

Statement of Cash Flows

Accounting & Finance

The three sections, and why operating cash flow matters most.

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The sections

Operating — from trading activity

Investing — buying and selling assets

Financing — debt and equity movements

Net change reconciles opening to closing cash

Reading it

Positive operating cash flow is essential

Negative investing may mean healthy growth

Financing inflows may mean dependency

Compare operating cash flow to profit

If profit is consistently far above operating cash flow, ask why. It often signals aggressive revenue recognition.