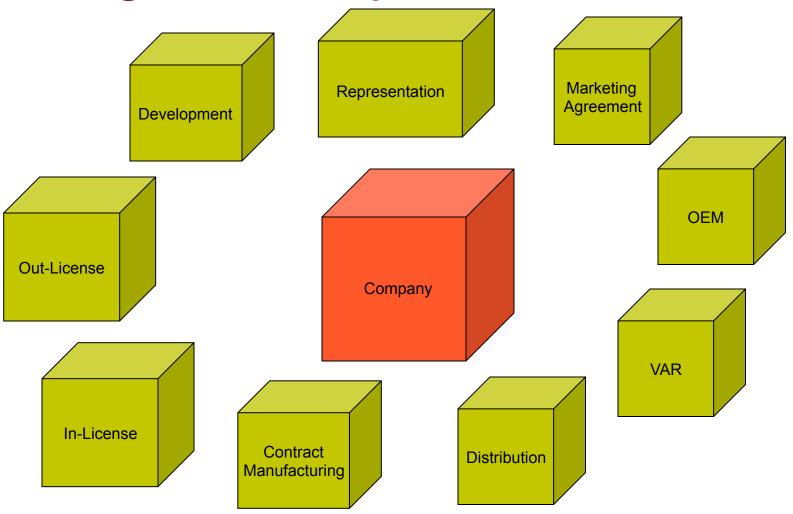
### Agenda

- What are Strategic Relationships?
- Why enter into Strategic Relationships?
- General Framework and Common Issues
- Closer look at certain Strategic Relationships
- Questions and Answers (But Don't Wait!)
- Objective: <u>Consider</u> Strategic Relationships as an alternative approach

Strategic relationships are all around us!



#### A Rose is a Rose...

- "Joint Venture"
- "Partner"
- "Strategic Alliance"



## Why Bother with Strategic Relationships?

- Use assets of third parties
  - Marketing/reseller Marketing Resources
  - Out-License Various Resources
  - In-License –Technology
  - Joint Development
    - Technology
    - Capital
    - Resources (e.g., lab, people, expertise)

# **Strategic Alliance Headlines - Credibility**

- "Fiserv partners with InvestEdge to Expand Reporting Capabilities for the Wealth Management Industry"
- "Thorley Industries lands \$215 M Hasbro deal, hiring"
- "Biogen, Knopp Strike Deal to Develop Treatment for Lou Gehrig's Disease"
- "Philips, Immunetrics Unite to Target Infectious Disease"



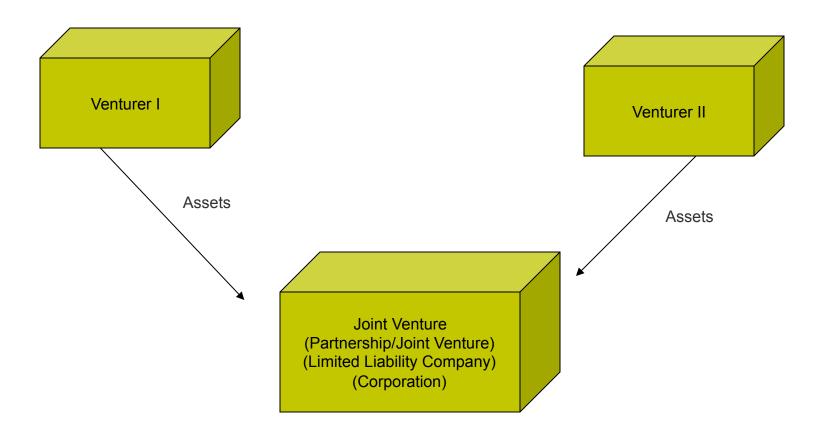
## Potential Benefits of Strategic Relationships

- Non-dilutive
- Potentially faster/cheaper
- Exploit third party assets fewer mistakes



# Two Flavors of Strategic Relationships

Separate Entity



### **Reason for Entity Alliances**

- Liability (marketing a new product)
- Value in enterprise (e.g., BillingZone)
- Deeper relationship
- Tax
- Accounting (consolidation)

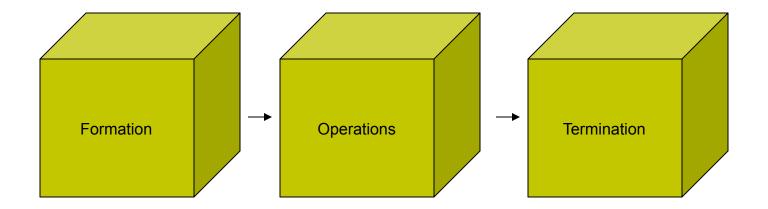
#### **Reason for Contractual Alliances**

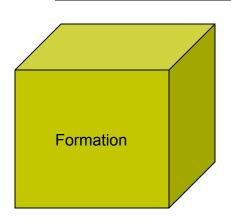
- Lower Investment Cost
- Easier to commence relationship
- Easier to exit
- Shorter duration

#### **Cautions**

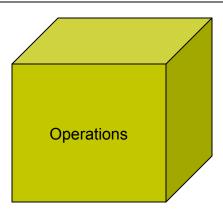
- Remember the little person on your shoulder
- Consider the future of the business (e.g., reseller/ branding) – Don't mortgage the future
- Consider
  - Time
  - Cost (somebody has to pay the lawyers)
  - Risk



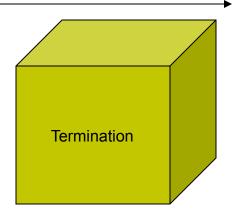




- What is each party contributing?
- What is each party NOT contributing?
- Exclusive vs. non-exclusive rights



- Who is operating?
- Who makes decisions? (Who decides who decides?)
- What if additional resources are necessary?
- How are proceeds allocated?
- Who gets paid for operating?



- When is the Strategic Relationship terminated?
- Cause/No cause
- Who gets which assets upon termination (e.g., intellectual property; developments; customers; trademark)?
- Buy/Sell



### **Dispute Resolution – Common Issues**

- Avoid Disputes
  - Information Exchange/Meetings
  - Align interests/Identify different interests
  - Quality partners
  - Consider escalation/mediation
  - Ask the "What if's"

### **Dispute Resolution**

- Where does the fight occur?
  - Venue
  - Forum
    - Arbitration v. Court
    - 1 arbitrator v. 3 arbitrators
- Governing Law
- Who pays for the fight?
- What happens during the fight?



## **Dispute Resolution – Common Issue**

- Remedies
  - Termination (out-license)
  - Damages/Liquidated Damages
  - Injunctive Relief (e.g., reseller)

# **Assignment – Common Issue**

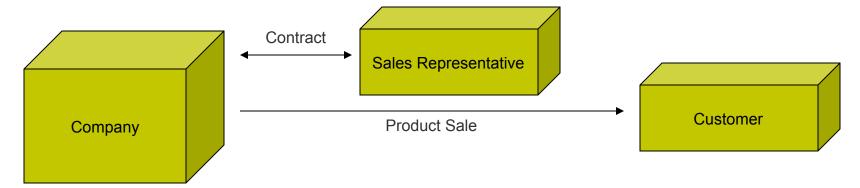
- Third Party
- Competitors
- Successors
- Bankruptcy

#### **Introductory Example - Lease**

- Economic Matter: Leveraging Landlord's ownership of property
  - Rent includes
    - Operating expenses
    - Carrying Costs
    - Amortization of tenant improvements/lease cost
- In Reality: Debt transaction
- What is each party's contribution
  - Initial premises
  - Expansion premises
- Term
  - Initial Term
  - Extension
  - Early Termination



## Sales Representative/Marketing Agreement



- Overview Note: Sales Rep never takes title
- Benefits to Company
  - Leverage third party sales force/marketing team
  - Maintains goodwill/trademark of company
- Benefits to Third Party
  - Use already existing sales force add another product



# Sales Representative/Marketing Agreement

- Special considerations
  - Sales effort
  - Exclusivity (territory and product)
    - Company
    - Sales Representative
  - Limit Representations
  - Not an agent (can't bind company)
  - Protect goodwill use of trademark/trade name

# Sales Representative/Marketing Agreement

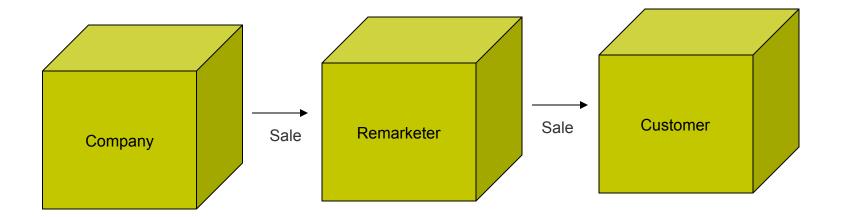
- Consideration/Payment
  - Amount per sales
  - Costs and expenses
- Termination
  - Notice
    - Company short
    - Sales Rep long
  - Cause no cause
  - There may be laws
  - Avoid franchise characterization



### Sales Representative/Marketing Agreement

- Post-Termination
  - Post-termination commissions ("Tails")
  - Post-termination rights/obligations (<u>e.g.</u>, noncompete)
  - Customer list
  - Confidentiality
- Dispute
  - Termination is final only remedy is damages

### Remarketing Agreements



- Remarketing/Distribution
- OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturers)
- VAR (Value Added Reseller)

#### Remarketing Agreements

- Lose/diminish value of goodwill
  - Trademark use (mandatory and control)?
- Changes to product/service
  - Control
  - Liability
  - Warranties
- Payment
  - Verification
  - Reports
  - Incentive to pay (interest/penalty/pay for audit)

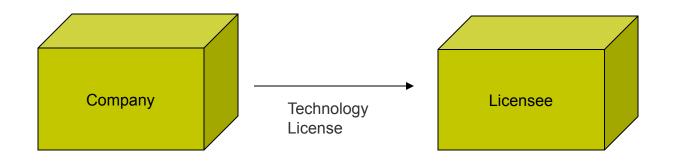
### Remarketing Agreements

- Special Considerations (continued)
  - Pricing of Products and Services
    - Potential of undercutting
    - Minimum pricing (pay attention to anti-trust considerations)
    - Combination products
  - Inventory Control
  - Technology (see licenses)

### Remarketing Agreements

- Termination
  - Notice
  - Carry-over inventory
  - Reliance
  - Trademarks
- Post-Termination obligations

#### **Out-Licenses**



- Description (common with Drug Development)
- Benefits
  - Use underutilized assets
  - Accelerate development and/or commercialization

#### **Out-Licenses**

- Keys to Grant
  - Identify the technology with specificity
  - Territory
  - Field of Use
  - Exclusivity (Note: Clarity re: exclusivity as to Licensor)
  - Transferability
  - Term

#### **Out-Licenses**

- Commitment of Licensee
  - Milestones/performance
- Royalties
  - Amount
  - Royalty-Base
  - Minimums
  - Joint Products

#### **Out-Licenses**

- Improvements/Developments
  - Licensee improvements/Licensor improvements
  - Rights to use
    - Licensor
    - Licensee
  - Obligation to pay royalties on Developments
    - Licensee
    - Licensor

#### **Out-Licenses**

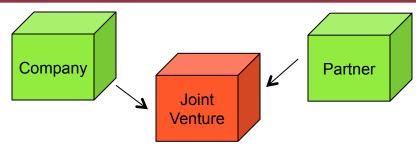
- Term of royalty obligation
  - Consider survival beyond life of patents
- Intellectual property prosecution and infringement
  - Who prosecutes? Who pays?
  - Protect the base intellectual property
  - Who can sue? Who benefits?

#### In-Licenses



- Similar Issues
- Reasons
  - Critical asset
  - Develop more than 1 product
- Remember the "Shoulder Person"
  - Pay attention to Termination
- Improvements are key

#### **Joint Development**



- Formation
  - Critical as to what is being contributed (and what is not)
    - Intellectual property
    - Cash
    - Technology
    - Lab/people
  - Background technology v. new technology
  - License v. transfer

## **Joint Development**

- Operation
  - Decision-making Typically a "Steering Committee"
    - What is being developed?
    - Who is on the steering committee?
    - How are decisions made?

### **Joint Development**

- Ownership/Use of Development
  - Identify improvements/development/How do you know?
  - Use/commercialization
  - Royalties
  - Intellectual Property Prosecution
  - Intellectual Property Enforcement

### **Joint Development**

- Joint Ownership of Patents→1+1<2</p>
  - Each owner can exploit patent
  - Each owner can grant non-exclusive licenses
  - No right to grant exclusive licenses
  - No obligation to "Pay Over"
  - Need other owner to enforce patent

### **Joint Development**

- Alternatives to Joint Ownership
  - Vest technology in one party, with a license
  - Allocate by field of interest/use
  - Place technology in an entity
  - Express agreements
- Royalty-Base
  - What is the base?
  - How are derivatives handled?
  - Reporting, etc.

#### Conclusion

 Pursue, consider and exploit Strategic Arrangements