WORKING CAPITAL MANAGEMENT



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Working Capital :- Meaning

- Working capital means the firm's holding of current or short-term assets such as cash, receivables, inventory and marketable securities.
- These items are also referred to as circulating capital
- Corporate executives devote a considerable amount of attention to the management of working capital.

Working capital management

Working capital management is concerned with the problems that arise in attempting to manage the current assets, the current liabilities and the interrelations that exist between them.

There are two possible interpretations of working capital concept:

- 1. Balance sheet concept
- 2. Operating cycle concept

Balance sheet concept

There are two interpretations of working capital under the balance sheet concept.

- Excess of current assets over current liabilities
- gross or total current asset

Current assets

Current assets refer to those assets which in the ordinary course of business can be, or will be, converted into cash within one year without undergoing a diminution in value and without disrupting the operations of the firm.

Examples- cash, marketable securities, accounts receivable and inventory.

Current liabilities

Current liabilities are those liabilities which are intended, at their inception, to be paid in the ordinary course of business, within a year, out of the current assets or the earnings of the concern.

Examples- accounts payable, bills payable, bank overdraft and outstanding expenses.



1. Gross working capital (GWC)

GWC refers to the firm's total investment in current assets.

Current assets are the assets which can be converted into cash within an accounting year (or operating cycle) and include cash, short-term securities, debtors, (accounts receivable or book debts) bills receivable and stock (inventory).

Net working capital (NWC)

- NWC refers to the difference between current assets and current liabilities.
- Current liabilities (CL) are those claims of outsiders which are expected to mature for payment within an accounting year and include creditors (accounts payable), bills payable, and outstanding expenses.
- NWC can be positive or negative.
 - Positive NWC = CA > CL
 - Negative NWC = CA < CL

• GWC focuses on

- Optimisation of investment in current
- Financing of current assets

NWC focuses onLiquidity position of the firm

Permanent And Variable Working Capital

• Permanent or fixed working capital

A minimum level of current assets, which is continuously required by a firm to carry on its business operations, is referred to as permanent or fixed working capital.

• Fluctuating or variable working capital

The extra working capital needed to support the changing production and sales activities of the firm is referred to as fluctuating or variable working capital.



Permanent and temporary working capital

Operating Cycle

Operating cycle is the time duration required to convert sales, after the conversion of resources into inventories, into cash. The operating cycle of a manufacturing company involves three phases:

- Acquisition of resources such as raw material, labour, power and fuel etc.
- *Manufacture of the product* which includes conversion of raw material into work-in-progress into finished goods.
- Sale of the product either for cash or on credit. Credit sales create account receivable for collection.

Working Capital Cycle.



How to compute operating cycle

- RMCP Raw material Conversion Period
- WIPCP Work in progress conversion period
- FGCP Finished goods conversion period
- RCP Receivables Conversion period

Gross Operating Cycle = RMCP + WICP + FGCP + RCP

Importance or advantages of adequate working capital

- 1. Solvency of business
- 2. Goodwill
- 3. Easy loans
- 4. Cash discounts
- 5. Regular supply of raw materials
- 6. Regular payment of salaries, wages and other day to day expense
- 7. Ability face crisis

Dis-advantages of redundant or excessive WC

- Idle funds earns no profit
- Leads to unnecessary purchase
- Implies Excessive debtors and defective credit policy
- Leads to overall inefficiency of the firm
- Bad relationship with bank and financial inst.

Dis advantages of Inadequate WC

- Cannot pay short term obligations in time
- Loose of goodwill
- Cannot avail discounts and other benefits (Economies of scale)
- Difficult for the firm to exploit favorable market condition
- Rate of return on investment fall with the shortage of working capital
- Difficult to pay day to day expenses of operations

Determinants of Working Capital Requirement

- 1. Nature or Character of business
- 2. Size of the business and scale of operation
- 3. Production policy
- 4. Seasonal variation
- 5. Credit policy

Estimation of Working Capital

Total approach

• All expenses and profit margin are included

Cash cost approach

 Only cash expenses(excluding depreciation) are included

Working capital financing

SHORT TERM:

- 1. Factoring
- 2. Invoice discounts
- 3. Bank overdraft
- **4**. Commercial papers
- 5. Trade finance
- 6. Letter of credit

Contd...

LONG TERM:

- 1. Equity capital
- 2. loans

THANKYOU