

Field-proven results in business sales and acquisitions

HOW TO ENSURE CONFIDENTIALITY DURING YOUR SALE



Selling a business is a process that depends upon professionalism and confidentiality. Selecting an M&A broker who understands the critical role that confidentiality plays is simply a must. Unfortunately, countless sellers have in fact dealt with a situation where a breach in confidentiality has caused a deal to fall apart. A failure to maintain confidentiality can lead to a slew of negative reactions from a range of parties. Everyone from supplies and vendors to creditors could react in a way that could harm your business, for example, vendors could change their terms and this could in turn negatively impact your cash flow.

A breach of confidentiality could also lead to negative reactions amongst both employees and customers. The reason is that employees may begin to worry about the security of their jobs and may also become nervous about the change in management. These fears could prompt employees to find a new job and leave you with a position that needs to be filled. Potentially more significant is the fact that the loss of key personnel could cause your buyer to have cold feet.

As if all of these factors were not enough of a concern there is also the issue of the competition. If your competition gets wind that you may be looking to sell they may take advantage of the situation and start attempting to steal your customers.

Finally, a breach in confidentiality could send potential buyers running. The headaches that are often associated with a breach in confidentiality are such that potential buyers may simply drop the deal.

The best way to protect your confidentiality is to opt for a great M&A broker. An M&A broker is an expert in prompting a business without notifying the competition, your employees, vendors or anyone else. The process is both an art and a science.

When attempting to sell on your own there are many and diverse pitfalls. Sellers are much more likely to accidentally reveal who you are; after all, a seller has to provide phone numbers, email addresses, physical addresses and other critical and identifying information. Even your home phone number could be traced back to your identity and ultimately your business.

A seasoned M&A broker can help you bypass these potentially damaging issues, by not just shielding your business's identify but also by ensuring that all interested parties sign confidentiality agreements and are pre-qualified. In this way you only reveal what is absolutely necessary. In short, it is best to work with an M&A broker and maintain your confidentiality at all costs.

About TOGA, The Oil & Gas Advisor:

The Oil & Gas Advisor's team of M&A Brokers and advisors specialize in selling businesses related to the oil, gas, and energy industry. Clients include manufacturers, distributors, services, construction and logistics firms. TOGA is USA's expert in selling propane companies. Since 1987, they have been investment banking merger and acquisitions advisors, providing certified business broker and intermediary services. TOGA's experts are award winning industry leaders with offices in Texas, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania.

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