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HERE'S HOW:













ROCKET FUEL

THE ONE ESSENTIAL COMBINATION THAT WILL GET YOU MORE OF WHAT YOU WANT FROM YOUR BUSINESS

GIND WICKMAN
AND MARK C. WINTERS



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edge changes for one piece, the other will no longer fit—unless it also changes shape. If it can extend further in some areas and pull back in others, it may accommodate the new shape of its complement. Such adaptations might occur very naturally, or they may not happen at all.



The Visionary and Integrator are our two-piece puzzle, and the shape of their connecting edge is determined by their complementary degree of certain shared traits. It is important for you to understand that the shape of these two pieces is always moving over time. Sometimes the fit is nearly perfect; sometimes it is not. Often, it is somewhere in between. Consider the 12-year relationship between James Couzens and Henry Ford; the 7-year relationship of Bill Gates and Paul Allen at Microsoft. The fit changed over time, and the relationship eventually ended as a result.







the product and takes care of the customer. Finance and Administration manages the monies flowing in and out, as well as the infrastructure.



Assuming that these three major functions exist in all organizations, the next truth is that they must all be strong. If any of the three major functions are weak, your organization is not as effective. Strong means that each function is respected and understood in your organization, with a talented leader running that function like a well-oiled machine. It is also important that you believe that all major functions are equally important.

In order to maintain accountability, only one person can ultimately be in charge of any major function within your organization—and it must be transparent to all. Only one person oversees Sales and Marketing, only one person runs Operations, and only one person manages Finance and Administration. When more than one person is accountable, nobody is.

When leadership teams do this exercise for the first time, they often discover they have two (or even three) names in a single box (function). This may happen with you as well. If it does, you've uncovered one of the root issues for your company's lack of growth—or state of chaos.



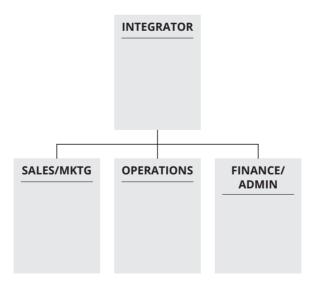




You must solve the problem by reducing the number of names in each box down to one. The all-for-one-and-one-for-all approach won't build a solid company. It may have gotten you here, but only clear accountability will boost you to the next level.

To take structure a step further, we'll state that these three functions cannot operate independently of each other. That's where the Integrator comes into the picture.

As we've established, the Integrator is the person who harmoniously integrates the major functions of the business. When those major functions are strong, and you have strong people accountable for each, healthy tension will occur between them. The Integrator blends that friction into greater energy for the company as a whole. Said another way, the people heading up the major functions report to the Integrator. Therefore, the Integrator function is added above them in the Accountability Chart.

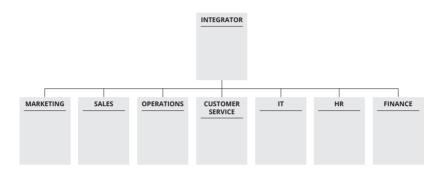








point, rarely do our clients end up with more than seven major functions. You can see in the example below that the hypothetical company has seven major functions: Marketing, Sales, Operations, Customer Service, IT, HR, and Finance.



The Visionary

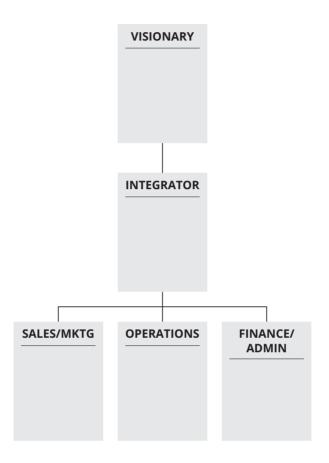
Second, the final element of your structure is the Visionary function. The Visionary shows up directly above the Integrator function. It is important to stress that the Integrator reports to the Visionary. That is why it is vital to illustrate it this way. As we move forward, you will see how structuring the relationship in this fashion increases effectiveness and solves many organizational problems.

For the sake of keeping things simple, we will move forward with a hypothetical company having three major functions: sales/marketing, operations, finance/admin.









FIVE MAJOR ROLES

What makes the Accountability Chart more than just an organizational chart is that once the major functions are clear, you must then define the five major roles of each function.









Accountability Chart shows the most common examples of the five major roles for each major function.



As noted in the illustration above, "LMA" stands for Leading, Managing, and holding people Accountable. Anyone in the Accountability Chart who has people reporting to him or her has a vital responsibility of LMA.

The following are quotes straight from the mouths of those performing Visionary and Integrator roles from a



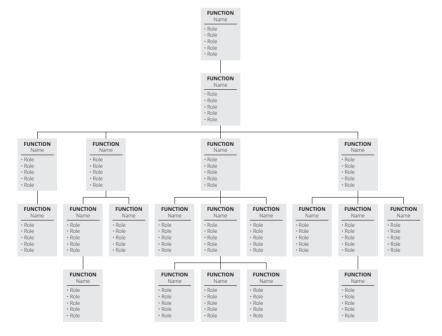






the bus, the wrong people off the bus, and the right people in the right seats." With the right structure in place, we will now move forward to putting the right people in the right seats.

When you choose someone to fill a seat, you want to be certain that person is operating in his or her God-given talent. When you're finished, the Accountability Chart should look like an organizational chart, with five bullets that illustrate the accountabilities of each major function and the name of the person in that function. This is illustrated in the following visual.



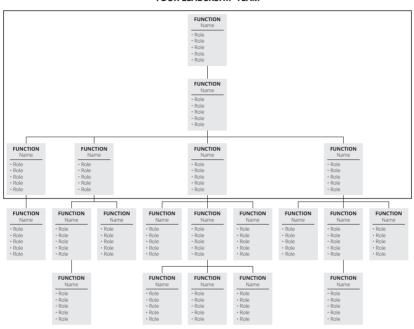








YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



As Visionary, this should give you peace of mind that you will be fully connected to your leadership team and all the goings-on in the business. In the next chapter we'll discuss five "rules" that will help your team more effectively work together. And we'll discuss how to avoid the negative effects of meddling, tampering, and cutting your leaders off at the knees.

Before leaving the Accountability Chart, we should remind you that most of the companies we work with are privately held companies in the range of \$2–\$50 million with 10–250 people. That is our target market, where 80% of the companies we work with reside. Beyond that range,







the Accountability Chart can begin to become much more complex.

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With your Accountability Chart now complete, we want to return the focus to the roles of the V/I combo.

VISIONARY

- · New Ideas / R&D
- Creative Problem Solving
- Major External Relationships
- Culture
- Selling Big Deals

INTEGRATOR

- Leading, Managing, Accountability (LMA)
- Business Plan Execution / P & L Results
- Integrating Major Functions
- Resolving Cross-Functional Issues
- Communication Across the Organization

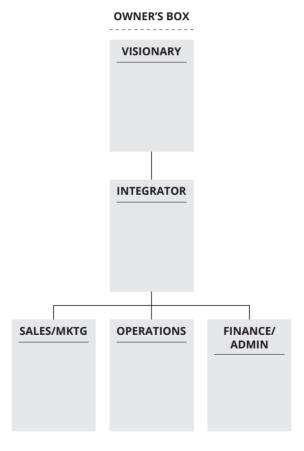
Any given V/I pair may discover that they have some shared traits. This is okay. It's actually quite normal. Each individual will have varying degrees of Visionary strengths and weaknesses. Over time, some may have mastered their weaknesses to a certain extent. When this happens, they are no longer as magnified or extreme as they once were.







the Accountability Chart, however, you must be accountable for your role and play by the same rules as everyone else in a seat. Being an Owner sitting in an Accountability Chart seat should entitle you to no more rights than an Employee sitting in an Accountability Chart seat. You must keep these two roles separate. There is a time and place for each of them. As in the story from Chapter 4, with someone wearing three different hats in their Accountability Chart, you now have another hat: "Owner."









for missing the Weekly Level 10 Meeting are vacation or death. Even if someone cannot make the meeting, the show must go on. Don't reschedule it and don't cancel it.

The Weekly Level 10 Meeting A	genda
• Segue (Good News)	(5 minutes)
• Scorecard	(5 minutes)
• 90-Day Priority review	(5 minutes)
• Customer/Employee Headlines	(5 minutes)
• To-Do List	(5 minutes)
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• IDS (Issues List)	(60 minutes)
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• Conclude	(5 minutes)
° Recap To-Dos	
 Cascading Messages 	
∘ Rating 1–10	





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Sue	New leads	36													
Sue	Initial sales meetings	12													
Sue	Proposals (#)	4													
Sue	Proposals (\$)	\$300K													
Sue	30-day pipeline	\$1.5M													
Sue	Contracts (#)	7													
Sue	Contracts (\$)	\$150K													
Evan	Projects late	1													
Evan	Projects over budget	1													
Evan	Defects to clients	0													
Evan	Utilization rate	%08													
Carol	Cash balance	X57\$													
Carol	Carol A/R > 60 days	×\$30K													
Carol	Carol Billing errors	0													



