

# Success starts here.

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#### Let's be honest.

Financing won't be the answer to every obstacle you face as a business owner. That's just the truth. But for some of those obstacles, financing is exactly the right tool your business needs to get ahead. Join us to explore some common challenges small business owners face every day, and discover how financing can help turn them around.



6. Providing Customers with Payment Options **7.** Updating and Repairing Your Location



# Replacing Broken Equipment

#### The Problem: Shoot. A key piece of equipment is broken, and now your business is suffering.

You were probably relying on that computer, backhoe, or tractor to help drive momentum and bring in revenue for your business. With it out of commission, your business is at a standstill. You can't complete that construction job or invite new customers into your restaurant if the main asset that makes your business run smoothly is on the fritz.



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### Why finance? Well, it's easy, it's quick, and...

#### 1. You have repayment term options.

Depending on your lease type, your lender will often give you a term as long as 72 months to pay back your funds.

#### 2. You may see some tax benefits.

The payments on a Fair Market Value lease may be 100% deductible at tax time as an operating expense. We aren't tax experts, so we definitely suggest asking your financial lawyer how the specifics of your equipment lease will work out for you around tax time.

#### 3. You'll spend less.

Equipment financing is less risky since there's collateral involved. You'll almost always get a rate that is cheaper than most other financing options. (Cha-ching!)

#### 4. You'll have the opportunity to own.

If you think the equipment you leased will continue to drive in revenue after your financing agreement ends, you have the opportunity to purchase it at the end of the term. Chat with your lender about what end-oflease option would work best for you!

## The choice is yours.

#### Fair Market Value lease

#### Lower monthly payments

Budget your money better and have more financial flexibility over the course of the lease.

#### You have options

- 1) Buy the equipment outright at the fair market value (often set by your lender).
- 2) Give the equipment to the lender when the contract ends.
- 3) Choose to finance the equipment for a longer period of time.

#### \$1 buyout lease

#### Low cost to own

With a higher monthly payment, the cost to own is only \$1 at the end of the lease.

#### Great for long-lasting equipment

The longer the life cycle, the better the \$1 buyout option becomes.



Providing Customers with Payment Options The Problem: You're a vendor crushing a sales pitch to a customer, but they can't afford to pay up front.

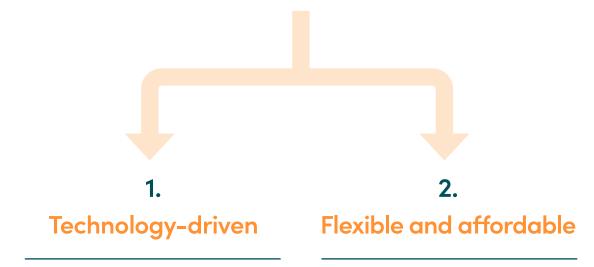
You sell commercial trucks. Your customer wants to purchase one desperately, but just doesn't have the cash. Is there anything worse than letting a sale get away because the customer can't afford your product?



#### The Solution: Offer your customers payment options.

As a vendor, your priority is closing the deal and making the sale. Whether the cash comes directly from the customer or from a lender doesn't really make a difference, right?

Offer your customers access to fast, easy, and affordable financing. Look for a vendor partner program that gives you and your customers financing that is:



Your customers are busy, andso are you. Find a lender thatstreamlines the financing process with technology. A digital system like CIT's allows you to follow along with the entire transaction so you never have to ask for an update. One size does not fit all in business. Partner with a lender that offers competitive rates and convenient payment options to make it even easier for your customers to say "yes" to your products.

# Updating and Repairing Your Location

The Problem: You're a franchisor of 15 restaurants. It's been several years, and features of your restaurants are starting to deteriorate.

After many years in business, furniture, décor, paint, and other aspects of your restaurants may have some wear and tear. It happens, and it's usually a good sign that you've hosted many happy patrons.

But eventually, customers could shy away because of an outdated look and rundown atmosphere. That's when you know it's time for a change. Unfortunately, remodels don't come cheap, and your franchisees need to find a way to pay for it.

#### The Solution: Remodel with franchise financing.

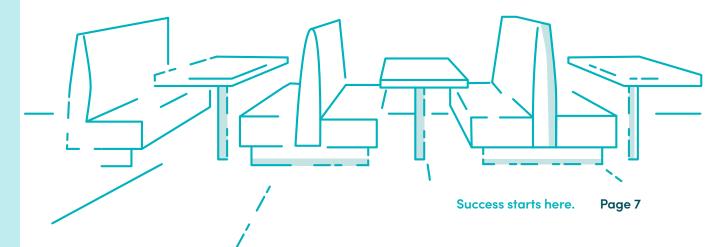
Make financing options available to your franchisees for a quick process that will ensure your restaurants get a new look ASAP.

When choosing a financial lender to work with, consider the following:

#### 1. Speed, ease, and flexibility

#### 2. Customer service

Do your homework. That means asking for references from happy franchisees or franchisors. Ask if there's a streamlined loan and approval process, and ensure the terms will work for a majority of your stores. Are they always available to help? Restaurant owners need to be focused on customers, not the financing process. Ensure that the lender you choose will handle most of the process so the franchisees can do what they do best: manage the business.



# Every small business is different.

The scenarios presented in this e-book are meant to simply be a starting point, since every business' needs are different. No matter your situation, your financial provider should be able to find the best solution for your own unique business. Consider every option available to you before making a final decision.

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#### **Remember:**

Financing may not be able to solve every small business obstacle, but we are convinced it can solve most.

### About CIT

CIT's Business Capital division empowers small, mid and large cap businesses by providing equipment financing solutions via technology-enabled platforms and market leading structuring expertise.

CIT is a leading national bank focused on empowering businesses and personal savers with the financial agility to navigate their goals. CIT Group Inc. (NYSE: CIT) is a financial holding company with over a century of experience, and operates a principal bank subsidiary, CIT Bank, N.A. (Member FDIC, Equal Housing Lender).





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