

# First Hirings Drive Cybersecurity Consulting Firm's Growth

#### Founder Profile

- Early 40s
- Stage: growing the business
- Left corporate to be own boss
  (5 years ago)
- Steady flow of enterprise cybersecurity clients
- Goal: "Really need to expand"





#### Founder Doing Right

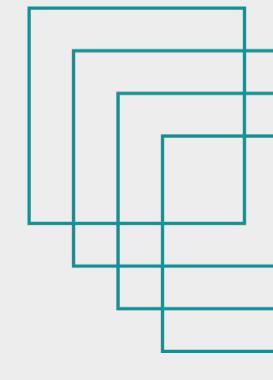
- Maintains subject matter expertise
- Highest levels of certification in field
- Professional and customer-focused
- Thought leadership through consistent content production on LinkedIn
- Aware of own business growth limitations



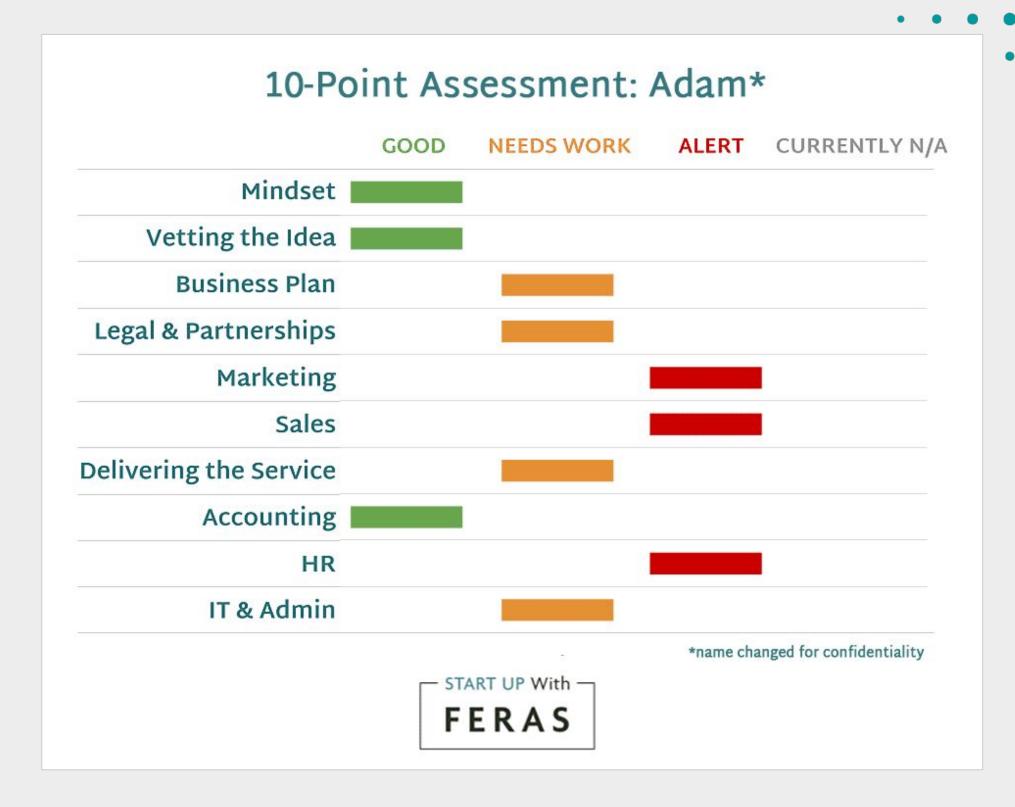


### Key Challenges

- Earning well but wants more
- Needs to expand audience or offerings
- Continue to bootstrap or get investment
- Hire for delivery while focusing on sales and marketing
- Unsure of compensation/equity for early hires



#### Assessment



#### **Execution & Solutions**

 Assessed revenue sources and identified opportunities to improve the retainer model and to upsell

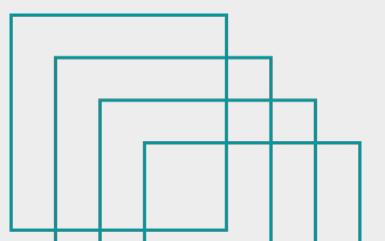
- Scaling: planned transition from solopreneurship by identifying job requirements, onboarding, and cross-training documentation for first 2 hires
- Ensured legal templates for hiring and client contracts are in place and in use
- Developed a creative employee award plan ensuring early hires are well compensated with base salary and profit sharing while preserving founder equity



#### Results Delivered

- Established process for planned vs. actual monthly sales review (segmented by existing vs. new clients) to improve outreach effectiveness
- Finalized hiring plan to support sales/growth plan
- Successful onboarding of 1st hire
- Start to finish: 6 months





#### Founder

"I really appreciated the advice Feras provided during this stage of my business growth. After each weekly session, I had clear next steps that enabled me to make changes and real progress. His availability for important or time-sensitive matters made a big difference - I always felt supported when it counted most."

#### Feras Alhlou

"This founder was doing all the right things for growth, but without the right structure, he was running the risk of burnout. Together, we created a system that supports the vision, the team, and the next stage of business growth."



## Thank You



StartUpWithFeras.com YouTube.com/@StartUpWithFeras