

A **CEO** Playbook

THE CRAFT



Secret Codes and Methods for
Unlocking Exponential Financial Value

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EXPOSE THE DETERMINANTS

The sketch on the whiteboard, and the ensuing debate, will reveal many things we can objectively discuss, including such variables in the calculations as financial projections; consumer uptake; pricing; or time to market, time to scale up, or time to scale down.

The sketch does something else.

It quickly exposes the variables lurking below the waterline, including

- the creativity of the team;

- their openness to new ideas and influences;

- whether they have an appetite for, or aversion to, risk;

- their emotional predisposition, including expressions of frustration, anger, or fear;

how information is disclosed, how it flows, and who influences its interpretation; and

how power is being used.

This latter set of variables is some of the most determinative to whether the optimal value will be achieved. Metaphorically, I can now place a bet in the horse race that is forthcoming. I know whether this company is a horse that will go off as a two to one favorite or if it is a one hundred to one long shot. It is a calculation of the probability of risk in reaching the goal as well as the reward that will be realized if successful.

These variables, once revealed, do even more:

*They tell me whether the optimal value can
be pushed even higher.*

Usually it can.

The path to even greater financial potential is being unlocked.