



CFO SERVICES

Unlocking Financial Insights to Improve Decision Making

Today's CFOs are expected to produce meaningful financial insights, fast. However, unreliable data management and outdated technologies make these processes manual and time-consuming, which can threaten the credibility of finance teams as trusted business partners.

When it comes to financial intelligence, companies often struggle with at least one of the following pain points:

- Cumbersome and inefficient processes
- Limited Business Intelligence (BI) and/or reporting strategy
- Antiquated finance technologies
- Poor integration of acquisitions, new business units, or existing business units

To improve reporting, analytics and management's decision-making capabilities, finance and accounting (F&A) organizations must invest in the right people, more efficient processes, and updated technologies to modernize and support business objectives.

How To Unlock Insights to Improve Decision Making

Finance and accounting organizations acting as true business partners will prioritize investments that help streamline the finance and accounting operations to deliver timely, accurate information to guide business decisions.

A well-designed F&A organization optimizes the following four areas:



Financial Consolidations: Spend less time consolidating data and closing the books, and more time on strategic financial analysis







Budgeting & Forecasting: Establish efficient and more accurate planning and forecasting processes to help improve the understanding of the future



Analytics & Reporting: Create digestible reports that provide new and unique insights that guide management decision-making



Performance Measurement: Build easy-to-use dashboards that reflect the key performance indicators (KPIs) that matter most to achieving business outcomes

	 Financial Consolidations	 Budgeting & Forecasting	 Analytics & Reporting	 Performance Measurement (KPIs)
Project Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review existing process and tools and assist with maintenance and updates Assessment and analysis of various vendors Design the structure, build the application and validate the data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate current budgeting process and identify opportunities for improvement according to industry best practices Develop scalable forecasting and scenario modeling capability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and leverage data warehouse to centralize trusted data Build data visualization and recurring reporting to analyze performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align on key performance indicators (KPIs) that drive business outcomes Using KPIs, identify areas of weakness and opportunities for improvement
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shorter financial close cycles Less time spent consolidating data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More streamlined and consolidated planning process More accurate and realistic forecasts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved data accuracy, consistency and speed More efficient and detailed analysis and reporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common understanding of business expectations Ability to quickly understand whether current performance is meeting expectations

Improve Decision Making

- Improved processes leading to faster retrieval speed of data and greater accuracy
- Advise on how financial results can drive future business plans and decisions
- Leverage entire suite of trusted data and reporting to analyze performance

Why A&M?

Without the conflicts of public accounting firms or software providers or integrators, A&M offers objective, independent, credible advice you can trust to be **in your best interest**, not our own. Our teams deliver business transformation with speed. Whether your business is looking for a full-scale finance transformation or the improvement of a single process or component within your finance and accounting function, we focus on tangible results and sustainable, realistic solutions.

Our guiding principles:



Execution Focus: Our approach allows us to roll up our sleeves and drive **your** results



Invest in People: We work with your teams to create buy-in for sustainable change and shared risk / reward



Operator Mindset: Our teams embrace the hard and complex problems, and our operator mindset fosters a bias toward action



Speed and Quality: Our restructuring heritage applied to business transformation employs a sense of urgency without sacrificing quality. We seek to deliver real, tangible impact with a “cash is king” mentality

Case in Point – Value in Real Time

A private equity firm recently acquired three regional distributors of specialty construction materials. They leveraged A&M’s operator mentality and practical experience to streamline the finance & accounting processes and solutions through the consolidation of planning, financial reporting, and Business Intelligence systems.

Our team took a structured approach to assessing key F&A requirements, organizing the business onto common platforms, and offering hands-on support during the transition.



Strategy & Roadmap Creation: Developed practical and viable roadmap to move all three companies onto recommended ERP, CPM and BI systems



Financial Consolidation Implementation: Led end-to-end implementation including process mapping, requirements gathering, software selection, implementation and change management



Master Data Management: Crafted a scalable master data management (MDM) strategy for customer, vendor, product and account data



Automated Reporting: Automated operational and financial reporting through OneStream software

As a result of this work, the company developed and adopted a corporate strategy and was able to consolidate seven disparate systems onto a single ERP solution. Additionally, A&M rationalized the planning, financial reporting, and BI processes for three separate entities onto common platforms. Through this consolidation, **over 25 reports were automated, financial close cycle times were decreased and the business was left with a scalable Business Intelligence strategy that empowered leadership with decision-ready insights.**

KEY CONTACTS

Contact us today to learn how A&M brings a hands-on approach to help companies rapidly improve their ability to capture meaningful insights from data.



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ABOUT ALVAREZ & MARSAL

Companies, investors and government entities around the world turn to Alvarez & Marsal (A&M) for leadership, action and results. Privately held since its founding in 1983, A&M is a leading global professional services firm that provides advisory, business performance improvement and turnaround management services. When conventional approaches are not enough to create transformation and drive change, clients seek our deep expertise and ability to deliver practical solutions to their unique problems.

With over 6,000 people across five continents, we deliver tangible results for corporates, boards, private equity firms, law firms and government agencies facing complex challenges. Our senior leaders, and their teams, leverage A&M's restructuring heritage to help companies act decisively, catapult growth and accelerate results. We are experienced operators, world-class consultants, former regulators and industry authorities with a shared commitment to telling clients what's really needed for turning change into a strategic business asset, managing risk and unlocking value at every stage of growth.

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