

Equinox Global Inc

ATFA Seminar - Doing Business in the UK March 2018



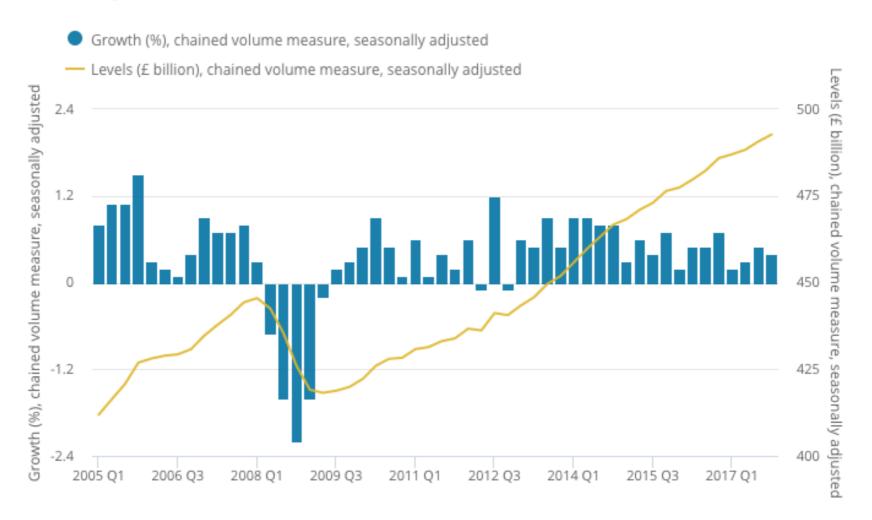
Doing Business in the UK - Overview

- Brexit
- Economic Growth
- Insolvency Statistics
- Sectors of Concern
- Types of Insolvency
- Types of Company
- Sources for Company/Financial Information
- Red Flags

Brexit

- UK voted to leave the EU on June 23rd 2016
- Article 50 was triggered on March 30th 2017, giving the country 2 years to negotiate an exit
- Access to the EU is based upon four fundamental freedoms; The freedom of movement of goods, services, capital and people. Access to the EU is subject to a contribution to the EU budget and allowing the EU to set laws in the UK
- The FT sets out 6 potential Brexit scenarios:
 - No deal
 - A divorce only agreement
 - Limited tariff-free trade
 - Far-ranging trade deal
 - Customs Union
 - Single Market

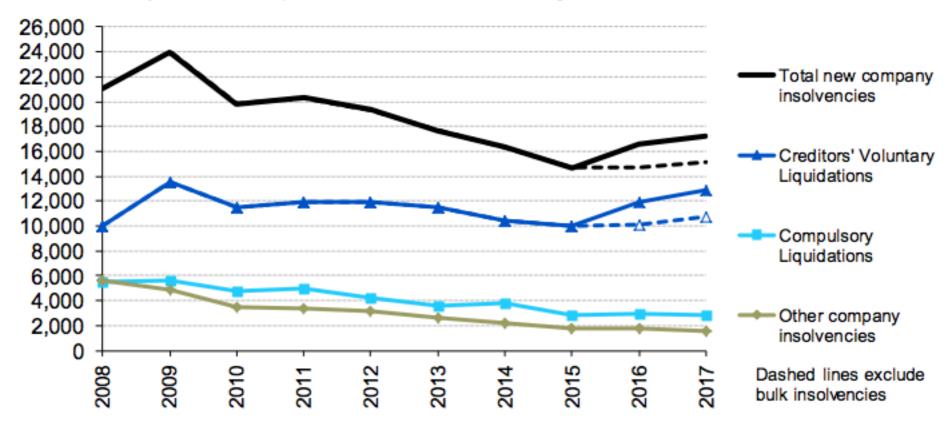
Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2005 to Quarter 4 (Oct to Dec) 2017



Source: Office for National Statistics

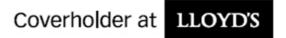
Figure 1: Company insolvencies in England and Wales (annual data)

Source: Insolvency Service and Companies House. Excludes CVLs following administration.



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Sectors of Concern



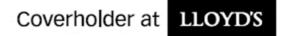
Construction

- A number of large failures
- Fixed Price Contracts
- Rising Costs
- Order books hit by Brexit uncertainty
- Large failures: Carillion,

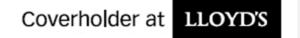
Retail

- Structural change hitting traditional high street retailers
- Consumer confidence hit by Brexit
- Failures: Maplin, Toys R Us, Palmer & Harvey

Types of Insolvency

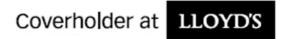


- Corporate Voluntary Arrangement (CVA, aka "pre-pack")
- Corporate Voluntary Liquidation (CVL)
- Administration equivalent to Chapter 11



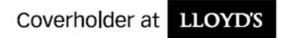
Type of Company	Size	Liability?	Financial Disclosure
Sole Trader/Partnership	Small	Unlimited	None
Joint Venture	Depends	Limited	None
Private Limited Company	Medium Sized	Limited	Annual Financials
Public Limited Company	Large	Limited	Half Yearly Financials

What to look for in financial statements



- Auditors Statement clean/qualified
- Going Concern Statement
- Performance Overview
- Groups/Links towards the end

Sources for Company information



- Companies House: Webcheck: http://wck2.companieshouse.gov.uk/
- Companies House: Database of company info: https://beta.companieshouse.gov.uk/
- Company Watch, Experian, BvD (paid)
- Investegate: Listed company announcements and financials (Equivalent of the SEC)

- County Court Judgements (CCJ's)
- Previous CVA's
- Upcoming refinancing

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