

**Avoiding A Common Valuation Mistake:
The Importance of Matching Cash Flows and Rates of Return**

FIGURES 1, 2 & 3

Figure 1 DATA TO COMPUTE EQUITY NET CASH FLOWS AND INVESTED CAPITAL NET CASH FLOWS	
EBITDA	\$1,083
EBIT	933
Net Income After Taxes	500
Depreciation Expense	150
Interest Expense	100
Forecasted Increase in Net Working Capital	50
Forecasted Capital Expenditures	180
Forecasted Increase in Long-Term Debt	25
Income Tax Rate	40%

Based on this data, Figure 2, below, computes **Invested Capital Net Cash Flows**, which considers the company's internal needs for capital expenditures and working capital and demonstrates why EBITDA and EBIT are so popular with sellers.

Figure 2 COMPUTATION OF INVESTED CAPITAL NET CASH FLOW		
	Net Income After Taxes	\$500
+	Tax Adjusted Interest Expense ($\$100 \times (1-40\%)$)	60
+	Non-Cash Expenses	150
-	Capital Expenditures	(160)
+/-	Change in Working Capital	(50)
=	INVESTED CAPITAL NET CASH FLOW	500

For the sake of clarity, note the computation of **Equity Net Cash Flows**, illustrated in Figure 3 below, and how it differs from **Invested Capital Net Cash Flows** from Figure 2.

Figure 3 COMPUTATION OF EQUITY NET CASH FLOW		
	Net Income After Taxes	\$500
+	Non-Cash Expenses	150
-	Capital Expenditures	(160)
+/-	Change in Working Capital	(50)
+/-	Change in Long-Term Debt	25
=	EQUITY NET CASH FLOW	\$465

This cash flow is considered to be the proxy for dividends and capital appreciation to common stockholders.