

Re-invigorating SOX Compliance: A Project Management Approach

Ralph Navarro

Financial Compliance Manager, RockTenn

Mary Spencer

Director of Financial Compliance, RockTenn



Who We Are – RockTenn

Overview	 RockTenn is one of North America's leading providers of packaging solutions and manufacturers of containerboard and paperboard. 	
Employees	• ~27,000	
Production	~9.9 million tons of mill capacity~95 billion square feet of converting production	
Locations	 ~200 operating facilities, primarily in North America 	



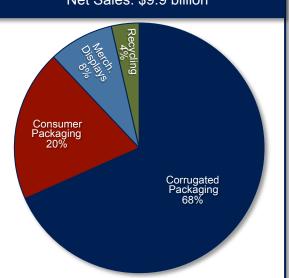




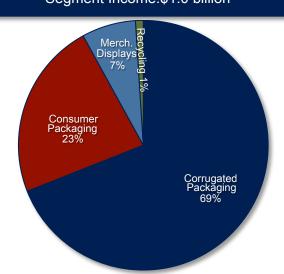








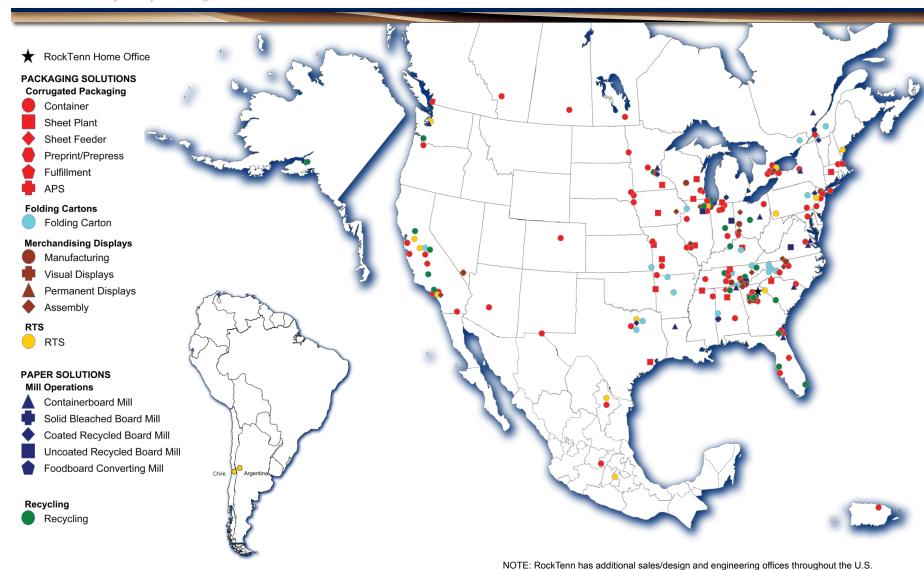
FY2014⁽¹⁾ Segment Income:\$1.0 billion



(1) FY2014 results as reported. Combined Net Sales and Segment Income of RockTenn and the Tacoma mill for the same period would be approximately \$10.1 billion and \$1.1 billion, respectively



Approximately 200 Operating Facilities As of 01/01/2015



RockTenn's Operating Facilities

West Point, VA Containerboard Mill





New Lenox, IL Box Plant





Marion, NC Folding Carton Plant







RockTenn's Transaction Environment

- Has grown primarily through acquisitions
- 95% US, Canada and Mexico
- 98% on one general ledger system JD Edwards and Hyperion
- ♦ Effectively in 7 different "paper-related" businesses
- Centralized GL, A/R, A/P, fixed assets, cash management, treasury, taxes, legal, human resources, payroll, risk management, internal audit
- Multiple upstream customer order entry to billing, inventory and purchasing systems (placing orders with vendors)
- Generally straight-forward agreements (contracts) with customers, but papered in many forms
- Significant intercompany transactions

RockTenn's SOX Environment

- Implementing COSO 2013 in fiscal year beginning October 2014
- RockTenn's 2012 audit was reviewed by the PCAOB
 - Significant increase in requirements for electronic audit evidence
 - New focus on areas of operations that were considered low risk in the past
 - A need to focus far more on the transactions passing through the upstream systems
- New CFO
- New Audit Partner
- New Internal Audit Lead
- New Director of Financial Compliance

Result:

- Fiscal year 2014 SOX process underwent significant changes
- Fiscal year 2015 SOX process is expected to bring more



"Projects" are Going to Happen

- Growth, downsizing or cost reduction
- Acquisitions, business disposal and/or close down
- Joint-venture formations
- Organization redesign and/or restructuring
- Technology changes and upgrades
- Consolidation, centralization
- Deconsolidation, decentralization
- Need for greater speed and/or detail
- Demands of a new leader
- Customer and/or vendor changes
- Regulatory changes (e.g., PCAOB, COSO 2013)



Why is SOX a "Project"

- It is never the same thing twice
 - Any organizational changes (per prior slide) require considering different approaches to the audit
 - Sheer number of stakeholders means that each year there will be changes in perspective and approach
 - Changing audit guidance needs to be incorporated
 - Changes in technology
 - Once control stability is reached in one area of an organization, it is time to look at the next area of importance
- SOX is a subset of the annual audit
 - An annual audit is a project in and of itself (for all the prior reasons)
- ♦ SOX has a beginning, middle and end so it is not a process



What Makes a Successful Project?

- A well understood strategy, design and goal
 - Understood by all participants
- The right team structure and roles
 - The right personality types in the right roles
- Accurate data / information
 - Throughout the project
- Candid communication
 - Ability to translate conversations into action

Project Success – Start with a Strategy

At RockTenn, we:

- Develop a list of Project Pillars that are the criteria for success
- Collaborate with all stakeholders
- Communicate to a broad audience
- Re-communicate often throughout the project

Project Pillars

- Full scoping and risk assessment will be completed by Financial Compliance in time for Audit.
 - Includes COS 2013 considerations
 - Includes Gap analysis
 - Includes disclosure data (considering EAE)
- Risk evaluation is based on factual data including GL dollars for previous year and relevant location information.
- All stakeholders, Business Process Owners and Internal and External Audit, will be appropriately involved in the process.
- IT Systems will be linked to specific risks and controls as part of that scoping consideration.
- Scoping/Risk Assessment process will be sustainable and repeatable/maintainable.
 Foundational work for the analysis will remain useable for future assessments. All possible improvements may take a few years. It is an iterative process.
- 6. Rationalization opportunities will be planned where appropriate
 - Immediate rationalization is more likely from scoping portions of the business out than from elimination of controls
 - Tools may be needed to facilitate more granular scoping or more widespread analytical monitoring controls to replace transaction controls, and may take time to implement
 - 3. Transition from current controls to new rationalized controls will be well planned and executed

Approach to Scoping and Risk Assessment – October 29, 2004 Page o





Project Success – "It's All About the People"



Project Success - "It's All About the People"

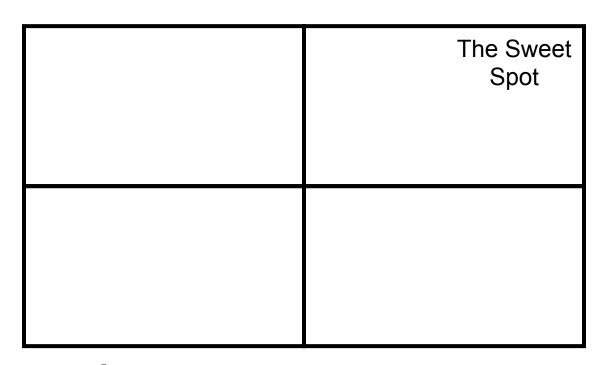
- Those who are "enthusiastic" to "improve processes" and/or to get "personally involved" in a project
- ◆ Those who are not "enthusiastic" to "improve processes" and/or to get "personally involved" in a project
- People can change their level of enthusiasm during the course of a project
 - From boom to gloom to doom and back again!

Where Are You in this 4 Square?

<u>High</u>

Enthusiastic to get personally involved

Low



Low Enthusiastic to High improve processes

Project Success – People on the "Team"

- Where are the various participants in the 4-square?
- How do you move them closer to the top right of the quadrant?
 - Sponsor/visionary/"evangelist"
 - Steering committee
 - BPO's Business Process Owners
 - Other "Interested parties"
 - ✓ External audit, internal audit, audit committee, financial team leaders, financial compliance, system owners
 - Project Manager
 - Project Administrator
 - The dreaded "SME's" Subject Matter Experts



A Typical SOX Project

<u>High</u>

Enthusiastic to get personally involved

Low

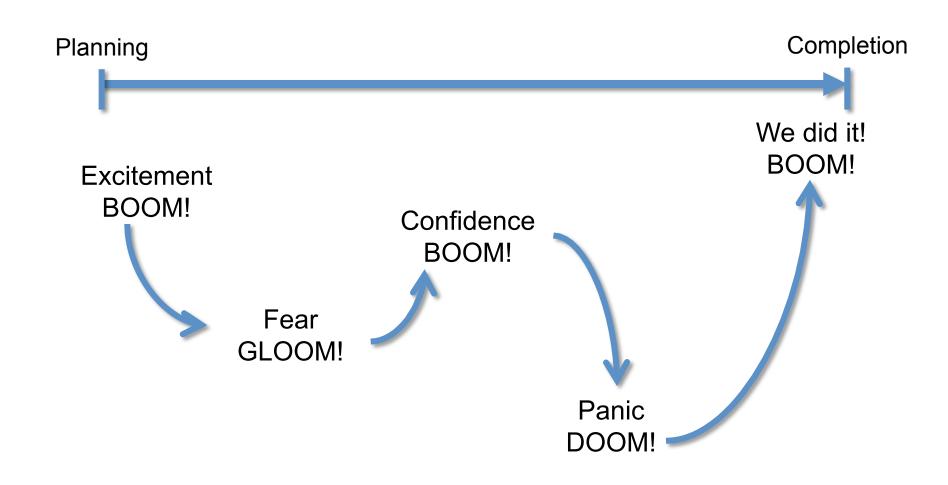
The MOST dreaded SME		Project Lead Project Manager	
SIVIE	SME		Project Sponsor Steering
ВРО	SME	SME BPO	Committee

<u>Low</u>

BPO = Business Process Owner SME = Subject Matter Expert Enthusiastic to High improve processes



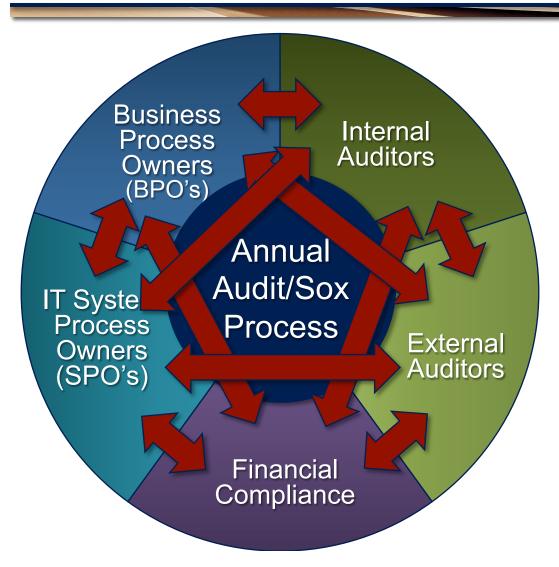
Enthusiasm Levels in a Project Life Cycle



Project Success -It's Also About the "Data"

- Accurate data / information
 - Assessment of risks
 - Number of controls, number of tests
 - Timing of tests
 - Status of tests
- Accurate data prevents misunderstandings, wasted time catching up on "where we are"
- Data facilitates communication, communication facilitates data

Project Success – Communication Is Key



Facilitate dialogue

- Right information from the right source
- Confront the "elephants in the room"

Maintain "one version of the truth"

Use of consistent data



Conclusion

- SOX is a project
 - Has a cycle (beginning, middle and end)
 - Changes from year to year
 - Requires new strategy every year
- Project success is based on
 - Well-defined strategy and goals
 - The People
 - The Data
 - Communication

