TEXPO Conference 2021: **Essential Learning for CTP Candidates** Session #6 (Wed., 4/14, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm)



New Frontiers in Treasury Education

#### ETM6-Chapter 12:

Disbursements, Collections & Concentration

ETM6-Chapter 14:

Cash Forecasting

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#### Disbursements, Collections, and Concentration



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### **Overview of Chapter 12 Topics**

- Introduction
- Disbursements
- Collections
- Concentration of Funds





### Disbursements

- Disbursement Products
- Electronic Funds Transfer
- Check Payments
- Card Payments
- Outsourced Disbursement Services
- Payments Fraud
- Managing Disbursement Information





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### Disbursement Management Products

- Demand Deposit Accounts (DDAs)
  - Zero Balance Accounts(ZBAs)
  - Controlled Disbursement
  - Imprest Accounts



### Zero Balance Account (ZBA)

 Disbursement account with zero balance



- Credits and debits are posted daily
- Funding of debit balance is automatic from a master account at same bank
- Multi-tiered ZBAs used for companies with multiple divisions or subsidiaries to write checks on separate accounts or to segregate different types of payments

### **Controlled Disbursement**



- Provides notification of checks that will clear account that day
- Offered in conjunction with Fed Payor Bank Services
- Often combined with a ZBA
- Managing discrepancies after notification
- Funding of disbursement accounts
- Credit risk from bank's perspective



### **Electronic Funds Transfer**

- Wire Transfers
- Credit Transfers
- Tax Payments
- Wage Payments







# Wire Transfers

- Fedwire is only true RTGS in U.S.
- To meet the needs of corporate users, banks generally classify wire transfers by usage category
  - Repetitive wire
  - Semi-repetitive wire
  - Non-repetitive wire (Free form)
  - Drawdown wire
  - Standing wire



- Book transfers (within same bank)
  - These do NOT go through Fedwire = Cheaper

# More on Other Types of EFT

- Credit Transfers
  - Mainly direct deposits via ACH or other non-urgent electronic means
  - Used for payroll, employee expense reimbursement, interest, taxes, dividends, and B2B transactions
- Tax Payments
  - Most tax payments are some type of EFT
- Wage Payments
  - Direct deposit of payroll is very common
  - Can vary significantly by country and type of company/employee





# **Card Payments**

These are covered in detail in Chapter 4 – Payment Systems

- Purchasing Cards
- Travel & Entertainment (T&E) Cards
- Fleet Cards
- Combined Cards
- Payroll and Other
  Stored-Value Cards



 Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT Cards

### Outsourced Disbursement Services

- Freight payments
- Payroll services

- P
- Integrated or comprehensive A/P
  - Firm sends a data file to a financial services provider with a list of all payments to be made, including all detail information on payees
  - Financial service provide maintains a database of all the firm's payees and only limited payment information needs to be sent
- Payment factories
  - Centralizing a company's disbursements
  - Offers greater control and lower costs

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### **Payments Fraud**

- A major concern for all organizations
- Many use positive pay or reverse positive pay
- Also, ACH filters and blocks, and daily reconciliations to help detect and control payments fraud
- Some best practices
  - Check stock with security features
  - Segregation of duties
  - Dual authentication for EFT transactions
  - Reduction/elimination of non-repetitive wires
  - Separate accounts for receipts & disbursements
  - Dedicated computer for all on-line EFT transactions
- Card payment fraud is becoming a bigger issue
- "Holder in Due Course" issue in check fraud



### Managing Disbursement Information

- Balance Reporting Services
  - Allows a bank to report information to corporate customers
  - The allow both account management and fraud control
- Account Reconciliation Program (ARP)
  - Helps firms to meet their information and control requirements
  - Partial vs. Full Recon
- Check Images
  - In today's world, everything is imaged
  - Images can be used for both record keeping and control



### **Collections** Key Issues in Collection Systems

- Speed of Collection
- Security of Payment
- Availability of Remittance Information
- Customer Preference
- Cost of Collection



# **Domestic Collection Products**

- Cash Collections
- Check Collections
- Imaging Technology
- Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) Collection (Float Neutral Calc.)
- Card and Mobile Payments
- Centralized Collection Svcs
  - Mail Payments
  - Lockbox



- Consolidated Remittance Processing(CRP)
- Electronic Bill/Invoice Presentment And Payment (EBPP/EIPP)

# Switching from Check to EFT

- Treasury focus is on the payment portion of the cycle
- Calculation: Float Neutral Calculation
  - TD = total days difference in payment timing
  - r = Opportunity cost as an annual rate

Discount = 
$$1 - \frac{1}{\left[1 + TD\left(\frac{r}{365}\right)\right]}$$



If the buyer is allowed to take a discount of 0.041 %, they would be indifferent (in present value terms) between paying by check or by electronic transfer (a speedup of 3 days in loss of value)

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### **Collection Float in Mail Systems**

- Components
  - Mail Float
    - Mail Time
  - Processing Float
    - Deposit Preparation Time
    - Impact of Remote Deposit Capture (RDC)
  - Availability Float
    - Check Clearing Time
- Measurement of Float
  - Dollar-Days







## Lockbox Processing Systems

- Collection tool in which an FI or 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor receives payments at specified post office box addresses, then processes the remittances and credits the payments into a payee's account.
- Advantages of Lockbox Systems
  - Reduced mail & processing float
  - Improved access to remittance information
  - Reduced information float
  - Reduced risk and improved security (pmts no longer received internally)
  - Improved control and record keeping capabilities
  - Uninterrupted service
  - Scalability
  - Proper segregation of duties



### **Different Types of Lockboxes**

- Retail
  - Used to process high-volume, small-dollar consumer remittances (C2B)
  - Checks are accompanied by standardized, machinescannable remittance documents
  - Highly automated
  - Focus is on reducing processing cost
- Wholesale
  - Used to process low-volume, large-dollar B2B payments with detailed remittance information
  - Focus is on float reduction
  - Often manual and/or semi-automated
  - Usually highly customized
- Hybrid (or Wholetail)





### Lockbox Cost/Benefit Analysis

 Annual Sales = \$108 Million (\$9M/month)



- Average check size = \$9,000
- Annual vol. of checks = 12,000
- Opportunity costs = 9%
- Internal processing = \$0.25/item
- Lockbox costs = \$10,000/yr plus

\$0.50 per item



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### Without Lockbox



Batch	Dollar Amount	Calendar Days of Collection Float	Total Dollar-Days
1	\$1,500,000	X 4 =	\$6,000,000
2	\$4,500,000	X 2 =	\$9,000,000
3	\$3,000,000	X 6 =	\$18,000,000
<b>Total Deposits</b>	\$9,000,000	<b>Total Float</b>	\$33,000,000
		Divided by 30 Calendar Days	\$1,100,000

#### Annual Cost of Float

- = Average Dollar-Days times Opportunity Cost
- = \$1,100,000 x .09 = \$99,000

Source: ETM5 - © AFP

# Lockbox Assumptions

- Lockbox can deliver the following float reductions:
  - Batch 1 from 4 days to 3 days
  - Batch 2 from 2 days to 1 day
  - Batch 3 from 6 days to 5 days
- Lockbox costs
  - \$10,000 annual fee
  - \$0.50 per item processing fee



### With Lockbox



Batch	Dollar Amount	Calendar Days of Collection Float	Total Dollar-Days
1	\$1,500,000	X 3 =	\$4,500,000
2	\$4,500,000	X 1 =	\$4,500,000
3	\$3,000,000	X 5 =	\$15,000,000
<b>Total Deposits</b>	\$9,000,000	<b>Total Float</b>	\$24,000,000
		Divided by 30 Calendar Days	\$800,000

#### Annual Cost of Float

- = Average Dollar-Days times Opportunity Cost
- = \$800,000 x .09 = \$72,000

Source: ETM5 - © AFP

# **Comparison of Alternatives**

- Without Lockbox Float Cost = \$99,000
- With Lockbox Scenario
  - Float cost savings = 99,000 72,000 = 27,000
  - Fixed Costs of Lockbox = \$10,000
  - Variable Costs of Lockbox = 12,000 x \$0.50 = \$6,000
  - Elimination of internal processing costs
    = 12,000 x \$0.25 = \$3,000
  - Net Benefit = Savings minus lockbox costs



- = (\$27,000 + \$3,000) (\$10,000 + \$6,000)
- = \$30,000 \$16,000 = \$14,000

Source: ETM5 - © AFP

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### **Collection Process Improvement**

- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) with Remittance Information
- EBPP and EIPP
- Consolidated Remittance Processing (CRP)
  - Formerly known as an "Electronic Lockbox"
  - Single point for receiving all payments
  - Provides for a single data transmission to A/R
- Imaging Technology



### Cross-Border Collections and Trade Management Products

- Open Account
- Documentary Collection
- Letter of Credit
- Banker's Acceptance (BA)
- Trade Acceptance
- Other Trade Payment Methods
  - Barter
  - Countertrade
  - Trading Companies





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## **Open Account**

- Responsibility of Seller
  - Checks the creditworthiness of the buyer



- Establishes credit terms and limits
- Ships the merchandise
- Sends an invoice to the buyer
- Responsibility of Buyer
  - Initiates payment to the seller in accordance with any agreed upon credit terms



### **Open Account**

- Use of Open Account
  - In the U.S., most frequently used method of payment



- Widely used internationally when two trading partners have an existing relationship
- When to Use Other Methods
  - Exporting goods to a non-domestic buyer where there is no established relationship



### Documentary Collections



- Payment method that processes the collection of a draft and accompanying shipping documents through international correspondent banks
- Instructions regarding the specifics of the transaction are contained in a collection letter or form that accompanies the documentation
- Exporter must determine the specific instructions to be used in a collection letter



# **Role of Banks**

- Remitting Bank
  - Seller's (exporter) bank that prepares the collection letter and forwards documents to a correspondent bank in the buyer's (importer) country
- Collecting (Presenting) Bank
  - The correspondent bank that is responsible for contacting the buyer (importer), collecting the amount due and releasing the documents as instructed





Source: ETM5 - © AFP

### Letter of Credit (L/C)

- An L/C is a document issued by a bank, guaranteeing the payment of a customer's draft up to a stated amount for a specified period, provided certain conditions are met.
- The L/C substitutes a bank's credit for that of the buyer, virtually eliminating the credit risk to the seller.
- Commercial Letter of Credit
  - Mechanism of payment on a trade transaction
  - Governed by UCP 600
- Standby Letter of Credit or Guarantee
  - Ensures financial performance of a bank's customer to a third-party beneficiary
  - Typically used as a credit enhancement



# **Role of Banks**

- Issuing Bank
  - Buyer's (importer) bank that issues L/C
- Advising Bank
  - Seller's (exporter) bank that advises beneficiary of L/C in its favor
- Negotiating Bank
  - Examines documents and pays beneficiary (often same as advising bank)
- Confirming Bank
  - Commits to beneficiary that payment will be made regardless of issuing banks ability to pay



# Letter of Credit (L/C)

#### Seller (Beneficiary)

#### **Buyer (Applicant)**



# More in International Trade

- Banker's Acceptance (BA)
  - Can be used to finance the import, export or domestic shipment of goods, as well as the storage of properly titled goods.
  - Less expensive form of short-term financing than a loan
  - Costs include discount rate and commission
- Trade Acceptance
  - Similar to a BA except it is drawn on, and accepted by, a buyer (importer).
  - Often used by importers to secure financing from a bank



### Other International Trade Terms



#### Barter

- Involves the direct exchange of goods or services between two end users without the exchange of money. It is most frequently used when funds cannot be repatriated.
- Countertrade
  - A method of payment used by companies that do not have access to sufficient hard currencies (internationally traded currencies) to pay for imports from other countries
- Trading Companies
  - Trading companies are used when an exporter (seller) sells products at a discount to an export trading company, which then resells the products internationally

### **Cash Concentration Systems**





### **Objectives of Funds Concentration**

- Two Major Objectives
  - To efficiently move funds from deposit bank accounts to concentration accounts



- To attain visibility over the group cash position
- Concentration of Funds enables a firm to:
  - Balance excess and deficit cash positions across multiple locations, entities and currencies
  - Optimize idle balances for offsetting fees or optimizing earnings credits
  - Invest larger amounts of funds
  - Pay down debt faster and minimize borrowings
  - Take advantage of supplier/vendor discount terms

### **Cash Concentration & Pooling Systems**

- Global Concentration of Funds
  - Physical pooling
  - Notional pooling
  - Bank overlay structure
- Cash Concentration Systems (U.S.)
  - Over-the-counter/Field deposit systems
    - Remote deposit capture (RDC)
    - Virtual vault services
  - Cash concentration system configuration
    - Size and geographic distribution of collection system
    - Transfer alternatives to concentrating bank
    - Branch footprint of banking network

### **Domestic Concentration of Funds**

- Two frequently used concentration systems in U.S.
  - EDT: Electronic Depository Transfer
  - Wire Transfer
- Assume the following:
  - ACH Cost = \$1.00; Wire Cost = \$10.00
  - Opp Cost = 3.5%; 1-day speed-up with wire



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# **Notional Pooling**



- Balances are offset notionally, preserving integrity of accounts
- No concentration
- No commingling
- Interest on the net pool balance is debited or credited to master account
- Some countries do NOT allow notional pooling

### **Bank Overlay Structure**



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### **Overview of Chapter 14 Topics**

- Introduction
- Purpose of Cash Forecasting
- Issues and Opportunities in Forecasting
- Types of Forecasts
- The Forecasting Process
- Forecasting Methods
- Best Practices For Cash Forecasting



# Introduction to Cash Flow Forecasting

Goal is to optimize future cash resources



- Assists a treasury professional in planning cash management activities
- Cash forecasts are more concerned with cash projections as opposed to financial statements
- Four Steps to Cash Flow Forecasting:
  - Establish assumptions
  - Estimate future cash inflows and outflows
  - Generate a pro-forma cash position
  - Identify how to finance deficits or invest surpluses

# **Purpose of Cash Forecasting**

- Managing Liquidity
- Maximizing Returns
- Controlling Financial Activities
- Meeting Strategic Objectives
- Budgeting Capital
- Managing Costs
- Managing Currency Exposure
- Complying with Regulatory Requirements

### **Projected Closing Cash Position**



- A treasury professional arrives at the projected closing cash position by taking:
  - The day's opening available bank balance(s)
  - Adding the expected settlements in the collection (lockbox, wire and ACH) and concentration accounts,
  - Deducting the projected disbursement totals
- Information about checks in the process of collection and ACH credits is available from prior day balance reports
- Lockbox and controlled disbursement totals are reported on a same-day basis
- Other clearings must be estimated
- Estimated closing position determines surplus or deficit for the day

# **Forecasting Process**



- Cash Flow Components
  - "A broken-down forecast is good"
- Degree of Certainty
  - Certain Cash Flows
  - Predictable Cash Flows
  - Less-Predictable Cash Flows
  - Volatile Cash Flows



### **Forecasting Process - Continued**

- Data Identification and Organization
  - Available information
  - Assumptions
  - Desired type of forecast
  - Source of information
  - Bank account structure
  - Reporting requirements
  - Historical data



- Selection and Validation of Forecasting Methods
  - Establishing data relationships
  - Selecting a method
- Testing & Validation Relationships
  - Validation (In-sample, Out-of-sample, Ongoing)
  - Documenting the process
  - Use of technology

# **Forecasting Methods**



- Short-term Methods
  - Accounts receivable balance pattern forecast
  - Distribution forecast
  - Receipts and disbursements (cash budget)
- Medium and Long-term Methods
  - Developing pro-forma statements with the percentage of sales approach
- Statistical Forecasting
  - Time-series forecasting
    - Simple moving average vs. exponential smoothing
  - Correlation & Regression

### A/R Balance Pattern Forecast

- Used to forecast collections from credit sales.
- The A/R pattern is used to determine a collection pattern which can forecast cash inflows.
- The objective is to use forecasts of sales revenues and the pattern of collections to determine the receipts side of the R&D forecast.



dreamrithe.com

### Data for A/R Pattern Forecast

INTERVAL SINCE SALE	PERCENTAGE OUTSTANDING AT END OF MONTH	PERCENTAGE COLLECTED IN MONTH
Month 0 (current month)	95%	5%
Month 1	55%	40%
Month 2	20%	35%
Month 3	5%	15%
Month 4	0%	5%

#### FORECASTING CASH INFLOWS FROM CREDIT SALES

MONTH	SALES	MAY COLLECTION	ONS FORECAST
January	\$350,000	350,000 x 0.05 =	\$17,500
February	\$400,000	400,000 x 0.15 =	\$60,000
March	\$500,000	500,000 x 0.35 =	\$175,000
April	\$300,000	300,000 x 0.40 =	\$120,000
May	\$425,000	425,000 x 0.05 =	\$21,250
Collections Forecast for May			\$393,750

### **Distribution Method Forecast**

#### **Example**

A company has used regression analysis to estimate the proportion of dollars that will clear on a given business day. It has determined that this proportion depends on the number of business days since the checks were distributed. The estimated proportions are given below.

<b>Business Days Since Distribution</b>	Percentage of \$ Expected to Clear	
1	13%	
2	38%	
3	28%	
4	13%	
5	8%	
Total	100%	

Source: ETM6 - © AFP



- Provides estimates of the cash flow effect of a single event, on a daily basis over a specified interval based on historical patterns.
- The distribution method is particularly appropriate for short-term forecasts.



### **Distribution Method Forecast**

Therefore, if \$100,000 in checks are distributed on Wednesday, May 1, the checks are estimated to clear according to the schedule below.

Date	Business Days After Distribution	Day of the Week	% of Dollars Clearing	Forecast Dollars Clearing
May 2	1	Thur.	13%	\$ 13,000
May 3	2	Fri.	38%	\$ 38,000
May 6	3	Mon.	28%	\$ 28,000
May 7	4	Tues.	13%	\$ 13,000
May 8	5	Wed.	8%	\$ 8,000
		Total	100%	\$ 100,000

Source: ETM6 - © AFP

# Receipts and Disbursements (R&D) Forecasting Method

 Why forecast receipts and disbursements?



- Determine borrowing requirements
- Establish debt repayment schedules
- Formulate investment strategies
- Receipts and disbursements forecast
  - One of most common methods
  - Predicted cash inflows and outflows lead to excess (deficit) forecast
  - Also known as the cash budget

### Receipts & Disbursements Forecast

- Fundamental to short-term cash forecasting
  - Separate receipts & disbursements schedules
- Both prepared on a cash basis
- Method can be accurate in the short-term and near mediumterm, especially when based on accounts receivable and accounts payable data.

### Receipts & Disbursements Forecast

\$ Amounts in \$1,000	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
Cash Receipts	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 950
Cash Disbursements	( 870)	(1,350)	(1,000)
Net Cash Flow	\$ 130	\$ (350)	\$(50)
Beginning Cash Balance	\$ 100	\$ 230	\$ (120)
Ending Cash Balance	\$ 230	\$ (120)	\$ (170)
Minimum Cash Req.	50	50	50
Financing Needed		(\$ 170)	(\$ 220)
Investable Funds	\$ 150		

Source: ETM6 - © AFP

### Pro Forma Financial Statements



- Projected income statements and balance sheets can form the basis of predicted cash flows over a longer forecast horizon
- Projected statements are based on the percentage-of-sales method

### **Five-Period Moving Avg Forecast**

Day	Actual Cash Flow (X <sub>t</sub> )	Forecast (N = 5)	Error (Act –F)
1	890,000		
2	812,500		
3	775,000		
4	754,000		
5	716,000		
6	748,500	789,500	- 41,000
7	1,009,000	761,200	247,800
8	824,000	800,500	23,500
9	874,000	810,300	63,700
10	955,000	834,380	120,620

Moving Average Forecast for Day 7 is: (812,500 + 775,000 + 754,000 + 716,000 + 748,500) / 5 = 761,200 Which results in a forecast error of: 1,009,000 - 761,200 = 247,800 Source: ETM6 - © AFP

### Forecast with Exponential Smoothing

Day	Actual Cash Flow (Xt)	Forecast (α=0.40) (Ft)	Error
6	\$ 748,500	\$ 789,500	- \$ 5,400
7	\$ 1,009,000	\$ 773,100	\$ 235,900
8	\$ 824,000	\$ 867,460	- \$ 43,460
9	\$ 874,400	\$ 850,076	\$ 24,324

 $F_{t+1} = \alpha X_t + (1-\alpha)(F_t)$ 

The exponential smoothing forecast begins with the Day 6 Forecast of \$789,500 based on the moving average forecast.

Then, the Day 7 forecast using exponential smoothing is:  $F_7 = 0.40(748,500) + (1 - 0.40)(789,500) = $773,100$ This results in a forecast error of: \$1,009,000 - \$773,100 = \$235,900 Source: ETM6 - © AFP

### Correlation & Regression Analysis

- Correlation calculations involve a statistical identification of the degree of association between a cash flow and another variable
- This can be used in the building of a forecast
- Regression analysis is a statistical method that assesses the impact that multiple variables (or causes) have on a value or an outcome
- Linear least squares method is the most commonly used

### **Best Practices for Cash Forecasting**

- Use appropriate detail
- Disclose assumptions
- Use the appropriate platform
- Invest the appropriate amount of resources



- Validate the forecast
- Cooperate and communicate
- Ensure the forecast is useable



### Session Wrap-up ETM6: Chapter 12 & 14

- What did we learn in this session?
- What topics do we need to learn more about?



#### TEXPO Conference 2021 *Essential Learning for CTP Candidates*

#### End of This Session

#### We will reconvene at 2:15 pm Today.

#### The topic will be:

#### **More Investments & Numbers** Long-Term Investing and Capital Structure

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