3 Statement Linking

Breakdown of how the three core financial statements is linked, highlighting the key points: 1. Income Statement to Balance Sheet

- Net Income:
 - Key Point: Net Income from the Income Statement is the primary link.
 - **Connection:** Net income flows into the equity section of the Balance Sheet as part of **Retained Earnings**.
 - **Impact**: If a company earns a profit, retained earnings increase; if it incurs a loss, retained earnings decrease.
- Depreciation & Amortization:
 - **Key Point:** These are non-cash expenses recorded on the Income Statement.
 - **Connection**: They reduce the value of **Fixed Assets** on the Balance Sheet (e.g., Property, Plant & Equipment).
 - Impact: This reduction represents the wear and tear or usage of long-term assets over time.
- Interest Expense:
 - **Key Point:** Interest expense affects both the Income Statement and the Balance Sheet.
 - **Connection**: Interest expense is recorded on the Income Statement, and the corresponding interest payable is recorded as a **Liability** on the Balance Sheet.
 - **Impact:** Interest payments reduce net income, impacting retained earnings and increasing liabilities.
- Dividends:
 - Key Point: Dividends are distributions to shareholders.
 - **Connection:** Dividends declared reduce **Retained Earnings** on the Balance Sheet.
 - **Impact:** While dividends do not appear on the Income Statement, they reduce equity on the Balance Sheet.

2. Balance Sheet to Cash Flow Statement

- Operating Activities:
 - Key Point: The changes in working capital items are critical here.
 - Connection: Current Assets (like Accounts Receivable, Inventory) and Current Liabilities (like Accounts Payable) on the Balance Sheet impact the Cash Flow from Operating Activities.

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- **Impact**: An increase in Accounts Receivable decreases cash flow; an increase in Accounts Payable increases cash flow.
- Investing Activities:
 - Key Point: This section deals with changes in long-term assets.
 - **Connection:** Purchases or sales of **Long-Term Assets** (like property or equipment) on the Balance Sheet are reflected in the **Investing Activities** section of the Cash Flow Statement.
 - **Impact:** Capital expenditures decrease cash flow; proceeds from the sale of assets increase cash flow.
- Financing Activities:
 - Key Point: This involves changes in debt and equity.
 - **Connection: Long-Term Liabilities** (like loans) and **Equity** (like issuing shares) on the Balance Sheet affect the **Financing Activities** section of the Cash Flow Statement.
 - **Impact**: Borrowing funds increases cash flow; repaying loans or paying dividends decreases cash flow.

3. Cash Flow Statement to Balance Sheet

- Ending Cash Balance:
 - Key Point: This is the final result of the Cash Flow Statement.
 - **Connection:** The **Ending Cash Balance** from the Cash Flow Statement becomes the **Cash** line item on the Balance Sheet.
 - **Impact:** This balance represents the company's liquidity at the end of the period.
- Net Income:
 - **Key Point:** Net income is the starting point for cash flow from operations.
 - **Connection:** It begins with net income from the Income Statement and adjusts for non-cash items (like depreciation) and changes in working capital.
 - **Impact:** This adjustment shows the cash-generating capability of the company's operations.
- Depreciation:
 - Key Point: This is a non-cash expense.
 - **Connection:** Depreciation is added back to net income on the Cash Flow Statement since it doesn't affect cash, even though it reduces the book value of assets on the Balance Sheet.
 - **Impact**: It helps reconcile the non-cash impact on the Income Statement with the cash movements shown on the Cash Flow Statement.

Summary of the Flow:

- 1. Income Statement:
 - Key Link: Net Income → Retained Earnings (Balance Sheet) & Starting Point for Cash Flow from Operations (Cash Flow Statement).

2. Balance Sheet:

- Key Link: Changes in Assets/Liabilities → Operating, Investing, Financing Activities (Cash Flow Statement).
- Key Link: Cash Balance \rightarrow Ending Cash on Balance Sheet.

3. Cash Flow Statement:

- Key Link: Ending Cash Balance \rightarrow Cash (Balance Sheet).
- Key Link: Non-cash expenses like Depreciation \rightarrow Adjustments in Cash Flow.