably hit (50% probability)	Use as key internal facing goal; track performance against target goal on a monthly or weekly basis
Stretch	Reflect our true aspiration but may be a "stretch" to hit (10-20% probability)	Use to stretch the team's thinking on what is possible; stretch the team to think bigger & different

Key results for each prioritized objective follows

## Each objective was then assigned 2 key results to measure success with clear budget, target, and stretch goals

Deep dive follows

		Key results						
Objective		Budget goal	Target goal	Stretch goal				
	Accelerate bottom-line	<ol> <li>Increase EBITDA to \$13M+ by EOY</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Increase EBITDA to \$15M+ by EOY</li> </ol>	1. Increase EBITDA to \$17M+ by EOY				
	EBITDA growth	2. Increase sales in top MSAs by 10% YOY	2. Increase sales in top MSAs by 15% YOY	2. Increase sales in top MSAs by 20% YOY				
	Significantly reduce customer	<ol> <li>Achieve 65% customer retention</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Achieve 75% customer retention</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Achieve 90% customer retention</li> </ol>				
reduce churn		2. Improve our NPS by 3 percentage points	2. Improve our NPS by 5 percentage points	2. Improve our NPS by 8 percentage points				
	Further diversify	<ol> <li>No customer represents ~30%+ of annual revenue</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>No customer represents ~25%+ of annual revenue</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>No customer represents ~20%+ of annual revenue</li> </ol>				
	core revenue streams	2. Increase # of "medium" customers by 15%	2. Increase # of "medium" customers by 25%	2. Increase # of "medium" customers by 35%				

Key results

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### The team worked to develop a complete view of key RASCI roles for each key result to ensure accountability & alignment

Key result	Func. driver	Responsible	Accountable	Supporting	Contributor	Informed
EBITDA of \$15M+	1. Sales team	1. Person AA	1. Person DD	1. Person CC		<ol> <li>Person EE</li> <li>Person FF</li> </ol>
Retain ~75% of customers YOY	1. Customer Success team	1. Person BB	1. Person EE		1. Person CC	<ol> <li>Person DD</li> <li>Person CC</li> </ol>
No customer represents ~25%+ of annual revenue	1. Sales team	1. Person CC	1. Person CC	1. Person FF	1. Person GG	<ol> <li>Person DD</li> <li>Person EE</li> </ol>

#### **RASCI stakeholders**

## RWA then began working with the working teams to more develop actionable plans to reach the key result

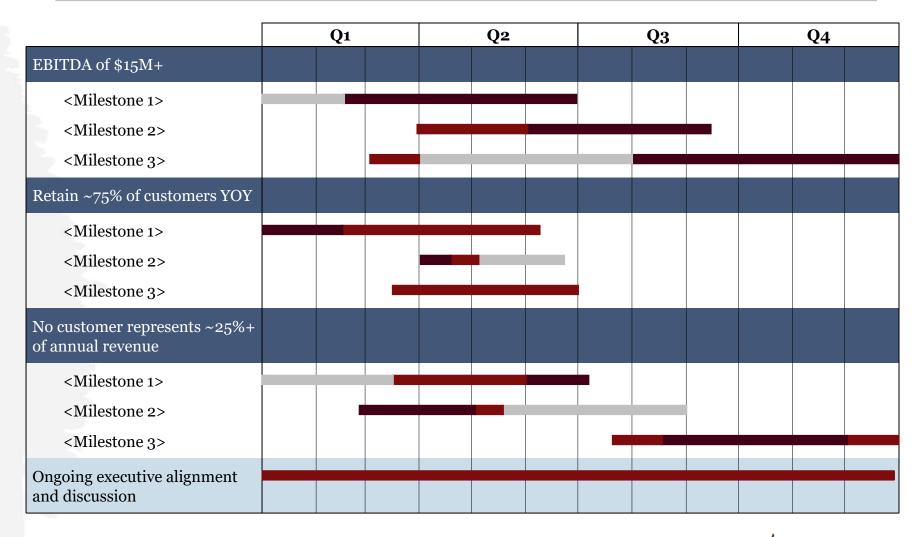
Key result		Responsible	Key "must-haves"	Top next steps	Due date
	EBITDA of \$15M+	• Person AA	• Grow sales in core product categories to key customer base	<ul> <li>Design &amp; approve actionable dashboard with key stakeholders</li> <li>Develop governance model for driving progress in sales team</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>~\$8M EBITDA by Q3</li> <li>~\$15M EBITDA by Q4</li> </ul>
	Retain ~75% of customers YOY	• Person BB	<ul> <li>Clear up-sell and cross-sell practices in-place and implemented</li> <li>Regular customer prospecting process</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Compile current-state process documentation and refine as needed</li> <li>Create dashboards to track perf. of cross-sell and up-sell campaigns</li> </ul>	• Q2
	No customer represents ~25%+ of annual revenue	• Person CC	<ul> <li>Clear customer records kept and shared to key stakeholders</li> <li>Customer feedback process implemented</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Build-out view of key data needs for customer profiling</li> <li>Lay-out enterprise best practices for customer check-ins including timing and key goals of interactions</li> </ul>	• Q4

Intensity of focus

High Medium Low

Sanitized & Illustrative

### RWA also supported key owners to build out actionable key result roadmaps with milestones & timelines



## The team then outlined current-state resources available for each key result to support the teams get to action

Key result	Resource current state	Resource level
EBITDA of \$15M+	<ul> <li>Automated reporting and analysis on quarterly sales values including sales-to-budget reports</li> <li>Automated conversion and lead data reporting for key marketing channels</li> </ul>	
Retain ~75% of customers YOY	<ul> <li>CRM tool with some tracking of key data points (e.g., customer name, segment)</li> <li>High-level process guidelines for customer interaction</li> </ul>	
No customer represents ~25%+ of annua revenue	<ul> <li>Process for reviewing sales performance to-date</li> <li>Automated reporting and analysis on quarterly sales values</li> <li>Underdeveloped SMB sales processes</li> </ul>	

## Additional resources needs were identified & prioritized for each top result, as helpful

People Technology Processes / capabilities

Key result	Next 0-6 months	6-12 months
EBITDA of \$15M+	<ul> <li>Governance model for revenue and EBITDA analysis</li> <li>Reporting dashboard for key revenue and EBITDA breakdowns</li> </ul>	I+ performance analyst(s)
Retain ~75% of customers YOY	<ul> <li>Detailed customer interaction process plan</li> <li>Customer data collection best practices for sales team</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Advanced customer data reporting</li> <li>Enterprise-wide customer info database</li> </ul>
No customer represents ~25%+ of annual revenue	<ul> <li>Governance model for reviewing customer values</li> <li>Reporting dashboard for pot. high-value customers</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Clear reporting structure for pot. high value customers</li> <li>Updated SMB up-sell processes</li> </ul>

#### Ke 20XX resource needs

## The team identified & facilitated the key project meetings to drive progress on the 20XX annual goal & its key results

Key RWA meeting	Meeting date / time	Key topics for discussion
Project kick-off	Friday, January 30th 9am – 11am	<ul> <li>Kick-off new effort and share background with owners and support</li> <li>Align owners on expectations and cadence of overall project</li> <li>Share cadence of meetings, dashboards, agendas, etc.</li> </ul>
Key objective meetings	<b>Bi-weekly on</b> <b>Thursdays</b> 2pm – 4pm	<ul> <li>Owners of key objectives to present their dashboards and share successes, status on milestones and KPIs, and ask for support from ELT or other meeting attendees</li> <li>Leadership to align with key stakeholders on next steps</li> </ul>
Additional obj. meetings	Monthly on the last Friday of the month 10am – 11:30am	<ul> <li>Owners of additional objectives to present their dashboards and share successes, status on milestones and KPIs, and ask for support from ELT or other meeting attendees</li> <li>Leadership to align with key stakeholders on next steps</li> </ul>
Project close-out	Friday, March 5th 1-4pm	<ul> <li>Share final outcome of overall project (e.g., final RR savings)</li> <li>Highlight key successes from project</li> </ul>

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### To support this process all upcoming key meetings were scheduled to ensure accountability & visibility

#### Sample Q1 20XX calendar of objective and executive team governance meetings

Bi-weekly review of top objectives

p objectives Monthly rev

Monthly review of all remaining objectives

S	Μ	Т	W	Т	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

#### January 20XX

#### March 20XX

S	Μ	Т	W	Т	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	<b>2</b> 7	28
29	30	31				

	February 20XX							
S	Μ	Т	W	Т	F	S		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	<b>2</b> 7	28		

#### February 20XX

#### April 20XX

<b>F</b>						
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	<b>2</b> 7	28	29	30		