



# **5 Steps to Reignite** Your BlackLine Journey

### **Presenters**



#### BRANDON RABORN, CPA » BlackLine Practice Lead

Brandon Raborn has nearly a decade of experience facilitating the design and implementation of BlackLine solutions that support and streamline the day-to-day tasks of finance teams. Brandon works with clients of all sizes from mid-market organizations to Fortune 500 companies across various industries, with particular emphasis in energy, retail, banking, technology, insurance, and manufacturing.



#### **KEVIN SHIVES, CPA** » Consulting Partner

With over 20 years of experience, Partner, Kevin Shives has held senior finance and management positions in various high-tech companies in the Bay Area. Kevin has significant experience providing clients with highly effective and cost-efficient corporate governance, internal audit, technology, and Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) solutions.



### Agenda



- Firm and Consulting Overview
- Modern Accounting Playbook (MAP) Overview
- The BlackLine Journey
- Benefits of BlackLine
- 5 Steps to Reignite Your BlackLine Journey
- Summary & Questions



### Firm Overview

#### TAX Individua

Individual & Business • Preparation Planning • Representation • Appeals M&A • Multi-State & International

#### AUDIT

Audit • Assurance • SOX Compliance Employee Benefits Plan

#### **TECHNOLOGY CONSULTING**

Assessment • Implementation • Integration • Support

#### **BUSINESS ADVISORY CONSULTING**

Outsourced Accounting • Executive Placement • Internal Audit / SOX • Sustainability

#### HIGHLIGHTS:

- » 40+ Years in Business
- » US & International Clients
- » Thousands of hours dedicated to community service each year
- » Six locations throughout the West Coast







### **Consulting Overview**



#### **TECHNOLOGY SERVICES:**

» Assessments » Implementation » Upgrades

» Integration » Support

#### **CERTIFIED PARTNER:**

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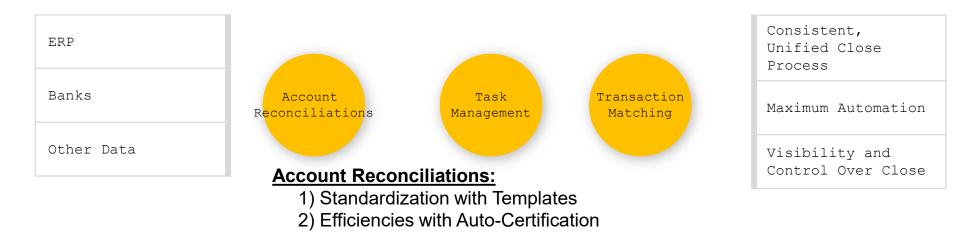
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### Modern Accounting Playbook (MAP)

#### Unified. Automated. Continuous.



#### Task Management

- 1) Management Dashboards
- 2) Real Time Close Management
- 3) Milestone tracking to shorten close cycles

#### **Transaction Matching:**

- 1) Large efficiency gains
- 2) Full automation from matching to reconciliations support



### **The Client BlackLine Journey**

Current project	Walk	
Implementation	Implementing	Run
Never logged in or forgot password Inherited and not even sure what it is	additional products Increased functionality Configuration tweaks	Focus on Automation Emphasis on Value Analysis of Data/Reporting

Where are you in the BlackLine Journey?



### **Benefits of BlackLine**

- Time shaved off the close process
- Strengthened Internal Controls
- Better transparency and visibility
- Real-time management dashboards
- Automation of mundane accounting tasks
- Improved employee morale





### Step #1: Assess the Landscape



- Are you in the Crawl, Walk, or Run phase?
- Is your organization following best practices?
- Are all accounting periods complete?
- Do you have properly trained administrators?
- Are you paying for unused licenses?



### Step #2: Plan for the Next Phase

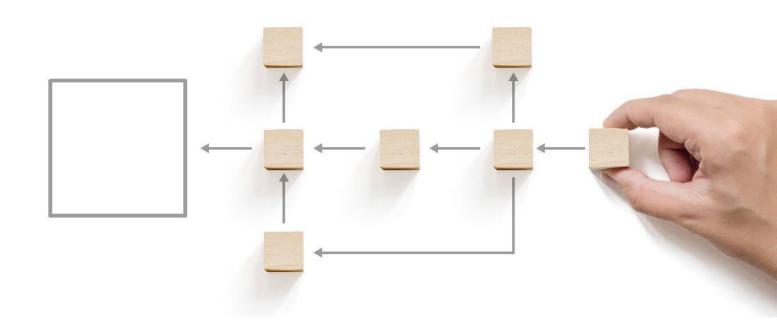


- How to unlock more value from BlackLine?
- Expansion to other divisions, regions, companies?
- More automation with built-in BlackLine features?
- Which resources are needed for success?
- Has a sufficient budget been allocated?



### **Step #3: Lineup the Resources**

- Is there internal knowledge to execute the plan?
- Has a budget been approved?
- Are there sufficient licenses and product access?
- Are project members empowered to succeed?
- What about the unknown?





### Step #4: Execute the BlackLine Plan



- Implementation of best practices
- Project kickoff for a new BlackLine product
- Recurring project team and admin meetings
- Milestone tracking



### Step #5: Lessons Learned ....Then Rinse & Repeat



- Final engagement review
- Lessons learned identified
- Documentation is key



### BlackLineBoost



- Receive best practices & recommendations to boost your BlackLine instance
- Report and Personalized review provided





# "The secret of getting ahead is getting started"

~Mark Twain



# **Questions?**



## **Thank You!**

For questions, contact us:

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