



# How to scale your business with offshore outsourcing

Jaspreet Saran, Source Desk Global

A photograph of two young women with blonde hair, seen from the chest up, engaged in conversation outdoors at night. The woman on the left is in profile, looking towards the right, and is wearing a dark jacket with a light-colored fur collar. The woman on the right is seen from the back, looking towards the left. The background is dark and out of focus, with some green foliage visible. The text "Take a few moments to CONNECT with your neighbour" is overlaid on the right side of the image in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

**Take a few moments  
to CONNECT with  
your neighbour**

# CPD Process

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- You must stay in the session for the duration of the training
- This session is eligible for **1 hours of CPD**
- CPD certificates are emailed directly to you within 4 weeks of the conference date to the same email address you used to register

# Today's speaker



**Jaspreet Saran**

Managing Partner,  
Source Desk Global

## **Educational Background**

- Bachelor of Commerce, Management, Economics and Finance

## **Professional Background**

- Large Financial Corporation to Entrepreneur
- Managing Partner of three organizations built on offshore outsourcing.

# Sourcedesk Global – Outsourcing Done Right!

Canadian Outsourcing Firm with Service Delivery Centre in India



ISO 27001:2013 & ISO 9001:2015 Certified

# Agenda

## What is Scaling?

## Outsourcing as a Solution to Scaling

## Case Study

## Getting Started

## How to Choose an Offshore Outsourcing Strategy

## Security

## How to Ensure the Outsourcing Venture Succeeds

# What is scaling?

- When a **business** is able to **scale** their operations, this means that they are able to handle a growing amount of work or sales in a capable, **cost-effective manner**.



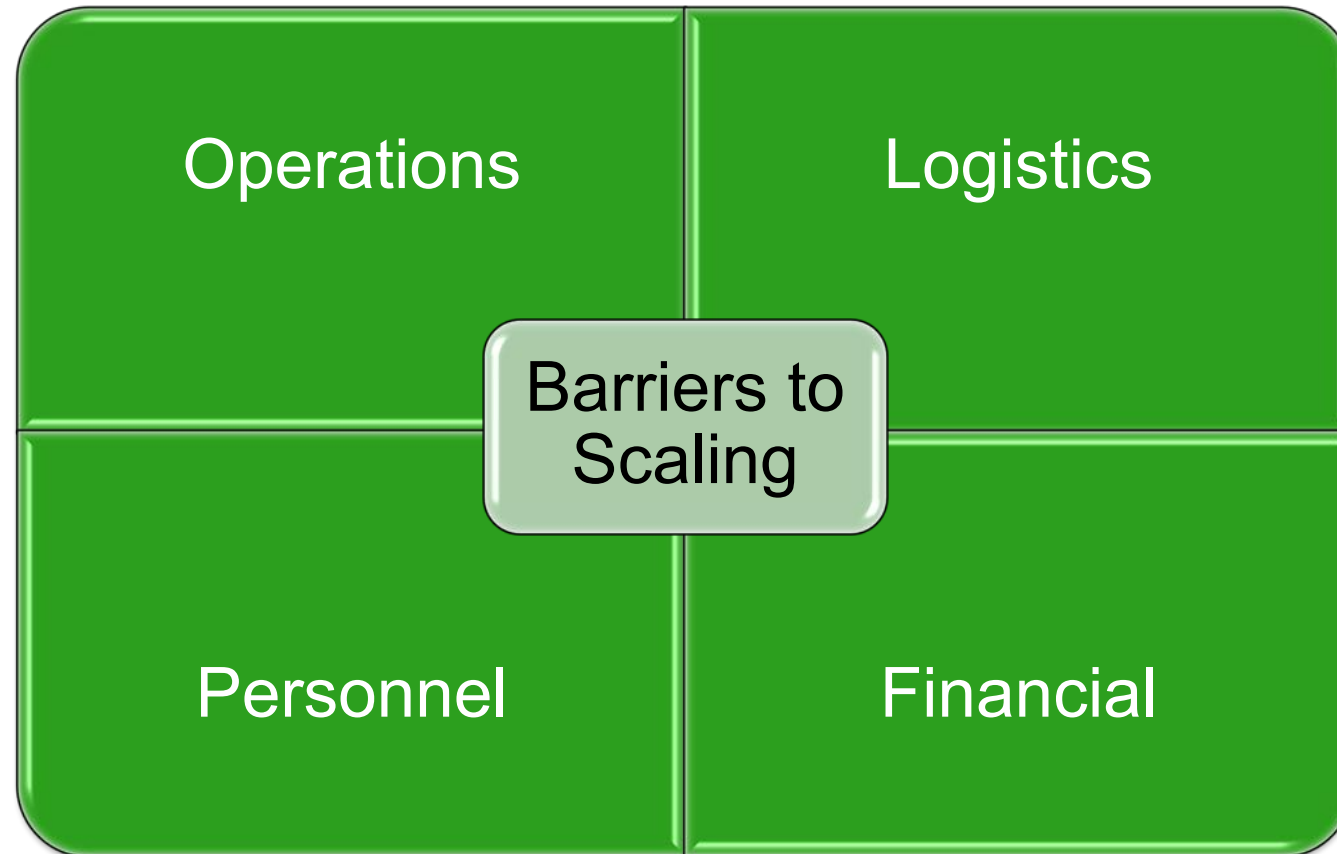
# The Difference Between Scaling and Growth

Its very important to understand the difference between **Scaling** and **Growth**.

- Growth is achieved by simply increasing your revenue (signing up new clients).
- If every project you get requires the same amount of time, money and effort as the previous project then your business model is not scalable.

**Most small to medium size businesses focus on Growth.**

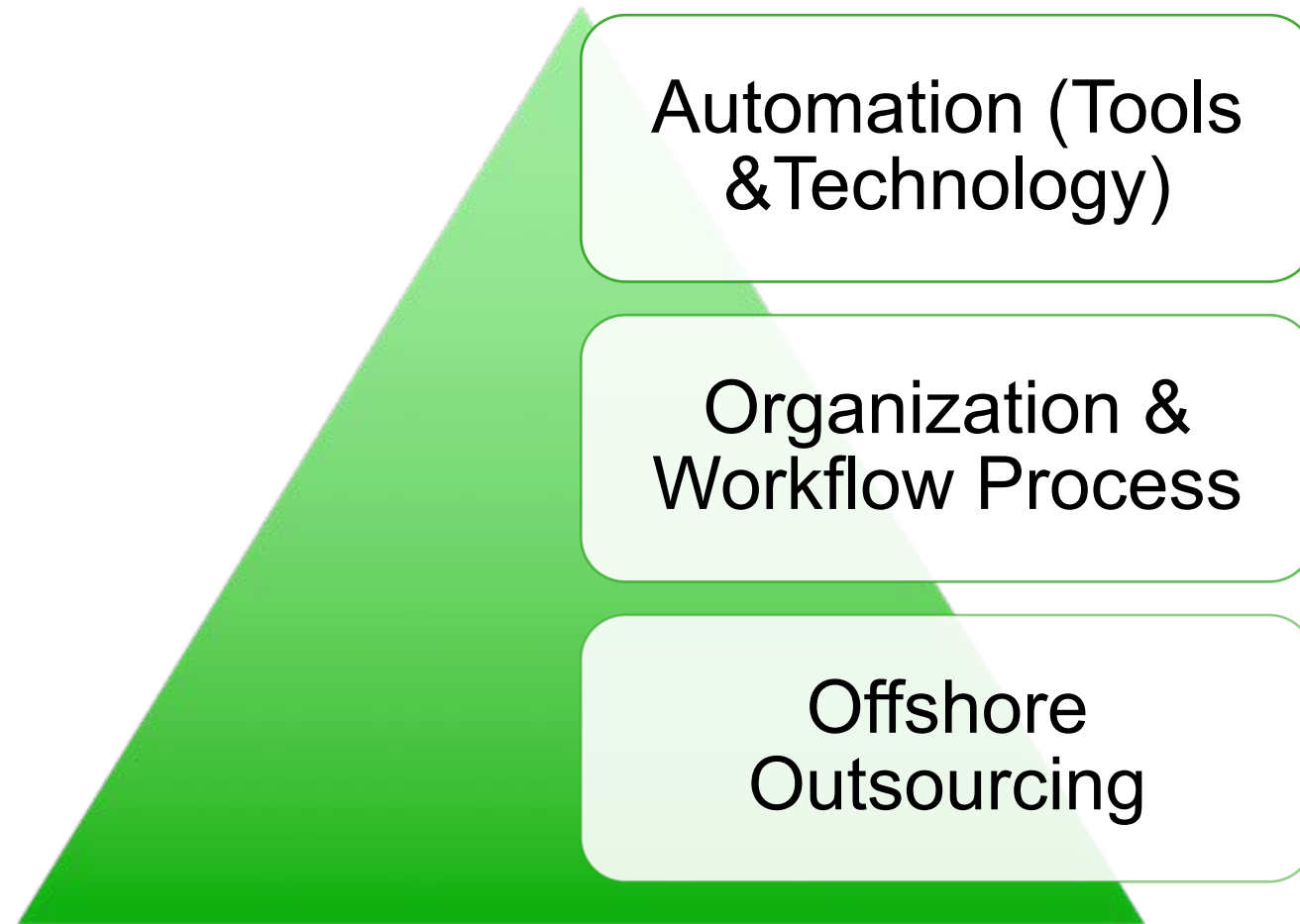
# The Four Barriers To Scaling



# How You Can Scale Your Service Business

Fundamentally, Accounting and Bookkeeping Firms are less scalable, this is the case with most service based business.

# How You Can Scale Your Service Business (continued)



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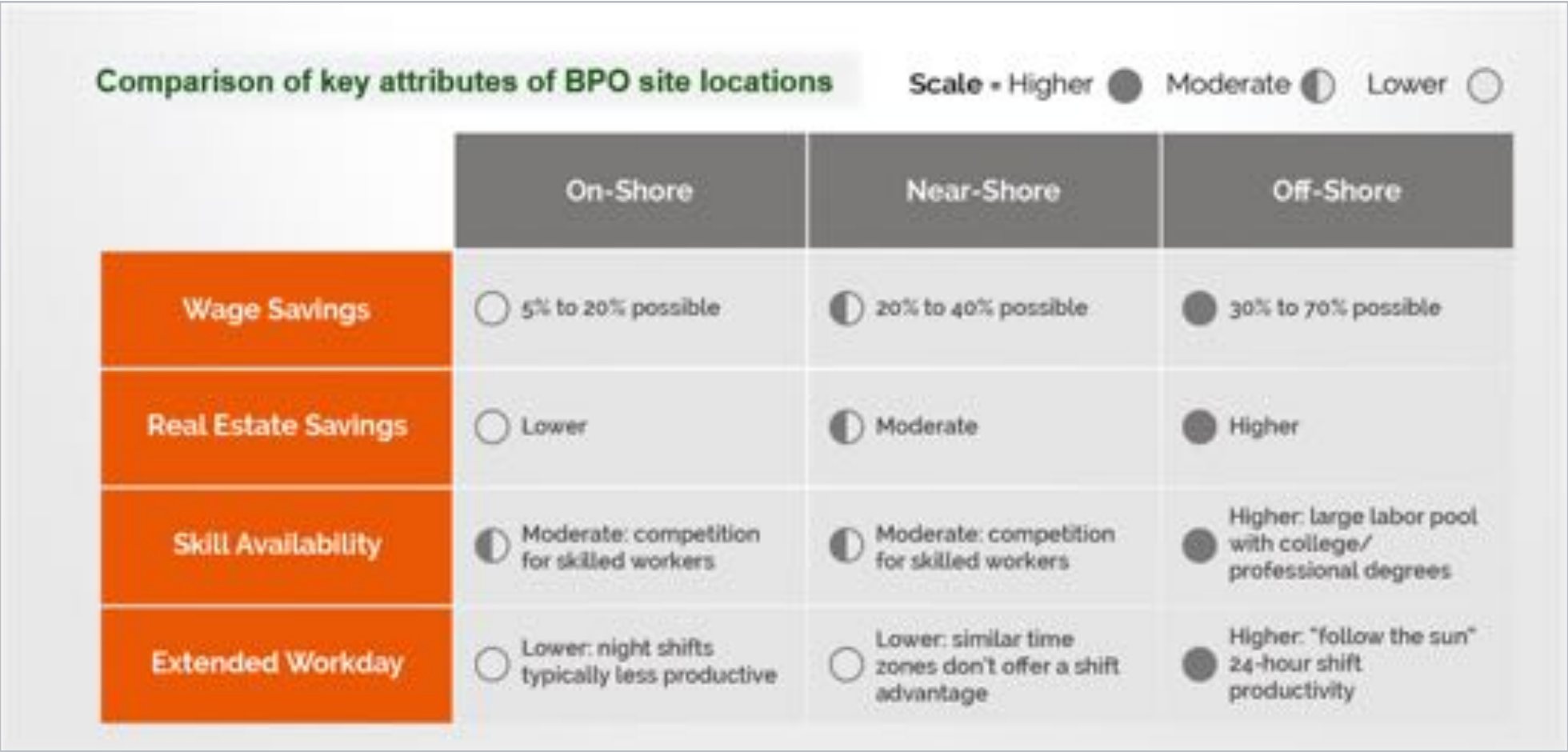
**Security**

**How to Ensure the Outsourcing Venture Succeeds**

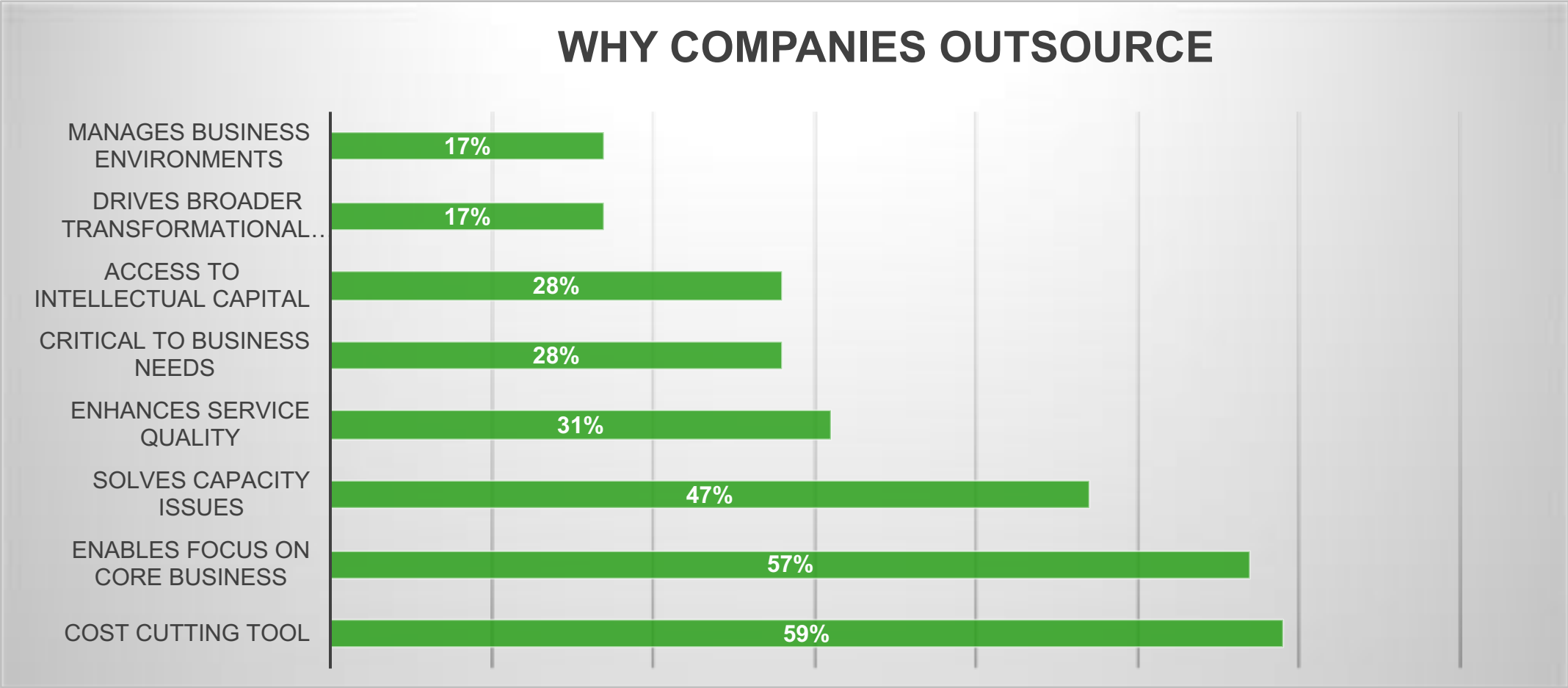
# Types of Outsourcing



# Comparing Outsourcing Models



# Outsourcing as a Solution to Scaling



Source Deloitte's 2016 Global Outsourcing Survey

# Canadian Businesses and Offshore Outsourcing

- Canadian corporations have been reaping the benefits of outsourcing since the late 90's.
- Canadian Banks, Crown Corps and even the Government practise Offshore Outsourcing.
- The Big 4 have set up their Service Delivery Centres across cities all over India.

**Most small and medium size businesses in Canada have not utilized this strategy to assist scalability.**



# Canadian Businesses and Offshore Outsourcing (continued)

Staff Allocation by Country – Based on Big 4 SDC for Individual and Corp Tax

Country	Team Size	Population	Outsource Rate
Canada	60	37 Mil	0.00016
Australia	117	25 Mil	0.00047
UK	180	55 Mil	0.00033
USA	1281	326 Mil	0.00040

- Australia Outsource Rate is almost 3x more then Canada
- UK Outsource Rate is 2x more then Canada
- USA Outsource Rate is 2.5x more then Canada

# Local vs Outsourcing Rates

Position	Local Rate	Outsource Rate	Salary Savings
Associate	\$30/hour	\$10-\$14/hour	60%
Senior Associate	\$40/hour	\$14-\$16/hour	62.5%
Manager	\$50/hour	\$16-20/hour	64%
Senior Manager	\$60/hour	\$20-25/hour	62.5%

- In addition to the staff savings, outsourcing does not require office space, computer hardware/software, health benefits, sick leaves, vacation time, retirement benefits or payroll taxes.

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# Case Study

## Background Of Client:

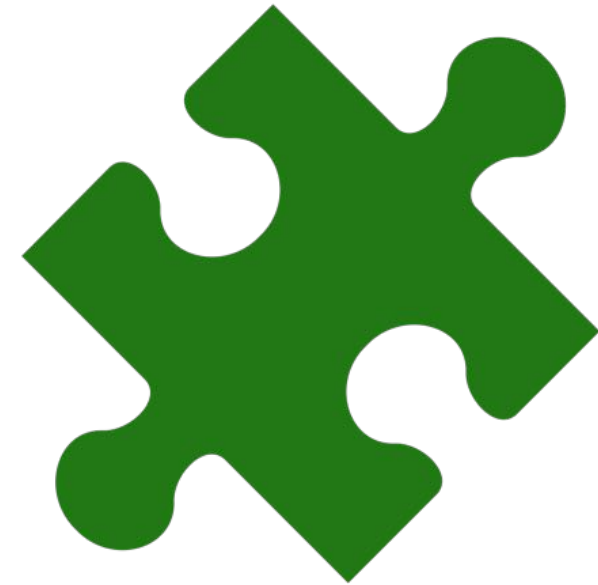
CPA Firm from Brighton, MA with 3 Partners and 10 Staff.

## Goal Of Client:

Assist current team with bookkeeping tasks and increase utilization on core CPA services.

## Barriers:

New Process and Change Management



# Opportunities to Scale with Offshore Outsourcing/ Case Study

## **Team Size:**

Started with 1 outsourced FTE and after 1 year had increased to a team of 6

## **Cost Savings:**

Total Cost was \$156,000/year compared to in-house cost of \$400,000 (based on the salaries of their current team).

## **Revenue Increase:**

After 2 years – The firm was able to increase revenue by \$1 Million

## **Additional Value Add:**

Due to the internal training and expertise using QBO, we were able to migrate over 150 Clients to QBO which further increased our ability to handle more clients for the firm within the same team size.

Integrated important apps like Hubdoc and Receipt Bank to further streamline the bookkeeping process.

# Complexities to Scale with Offshore Outsourcing/ Case Study

- Change Management and a New Workflow Process
- Review Procedures
- Knowledge Transfer
- Standard Operating Procedures and Statements of Work



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When a business or market slowdown inevitably occurs, those with the best core business practices will be better positioned to survive and thrive through the cycle.”

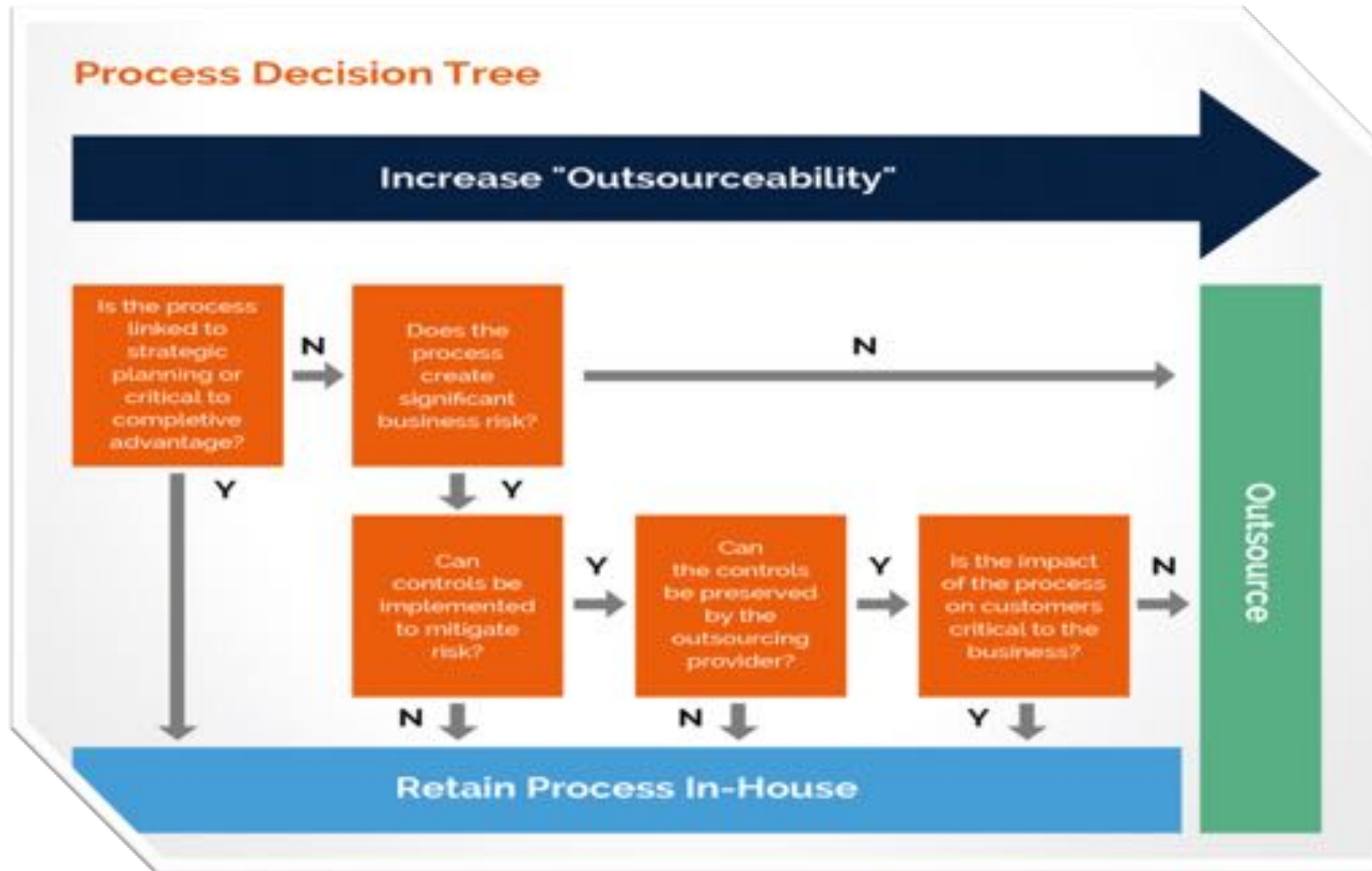
Jonathan Ebinger

# When should you consider outsourcing?

- You need assistance with the workload.
- Hiring, managing, training and firing bookkeepers is eating too much into your work hours.
- More staff is needed but your budget is not enough for local staff.
- You want to increase your profit margins and utilize current resources on value added activities.



# Should you outsource?



# Cloud Technology & Automation Help Outsourcing

**Outsourcing and resource utilization is best when you can provide a consistent flow of work within a streamlined process.**

**Quickbooks Online and the range of integrated apps – makes outsourcing much easier thanks to the following:**

- Cloud based software which can be accessed from anywhere in the world.
- Important security features.
- Bank feeds automatically push transactions directly into QBO.
- Software like Hubdoc and Receipt Bank allow for collection/fetching of supporting documents and bank statements.

# Processes that Need to be in Place for Success

- Workflow Management Software
- Time Tracker Software
- Review Process with Accuracy Measures
- SOP's – Standard Operating Procedure
- SOW's – Statement of Work
- Evolving Lessons Learned
- Project Rotation Plan



# Level of Detail in Workflow Management

HST Filing

Anyone

Review Sales tax summary and detail report

Create sales tax summary report from QBO along with the detail report and review for accuracy. Look to make sure all invoices from the vendor has HST. If some invoices from a vendor are missing HST investigate why.

Anyone

Prepare numbers for filing

Once you have completed the review and made any necessary changes create a new report and do a final check. Then save as a PDF and upload into the respective folder in BOX.

Anyone

Send to account manager for approval

Let the account manager know that the return is ready for review and send a link to the file in Box.

Anyone

Once received send to client for approval

Account manager to send reports to the client for signoff before submission.

Anyone

Once approved by client file return

If we have access file through rep a client otherwise use the 4 digit code and file on the CRA website.

Anyone

Send client confirmation and save in client folder

Send the client a confirmation of the filing and note how much they owe or the refund they will receive. Save a copy of the confirmation in their folder in box.

# Level of Detail in Workflow Management (continued)

The screenshot shows a workflow management interface for 'Weekly Bookkeeping'. It features a list of tasks with assigned users and detailed instructions for each step.

- Task 1:** Assigned to 'Anyone'. Task: 'Expenses'. Includes a link to a document.
- Task 2:** Assigned to 'Anyone'. Task: 'Revenue'. Includes a link to a document.
- Task 3:** Assigned to 'Anyone'. Task: 'HST'. Includes a link to a document.
- Task 4:** Assigned to 'Anyone'. Task: 'Review'. Includes a link to a document.
- Task 5:** Assigned to 'Anyone'. Task: 'Prepare list of items with missing documentation or outstanding questions in OSI template'. Includes a link to a document and a detailed instruction box.
- Task 6:** Assigned to 'Anyone'. Task: 'Complete review of books and send out OSI to client'. Includes a link to a document and a detailed instruction box.
- Task 7:** Assigned to 'Anyone'. Task: 'Upon response update books accordingly'. Includes a link to a document and a detailed instruction box.

**Instruction for Task 5:** Please fill in the OSI template. Please make sure the document is filled in correct and is detailed. The more detailed the better it is for the client. As well, please make sure that a new tab for each month is created for a client. There will be 1 OSI document for a client each year.

**Instruction for Task 6:** Make sure that the OSI is accurate, and the information/documentation that is missing from the client is not in Hubdoc/Receipt Bank or any other file. Once this is confirmed then send OSI document to client. Make sure you are 100% positive that the client is actually missing this information.

**Instruction for Task 7:** Once a response from the client is received, make sure that the supporting documentation/clarification that you asked the client is answered. If this makes sense to you then please update the books accordingly. If you still have questions/concerns then please double check with account manager.

# Which KPI'S are Effective for BPO?

- Timely execution of tasks
- Deadline delivery score
- % of material errors
- % of immaterial errors
- % of time spent on non-billable tasks



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# How To Choose An Offshore Outsourcing Strategy



# Selecting the Best Location

Selecting a location for your business process is an important consideration, which will determine how successful the outsourcing engagement is. The decision to work with an outsourcing service provider, should incorporate a rigorous evaluation of the following:

- **Labour Costs**
- **Process Improvement**
- **Automation Expertise**
- **Industry Knowledge**



# Top Offshoring Outsourcing Locations

**1st**

**INDIA**

- Highly skilled labour at a low cost-point

**2nd**

**PHILIPPINES**

- Sophisticated labour force with a great service culture

# Freelancer vs Agency vs Facilitator

FREELANCER	OVERSEAS FIRM	FACILITATOR (Local Firm with Overseas Office)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Limited Bandwidth</li><li>• Individual or one-person team</li><li>• Seasonal/Temporary Contracts Only</li><li>• Fixed Resources</li><li>• Requires Full Management</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High Bandwidth</li><li>• Access to Varied Specialized Talent Pool</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High Bandwidth</li><li>• Access to Varied Specialized Talent Pool</li><li>• Transition Effort</li><li>• Hands-on Client Management</li><li>• Efficient Creation of Managed Service Model</li><li>• Customization of Outsourcing Strategy</li></ul>

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# Security



# Security Concerns with Outsourcing

- What can a business do to mitigate security risks internally?
- How do you find out if an outsourcing partner has systems and processes in place to reduce security risk levels?
- How adopting the latest tools and technologies can further prevent security risks?



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# Why Offshore Outsourcing Fails

- The most frequently reported reason for outsourcing programs to be perceived as failures. Deals have fallen short of expectations from a financial and/or service delivery perspective.
- Almost 50% of respondents terminated an outsourcing contract prematurely.



# Why Offshore Outsourcing Fails (continued)

- Different outsourcing strategies are not analyzed to determine the best fit.
- Outsourcing Implementation is not well planned for success.
- Task transitions effort was minimal.
- Lack of time and resources allocated during ramp up period.
- Failure to establish and refine a workflow process.
- Maintaining review and accuracy measures



# How to Ensure the Outsourcing Venture Succeeds

- Communication & trust
- Finding the right people
- Establishing and maintaining the right processes

**Source: Jo Owens - Global Teams**



# Ensuring Long-term Success

Move from Outsourcing to Smart Sourcing

## **Outsourcing:** Focus on cost reduction

- Streamline back office tasks
- Works well with predictable process
- Commoditized process
- Efficiency
- Vendor management
- Tight monitoring or operational risk



## **Smart Sourcing:** Focus on creating value and seeking innovative solutions

- Enhance value proposition
- Help you manage the unknown
- Service differentiator
- Excellence
- Trusted advisor
- Lower risk through better processing

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/valleyvoices/2016/06/08/smb-s-outsourcing-four-letter-word/#58e7fed2327a>

<https://www.tuko.co.ke/286593-advantages-disadvantages-outsourcing.html#286593>

<https://www2.deloitte.com/us/en/pages/operations/articles/global-outsourcing-survey.html>

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<https://www.statista.com/statistics/189800/global-outsourcing-industry-revenue-by-service-type/>

[https://www.roberthalf.com/sites/default/files/Media\\_Root/images/rh-pdfs/accounting\\_finance\\_benchmarking\\_report\\_2016.pdf?elqTrackId=8baaba6b5ca6438ab0a8cafb0e4ba943&elq=2d3a4533932a47ca93572dafab530400&elqaid=1301&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=](https://www.roberthalf.com/sites/default/files/Media_Root/images/rh-pdfs/accounting_finance_benchmarking_report_2016.pdf?elqTrackId=8baaba6b5ca6438ab0a8cafb0e4ba943&elq=2d3a4533932a47ca93572dafab530400&elqaid=1301&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=)

<https://cxi.today/finance-accounting-outsourcing-survey/>

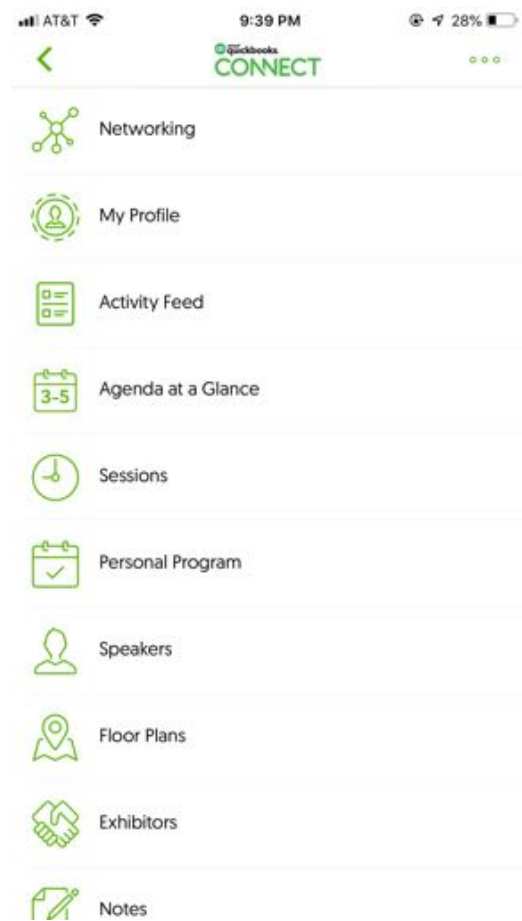
<https://www.accountingdepartment.com/blog/security-concerns-in-outsourcing-accounting-information>

<https://www.capitalnumbers.com/blog/hiring-a-freelancer-vs-an-agency-developer-which-is-better/>

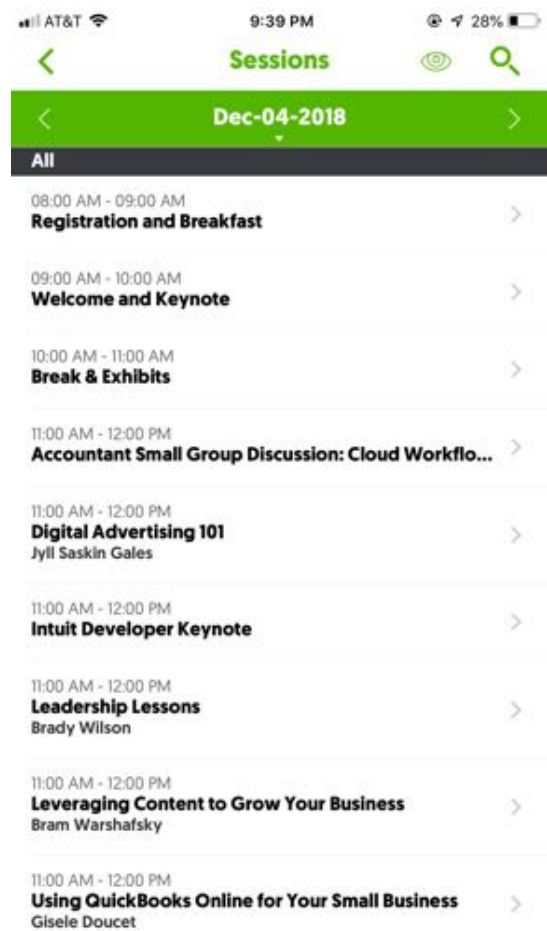
# Questions?

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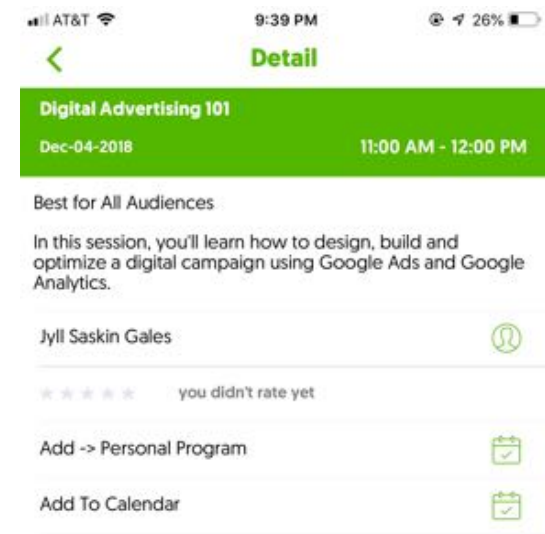
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	Digital Advertising 101	+
	Leveraging Content to Grow Your Business	+
	Leadership Lessons	+
	Using QuickBooks Online for Your Small Business	+
	Warrior Approach to Productivity • session repeats	+
	Accountant Small Group Discussion: Cloud Workflows	+
	Intuit Developer Keynote • session repeats	+



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