# VALUE BUILDER STORY: Broker Attracts Prospects with 70% Conversion Rate

### BACKGROUND

As the co-owner and CEO of Raincatcher, Marla DiCarlo, helps business owners prepare them for a successful sale. Raincatcher is a brokerage that provides consulting to businesses in the \$1M - 10M space. DiCarlo also helps buyers find healthy, profitable enterprises available on the market. This two-pronged approach has allowed Raincatcher to experience tremendous success in pairing businesses for sale with the perfect buyer. DiCarlo came to Raincatcher with over 28 years of experience in strategic planning & projecting, calculating valuations, forecasting and budgeting within the real estate and commercial development industries.

### **BUSINESS CHALLENGES**

With a steady flow of leads filtering through to Raincatcher in search of their services, DiCarlo's biggest challenge was finding an efficient way to qualify leads, and assess if they were a good fit for her services. DiCarlo quickly discovered that following up with leads on long phone calls was inefficient and time-consuming, and sought out a more effective approach. It was taking DiCarlo between 2 weeks to a month to determine if she was a good fit for that prospects requirements.

In addition, DiCarlo grew to empathize and understand how difficult selling a business is, and needed a tool to help better prepare owners for the sale. The biggest challenge DiCarlo identified was the inability of the business owner to objectively see their business' weaknesses and take action to correct them. With these challenges in mind, DiCarlo was on the lookout for a value building platform that enabled Raincatcher to become more efficient, and ultimately help business owners make a profitable and successful exit.



## ADVISOR: MARLA DICARLO

Type of Advisor: Business Broker Number of Professionals: 15 Number of Years Established: 6

### RESULTS



DiCarlo is able to convert **70%** of her leads with The Value Builder System™



DiCarlo has reduced he qualification process time from **15 days** to just **15 minutes**.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Building Credibility, Becoming the Trusted Advisor

**MONETIZING VALUE BUILDER VIA** Qualifying and Engagement

## WHY THE VALUE BUILDER SYSTEM™

With The Value Builder System<sup>™</sup>, DiCarlo and her team at Raincatcher have found the perfect complement to their business. With the help of a few key modules, Raincatcher had successfully tackled their previous challenges head on.

In the past, DiCarlo relied on time-consuming phone calls and interviews to qualify leads. With The Value Builder Questionnaire, DiCarlo cut the 15 to 30 day qualification period down to a 15 to 30-minute assessment and instantly generate a report on the strengths and weaknesses of the business. With the ability to qualify leads quickly and efficiently, Raincatcher has seen a 30% increase in lead conversion, with up to 70% of prospects turning into customers. The Value Builder Questionnaire has helped eliminate many hours of qualifying leads, increasing the amount of available billable hours.

Furthermore, with the questionnaire identifying specific areas of concern, DiCarlo can develop an actionable plan that works towards building value in the organization. By implementing The Value Builder System ™ at the onset with new clients, DiCarlo said, "it gives us the opportunity to look like heroes because we're giving them the opportunity to fix anything that's wrong with their business."

With each new Raincatcher client, DiCarlo leverages the PREScore™ (Personal Readiness to Exit Score) assessment to find out if business owners are prepared to exit. In describing the impact of this tool DiCarlo said, "We are given the opportunity to talk about what to do after selling their business. With owners whose identity is wrapped up in their business - we can have that conversation earlier in the sales process. It makes such a difference and something that every advisor should go through with their client to prepare them emotionally." Through the PREScore™, DiCarlo is able to establish trust with business owners right off the bat, and get them on a path to a successful exit.

As a consultant that also advises buyers, DiCarlo is often uniquely positioned to pair them with the most appropriate seller. Because DiCarlo has successfully helped businesses build value prior to listing, she has been able to help generate multiple offers from buyers thus driving the sale price even higher. When describing the impact on both buyers and sellers, DiCarlo said, "We use The Value Builder System™ to convey to buyers why certain businesses are exceptional and highlight strengths and weaknesses. This gives us the opportunity to be real from the beginning, helping us sell that business quicker and attract more buyers."

The team at Raincatcher also uses The Value Builder System <sup>™</sup> as a tool to increase brand awareness and network with influential individuals. When connecting with CPAs, attorneys and wealth planners, DiCarlo promotes The Value Builder Questionnaire and its ease of use to generate new referral leads, as well as a way to start building trust with prospects. The Value Builder System<sup>™</sup> has provided Raincatcher a new avenue to generate leads and boost credibility by being thought leaders in the value building space.

### RESULTS

The Value Builder System <sup>™</sup> has provided Raincatcher a trusted tool that has helped owners from the qualifying stage, all the way to the sale of their business. With the help of The Value Builder System <sup>™</sup> DiCarlo now has a constant flow of qualified leads in the pipeline, as well as a more efficient process for qualifying. In addition, by using the PREScore<sup>™</sup> DiCarlo is able to better prepare clients for a successful exit. With The Value Builder System <sup>™</sup>, DiCarlo and her team at Raincatcher know they can rely on its repeatable and scalable methodology as the business continues to grow.



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