# What a Credit Manager Should Know About Concentration Risk



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### Agenda

- Do I need Concentration Limits?
- How to Measure Concentration Risk
  - o Vendor
  - Customer
  - o Country
  - o Sector
  - Derivative Risks
- Advantages of Diversification
- How to manage Concentration Risk
  - Measure the risk
  - Hedge the risk
  - o Insure the risk
  - o Accept the risk

#### Generalized Definition

- Risk of Overreliance on or exposure to a counterparty, customer, supplier/vendor, distributor, asset class, industry, region or financial exposure
- For operating companies often defined as >10% of revenue represented by a single customer or >25% of revenue represented by 5 largest customers
  - This is a rule of thumb it should be specifically defined for your company

# Customer/Supplier Systemic Risk Geographic Industry/Sector

#### **Concentration for Operating Companies**

- Business Concentration
  - Sole source provider to a single firm
  - Concentration by product
  - Critical Service Provider
- Customer Concentration
  - When a single customer makes up 10% or more of your revenue
  - When your largest five customers make up 25% or more of the total revenue
- Sector Concentration
  - Auto Industry
- Geographic Concentration
  - Geopolitical Events to Natural Disasters
  - Russia, China, Thailand....
- Fourth Party Concentration (Derivative Concentration)

# So I Have a Concentration – What Do I Do Now?

- Diversify
- It is OK because I can manage it
  - Understand the risks (if you can't measure it then you can't manage it)
    - Revenue
    - · Margin/Profit
    - Capitalization
      - Ratings
      - · Relative Stock Performance
      - Solvency
  - · Document the Risks
  - · Stress Test the Risks

#### Concentration - Pros and Cons

- Pricing Advantage
- Expertise
- Tracking Performance
- Quality Oversight
- Logistics

- 83% of businesses that fail have cash flow problems – concentration increases the need to have good financial analysis – Due Dilgence is more critical
- Alternative Sources
- Inventory Implications

Case Studies

#### Measure

- Revenue
- Margin
- Outstanding Receivables
- Vendor Payables

## **Supply Chain Protection**

- Single Point of Failure alternative sources
  - Services
    - Cloud Technology
    - Payment Processing
    - Outsourced Businesses
  - Quality Control
  - Fourth Party Monitoring
    - "Customers customers"
    - Risks faced by your third parties
  - Are there specific events that can trigger disruptions?

# **Country Risk**

- Financial
  - Credit Risk
  - FX Risk
- Legal Risk
- Reputation Risk

# Corporate Risk

- Financial
  - Supplier
  - Customer
- Credit Rating
- Loan or Bond Covenants
- Liquidity
- Solvency

## Conclusion

- Concentration is a risk to be managed just like other risks
  - Understand it
  - Measure it
  - Stress test it
  - Document
- The time to have a plan is before you need it