

Working With the Audit Committee: How CFOs Can Win Over Their Toughest Audience

By Arun Dhingra

A strong relationship between a public company's chief financial officer and its audit committee is critical if the board is to provide appropriate risk management and compliance oversight. But that relationship is also an unparalleled opportunity for the CFO to refine his or her communications competencies and gain experience achieving a comfort level with executives at

of particular importance. Having a solid relationship with the audit committee gives you another avenue to do so—as well as a source of additional insight into the other side of the argument.

Many chief financial officers understandably consider their interaction with the audit committee to be one of the most challenging parts of their job. But it's designed to be so. The CFO who embraces this fact will find the relationship highly rewarding while also making a considerable contribution to the organization's governance. It will also make the CFO a better mentor should he or she one day end up sitting in an audit committee chair's seat.

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