

# INTERIM RESULTS

6 months to 30 September 2023

Thomas Willcocks Chief Executive Officer

James Eyre Chief Financial Officer

16 November 2023



## HIGHLIGHTS

# Robust performance reflecting the strength and positioning of our market leading brands

- UK outperformance driven by Triton and Merlyn brands
- SA continues to grow share despite headwinds
- NPD, service and cross-selling driving organic market share growth
- Excellent cash generation and low leverage
- Interim dividend of 3.4p per share
- Full year underlying operating profit expected to be in line with market expectations<sup>2</sup>
- Good progress in refinement and execution of strategic priorities

Revenue<sup>1</sup> £201.6m -4.1%

 $\frac{\text{Underlying Operating Profit}}{\pounds 21.4m} - 2.7\%$ 

Net Debt £46.6M

Underlying ROCE% 17.3%

Diluted Underlying EPS

Interim Dividend per Share 3.4p

1. Like for like revenues at constant currency adjusted for Grant Westfield (acquired 31 May 2022) and Norcros Adhesives

2. Norcros compiled market consensus for the year to 31 March 2024, as at 16 November 2023, is for an underlying operating profit of £43.4m

# UK RECORD PERFORMANCE; SA ENERGY IMPACT





# Revenue £143.9m -0.8%1

Underlying Operating Profit

Underlying Operating Profit Margin

Revenue £57.7m -11.0%<sup>1</sup>

Underlying Operating Profit

Underlying Operating Profit Margin 4.7%

- Outperformance from Triton and Merlyn brands
- NPD and service levels drive share gains
- Group collaboration driving sales and cost synergies
- Record underlying operating profit for period
- Adhesives closure, Johnson's capacity reduction<sup>2</sup>

• Outperformance from TAL adhesives

**South Africa** 

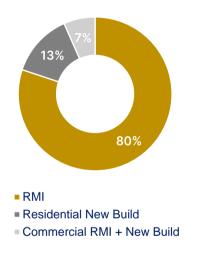
- Energy supply challenges materially impacted demand
- Strong brands and financial strength driving share growth
- Experienced management team
- Operational and market share focus in challenging market



- 1. Like for like revenues at constant currency adjusted for Grant Westfield (acquired 31 May 2022) and Norcros Adhesives
- 2. An exceptional cost of £1.4m was recognised in the period in relation to the costs associated with a reduction in capacity at Johnson Tiles (UK). The prior year includes Adhesives closure costs (gross cash cost of c.£2m, net nil cash cost)

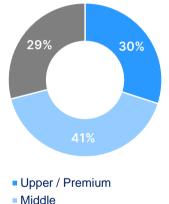
## MORE RESILIENT, MID-TO-PREMIUM, RMI MARKET

## UK Bathroom Products Market RMI / New Build / Commercial Share<sup>1</sup>



- RMI main driver of bathroom and kitchen market
- New build headwinds, but strong underlying medium-term growth drivers

## UK Bathroom Products Market Quality / Price Point<sup>1</sup>



- Economy
- Norcros market leading brands positioned in more resilient mid-to-premium segments
- Norcros branded products differentiated from building sector commodities

# FINANCIAL REVIEW



James Eyre Chief Financial Officer

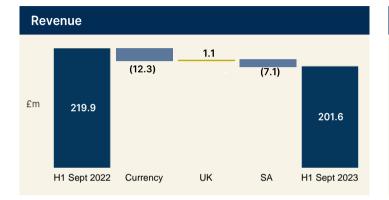
## **INCOME STATEMENT**

	H1 Sept 2023 £m	H1 Sept 2022 £m	Reported v 2022 %	Constant Currency LFL <sup>4</sup> v 2022 %	FY Mar 2023 £m
Revenue	201.6	219.9	-8.3%	-4.1%	441.0
Underlying <sup>1</sup> operating profit	21.4	22.0	-2.7%		47.3
Margin	10.6%	10.0%			10.7%
Finance charges – cash	(3.3)	(2.1)			(5.5)
Underlying <sup>1</sup> PBT	18.1	19.9	-9.0%		41.8
Exceptional operating items <sup>2</sup>	(1.4)	-			(9.8)
IAS 19R admin expenses	(0.8)	(1.0)			(1.6)
Acquisition related costs <sup>3</sup>	(3.9)	(4.9)			(8.4)
Finance charge – non-cash	(0.3)	-			(0.3)
РВТ	11.7	14.0			21.7

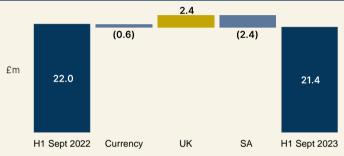
1. Underlying means before exceptional operating items, IAS 19R admin costs, acquisition related costs and where relevant, non-cash finance costs

- 2. An exceptional cost of £1.4m was recognised in the period in relation to the costs associated with a reduction in capacity at Johnson Tiles (UK). The prior year includes Johnson Tiles (UK) impairment of £5.0m (nil cash cost) and £4.8m Adhesives closure costs (gross cash cost of c£2m, net nil cash cost)
- 3. See appendix for details
- 4. LFL Like for like revenues at constant currency adjusted for Grant Westfield and Norcros Adhesives

# **INCOME STATEMENT – KEY BRIDGES**



Underlying operating profit





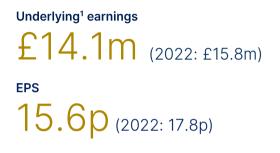
1. Constant currency basis

### Underlying operating profit / RoS%





# EARNINGS, DIVIDENDS AND TAX

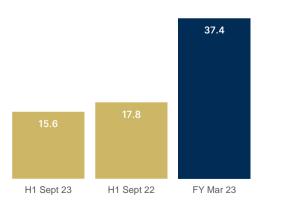


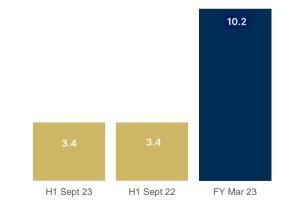
Dividend per share

3.4p (2022: 3.4p)

Effective underlying tax rate 22.1% (2022: 20.6%)

Dividend per share (pence)





1. Before exceptional operating items, IAS 19R admin costs, acquisition related costs and where relevant, non-cash finance costs and attributable tax

#### Diluted underlying EPS (pence)

## **CASH – EXCELLENT CASH CONVERSION**

	H1 Sept 2023 £m	H1 Sept 2022 £m	FY Mar 2023 £m
Underlying EBITDA (pre-IFRS 16)	22.6	23.6	50.5
Working capital	1.3	(11.0)	(13.3)
Depreciation of right of use assets	2.2	2.4	4.6
Operating profit impact of IFRS 16	0.9	0.9	1.8
IFRS 2 charges	0.4	0.2	1.2
Underlying operating cashflow	27.4	16.1	44.8
Cash conversion <sup>1</sup> %	121%	68%	89%
Net capital expenditure	(4.2)	(3.3)	(6.0)
Pension deficit recovery payment	(2.0)	(1.9)	(3.8)
Tax paid	(2.6)	(4.3)	(7.7)
Underlying free cash flow pre-financing and dividends	18.6	6.6	27.3
Exceptional and acquisition related costs	(1.8)	(2.6)	(3.3)
Interest	(3.3)	(2.1)	(5.5)
Acquisition of subsidiaries	-	(78.3)	(78.3)
Dividends	(6.1)	(6.1)	(9.2)
Principal element of lease payments	(2.3)	(2.4)	(4.6)
Purchase of treasury / issue of new shares	(0.8)	18.1	18.1
Net Cash Flow	4.3	(66.8)	(55.5)

1. Underlying operating cashflow / Underlying EBITDA

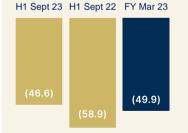
## STRONG BALANCE SHEET

#### Net debt

# (£46.6m)

- Reduced debt driven by excellent cash generation
- Facility of £130m RCF + £70m accordion extended to 2026

#### Net debt

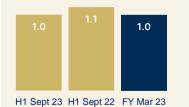


#### Leverage

# 1.0x

- Sustained low leverage
- Significant liquidity and funding headroom

#### Leverage (times)



#### **Pension surplus**

# £15.7m

- Pension surplus maintained
- Super-mature scheme and well managed

#### **Pension surplus**



IAS19 basis









## FROM JUNE 2023

## **Strategic Priorities**

- Portfolio development
- Drive organic market share growth
- Continued focus on operational excellence
- ESG as a competitive advantage

# Good progress in refinement and early execution of strategic priorities

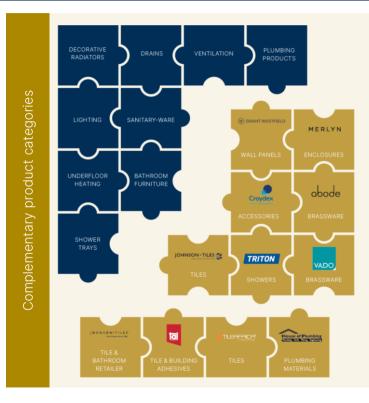


# **PROGRESS ON STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Portfolio Development	<ul> <li>Exit of Adhesives successfully completed</li> <li>Reducing manufacturing capacity at Johnson Tiles (UK)</li> <li>Well-developed acquisition pipeline</li> </ul>
Organic Growth	<ul> <li>Successful new sustainable product launch program</li> <li>Group cross-selling initiatives – scale advantages</li> <li>Market leading brands in more resilient market segments</li> </ul>
Operational Excellence	<ul> <li>Growing group cost synergies – scale advantages</li> <li>Further investment in customer service capability</li> <li>Investment in warehousing and logistics driving efficiencies</li> </ul>
ESG	<ul> <li>Carbon targets being validated by SBTi</li> <li>'Engaged supplier' status increasing customer retention</li> <li>Appointment of Chief People Officer</li> </ul>

## **PORTFOLIO DEVELOPMENT – M&A OPPORTUNITY**

## Consolidating fragmented markets and creating value



## **Acquisition Criteria**

- Complementary product categories
- Attractive end markets
- Market leading positions and strong brands
- Strong organic sales growth
- Potential to drive sales synergies
- ESG impact

## Progress

- Strong M&A track record
- Grant Westfield integration and synergies

## **Priorities**

- Well-developed acquisition pipeline
- Harnessing group synergies

## **ORGANIC GROWTH – DESIGN-LED, SUSTAINABLE NPD**

### Group vitality rate at 25%<sup>1</sup> – well-developed pipeline

#### ENVi® - next generation electric showers



ClimatePartner

- · Behind the wall and digital
- · Sustainability benefits of electric showering
- Personalised display lower water / energy use and cost
- ENVi® is our first ClimatePartner certified product
- Growth opportunity Future Home Standard



1. FY23 Group vitality rate – proportion of revenues in the year arising from products launched within the past three years





## **ORGANIC GROWTH - KEY ACCOUNTS**

Diversified blue chip customer base with strong, long-term relationships

UK channel revenue H1 FY24<sup>1</sup>



1. 1% of UK revenues to other channels

# **ORGANIC GROWTH - UK SHARE GAIN OPPORTUNITY**

UK bathroom – selective markets @ MSP<sup>1</sup>



- Overall bathroom market remains highly fragmented; no dominant player
- Sub-market segments are also highly fragmented
- Continued opportunity for share gains
- Significant consolidation opportunity remains
- Norcros channel and product position opportunities for organic and acquisitive growth

#### Significant opportunity to take further share in fragmented markets

# **ORGANIC GROWTH - SA SHARE GAIN OPPORTUNITY**

SA bathroom – selective markets @ MSP1



2 "Bathroom & Plumbing" including Sanitaryware, Taps and Mixers, Pipes, Fittings & Valves and Geysers

- Sizeable market characterised by greater concentration than UK; "long tail" of small independent competitors
- Norcros SA business units have leading market positions
- Fragmented and growing alternative coverings segment
- House of Plumbing strong geographic growth opportunity in fragmented market; entry into civils segment

#### Significant opportunity to take further share from smaller competitors

# **ESG – KEY SOURCE OF COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE**

## ESG strategy driving sustainability, engaged supplier advantage and growth



### Key areas of progress

- · Carbon targets for validation with SBTi
- First disclosure to CDP
- Carbon Neutral Triton, Merlyn, Vado, Abode
- ENVI®, first ClimatePartner certified product
- Appointed Chief People Officer
- Talent development and DE&I programmes









## SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK





## SUMMARY

# Robust performance reflecting the strength and positioning of our market leading brands

## Good progress on strategic priorities

- Closure of Adhesives
- NPD and service driving organic share gains
- ESG driving competitive advantage
- Excellent cash generation and low leverage

## Strong Norcros platform for further growth

- Consolidating large fragmented markets
- Design-led, sustainable products
- Benefits of scale vs weaker competition

# Full year underlying operating profit expected to be in line with market expectations<sup>1</sup>



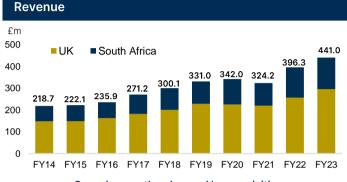
. Norcros compiled market consensus for the year to 31 March 2024, as at 16 November 2023, is for an underlying operating profit of £43.4m







# TRACK RECORD OF SUSTAINED PERFORMANCE

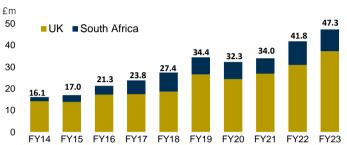


#### 30 20 16.1 10 0 FY14

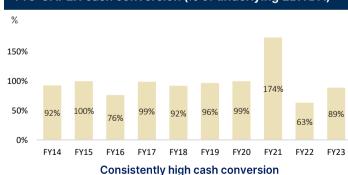
Organic growth enhanced by acquisitions



#### Underlying operating profit<sup>1</sup>



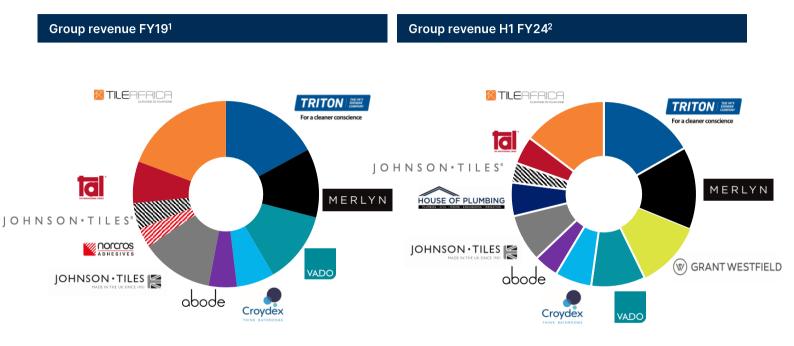
#### Strong profit post pandemic enhanced by Grant Westfield



#### **Pre-CAPEX** cash conversion (% of underlying EBITDA)

Underlying means before exceptional operating items, IAS 19R admin costs, acquisition related costs and where relevant, non-cash finance costs

# BALANCED AND DIVERSIFIED BUSINESS PORTFOLIO



<sup>1</sup> Financial year ended 31 March

<sup>2</sup> Half year ended 30 September



# **UK – SUSTAINED GROWTH AND SHARE GAINS**

## Norcros UK

- Strong heritage, market leading positions and strong brands
- Businesses built on superior offering and customer service
- Leveraging group synergies across acquired businesses
- NPD, cross-selling and sourcing capability driving revenue

## UK bathroom market dynamics

- Large and fragmented bathroom products market ~ £2.1bn MSP
- Mid-to-premium RMI segment more resilient
- Immediate economic outlook challenging for smaller players
- Market outperformance opportunity through share gains
- Favourable long-term market background: shortage of housing

#### Revenue<sup>1</sup> (£m)



1. Financial years ended 31 March up to 2023

#### Underlying operating profit (£m), return on sales (%)



# **SA – SUSTAINED HISTORIC PERFORMANCE**

## **Norcros South Africa**

- Strong heritage, market leading positions and strong brands
- Business built on superior offering and customer service
- Sustained market outperformance through share gains
- Resilient financial performance in challenging markets
- Sustained revenue growth despite FX headwinds

## South African bathroom market dynamics

- Large economy and business friendly environment
- Long-term socio-economic dynamics favour our markets
- Shortage of housing and infrastructure significant opportunity
- Large bathroom & plumbing products market ~ £1.6bn MSP

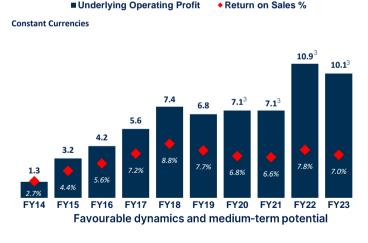
#### Revenue<sup>1</sup> (£m) – constant currency

#### Tile Africa TAL Johnson Tiles South Africa House of Plumbing<sup>2</sup>



1. Financial years ended 31 March up to 2023

#### Underlying operating profit<sup>1</sup> (£m), return on sales (%)



3. IFRS 16 basis

## **ORGANIC GROWTH - CROSS-SELLING**

### Driving share gains in target channels through cross-selling

Leading and growing position with UK housebuilders							
Top-10 UK House	e Builders						
BARRATT	MERLYN		JOHNSON • TILES		GRANTWESTFIELD		
PERSIMMON			JOHNSON • TILES				
<mark>Taylor</mark> Wimpey	VADO						
Bellway			JOHNSON • TILES				
₿REDROW	MERLYN C	bode	JOHNSON • TILES				
COUNTRYSIDE Piccis People Lave	MERLYN			Croydex			
Vistry Group	MERLYN			Croydex			
Berkeley	MERLYN C	bode	JOHNSON • TILES				
Keepmoat Homes							
BLOOR HOMES'	MERLYN						

#### **Progress**

- Share gains in specification
- Specification forum: cross-group approach to customers and opportunities
- Enhancing ESG value proposition
- Collaboration on new product development

## **Priorities**

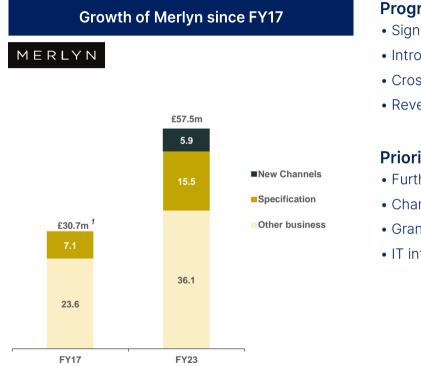
- Increasing focus on cross-selling
- Further gains in specification channel
- Grant Westfield growth in specification
- Complementary new product development

Strong growth opportunities through economic cycle



## **ORGANIC GROWTH - MERLYN**

### Driving growth in acquired businesses



**Progress** 

- Significant share gains
- Introduction to new channels
- Cross-selling synergies delivered
- Revenue CAGR of c.11%<sup>1</sup> strong cash generation



- Further cross-selling opportunities
- Channel growth plans specification
- Grant Westfield synergies
- IT infrastructure

1. FY17 ending 31 March, Merlyn acquired 23 November 2017

## **OPERATIONS EXCELLENCE – GROUP SCALE ADVANTAGES**



Focused & flexible supply chain across China – source of competitive advantage

## **EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS AND ACQUISITION RELATED COSTS**

Exceptional items	H1 Sept 2023 £m	H1 Sept 2022 £m	FY Mar 2023 £m
UK business restructuring	(1.4)	-	-
Johnson Tiles (UK) impairment	-	-	(5.0)
Closure of UK Adhesives	-	-	(4.8)
	(1.4)	-	(9.8)

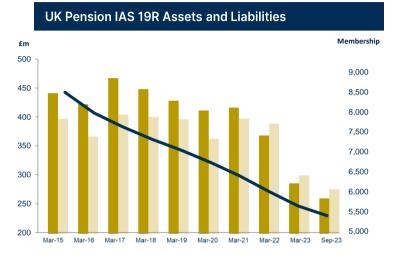
Acquisition related costs	H1 Sept 2023 £m	H1 Sept 2022 £m	FY Mar 2023 £m
Intangible asset amortisation	(3.3)	(3.1)	(6.2)
Advisory fees	(0.1)	(1.5)	(1.4)
Deferred remuneration	(0.5)	(0.3)	(0.8)
	(3.9)	(4.9)	(8.4)

## NET DEBT RECONCILIATION

	H1 Sept 2023 £m	H1 Sept 2022 £m	FY Mar 2023 £m
Net (debt)/cash – opening	(49.9)	8.6	8.6
Net cash flow	4.3	(66.8)	(55.5)
Non-cash movements <sup>1</sup>	(0.3)	(0.2)	(0.1)
Foreign exchange	(0.7)	(0.5)	(2.9)
Net debt – closing	(46.6)	(58.9)	(49.9)

1. Represents the movement in the costs of raising debt finance in the year

# **UK PENSION SCHEME UPDATE**



#### **UK Pension Data**

	Mar-15	Mar-16	Mar-17	Mar-18	Mar-19	Mar-20	Mar-21	Mar-22	Mar-23	Sep-23
Liabilities	441	422	467	448	428	411	416	368	285	259
Assets	397	366	404	400	396	362	398	388	300	275
(Deficit)/Surplus	(44)	(56)	(63)	(48)	(32)	(49)	(18)	20	15	16
Disc Rate	3.30%	3.55%	2.60%	2.65%	2.50%	2.21%	2.05%	2.75%	4.90%	5.60%
RPI	2.90%	2.90%	3.15%	3.10%	3.25%	2.55%	3.25%	3.70%	3.25%	3.30%
Membership	8,492	7,973	7,621	7,309	7,035	6,733	6,393	6,002	5,641	5,397

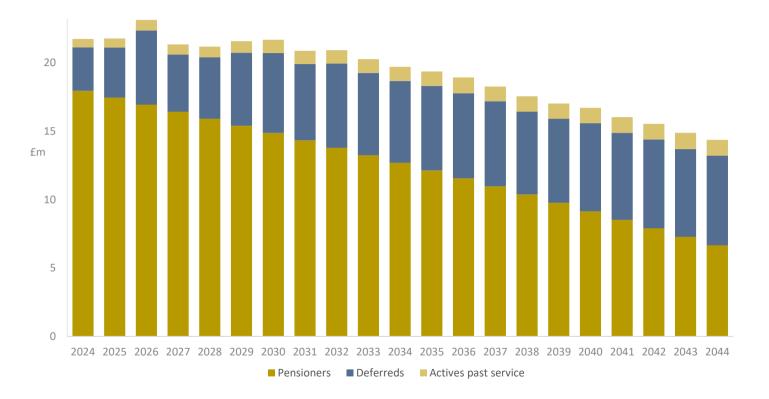
IAS 19R surplus £15.7m (March 2023: surplus £14.9m)

- Liabilities reduced by £25.3m to £259.7m
- Assets reduced by £24.5m to £275.4m
- Discount rates driving reduced liabilities
- Well managed and appropriately funded

Super-mature scheme:

- 5,397 members (March 2023: 5,641)
- 77% pensioners with average member age of 78
- Scheme closed to new entrants and future accrual in 2013
- Annual pensioner payroll near peak at circa £22m pa

## **UK PENSION SCHEME – CASH FLOWS**



Pension cash outflow close to peak at circa £22m

## **EFFECTIVE TAX RATES**

	Underlying <sup>1</sup>				
	H1 Sept 2023 £m	H1 Sept 2022 £m	FY Mar 2023 £m		
Profit before tax	18.1	19.9	41.8		
Tax charge	(4.0)	(4.1)	(8.3)		
Earnings	14.1	15.8	33.5		
Effective tax rate	22.1%	20.6%	19.9%		

	Reported				
	H1 Sept 2023 £m	H1 Sept 2022 £m	FY Mar 2023 £m		
Profit before tax	11.7	14.0	21.7		
Tax charge	(2.4)	(3.0)	(4.9)		
Earnings	9.3	11.0	16.8		
Effective tax rate	20.5%	21.4%	22.6%		

1. Before exceptional operating items, IAS 19R admin costs, acquisition related costs and where relevant, non-cash finance costs and attributable tax