CONTRACTS (Keys to a Successful Project)

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What is a Contract?

A Contract is

 A legally binding agreement between the parties that identifies the rights and obligations of each.

Keys to Negotiating a Contract

It's All in Who You Know

- Know the Players
- Know the Requirements
- Know the Goal
- Know the Contract

The Players

- The Business Owner
- The Vendor
- The Project Manager
- The Lawyers

The Roles (According to the Lawyer)

The Business Owner

- Identify the Company Need
- Identify the Company Requirements
- Identify the Product
- Identify the Vendor
- Participate in Contract Process

The Vendor

To Make the Deal

The Project Manager

- Facilitate the Transaction
- Control the Parties
- Act as Intermediary
- Keep the Parties on Track
- Participate in Contract Process

The Lawyer

- Review the Agreement for Legal Terms
- Facilitate the Transaction
- Participate in Negotiations

Tips for Dealing with Lawyers

Give as much lead time as possible

Communicate your expectations

Communicate the needs of the company

The Requirements and The Goal

Identification of Company Needs

Identification of Potential Solutions

Due Diligence (Product and Vendor)

Selection of Product and Vendor

Contract Review

- READ the Contract
 - -Verify products, services and terms
 - -Identify business issues
 - Prepare list of matters to be negotiated

Parties

- Description of Product/Service
 - -Detail Required Functionality/Results
 - –Product Documentation/ Statements of Work

- Professional Services Special Considerations
 - Description of Work and Deliverables
 - Project Timetable and Milestones
 - Progress Meetings
 - Project Manager
 - Roles and Responsibilities
 - Assumptions
 - Acceptance Standards

- Permitted Uses
 - Scope of Use
 - # of users, geographic location, restricted entities
 - Use by Affiliates
 - Disaster Recovery Requirements

- Pricing
 - -Payment Terms
 - -Long Term Pricing Commitments
 - Caps on Increases
 - -Fixed vs. Time and Materials

- Term
 - Short vs. Long Term
 - Automatic Renewal Provisions

- Termination Rights
 - For Cause
 - Notice and Right to Cure
 - For Convenience

- Acceptance
 - Standards
 - Occurs When
 - Delivery
 - Date of Service
 - Live Production
 - Specified Event or Time
 - Result of Acceptance

- Warranties
 - What is a warranty?
- Remedies
 - Repair/Replacement/Reperformance
 - Cost of Replacement
 - Cost of Third Party Repairs
 - Refund
 - Cost of Obtaining New Product

- Warranties
 - -Services
 - Workmanlike Manner
 - Best Practices
 - Training and Skilled Personnel
 - Conforms to Specifications/Statement of Work

- Warranties
 - -Products
 - Performance
 - Specifications
 - -Fitness for a Particular Purpose
 - Merchantability
 - Title

- Warranties
 - Software/Licenses
 - Operation According to Specifications
 - Title
 - Compatibility
 - Media
 - Illicit Code
 - Most Favored Customer Status
 - Regulatory Compliance

- Disclaimer of Warranties
 - Error Free Operation
 - Implied Warranties
 - Merchantability
 - Fitness for a Particular Purpose
 - Noninfringement

- Indemnification
 - Intellectual Property
 - Bodily Injury and Property Damage
 - Claims by Vendor Employees
 - Violations of Applicable Law

- Limitation of Liability
 - Determining the Amount of the Limit
 - Fees Paid
 - Depreciated Amount
 - Fixed Amount
 - Vendor's Insurance Coverage
 - Disclaimer of Consequential Damages

- Maintenance and Support
 - Types of Support
 - Onsite
 - Telephone
 - Remote Access

Hours of Support

- Maintenance and Support
 - Service Levels
 - Reporting and Severity Levels
 - Response and Repair Time
 - Escalation Procedures
 - Availability Guarantees
 - Processing Deadlines
 - Processing Errors

- Maintenance and Support
 - Remedies
 - Credits, Refunds, Termination Rights
 - Versions, Releases, Upgrades and Updates
 - Exclusions from Coverage

- Maintenance and Support
 - -Controlling Maintenance Costs
 - Fixed Pricing
 - Caps on Increases
 - Set Professional Services Fees

- Confidentiality and NonDisclosure
 - -Proprietary Information
 - -Customer Information
 - -Security

A Good Contract is the Result of Time and Effort by All Parties.