

# Mergers and Acquisitions Checklist

When considering a merger or acquisition, it is imperative to perform due diligence on the company being acquired in order to get the most accurate representation of the company. Knowing as many details as possible, knowing where to go to find those details and asking the right questions will help you stay on top of current and potential risks associated with taking on the company.

#### General

General	Yes	No	Comments
Letter of intent and definitive agreement			
Notes from all board of directors meetings within the last five years			
List of jurisdictions in which the company is registered to do business			
Locations of company offices and remote staff			
Names under which the company has done business			
Past ownership records, including previous mergers, acquisitions and/or changes in control			
Stock certificates and the stock transfer ledger			
Marketing collateral for company: Labels, packing, advertising and promotional materials for products and services			
Business relationships and partner contracts			
Shareholder contracts			
Logistics contracts			
Powers of attorney			
Material supply or requirement contracts			
Government contracts			
Records of oral agreements			

## **Risk Management Considerations**

Risk Management	Yes	No	Comments
Disaster recovery plans			
Information security policy			
Liabilities	Yes	No	Comments
Schedule of credit agreements, credit lines, letters of credit			
Correspondence between the company and lenders during the past years			
List of accrued liabilities			
Litigation	Yes	No	Comments
Any laws, regulations, rules or ordinances that the company has received notice of possible noncompliance with			
All notices and reports of violation or infringement of government regulation by the company			
Any letters from lawyers pertaining to any litigation or legal proceedings in the past years			
Schedule of all licenses, permits, registrations and clearances obtained by the company			
Insurance	Yes	No	Comments
List of insurance coverage			
Loss and claims records for the past years			
Any potential uninsured or underinsured risks			
Changes in coverage within the last years			
Up-to-date records of actuarial evaluations			
Environmental	Yes	No	Comments
Record of compliance with all federal and provincial environmental regulations			
Record of process for storing and disposing of hazardous materials			
Past or current remediation efforts			
Environmental permits			

## **Employee Benefits Considerations**

Human Capital	Yes	No	Comments
Employee census			
Employee handbook			
Payroll/benefits administration/HRIS details			

Benefits	Yes	No	Comments
Benefit summaries			
Billing statements			
Current rates and contributions			
Current renewals			
Open enrollment guides			
Insurance contracts for any policies on executives			
Compliance	Yes	No	Comments
5500 filings			
Retirement	Yes	No	Comments
Basic plan document			
Adoption agreement			

In addition to these risk management considerations, we encourage you and your team to thoroughly review other critical areas such as potential risks from customer & vendors, any physical and intellectual property considerations, or potential issues with labor & personnel. Gallagher Private Equity M&A team can assist with the due diligence needed to enter into negotiations fully aware of potential impediments to getting the deal done.

Gallagher's global Equity M&A team and expertise have provided insurance, risk management and human capital solutions for all types of investors and investment structures. We address exposures during all stages of investment cycle, including:

- Fund protection. We help manage litigation risk through insurance to protect your investments.
- Transaction support. Our due diligence process uncovers exposures and provides risk transfer solutions.
- Portfolio management. We have solutions that accommodate all aspects of management of investments.
- Restructuring and exit. Our team uncovers risk during a period of change for your investments, so you are protected throughout the process.
- Transactional risk solutions. We create risk management solutions that protect the buyer and the seller throughout the transaction.

This document is not meant to replace legal counsel in the event of a merger or acquisition; it is merely a starting point of factors to evaluate. Not all factors have been covered here and, because of that, an additional evaluation may need to be conducted.

The Gallagher Team has the expertise to support risk management and human capital advice through all stages of investment from fund formation to vetting to exit. This grounded expertise and global network provides us the ability to work across all industries and regions to serve you better. We encourage you to contact our team for information to know your options to facilitate your upcoming transactions.

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