

# The \$5 Billion CBIZ Take-Private — A Full LBO Reconstruction

Project overview — a 2-minute read before you open the full Excel model

|               |                  |                 |       |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|-------|
| OFFER / SHARE | ENTERPRISE VALUE | SPONSOR-NET IRR | MOIC  |
| \$55.00       | \$5.0bn          | 17.3%           | 1.91x |

## The project, in brief

On July 28th, Grant Thornton Advisors — backed by New Mountain Capital — agreed to take CBIZ, Inc. (NYSE: CBZ) private for \$55.00 a share, \$5.0 billion of enterprise value: the largest going-private transaction the accounting profession has seen in a generation. This project rebuilds the deal as a full sponsor LBO, entirely from CBIZ's public filings, holding the announced price fixed and building everything downstream of it — financing, operating case, debt paydown, exit, and exactly where the return comes from.

## What it does

- Entry bridge from the announced \$5.0bn EV to a reconciled, fully-diluted share count
- Bottom-up financing structure (5.5x EBITDA leverage) checked against the \$5.2bn actually committed
- A leverage-based cash sweep and a \$163(j) interest-deduction cap — not a flat, simplified debt schedule
- A value-creation bridge: 76% of the return from EBITDA growth, 40% from deleveraging, ~0% from multiple expansion
- A sensitivity table across exit multiple and exit-year EBITDA

EXHIBIT 1 · ENTRY

Transaction Summary & Entry Valuation

CBIZ, Inc. (NYSE: CBZ) — take-private by Grant Thornton Advisors / New Mountain Capital - all-cash, \$55.00/share, announced 28 Jul 2026

| OFFER / SHARE | ENTERPRISE VALUE    | PREMIUM / 30D VWAP | EV / FY25 EBITDA  |
|---------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| \$55.00       | \$5.0 <sub>bn</sub> | 54.0%              | 11.2 <sub>x</sub> |

| TRANSACTION TERMS                                       |                       | IMPLIED ENTRY MULTIPLES             |         |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Consideration / structure                               | All-cash take-private | EV / FY2025 revenue                 | 1.8x    |
| Committed financing to Parent                           | \$5,200.0M            | EV / FY2025 Adj. EBITDA             | 11.2x   |
| Company termination fee                                 | \$107.5M              | EV / FY2025 GAAP operating income   | 21.4x   |
| Go-shop period ends                                     | 27 Aug 2026           | PREMIUM ANALYSIS                    |         |
| Expected close                                          | Q4 2026               | Premium to 30-day VWAP              | 54.0%   |
| ENTRY VALUATION BRIDGE                                  |                       | Premium to last close               | 17.6%   |
| Announced enterprise value                              | \$5,000.0M            | Implied undisturbed 30-day VWAP     | \$35.71 |
| Less: net debt (gross debt – unrestricted cash)         | (\$1,454.1M)          | Implied last close                  | \$46.69 |
| = Implied equity value                                  | \$3,545.9M            | FINANCING SNAPSHOT                  |         |
| + Offer price per share                                 | \$55.00               | Entry leverage (x FY25 Adj. EBITDA) | 5.5x    |
| = Implied fully diluted shares                          | 64.47M                | Sponsor equity % of capitalization  | 52.3%   |
| Memo: equity value at \$0.07M basic shares (10-K cover) | \$2,753.0M            |                                     |         |
| Memo: equity value at \$4.38M balance-sheet shares      | \$2,999.9M            |                                     |         |

Source: DeViviel LBO #1 - CBIZ\_LBO\_Transaction\_Data.xlsx

US\$ in millions unless noted - as announced (prior per Merger 8-K / DEF144A (20-29 Jul 2026))

Exhibit 1 — the transaction summary: entry valuation, EV-to-equity bridge, and implied entry multiples.

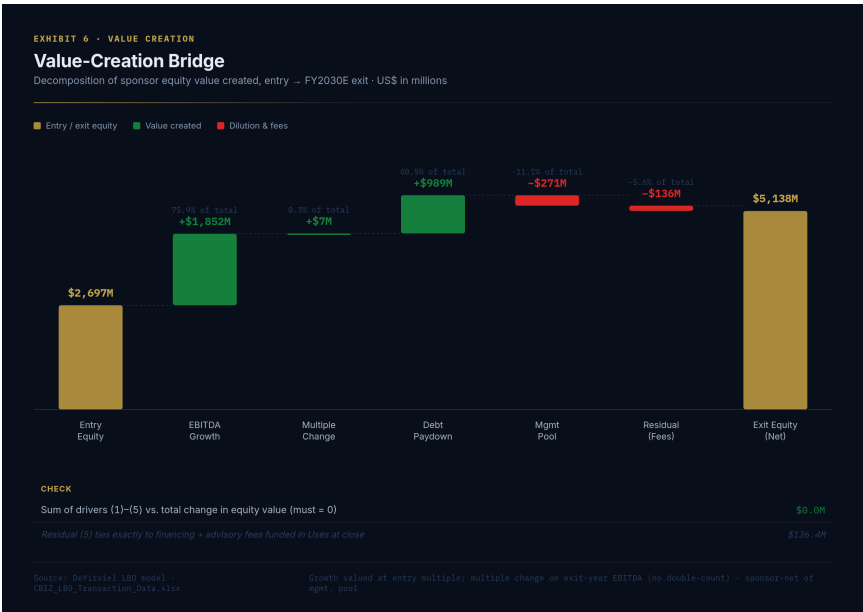


Exhibit 6 — the value-creation bridge: where the sponsor's equity return actually comes from.

What I found

Base case: 1.91x MOIC, 17.3% sponsor-net IRR over a 4.05-year hold — below the ~20-25% most sponsors underwrite to on a new platform. Closing that gap needs roughly one turn of exit-multiple expansion, faster margin capture than modeled, or the CBIZ Benefits & Insurance carve-out that's part of the real deal but isn't modeled here at all — the single biggest gap between this reconstruction and the actual transaction.

**Want the full detail?** The complete seven-exhibit Excel LBO model — every financing, operating, and exit assumption fully documented — is downloadable below, on the project page.

Sources: CBIZ Form 10-K (FY2025), the merger 8-K (July 28, 2026), and the DEFA14A (July 29, 2026), via SEC EDGAR.