## H1 2024/25 results Outlook

Investor meeting | December 5, 2024



**Speakers** 



Pascal **Imbert** CEO



Karsten **Höppner** COO



Laurent **Stoupy** CFO

## We offer high-value consulting services

Ø 360° portfolio of best-in-class consulting services

## Worldwide presence

2 5,500+ employees

**E944** pro forma revenue in 2023/24

Independent perspective
 & solution-based actions

## The Positive Way our values



## We seamlessly combine teams to deliver the right solutions for your needs

A leading position in the three main markets of continental Europe:

- France
- Germany
- Switzerland

An established and growing base in key geographies for global companies:

- UK
- North America
- Asia
- A global footprint:
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bosnia & H.
- Italy
- Morocco
- Luxembourg
- Poland
- Romania
- Spain

#### Integrated expertise

We are not siloed. Teams collaborate creating a collective global capability more powerful than the sum of the parts.

# 1.

# Activity & highlights for the H1 2024/25

## +2% organic growth in H1 2024/25

Revenue in €m Limited review	2024/25 consolidated	2023/24 consolidated	2023/24 pro forma <sup>1</sup>	Total growth	<b>Organic growth</b> (pro forma basis <sup>1</sup> )
Q1	232.4	143.3	229.3	+62%	+1%
Q2	225.4	133.4	219.7	+69%	+3%
H1	457.8	276.7	449.0	+65%	+2%

#### • Revenue of €457.8m in H1 2024/25

- up +65%
- +2% organic growth (pro forma basis<sup>1</sup>)
  - favorable working day impact of +2%<sup>2</sup>
  - as a reminder, 1% on a constant scope and forex basis

<sup>1</sup> the 2023/24 pro forma financial information has been calculated as if the acquisitions of Q\_PERIOR and Aspirant Consulting had taken place on April 1, 2023

<sup>2</sup> taking into account the geographical distribution of Wavestone's workforce

## Consultant utilization rate of 73%; average daily rate of €937



Wavestone has deployed consolidated operating indicators across the whole firm from FY 2024/25. The calculation of the order book is still being finetuned.

72% at constant scope (73% for the whole of the 2023/24 fiscal year)

to be compared with €944 over Q1 2024/25 €898 at constant scope

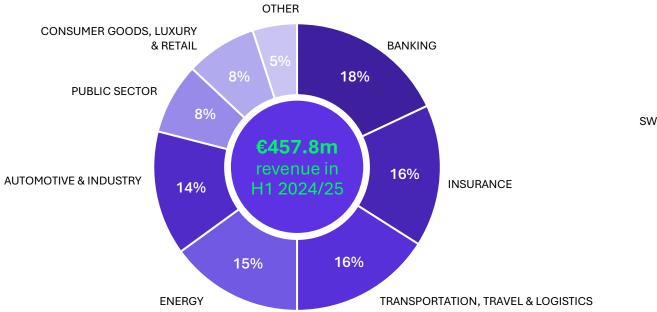
3.4 months at constant scope vs. 4.1 months on March 31, 2024, reflecting traditional slowdown in order intake during the Summer, but also the more conservative behavior of Wavestone's clients

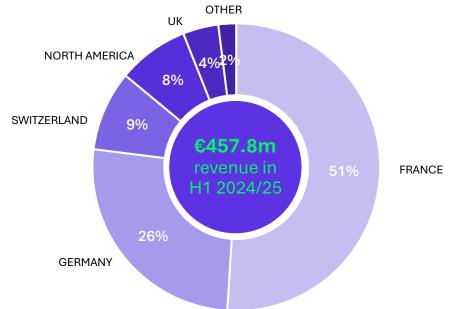
### Moderate recruitment plan; stable staff turnover rate

- Staff turnover rate of 13% on September 30, 2024 (on a rolling 12-month basis)
  - level identical to the one on June 30, 2024
  - 14% at constant scope, equivalent to previous fiscal year
- 5,875 employees on September 30, 2024
  - vs. 5,894 at the end of 2023/24 fiscal year
- Moderate recruitment plan of 1.000 gross hires over 2024/25
  - as planned at the beginning of the fiscal year



### Distribution of consolidated revenue on September 30, 2024





	TOP-2	0 CLIENTS	
DEUTSCHE BAHN	8%	CONFIDENTIAL (INSURANCE)	2%
EDF	5%	L'OREAL	2%
CREDIT AGRICOLE	3%	CHANEL	2%
TOTALENERGIES	3%	SOCIETE GENERALE	2%
AXA	3%	BPCE	2%
SNCF	3%	LA POSTE	1%
MUNICH RE	2%	R+V VERSICHERUNGEN	1%
BNP PARIBAS	2%	SBB	1%
ENGIE	2%	HERMES	1%
VOLKSWAGEN	2%	WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY	1%

## Successful integration program between Wavestone and Q\_PERIOR

- H1 2024/25 integration plan: securing foundations of the new company
  - integrated operational governance, with members from Q\_PERIOR on the Excom
  - common accounting and controlling
  - IT systems gradually homogenized to seamlessly work together
  - laying the foundations for a shared CSR strategy

#### • Very smooth integration of operations

- rapid integration of operations, supported by proactive teams
- speeding up the integration process, particularly in terms of operating models

#### Growing sales synergies

- common go-to-market materials
- stronger legitimacy in new areas of expertise on both sides, notably insurance,
   SAP and cybersecurity
- projects cross-sold and cross-delivered representing  $\simeq$ €25m, rapidly growing



## 2. Financial results for the H1 2024/25

## 10.1% recurring operating margin in H1 2024/25

On 09/30 (in €m) Limited review	H1 2024/25 (6 months)	H1 2023/24 (6 months)	Change	
Revenue	457.8	276.7	+65%	
Subcontracting purchases	(75.0)	(13.3)		
Personnel costs	(289.5)	(199.4)		costs linked to the integration program
External expenses	(38.5)	(20.9)		between Wavestone and Q_PERIOR
Taxes & duties	(3.4)	(3.4)		
Depreciation, amortization and provisions	(5.9)	(3.4)		
Other current income & expenses	1.0	0.5		
Recurring operating profit	46.4	36.8	+26%	<ul> <li>Profitability impacted by the usual</li> <li>seasonal effect and exceptional</li> </ul>
Recurring operating margin	10.1%	13.3%		external expenses

## +19% increase in net income, representing a net margin of 6.0%

On 09/30 (in €m) Limited review

#### **Recurring operating profit**

Recurring operating margin

Amortization of customer relationships

Other operating income & expenses

#### **Operating profit**

Cost of net financial debt

Other financial income and expenses

Tax expenses

Net income

Net margin

#### Group share of net income

Earnings Per Share (in €)

H1 2024/25 (6 months)	H1 2023/24 (6 months)	Change	
46.4	36.8	+26%	
10.1%	13.3%		including €3.6m of amortization of Q_PERIOR's
(4.4)	(0.7)		client relationships
(0.5)	(2.8)		
41.6	33.2	+25%	<ul><li>due to an increase in financial debt as a result</li><li>of the recent acquisitions</li></ul>
(1.6)	(0.7)		
(1.7)	(0.3)		of which €0.6m relates to the unwinding of the discount effect of Q_PERIOR's earn out
(11.0)	(9.2)		
27.3	23.0	+19%	
6.0%	8.3%		
27.2	23.0	+19%	
1.11	1.16	-4%	

## Self-financing capacity up by +38%; €2.5m of operating cash flow

On 09/30 (in €m) Limited review	H1 2024/25 (6 months)
Self-financing capacity before costs of net financial debt and tax	54.3
Tax paid	(22.1)
Change in WCR	(29.7)
Net operating cash flow	2.5
Net investing cash flow	(37.8)
of which fixed asset acquisitions	(2.2)
of which changes in scope	(35.6)
Net financing cash flow	8.6
of which dividends paid	(10.1)
of which sales (acquisitions) of company shares	(6.4)
of which loans received net of repayments	31.2
of which repayments of lease liabilities	(4.1)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(26.7)

1 2024/25 (6 months)	H1 2023/24 (6 months)	
54.3	39.4	i
(22.1)	(9.8)	Α
(29.7)	(20.3)	U
2.5	9.3	→ ro a
(37.8)	(6.5)	C
(2.2)	(1.1)	→ €
(35.6)	(5.3)	C
8.6	(19.7)	
(10.1)	(7.6)	
(6.4)	(6.0)	
31.2	(2.8)	
(4.1)	(2.6)	
(26.7)	(16.9)	

inclusion of Q\_PERIOR and Aspirant

usual reduction in employeerelated liabilities in the H1 and to an increase of 5% in DSO

€35.0m related to the payment
 of Q\_PERIOR's earn-out

### Net financial debt of €38.5m on September 30, 2024

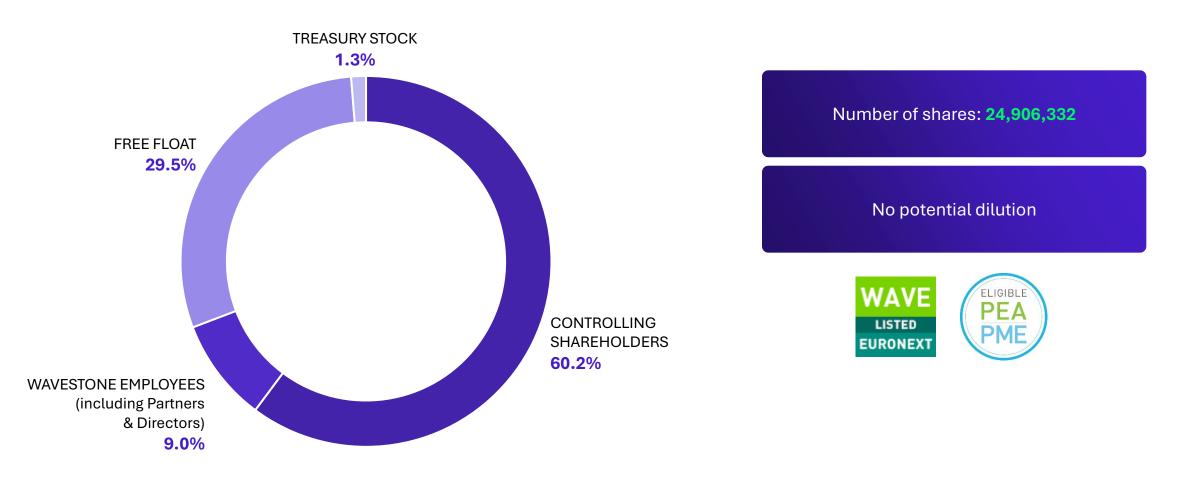
TOTAL ASSETS	948.5	977.7
Cash & cash equivalents	51.0	77.5
of which trade receivables	239.3	245.9
Current assets	263.9	266.6
of which rights-of-use assets	26.0	23.9
of which client relationships	70.2	74.5
of which goodwill	510.5	507.9
Non-current assets	633.7	633.7
On 09/30 (in €m) Limited review	09/30 2024	03/31 2024

Net debt: €38.5m
(excluding IFRS 16 lease liabilities)
compared with €19.3m net cash on March 31, 2024

On 09/30 (in €m) Limited review	09/30 2024	03/31 2024
Shareholders' equity	579.6	571.4
of which minority interests	1.2	1.9
<b>Financial liabilities</b>	89.5	58.2
of which less than one year	40.7	6.0
Lease liabilities	28.5	26.2
Non-financial liabilities	250.9	322.0
TOTAL LIABILITIES	948.5	977.7

	Earnouts
Q_PERIOR	€35m paid in Q1 2024/25
Aspirant	up to \$10m ( <mark>\$8m</mark> provisioned) potentially be paid in Q4 2024/25

### Breakdown of share capital on March 31, 2024



### Share price since January 1, 2023



# **3.** Outlook

## A hardening business environment

#### Weaker-than-expected demand for consulting services

- continued wait-and-see attitude among clients toward new investments and consulting expenditures
- tougher competition

#### Slowdown across numerous sectors...

- banking, industry particularly automotive industry, retail and the French public sector remain under pressure
- luxury sector also showing a slowdown since this Summer

#### ... despite some areas of resilience

 energy, transport, life sciences and insurance are still resilient, as well as certain topics such as cybersecurity, the cloud, SAP, and artificial intelligence

#### • Growing price pressure

- impact on profitability mitigated by lower pressure on salaries
- limited effect expected in 2024/25



## Lack of visibility for the next months

• Lower than anticipated business activity since September

#### • Lack of visibility on Q4 2024/25

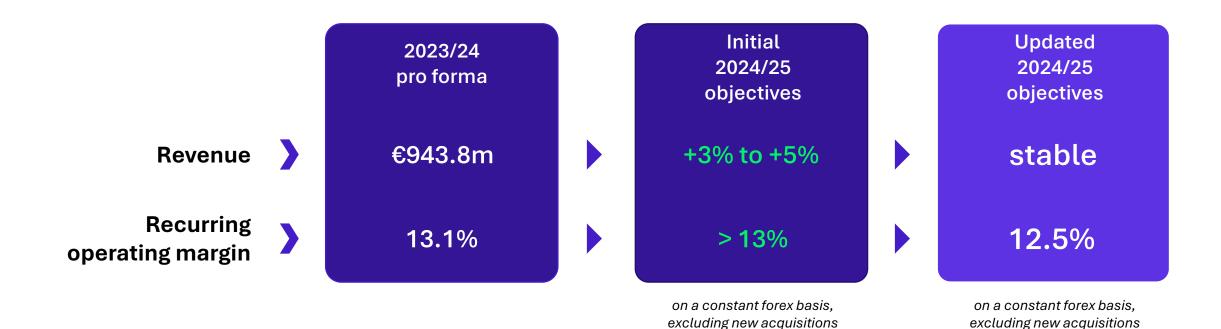
- investments likely to remain under pressure in the short term, despite the easing interest rates
- absence of signs of economic recovery in Europe
- risk of a slow start to the 2025 calendar year (Q4 2024/25)

#### • Impact on the firm's revenue

- profitability also impacted, although effects partly mitigated by the cost-saving plan implemented by the firm
- However, decision to keep recruitment plan unchanged
  - +3% of net growth in consultant headcount targeted over 2024/25



### More cautious 2024/25 objectives





H1 2024/25 results | Outlook 2024/25

## **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

### Financial agenda

