

Acquisition of Helston Garages Group Ltd

December 2022



#### Content

Vertu Group Strategy

Acquisition Highlights, Transaction Metrics and Overview

**Expanded Footprint** 

Financial Impact: EPS and FCF Accretive

Acquisition Structure and Funding

Conclusion



### **Vertu Group Strategy** – consistent application

To aim for every dealership to be the best retailer in their respective town or city

To deliver an outstanding customer motoring experience through honesty and trust

Vertu Motors to be the most admired and respected dealer group in the automotive industry

#### PASSION | RESPECT | PROFESSIONALISM | INTEGRITY | RECOGNITION | OPPORTUNITY | COMMITMENT



#### Growth

To grow as a major scaled franchised dealership group and to develop our portfolio of Manufacturer partners, whilst being mindful of industry development trends, to maximise returns



## Digitalisation - Cohesive 'bricks and clicks' strategy

- Omni-channel development leveraging 'Click2Drive' technology and sub-brand
- Digitalise aftersales process
- Reduce cost base, deliver efficiency through use of systems
- Utilise data driven decision making to enhance returns



#### **Colleague & Customer focus**

To develop and motivate the Group's colleagues to ensure consistency of operational excellence and delivery to customers across the business



#### **Ancillary businesses**

To develop ancillary businesses to add revenue and returns which complement the core business



Work with our Manufacturer partners to provide increasingly sustainable choices for customers



Reduce the environmental impact of our business



Care for our colleagues and support our communities



### **Acquisition of Helston Group**

Clear strategic logic

Dramatic scale expansion into new region

Strengthened premium Manufacturer relationships

Creating shareholder value, accretive to EPS and Free Cash Flow

Financed through new and enhanced debt facilities



### **Acquisition Highlights**

"To grow as a major scaled franchised dealership group and to develop our portfolio of Manufacturer partners, whilst being mindful of industry development trends, to maximise returns"

#### **Financial** Growth **Vertu Track Record** Integration



Delivers immediate scale boosting sales outlets by 28 (17%) in one transaction to 192

New and attractive geographic territory extending the Vertu and **Bristol Street Motors brands** 

Volvo and Ferrari brands added to the Group

Increased premium mix, strengthening relationships with BMW, MINI and Jaguar Land Rover



Well respected and growing dealership Group founded in 2006

Significant well-invested freehold property portfolio

Strong Manufacturer brand relationships & customer experience levels

Good earnings track record, with scope to leverage the Group's scale to maximise operational and financial performance



Consideration £117m net of anticipated cash acquired, including freehold property portfolio valued at £66.7m

EV/EBITDA of 6.8x1

Acquisition will be funded from existing cash, new mortgage facilities and renewed RCF

Net debt/Adjusted EBITDA<sup>2</sup> less than 1.4x at 28 Feb 2023

Synergies of at least £3.2m per annum in FY25



Dedicated project management team with a full integration plan

Activity will commence in Jan 2023 with targeted completion of system and process integration by end of March 2023

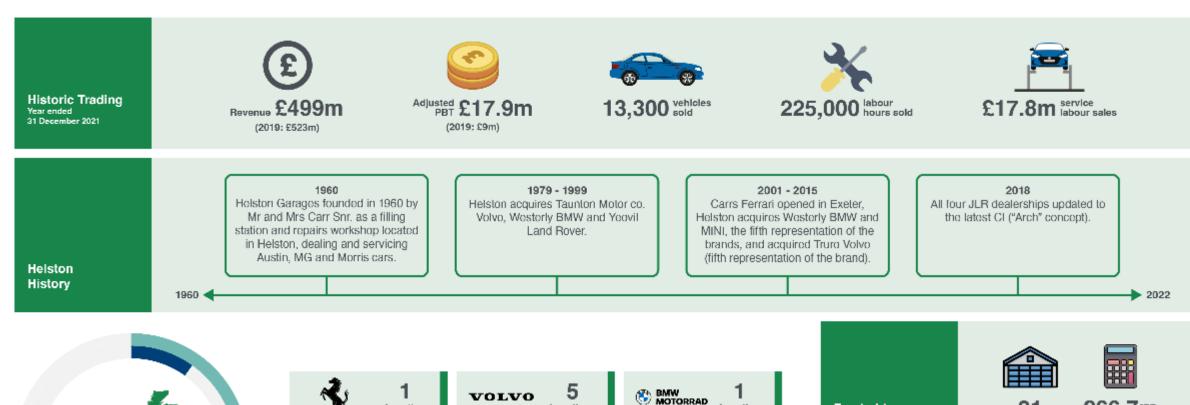
All outlets to be rebranded to Vertu Motors and Bristol Street Motors (except Carrs Ferrari)

- (1) Based on average EBITDA 2019-2022 of acquired assets
- (2) Adjusted EBITDA based on owning the acquired assets for 12 months and excluding one-time deal costs of c.£2.5m



## **Helston Acquired Businesses**











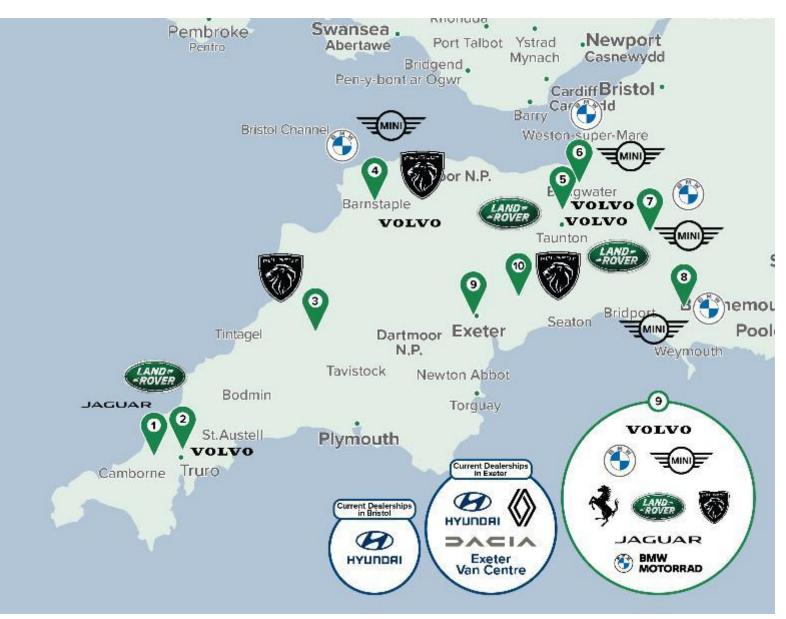
### **Locations by Brand**



1	West Truro	Jaguar Land Rover
2	Truro	Volvo
3	Launceston	Peugeot
4	Barnstaple	Peugeot Volvo BMW MINI
5	Taunton	Jaguar Land Rover Volvo
6	Bridgwater	BMW MINI
7	Yeovil	BMW MINI Land Rover Volvo
8	Dorchester	BMW MINI
9	Exeter	Ferrari Jaguar Land Rover BMW MINI & Motorrad Peugeot Volvo Accident Repair Centre - Exeter

Peugeot

Honiton



## **Dealership Portfolio – Enlarged Group**



•	Enlarged Group	Bristol Street Motors	Macklin Motors	Vertu Motors	Helston
Ford	20	19	1	-	-
Vauxhall	16	15	1	-	-
Hyundai	12	9	3	-	-
Peugeot	12	6	2	-	4
Nissan	11	9	2	-	-
Renault	9	8	1	-	-
Citroen	7	7	-	-	-
SEAT	4	4	-	-	-
Skoda	4	4	-	-	-
Kia	3	-	1	2	-
MG	3	2	1	-	-
Mazda	2	1	1	-	-
Total Volume	103	84	13	2	4
Honda	14	-	-	14	-
Land Rover	10	-	-	6	4
BMW	10	-	-	5	5
MINI	10	-	-	5	5
Volkswagen	8	-	-	8	=
Jaguar	6	-	-	3	3
Mercedes-Benz	5	-	-	5	=
Toyota	5	-	2	3	-
Volvo	5	-	-	-	5
Ferrari	1	-	-	-	1
Audi	1	-	-	1	-
Total Premium	75	-	2	50	23
BMW Motorcycles	4	-	-	3	1
Honda Motorcycles	3	-	-	3	=
Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles	1	-	-	1	-
Vehicles	1	-	-	1	-
LEVC	1	-	1	-	-
Other Used Car Operations	4	3	-	1	-
Total Other	14	3	1	9	1
Total Group	192	87	16	61	28

Helsto

Bristol Street Motors

Vertu Motors





## **Delivering Shareholder Value**

Helston acquisition consistent with Capital Allocation policy

Investmen	t in growth	Return to Shareholders		
Acquisitions and Growth	Reinvest in Operations	Dividends	Share Buyback	
<ul> <li>Double Digit EPS         accretion from FY24</li> <li>Free Cash Flow         Accretive from FY25</li> <li>Acquisition ROCE in         excess of current Group         WACC</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>£7m incremental capex required in FY24, including refurbishment of two acquired locations</li> <li>Surplus property expected to deliver proceeds of approx. £1m</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Dividend policy remains unchanged</li> <li>Targeting cover on normalised EPS of 3-4 times</li> </ul>	£3m Share Buyback programme approval remains in place	

## **Acquired Business Performance** – Historic profitability

£'m (unless otherwise stated)  Acquired business profitability	Actual Year to 31 December 2019	Actual Year to 31 December 2020	Actual Year to 31 December 2021	12 months to 31 October 2022
Revenue	522.5	406.9	498.9	489.7
Underlying Operating profit	10.0	7.9	18.1	22.9
Net finance charges (vehicle stocking charges)	(1.0)	(0.9)	(0.2)	(0.2)
Underlying <sup>1</sup> Profit before tax	9.0	7.0	17.9	22.7
Underlying <sup>1</sup> EBITDA (Excl. IFRS 16 impact)	13.5	11.4	20.6	25.3
Average adjusted EBITDA 2019-2022			£17.7m	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excludes property impairment charges, covid grant income and business rates support

## **Identified Synergies**

## **Total Synergies Identified<sup>1</sup>: £3.2m**

Synergies to be delivered by the end of FY25

£1.6m

**Performance Improvement** 

Material improvement in Finance and Insurance performance and income

Aftersales profit improvement BMW Franchise profitability improvement

£0.6m

**Purchasing Synergies** 

Various areas including: Insurance provision, tyres, oil, telecoms, paint, stationary, vending, POS.

£0.7m

**Headcount Changes** 

Mainly generated by removal of Group MD. This is a net figure as there will be some roles to add to drive performance.

£0.6m

**Benefits to wider Group** 

Additional auction rebates from increased volumes
Increase in SMART repair volumes for Group's operation
Reuse of excess Keyloop licences

£0.1m

IT Network investment upgrades to provide resilience and increased bandwidth

£0.2m

Cyber security investment upgrades required for Insurance provision



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Versus normalised performance of the acquired businesses for the year ended 31 December 2019

### **Guidance relating to Helston**

Partial P&L synergies during FY24, full benefit from FY25

One-off £7m capex in FY24 including refurbishment of two locations

Ongoing maintenance capex of £3m p.a. for Helston

Working capital reduction of £3m in FY24

No change to Group effective tax rate





### **Acquisition Structure and Metrics**

£'m (unless otherwise stated)	On Acquisition £'m
Net assets of Helston Garages Group Limited at 31 Aug 2022	153.2
Payment in respect of Goodwill	28.6
Gross consideration payable	181.8
Cash acquired	(65.3)
Consideration net of cash acquired	116.5
Anticipated Capex investment post acquisition	7.7
Anticipated proceeds from sale of surplus properties	(1.0)
Working capital improvements anticipated	(3.1)
Acquisition EV	120.1
Underlying EBITDA of acquired businesses (excluding IFRS 16) <sup>1</sup>	17.7
Implied Acquisition EV/EBITDA ratio (times)	6.8

- Consideration determined by a 'locked box' mechanism valuing Net Assets at 31 August 2022
- Porsche and Volkswagen Group dealerships sold by Helston Garages Group Limited immediately prior to our purchase of the entire issued share capital of this entity
- Cash profits from 1 September to completion accrue to Vertu reflected as higher net assets and lower goodwill on completion
- Anticipated EV of this acquisition is increased by the expected capital investment in certain of the properties acquired and by known movements in working capital.
- Completion subject to applicable regulatory approvals.

## **Enlarged Group Facilities**

	Facilities at 31 Aug 22 £'m	Facilities at 1 Dec 22 £'m
5-year acquisition facility (from February 2019)	62.0	-
Refinanced syndicated 5-year acquisition and property purchase RCF (from 30 November 2022)	-	93.0
20-year BMWFS mortgage facility (from December 2020)	11.7	11.6
New 20-year BMWFS mortgage facility (from 30 November 2022)	-	74.8
1 year working capital facility (from May 2021)	48.0	48.0
Total committed facilities	121.7	227.4
Used vehicle stocking loans provided by Lombard	35.0	70.0
Overdraft	5.0	5.0
Total facilities	161.7	302.4

- Anticipated Enlarged Group Net Debt at 28 February 2023 of £100-110m
- Anticipated Net Debt/EBITDA<sup>1</sup> at 28 February 2023 less than 1.4x with target to reduce to around 1.0x by 28 February 2025



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Adjusted EBITDA based on owning the acquired assets for 12 months and excluding one-time deal costs of c.£2.5m

### Renewed RCF and New Mortgage Debt

RCF refinanced to November 2025 with option to extend to November 2027

New bank added to RCF syndicate of two existing banks; facility increased to £93m

New £74.8m 20-year commercial mortgage from BMW Financial Services

BMW FS mortgage fully drawn and RCF £66m drawn on completion of transaction





#### Conclusion

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Strengthened premium Manufacturer relationships

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# **Appendix**

## Income Statement – Enlarged Group Pro Forma - Illustrative

£'m (unless otherwise stated)	Vertu Core (Zeus Note of 1 Nov'22) £'m	Helston, Estimate 12 months to February 2023 <sup>2</sup> £'m	Cost of funding acquisition (annualised)	Combined pro-forma £'m
Revenue	3,753.2	500.0	-	4,253.2
Gross profit	418.4	53.0	-	471.4
Gross margin %	11.1%	10.6%	-	11.0%
Operating expenses	(372.1)	(33.2)	-	(405.3)
Adjusted <sup>1</sup> operating profit	46.3	19.8	-	66.1
Net finance charges	(8.0)	(0.2)	(6.6)	(14.8)
Adjusted¹ profit before tax	38.3	19.6	(6.6)	51.3
Adjusted <sup>1</sup> Diluted EPS (pence)	8.5p			11.4p



<sup>1</sup> Based on Zeus research note of 1 November 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Management estimates of 12 months performance to 28 February 2023 of businesses acquired

## **Balance Sheet** – Enlarged Group Pro Forma

		28 Februa	ry 2023	
	Vertu Core (consensus) £'m	Helston Acquired businesses £'m	Debt funding for acquisition £'m	Combined pro-forma £'m
Intangible assets	107.9	22.5	-	130.4
Retirement benefit asset	5.1	-	-	5.1
Right of use assets	66.8	-	-	66.8
Tangible assets	269.7	68.4	-	338.1
Non-current assets	449.5	90.9	-	540.4
Current assets	563.5	74.5	-	638.0
Property assets held for sale		1.0	-	1.0
Cash and cash equivalents	80.8	25.0	(26.6)	79.2
Total assets	1,093.8	191.4	(26.6)	1,258.6
Current and Non Current liabilities	(598.5)	(52.4)	-	(650.9)
Lease liabilities	(77.3)	-	-	(77.3)
Borrowings	(67.9)	-	(115.1)	(183.0)
Net assets	350.1	139.0	(141.7)	347.4
Tangible net assets	248.2	115.8	(141.7)	223.0
Tangible net assets per share (pence)	72.5p			65.1p



## **Hedging Strategy**

BMW FS Mortgage		Extended RCF		
Current terms	Interest rate cap	Current terms	Fixed rate swap	
<ul> <li>£74.8m 20-year term</li> <li>2.8% margin over BMW Financial Services base rate, linked to 1 month compound SONIA</li> <li>Current all in cost of 6.3%</li> </ul>	Underlying SONIA rate capped at 4.5% for 2 years over £50m of borrowing	<ul> <li>£93m facility to November 2025</li> <li>Rate applicable is a margin dependent on leverage, initially 2.0% over 3 month SONIA</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Existing interest rate swap over £22m of borrowing expires in January 2023</li> <li>3-year interest rate swap to be entered into over £30m of borrowing on expiration of current swap</li> </ul>	

#### **Disclaimer**

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