# **Earnouts – A Mock Negotiation**

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## **Facts pattern/positions**

- Buyer is negotiating the acquisition of a privately held tech company ("TechCo" or the "company") by means of a cash purchase of all of TechCo's outstanding equity from TechCo's shareholders ("Sellers").
- After closing, TechCo will operate as Buyer's wholly owned subsidiary, and TechCo's current senior management team (all of whom are current TechCo shareholders) will continue to hold TechCo management positions.
- Sellers believe TechCo's equity value is \$300M, based largely on TechCo's rosy 2-year cash-flow projections. Buyer is skeptical and believes TechCo's true equity value is closer to just \$200M.





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