# INVESTOR MEETING

**September 27, 2023** 



### / **01** About Wavestone

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Supporting large organizations in their most critical transformations



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# 2022/23 annual revenue grows by +13%

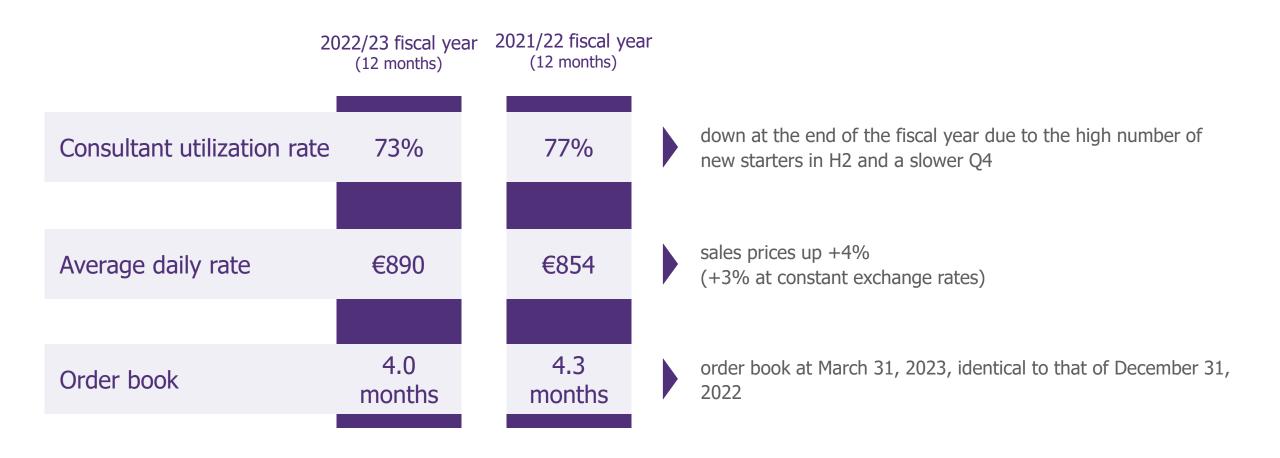
Audited consolidated data at 03/31 (in €m)	2022/23	2021/22	Change	<i>Change at constant</i> <i>scope</i> <sup>1</sup> <i>and on a</i> <i>constant forex basis</i>
12-month total	532.3	470.1	+13%	+7%

1 Excluding Everest Group consulting, consolidated since 05/01/2021; why innovation!, consolidated since 11/01/2021; NewVantage Partners, consolidated since 01/01/2022; Nomadéis, consolidated since 04/01/2022; PEN Partnership, consolidated since 08/01/2022; and Coeus Consulting, consolidated since 10/01/2022.

#### / €532.3m at the end of the 2022/23 fiscal year – up +13%, of which +7% was organic growth

- > €528.6m at constant exchange rates, in line with the annual target of €525m
- three external growth acquisitions during the year: the sustainable-development consulting firm Nomadéis in France, and the firms PEN Partnership, and Coeus Consulting in the UK
- > working day impact of -0.3%

+4% increase in sales prices over the fiscal year; consultant utilization rate down at 73%



# 2022/23 recruitment plan target exceeded; staff turnover rate reducing

#### / A very solid rate of recruitment over the fiscal year

> about 1,300 new employees over the fiscal year, against a target of 1,000

#### / Continuing fall in staff turnover rate

- > 16% in 2022/23
- > compared with 19% on a rolling 12-month basis at the mid-year point, and 18% in 2021/22

#### / 4,406 employees at Friday, March 31, 2023

- > including 126 from the Nomadéis, PEN Partnership, and Coeus Consulting acquisitions
- > compared with 3,732 at March 31, 2022

#### / Wavestone, certified Great Place to Work<sup>®</sup> for all offices, worldwide

>  $1^{st}$  in Great Place To Work<sup>®</sup> France in its category

Great Place То **Work**<sub>®</sub>

# EBIT margin of 14.5% in 2022/23

Audited consolidated data at 03/31 (in €m)	2022/23 (12 months)	2021/22 (12 months)	Change	
Revenue	532.3	470.1	+13%	higher level of subcontracting at
Purchases consumed	(21.8)	(11.2)		PEN Partnership and Coeus Consultin including a non-recurring charge of €
Personnel costs	(373.3)	(336.0)		<ul> <li>changes in Syntec retirement benefits</li> <li>operating expenses still subdued in 20</li> </ul>
External expenses	(46.6)	(34.4)		in a post Covid-19 context
evies and taxes	(8.0)	(7.7)		acceleration of expenditure on recruit and HR
Net allocation for depreciation and provisions	(5.8)	(6.0)		
Other operating income and expenses	0.2	0.2		
EBIT	77.0	74.8	+3%	
EBIT margin	14.5%	15.9%		

### Net margin of 9.4% in 2022/23

Audited consolidated data at 03/31 (in €m)	<b>2022/23</b> (12 months)	2021/22 (12 months)	Change	
EBIT	77.0	74.8	+3%	
EBIT margin	14.5%	15.9%		
Amortization of client relationships	(1.5)	(1.5)		
Other operating income and expenses	(2.9)	(0.5)		
Operating income	72.7	72.8	+0%	
Cost of net financial debt	(1.8)	(0.9)		
Other income and expenses	(2.3)	(0.0)		
Income tax expenses	(18.5)	(20.9)		
			20/	
Group share of net income	50.1	51.0	-2%	

in particular, acquisition costs of PEN Partnership and Coeus Consulting

related to acquisitions during the fiscal year and the rise in interest rates

of which €0.8m in foreign exchange losses of which €1.3m in financial instrument costs of which €0.2m in IFRS 16 interest charges

lower tax rate in France

Q

# Increase in self-financing capacity and €41.1m in operating cash flow

Audited consolidated data at 03/31 (in €m)	2022/23 (12 months)	2021/22 (12 months)
Self-financing capacity before financial debt and tax expenses	83.8	79.0
Tax paid	(21.1)	(15.8)
Change in WCR	(21.6)	(6.9)
Net cash flow from operations	41.1	56.3
Net cash flow from investments	(52.7)	(12.5)
of which fixed asset acquisitions	(3.7)	(0.5)
of which change in financial assets	0.0	0.3
of which changes in scope	(49.2)	(12.5)
Net cash flow from financing operations	(25.8)	(24.0)
of which dividends paid	(7.6)	(4.6)
of which sales (acquisitions) of company shares	(6.4)	(2.4)
of which loans received net of repayments	(4.4)	(8.5)
of which repayments of lease liabilities	(5.1)	(7.6)
Change in cash and cash equivalents	(37.4)	19.9

## Available cash and cash equivalents of €27.1m at March 31, 2023

Non-current assets of which goodwill including rights to use leased assets272.8 235.4 13.2214.9 178.5 14.5Shareholders' equity of which minority interests299.1 0.0257.0 0.0Current assets of which trade receivables193.1 176.61771.1 147.8Financial liabilities of which less than one year43.7 5.747.9 8.1Cash and cash equivalents108.3108.3Non-financial liabilities178.2171.3	Audited consolidated data at 03/31 (in €m)	3/31/23	3/31/22	Audited consolidated data at 03/31 (in €m)	3/31/023	3/31/22
Current assets193.1171.1of which trade receivables176.6147.8Cash and cash70.8108.3Non-financial	of which goodwill including rights to use leased	235.4	178.5	of which minority interests Financial liabilities	0.0 43.7	0.0 47.9
70.8 108.3 NOI-IIIalicial 178.2 171.3				,, , ,, , ,, , ,, , ,, , ,, , ,, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
TOTAL ASSETS 536.8 494.2 TOTAL LIABILITIES 536.8 494.2	equivalents			liabilities		

#### Net cash and cash equivalents: €27.1m

compared with €60.3m net cash and cash equivalents at March 31, 2022

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# Continued progress on sustainability in 2022/23

#### / Employee engagement

- > Great Place To Work<sup>®</sup> certification for all offices, 1<sup>st</sup> in France
- > staff turnover rate under control
- / Re-expression of the firm's values: "The Positive Way"
- / Implementation of a trajectory aligned with the SBTi's Net Zero Standard
  - > validation of short-term (2026) and long-term (2050) targets by SBTi

#### / Achievement of the objective of being in the 5% of most successful companies

- > EthiFinance ESG Ratings (ex Gaïa Research): 80/100; Top 5% nationally
- > Ecovadis: score of 78/100, "Platinum" level, Top 1%

#### / .... but an area for improvement in the year ahead

> client satisfaction, measured by the NPS<sup>®</sup>, below our target



#### Assessment 2022/23

	Commitments	Indicators			022/23 esults	2022/23 objectives	2021/22 results
1	Improve clients' satisfaction and	NPS®		×	45	50	48
	support them in sustainable performance	Number of projects ca responsible consulting			119	100	37
	Promote <b>employee engagement</b> ,	Employee engagemen	t index		74	71	70
2	well-being, and quality of life at work	Staff turnover rate		8	16%	15%	18%
	Act for <b>diversity</b> , and create an inclusive working environment where	Proportion of women	in management		35%	33%	33%
3	everyone is free to be themselves and has the same opportunity to fulfill their potential	Number of employees with a disability			49	40	35
4	Be a good <b>corporate citizen</b> that	Employees trained in a charter	Employees trained in applying the business ethics charter		96%	95%	97%
4	behaves ethically and responsibly	Workforce time spent on societal commitments			1.3%	1.0%	1.0%
	Minimize the impact of our activity on	Reduction in carbon	Scope 1 & 2 (total Wavestone footprint)		-51% <sup>2</sup>	-13%	-
	the <b>environment</b>	footprint, compared with 2019/20	Scope 3 (footprint per employee)		<b>-27%</b> <sup>2</sup>	-20%	-

<sup>1</sup> The NPS <sup>®</sup> or Net Promoter Score <sup>®</sup> is a tool for measuring customer satisfaction, which can range from -100 to 100 (NPS <sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of Bain & Company, Inc., Satmetrix Systems, Inc., and Fred Reichheld).

<sup>2</sup> As part of the SBTi trajectory, emissions are now calculated and reported using the GHG Protocol methodology. The scope of the SBTi commitment includes all three scopes (market-based) and excludes optional emissions as defined by the GHG Protocol (hotel accommodation, remote employee working, external use of sites) and firms integrated in the 2022/23 fiscal year.

### Our priorities for the coming fiscal year

- 1. Improvement in client satisfaction
  - > more resources to execute the action plan
- 2. Supporting clients on sustainable development issues
  - > accelerated dissemination of the responsible consulting approach
  - > development of the sustainability offer
- 3. Actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
  - > to ensure success on a demanding SBTi trajectory



# 2023/24 objectives

	Commitments	Indicators		2023/24 objectives	2022/23 results
•	Improve clients' satisfaction and support	NPS®		50	45
1	them in sustainable performance	Number of projects carrier responsible consulting app		300	119
	Promote <b>employee engagement</b> , well-being,	Employee engagement ind	dex	74	74
2	and quality-of-life at work	Staff turnover rate		15%	16%
	Act for <b>diversity</b> , and create an inclusive working environment where everyone is free to	Proportion of women in m	anagement	34.5%	35%
3	be themselves and has the same opportunity to fulfill their potential	Number of employees wit	h a disability	58	49
4	Be a good <b>corporate citizen</b> that behaves	Employees trained in applying the business ethics charter		95%	96%
	ethically and responsibly	Workforce time spent on s	societal commitments	1.0%	1.3%
	Minimize the impact of our activity on the <b>environment</b> Reduction in carbon footprint, compared with 2019/20		Scope 1 & 2 (total Wavestone footprint)	-17%	-51%
5			Scope 3 (footprint per employee)	-25%	-27%

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### Buoyant start to the 2023/24 fiscal year: Q1 revenue up +17%

Revenue In €m - unaudited consolidated data	2023/24	2022/23	<i>Change at constant scope <sup>1</sup> and on a constant forex basis</i>	Change
Q1	143.3	122.0	+11%	+17%

<sup>(1)</sup> Excluding PEN Partnership, consolidated since August 1, 2022; and Coeus Consulting, consolidated since October 1, 2022

#### / Q1 2023/24 consolidated revenue of €143.3m

> a solid increase of +17%

#### / Organic growth of +11%

- > despite a very unfavorable working day impact over the quarter (-2.9%)
- slightly ahead of the firm's business plan and supported by the increase in the firm's headcount at the end of the 2022/23 fiscal year

Recovery in the consultant utilization rate in Q1 at 73%; sales prices up by +1%



# Staff turnover rate returns to its normative level and slowdown in recruitment activity

- / Slowdown in recruitment activity over the year
  - > due to a more uncertain business environment and lower staff turnover rate
- / Staff turnover rate of 15% at June 30, 2023 (on a rolling 12-month basis)
  - > compared with 16% at March 31, 2023
- / 4,348 employees at June 30, 2023
  - > compared with 4,406 at March 31, 2023 the end of the 2022/23 fiscal year
  - > downturn typical of this time of year



# Start to the fiscal year that exceeded expectations; prudent approach maintained for the rest of the year

#### / Q1 2023/24 slightly ahead of business plan, despite working day impact

- > recovery in the consultant utilization rate after a significant drop in the previous quarter
- > prices remained solid

#### / More marked volatility and a wait-and-see approach from decision makers

- > maintenance of intense business development activity
- > confirmation of a more cautious recruitment plan

#### / Continued pursuit of the external growth policy

> priority to targeted acquisitions in the UK and US, without ruling out tactical purchases in other geographies



## 2023/24 objectives



*Reminder:* profitability for H1 2023/24 will be penalized by an unfavorable working day impact (-2.4%)



# Wavestone and Q\_PERIOR: joining forces to create a European consulting champion

- / A new consulting player to better answer our clients' challenges and realize substantial growth opportunities
  - > a solid international footprint
  - > a rich range of capabilities and expertise
  - > a best place to work, at the forefront of social, societal and environmental responsibility issues

#### / A roadmap aiming at sustained growth and profitability

- > 2025 financial targets<sup>1</sup>: revenue of ~€1bn, at least €130m EBIT
- > longer term financial targets: average annual growth of around +15%<sup>2</sup>, ~15% EBIT margin

#### / Main terms of the operation

- > acquisition by Wavestone of 100% of Q\_PERIOR's share capital
- > purchase price: €330m in enterprise value (equity value of €321.9m), plus an earn-out of up to €35.0 million
- > 79% of the initial equity value financed in shares

<sup>1</sup> excluding new acquisitions

<sup>2</sup> combined organic and inorganic

<sup>3</sup> based on the combined IFRS 12-month figures at March 31, 2023 for Wavestone (audited) and December 31, 2022 for Q\_PERIOR (unaudited)

**€818m** consolidated<sup>3</sup> revenue

#### 5,500+ cumulated FTEs

17 countries in presence

**18** Global 500 clients among the Top 30

23

### Financial agenda





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