### CERTAIN MOVES IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

### **Alix**Partners

Headline findings from AlixPartners' 18<sup>th</sup>
Annual Turnaround and Transformation Survey

**93%** Said the cost of capital has increased in the past 12 months

**2/3** Believe the availability of capital has decreased

70% Think their region is in recession or expect it to be in the next 12 months

**85%** Believe financial / credit terms have become more restrictive

78% Say that securing sufficient capital is the most common challenge to a successful turnaround or transition



**78%** 

Agree that recent banking failures will further limit capital availability.



84%

Of American respondents think that the likelihood of a U.S. recession in the next 12 months is **50%** or higher.



90%

Believe that efforts by troubled companies to buy time through "amend and extend" debt agreements are temporary solutions that do not resolve fundamental business issues.



Climate transition is considered the operational issue most likely not to be addressed in the coming 12 months; a third of respondents see insufficient or no investment in ESG amongst their clients.

## HOW TO RESPOND

Leaders must orient their businesses toward a set of characteristics best suited for continued ambiguity and tightening financial constraints:

#### Focus on cash

Underpin any new money need with cash flow analysis of operations under various risk scenarios.

#### **Drive agility on cost**

Map the underlying cost structures of vendors and proactively track commodity rates – and act quickly when market dynamics shift.

#### **Understand scenarios and related risks**

Balance best-case scenarios with a worst-case one to help you act fast as trading conditions change.

#### **Chart a path for change**

Balance short-term challenges against your vision of a long-term upward trajectory, and take steps towards that goal now.

Prudent management teams – many of whom will be experiencing their first downturn – now need to build a global view of market activity, considering both the financial and geopolitical risks driven by international conflict and rising tensions between nations. They must then overlay the continued high interest rate and constrained credit environment to try and chart a course forward.

Leaders must get out ahead of situations and fully understand the dynamics at play with regard to potential disruptions in their markets. Credit metrics must improve too, requiring more steps to be taken to extend their runway, improve liquidity, tighten working capital, and refine capital plans.

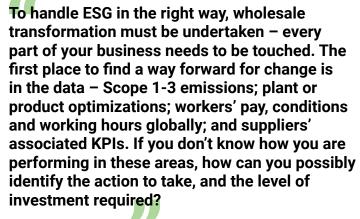


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It is extremely difficult for management teams, as they try to manage the risk of being overly prudent (and missing out on opportunities), and at the same time not being too aggressive (and endangering precious positive cashflow). Ultimately, the key will be to establish a nimbleness that is clearly tied to an agreed strategic direction, with accurate, relevant, and timely reporting that will allow adjusting course as required.





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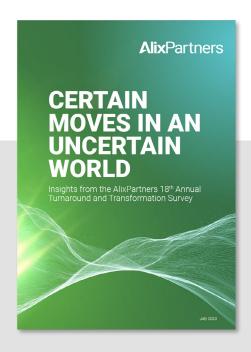
Leadership teams must think about what comes next. It is never too soon to think about how to improve your business, which may encompass rationalization, efficiency improvements, and a detailed evaluation of where the business could go in the next 18 months. With many different potential outcomes, if management teams aren't thinking about that now, then it's already getting too late.

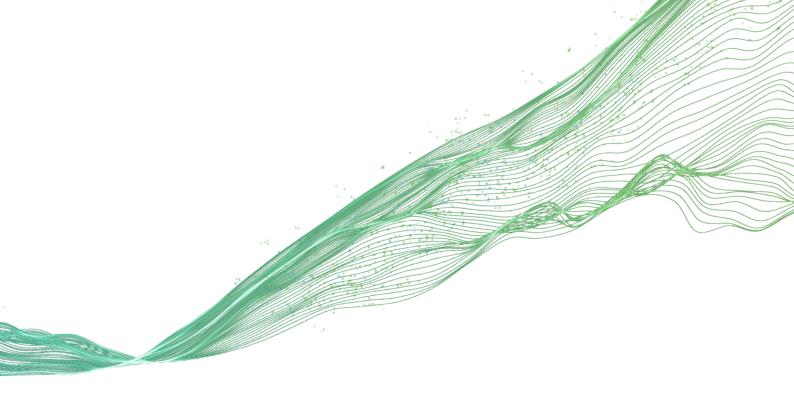


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# Discover more insights from the AlixPartners 18th Annual Turnaround and Transformation Survey

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#### **METHODOLOGY**

Research for the 18th Annual Turnaround and Transformation survey was conducted between May 2 and 25, 2023. Respondents comprised 700 lawyers, investment bankers, lenders, financial advisors, and other industry executives involved in corporate workouts representing more than 20 major industries globally, including the Americas, Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and Asia.

#### **ABOUT US**

For more than forty years, AlixPartners has helped businesses around the world respond quickly and decisively to their most critical challenges – circumstances as diverse as urgent performance improvement, accelerated transformation, complex restructuring and risk mitigation.

These are the moments when everything is on the line – a sudden shift in the market, an unexpected performance decline, a time-sensitive deal, a fork-in-the-road decision. But it's not what we do that makes a difference, it's how we do it.

Tackling situations when time is of the essence is part of our DNA – so we adopt an action-oriented approach at all times. We work in small, highly qualified teams with specific industry and functional expertise, and we operate at pace, moving quickly from analysis to implementation. We stand shoulder to shoulder with our clients until the job is done, and only measure our success in terms of the results we deliver.

Our approach enables us to help our clients confront and overcome truly future-defining challenges. We partner with you to make the right decisions and take the right actions. And we are right by your side. When it really matters.

The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of AlixPartners, LLP, its affiliates, or any of its or their respective professionals or clients.

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