

JEFF WOODING

Managing Director

Operating Partner | Interim CFO

20+

Years as a PE operating partner, lender-side advisor, C-Suite executive, board member & advisor

All Sizes

Advisor to >\$5bn public companies down to ~\$100m revenue sponsor-backed portfolio companies

Hands On

Focused on durable operational turnaround — not balance-sheet band-aids

Results

Multiple successful turnarounds and exits delivered for lenders and sponsors

BACKGROUND

Mr. Wooding is a Managing Director at Arête Partners, a special situations advisory firm providing independent fiduciary services with a strong bias to action and tangible value creation in rapidly evolving distressed situations. He focuses on how companies actually operate behind the numbers — building credible, executable plans that stakeholders buy into.

Over 20 years as a private equity operating partner, C-Suite executive, independent board member, and strategic advisor, Mr. Wooding has built a proven track record of identifying, managing, and implementing the operational and financial solutions that foster long-term strategic improvement and maximize value. He has worked across consumer products, retail, fleet management, gaming, and manufacturing, advising businesses ranging from public companies with more than \$5 billion in revenue to sponsor-backed portfolio companies near \$100 million. He has sat on both sides of the table, working with the decision makers of boards, management, equity owners, and lenders.

Mr. Wooding brings deep operational expertise in sales and operations planning (S&OP) development, inventory management, liquidity forecasting, cost-out programs, and revenue optimization. He has been involved in all aspects of the business lifecycle — growth, reinvention, and distress — formulating and executing strategic business plans, leading operational and financial turnarounds, strengthening cash and working capital, and managing the return to sustainable performance. His emphasis is on durable operational improvement rather than balance-sheet band-aids.

As a private equity operating partner, Mr. Wooding has partnered with sponsors and management teams across the portfolio lifecycle — from both buy- and sell-side M&A diligence and value-creation planning through operational execution and exit.

As an interim CFO and senior executive, he has stepped into companies under pressure to stabilize finances, install rigor around forecasting and reporting, and rebuild the operating cadence required to deliver results.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Operational Turnaround & Value Creation — Focuses on how companies really operate behind the numbers, driving sustainable operational improvement across consumer products, retail, fleet management, gaming, and manufacturing.

Interim CFO & C-Suite Leadership — Stabilizes companies under pressure as interim CFO and senior executive, installing financial rigor, reporting discipline, and an operating cadence that stakeholders can trust.

S&OP, Inventory & Liquidity — Deep expertise in sales and operations planning (S&OP) development, inventory management, and liquidity forecasting, aligning demand, supply, and cash to protect and create value.

Cost-Out & Revenue Optimization — Identifies and executes cost-out initiatives and revenue optimization programs that expand margins and accelerate the path to a successful turnaround.

Board & Advisory Leadership — Serves as chairman, independent director, and strategic advisor, partnering with sponsors, lenders, and management to assess and execute complex business transformation plans.



E: jwooding@aretepartners.com
P: 908.672.9640

NOTABLE ENGAGEMENTS

Party City	Financial Advisor (NYSE)	Affinity Interactive	Board Member, Interim CFO
Twin Star International	Executive Chairman, Interim CFO	VENUplus	Board Member, Financial Advisor
Eppinger Technologies	Board Member, Interim CFO	Xperience Restaurant Group	Board Member, Interim CFO
Unimed Maritime Solutions	Board Member, Financial Advisor	Apex Hospitality	Interim CFO
R.G. Barry Corporation	Financial Advisor	Avaya	Financial Advisor (NYSE)
Windstream Holdings	Financial Advisor to UCC	The Chemours Company	Financial Advisor (NYSE)
Forever 21	Financial Advisor to UCC		



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