RNS Number : 1211G Spectra Systems Corporation 30 September 2024

# Spectra Systems Corporation Interim Results for the Six Months Ended 30 June 2024

Spectra Systems Corporation ("Spectra Systems" or the "Company"), a leader in machine-readable high speed banknote authentication, security printing, brand protection technologies and gaming security software, is pleased to announce its interim results for the six months ended 30 June 2024.

# Financial highlights (including the consolidation of a foreign subsidiary acquired in December 2023):

- Revenue of \$22,739k (2023: \$11,621k) up 96%
- Adjusted EBITDA<sup>1</sup> up 33% at \$7,847k (2023: \$5,903k)
- · Adjusted PBTA<sup>1</sup> up 6% to \$6,225k (2023: \$5,873k)
- Adjusted earnings<sup>2</sup> per share up 4% to US \$11.2 cents (2023: US \$10.8 cents)
- Cash provided from operations of \$262k (2023: \$4,418k)
- Cash<sup>3</sup> of \$4,444k (2023: \$16,582k) and debt<sup>4</sup> of \$4,803k (2023 \$0k) at 30 June 2024
- <sup>1</sup> Before stock compensation expense and excludes non-controlling interest
- <sup>2</sup> Before amortization and stock compensation expense, excludes noncontrolling interest and fewer remaining tax credits
- <sup>3</sup> Does not include \$2,025,000 (2023: \$500,000) of restricted cash (Central bank customer) and investments
- 4 Cartor Holding Limited debt acquired on 21 December 2023

### **Operational highlights:**

- Executed sensor (July 26,2024) manufacturing contract with central bank worth \$39.6M, enabling initial revenue recognition for purchases and work performed ahead of contract execution
- Completed balance of fiscal year order with in-house manufacturing for supply chain mitigation with central bank customer
- Successfully completed all printing and durability tests of our polymer substrate with Middle Eastern central bank
- Received approval from large polymer banknote printer to incorporate their proprietary polymer banknote window security feature on our polymer substrate
- Sales with new K-cup customer ongoing since December 2023
- · Developed new faster and easier to use smartphone technology and filed patents

 A highly successful presence at the Banknote 2024 conference which has led to several new opportunities for our polymer substate and a significant increase in our visibility worldwide

Commenting on the results, Nabil Lawandy, Chief Executive Officer, said:

"The Company's first half revenues and earnings are up from the six months ended June 30, 2023, with increases of 96% and 6% for revenue and PBTA, respectively. The increased revenues in the first half are derived from the additional Security Printing turnover, preproduction sensor development contracts, sales of covert materials, and cost accounting-based initial revenue recognition on the \$39.6M manufacturing contract with a central bank customer.

"On the optical materials front, steady revenue from the new Canadian K-cup printers has come through as expected in the first half of this year, further increasing the high margin revenues from this product. In addition, we have integrated our advanced phosphours into multiple tenders launched by our security printing arm as well as directly for several applications including passports and banknotes.

"We have taken our smartphone technology to a significantly higher level which allows for a larger palette of brands and models with faster response and a much easier user experience. Our target markets are tax stamps and postage stamps which have been successfully counterfeited even in more advanced countries.

"Our polymer substrate efforts have yielded important and tangible results with both state printers as well as corporate printers of banknotes. We have successfully passed all of the print and durability testing with our middle eastern central bank partner and potential customer. We currently expect to have three house notes produced by major polymer banknote printers in the 2024-2025 time frame using both our sustainable and our machine-readable polymer substrate. In addition, we have been asked to advise a second middle eastern central bank on the development of their future polymer notes.

"The combination of the sensor contract award, the continued strong covert material sales, the boost in optical materials, and the significant advancements in our polymer substrate initiative including being asked to advise on a new series of polymer notes is all pointing towards an even more sustainable and growing profitability in the future. While all of this business growth is underway, we continue to be the most innovative company in the authentication sector with machine readable sustainable polymer substrate using circular certified polymer and new breakthroughs in smartphone technology which we are confident has the potential to reenergize this part of our product offering

"The Board therefore believes that the Company is on track to achieve record earnings and meet market expectations for the full year."

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Spectra Systems Corporation Dr. Nabil Lawandy, Chief Executive Officer

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Chief Executive Officer's statement

#### Introduction

In H1 2024, we have already achieved a PBTA level which is 50% of the market expectations for the year. We are therefore highly confident we will achieve market expectations for the full year.

Revenue was up 96% at \$22,739k (2023: \$11,621k) for the first half of the year. The increased revenues in the first half are derived from the additional Security Printing turnover, preproduction sensor development contracts, sales of covert materials, and cost accounting-based initial revenue recognition on the \$39.6M manufacturing contract with a central bank customer. As a result of the increased revenue, adjusted EBITDA (before stock compensation expense) for the half year increased 32% to \$7,847k compared to the prior year of \$5,903k.

Having generated cash from operations of \$262k (2022: \$4,418k), cash at the period end amounted to \$4,444k (2022: \$16,582k), excluding \$2 million of restricted cash and investments (2023: \$500k), reflecting (i) the \$5,593k paid to shareholders during June (2023: \$5,182k) in the form of the Company's annual dividend of \$0.116, and (ii) significant pre-purchasing of sensor manufacturing components and equipment, as well as aggressive polymer substrate marketing efforts, including the Banknote conference.

The financial statements for the half-year ended 30 June reflect the results of operations for the combined entity resulting from the acquisition of Cartor Security Printers (CSP). As a result, the financial results for H1 2024 are not directly comparable to those of the prior mid- year, which represent the standalone operations of Spectra as a single entity.

This acquisition has resulted in changes to the financial structure, operations and administrative cost metrics. Shareholders are advised to consider this context when analyzing the financial results. The combined financial statements incorporate the assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses of both entities, which affect comparisons of financial performance and position period-over-period.

Operating expenses have increased since the acquisition was integrated which includes increases of general and administrative expenses by 178%, selling and marketing expenses up 84% and research and development up 92%.

In addition, prior to the acquisition, Spectra carried no debt but now is reporting \$4.8 million on 30 June at an average interest rate of 0.3%.

**Review of Operations** 

Authentication and Security Printing Business

The Authentication Systems business generated revenue of \$13,773k (2023: \$10,589k) and Adjusted EBITDA of \$7,005k (2023: \$4,698k).

Authentication Systems revenues in H1 were largely fueled by a strong covert materials order, an ongoing sensor development contract, and initial revenue recognition of the \$39.6 million sensor manufacturing contract executed in June of 2024. Strong sales of optical materials, including a new K-cup revenue stream further bolstered the performance of this business segment. Based on current customer project plans, we expect to begin booking revenue and cash from sensor sales in June of 2025.

Through our acquisition of Cartor Security Printers in Wolverhampton we have significantly advanced our position and prospects for a polymer substrate contract. We have passed all print-based and durability tests with our middle eastern central bank partner and prospective customer. We are still in contention for a slice of the business from the next tender from this central bank expected in January 2025. Additional traction with private printers opening the path to a commemorative banknote produced on our substrate continues.

We have already changed the landscape of the polymer banknote world by introducing the first machine-readable substrate, Fusion<sup>TM</sup>, and the first sustainably responsible polymer substrate made of circular certified biaxially oriented polypropylene. Early discussions with a central bank as well as follow up from our highly successful Banknote conference presence have reinforced the importance of our breakthrough in polymer substrate sustainability efforts.

Our smartphone technology has been greatly enhanced to allow virtually all phones with a camera to be used and to provide a faster and easier user experience. We have several initiatives underway with a major tax stamp supplier and with postal services where counterfeit stamps have been a major problem. Through our CSP acquisition, we have direct inroads to major world postal organizations including the Royal Mail.

The security printing segment generated an EBITDA of \$699k on a turnover of \$7,879k in H1. Late 2023 was very active with the production of the new Royal Mail postage stamps with HM King Charles ongoing during the acquisition and integration process. CSP has been heavily focused on growing the more profitable new segment of postage, namely, hybrid stamps which carry serialized information to combat reuse and counterfeiting as well as integrating our optical materials into their product offering and tender bids.

On the software security side of the Company's business, the Secure Transactions Group, formed around two gaming technology acquisitions made in 2012, generated an Adjusted EBITDA of \$143k (2023:(\$40k)) on revenue of \$1,087k (2023: \$840k). The H1 results are in line with expectations, and we expect an increase in H2 with several lottery wins from last year going live. This is a significant improvement over last year results, and we believe is the beginning of continued increased profitability from this segment.

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## Strategy and Prospects

The Company's strategy for increasing revenue and earnings continues to be focused on selling more products to existing customers as well leveraging CSP's long relationships with tax stamp, passport and postage stamp customers and partners.

Through the CSP pipeline and their longtime corporate partnerships, we have developed several new opportunities. These include highly covert continuous inkjet inks and smartphone-based authentication of postage stamps and tax and revenue stamps. The recent issues with Royal Mail counterfeit stamps have become one of a focused set of targets for our new smartphone technology.

With the expected cash build-up when sensor sales are underway, we continue to evaluate synergistic and strategic profitable businesses for possible acquisition.

Nabil M. Lawandy Chief Executive Officer September 30, 2024

## Consolidated statements of income for the half year ended 30 June 2024

_	t: Ui	lalf Year o 30 Jun 2024 naudited JSD '000	to Ur	lalf Year o 30 Jun 2023 naudited ISD '000	to	Full Year o 31 Dec 2023 Audited JSD '000
Revenues Product Service License and royalty Total revenues	\$	19,252 3,487 - 22,739	\$	7,242 3,945 434 11,621	\$	13,401 6,453 434 20,288
Cost of sales		10,036		3,581		6,664
Gross profit		12,703		8,040		13,624
Operating expenses Research and development General and administrative Sales and marketing Total operating expenses		1,348 4,385 767 6,500		702 1,577 415 2,694		1,450 4,198 824 6,472
Operating profit		6,203		5,346		7,152
Interest income (expense)		(308)		172		376
Foreign currency gain(loss)		(3)		(35)		(73)
Profit before taxes		5,892		5,483		7,455
Income tax expense		650		784		1,430
Net income		5,242		4,699		6,025
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest		(8)		(14)		(23)
Net income attributable to Spectra Systems Corporation	\$	5,250	\$	4,713	\$	6,048
Earnings per share Basic Diluted	\$ \$	0.11 0.11	\$ \$	0.10 0.10	\$ \$	0.13 0.12

## Consolidated statements of comprehensive income for the half year ended 30 June 2024

	to Una	olf Year 30 Jun 2024 audited SD '000	to Un	alf Year 30 Jun 2023 audited SD '000	Full Year to 31 Dec 2023 Audited USD '000
Net income	\$	5,242	\$	4,713	\$ 6,025

exchange Reclassification for realized (gain)	(52)	(45)	(110)
loss in net income	 3	35	73
Total other comprehensive loss	(49)	(10)	(37)
Comprehensive income	5,193	4,703	5,988
Net gain (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest	(7)	14	(23)
Comprehensive income attributable to Spectra Systems Corporation	\$ 5,200	\$ 4,717	\$ 6,011

## Consolidated balance sheets as of 30 June 2024

	30 Ju	As of in 2024	As of 30 Jun	31 [	As of Dec 2023
		audited SD '000	2023 naudited JSD '000	L	Audited JSD '000
Current assets Cash and cash equivalents Trade receivables, net of allowance	\$	4,444	\$ 16,582	\$	13,253
Unbilled and other receivables		8,653	3,095		3,777
Inventory		1,461	1,002		1,394
Prepaid expenses		11,168	2,368		6,507
Total current assets		1,401	 795		1,207
		27,128	23,842		26,138
<b>Non-current assets</b> Property, plant and equipment, net		10,311	1,910		11,098
Operating lease right of use assets, net		•	•		•
Intangible assets, net		6,063	1,659		6,308
Restricted cash and investments		13,331	6,970		13,514
Investments		2,026	500		95
Deferred tax assets		95	-		513
Other assets		1,844	1,848		1,844
Total non-current assets		577	 595		586
		34,247	13,482		33,958
Total assets	\$	61,375	\$ 37,324	\$	60,096
Current liabilities Accounts payable Accrued expenses and other liabilities	\$	3,150	\$ 796 476	\$	2,753 813
Line of credit		2,488	470		
Operating lease liabilities, short term		569	202		561
Taxes payable			392		1,107
Deferred revenue		78	194		514
Total current liabilities		7,786	 4,601		6,058
		14,071	6,459		11,806
Non-current liabilities Operating lease liabilities, long term		5,568	1,319		5,275
Third party loans		4,803	_		5,583
Contingent consideration		2,528	_		3,819
Deferred revenue		1,329	1,590		1,500
Total non-current liabilities		14,228	 2,909		16,177

Total liabilities	28,299	8,928	27,983
Stockholders' equity Common stock  Additional paid in capital - common stock	482 57,495	450	460 56,152
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(260)	53,270 (186)	(211)
Accumulated deficit	(25,206)	(26,319)	(24,861)
Total Spectra Systems Corporation stockholders' equity	32,511	27,215	31,540
Noncontrolling interest	565	741	573
Total stockholders' equity	33,076	27,956	32,113
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 61,375	\$ 37,324	\$ 60,096

## Consolidated statements of cash flows for the half year ended 30 June 2024

Cash flows from operating activities         \$ 5,242         \$ 4,699         \$ Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities           Depreciation and activities         1,562         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459         459	Year 1 Dec 2023
Cash flows operating activities         \$ 5,242         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 5,242         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699         \$ 4,699 <th< th=""><th>2023 Idited 0 '000</th></th<>	2023 Idited 0 '000
Net income \$ 5,242 \$ 4,699 \$  Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities  Depreciation and 1,562 amortization Stock based 75 compensation expense 92 Lease amortization 215 expense 89  Deferred taxes 10  Changes in operating assets and liabilities Accounts receivables (4,889)  Unbilled and other (68) receivables Inventory (4,689)  (770)	
amortization       459         Stock based       75         compensation expense       92         Lease amortization       215         expense       89         Deferred taxes       10         32         Changes in operating assets and liabilities         Accounts receivables       (4,889)         Unbilled and other receivables       (581)         Inventory       (4,689)	6,025
compensation expense         92           Lease amortization         215           expense         89           Deferred taxes         10           32           Changes in operating assets and liabilities         4,889           Accounts receivables         4,889           Unbilled and other receivables         131           Inventory         (4,689)           (770)         (770)	1,055
expense	180
Changes in operating assets and liabilities Accounts receivables (4,889)  Unbilled and other (68) receivables 131 Inventory (4,689)	195
assets and liabilities Accounts receivables  Unbilled and other receivables Inventory  (4,889)  581  131  (4,689)  (770)	(886)
Unbilled and other (68) receivables 131 Inventory (4,689) (770)	
receivables 131 Inventory (4,689) (770)	2,092
(770)	245
Prepaid expenses (199)	1,470)
Other assets	(437)
Accounts payable 413	(13)
Operating leases (215)	(345)
Accrued expenses and 1,242	(177)
other liabilities (518) Deferred revenue 1,563	(190)
(118)	1,250
Net cash provided by 262 operating activities 4,418	7,524
Cash flows from investing activities	
Restricted cash and (1,513) investments (3)	_
Payment of patent and (150) trademark costs (129)	(476)
Proceeds from sale of	-
Acquisition of Cartor	5,201)

		(~)	(151)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(2,171)	(140)	(6,675)
Cash flows from financing activities Dividends paid	(5,594)	(5,182)	(5,182)
Finance payments	(1,303)	(3,102)	(3,102)
Line of credit			(31)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	11	_	-
Net cash used in financing activities	(6,886)	(5,182)	(5,100)
Effect of exchange rate on cash and cash equivalents	(14)	(10)	8
Net increase(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(8,809)	(914)	(4,243)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	13,253	17,496	17,496
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 4,444	\$ 16,582 	\$ 13,253

#### Notes to financial information

#### 1. Basis of preparation

This report was approved by the Directors on the 27 September 2024.

This financial information has been prepared using the recognition and measurement principles of US Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The Group has not elected to apply IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting.

The principal accounting policies used in preparing the interim results are those the Company expects to apply in its financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2024 and are unchanged from those disclosed in the Company's Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The results for the half year are unaudited. The financial information for the year ended 31 December 2023 does not constitute the full statutory accounts for that period. The Annual Report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 have been filed with the Registrar of Companies. The Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 was unmodified and did not draw attention to any matters by way of emphasis.

### 2. Earnings per share

The calculation of basic earnings per share is based on the net income divided by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding. Diluted earnings per share is calculated by considering the dilutive impact of common stock equivalents under the treasury stock method as if they were converted into common stock as of the beginning of the period or as of the date of grant, if later. Excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per common share for the six months ended June 30, 2024, and the year ended December 31, 2023, were 60,000 and 132,000 shares related to stock options, respectively, because their exercise prices would render them anti-dilutive. For the six months ended June 30, 2023,180,000 were excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per common share. The following table shows the calculation of basic and diluted earnings per common share.

		Half Year to 30 Jun 2024		Half Year to 30 Jun 2023	to :	Full Year 31 Dec 2023
Numerator:			_		_	
Net income	\$	5,249,439	\$	4,712,975	\$	6,047,921
enominator: Weighted average common shares Effect of dilutive securities:		48,228,972		45,143,754		45,074,264
Stock Options		1.430.604		1.957.249		3.687.690
Diluted weighted average common shares		49,659,576	_	47,101,003		48,761,954
Earnings per common share: Basic: Diluted:		\$ 0.11 \$ 0.11		\$ 0.10 \$ 0.10	9	

## Appendix - Reconciliation of Non-GAAP measures

The Company publishes certain additional information in a non-statutory format in order to provide readers with an increased insight into the underlying performance of the business. Reconciliations to the GAAP measures are shown in the following tables:

	Half Year to 30 Jun 2024		Half Year to 30 Jun 2023		Full Year to 31 Dec 2023	
		audited SD '000	Una	udited <u>) '000</u>		udited <u>) '000</u>
Adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) Operating profit Depreciation Amortization	\$	6,203 1,311 251	\$ 203 254	5,346	\$ 466 584	7,152
Stock compensation		75	92		180	
Operating loss - noncontrolling interest  Stock compensation - noncontrolling interest		8 (1)	13		23	
Adjusted EBITDA	\$	7,847	<u>(5)</u>	5,903	<u>(11)</u> \$	8,394
Adjusted profit before taxes and amortization (PBTA) Profit before taxes Amortization Stock compensation Operating loss - noncontrolling interest Stock compensation - noncontrolling interest Adjusted PBTA	\$	5,892 251 75 8 (1) 6,225	\$	5,483 254 92 13 (5) 5,837	\$ 180	7,455 584 23 (11) 8,231
Adjusted earnings per share Adjusted PBTA Income tax expense	\$	6,225 (650)	\$	5,837 (784)	\$ _(1,430	
Adjusted earnings  Diluted weighted average common shares	\$	5,575 49,659,576	\$ 47	5,053 7,101,003	\$ 48.76	6,801
Adjusted earnings per share	\$	0.112	\$	0.108	\$	1,954 0.139

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