

The Business of Preservation: Financial & Operational Resilience

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Session Objectives

- Understand financial pressures in preservation services
- Explore reimbursement and cost management strategies
- Learn from peer experiences and case studies
- Identify best practices for scalability and resilience

Market Challenges

- Inconsistent volumes
- Rising material, insurance, technology, and labor costs
- Delayed reimbursements and cash flow issues
- Increased compliance and documentation demands
- Pressure to maintain quality and turnaround times

Case Study #1 – Large-Scale Project

Scenario: Managing a multi-state preservation contract under weather and cost constraints

Lessons Learned:

- Pre-plan logistics and materials
- Communicate scope changes early
- Document everything for client confidence

Case Study #2 – Reimbursement Challenge

Scenario: Payment delays creating cash flow strain

Lessons Learned:

- Use data to verify completion and quality
- Implement digital audit-ready records
- Maintain transparent communication with servicers
- Using current skills sets to diversify

Group Activity

- Goal: Identify practical strategies for financial & operational resilience, highlight innovative and scalable solutions, & build collective best practices for the industry

Topics:

- Managing costs and margins
- Improving reimbursement processes
- Scaling while maintaining quality
- Diversification opportunities

Strategies for Resilience

- Forecast and monitor costs consistently
- Diversify service lines (rentals, REO, commercial)
- Optimize vendor networks and partnerships
- Invest in the right technology and documentation tools

Key Takeaways

- Profitability requires adaptability
- Transparency builds client trust
- The right technology enhances operational resilience, the wrong technology depletes resources that could be used to otherwise diversify and/or scale
- Collaboration drives continuous improvement
- “Resilience isn’t about surviving change — it’s about leveraging it.”