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H PARTNERS AND SIX FLAGS

INTRODUCTION

The H Partners and Six Flags case demonstrates the working of corporate governance mechanisms, activist investing and management and operational management in the scenario of a struggling entertainment firm. Another famous case of the financial crisis at Six Flags, a large operator of the theme parks that led to the involvement of the H Partners activist hedge fund.

BACKGROUND

Six Flags experienced some major troubles in its financial performance, increased debt levels, the problem with revenues, and problems with operating expenses. The company got deeper into debt, and the bankruptcy laws were invoked by the company in 2009 under Chapter II. H Partners, seeing an opportunity to get themselves a company in distress, bought a significant interest in the firm. This was the start of a lengthy process of transition for Six Flags as an organizational investment.

H PARTNERS' ACTIVIST APPROACH

H Partners did this by coming up with strategies of massive changes in the management and operations of Six Flags. Management at the hedge fund had concluded that the existing leadership was quite incapable of charting the company a brand new course out of the financial mess it found itself in. H Partners was therefore instrumental in the change of the CEO and the company's board of directors.

CONCLUSION

H Partners and Six Flags is one of the most compelling examples that illustrate how hedge funds may effectively engage in the change of companies' management and achieve value recovery for troubled firms. The case reveals that for business recovery interventions should be strategic, leaders should be strong, and operations should be focused.

RECOMMENDATION

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