# **Brambles**



2007 Interim Results

21 February 2007



2007 Interim Results

# David Turner Chief Executive Officer

## 1H07 sees transformation complete

- Delivered strong profit growth
- Asset disposal program successfully completed
- Unification completed
- Utilisation of cash
  - Special Dividend (US\$434 million, October 2006)
  - Cash Alternative (US\$950 million, December 2006)
- Positioned to deliver further shareholder value

### Summary - Interim results

- Continuing operations
  - Sales revenue US\$1.9bn (up 6%)
  - Comparable operating profit US\$421m (up 20%)
  - PAT¹ at US\$271m (up 46%)
  - EPS¹ 16.7 US cents (up 54%)
  - BVA at US\$196m (up US\$59m)

Before special items

Growth % calculated on US\$ constant currency basis

### **Business highlights**

#### CHEP Americas

- Sales growth 6%, profits up 31%
- Further operational efficiencies

#### CHEP Europe

- Sales growth 2%, profits up 5%
- Increased costs lumber (US\$2m) and Brentwood closure (US\$8m)

#### CHEP RoW

- Sales growth 9%, profits up 13%
- Recall
  - Integration of AUSDOC and key customer wins
  - Sales growth 14%, profits up 27%

Growth % calculated on US\$ constant currency basis

2007 Interim Results

# Mike Ihlein Chief Financial Officer

# Strong growth in profit and BVA

	Actual		Constant	
AIFRS	1H07 US\$m	1H07 US\$m	1H06 US\$m	Growth %
Continuing operations <sup>1</sup>				
Sales revenue	1,872.7	1,811.2	1,707.6	6
Comparable operating profit	421.2	410.5	342.3	20
PBT	413.1	402.7	280.6	44
PAT	270.6	263.8	180.1	46
EPS <sup>1</sup> (cents)	16.7	16.3	10.6	54
BVA (June 06 rates)		196	137	US\$59m
Brambles Group				
PAT (after special items)	982.6		251.9	
EPS <sup>1</sup> (cents)	18.4		15.7	
Free cash flow (before special items)	208.5		162.8	US\$45.7m

Growth % calculated on US\$ constant currency basis

1 Before special items

# Solid sales in continuing operations

	Actual		Constant	
AIFRS	1H07 US\$m	1H07 US\$m	1H06 US\$m	Growth %
CHEP	1,564.6	1,512.6	1,445.0	5
Recall	308.1	298.6	262.6	14
Continuing operations	1,872.7	1,811.2	1,707.6	6
Discontinued operations	252.1	238.5	1,323.2	nm¹
Total	2,124.8	2,049.7	3,030.8	nm¹

<sup>1</sup> Not meaningful due to timing of divestments Growth % calculated on US\$ constant currency basis

# ...with operating profit growth in both CHEP and Recall

	Actual		Constant	
AIFRS	1H07 US\$m	1H07 US\$m	1H06 US\$m	Growth %
CHEP	385.2	375.1	317.8	18
Recall	50.0	48.3	38.1	27
Continuing (pre corporate)	435.2	423.4	355.9	19
Unallocated corporate costs	(14.0)	(12.9)	(13.6)	5
Continuing operations	421.2	410.5	342.3	20
Discontinued operations	40.6	38.3	128.2	nm <sup>1</sup>
Total	461.8	448.8	470.5	nm <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Not meaningful due to timing of divestments and the impact of the cessation of depreciation and JV accounting Growth % calculated on US\$ constant currency basis

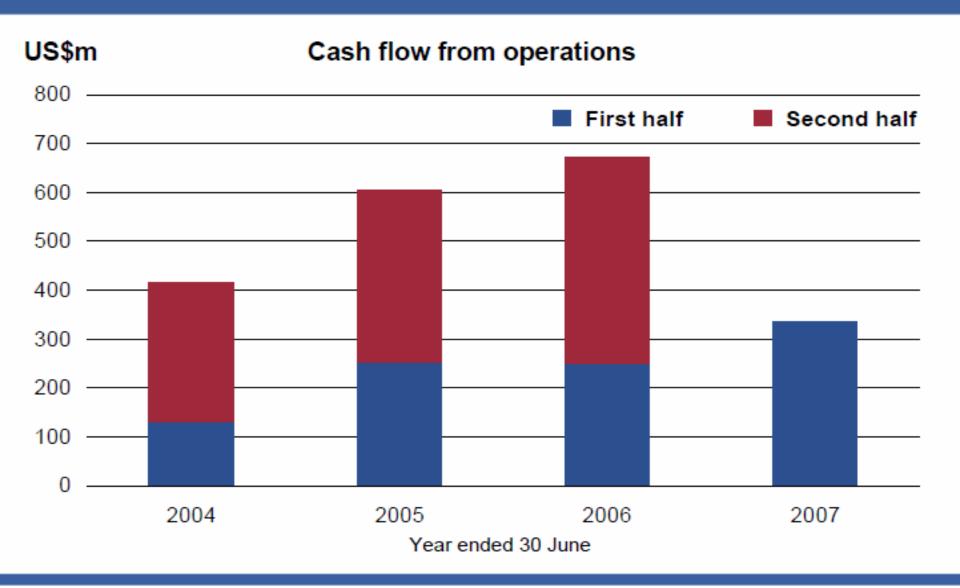


# Strong cash flow generation

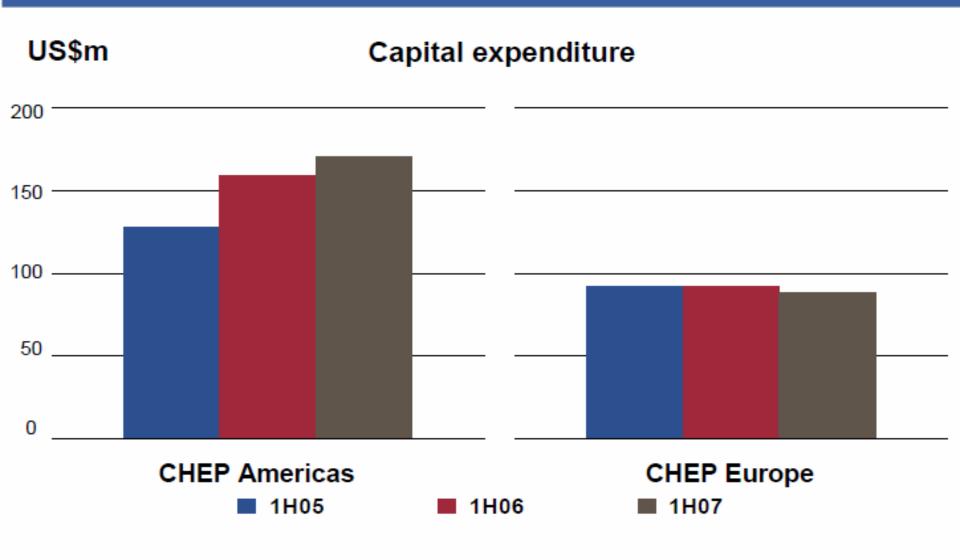
		Actual	
AIFRS	1H07 US\$m	1H06 US\$m	Change US\$m
Comparable operating profit <sup>1</sup>	421.2	342.3	78.9
Depreciation and amortisation <sup>1</sup>	197.2	192.9	4.3
EBITDA	618.4	535.2	83.2
Capital expenditure	(312.4)	(303.0)	(9.4)
Proceeds from disposals	37.8	36.7	1.1
Working capital movement	(54.2)	(45.5)	(8.7)
Irrecoverable pooling equipment provision	50.5	53.1	(2.6)
Provisions / Other	(29.1)	(31.3)	2.2
Cash flow from continuing operations	<b>311.0</b>	245.2	65.8
Discontinued operations	33.1	97.5	(64.4)
Special items	(90.7)	(5.5)	(85.2)
Cash flow from operations after special items	253.4	337.2	(83.8)
Financing costs and tax	(135.6)	(179.9)	44.3
Free cash flow	117.8	157.3	(39.5)

<sup>1</sup> Excludes asset write-downs

#### Excellent cash flow from CHEP



# CHEP capex supports growth and Perfect Plants



#### BVA - CHEP continues to deliver

AIFRS, June 06 rates	1H07 US\$m	1H06 US\$m	Growth US\$m
CHEP Americas	112	68	44
CHEP Europe	53	45	8
CHEP ROW	42	36	6
CHEP	207	149	58
Recall	0	(2)	2
Continuing (pre corporate)	207	147	60
Unallocated corporate costs	(11)	(10)	(1)
Total continuing operations	196	137	59

#### Financial ratios

AIFRS, Actual rates	Dec 06	Dec 05	Facilities/ Covenants
Closing Net Debt (US\$m)	927.4	2,023.1	3,771.0
Interest cover (x)			
<ul> <li>Comparable operating profit</li> </ul>	57.0	7.6	
• EBITDA	81.4	12.1	x 3.5 (min)
Net Debt / EBITDA (x)	0.7	1.4	x 3.5 (max)
Gearing (%)	27.7	45.3	
(Net Debt/Net Debt & Equity)			

· Maintain financial structure consistent with investment grade credit

Before special items

# Sales growth



	Actual 1H07	1H07	Constant 1H06	Growth
AIFRS	US\$m	US\$m	US\$m	%
Americas	692.8	689.6	651.0	6
Europe	669.8	619.9	608.0	2
RoW	202.0	203.1	186.0	9
Sales revenue	1,564.6	1,512.6	1,445.0	5
Comparable operating profit	385.2	375.1	317.8	18
Profit margin (%)	25	25	22	3 рр

Growth % calculated on US\$ constant currency basis

## 



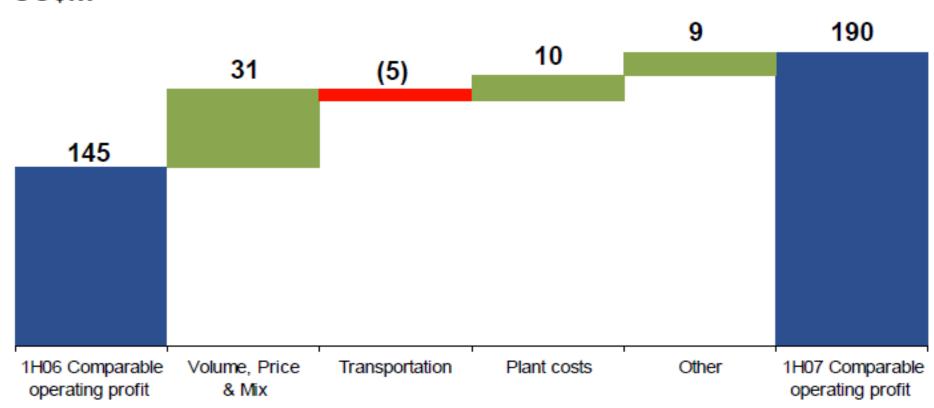
Comparable operating profit	Actual 1H07 US\$m	1H07 US\$m	Constant 1H06 US\$m	Growth %
Americas	190.9	189.8	145.0	31
Europe	132.7	122.6	117.3	5
RoW	61.6	62.7	55.5	13
Total	385.2	375.1	317.8	18

Growth % calculated on US\$ constant currency basis

# Americas – Volume and efficiencies deliver gains





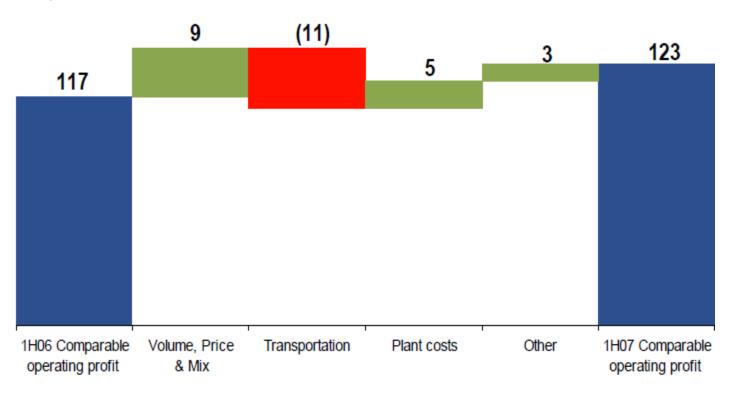


All numbers are calculated at constant currency

# Europe – Increased transport costs offsetting efficiencies







All numbers are calculated at constant currency

### North America delivering growth



	Actual	Constant		
AIFRS	1H07 US\$m	1H07 US\$m	1H06 US\$m	Growth %
Americas	146.5	144.7	133.5	8
Europe	77.3	71.3	71.6	Note <sup>1</sup>
RoW	84.3	82.6	57.5	44
Sales revenue	308.1	298.6	262.6	14
Comparable operating profit	50.0	48.3	38.1	27
Profit margin (%)	16	16	15	1 pp

<sup>1</sup> The underlying growth in sales was 5%, after adjusting for exiting the UK SDS business in FY06 Growth % calculated on US\$ constant currency basis

# Effective tax rate – continuing operations

	Actual 1H07	Actual 1H06
AIFRS	US\$m	US\$m
PBT <sup>1</sup>	413.1	280.6
Tax <sup>1</sup>	142.5	100.5
Effective tax rate % of PBT	34.5%	35.8%

<sup>1</sup> Before special items

# Special items

	Actual	
AIFRS	1H07 US\$m	1H06 US\$m
Amortisation of acquired intangible assets	(2.2)	(1.1)
Stamp duty on Unification	(28.8)	-
Restructuring and Unification costs	(69.1)	(9.4)
AUSDOC integration costs	-	(12.2)
Special items from continuing operations	(100.1)	(22.7)
Business disposals	784.7	45.7
Impairments	-	(14.0)
Restructuring and Unification costs	(3.0)	-
Special items from discontinued operations	781.7	31.7
Special items before tax	681.6	9.0
Tax	2.7	(23.0)
Total	684.3	(14.0)

2007 Interim Results

# David Turner Chief Executive Officer

### Europe – focus on top line growth



- Significant growth potential
  - Existing customers
  - Converting white wood customers
    - » Increased cost of new white wood pallets
  - New geographies
- Improving customer satisfaction
  - Service levels
  - Invoicing
- On-going operational efficiencies
  - Perfect Plants
  - Transportation/Network optimisation

#### Americas – further network optimisation CELHEP



- Total Pallet Management (TPM) evolving rapidly
  - Distributors/Emitters
  - Expanding footprint
    - » 69 Service Centres, 129 TPM locations
  - Favourably impacts network logistics
  - Embedded in customers' premises
- Technology adapted for TPMs
  - Inspection and sorting
- Sales effort continuing to drive top line growth

#### Perfect Plant technology into Es and Ds



#### Perfect Plants

- 8 commissioned in 1H07
  - » Europe (Swindon, Dublin)
  - » Americas (Mexico City, Brampton Canada, Atlanta)
  - » RoW (Erskine Park, Kraaifontein, Bloemfontein)
- 8 more in 2H07
- 12 Sorting modules to be installed at Es and Ds
- 6 Facilities to be upgraded
- First Generation II plant operational
  - Robotics
  - Process automation

### Recall – solid improvement



- Strong contract wins in North America
  - Bank of America, Chevron (Document Management Solutions)
  - JPMorgan 50% of contract (Secure Destruction Services)
- Focus on processes and costs
- AUSDOC integration benefits

# Capital Management

- On-going share buy-backs announced
- Reviewing alternatives

#### Outlook for 2007

- CHEP another year of strong profit growth
- CHEP Americas
  - Solid growth in sales and continuing very strong profit growth
- CHEP Europe
  - Focus on acquiring new customers and operational efficiencies
  - Continued profit growth and good cash generation
- CHEP RoW continues to perform well
- Recall organic sales growth similar in 2H07
- Good progress in sales, profit and cash generation

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# **Brambles**



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business acquisition.

Except where noted, common terms and measures used in this document are based upon the following definitions:

Jaies revenue	Excludes revenues of associates and non-trading revenue.
Comparable operating profit	Profit before finance costs, tax and special items. Includes PAT of associates.
PBT	Profit before tax and special items. Includes PAT of associates.
PAT	Profit after tax before special items, and minority interests.
EPS	Profit after tax, minority interests and special items, divided by shares in issue.
DPS	Dividends declared in the period divided by shares in issue.
Shares in issue	Based on weighted average shares in issue of 1,620.7m in 1H07; 1,695.6m in 1H06.

Growth from existing customers or new customers acquired, though not through a

Excludes revenues of associates and non trading revenue

Sales revenue

Organic growth

Except where noted, common terms and measures used in this document are based upon the following definitions:

Constant
currency

Translation of both current period and comparable period results into US dollars at the actual monthly exchange rates applicable for the comparable period.

#### Actual rates

Based upon conversion of local currency into US dollars using the average of the difference between buy and sell rates applicable at each month end.

# Continuing operations

Refers to CHEP, Recall and Corporate.

#### Discontinued operations

All businesses which have been or are expected to be divested.

#### Special items

Special items comprise impairments, exceptional items, fair value adjustments and amortisation of acquired non-goodwill intangible assets (other than software). Exceptional items are items of income or expense which are considered to be outside the ordinary course of business and are, either individually or in aggregate, material to Brambles or to the relevant business segment.

#### Unification

The process by which Brambles Limited acquired all Brambles Industries Limited and Brambles Industries plc shares under separate schemes of arrangement.

Except where noted, common terms and measures used in this document are based upon the following definitions:

Unallocated corporate costs Head office costs which are not allocated back to the divisions. These are excluded from the segmental analyses.

**Associates** 

50% or less equity, minimum 20%.

Free Cash Flow (FCF)

Cash flow generated after net capital expenditure, finance costs and taxation but excluding the net cost of acquisitions and proceeds from business disposals.

BVA

Brambles Value Added, calculated in US\$ AIFRS as comparable operating profit – (12% x Average capital invested) at June 2006 exchange rates.

Average capital invested

Calculated as a 12 month average. Capital invested is calculated as net assets before tax balances, cash and borrowings, but after adding back accumulated pre-tax special items (excluding those associated with the restructuring, Unification and divestment program). Semi-annual average capital invested calculated as a 6 month average.

ROCI

Calculated as comparable operating profit divided by average capital invested.

Capital expenditure (capex)

On a cash flow basis. Unless otherwise stated, excludes intangible assets, investments in associates and equity acquisitions and is shown gross of any fixed asset disposals proceeds.

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