

### **2024 Half Year Results**

9 September 2024



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### H1 2024 Highlights

# Solid underlying performance vs tough comparative

- H1 results impacted by expected normalisation of Technology Sourcing volumes
- Solid underlying performances in Germany and North America



- Good progress in growing the number customers generating over £1m of gross profit p.a.
- Continued growth in Professional Services

# Positioned for stronger H2

- North America executing well on growth opportunity; important new customer wins
- Germany remain well-positioned with public and corporate sector customers
- Encouraging start to Q3



- Continued investment in upgraded systems and tools to secure future growth
- Distributing surplus capital via £200m share buyback while maintaining strong balance sheet



## **Financial Review**

Chris Jehle, CFO





### H1 2024 Financial highlights

Gross invoiced income

£4.5bn

-10.3% CCY -12.1%

Adjusted profit before tax

£87m

-26.8% CCY -28.4%

Revenue

£3.1bn

-11.6% CCY -13.4%

Adjusted diluted EPS

55.0p

-25.2%

Gross profit

£472m

-4.8% CCY -6.6%

Dividend

23.3p

+3.1%

Gross margin

15.2%

+111bps

Adjusted net funds

£402m

+40.9%



#### H1 2024 results reflect a tough comparative

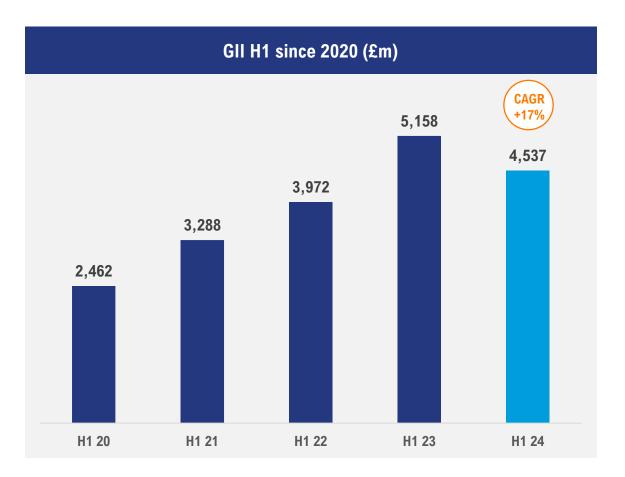
Gross invoiced income (GII)
Revenue
<b>Gross profit</b>
Gross profit as % revenue
Adjusted admin expenses
Adjusted operating profit
Adjusted operating profit %
Net finance income/(expense)
Adjusted profit before tax
Adjusted tax rate
Adjusted diluted EPS (p)
Diluted EPS (p)
Dividend (p)

H1 2024 £m	H1 2023 £m	Change	Change (CCY)
4,536.6	5,158.2	-12.1%	-10.3%
3,103.8	3,584.9	-13.4%	-11.6%
472.2	505.7	-6.6%	-4.8%
15.2%	14.1%	+111bps	
(391.1)	(387.2)	1.0%	2.8%
81.1	118.5	-31.6%	30.0%
1.8%	2.3%	-51bps	
6.1	3.3	84.8%	84.8%
87.2	121.8	-28.4%	-26.8%
30.2%	29.4%	+0.8pts	
55.0	73.5	-25.2%	
52.9	76.5	-30.8%	
23.3	22.6	3.1%	

- GII down 10.3% in constant currency mainly reflecting exceptional Technology Sourcing growth in H1 2023
- Gross profit down 4.8% in constant currency with robust gross margin performance up 111bps reflecting strong execution and product mix
- Adjusted PBT down 26.8% in constant currency with £5.7m increase in spend on strategic initiatives
- Adjusted diluted EPS down 25.2%



### GII and gross profit well above 2022 levels

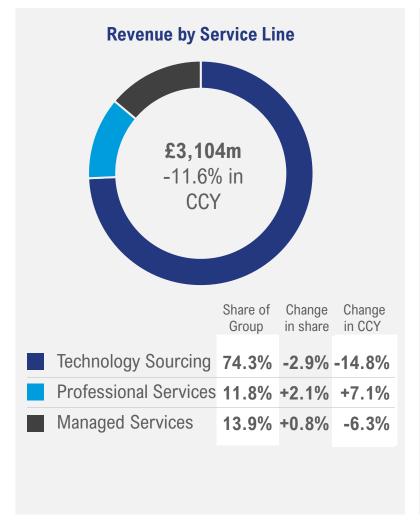


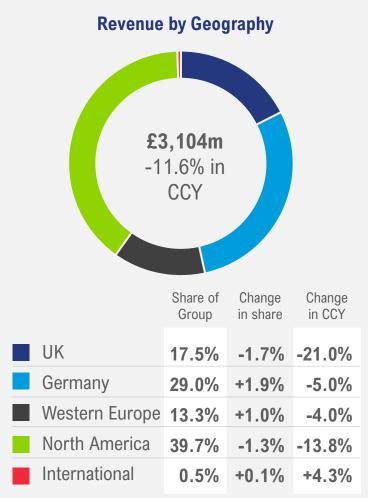


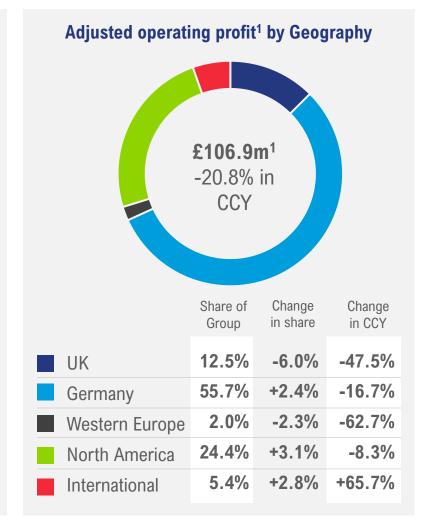


#### Technology Sourcing volumes normalised as expected

Splits by Service Line and by geography









### Solid underlying performances in Germany and North America



#### **Germany**

H1 24 Adj. operating profit £59.5m (H1 23: £73.3m)

- Solid underlying performance
- Gross profit increased yoy excluding:
  - a large networking contract in the prior year
  - a significantly underperforming Managed Services contract in H1
- Well positioned for H2 given breadth and depth of portfolio and capabilities and strength of relationships with both public and corporate sector customers



#### **North America**

H1 24 Adj. operating profit £26.1m (H1 23: £29.3m)

- Hyperscaler volume reduced as expected
- Partly offset by wins with new hyperscale and enterprise customers
- Certain orders from large new customer rephased from end of H1 into H2; now being delivered
- 8 'podium' customers added year end with encouraging wider pipeline of opportunities



#### **United Kingdom**

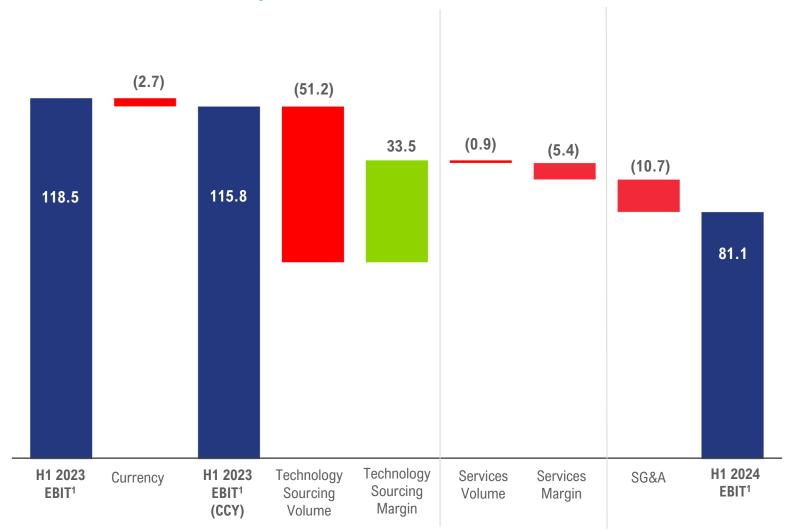
H1 24 Adj. operating profit £13.4m (H1 23: £25.5m)

- Soft trading performance reflects weakness in hardware market and consequently, a more competitive environment
- Encouraged by Professional Services revenue up 7.9%
- Managed Services extended onboarding process for large public sector win towards the end of 2023



#### **Operating profit bridge**

£m in constant currency

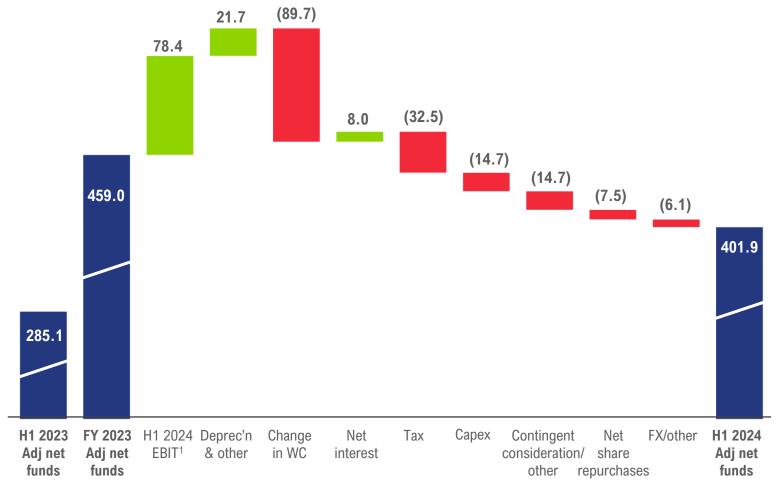


- Expected normalisation of Technology Sourcing volume accompanied by robust margin performance, reflecting strong execution and product mix
- Modest decline in Services
   volume with margin performance
   impacted by an underperforming
   contract in Germany (now
   substantially addressed)
- Increase in SG&A reflects additional investment in strategic initiatives (+£5.7m) and inflation



#### Return to more normal cash profile at H1

#### Summary cash flows (£m)



#### 1. EBIT refers to operating profit

#### **Group inventory**

- £271m at 30 June 2024
- Up 26% since year end driven by recent US contract wins
- Down 14% y-o-y

#### **Adjusted net funds**

 Adjusted net funds at 30 June 2024 increased by £117m to £402m y-o-y

Balance sheet strength enables commencement of £200m share buyback programme in July



### Strategic initiatives to underpin growth and future productivity gains

#### Sales & Customer Enablement systems



New Sales CRM and Quotation systems will streamline sales pipeline management and support a faster quote to cash process

#### **Service Line platforms**



Rollout of new service platforms to modernise customer interfaces, increase efficiency, and exploit automation and Al opportunities

### **Business Services system upgrades**



Continued investment in our long-term SAP ERP upgrade programme which underpins our operations and drives consistency at scale

### Network & Security Infrastructure



Significant investment in network and security infrastructure globally to bolster resilience, support hybrid working and help to secure ourselves and our customers

#### **Strategic initiative opex spend phased to H1 2024:**

- H1 2024: £17.6m (H1 2023: £11.9m)
- FY 2024: expected to be £28-30m



### Disciplined approach to capital allocation



- £200m share buyback programme announced in late July, consistent with our capital allocation policy
- Expect to retain a strong balance sheet following completion
- £66m completed to date



<sup>.</sup> Includes declared 2024 interim dividend and £200m share buyback announced in July 2024

<sup>2. £1.2</sup>bn since flotation

### 2024 technical guidance

Exchange rates at constant currency

c.£8m
adverse
impact on
full year PBT

Strategic initiatives opex

£28-30m

Capex

£35-40m

Adjusted effective tax rate

28.5-30.5%

**Dividend cover** 

2-2.5x adjusted diluted EPS

**Capital return** 

£200m share buyback programme<sup>1</sup>



# **Operating review**

Mike Norris, CEO





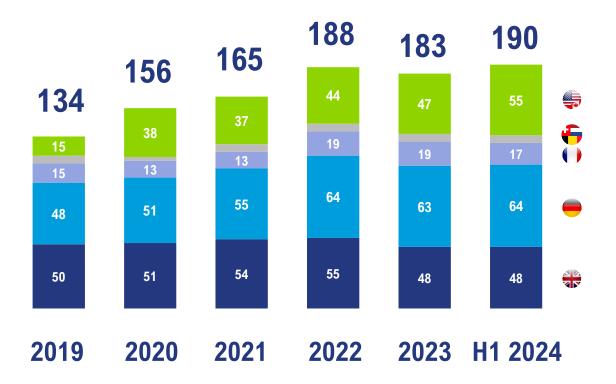
### **Our strategic focus**





#### Good growth in 'podium' customers

Customers generating >£1m of gross profit

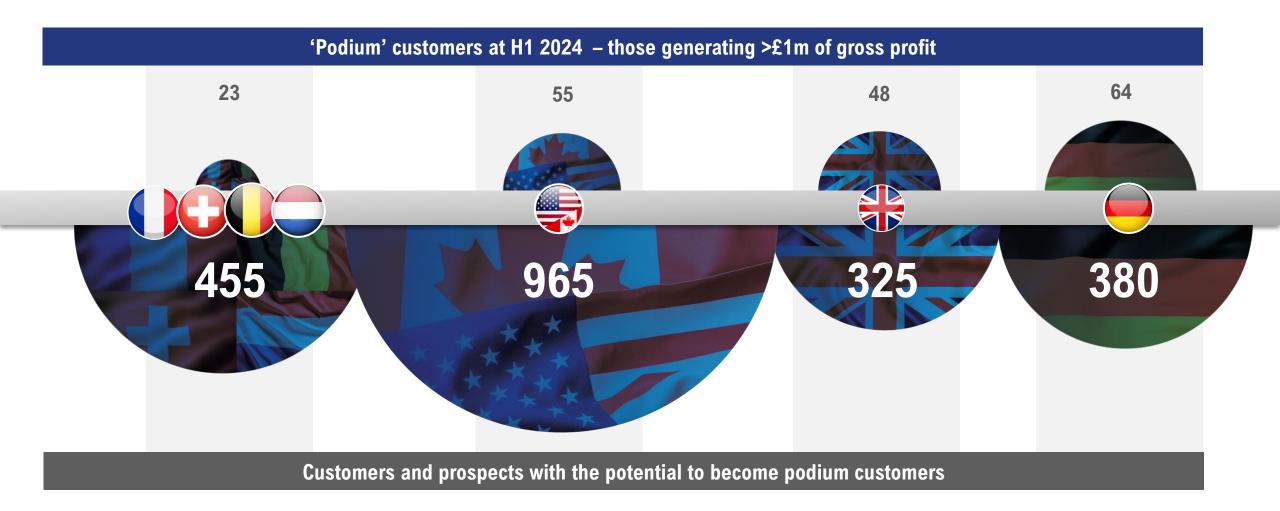


- Podium customers increased by 7 during H1 to 190 since the year end
- Growth mainly driven by North America with Germany and the UK stable
- >54% have been customers for more than 5 years



#### Significant potential for further growth

We have significant customer growth opportunities across all of our geographies





#### North America - same market drivers, different scale











Artificial Intelligence

### **Hyperscale**

- Headquartered in Silicon Valley
- Building compute capacity at scale for large workloads including Al
- Require support for growth at speed and scale

#### **Enterprise**

- Headquartered throughout the US
- Leverage a Hybrid Cloud (Public and Private)
- Require support for digital initiatives



### We are establishing a track record of delivery for hyperscale customers

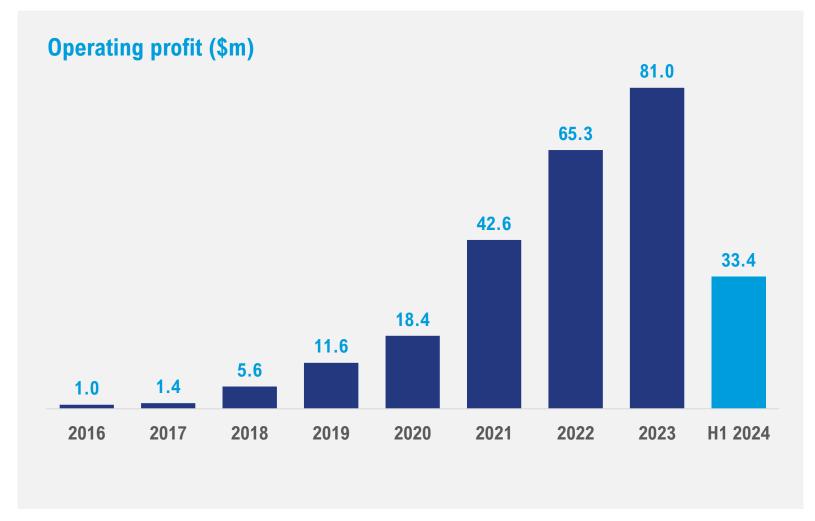
Our competitive advantage





#### North America is becoming a material profit contributor

Accounting for nearly a quarter of Group adjusted operating profit in H1 2024



- Executed well on the North America growth opportunity during H1
- 8 new podium customers added including 2 new large hyperscale customers, leveraging our Professional Services capability
- Good near-term visibility of Technology Sourcing volumes reflecting recent wins
- Q3 started well
- Remain excited about the pipeline of wider opportunities and the longterm growth opportunity in a highly fragmented market



### Germany strongly positioned with public and corporate sector

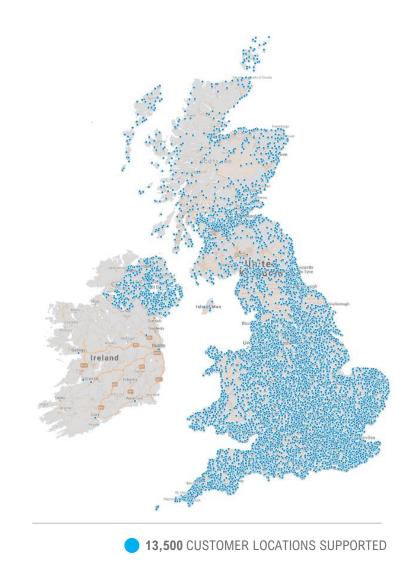
- Continuing to benefit from the breadth and depth of expertise across all three Service Lines
- Broadened our portfolio with existing customers and expanded customer base during H1
- Trend towards bundling procurements in larger Technology Sourcing framework contracts plays to our strengths
- Well positioned for H2 with less challenging comparative





### **UK** market soft; podium customers stable

- Soft trading performance reflects further weakness in hardware market and consequently, a more competitive environment
- Good growth in Professional Services
- Number of podium customers maintained
- Awarded £1bn six-year contract with existing customer across all three Service Lines
- We are a key partner for UK corporate and public sector
  - >50% of FTSE 100 are customers
  - Strategic Supplier to HMG, currently on 17 major purchasing frameworks
- Well-positioned with customers to take advantage as market conditions improve



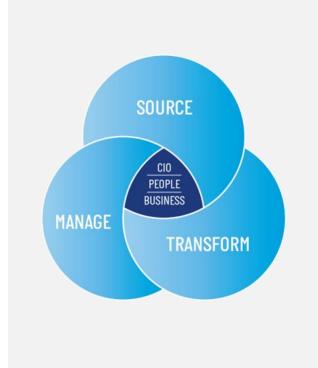


#### **Services – good progress in scaling Professional Services**

#### **Professional Services**

#### H1 2024 revenue +7.1% in CCY

- Good progress in replicating and scaling our proven German success to grow market share across all regions
- Advisory and deployment skills closely aligned to Technology Sourcing
- Germany continued growth with public and corporate sector
- UK encouraging return to growth



#### **Managed Services**

#### H1 2024 revenue -6.3% in CCY

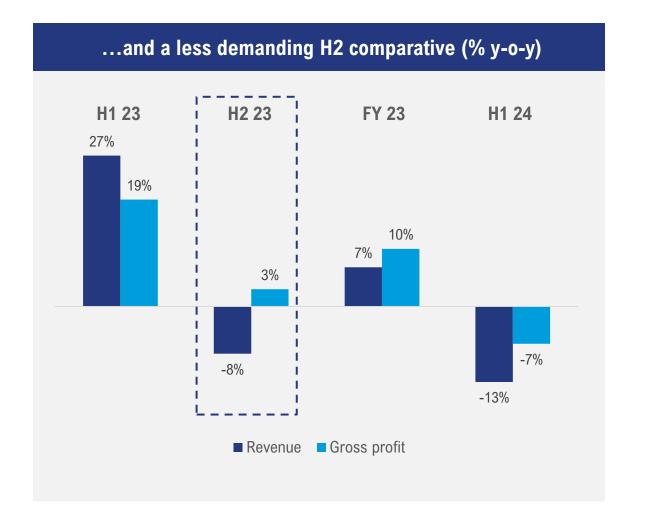
- Decline reflects timing of certain contract losses while onboarding of several large contracts has been extended
- Margin increased y-o-y excluding an underperforming contract in Germany
- Expecting an improved performance in H2 as contracts move beyond transition phase



### **Expecting to deliver a stronger performance in H2**

#### Clear H2 growth drivers...

- £1.8bn committed product order backlog at 30 June 2024
  - +19% y-o-y
  - +48% vs 31 December 2023
- High near-term visibility in North America
  - currently fulfilling orders that moved into H2
  - healthy wider pipeline of opportunities
- Managed Services margin improvement
  - underperforming contract in Germany substantially addressed
  - increased contribution from recent wins post onboarding
- Encouraging start to Q3





### **Summary and outlook**

H1 impacted by expected normalisation of Technology Sourcing volumes; solid underlying performance in Germany and North America

Disciplined approach to capital allocation; distributing surplus capital via £200m share buyback

Good progress in growing podium customers and executing well on North America growth opportunity

Encouraging start to Q3; continue to expect to make progress in full year on constant currency basis



# Q&A

