## Win New Clients Using Point-of-Sale Plan Design



Making Retirement Plans Work
Part of the American Retirement Association

Pete Swisher, CPC, QPA, TGPC
Senior VP and National Sales Director
Pentegra Retirement Services
iring! It teaches you a new way of fir'ew hours - what more is from a book?"
n Heath,
$r$ of Made to Stick
"With style and wit, Dan Roam h provided a smart, practical primer power of visual thinking.

- Daniel H. Pink, authon of A Whole New Mind
"This book is a must read for managers and business leaders. Visual thinking frees your mind to solve problems in unique and effective ways."
- Temple Grandin, authon of Thinking in Pictures
azon.com. \#5 Business Book of the Year est of


## Start with Why

## How to do plan design

The usual method...
\$21,644.09 \$17,554.19 \$39,198.28 \$14,434.13 \$24,764.16-\$3,120.06 (baseline)
$\begin{array}{llllll}\$ 34,307.00 & \$ 34,598.78 & \$ 68,905.78 & \$ 25,693.27 & \$ 43,212.51 & -\$ 8,905.51\end{array}-\$ 4,552.25$
\$17,531.25 \$8,905.06 \$26,436.31 \$9,665.02 \$16,771.29 \$759.96 \$2,121.15
$\begin{array}{llllll}\$ 35,827.19 & \$ 17,756.97 & \$ 53,584.16 & \$ 19,886.37 & \$ 33,697.78 & \$ 2,129.40\end{array}$
\$45,778.69 \$22,425.38 \$68,204.06 \$25,427.32 \$42,776.75 \$3,001.94 \$6,040.65

- Ask for a census
- Run numbers
- Create spreadsheets
- Email spreadsheets
- Explain spreadsheets


## Right and Wrong

## WRONG

## RIGHT

| \$21,644.09 | \$17,554.1 | \$39,198.2 | \$14,434.1 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 9 | 8 | 3 \$24,764.16 | -\$3,120.06 | (baseline) |
|  | \$34,598.78 | \$68,905.7 | \$25,693.2 |  |  |
| \$34,307.00 |  | 8 | 7 \$43,212.51 | -\$8,905.51 | -\$4,552.25 |
|  |  | \$26,436.3 |  |  |  |
| \$17,531.25 | \$8,905.06 | 1 | \$9,665.02 \$16,771.29 | \$759.96 | \$2,121.15 |
|  | \$17,756.9 | \$53,584.1 | \$19,886.3 |  |  |
| \$35,827.19 |  | 6 | 7 \$33,697.78 | \$2,129.40 | \$6,828.60 |
|  | \$22,425.3 | \$68,204.0 | \$25,427.3 |  |  |
| \$45,778.69 | 8 | 6 | 2 \$42,776.75 | \$3,001.94 | \$6,040.65 |

## What you will learn today

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Do You Understand the Words That Are Coming Out of My Mouth?


## The Native Tongue of TPAs

Gobbledygook

## 5 Employee Example

- 5 employees $x$ \$50k average = \$250k wages
- $5 \%=\$ 8 k ; 10 \%=\$ 15 k ; 15 \%=23 k$
- Owner is 50 , average employee age is 40
- Owner maxes out at $\$ 270 \mathrm{k}$ comp and $\$ 54 \mathrm{k}$ contributions
- 54k owner $+8 k$ for employees $=62 k$ cash flow
- Tax deduction at $40 \%$ (very conservative) $=\$ 25 \mathrm{k}$
- So: owner pays 37 k net of tax, gets 54 k in her account, and employees get 8 k in their accounts


## Putting it all together

- Factfinder questions
- Drawing it out simply for the client
- Knowledge base
- Qualified plan basics
- Tax basics
- Business entity basics


## Open-ended fact-finder questions

- Tell me about your organization
- What you do, how you do it, what makes you special, rough size, history, culture, locations, profitability, nature of industry
- Tell me about your people
- How you feel about them, wage range and dispersion, what they do, loyalty/turnover, key people, what matters
- Tell me about your plan
- Type, contributions, participation, savings rates, how do you feel about the contributions you make, rough assets, participants with balances, how many are terms, vendors, how do you feel about them, any weird assets or provisions
- "Before we start, I wonder if you could just take a few moments to tell us a little bit about your organization and your people and where you are with your retirement plan?"


## Ballpark Fact-Finding

- How many owners? Employees?
- Average age and wage of employees?
- Owner ages and incomes?
- If there were no rules, how much would you save and how much would you give your employees?
- What is the minimum contribution level you think you need to be competitive?


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## 5 employee example

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## 5 employee example with baseline

## Two Key Concepts

- Baseline
- Bottom line


## Baseline

## Law firm

25\% to 6\% match

## Baseline

Anesthesia practice
100\% to 6\% match

## Rolling out a design change

- Change from $100 \%-6 \%$ to $5 \%$ new comp
- Maxers lose
- Non-contributors gain
- How should the client communicate this?


## Qualified plan stuff we need in our heads

- \$18,000 402(g) + \$6,000 catchup
- \$54,000 415(c)
- \$270,000 401(a)(17)
- $54-18$ = $\$ 36 \mathrm{k}$ employer contribution
- $36 / 270=13.333 \%$ pro rata contribution to allow owners to max out
- 13.3 / 3 = the $1 / 3$ gateway $=4.45 \%$ (compare to $5 \%$ gateway)
- $10.53 \%$ = contribution for employees in an integrated plan
- $7.5 \%$ DB/DC combo gateway
- More advanced (but necessary for DB/DC combo): 401(a)(26)

Qualified plan stuff we need in our heads

- $\$ 18,000+\$ 6,000$
- \$54,000
- \$270,000

Crash course on non-discrimination and cross-testing

- 13.333\%
- 10.53\%
- $4.45 \%$ or $5 \%$ or $7.5 \%$
- Age disparity


## REMEMBER THE RANGE!

## REMEMBER THE RANGE!

Owners age 45, employees age 42

## Range

Owners age 30, employees age 50

## RANGE

What happens when some owners/HCEs get less

## RANGE

Father/owner 55, son/owner 30

## RANGE

Set expectations: changing demographics

## DB/DC Combo—How much could you

 contribute?| Age | Conservative Estimate |
| :---: | :---: |
| 40 | $\$ 100,000$ |
| 52 | $\$ 150,000$ |
| 65 | $\$ 250,000$ |

## RANGE

DB/DC combo

## Crash course on testing sequence

- The point: have you given the right amount of money to the right people?
- The sequence:
- Coverage first (you must include the right people in the calculations)
- Gateway minimum contribution for employees (4.45\%, 5\%, or 7.5\%)
- Nondiscrimination test
- Safe harbor (pro rata or integrated)
- Cross testing (general test under IRC Sec. 401(a)(4))
- 4.45 to $10.53 \%$


## The 70\% coverage rule

- Must cover $70 \%$ as many NHCEs as HCEs


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## Tax stuff we need in our heads

- $\$ 127,200$ taxable wage base (TWB) for paying Social Security tax
- SS tax $6.2 \%$ for employee, but doubles to $12.4 \%$ for owners
- Medicare tax $1.45 \%$ for employees, $2.9 \%$ for owners (no upper limit)
- Federal tax brackets (especially top 3: 39.6\%,
- State taxes
- Estimated client marginal income tax rate


## Federal Income Tax Brackets

| Bracket | Single | Married/Joint |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $10 \%$ | $\$ 0$ to $\$ 9,325$ | $\$ 0$ to $\$ 18,650$ |
| $15 \%$ | $\$ 9,325$ to $\$ 37,950$ | $\$ 18,650$ to $\$ 75,900$ |
| $25 \%$ | $\$ 37,950$ to $\$ 91,900$ | $\$ 75,900$ to $\$ 153,100$ |
| $28 \%$ | $\$ 91,900$ to $\$ 191,650$ | $\$ 153,100$ to $\$ 233,350$ |
| $33 \%$ | $\$ 191,650$ to $\$ 416,700$ | $\$ 233,350$ to $\$ 416,700$ |
| $35 \%$ | $\$ 416,700$ to $\$ 418,400$ | $\$ 416,700$ to $\$ 470,700$ |
| $39.6 \%$ | $\$ 418,400+$ | $\$ 470,700+$ |

## Effective vs. Marginal Tax Rates

## Estimating marginal tax rates

## Business Structure

- C-Corp
- Double tax unless all income passed through as wages
- Different classes of shares can pay different dividends
- Flexible allocation of overhead
- S-Corp
- Pass-through
- No flexibility on dividends; one class of shares only
- More difficult to allocate overhead flexibly
- Partnership/self-employed
- "Circular" calculations
- Highly flexible allocation of profits and overhead
- LLC
- Taxable as either corporation or partnership


## Putting it all together

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## 5 employee refresher

## 5 employees with lower owner comp

- 5 employees x \$40k = \$200k
- 1 owner at $\$ 100 \mathrm{k}$


## 5 employees with lower owner comp

- 5 employees x \$40k = \$200k
- 1 owner at $\$ 100 \mathrm{k}$


## 10 employees

- 10 employees $x$ \$50k = \$500k
- 1 owner at $\$ 270 k$


## 100 employees, 15 owners

- 100 employees $x \$ 40 \mathrm{k}=\$ 4 \mathrm{M}$
- 15 owners x \$270k = \$4M


## 20 employees, 3 owners

- 20 employees $\mathrm{x} \$ 50 \mathrm{k}=\$ 1 \mathrm{M}$
- 3 owners in various life stages: $\$ 500 \mathrm{~K}+\$ 250 \mathrm{k}$ $+\$ 125 \mathrm{k}=\$ 875 \mathrm{k}$
- 60 year-old wants max savings
- 50 year-old wants $\$ 54 \mathrm{k}$ but no more
- 35 year-old is not yet ready to fund more than \$18k/year


## 20 employees, 3 owners

- 20 employees $x$ \$50k = \$1M
- 3 owners in various life stages: 60,50, 35


## 20 employees, 3 owners: DB/DC

- 20 employees $\mathrm{x} \$ 50 \mathrm{k}=\$ 1 \mathrm{M}$
- 3 owners in various life stages: 60,50,35


## Fact-finding about the entity structure

- What type of entity are you? (C, S, LLC, P/sole)
- If C: do you pass through all income (professional practices often do this)? If not: do you have retained earnings? In what form (i.e., cash vs. less liquid assets)?
- If LLC: taxed as corporation or partnership? If corporation, C or S ?


## Who pays for it?

The issue of allocation of overhead

- Method No. 1: Revenue - Cost = Profit to be divided ("aggregated" overhead)
$-\$ 1 \mathrm{M}$ revenue - $\$ 100 \mathrm{k}$ pension cost $=\$ 900 \mathrm{k}$ left to be divided, so each partner/owner gets a share based on ownership or partnership formula
- Method No. 2: Allocation formula
- \$1M overhead, allocated among partners based on a formula in the partnership agreement-the basic idea being to have each partner pay the cost he or she actually generates
- Often an "eat what you kill" formula


## 20 employees, 3 owners

- 20 employees x \$50k = \$1M
- 3 owners
- 60 year-old
- 50 year-old
- 35 year-old


## Quick Rules

- Ratio of employee:owner comp 3:2
- Ratio of employees:owners 10:1
- Implication: the "Wash Rule"
- At 3:2 or 10:1, it's a wash
- At better ratios, it's cheaper for the owners
- But a wash is still good (because employees get free money that would otherwise have gone to Uncle Sam)


## Quick Rule Examples

- 10:1 rule
- 10 employees, 1 owner
- 50 employees, 2 owners
- 3:2 rule
- Owner makes 100k, five employees total 500k
- Owner makes 250k, three employees total 500k


## Million Dollar Payroll Scenarios



- ASPPPA


## More fact-finding

- If you could save more in the plan, would you?
- Do owners have any family working here?
- Tell me about your culture


## Moving from discretionary to SH match-counting the cost

## Moving from SH match to nonelective

## 1/3 Gateway Range

## Using the 1/3 gateway

## Adding the owner's spouse

The auto-k pitch

Calculating the cost of adding autoenrollment

## Plan design after tax reform?

- Roth deferrals
- Changes to cross-testing rules


## Plan design after tax reform

# What will employers do if faced with increased costs due to tax reform? 

- Take it and move on
- Look for options, such as:
- Cover fewer employees
- Give employees less money (or none at all)
- Terminate plans


## Questions?

## babycakes cupcake shoppe

The Coming Micro-Market Boom


## SEP, SIMPLE, PDIRA, 401(k)/PS

- SEPs are like PS plans: $\$ 54 \mathrm{k}$, pro rata or integrated, ER contributions only; best for selfemployed or employers with few employees
- SIMPLEs are like mini-safe harbor 401(k)s
- $2 \%$ nonelective, or
- 3\% match (3 of 5 years); 1\% match (2 of 5 years)
- Payroll deduction IRAs ("PDIRA") is deferral only up to $\$ 5,500$


## SIMPLE-IRA example

- 10 employees $x \$ 35,000=\$ 350,000$
- Owner makes \$90,000


## Larger SIMPLE example

- 80 employees $x$ \$30,000
- 2 owners x \$270,000


## Same case using $1 / 3$ gateway

- 80 employees $x$ \$40,000
- 2 owners $x \$ 270,000$


## The Simplified SEP Calc for the Self-

 Employed- Method 1: circular calc (earned income from self-employment)
- Method 2: 18.6\% of profits


## SEP vs. SIMPLE: 1 Employee

## SEP vs. SIMPLE: 5 Employees

