# Legal Risk Management

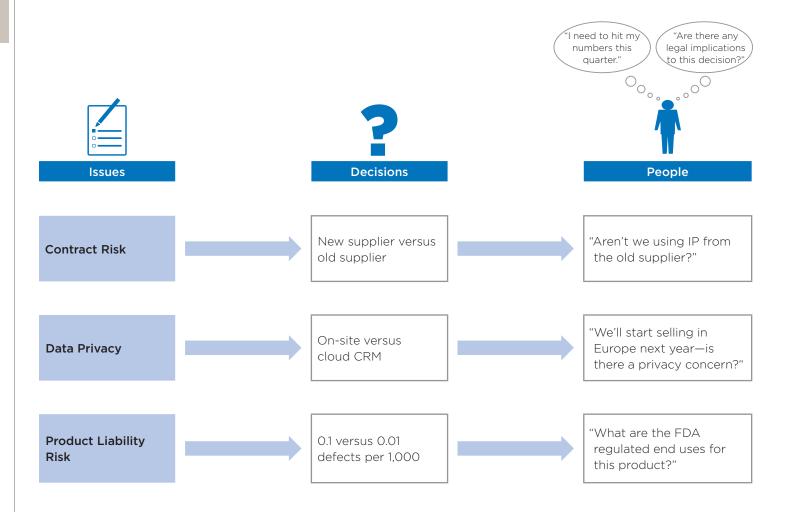
Building Your Organization's Legal IQ

**Preview Report** 



A singular focus on legal issues may fail to capture the personal context in which risk is created.

## CHANGING THE FOCUS: FROM ISSUES TO PEOPLE



#### **Defining Legal Risk**

For this study, legal risk is the intersection of business processes, employee decisions and the legal, regulatory and reputational outcomes that result.

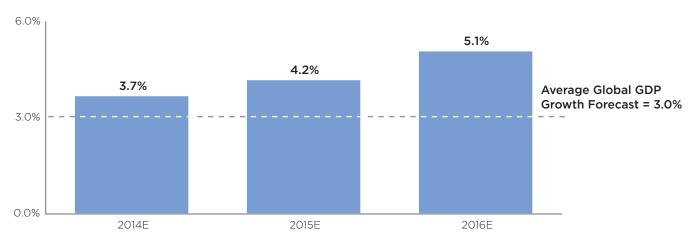
Source: CEB analysis.

Companies must move quickly to maintain their competitive advantage, creating greater legal risk exposure.

## **NEW GROWTH, NEW RISKS**

Aggregate Analyst Top Line Revenue Growth Estimates

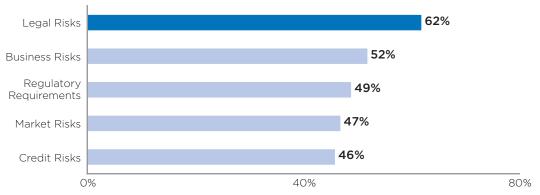
Annualized. S&P 500. Non-Financial



Source: Bloomberg L.P.; World Bank.

## Increases in Expected Risk

How Do You Expect the Following Risks to Change Over the Next Two Years? (Proportion Saying "Significantly Rise" or "Rise Somewhat")



n = 446 companies.

Source: Accenture 2013 Global Risk Management Study.

## WHAT DECISIONS ARE OUR CLIENTS MAKING?

## **CEB Research Questions Answered By Our Members**

- 1. At what frequency and depth are critical business decisions and/or activities ("Studied Decisions") made in organizations?
- 2. What influence does the legal department have over the decision-making process?

#### Contracting

- Negotiated or signed a sales contract
- Negotiated or signed a contract with a third party (e.g., supplier, distributor, vendor, etc.)

#### **New Business Development**

- Entered into a new market (geographic or product market)
- Created a new product for use, distribution, or sale
- Created or contributed to creation of Intellectual Property
- Initiated and/or executed a merger, acquisition, or divestiture

#### **Corporate Compliance**

- Trade Compliance (shipped goods internationally)
- Data Privacy (accessed or transferred sensitive personal information)
- Information Security (accessed or transferred sensitive corporate information)
- Corruption (interacted with government officials)
- AntiTrust or Fair Competition (attended conferences or events where competitor organizations were present)
- Interacted with a regulatory agency or official
- Purchased a gift for colleague or customer

### Market-Facing Activities

- Created marketing, advertising, or scripting for external use
- Represented your company in a public forum
- Established quality thresholds (e.g., product safety standard, quality assurance standards).

Source: CEB Analysis.

## CEB 2014 Corporate Legal Decision-Making Survey

Survey Demographics

- Company with 500+ employees (non-government)
- Full-time employees (both salaried and hourly)

- Company must have a legal department
- Legal and compliance staff responses excluded

## Seventy-five percent of Studied Decisions<sup>1</sup> were made by middle managers.

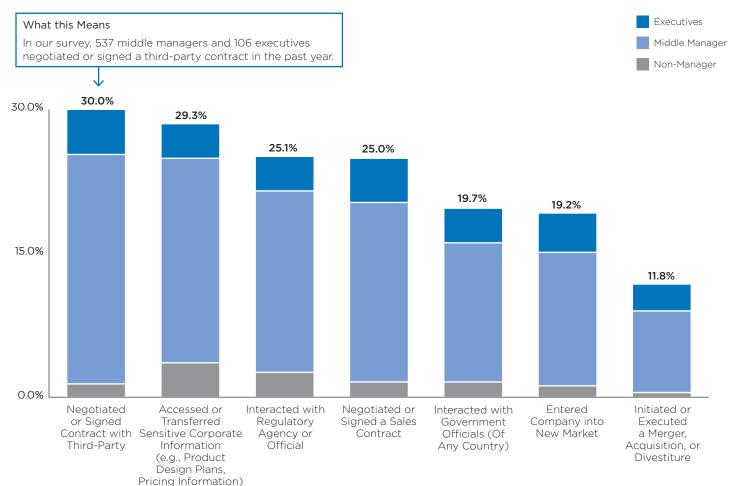
• Middle managers are involved in the largest number of all decisions (including contracts, new products, and new market entry).

#### **Democratized Decision-Making**

Almost 80% of corporate employees made a decision or completed an activity with a significant legal implications in the past year.

## SHIFTING THE CENTER OF DECISION-MAKING

Percentage of Employees Making Studied Decisions in the Past Year Select Decisions



n=2,249 employees making at least one of the studied decisions. Source: CEB 2014 Corporate Legal Decision-Making Survey.

<sup>1</sup> Studied decisions refers to the 16 decisions or completed activities with legal implications as referenced on page 2.

## Legal departments have limited visibility into the majority of client decisions.

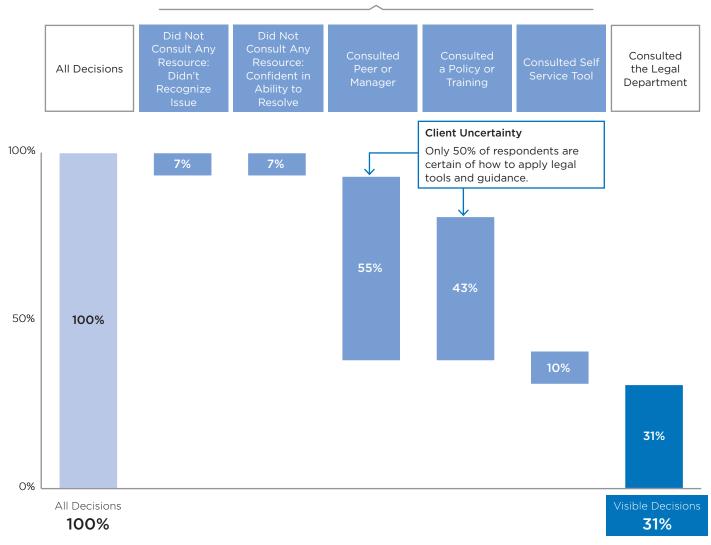
- On average, Legal only has direct visibility into 31% of decisions, as clients are far more likely to consult a peer, manager, or self-service tool than they are to consult the legal department directly.
- Legal departments are typically organized to meet incoming client demand and often fail to spot issues clients do not raise.

## DECISION-MAKING IS LARGELY HIDDEN FROM LEGAL

#### How Middle Managers Make Decisions

Average Middle Manager Reaction to a Decision, Multiple Responses Allowed

#### Potentially Hidden Decisions = 69%



n = 1,677.

Source: CEB 2014 Corporate Legal Decision-Making Survey.

The use and awareness of legal services diminishes rapidly as you move down the corporate hierarchy.

• Middle managers and nonmanagers are far less likely to contact Legal even when making decisions that clearly suggest the need for legal input (e.g., contracts, product launches, mergers).

## **Employees Don't Value Legal**

- 21% of employees don't know they have a legal department.
- 59% of employees make decisions without being aware of the potential legal implications.
- **74%** of employees think the time and effort of Legal interactions exceeds its value.

## LIMITED REACH OF LEGAL INFLUENCE

Profile of Employees
By Level



#### **Executive**

Made 5-10 of the studied decisions in the past year.

#### **Common Objective**

Shareholder Return, Revenue Growth, Long-Term Reputation

#### Use of Legal

**Decisions** 

"I use legal policies, tools, or training when making decisions."

"I contacted Legal during contracts, new product launches, or mergers."

45%

70%

n = 2,249 employees that made at least one studied decision. Source: CEB 2014 Corporate Legal Decision-Making Survey



#### Middle Manager

Made 3-5 of studied decisions in the past year.

Growth, Margin, Customer Satisfaction

49%

40%



#### Non-Manager

Made 2-3 of studied decisions in the past year.

Activities Completed, Throughput, Efficiency

40%

24%

## While middle managers may not always set strategy, they are responsible for executing it.

- Poor managerial decisions may create regulatory fines, legal liability or opportunity cost.
- Middle manager behavior sets the tone for the broad base of employees and dictates how information flows up and down the organization.

#### The Price of Poor Decisions<sup>1</sup>

- 52% of studied compliance failures did not involve executives at all
- \$61,907,132 average direct settlement cost when middle managers were the primary actor.

## **DIFFUSION OF RISK CREATION**

### Middle Management Decisions

Select Examples

# Trade Secret Misappropriation

Altair Engineering Inc. (Altair) was found to have misappropriated source codes, concepts, and processes from ex-MSC Software Corp. (MSC) employees.

## Role of Middle Management

An Altair middle manager hired several former MSC employees and commissioned them to work on and enhance a product that competed directly with a product they worked with at MSC.



#### Consequence

**US\$26 Million Judgement** 

Source: Bloomberg L.P.; Securities and Exchange Commission; CEB Analysis.

US\$470 Million Fine

#### **Antitrust**

Yazaki Corp., a Japanese supplier of auto parts, agreed to plead guilty and pay criminal fines for its role in a price-fixing and bidrigging conspiracy.

Branch managers artificially limited the supply of parts model by model and engaged in price fixing to meet sales quotas.

#### Corruption

Alcoa Inc. processed payments and lacked sufficient internal controls to prevent and detect bribes, which were improperly recorded as legitimate commissions or sales to a distributor.

A middle manager at an Alcoa subsidiary recorded bribe payments as commissions or sales to distributors.



## 470 Million Fine



**US\$384 Million in Penalties** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CEB analyzed more than 200 compliance failure settlements from 2011-2013 (corruption, fraud, antitrust, and data privacy). Based upon publicly available information, CEB classified each settlement by type, settlement cost, cause, and responsible party (Executive, Middle Manager, Non-Manager).

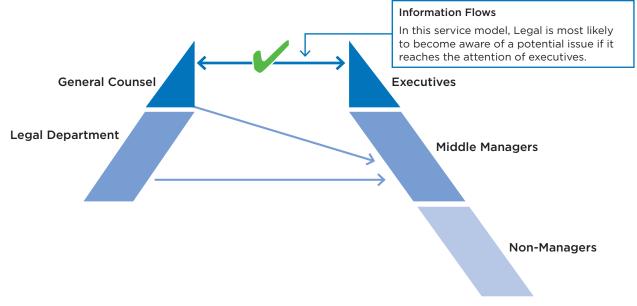
Most legal departments use a service model built around direct interactions to support corporate initiatives and provide legal guidance.

#### Implied Assumptions of Direct Service Model

- Executives make the most significant or material decisions.
- Executives will cascade legal and procedural guidance to staff.
- Direct interactions create durable influence with clients.
- Executives and staff have similar incentives to seek and consider legal guidance.

## CURRENT STATE: THE DIRECT SERVICE MODEL

Current Orientation of Legal Department Service



Source: CEB Legal Budget Diagnostic.

## Belief in Value of Select Risk Management Activities

General Counsel Perceptions, CEB's 2014 Legal Budget Diagnostic

#### **Direct Client Interactions**

88% Believe that direct interactions with clients are effective at improving Legal's visibility into business risk and corporate decision-making.

#### **Standing Meetings**

75% Believe that attending business unit meetings is effective at improving risk visibility.

#### Accountability

**53%** Believe that assigning accountability for business clients to consider legal risks improves corporate decision-making.

#### **Self-Service Tools**

17% Believe that client self-service tools are effective at improving risk identification.

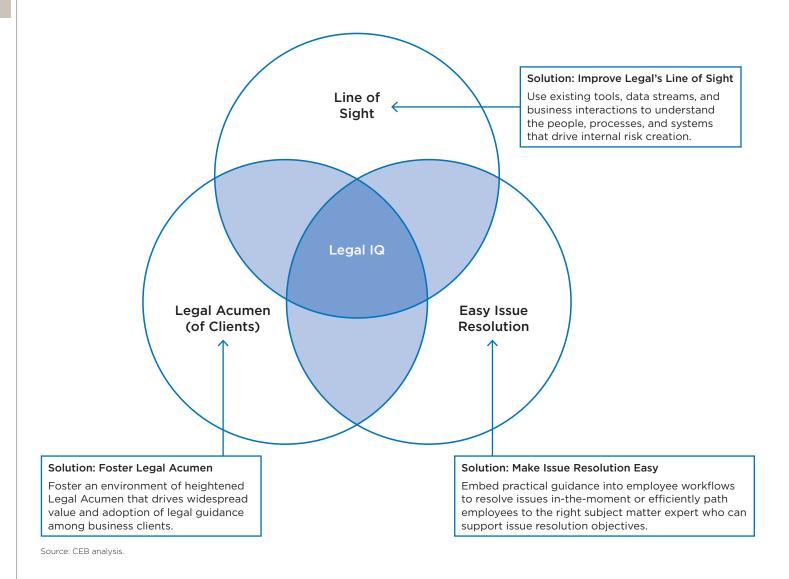
Lower Scale Higher Scale

n = 94-96 general counsel. Source: CEB Legal Budget Diagnostic. Client decision quality is a function of legal line of sight, easy issue-resolution paths, and strong Legal Acumen in clients.

These three factors help the legal department prioritize attorney time on high value issues while ensuring that the maximum number of clients receive legal guidance when making decisions.

## THE GOAL: BUILD YOUR ORGANIZATION'S LEGAL IQ

The Three Components of High Legal IQ Organizations



## PROVEN MEMBER CASE STUDIES SUPPORTING KEY COMPONENTS OF HIGH LEGAL IQ

## IMPROVE LEGAL'S LINE OF SIGHT

## MAKE ISSUE RESOLUTION EASY

# FOSTER LEGAL ACUMEN



Litigation Root Cause Analysis



Activity-Based Risk Drivers



Emerging Risk Roll-Ups

**CEB Support Tool Offered:** Legal Risk Checklists for Key Business Functions





Legal Risk Nudges

## Johnson Johnson

"Performance Support" Legal App



## **CEB Support Tool Offered:**

Step-by-Step Toolkit for Integrating Legal Advice into Business Decisions



Challenge 1: Communicate and Train on the Value of Legal

Challenge 2: Establish Client Accountability for Risk Management

> Challenge 3: Support Local Legal Leadership

## **CEB Support Tool Offered:**

Legal Roadshow Presentation Template

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pseudonym.

# Legal Risk Management

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Contact us at <a href="mailto:LRCProductMarketing@executiveboard.com">LRCProductMarketing@executiveboard.com</a> to dive deeper into this report, gain insight to leading member case studies, and learn how we can help your organization increase its Legal IQ.

