

# DISSECTING A TERM SHEET:

## INTRODUCTION TO THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE TERMS YOU AGREE

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# What does it mean to “Raise Money”?

- Different funding sources and expectations
    - Traditional lenders
    - Family and friends
    - Angels
    - VCs
  - **Equity Financing:** Raising capital by selling an ownership interest in the company.
    - What is the form of ownership interest?
      - Stock - Common Stock vs. Preferred Stock
      - Convertible instruments
    - What rights are associated with that ownership interest?
  - Term sheets
    - Ensures there is a meeting of the minds on business terms
    - Saves on legal costs
    - Non-binding for most provisions
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# Possible Types of Early Stage Financings

## Types

- Convertible Debt (Notes)
- Convertible Equity (SAFEs)
- Series Seed, Series AA
- Series A
- Series B and later rounds

Naming conventions are fluid, but does send a signal to the market

# Convertible Notes

## Why use?

- Expediency
- Debt sits above equity
- Allows investors to convert into their investment into equity with certain triggers
- Defers valuation discussion – sort of.

# Convertible Notes (continued)

What are investors looking for?

## Key terms

- Principal amount due at a maturity date
  - Interest
  - Conversion into preferred stock
    - “Qualified Financing” or “Next Equity Financing”
    - Discount
    - Cap
    - Cap and Discount – investor typically gets the lesser of the price per share calculated with the discount and the cap.
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# Convertible Notes (continued)

## Examples

### ▪ \$5M Cap

- Investor invests \$25K using convertible note with a \$5M cap.
- Series A round has \$10MM valuation. 2MM shares of common stock outstanding immediately prior to Series A. Series A Per Share price of \$5.00.
- \$25K loan converts into Series A at a price of \$2.50 per share (\$5MM/2MM shares). Investor gets 10,000 shares which is worth \$50K. A new series A investor would only get 5000 shares.

### ▪ 20% Discount

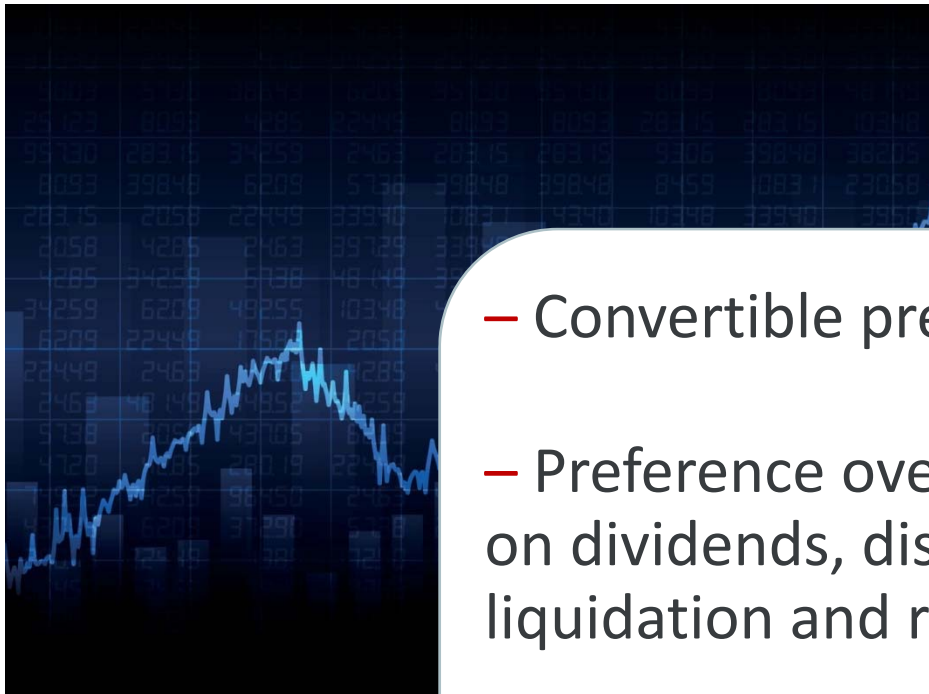
- Investor invests \$25K using convertible note with a \$5M cap
- Series A round has \$10MM valuation. 2MM shares of common stock outstanding immediately prior to Series A. Per Share price of \$5.00.
- \$25K loan converts into Series A at a price of \$4.00 per share (80% of \$5.00). Investor gets 6250 shares of Series A worth \$31,250. A new Series A investor gets only 5000 shares.

# Convertible Notes (continued)

## SAFEs vs. Convertible Notes

- SAFEs not a debt instrument
  - Maturity date
  - Interest
- Additional streamlining for closing
- Do investors have a preference?

# Series A Terms



- Convertible preferred stock
- Preference over common stock on dividends, distributions, liquidation and redemption
- Control provisions also typically negotiated



# Price/Valuation

- How much of the company is the investor going to own and at what price?
  - **Pre-Money Valuation:** Value of the company before investment
  - **Post-Money Valuation:** Pre-Money Valuation + Investment Amount
  - **Price Per Share** = Pre-money Valuation/Pre-Money Capitalization
  - Fully diluted basis
  - New Shares Issued/Post-money shares outstanding = Investment Amount/ Post-Money Valuation

Make sure discussions are clear – *“I’ll invest \$5 million at a valuation of \$20 million.”* Pre-money or post-money?

# Price/Valuation (continued)

## Excerpt from term sheet

Price Per Share:            \$[\_\_\_\_\_] per share (based on the capitalization of the Company set forth below) (the “Original Purchase Price”).

Pre-Money Valuation:    The Original Purchase Price is based upon a **fully-diluted** pre-money valuation of \$[\_\_\_\_\_] and a **fully-diluted** post-money valuation of \$[\_\_\_\_\_] (including an employee pool representing [\_\_]% of the fully-diluted post-money capitalization).

# Option Pool

- Option pool is the number of shares of common stock the company reserves to compensate employees, consultant, advisors. Essentially setting aside a percentage of the company.
- Larger option pool lowers the effective pre-money valuation of the company for the founders because a larger portion of the company's pre-money value is attributed to the option pool
- Competing interests of founders and investors.
- Scenario
  - Offer 1: Pre-money valuation of \$10MM, \$5MM new money with a 10% post-money option pool
  - Offer 2: Pre-money valuation of \$12MM, \$5MM new money with a 20% post-money option pool

*(See Pro Forma Effects in Excel)*

# Liquidation Preference



How are proceeds shared in a **liquidity event** for the company

Preferred get the greater of their liquidation preference or what they would get if they converted to common stock.

**Preference:** A multiple of the original investment per share is returned to the investor before common stock receives any proceeds (1x, 2x, 3x....)

# Liquidation Preference – Participation Rights

- No Participation

*“First pay [one] times the Original Purchase Price on each share of Series A Preferred (or, if greater, the amount that the Series A Preferred would receive on an as-converted basis). The balance of any proceeds shall be distributed pro rata to holders of Common Stock.”*

- Full participation

*“First pay [one] times the Original Purchase Price on each share of Series A Preferred. Thereafter, the Series A Preferred participates with the Common Stock pro rata on an as-converted basis.”*

- Capped participation

*“First pay [one] times the Original Purchase Price on each share of Series A Preferred. Thereafter, Series A Preferred participates with Common Stock pro rata on an as-converted basis until the holders of Series A Preferred receive an aggregate of [two] times the Original Purchase Price (including the amount paid pursuant to the preceding sentence).”*

- More complex with additional rounds

*(See Pro Forma Effects in Excel)*

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# Dividends

- Distribution of profits to shareholders. Can be in cash or in stock.
  - How do investors think about dividends?
  - Cumulative vs. non-cumulative
    - “The Series A Preferred will carry an annual [\_\_]% cumulative dividend [payable upon a liquidation or redemption]. For any other dividends or distributions, participation with Common Stock on an as-converted basis”
    - “Non-cumulative dividends will be paid on the Series A Preferred in an amount equal to \$[\_\_\_\_\_] per share of Series A Preferred when and if declared by the Board and prior and in preference to any declaration or payment of any other dividends.”
    - “Dividends will be paid on the Series A Preferred on an as-converted basis when, as, and if paid on the Common Stock”
  - Less of an issue in early-stage financings. Company’s profits should be used to grow the company.
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# Anti-dilution Protection

- Protects investors in the event of a down round
- Most common mechanism is adjusting the conversion ratio of preferred shares to ordinary shares → Series A investors get more than one common share for each preferred share they hold
  - Economic value
  - Voting
- Full-ratchet (most investor friendly)
- Weighted average
  - Broad based weighted average (most founder friendly)
  - Narrow based weighted average (middle ground)
- Carve-outs

## Other Economic Terms

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- Pro-Rata Participation Rights in Future Rounds
  - Pay to Play
  - Redemption Rights
  - Warrants
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# Thank You – Questions?

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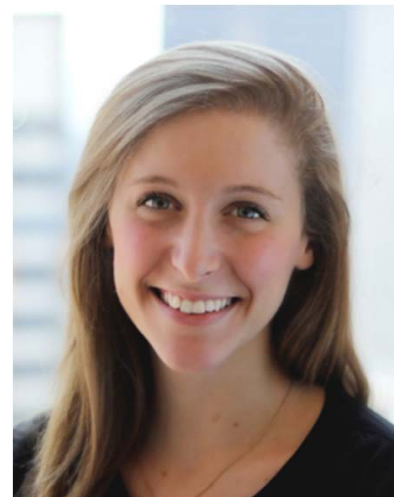
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