## ANALYST \& INVESTOR PRESENTATION

Interim results for the 6 months ended 31 August 2017
11 October 2017
Strong results in challenging market


## Financial highlights

- Revenues of £1.45bn (2016 H1: £1.45bn)
- Group gross margin 11.0\% (2016 H1: 11.1\%)
- Record profit before tax up $29.4 \%$ to $£ 24.2 \mathrm{~m}$ ( 2016 H 1 : £18.7m)
- Adjusted profit before tax up $7.2 \%$ to $£ 20.9 \mathrm{~m}(2016 \mathrm{H} 1: ~ £ 19.5 \mathrm{~m})$
- Adjusted earnings per share of 4.24p (2016 H1: 4.06p)
- Exceptional profit on sale and leaseback of property of $£ 4.1 \mathrm{~m}$
- Period end net cash of £20.8m (2016 H1: £12.9m)
- Freehold and long leasehold property portfolio: £175.0m (2016 H1: £174.1m)
- Increased returns to shareholders:
- 3.8 m shares repurchased at an average of 42.8 pence per share deploying $£ 1.6 \mathrm{~m}$ of cash to date
- Interim dividend up $10 \%$ to 0.55 p per share ( $2016 \mathrm{H} 1: 0.50$ p)


## Outlook highlights

- Following the September trading performance, full year adjusted profit before tax anticipated to be in line with market expectations
- Aftersales outlook strong with 104,142 active service plans (2016 H1: 97,427)
- Used car residuals strengthening due to reduced supply into the market
- New vehicle market likely to continue to reflect the impact of currency movements
- Continued focus on cost control
- Further realisations of surplus property expected over next 12 months
- Share buy-back programme to continue for up to a further £3 million


## Objectives and Group strategy

- Deliver long-term value for owners by growing profits and cashflows
- Build a sustainable, scaled, diversified franchised dealership business through acquistion and organic growth
- Apply a consistent business model with a stable, experienced management team
- Establish a robust competitive position with excellent customer experience levels



Adjusted PBT - 12 months ( $£^{\prime} m$ )
Adjusted PBT - 6 months ( $£^{\prime}$ m)
Adjusted EPS - 12 months (pence)

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## Disciplined growth of the porffolio

## Regular Assessment

- Six monthly review of all Manufacturers operating in the UK
- Includes market shares, products, investment requirements, dealer survey results, financial performance
- All classified: Add; Hold; Reduce; Avoid
- Action plans prepared for Add and Reduce to amend Portfolio


## Add: Valuation method and criteria

- Three year business plans prepared for opportunities
- Granular detail
- EBITDA and profit contribution
- Financial ratios
- EV/EBITDA: Freehold multiple; Leasehold multiple
- Return on capital; EPS impact

Reduce: Pruning to improve the portfolio

- Constant review of performance
- Bottom ten performing dealerships identified: monthly report to plc Board on actions
- Improve, refranchise, dispose or close


## Return on consideration by acquisition year - FY2017

EBITDA earned from acquisitions made between FY2010 and FY2016 in the year ended 28 February 2017, shown as a percentage of the total consideration (Enterprise Value)


## Income statement

|  | H1 FY2018 | H1 FY2017 | \% Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Revenue | £1,445.7m | £1,454.6m | (0.6\%) |
| Gross Profit | £159.1m | £160.8m | (1.1\%) |
| Gross Margin | 11.0\% | 11.1\% | (0.1\%) |
| Adjusted ${ }^{[1]}$ EBITDA | £26.1m | £24.8m | +5.2\% |
| Adjusted ${ }^{[1]}$ operating profit | £21.4m | £20.7m | +3.4\% |
| Adjusted ${ }^{[1]}$ operating expenses as \% of revenue | 9.5\% | 9.6\% | (0.1\%) |
| Adjusted ${ }^{[1]}$ operating profit margin | 1.5\% | 1.4\% | +0.1\% |
| Net finance costs | (£0.5m) | (£1.2m) | +58.3\% |
| Profit before tax | £24.2m | £18.7m | +29.4\% |
| Adjusted ${ }^{[1]}$ profit before tax | £20.9m | £19.5m | +7.2\% |
| Earnings per share | 4.97 p | 3.87p | +28.4\% |
| Adjusted ${ }^{[1]}$ earnings per share | 4.24p | 4.06p | +4.4\% |
| Dividend per share | 0.55p | 0.50p | +10.0\% |

- Stable gross margins
- Reduction in operating expenses as \% of revenue
- like-for-like cost reductions
- impact of disposals / closures
- Return on sales increasing
- Lower finance costs due to reduction in new vehicle stocking levels and charges
- $7.2 \%$ increase in adjusted profit before tax
- $10 \%$ rise in dividend per share


## Revenue and margin analysis - Total Group

|  | H1 FY2018 |  |  |  |  | H1 FY2017 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Revenue £'m | Revenue Mix $\%$ | Gross Profit | Gross Profit Mix \% | Mross | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Revenue } \\ & \text { £'m } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Revenue } \\ & \text { Mix } \end{aligned}$ | $\text { Gross Profit } \underset{£ m}{ }$ | Gross Profit Mix \% | Gross |
| Aftersales ${ }^{\text {(1] }}$ | 115.5 | 8.0 | 64.2 | 40.4 | 45.2 | 113.4 | 7.8 | 62.9 | 39.1 | 45.4 |
| Used vehicles | 546.9 | 37.8 | 49.8 | 31.3 | 9.1 | 525.6 | 36.1 | 52.3 | 32.5 | 9.9 |
|  | 662.4 | 45.8 | 114.0 | 71.7 | 16.6 | 639.0 | 43.9 | 115.2 | 71.6 | 17.3 |
| New retail | 450.6 | 31.2 | 34.3 | 21.5 | 7.6 | 483.9 | 33.3 | 35.0 | 21.8 | 7.2 |
| Fleet \& commercial | 332.7 | 23.0 | 10.8 | 6.8 | 3.2 | 331.7 | 22.8 | 10.6 | 6.6 | 3.2 |
| Overall Group | 1,445.7 | 100.0 | 159.1 | 100.0 | 11.0 | 1,454.6 | 100.0 | 160.8 | 100.0 | 11.1 |

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## Aftersales - recurring high margin income

## Core Group

|  | $£^{\prime} 000$ | $£^{\prime} 000$ | $£^{\prime} 000$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Revenue $^{[1]}$ | 52,862 | 74,207 | $\mathbf{1 2 7 , 0 6 9}$ |
| Revenue $^{[1]}$ Change | 2,242 | 1,854 | 4,096 |
| L4L revenue $^{[1]}$ change \% | $4.4 \%$ | $2.6 \%$ | $3.3 \%$ |
| Gross margin ${ }^{[2]} \%$ H1 FY2018 | $77.5 \%$ | $23.2 \%$ | $45.8 \%$ |
| Gross margin ${ }^{[2]} \%$ H1 FY2017 | $77.9 \%$ | $23.5 \%$ | $45.9 \%$ |

- Continued revenue growth across aftersales streams
- Significant increase in gross profit levels in core business
- Slight reduction in margin:
- increased lower margin
warranty work
- increased technician pay trends

Service Revenue Mix

|  | H 1 <br> FY2018 <br> $£^{\prime} m$ | H 11 <br> FY2017 <br> $£^{\prime} m$ |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | 23.7 | 23.2 | $2.2 \%$ |
| Retail | 11.6 | 11.1 | $4.5 \%$ |
| Internal | 6.4 | 5.5 | $16.4 \%$ |
| Warranty | 11.2 | 10.9 | $2.8 \%$ |
| Other |  |  |  |
| Total | 52.9 | 50.7 | $4.4 \%$ |
|  |  |  |  |



[^0][2] Margin in aftersales expressed on internal and external revenue

## Revenue and margin analysis - Used vehicles

|  | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 1 \\ \text { FY2015 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 2 \\ \text { FY2015 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 1 \\ \text { FY2016 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 2 \\ \text { FY2016 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 1 \\ \text { FY2017 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 2 \\ \text { FY2017 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 1 \\ \text { FY2018 } \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Selling price per unit (£) | 11,404 | 11,579 | 11,943 | 11,772 | 12,524 | 12,905 | 13,146 |
| Gross profit per unit (£) | 1,187 | 1,194 | 1,176 | 1,153 | 1,246 | 1,222 | 1,197 |
| Margin \% (Group) | 10.4\% | 10.3\% | 9.8\% | 9.8\% | 9.9\% | 9.5\% | 9.1\% |
| Margin \% (Core Group) | 10.6\% | 10.6\% | 10.3\% | 10.4\% | 10.2\% ${ }^{[1]}$ | 9.8\% ${ }^{[1]}$ | 9.5\% |
| Like-for-like unit growth \% | 11.6\% | 6.8\% | 4.2\% | 12.2\% | 8.5\% | 5.7\% | 1.1\% |

- Twelfth successive six-month period of like-for-like used vehicle volume growth
- Rising sales prices (partly due to increased premium mix) putting pressure on \% margins
- Weakness in residual values saw margin reductions particularly in premium franchises
- Used car pricing now stabilised
- Core Group gross profit down £2.3m


Used car customer recommendation rates ${ }^{[2]}$


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## Revenue and margin analysis - New retail vehicles



## Revenue and margin analysis - Fleet \& commercial vehicles

Selling price per unit (£)
Gross profit per unit (£)
Margin \% (Group)
Like-for-like unit movement \% (Fleet)
UK car fleet registrations ${ }^{[1]}$ movement \%
Like-for-like unit movement \% (Vans)
UK van commercial registration ${ }^{[1]}$ movement $\%$

| $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 1 \\ \text { FY2015 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 2 \\ \text { FY2015 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 1 \\ \text { FY2016 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 2 \\ \text { FY2016 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { H1 } \\ \text { FY2017 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 2 \\ \text { FY2017 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \mathrm{H} 1 \\ \text { FY2018 } \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 16,567 | 15,626 | 16,271 | 16,553 | 17,188 | 17,713 | 18,549 |
| 351 | 450 | 426 | 562 | 536 | 585 | 576 |
| 2.1\% | 2.9\% | 2.6\% | 3.4\% | 3.2\% | 3.4\% | 3.2\% |
| 12.4\% | 21.0\% | (8.5\%) | 1.3\% | (10.6\%) | 3.8\% | (4.3\%) |
| 9.4\% | 10.2\% | 10.8\% | 8.2\% | 6.1\% | 4.1\% | (0.5\%) |
| 28.6\% | 6.3\% | 24.2\% | 20.1\% | 11.6\% | (7.9\%) | (9.6\%) |
| 18.9\% | 18.0\% | 16.4\% | 10.1\% | 3.9\% | (1.6\%) | (3.2\%) |

- Currency related sales price increases evident
- Mix shift in portfolio to higher margin premium sales and reduction in volume of lower margin activity
- Core Group gross profit rose £0.2m


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## Operating expenses - March to August 2017

## Adjusted operating expenses movement - Core Group



[^1]
## Profit Bridge - 6 months ended 31 August 2017


[1] adjusted profit before tax

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## Movement in net cash

Adjusted EBITDA
Working capital movement
Capital expenditure
Disposals
Interest
Tax
Free cash flow to equity
Acquisitions
Dividends
Proceeds from issuance of shares
Repurchase of own shares
Purchase of treasury shares
Movement in net cash


Analyst \& Investor Presentation I Slide 14 | Movement in net cash

## Investing to support future cash growth



- Significant period of investment in dealership capacity and standards including Jaguar Land Rover and Mercedes-Benz
- Phase expected to be completed by December 2018 after which investment levels will decline, improving free cashflow
- H1 Capex $£ 8.2 \mathrm{~m}$ is lower than expected due to delayed project timings
- Current year estimated Capex is expected to reduce from $£ 37.5 \mathrm{~m}$ indicated at time of FY2017 results announcement in May to £29.7m: FY2019 increased accordingly


## Robust balance sheet provides flexibility to drive growth

|  | 31st August2016 <br> $£ ⿴ 囗 十 m$ | 31st August $\begin{gathered}2017 \\ \cdot m\end{gathered}$ | Pension fund remains in surplus：schemes merged |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Intangible assets | 96.4 | 96.1 | £175m of freehold and long leasehold property provides strong property backing |  |  |
| Retirement benefit asset | 1.4 | 5.7 |  |  |  |
| Tangible assets | 187.8 | 190.5 |  |  |  |
| Non－current assets | 285.6 | 292.3 |  | $2016$ | $\begin{gathered} 2017 \\ \text { E'm } \end{gathered}$ |
| Current assets | 561.3 | 565.5 | Revolving credit facility | （10．0） | （10．0） |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 32.1 | 44.2 | Used vehicle funding | （9．2） | （13．4） |
| Total assets | 879.0 | 902.0 |  | （19．2） | （23．4） |
| Current liabilities | （607．0） | （599．2） | Less Cash | 32.1 | 44.2 |
| Non－current liabilities | （14．4） | （14．8） | Net Cash | 12.9 | 20.8 |
| Borrowings | （19．2） | （23．4） | Ungeared balance sheet with net cash after offsetting used vehicle funding |  |  |
| Net assets | 238.4 | 264.6 |  |  |  |
| Net assets per share（pence） | 60.0 | 67.5 | New 5 year £40m committed facility in place with potential to add a further $£ 30 \mathrm{~m}$ |  |  |
| Tangible net assets per share（pence） | 37.0 | 44.5 | Sale and leaseback of Leeds property generated $£ 14.2 \mathrm{~m}$ of cash and an exceptional profit of $£ 4.1 \mathrm{~m}$ ：Demonstrates quality and value of property portfolio and flexibility as to sources of funding |  |  |
| Net tangible assets（ $£$＇m） | 146.9 | 174.3 |  |  |  |

## Shareholder returns

- Interim dividend increased by $10 \%$ to 0.55 p per share ( $2016 \mathrm{H} 1: 0.50$ p)
- Moving towards four times dividend cover for full year
- £1.6m of share buy-backs performed at average of 42.8p per share to date
- Further £3.0m share buy-back programme announced
- Sale and leaseback transaction demonstrates inherent value in property portfolio
- Focus on returns, capital allocation and strong free cashflows

Dividend Per Share (p)


## Current issues: technological impacts in the future

## 2017 has confirmed technology is driving a sustained shift in the automotive sector:

## 1. Digital Products and Services

- Vehicles likely to move to CASE formats (Connected, Autonomous, Shared \& Electric)
- New mobility and digital services provide significant revenue potential for those who capture them
- Existing manufacturers, through investment, Brand and market position, will be amongst the winners
- Manufacturers working closely with scaled retailers and investing heavily in technology for products and services
- 2025: expected price tipping point with the cost of battery EV's falling below the cost of ICE and sufficient charging infrastructure in place
- Very slow impact on aftersales of electrification in service operations

|  | 2017 | 2020 | 2025 | 2030 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Projected* EV proportion of EU and US vehicle parc: | $0.2 \%$ | $0.7 \%$ | $3.9 \%$ | $21.7 \%$ |

## 2. Digital Customer Experience

- Omnichannel, digital commerce and personalisation
- Group at forefront of developments with on-line car parts retailing, used cars, also Buy it Now functionality
- "Always On" connected service relationships will increase customer retention


## 3. Digital Enterprise

- Productivity gains expected via integration of retailer systems with Manufacturers



## Current issues: regulatory environment

- FCA is examining the motor finance market to assess whether customers are "at risk of harm"
- Areas of focus are:
- Affordability : primarily the responsibility of lender
- Transparency : investment in Showroom systems and lender communications
- Vulnerable customers
: key focus of training and complaints analysis
- Commission disclosure
: available upon request
- Significant investment to establish robust compliance environment:
- Showroom based IT systems to support sales process
- Remuneration policies reviewed and amended
- Industry recognised Specialist Automotive Finance qualification for over 1,500 customer facing sales colleagues
- Dedicated compliance and auditing resource
- Compliance Committee including non-executive representation with access to detailed MI over wide ranging areas of compliance


## Summary

- Motivated management team actively engaged in ensuring business positioned for technological sector changes: close Manufacturer partner engagement
- Strong balance sheet with quality freehold property portfolio and ungeared position: well placed to execute value creating acquisitions
- Consolidation of sector likely to accelerate and present value opportunities given cyclical trends
- Portfolio of businesses yet to fully mature and under-performing businesses are regularly reviewed
- Cost efficiency remains a key focus of management given near-term market conditions
- Full year result anticipated to be in line with market expectations

Key factors:

- new car supply side effects from currency fluctuations
- strengthening of used car residuals


## List of Appendices

1. Definition of key terminology
2. Brand Model
3. Business Model
4. Vehicle volumes sold

5 UK New vehicle registrations
6. Cash and borrowing facilities
7. Electric vehicles: Forecast impact on vehicle parc

## Definition of key terminology

## Core:

- Dealerships that have traded for two full consecutive financial years and comparatives are restated each year This definition is used for the profit bridge


## Like-for-like:

- Dealerships that have comparable trading periods in two consecutive financial years Only the comparable period is measured as "like-for-like"


## FY2018:

- The twelve month period ended 28 February 2018


## H1 FY2018:

- The six month period ended 31 August 2017


## H1 FY2017:

- The six month period ended 31 August 2016


## Adjusted:

- Adjusted for exceptional items, amortisation of intangible assets and share based payments

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## Brand model - Strong customer experience improves quality of income streams

- The customer has to be at the centre of our business
- The Brand model sets out how we do things:
- Vision and Mission Statement
- Core Values
- All stakeholders considered
- Brand touchpoints to guide how we go about our business and reflect customer-centric trends in the development of the business
e.g. "Effortless journeys, not complex processes"


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## Business Model: Tried and tested process to drive dealership turnaround



- No customer database
- High marketing spend
- Lack of aftersales absorption
- New branding
- Commence service plan sales
- Group enterprise wide systems implemented within first 3 months


## Vehicle volumes sold

Total units sold


Like-for-like units sold


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## UK new vehicle registrations

Appendix 5


Source: SMMT

## Cash and borrowing facilities



## Electric vehicles: Forecast impact on vehicle parc

Forecast installed base of EVs

United States
European Union
USA and EU
New car registrations (in millions)
Total vehicle base
Penetration of EV
$20172020 \quad 2025 \quad 2030$
millions millions millions millions

| 0.5 | 2.2 | 11.3 | 45.0 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 0.8 | 1.5 | 9.5 | 45.4 |
| 1.3 | 3.7 | $\mathbf{2 0 . 8}$ | 90.4 |
| 36.0 | 36.6 | 39.0 | 45.9 |
| 556 | 560 | 531 | 416 |
| $0.2 \%$ | $0.7 \%$ | $3.9 \%$ | $21.7 \%$ |

- Vehicle registrations on upward track
- Forecast assumes between 2025-2030 automonous and shared vehicle growth leads to massive scrappage of older technology vehicles


## Disclaimer

This presentation contains forward looking statements. Although the Group believes that the estimates and assumptions on which such statements are based are reasonable, they are inherently uncertain and involve a number of risks and uncertainties that are beyond the Group's control. The Group does not make any representation or warranty that the results anticipated by such forward looking statements will be achieved and this presentation should not be relied upon as a guide to future performance.


[^0]:    [1] Includes internal and external revenue

[^1]:    - Operating expenses as a \% of revenue declined from 9.6\% to 9.5\%

