RPCL

Robert Palazzini
Private markets operations & technology

STRATEGIC GUIDE

A Strategic Guide to Using Claude for Private Equity Operations

Why private equity managers are building their own operations platforms around their accounting systems, what those platforms do, and how to get started.

FOR
CEOs, COOs, CFOs & boards

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AUTHOR
Robert Palazzini

WEB
robertpalazzini.com

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TWO GUIDES, TWO AUDIENCES

This Strategic Guide is written for leadership teams and boards. Its companion, the **Technical Implementation Toolkit**, is written for CTOs, engineering leads and the teams who will build the platform.

01

Executive summary

Private equity managers have invested heavily in their core accounting systems. Those accounting systems, whether run in-house or by an administrator, do the accounting well: they hold the funds, the investors, the transactions and the capital accounts, and they produce the numbers the firm reports. That investment is sound, and it should stay at the centre of the business.

But a great deal of the work that runs a private equity firm happens outside those systems. Capital calls are tracked in spreadsheets. Investor onboarding lives in inboxes and checklists. Portfolio companies send their results as PDFs and Excel files that someone re-keys. Board and investor reporting is assembled by hand each quarter. Approvals travel by email. Much of the firm's operational knowledge sits with a few experienced people.

This guide explains how a manager can close that gap with a platform of its own, built with Claude and run inside its existing Microsoft environment. The platform does not replace the accounting system. It sits alongside it, brings together the information and processes that currently live around it, and gives the firm one governed place to see, manage and act on them.

01
Analytics platform
One consistent view of funds, portfolio and investors, drawn from every source and traceable to it.

02
Customisable analytics
Views built around your own metrics and audiences, on the same governed definitions.

03
Document extraction
AI in your own environment reads reports and statements, with every value checked.

04
KPI and data analysis
Portfolio KPIs collected consistently, tracked over time and flagged against thresholds.

05
Process and workflow
Capital calls, onboarding and reporting cycles with owners, deadlines and an audit trail.

+
Your accounting system
Stays the book of record. The platform reads from it and reconciles to it.

What leadership gains

- **One version of the truth.** Fund, portfolio and investor information comes together in one place, reconciled to the accounting system, so the numbers agree wherever they appear.
- **Visibility and control.** Processes that were invisible in email and spreadsheets gain a status, an owner and an audit trail.
- **Resilience.** Knowledge that sat with individuals is built into the platform, so the firm depends less on key people.

02

The operations gap

Every private equity manager has a book of record: the accounting system that holds the authoritative view of funds, investors, commitments, transactions and valuations. Whether it is run in-house or by an external administrator, it is designed to do one thing very well: keep accurate books.

What it is not designed to do is run everything else.

Where the work actually happens

Look at how a typical quarter unfolds, and much of the effort sits outside the accounting system:

- **Capital calls and distributions** are planned in spreadsheets, approved by email, and tracked against investor receipts by hand.
- **Investor onboarding** moves through document requests, checks and sign-offs held in inboxes, shared folders and personal checklists.
- **Portfolio reporting** arrives as board packs, management accounts and valuation reports in PDF and Excel, and someone copies the figures into a model.
- **KPI collection** depends on templates emailed to portfolio companies, chased, and consolidated manually.
- **Board, committee and investor reporting** is assembled each quarter from several sources, checked, and rebuilt when something changes.
- **Questions from investors and the investment team** are answered by whoever knows where the data is.