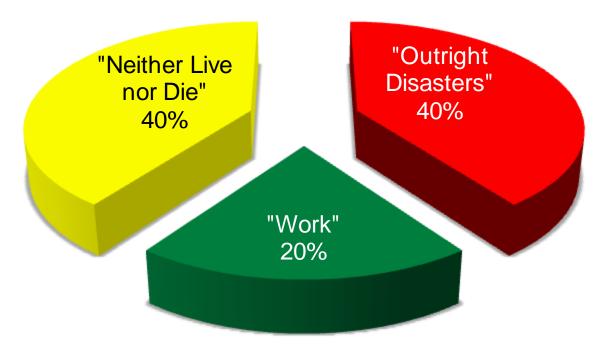
# Stress Points Along the Mergers, Acquisitions and Integration (MAI) Journey

Osti & Associates

# In General, The Success Rate of Mergers and Acquisitions Has Been Poor

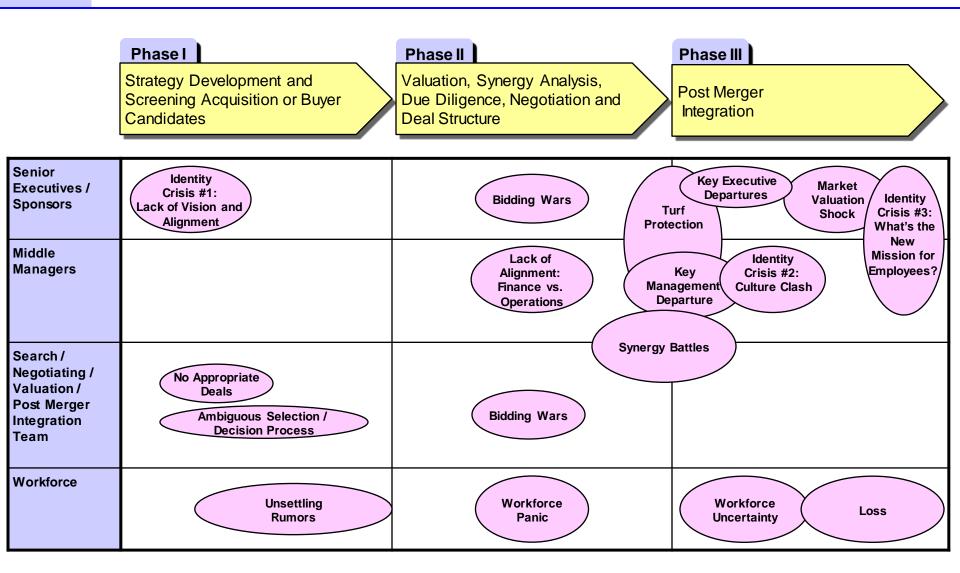
Peter Drucker considers M&A's unsuccessful



 Only <u>one in four</u> of acquisition programs delivered returns greater than the company's cost of equity capital<sup>1</sup>

Why do mergers fail to deliver value?

# Stress Points Occur Throughout the MAI Journey at Multiple Levels and Can Cause a Merger to Breakdown



### Osti & Associates' Understanding of Common Stress Points Enables Corrective Action to Increase the Likelihood of Success

#### Phase I

Strategy Development and Screening Acquisition or Buyer Candidates

Stress Point	Description
Lack of Vision and Alignment	<ul> <li>Disagreement and confusion around future vision and real purpose and benefits of a merger</li> </ul>
No Appropriate Deals	<ul> <li>Initial screenings don't reveal "the perfect match" or attractive targets based on initial criteria</li> </ul>
Ambiguous Selection / Decision Process	Lack of clear criteria and rigorous methodology based on strategic intent
Unsettling Rumors	<ul> <li>Leaks and press reports of possible job losses or disruption of status quo discussed at the water cooler, productivity affected</li> </ul>

#### Phase II

Valuation, Synergy Analysis, Due Diligence, Negotiation and Deal Structure

Stress Point	Description
Bidding Wars	<ul> <li>Initial offers rarely go uncontested by competition; bid escalation in the "heat of battle"</li> </ul>
Finance vs. Operations	<ul> <li>Conflicting agendas based on different perspectives of the acquisition</li> <li>Assumptions and valuation criteria may differ widely</li> </ul>
Synergy Battles	<ul> <li>Conflicting points of view on the size, risk and speed required to achieve benefits</li> </ul>
Workforce Panic	<ul> <li>Little is known about the future; rampant speculation, "expect the worst"</li> </ul>
Turf Protection	<ul> <li>Uncertainty of future and desire to maintain power base drives tactics of self-interest</li> <li>Managers insecure of their span of control act counterproductively to the merger</li> </ul>
Key Management Departure	<ul> <li>Managers unwilling or unable to change with the organization leave voluntarily or when asked to do so</li> </ul>

#### Phase III

Post Merger Integration

Stress Point	Description
Key Executive Departures	<ul> <li>Issues around skills, politics and personal agendas can lead to sudden loss of leadership</li> <li>Decisions regarding the new leadership team and power distribution provide impetus for executives departure - voluntary or forced</li> </ul>
Workforce Uncertainty	<ul> <li>General post-merger integration plans may have been announced; workforce speculation around specifics of how will it affect me?</li> </ul>
Culture Clash	<ul> <li>Differences in values and behavior create friction in work teams and impede the change process</li> <li>Disagreements when laying the foundation of the new company</li> </ul>
Market Valuation Shock	Wall Street's critical view of acquisition premium and expected synergies may contradict management's projections
Loss	<ul> <li>Wish to return to the "good old days"</li> <li>Realization that some associates may lose jobs</li> <li>Mourning over those that have departed</li> </ul>
What's New Mission for Employees?	<ul> <li>Old Mission won't work for the New Company</li> <li>Transition phase ends, management struggles to find new, compelling mission to motivate employees</li> </ul>

# What Is Different about Working with Osti & Associates on MAI Projects

- Our firm will start with an assessment of your needs
- Our firm has expertise in all phases of MAI
- Our firm's compensation is <u>not</u> linked to deal completion
  - Our job is to find the truth and help you make the right decision
  - Sometimes walking away is the right decision
- Our firm delivers work and mentors your team members

