



Financial and Operational Review

Year to 30 June 2008

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CEO and Managing Director

21 August 2008

FY 2008 Highlights

- ▶ Outstanding performance with record result
- ▶ Strong revenue, earnings and cash flow growth
- ▶ Guidance achieved despite currency headwind
- ▶ Synergy / margin expansion in USA and Germany
- ▶ Sonic well set for ongoing growth



2008 Financial Highlights

	Growth 2008 vs 2007
Revenue	26%
EBITA	17%
NPAT	24%
EPS	12%
Cash Generation	24%
Dividend (full-year)	13%



FY 2008 Guidance Delivered

	FY 2008 Guidance	FY 2008 Actuals	FY 2008 Constant currency basis*
Revenue growth	"20 – 25%"	26%	30%
Earnings per share growth	">12%"	12.2%	14.7%

* FY 2008 actuals at FY 2007 currency exchange rates



Revenue

Acquisitions impacting FY 2008 revenue

	2008 (A\$M)	2007 (A\$M)	Growth (%)
Total Revenue	2,380	1,886	26%

ACQUISITION	FY 2006/7												FY 2007/8											
	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
AEL (USA)																								
Medica (Switzerland)																								
Sunrise (USA)																								
Bioscientia (GER)																								
Gemini (IPN – AUS)																								
Others (small)																								



Revenue FY 2008

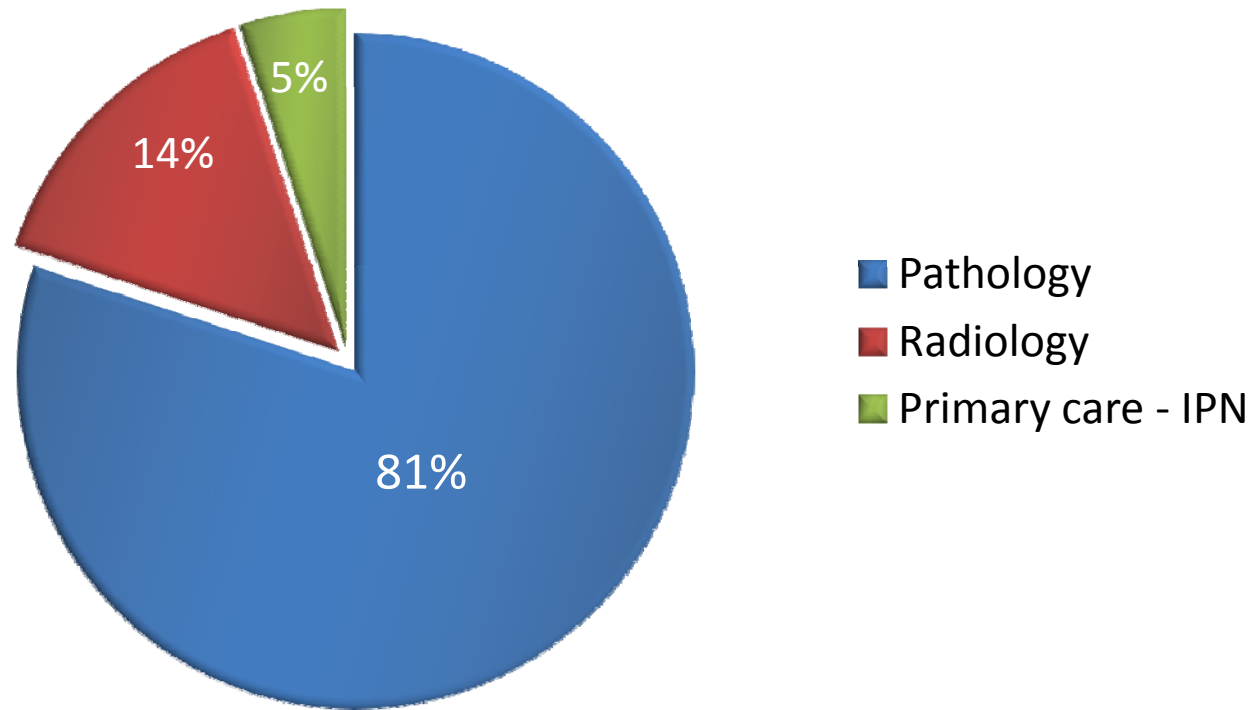
	2008 (A\$M)	2007 (A\$M)	Growth (%)
Total Revenue	2,380	1,886	26%

- ▶ Total organic revenue growth (excluding acquisitions) >7%
- ▶ Australian pathology organic revenue growth ~8%
- ▶ US organic revenue growth >8%
- ▶ UK organic revenue growth >10%
- ▶ Germany and Switzerland organic revenue growth strong
- ▶ Negative impacts on revenue growth
 - ▶ New Zealand pathology revenue growth flat
 - ▶ Radiology revenue growth 2%
 - ▶ Foreign exchange rate movements reduced revenue by A\$77 million



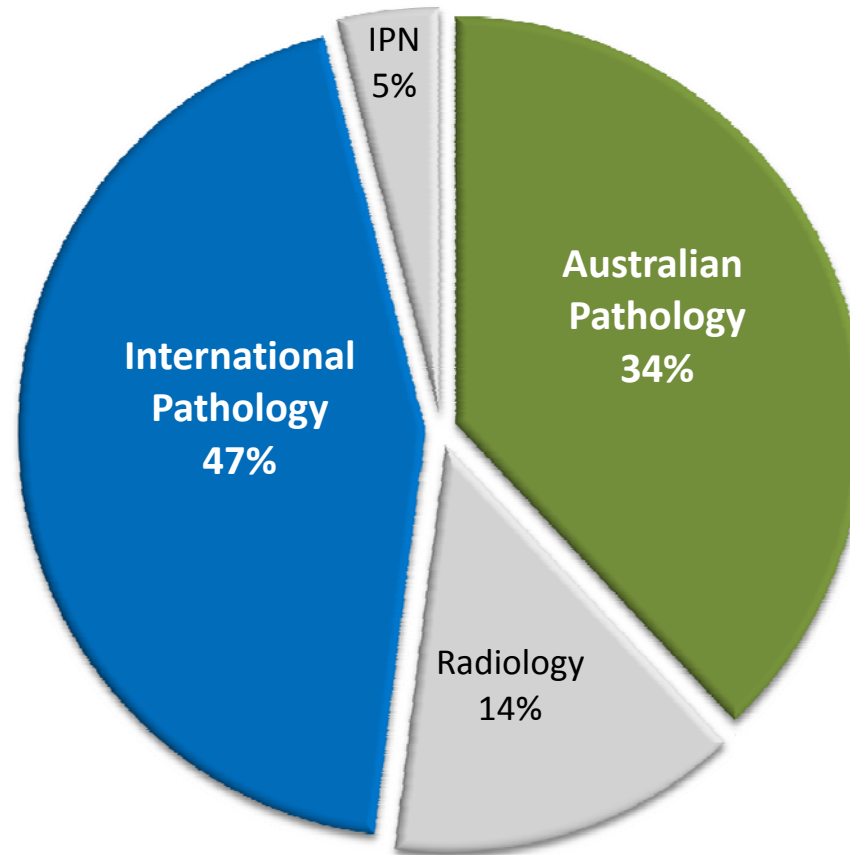
Revenue Mix

For full-year ended 30.6.08

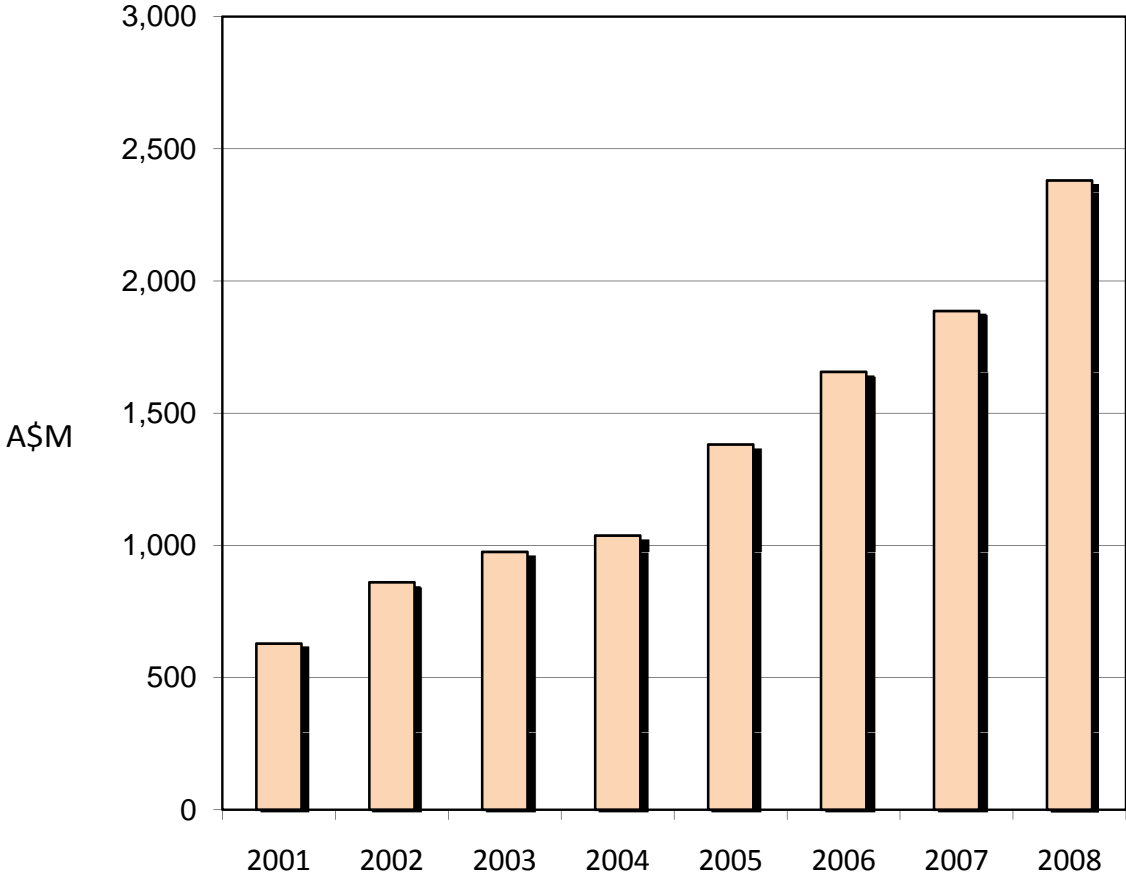


Sonic Revenue Mix

For full-year ended 30.6.08



Annual Revenue



Acquisitions impacting FY'09 revenue

	FY 2007/8												FY 2008/9											
	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
Sunrise (USA)		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■											
Bioscientia (GER)			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■										
Labor-28 (GER)													■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
GLP Medical (GER)															■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Clin Labs Hawaii (USA)															■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Gemini (IPN – AUS)										■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			
Others (small)																								



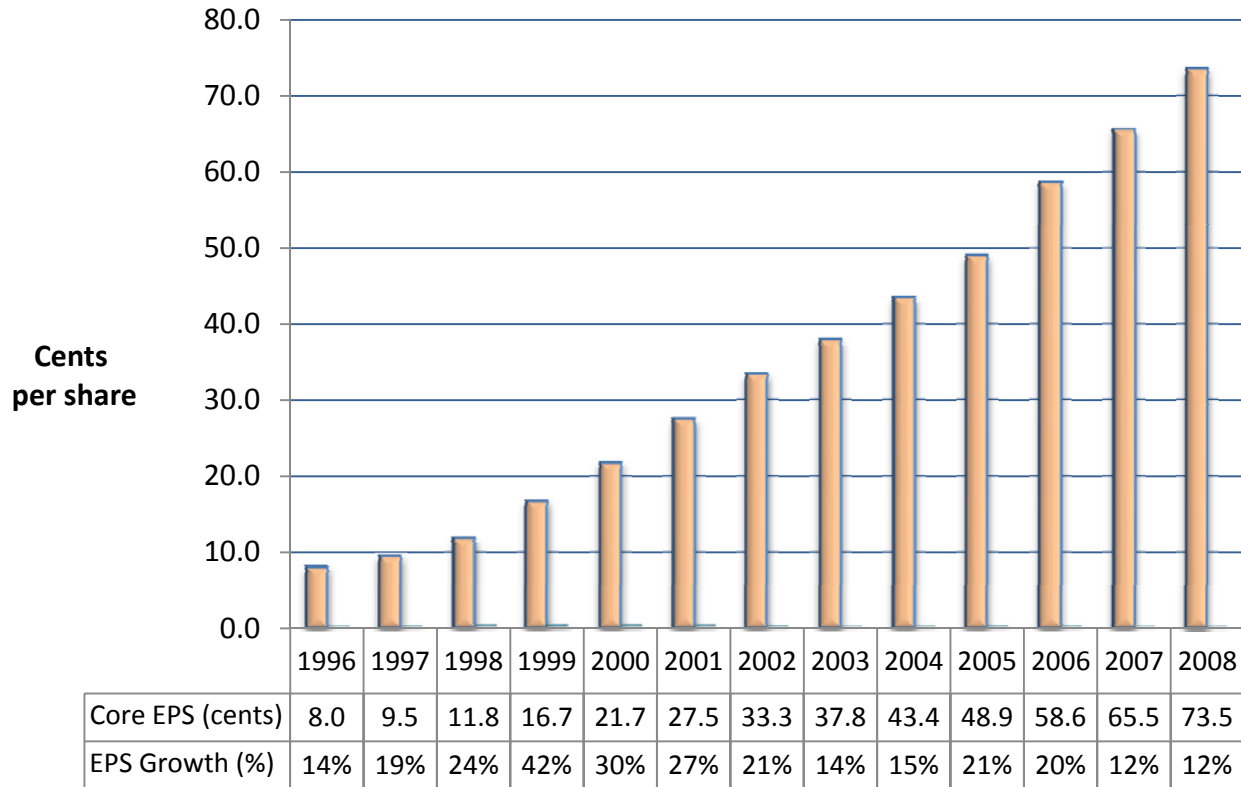
Earnings Growth

		FY 2008	FY 2007	Movement
EBITDA	(A\$M)	478.6	405.7	18%
EBITA	(A\$M)	402.7	343.6	17%
NPAT	(A\$M)	245.1	198.1	24%
EPS (diluted)	(cents)	73.5	65.5	12%
Cash Generation	(A\$M)	331.9	267.9	24%



Earnings per Share

EPS and EPS Growth



13 consecutive years of double-digit EPS growth

Operating Margin

	FY 2008	FY 2007	Movement
EBITA Margin	16.9%	18.2%	(130) bps*

- ▶ Acquisitions dilute margins
 - ▶ Acquisition of businesses with lower operating margins than Sonic's average existing margins
- ▶ Radiology division – low growth, cost pressures
- ▶ New Zealand pathology – flat growth, flat margins
- ▶ Australian pathology – ongoing strong performance
- ▶ IPN – 160 bps margin expansion
- ▶ Germany /USA – significant H2 margin expansion

*bps = basis points of margin



Synergy – USA and Germany

EBITA Margin expansion

	H2 2008 vs H1 2008
USA	↑ 190 basis points
Germany	↑ >200 basis points

Includes northern hemisphere seasonal bias towards H2



Currency Exchange Impact

2008 Actual vs 2008 restated at 2007 FX rates

	2008 Actual	2008 @ 2007 FX	FY'08 Guidance
Revenue growth	26%	30%	20 –25%
EPS growth	12.2%	14.7%	>12%

- Revenue impact for year ~A\$77 million
- NPAT impact for year ~A\$5.5 million
- EPS impact for year 1.7 cents (75.2 vs 73.5 cents)

Dividend

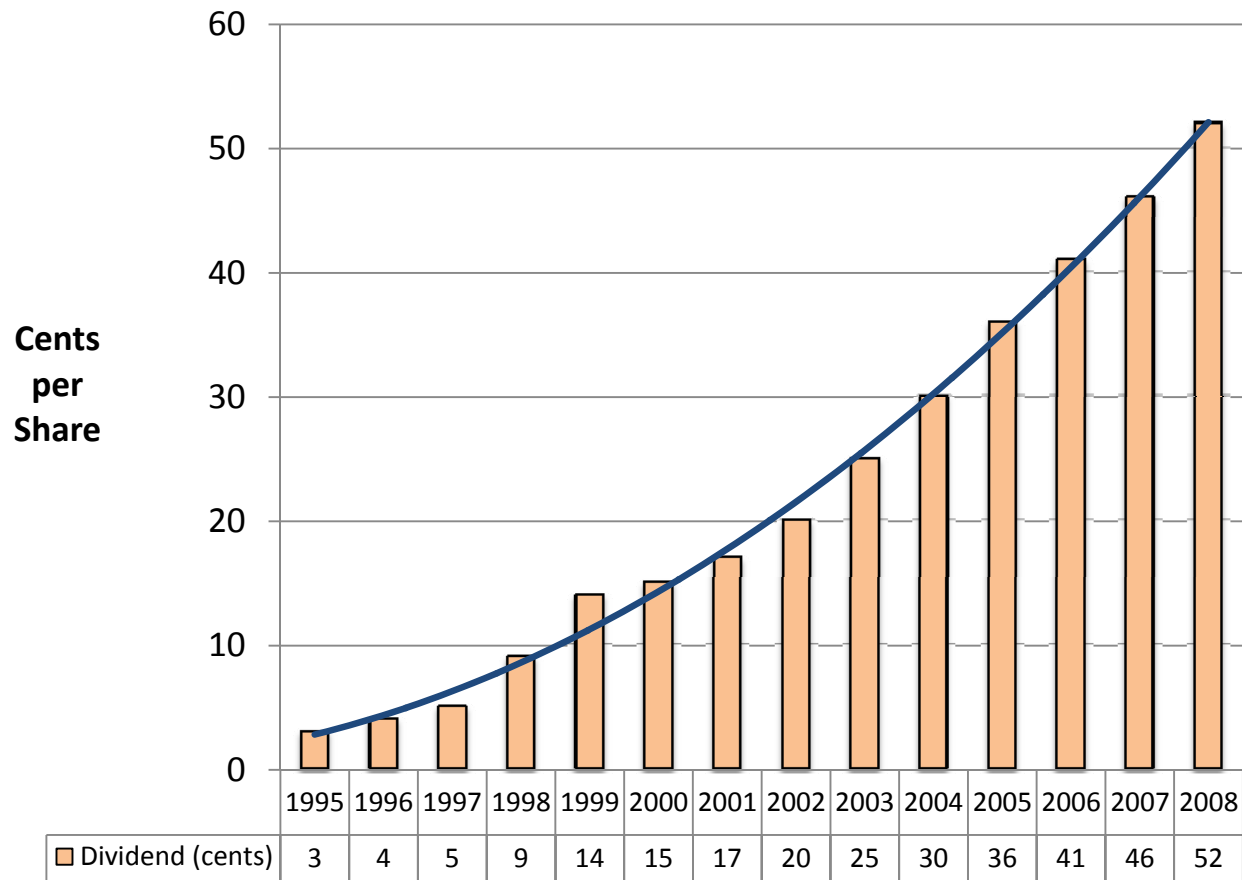
	2008	2007	Change
Interim Dividend	\$0.20	\$0.17	18%
Final Dividend	\$0.32	\$0.29	10%
Full Year Dividends	\$0.52	\$0.46	13%

- ▶ Dividend fully franked at 30%
- ▶ Record Date 12 September 2008
- ▶ Payment Date 9 October 2008
- ▶ Dividend Reinvestment Plan reinstated



Full-year dividend

14 Year History



Dividend Reinvestment Plan (DRP)

- ▶ DRP activated for the first time since 2004
- ▶ Complements capital management strategy in light of recent and ongoing acquisitional growth
- ▶ Fully underwritten by Citi
- ▶ Total DRP raising ~\$107 million
- ▶ Discount 2.5%
- ▶ Shares allotted on 9.10.08



Debt Summary

		30.6.08	30.6.07
Net Interest-bearing Debt	A\$ M	1,238	1,139
Gearing (Net IB Debt/Market Cap.)	%	25.5	25.2
Net Debt / EBITDA	X	2.59	2.81
Interest cover (EBITDA / Net Interest)	X	7.38	8.04

Forecast net debt at 30 September 2008 – A\$1,670 million

- Using exchange rates at 18 August, 2008
- Dependent on timing of settlement of acquisitions

Debt Structure

- ▶ Senior debt facility upsized November 2007 to A\$1,750 million (7 banks)
- ▶ New A\$160 million facility (July 2008) with 2 existing banks
- ▶ Headroom post-settlement of announced acquisitions (incl. IPN) ~A\$310 million
- ▶ A\$500 million senior debt tranche expires 15.3.09 – expect to refinance with existing banks
- ▶ Underwritten DRP to “fine tune” capital structure
- ▶ Debt held in foreign currencies as “natural” hedge
- ▶ No exposure to Australian interest rate changes



FY 2009 Guidance

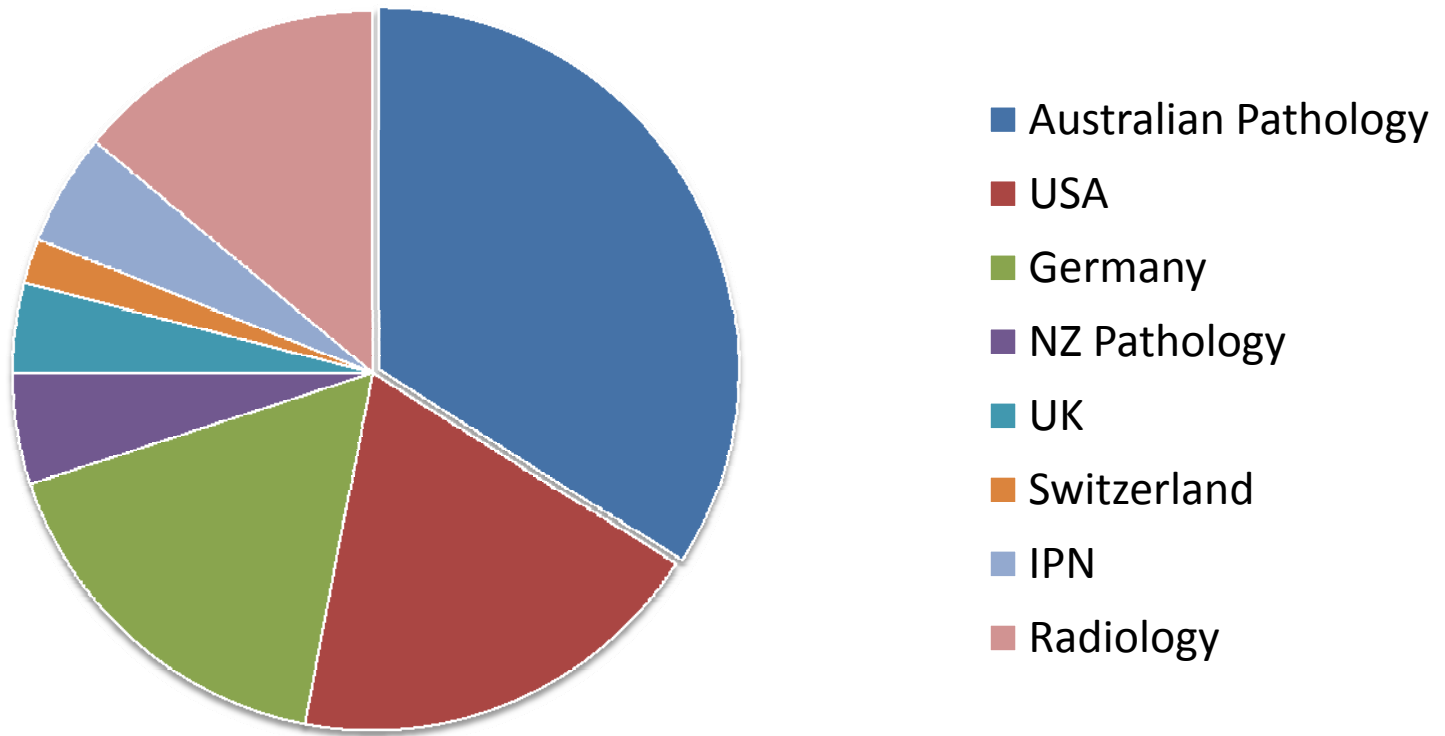
	FY 2009 Guidance
Revenue Growth	>15%
Earnings per share	>10%

Variables:

- ▶ Foreign exchange rates
- ▶ Interest rates
- ▶ Assumes underwritten DRP
- ▶ Excludes new acquisitions



Operational Summary

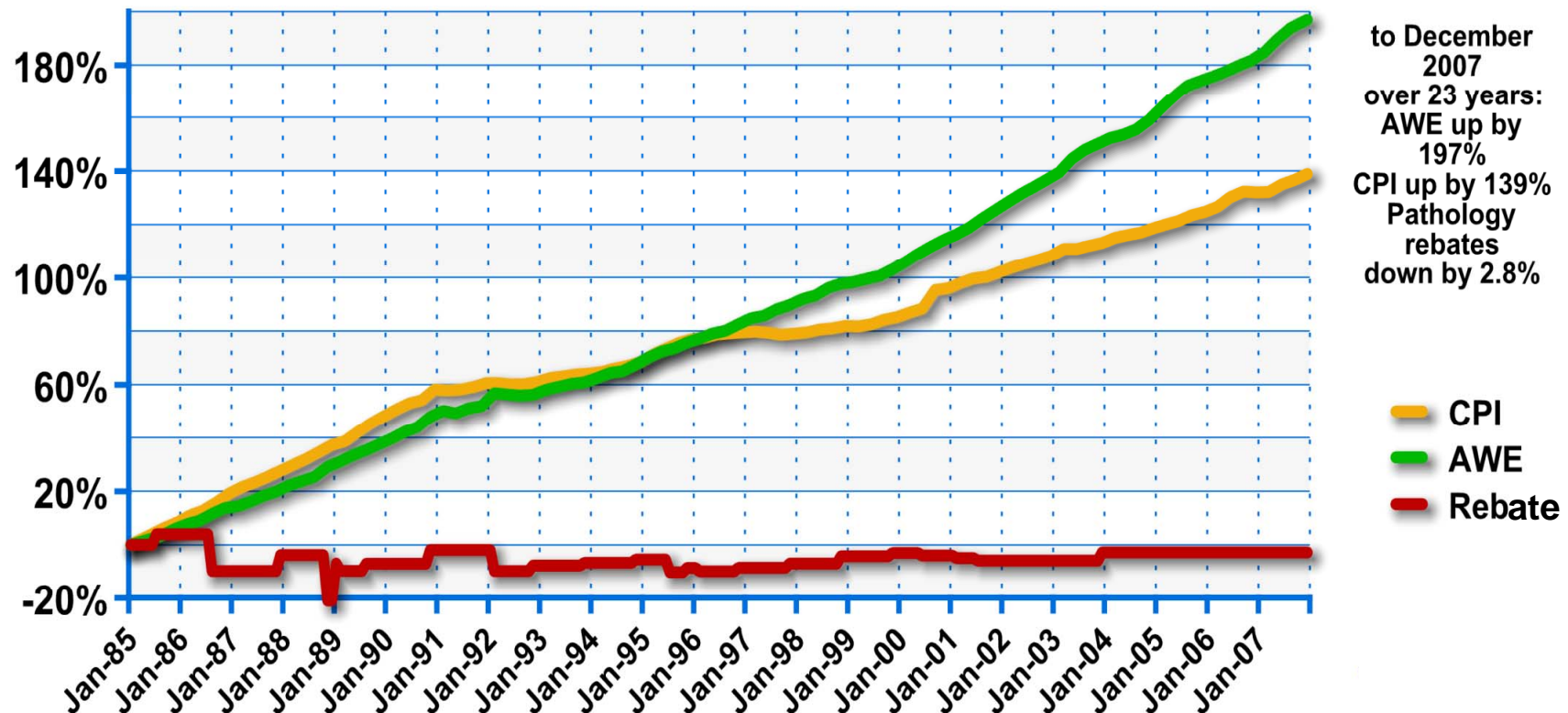


Australian Pathology

- ▶ Revenue growth of Australian pathology division ~8%
- ▶ Anticipate ongoing market strength and synergies
- ▶ Australian Medicare reimbursement status
 - ▶ Rebate cuts in May 2008 budget
 - ▶ MOU ends 30 June 2009
 - ▶ Pathology strategic review by inter-departmental committee
 - ▶ Pathology industry association (AAPP) will have input into review
 - ▶ Understand review to be completed by end of calendar 2008
 - ▶ No rebate adjustments until review completed



Cost Indices and Medicare Rebates for Pathology Australia: 1985-2007



USA

- ▶ Sonic Healthcare USA performing strongly
- ▶ Organic growth (excluding acquisitions) >8%
- ▶ Ongoing strong growth in New York area
- ▶ Synergy activity escalating
 - ▶ Internal mergers, centralisation, purchasing, IT, sales, marketing
 - ▶ Margin expansion of 190 basis points (H2 '08 vs H1 '08)
- ▶ Fee/pricing status
 - ▶ Medicare competitive bidding project terminated
 - ▶ Probable CPI-linked increase to Medicare fees from 1 January '09
- ▶ Growth
 - ▶ Earnings and margin growth via organic growth and synergy capture
 - ▶ Acquisition opportunities ongoing



Sonic Healthcare Germany

Central and branch laboratories



Germany

- ▶ **Sonic Healthcare Germany**
 - ▶ Schottdorf and Bioscientia organic revenue growth ~8%
 - ▶ Labor-28 (Berlin) – settled 1 July 2008
 - ▶ GLP Medical (Hamburg) – settlement expected September 2008
- ▶ **Synergy benefits**
 - ▶ >€10 million over 2-5 years (Schottdorf/Bioscientia) – 25% already locked in
 - ▶ Additional >€5 million over 2-3 years (Labor-28/GLP)
 - ▶ Focus on purchasing , couriers, equipment maintenance, vehicle leasing, laboratory rationalisation, inter-referrals, sales, marketing, IT, insurances
 - ▶ Cross border referrals from UK and Switzerland increasing
 - ▶ Sonic Germany margin expansion of >200 basis points (H2 '08 vs H1 '08)
- ▶ **Management**
 - ▶ Outstanding management team and pathologists
 - ▶ High levels of expertise and collaboration



Germany – Fee Reforms

- ▶ Private fee schedule (GOA)
 - ▶ No changes expected
- ▶ Public fees / Statutory health system
 - ▶ Direct billing of sickness funds by labs from 1 October 2008
 - ▶ GP discounts no longer possible
 - ▶ Will lead to higher average fee, added admin costs, possible lower volumes
- ▶ Self-referral labs
 - ▶ Non-laboratory specialists (gynaecologists, urologists, endocrinologists)
 - ▶ To be phased out over 5 years, commencing 1 January 2009
 - ▶ Tests should flow to private labs over time
- ▶ Impact of changes predicted to be beneficial to Sonic



Switzerland

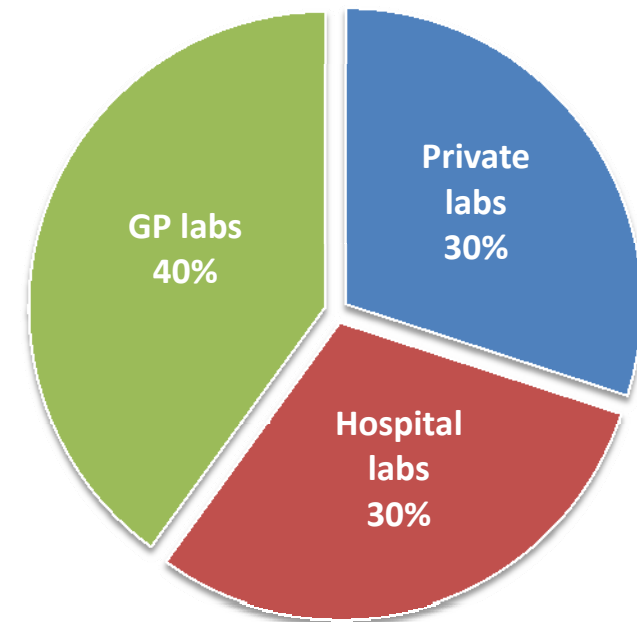
- ▶ Strong result for year
 - ▶ Solid revenue/earnings growth, with margin expansion
 - ▶ Strong management team
- ▶ Acquisition of Labor Prof. Krech
 - ▶ Completed 1 July 2008
 - ▶ 2 small labs: Zurich lab to close, Kreuzlingen lab to downsize
- ▶ Synergies
 - ▶ Prof. Krech lab fold-in benefits
 - ▶ Purchasing in tandem with Sonic Germany
 - ▶ Cross-border referrals to Sonic labs in Germany



Switzerland – Fee reforms

- ▶ Swiss government draft proposal to realign laboratory fee relativities
 - ▶ Price reductions for high-volume routine tests
 - ▶ Price increases for manual and esoteric tests
 - ▶ No resemblance to 10% across-the-board reductions in 2006
 - ▶ Formal consultation process with lab industry currently underway
- ▶ Potential impact for Sonic
 - ▶ Medica well equipped to manage changes
 - ▶ Medium-term positive
 - ▶ Small GP labs make up ~40 of lab market
 - ▶ GP labs perform mainly routine tests
 - ▶ GP lab closures augmented Medica revenue in 2006

Swiss Laboratory Market



Source: Sonic estimates

UK

- ▶ Robust revenue and earnings growth
- ▶ Harley Street market growth strong
- ▶ NHS contracts
 - ▶ UCLH contract progressing well
 - ▶ Ealing contract operating well (commenced 1 July 2008)
 - ▶ Termination of Beds and Herts tender process
 - ▶ Further outsourcing opportunities



New Zealand Pathology

- ▶ Revenue and earnings flat
- ▶ Outstanding laboratories, managers, pathologists
- ▶ Reimbursement structures forcing service contraction
- ▶ Auckland laboratory contact appeal process
 - ▶ Court of Appeal, Wellington, May 5-14
 - ▶ Appellant – Lab Tests Auckland (Healthscope)
 - ▶ Respondents – Auckland District Health Boards, DML (Sonic) and Harbour Primary Health Organisation
 - ▶ Judgement expected soon
 - ▶ Further right of appeal to Supreme Court of New Zealand



Radiology

- ▶ Difficult market conditions persisted through FY 2008
 - ▶ Cost and competitive pressures
 - ▶ Medicare reimbursement rates flat for >10 years
- ▶ EBITA margin compression of 1.6%
- ▶ Revenue growth ~2%
 - ▶ Competition and lower private billing levels
- ▶ Industry issues have stabilised
 - ▶ Cost pressures abating
 - ▶ Growth opportunities being pursued – new centres, contracts
 - ▶ Possible Medicare rebate increase



IPN

- ▶ IPN continues to perform strongly
- ▶ Financial highlights
 - ▶ Revenue up 29% to A\$123 million
 - ▶ EBITDA up 32% to A\$19.9 million
 - ▶ Net profit up 27% to A\$8.7 million
- ▶ Ongoing growth via recruitment and acquisition
 - ▶ GP numbers have increased by 132 to 843 at year end
 - ▶ Medical centres have increased from 89 to 120
 - ▶ Gemini acquisition – scale and access to occupational health market
- ▶ IPN established as premium service provider to GPs
 - ▶ Clinical independence
 - ▶ High quality centres and GPs allow private billing



IPN – Acquisition of minority interests

- ▶ Sonic currently owns 71.47% of IPN equity
- ▶ Scheme of Arrangement underway to acquire outstanding 28.53%
- ▶ Fully supported by IPN Independent Directors
- ▶ Recommended by Independent Expert
- ▶ Proxies in favour already received from larger shareholders
- ▶ Scheme meeting – 11 September 2008
- ▶ If successful, implementation date is 30 September 2008



Future Growth

- ▶ European laboratory market
 - ▶ German synergies flowing
 - ▶ UK and Switzerland strong
 - ▶ Organic and acquisitional growth
- ▶ USA laboratory market
 - ▶ Synergies flowing
 - ▶ Organic and acquisitional growth
- ▶ Australian pathology market
 - ▶ Annual revenue >\$800 million
 - ▶ Ongoing strong organic growth



The Sonic Difference

- ▶ Sonic culture embraced by staff and customers globally
 - ▶ Medical Leadership
 - ▶ Federation structure
 - ▶ Personalised service
 - ▶ Respect for our >20,000 people
- ▶ Sonic model underlies success to date
 - ▶ Strong, loyal and flexible leadership teams
 - ▶ Staff commitment
 - ▶ 13 years of double-digit EPS growth
 - ▶ High quality and service excellence
 - ▶ Outstanding reputation
- ▶ Future
 - ▶ Sonic model and culture will drive ongoing shareholder value



Thank you

