



Creating Strong Internal Controls with BlackLine

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.



JAMES TAYLOR, CIA
» Risk Manager

With over 17 years of experience in public accounting, internal audit, and risk management, James Taylor specializes in designing and implementing Sarbanes-Oxley compliance programs, assessing enterprise-wide risks, and enhancing financial and operational policies and procedures. James works extensively with clients in the retail, technology, and manufacturing industries.

Firm Overview



TAX

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 • Wealth Advisory

HIGHLIGHTS:

- » 40+ Years in Business
- » US & International Clients
- » Thousands of hours dedicated to community service each year
- » Five locations throughout California



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AICPA®

SSF Consulting

TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

INTERNAL AUDIT / SOX

OUTSOURCED ACCOUNTING



TECHNOLOGY SERVICES:

- » Assessments
- » Implementation
- » Upgrades
- » Integration
- » Support

CERTIFIED PARTNER:

sage Intacct  WHEREFOUR™

Avalara  BLACKLINE

Bill.com™  limelight

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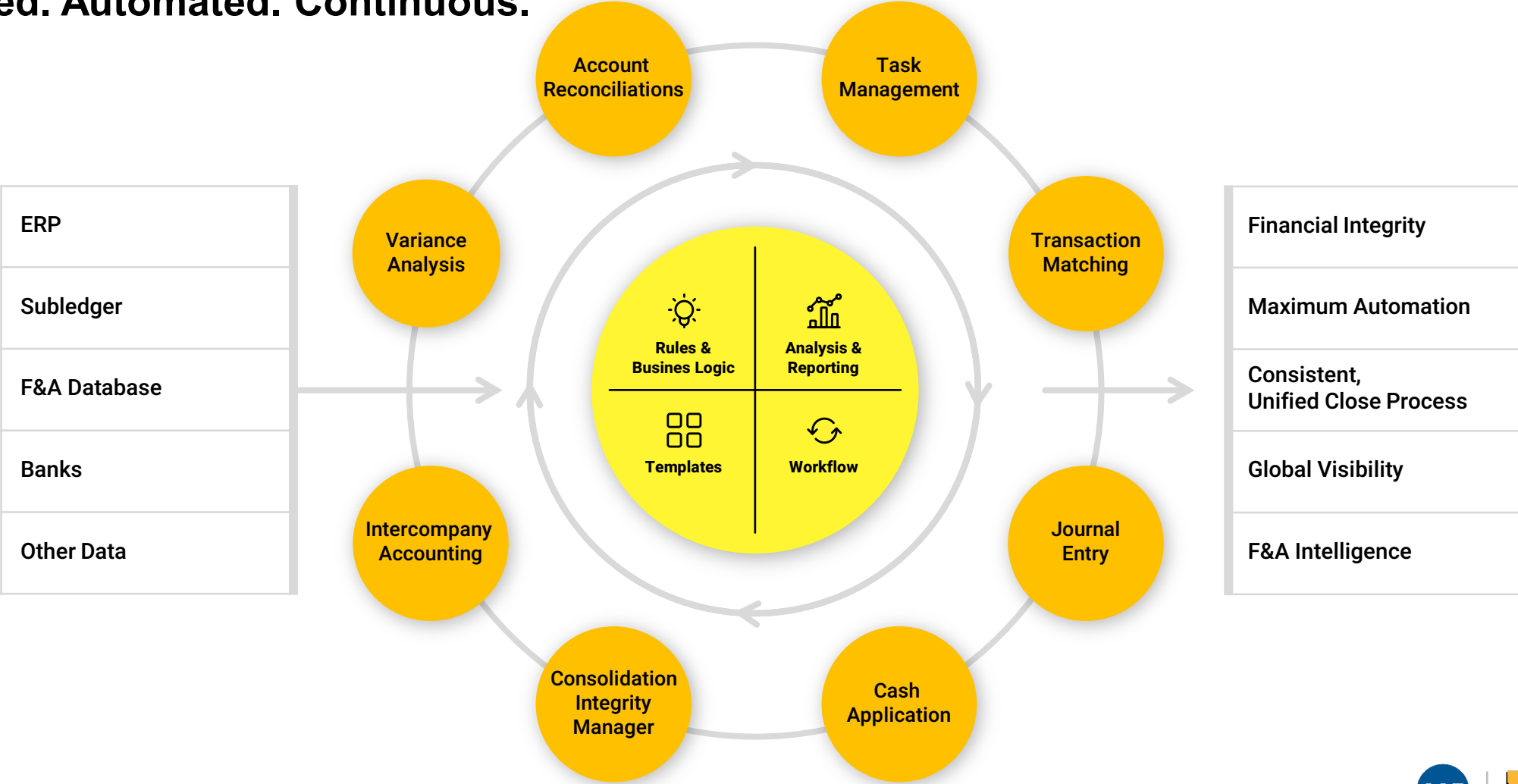
Agenda



- BlackLine Overview
- Common Management Team Challenges:
 - Managing the Close
 - Reconciliations
 - Considering Risk
 - Transaction Matching
 - Managing Auditor Requests
- Questions

BlackLine

Unified. Automated. Continuous.



Managing the Close

Ensuring all steps in significant processes, including the month-end close are complete

Challenge

- High volume of elements and tasks
- Deadlines
- Resource limitations
- Sequencing of work tasks
- Time consuming status updates
- All work completed must be right

Solution

- ✓ BlackLine's certification checklists can be added to any task or account reconciliation
- ✓ Checklists can be customized by role (e.g. preparer, reviewer)
- ✓ There are no limitations to the nature or quantity of checklists management may use

Reconciliations

Ensuring all GL reconciliations are properly completed each period

Challenge

- Completeness
- Preparer
- Reviewer
- Evidence and support
- Ending balance agrees to the GL

Solution

- ✓ Management dashboards, alerts and reporting
- ✓ Certified reconciliations will be decertified, and an alert sent to the reviewer – if adjusting entries are posted after reconciliation certification
- ✓ Reconciliations prepared are routed to the appropriate reviewer
- ✓ Separation of duties is enforced
- ✓ Evidence of reviews completed is maintained

Considering Risk

Ensuring a risk-based approach is taken in completing & reviewing month-end close tasks

Challenge

- Risk ratings can be interpreted
- Fire drills for high-impact tasks
- Reviews are not consistent between reviewers
- Completion timing may be undefined

Solution

- ✓ Risk levels can be set in BlackLine Account Reconciliations to High, Medium or Low
- ✓ Risk ratings can be used to ensure higher risk areas are addressed earlier and with more than one level of review
- ✓ Automated alerts are sent to team members preparing/reviewing to ensure timely completion

Transaction Matching

Managing recurring or voluminous tasks, including two and three-way matching for invoice processing.

Use Cases

- ✓ Accruals
- ✓ AR / AP
- ✓ Bank to GL
- ✓ Benefits
- ✓ Cash Application
- ✓ Commissions
- ✓ Credit Card
- ✓ CRM Operations
- ✓ Escheatment
- ✓ Gifts & Grants
- ✓ Gift Cards
- ✓ High-volume Accounts
- ✓ Intercompany
- ✓ Internal Cash
- ✓ Inventory
- ✓ Non-financial
- ✓ P-cards
- ✓ Payroll
- ✓ POS
- ✓ Purchasing
- ✓ Sub-ledger
- ✓ Suspense Accounts
- ✓ T & E
- ✓ Tax Withholding & Remit
- ✓ Treasury & Management
- ✓ Unclaimed Property
- ✓ Vendor Statements
- ✓ Warranty Claims

Transaction Matching

Challenge

- Two and three-way matching can be time consuming
- Thresholds for differences between reconciling points may be overlooked
- Inter-company accounts may not balance

Solution

- ✓ BlackLine's matching tool can automate high volume accounts/transactions where there is considerable manual effort involved
- ✓ Matching can involve two or three data sources



Managing Auditor Requests

Managing requests for supports made by internal and external auditors

Challenge

- Demands of time for team members
- Ensuring reports and all supports are provided
- Expectations and timing of requests may not be clearly communicated

Solution

- ✓ BlackLine enables management to provision access to auditors
- ✓ Access can be customized, specific to an entity or account
- ✓ Supporting documentation can be obtained by the auditors directly from BlackLine

Summary

- ✓ BlackLine was designed for accountants to mitigate risk in the financial control process.
- ✓ The close process contains 80% of significant financial misstatement risks
- ✓ The product suite offers integrated segregation of duties; risk-based controls; and even audit specific efficiencies.
- ✓ With staffing issues, streamlining is more critical than ever
- ✓ Refine your close processes and the rest will follow



Questions?

| Thank You!

For questions, contact us:

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