



**WOLSELEY**

# 2016 Half Year Results





# Welcome and highlights

Ian Meakins, Chief Executive



# Highlights

- Group performance - resilient
  - Share gain or held in most businesses
  - Improvements in customer service
  - Gross margins ahead
  - Tight cost management
- US results improving in tougher markets
  - Deflation / Industrial
  - Residential, Commercial, Infrastructure robust
- UK results disappointing
  - Tough market
  - Better execution
- Nordics results better
- Strategy is consistent and continued investment in proven strategic programmes
  - £109m capex invested in H1
- Strong cash generation
  - Dividend up 10%
- Expect to meet analysts expectations





# Operating and Financial Review

**John Martin**, Chief Financial Officer

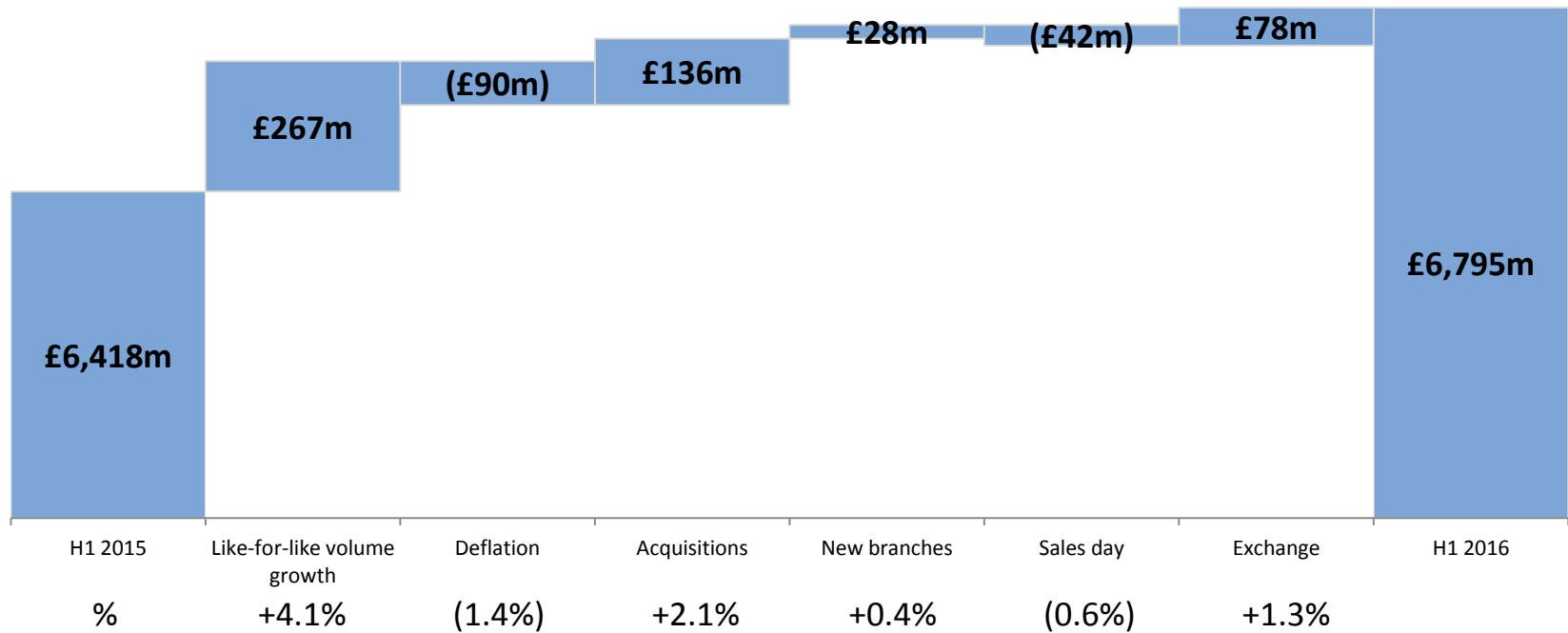


# Financial highlights

	H1 2016	H1 2015	Change	Change (at constant exchange rates)	Like-for-like Change
Ongoing revenue	<b>£6,795m</b>	£6,418m	+5.9%	+4.6%	+2.7%
Ongoing trading profit*	<b>£410m</b>	£390m	+5.1%	+2.3%	
Ongoing gross margin %	<b>28.3%</b>	27.9%	+0.4%		
Ongoing trading margin %*	<b>6.0%</b>	6.1%	(0.1%)		
Headline earnings per share*	<b>110.2p</b>	103.6p	+6.4%		
Ordinary dividend per share	<b>33.28p</b>	30.25p	+10.0%		
Net debt	<b>£1,253m</b>	£1,221m			
Trading days	<b>127</b>	128	(1)		

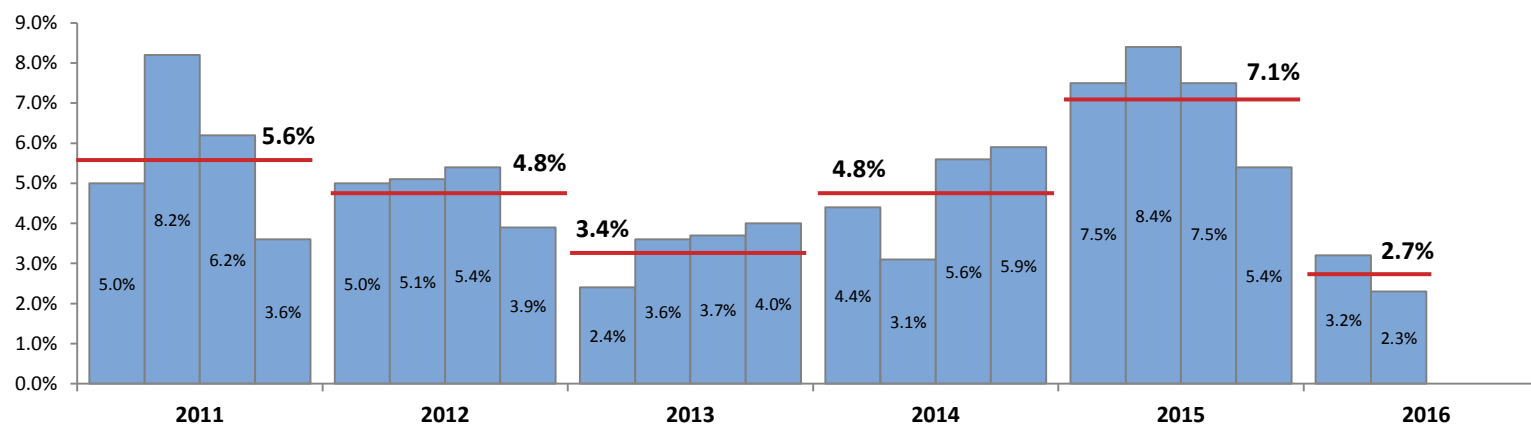
\* Before exceptional items, the amortisation and impairment of acquired intangibles and with respect to headline EPS also before non-recurring tax items

# Total revenue growth



# Like-for-like growth

	Q2 last year	Q3 last year	Q4 last year	Q1 this year	Q2 this year
USA	11.1%	8.3%	7.1%	4.5%	<b>4.0%</b>
UK	3.4%	7.6%	3.1%	(1.1%)	<b>(2.9%)</b>
Nordics	5.4%	8.8%	6.4%	5.5%	<b>2.4%</b>
Canada	3.1%	(1.9%)	(5.8%)	(3.7%)	<b>0.6%</b>
Central Europe	4.6%	1.0%	(3.4%)	(1.2%)	<b>(5.0%)</b>
Ongoing businesses	8.4%	7.5%	5.4%	3.2%	<b>2.3%</b>



# Industrial end-markets

H1 impact		Proportion of regional sales	Like-for-like change	Impact on growth
USA	Standalone branch sales	8%	(11%)	<b>(0.9%)</b>
	Blended branch sales	7%	(8%)	<b>(0.6%)</b>
	Total impact on US growth			<b>(1.5%)</b>
Canada	Industrial sales	10%	(29%)	<b>(2.9%)</b>
Group				<b>(1.2%)</b>



# Commodity deflation impact

H1 impact	£m	%
Revenue	<b>(90m)</b>	<b>(1.4%)</b>
Gross profit	<b>(15m)</b>	<b>(0.8%)</b>
Gross margin		<b>+0.16%</b>
Trading profit	<b>(15m)</b>	<b>(3.8%)</b>

% devaluation	2015	2016 H1	Cumulative
Copper	<b>(9%)</b>	<b>(16%)</b>	<b>(25%)</b>
Plastic	<b>(1%)</b>	<b>(13%)</b>	<b>(14%)</b>
Carbon steel	<b>(9%)</b>	<b>(7%)</b>	<b>(16%)</b>

# Currency impact

Region	Trading impact	Translation impact in H1 gain / (loss)	Translation impact in H2 gain / (loss) *
USA	Negative impact on US manufacturing	<b>+£16m</b>	+£21m
UK	Negligible	-	-
Nordics	Negligible	<b>(£2m)</b>	+£1m
Canada	Negative impact of US\$ denominated imports	<b>(£3m)</b>	-
Central Europe	Negative impact of 'Eurobonus' discounting	-	-
		<b>+£11m</b>	+£22m

\* Estimated impact if exchange rates stay at the current levels throughout the remainder of FY16

# USA (80% of Group trading profit)

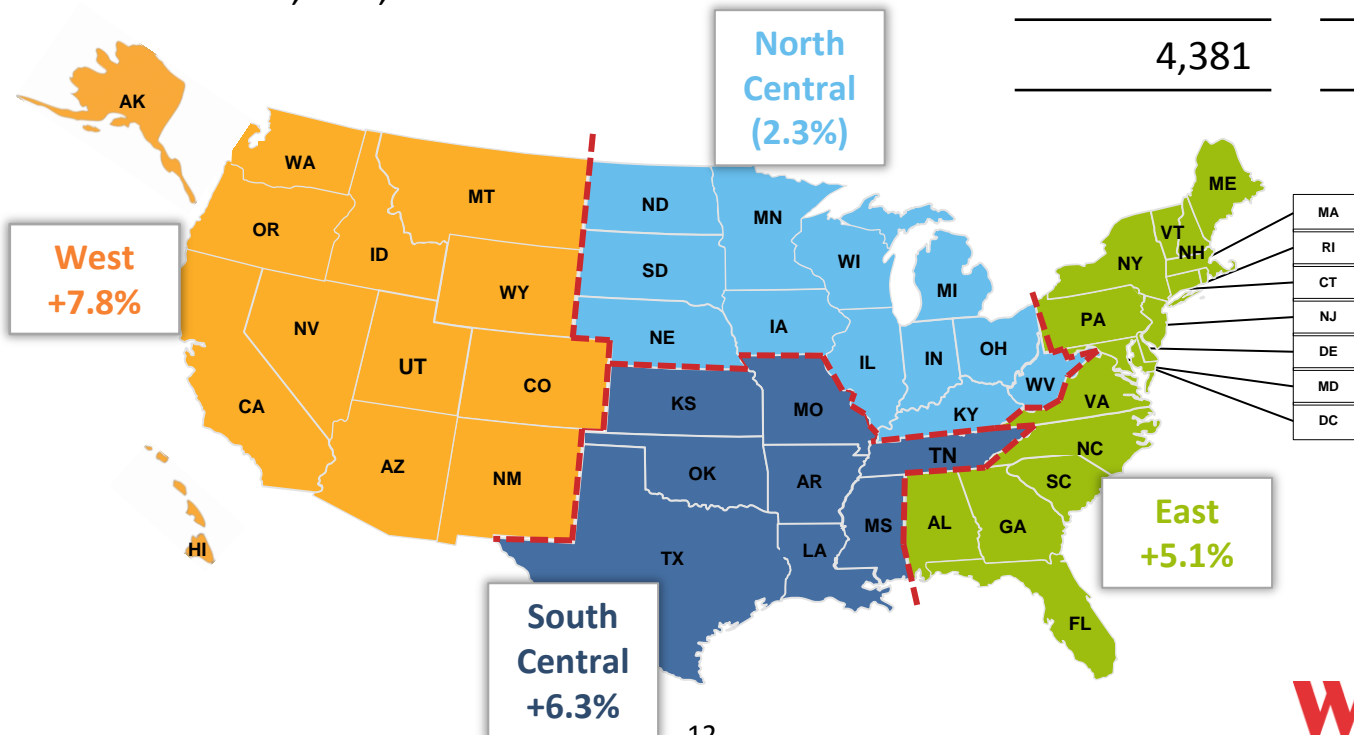


£m	H1 2016	H1 2015	Change	Change (at constant exchange rates)
Revenue	<b>4,381</b>	3,912	+12.0%	+6.5%
Like-for-like growth	<b>4.3%</b>	11.7%	(7.4%)	
Trading profit	<b>345</b>	311	+10.9%	+5.5%
Trading margin	<b>7.9%</b>	7.9%	-	
Branches	<b>1,444</b>	1,391	+3.8%	
Headcount	<b>22,343</b>	21,248	+5.2%	

# USA like-for-like revenue growth



Business unit	Revenue £m	Like-for-like Change %
Blended Branches	2,719	+4.8%
Waterworks	681	+1.8%
Industrial	333	(10.8%)
HVAC, Fire & Fabrication, B2C, MRO	648	+15.2%
	<b>4,381</b>	<b>+4.3%</b>



# US investment and cost control

Associate numbers		Labour \$m	Other \$m	Total \$m	Growth %
21,248	H1 2015	873	473	1,346	
472	Acquisitions	15	4	19	1.4%
248	Branch investment	11	18	29	2.2%
126	IT and key strategies	5	8	13	1.0%
-	Merit increases	18		18	1.3%
-	Healthcare	6		6	0.4%
-	Commissions	6		6	0.4%
-	Fuel		(6)	(6)	(0.4%)
-	Fleet cost and investment		9	9	0.7%
-	Internet advertising		10	10	0.7%
249	Other growth	11	2	13	1.0%
22,343	H1 2016	945	518	1,463	8.7%



## UK (8% of Group trading profit)



£m	H1 2016	H1 2015	Change	Change (at constant exchange rates)
Revenue	996	984	+1.2%	+1.2%
Like-for-like growth	(2.0%)	1.9%	(3.9%)	
Trading profit	34	43	(20.9%)	(20.9%)
Trading margin	3.4%	4.4%	(1.0%)	
Branches	748	762	(1.8%)	
Headcount	6,201	6,049	+2.5%	

# UK investment and cost control

Associate numbers		Labour £m	Other £m	Total £m	Growth %
6,049	H1 2015	105.2	82.6	<b>187.8</b>	
258	Acquisitions	4.4	10.3	<b>14.7</b>	7.8%
	Branch investment	-	1.7	<b>1.7</b>	0.9%
	IT and key strategies	0.5	1.0	<b>1.5</b>	0.8%
	Merit increases	2.1	-	<b>2.1</b>	1.1%
	Fuel	-	(0.8)	<b>(0.8)</b>	(0.4%)
(106)	Cost savings	(2.1)	(1.7)	<b>(3.8)</b>	(2.0%)
6,201		110.1	93.1	<b>203.2</b>	8.2%

## Nordic (5% of Group trading profit)



£m	H1 2016	H1 2015	Change	Change (at constant exchange rates)
Revenue	<b>885</b>	935	(5.3%)	+3.2%
Like-for-like growth	<b>4.2%</b>	3.4%	+0.8%	
Trading profit	<b>23</b>	22	+4.5%	+14.5%
Trading margin	<b>2.6%</b>	2.4%	+0.2%	
Branches	<b>258</b>	258	-	
Headcount	<b>5,640</b>	5,732	(1.6%)	

## Canada (4% of Group trading profit)



£m	H1 2016	H1 2015	Change	Change (at constant exchange rates)
Revenue	<b>329</b>	372	(11.6%)	(0.5%)
Like-for-like growth	<b>(1.8%)</b>	3.4%	(5.2%)	
Trading profit	<b>17</b>	23	(26.1%)	(16.7%)
Trading margin	<b>5.2%</b>	6.2%	(1.0%)	
Branches	<b>215</b>	222	(3.2%)	
Headcount	<b>2,371</b>	2,431	(2.5%)	

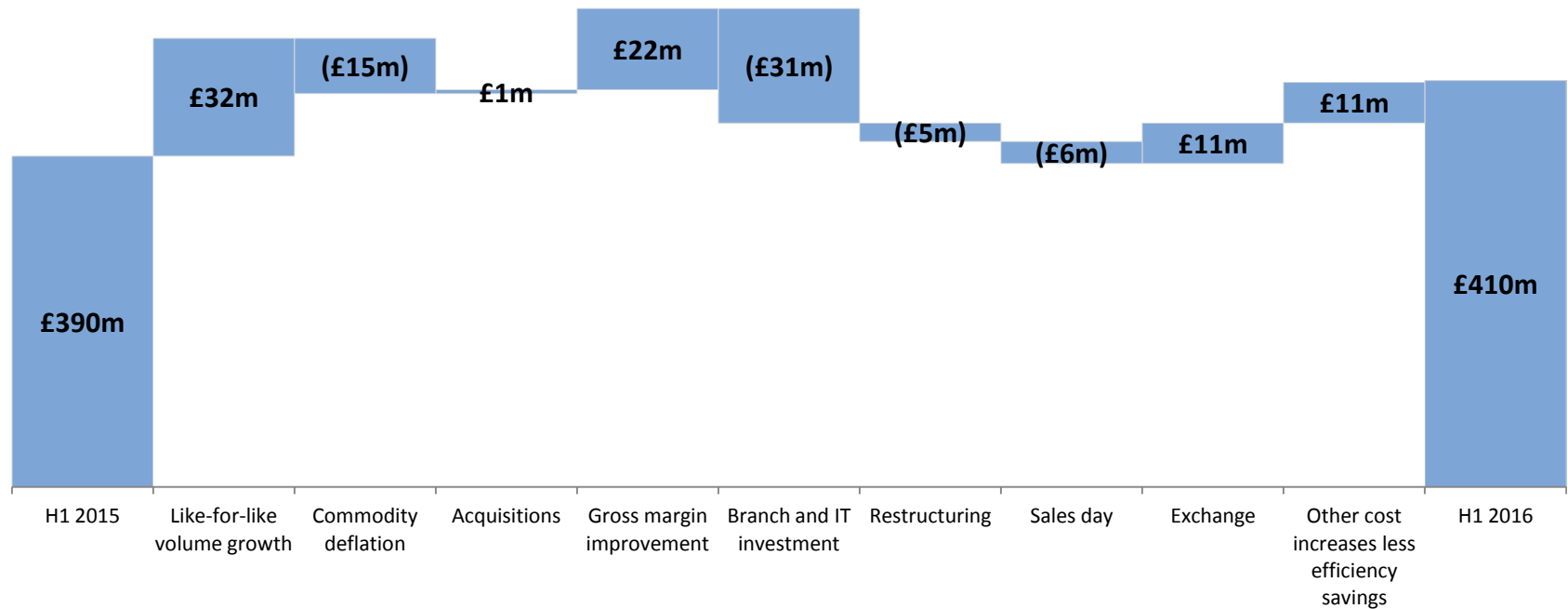
## Central Europe (3% of Group trading profit)



£m	H1 2016	H1 2015	Change	Change (at constant exchange rates)
Revenue	<b>204</b>	215	(5.1%)	(2.7%)
Like-for-like growth	<b>(3.1%)</b>	(1.5%)	(1.6%)	
Trading profit	<b>13</b>	14	(3.9%)	(2.7%)
Trading margin	<b>6.4%</b>	6.5%	(0.1%)	
Branches	<b>78</b>	77	+1.3%	
Headcount	<b>1,069</b>	1,082	(1.2%)	



# Trading profit in the ongoing business



# Central costs, financing and tax

£m	H1 2016	H1 2015
<b>Central costs</b>	<b>22</b>	23
<b>Financing</b>		
P&L charge	20	18
Exceptionals (FX recycling)	-	(5)
Underlying P&L charge	20	13
<b>Tax</b>		
P&L charge	103	91
Exceptionals, intangibles & non-recurring items	6	15
Underlying P&L charge	109	106
Effective tax rate	27.9%	28.1%

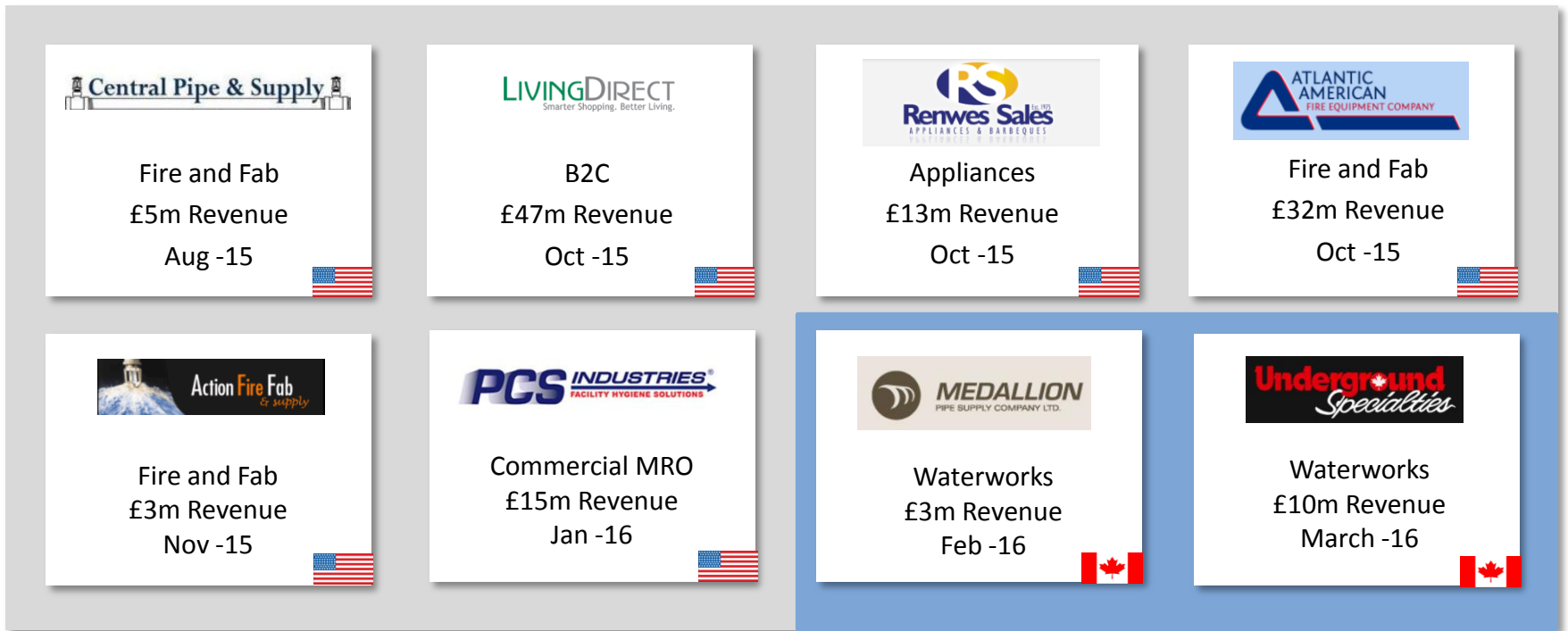
# Cash

£m	H1 2016	H1 2015
EBITDA before exceptionals	475	444
Seasonal working capital outflow	(307)	(274)
Exceptionals and other	23	(21)
Cash flow from operating activities	191	149
Disposals	35	44
Interest & tax	(106)	(124)
Acquisitions	(62)	(28)
Capex	(109)	(116)
Dividends & buybacks	(316)	(358)
FX & other items	(81)	(77)
	<b>(448)</b>	<b>(510)</b>

# Organic investment

£m	H1 2016 Capex	H1 2015 Capex
Technology, processes, systems	22	39
Freehold, DCs and hubs	46	37
Branch expansion, showrooms and refurbishment	41	40
	<b>109</b>	<b>116</b>

# Acquisitions



■ Completed in H1 2016  
■ Completed after the period end



# Capital structure

	<b>31 Jan 2016</b>	31 July 2015	31 Jan 2015
Net debt*	<b>£1,253m</b>	£935m	£1,221m
Net pension liabilities	<b>£35m</b>	£15m	£84m
Committed facilities	<b>£2.2bn</b>	£2.2bn	£2.3bn
Interim dividend +10%	<b>33.28p</b>	-	30.25p

Share buyback programme: bought 4.3m shares for £162m (average £37.39 per share)

\* 31 July 2015 adjusted by £130m reflecting the timing of payment runs

# Outlook for the second half

Like-for-like revenue growth in December to February	<b>3.2%</b>
H2 restructuring costs committed to date	<b>£15m</b>
Trading days compared to H2 last year	<b>Same</b>
Impact of restating last years H2 trading profit at current FX rates	<b>+£22m</b>
Effective tax rate	<b>28.0%</b>
Capital investment in the second half	<b>£100m - £110m</b>
Working capital investment	<b>12 - 13% of incremental sales</b>
Net debt / EBITDA	<b>Within 1x to 2x</b>

At current exchange rates expect full year trading profit in line with consensus



# Business Review and Strategy update

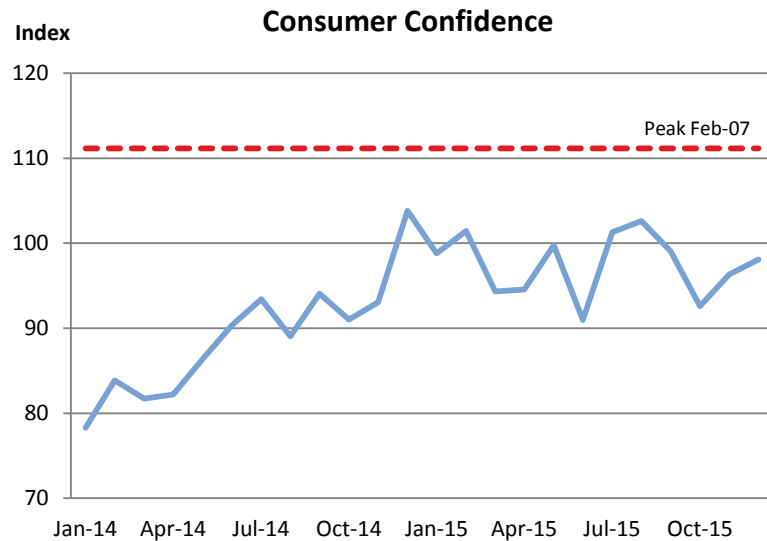
**Ian Meakins**, Chief Executive



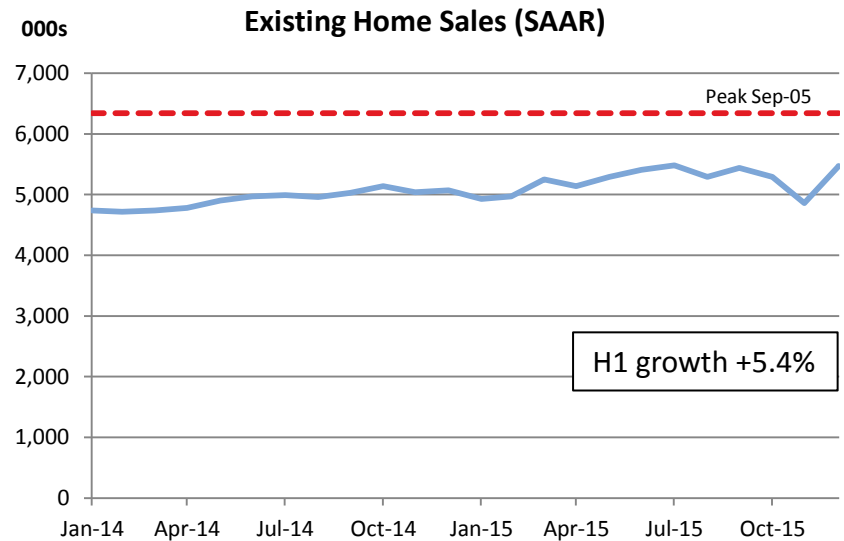
# Agenda – US / UK / Nordics

- Current market conditions
- Performance by business and KPIs
- Actions taken and plans to improve performance

# US – current market conditions

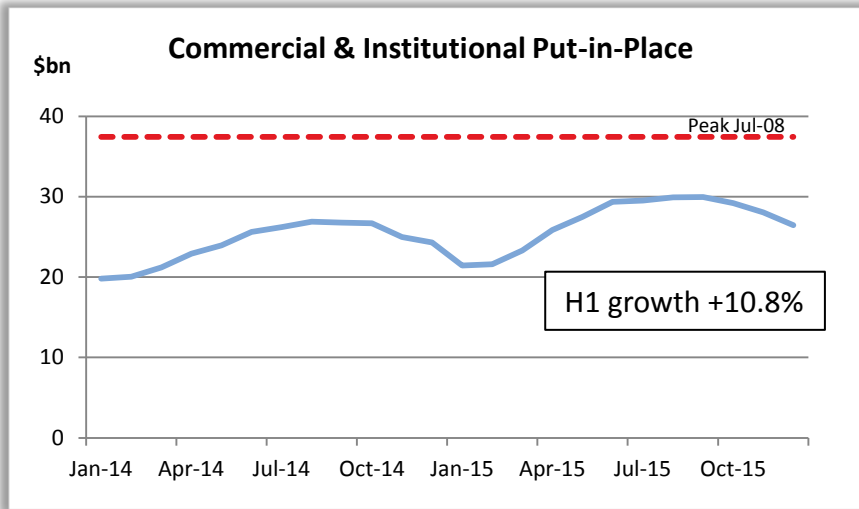


Source: The Conference Board

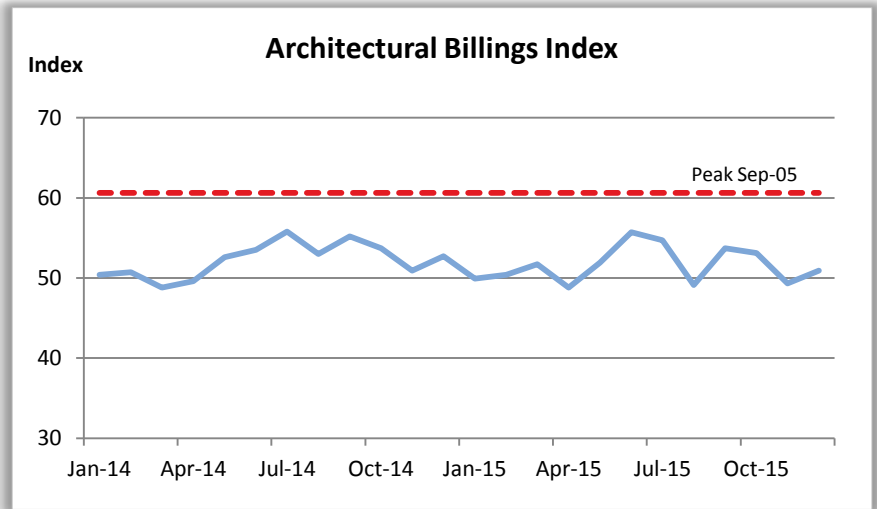


Source: National Association of Realtors

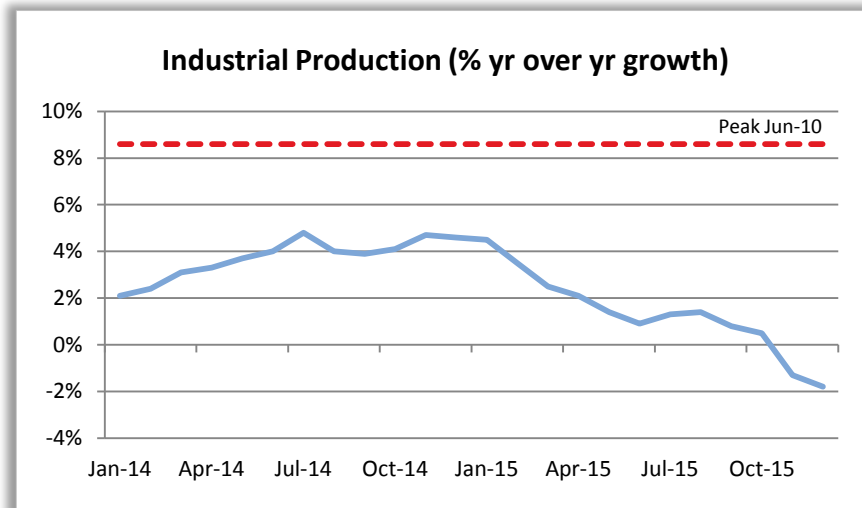
# US – current market conditions



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

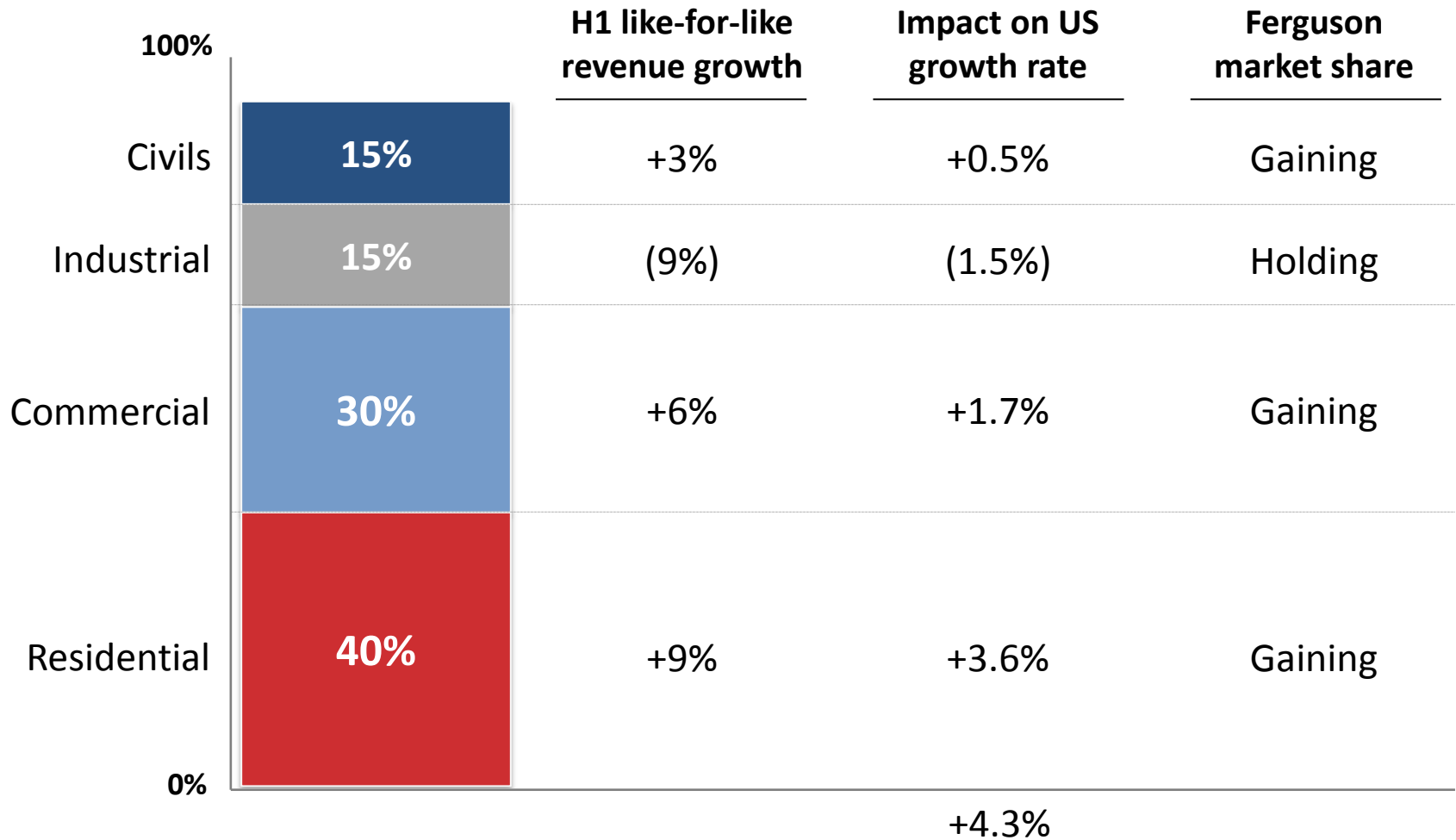


Source: The American Institute of Architects (AIA)



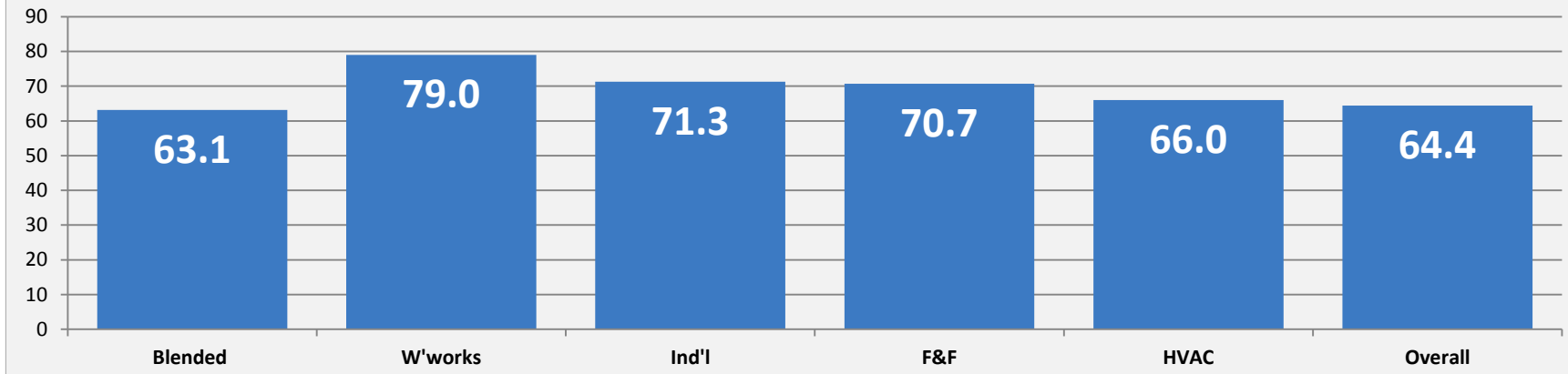
Source: U.S. Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (FRB)

# US – Ferguson’s business mix



# US - key performance indicators

Net Promoter Score



Top 3,000 SKUs availability

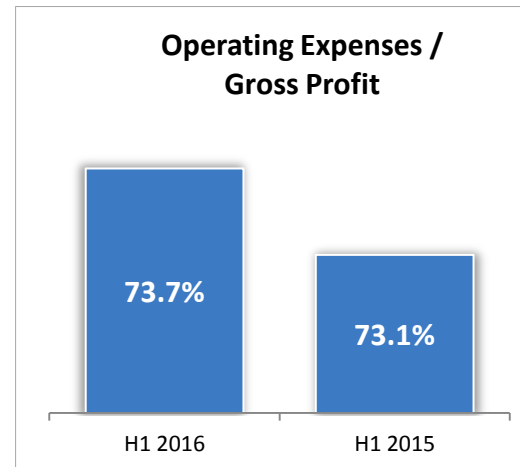
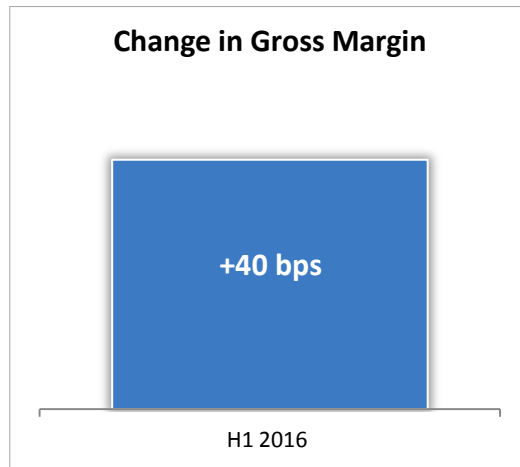
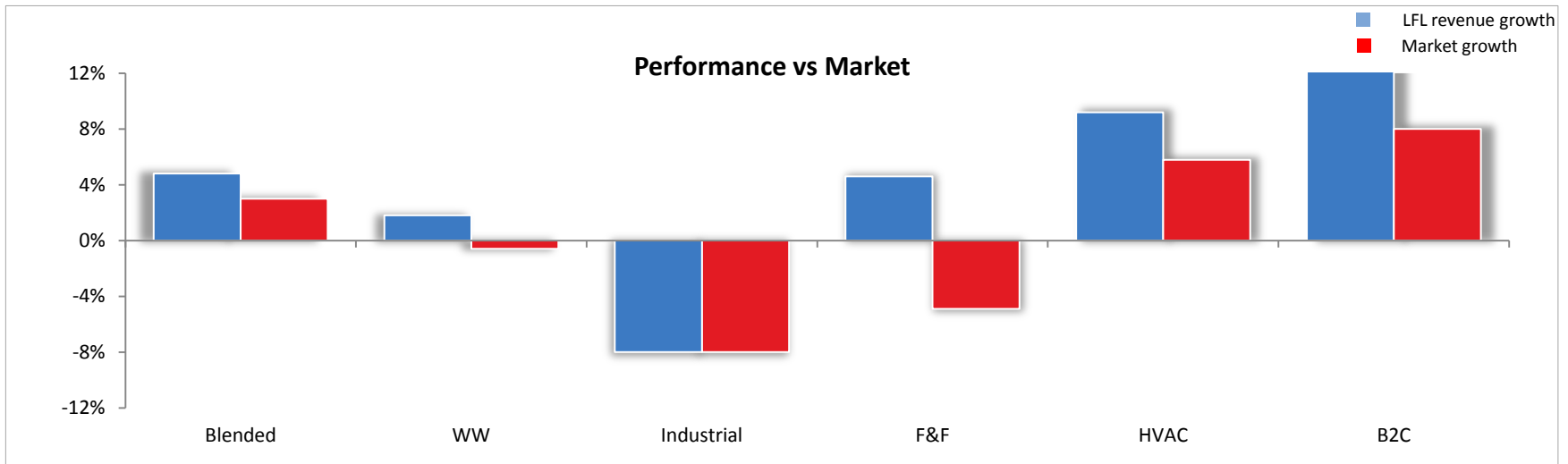
99.2%

Employee Engagement

87.5%

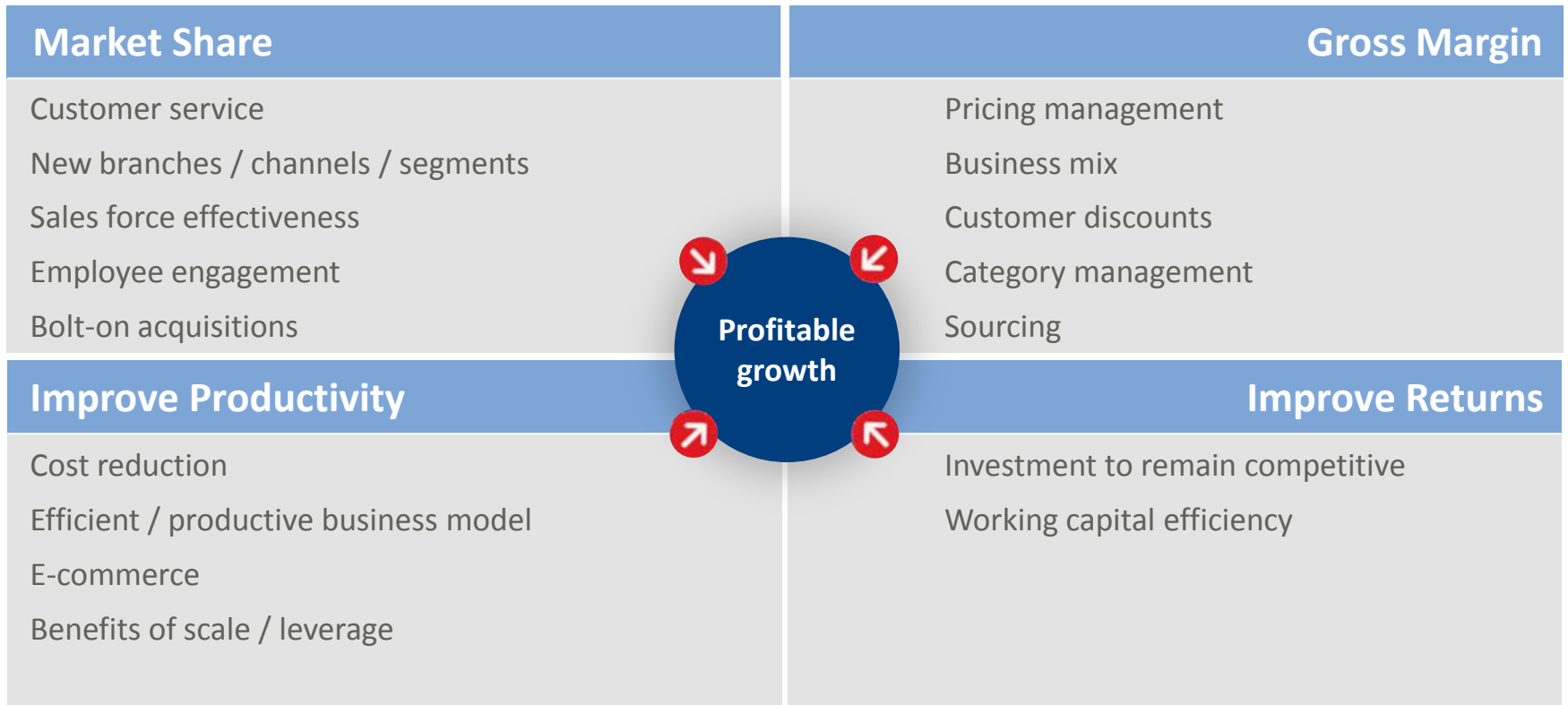


# US - key performance indicators



# Accelerate profitable growth

## Profit levers – re-cap



Many small improvements generate very good performance

# Accelerate profitable growth

## US actions

Market Share	Gross Margin
Gradual improvements -NPS / availability / OTIF	Price management and compliance
Net new branches – 15 in H1, 15 in H2	Own label development
Organisational improvement – dedicated resources by district	Commodity management - commercial
National accounts – residential / commercial	Commercial quotations - HVAC
B2C marketing investment / mobile experience	
E-commerce - mobile experience enhancements	
Expand HVAC into Blended Branches	
MRO investment	
Waterworks – Meter and Automations growth	
Bolt-on M&A	

**Profitable growth**

# Accelerate profitable growth

## US actions

Profitable growth

### Improve Productivity

Associate numbers tightly managed

B2B e-commerce conversion

CRM roll-out

Higher utilisation of regional quote centres

Ship hub development

Expansion of the National Sales Centre

Compliance with core processes / best practice

### Improve Returns

Gradual replacement of legacy finance platforms

Telephony / infrastructure

Re-platform of B2B e-commerce

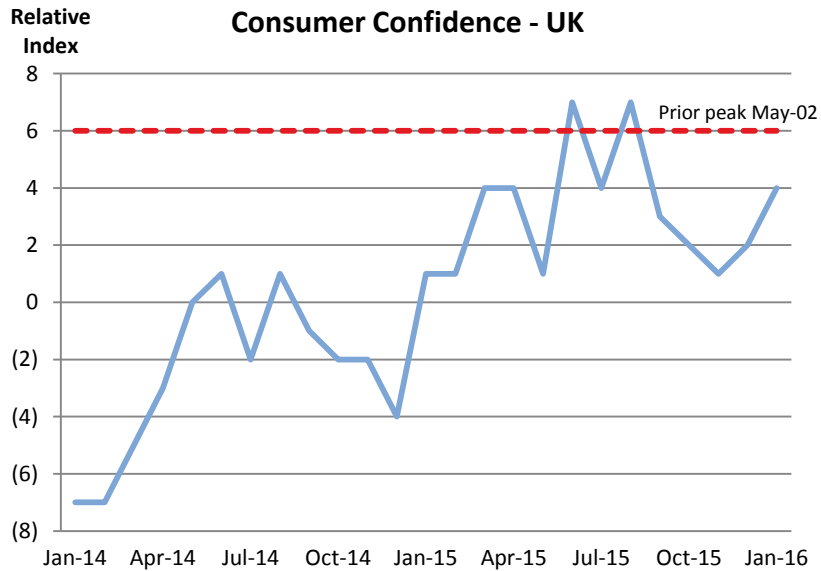
# US Summary

- Residential, commercial and infrastructure markets remain robust – Industrial still declining but at lower rate
- Like-for-like revenue growth rate returned to 5.7%
  - Deflation at c.2%
- Flow through reduced
  - Industrial / deflation
  - Cost growth rate being reduced
- Strategy consistent and continued investment in proven programmes
  - share gains / and service / gross margins / productivity

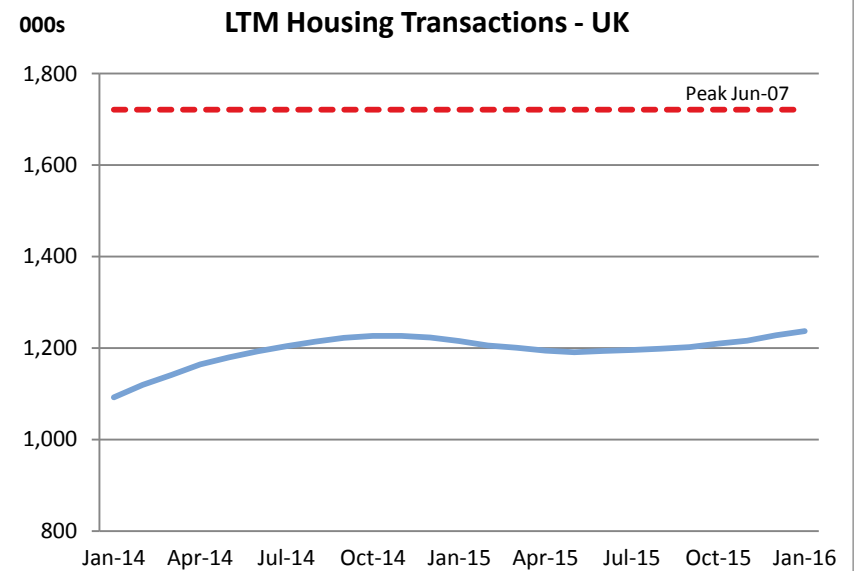
# Agenda – UK

- Current market conditions
- Performance by business and KPIs
- Actions taken and plans to improve performance

# UK macro and residential data

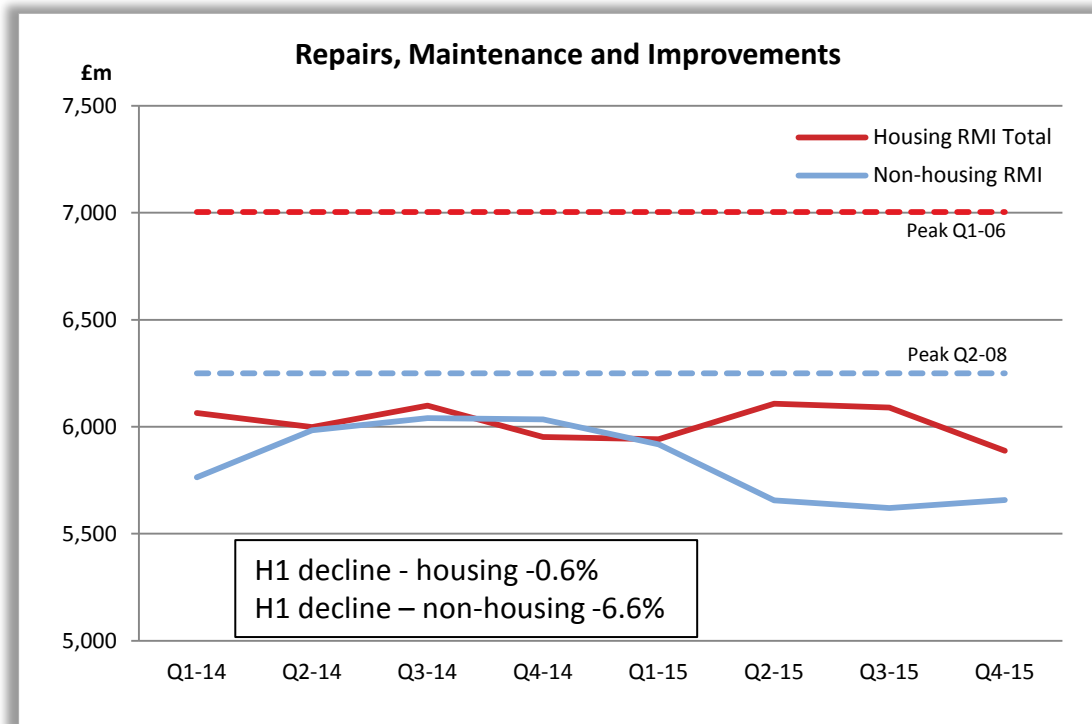


Source: GfK



Source: HMRC

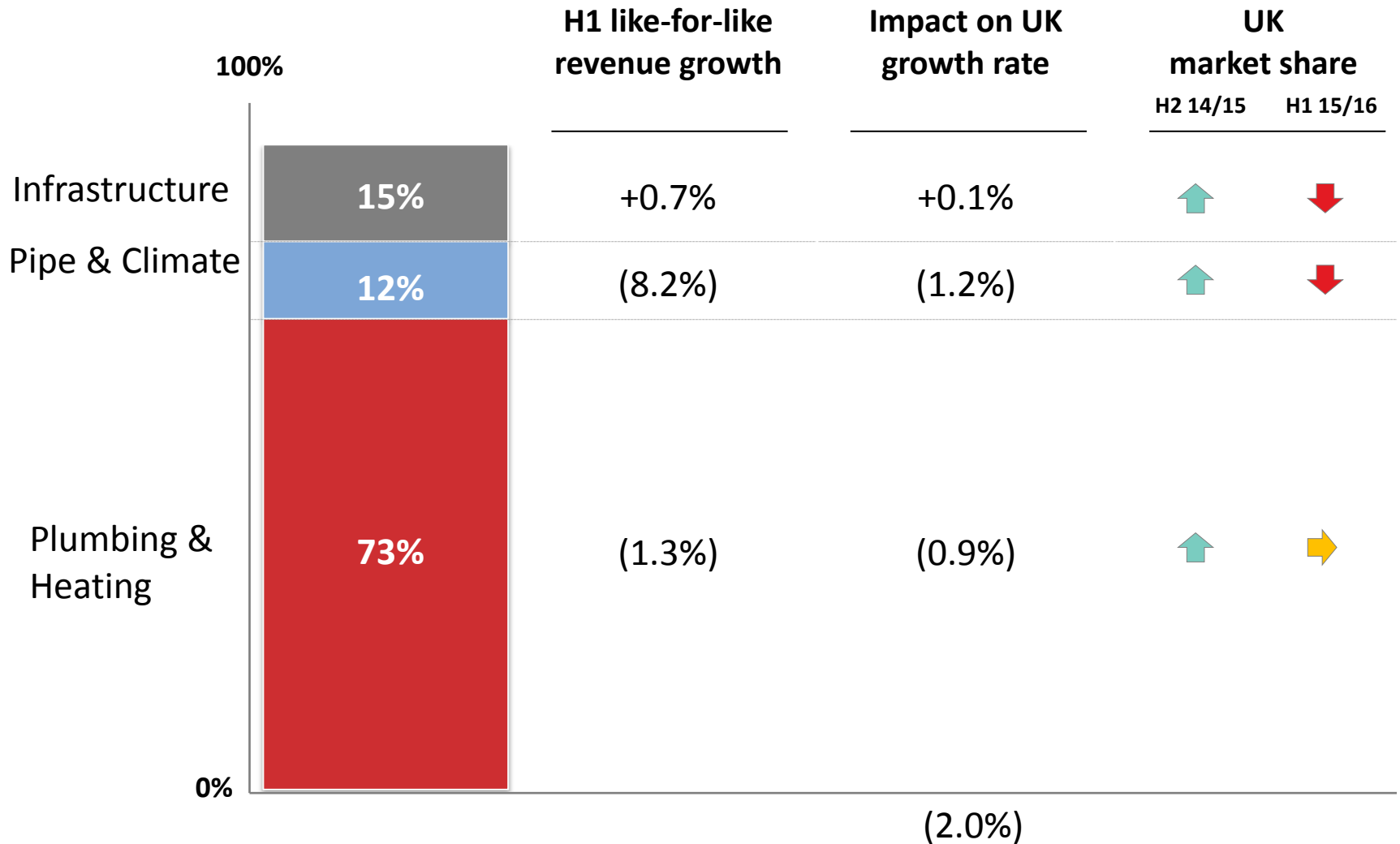
# UK RMI, commercial, industrial and infrastructure



Source: ONS

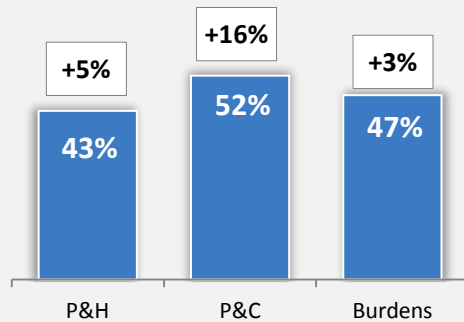


# UK business mix

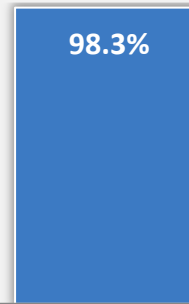


# UK key performance indicators

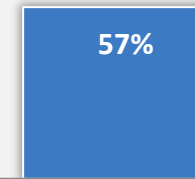
Net Promoter Score



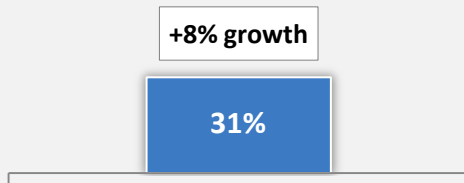
Top 3,000 SKUs Availability



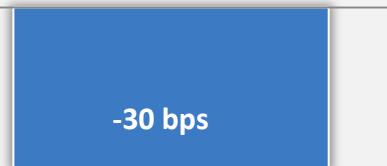
Employee Engagement



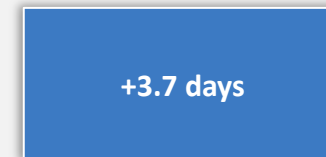
Small Customers % revenue



Change in Gross Margin



CTC Days Improvement



# UK – Pipe and Climate Center

- Overall market down 6% in H1 (3% price deflation)
- Significant improvement in service
  - NPS improved by 16% to 52%
  - Availability at 95.8% – core product range roll-out
  - Daily delivery for all branches
- Reduce costs and improving the business model
  - Consolidation of branches – fewer larger
  - Regional support centres – projects quotations / pricing
  - Improved range & availability, pricing, own label

# Accelerate profitable growth

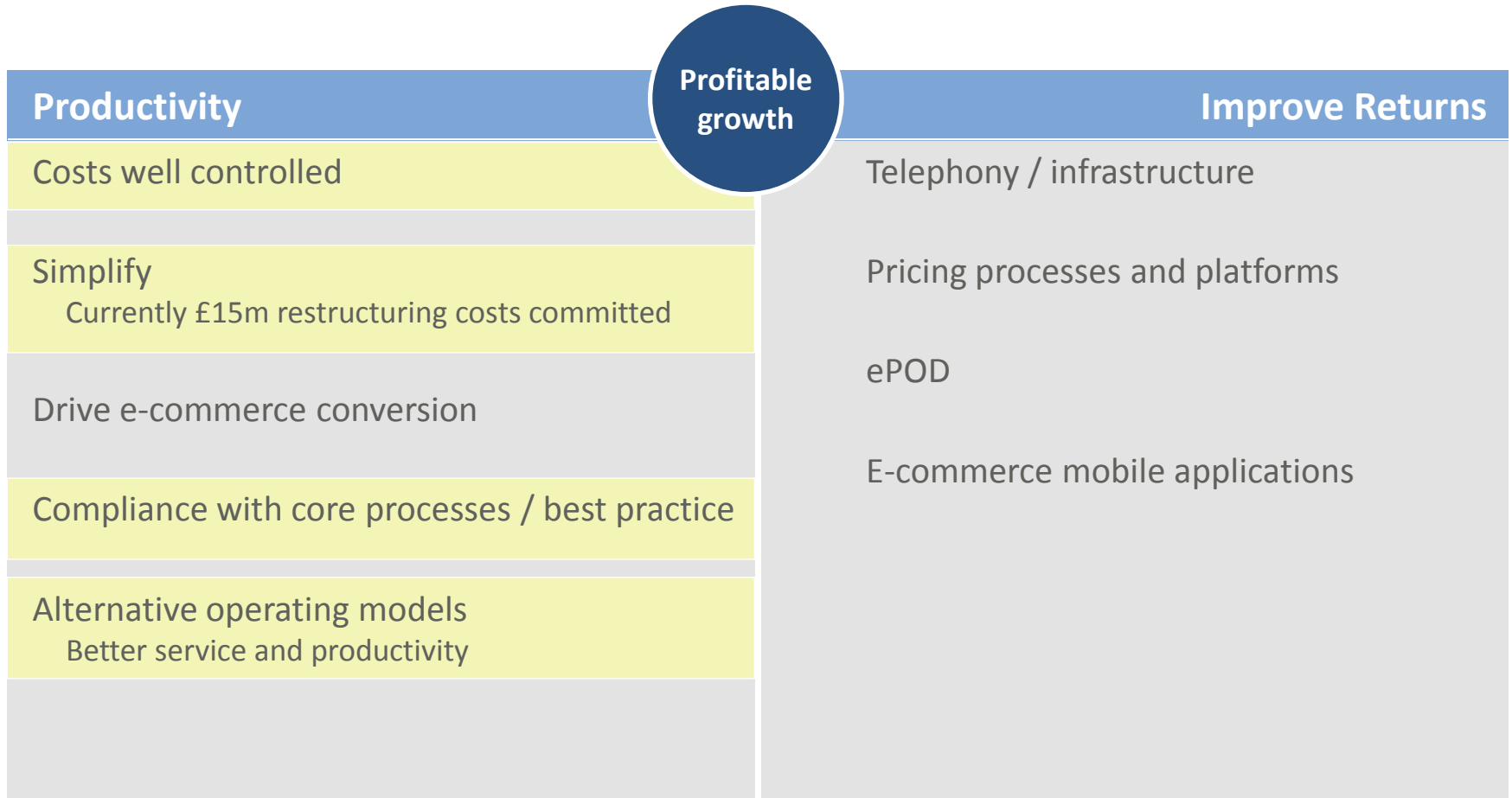
## UK actions

Market Share	Gross Margin
Significant service improvements – key differentiator NPS / availability of core range / OTIF	Price management and compliance Guidance and terms
Showroom expansion – 23 in H1, 25 in H2	Own label / exclusive branded products
Sales training / CRM / pipeline conversion	Growth in small customers /plumbing
Front line staff – training / reward / recruitment	Key value items / commodity pricing
E-Commerce conversion B2B and B2C	Reduce emphasis in wholesale market
	Sourcing compliance with category plans

Profitable growth

# Accelerate profitable growth

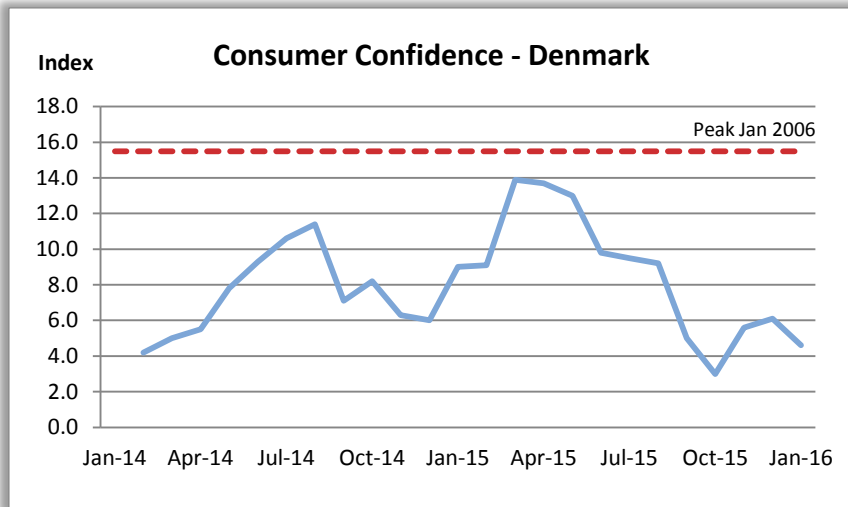
## UK actions



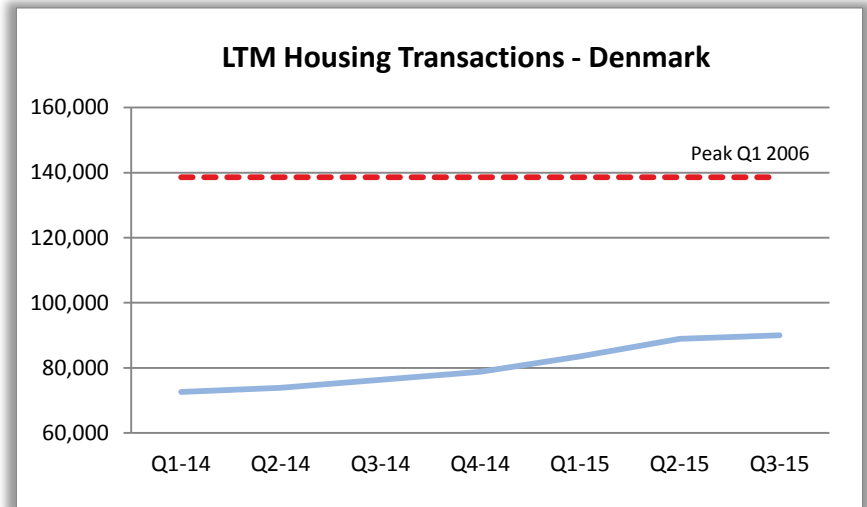
# Agenda – Nordics

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- Performance by business and KPIs
- Actions taken and plans to improve performance

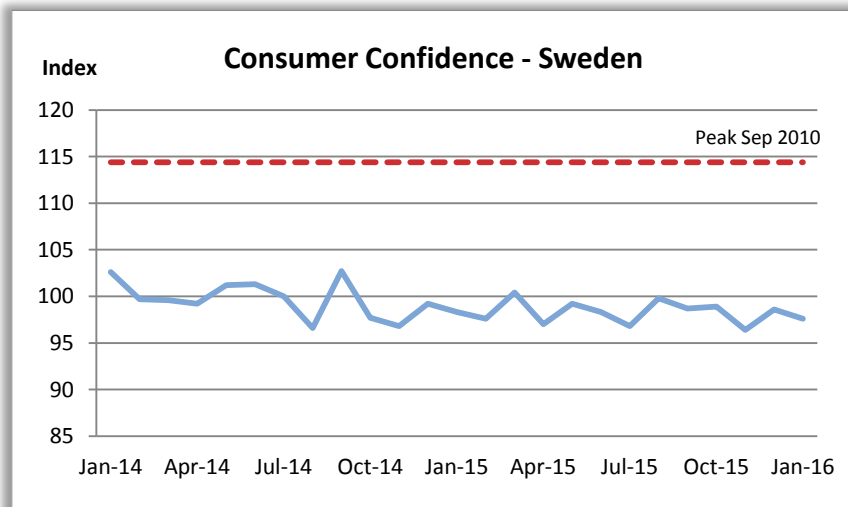
# Nordics macro and residential data



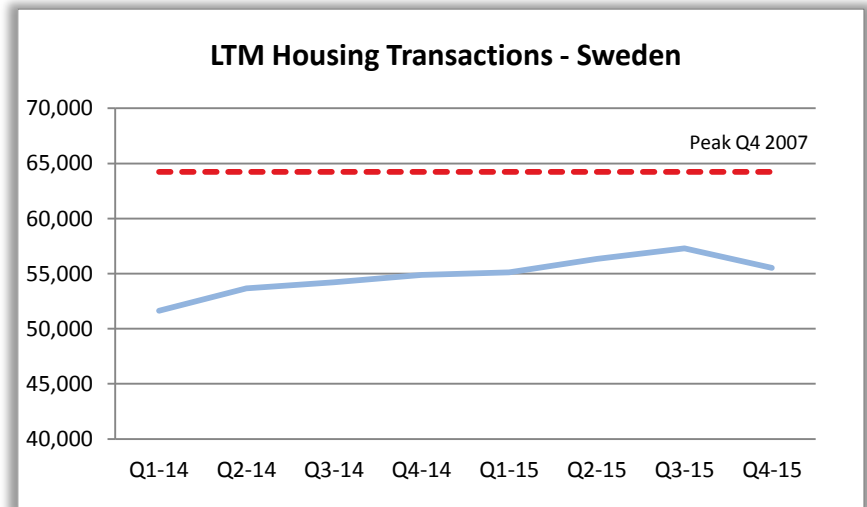
Source: Statistics Denmark



Source: Statistics Denmark

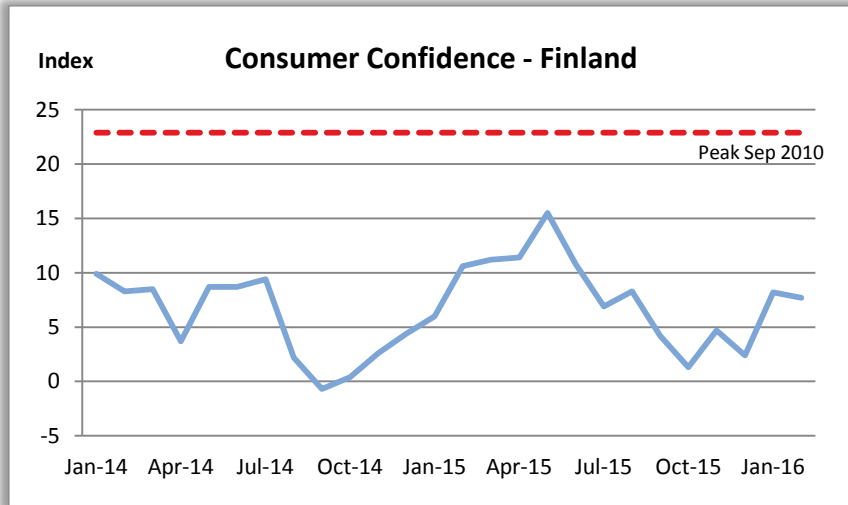


Source: National Institute of Economic Research Sweden

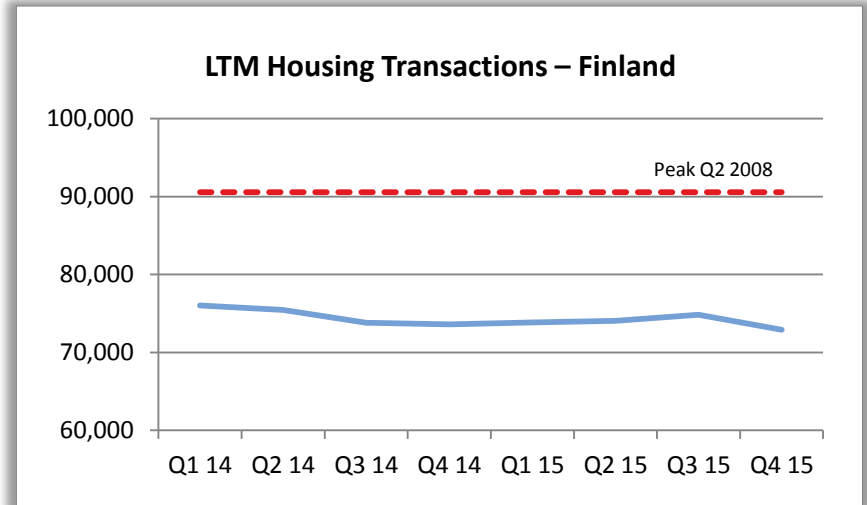


Source: Statistics Sweden

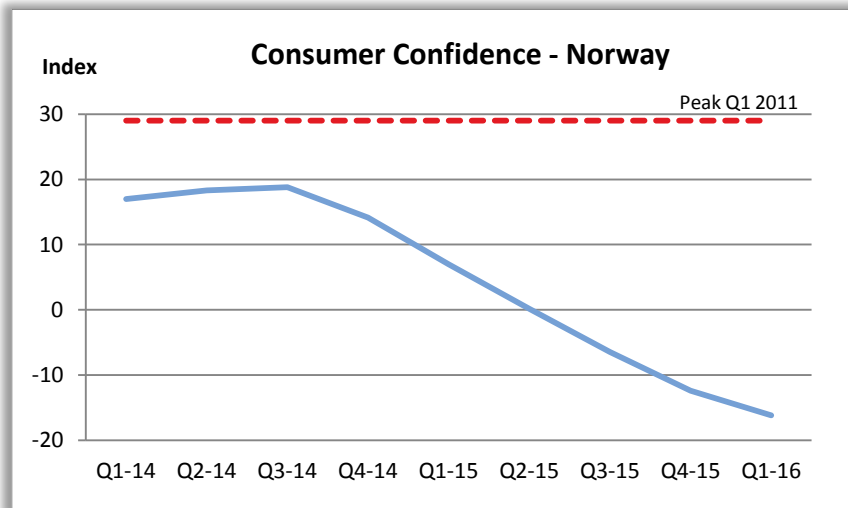
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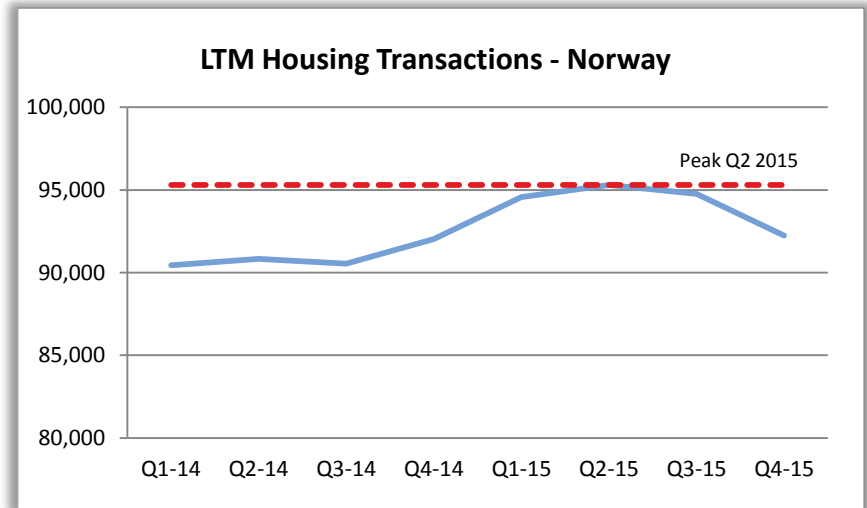
Source: Bank of Finland



Source: Statistics Finland



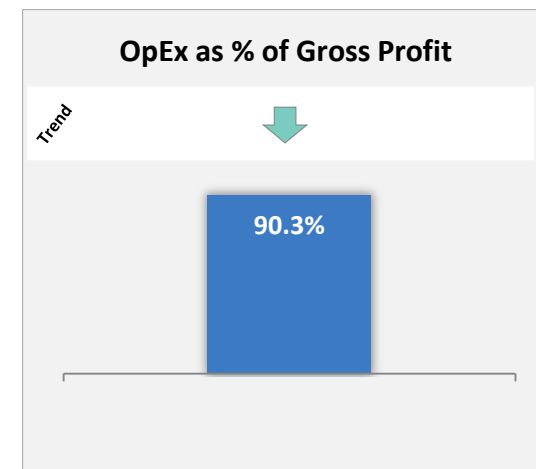
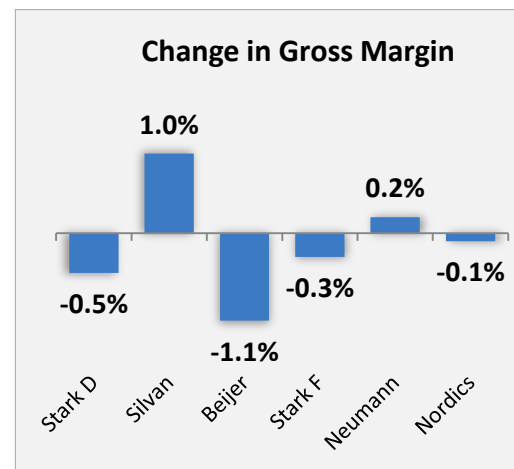
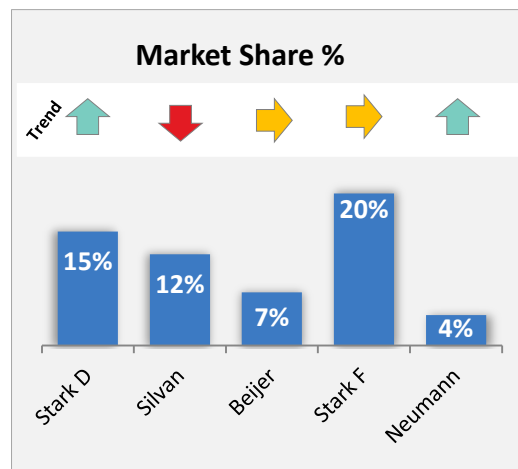
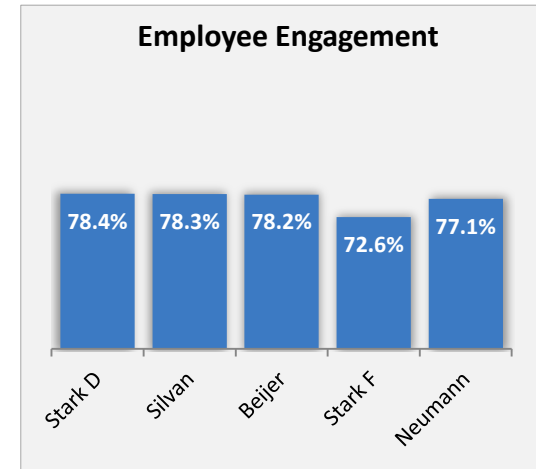
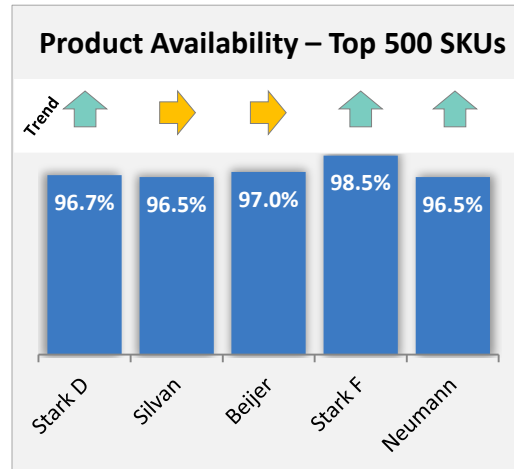
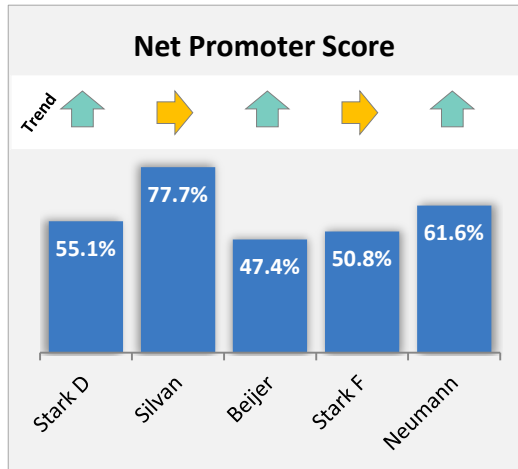
Source: Finance Norway & TNS Gallup



Source: Statistics Norway



# Nordics – key performance indicators



# Accelerate profitable growth

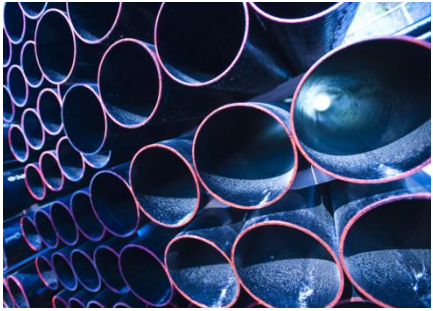
## Nordics – actions

Market Share	Gross Margin
Further improvements NPS / availability / OTIF	Price management and compliance
CRM Sales training pipeline conversion	Own label development
Front line staff – time planning / flexibility	Better sourcing / supply chain compliance across country and Nordics
Maintain consumer share / A&P	
Bolt-on M&A - Sweden	
Productivity	Improve Returns
People count very closely managed	Demand planning inventory management
B2B e-commerce conversion	Gradually replace legacy finance platforms
Ship hub development – key metro areas	B2B / B2C e-commerce re-platform
Compliance with core processes / best practice	



# Summary

- Overall Group performance was resilient
  - Tougher markets and deflation
  - US back to decent growth
  - UK disappointing, Nordics better
- Cost base well under control
- Continuing to invest in proven initiatives
  - Execution of core processes
  - More productive / efficient business models
- Expect full year trading profit in line with analyst expectations



# Appendices



# Regional analysis

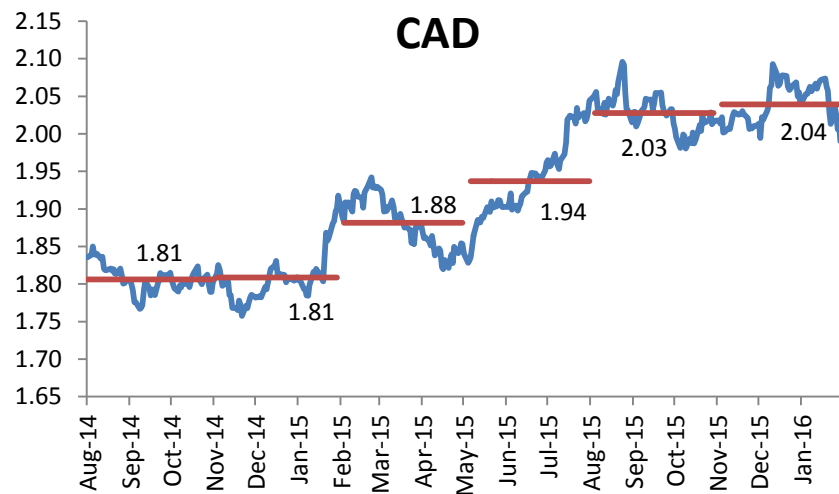
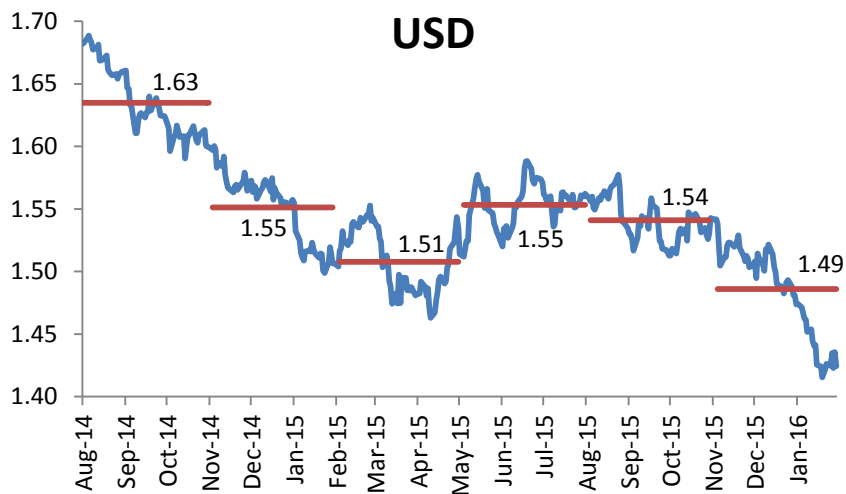
£m	Revenue H1 2016	Revenue H1 2015	Trading profit H1 2016	Trading profit H1 2015
<b>Ongoing</b>				
USA	4,381	3,912	345	311
UK	996	984	34	43
Nordic	885	935	23	22
Canada	329	372	17	23
Central Europe	204	215	13	14
Central and other costs	-	-	(22)	(23)
	<b>6,795</b>	<b>6,418</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>390</b>
<b>Sold or held for sale</b>				
USA	-	7	-	(1)
Nordic	-	1	-	-
Canada	-	16	-	-
	-	24	-	(1)
	<b>6,795</b>	<b>6,442</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>389</b>

# FX impact

	H1 2015 average rate	H1 2016 average rate	H1 2015 Trading profit £m	H1 2016 impact gain/(loss) £m
USD	1.59	1.51	311	+16
CAD	1.81	2.03	23	(3)
EUR	1.27	1.37	7	(1)
Other			49	(1)
				<b>+11</b>

	H2 2015 average rate	21-Mar 2016 spot rate	H2 2015 Trading profit £m	H2 2016 impact* gain/(loss) £m
USD	1.53	1.45	372	+21
CAD	1.91	1.88	11	-
EUR	1.38	1.28	9	-
Other			75	+1
				<b>+22</b>

*\* Estimated impact if exchange rates stay at the current levels throughout the remainder of FY16*



Source: Bloomberg

— Spot — Quarterly average

# Branch numbers

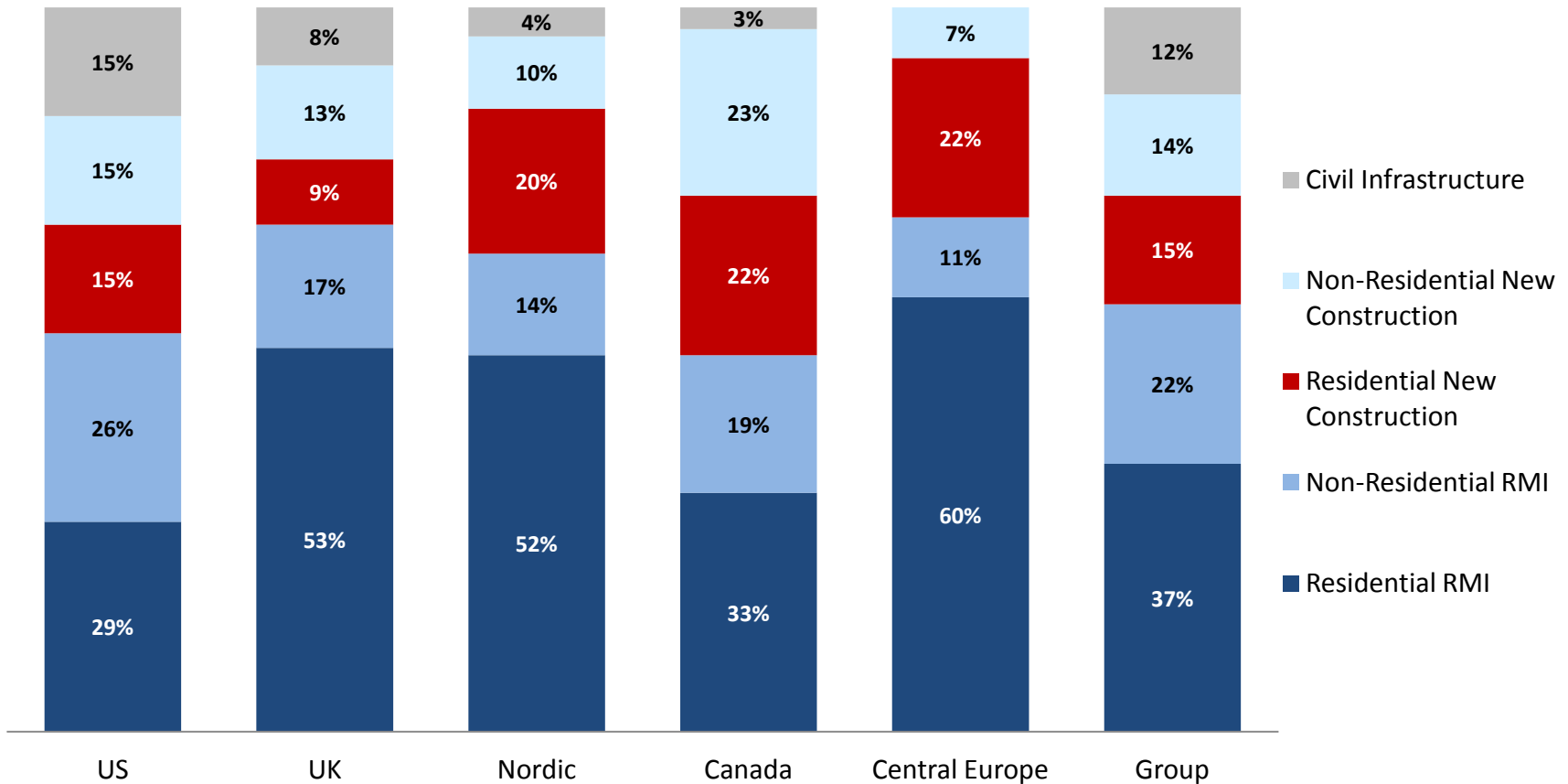
	As at 31 July 2015	Acquired	Opened	Closed, disposed of or held for sale	Ongoing at 31 Jan 2016
USA	1,418	11	31	(16)	1,444
UK	758	-	3	(13)	748
Nordic	259	-	6	(7)	258
Canada	226	-	1	(12)	215
Central Europe	78	-	-	-	78
Group	2,739	11	41	(48)	2,743

# Associate numbers

	As at 31 July 2015	Acquired	Net joiners / (leavers)	Ongoing at 31 Jan 2016
USA	22,171	191	(19)	22,343
UK	6,331	-	(130)	6,201
Nordic	6,293	-	(653)	5,640
Canada	2,490	-	(119)	2,371
Central Europe	1,072	-	(3)	1,069
Other	107	-	(4)	103
Group	38,464	191	(928)	37,727



# Product destination analysis



Group: RMI 59%, New Residential 15%

# Legal Disclaimer

Certain information included in this announcement is forward-looking and involves risks, assumptions and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements cover all matters which are not historical facts and include, without limitation, projections relating to results of operations and financial conditions and the Company's plans and objectives for future operations, including, without limitation, discussions of expected future revenues, financing plans, expected expenditures and divestments, risks associated with changes in economic conditions, the strength of the plumbing and heating and building materials market in North America and Europe, fluctuations in product prices and changes in exchange and interest rates. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, including terms such as "believes", "estimates", "anticipates", "expects", "forecasts", "intends", "plans", "projects", "goal", "target", "aim", "may", "will", "would", "could" or "should" or, in each case, their negative or other variations or comparable terminology. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. All forward-looking statements in this announcement are based upon information known to the Company on the date of this announcement. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that any particular expectation will be met and readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which speak only at their respective dates. Additionally, forward-looking statements regarding past trends or activities should not be taken as a representation that such trends or activities will continue in the future. Other than in accordance with its legal or regulatory obligations (including under the UK Listing Rules, the Prospectus Rules, the Disclosure Rules and the Transparency Rules of the Financial Conduct Authority), the Company undertakes no obligation to update publicly or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Nothing in this announcement shall exclude any liability under applicable laws that cannot be excluded in accordance with such laws.