

Annual General Meeting 18 November 2010

Colin Goldschmidt CEO, Sonic Healthcare

















Highlights

- Business expansion in USA and Europe
 - 5 synergistic acquisitions in USA and Germany
 - Strong organic growth in USA
 - ▶ Sonic enters Belgian market new market, new growth prospects
 - Synergy capture with margin expansion in USA and Germany
- Australian pathology
 - Sonic in dominant market position
 - Expect current regulatory uncertainty to resolve
 - Volume growth returning to long-term trend levels
- Active acquisition pipeline USA and Europe
- Foreign currency headwind with strong AUD
- Full-year dividend increased by 3.5%
- Strong Sonic culture and values
 - Experienced, stable global management team
- Investment-grade balance sheet



FY 2011 Guidance Reaffirmed

	FY 2011 Guidance
Net profit after tax (NPAT) growth	5 - 15%

Guidance

- Based on FY 2010 NPAT of A\$293million
- On constant currency basis (FY 2010 rates)
- Excludes new acquisitions
- Earnings strongly weighted to second half of financial year
 - Normal seasonal weighting to second half
 - Australian pathology growth recovery weighted to second half



Dividend

	2010	2009	Change
Interim Dividend	\$0.24	\$0.22	9.1%
Final Dividend	\$0.35	\$0.35	0.0%
Full Year Dividends	\$0.59	\$0.57	3.5%

Dividend franked to 35%



Financial Summary - Statutory

		FY 2010	FY 2009
Revenue	A\$M	2,995	3,014
EBITDA	A\$M	544	425
NPAT	A\$M	293	171
Operating cash flow	A\$M	429	430

- Revised FY 2010 guidance achieved (NPAT A\$290-295 million)
- FY 2010 impacted by currency exchange rate movements
- FY 2009 impacted by Non Recurring Items (mainly related to Auckland, New Zealand pathology contract)



Financial Summary - Operating

		FY 2010 CONSTANT CURRENCY	FY 2010 vs FY 2009 GROWTH
Revenue	A\$M	3,259	8%
EBITDA	A\$M	591	2%
NPAT	A\$M	317	1%

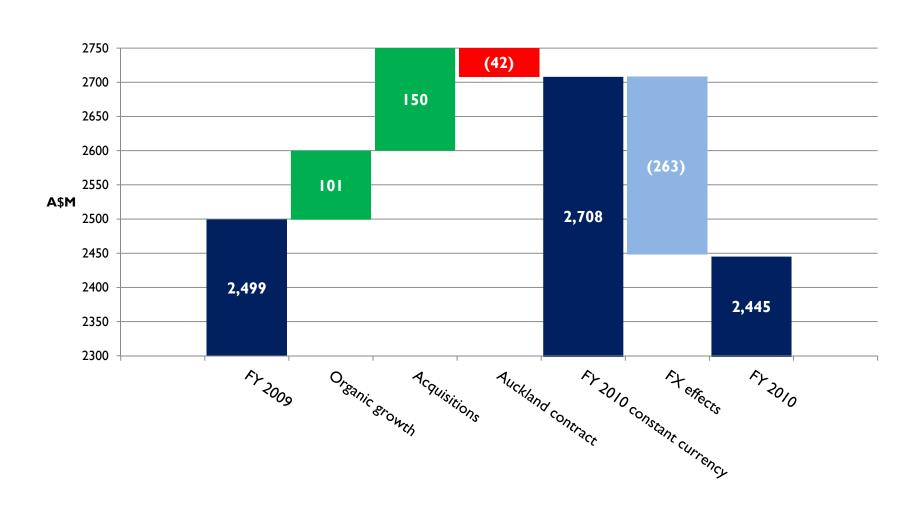
Adverse impacts on FY 2010 earnings growth

- ▶ NPAT ~A\$18 million Australian regulatory change impacts
 - Queensland pathology temporary loss of market share
 - Low Australian pathology market volumes
 - Radiology
- ▶ NPAT ~A\$9 million Loss of Auckland laboratory contract (announced previously)
- ▶ NPAT ~A\$3 million Acquisition costs expensed (new IFRS rule)
 - FY 2010 constant currency presented using FY 2009 exchange rates
 - Growth presented using FY 2009 ordinary earnings



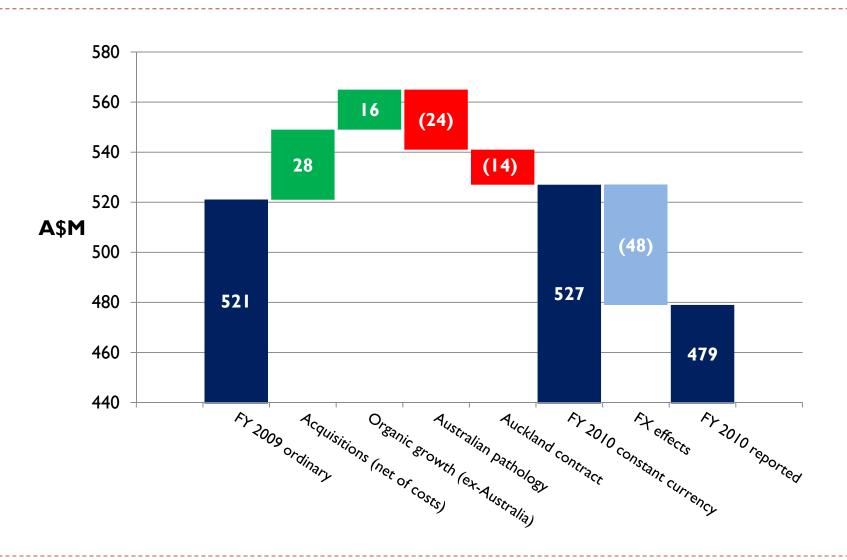
Pathology

Global Revenue Contribution





Pathology Global EBITDA Contribution



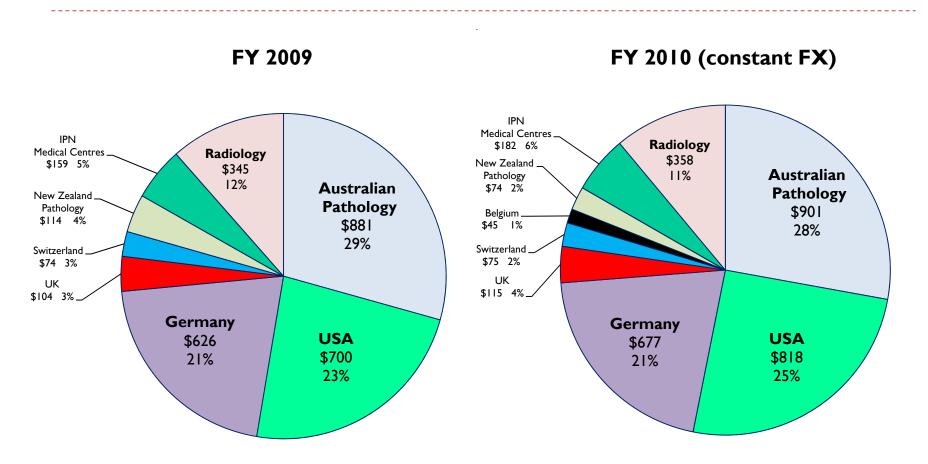


Organic Revenue Growth FY 2010

	Organic Revenue Growth* Acquisitions excluded		
Australian pathology	2.3%		
USA	6.3%		
Europe	4.0%		
Radiology	3.5%		

* Constant currency basis

Sonic Revenue Split FY 2009 vs FY 2010





Australian Pathology Regulatory Issues

Medicare fee cuts

- > 2% fee cut from July 2008 (A\$180 million over 4 years)
- > 5% fee cut from Nov 2009 (A\$416 million over 4 years)
- Abolition of capped collection centre scheme (from 1 July 2010)
 - Previous capped system designed to limit uncontrolled demand and industry cost
 - ▶ Blowout in new collection centres with ~950 new centres already added to existing 2,400
 - Almost all new collection centres placed in GP surgeries, with GP landlords
 - Majority of new centres are defensive in nature (located in premises of existing referrers)
 - Additional industry cost with no benefit to patients
 - Sonic has opened ~200 new centres to date
 - Sonic to continue growing market share with relatively fewer new centres

Outlook

- Industry working with Government to achieve affordable and sustainable funding solution
- Optimistic that a sensible outcome will be achieved soon



Australian Pathology Growth Dynamics

Sonic commands strong market position

- Clear market leader in revenue and profitability
- Premium brands, leading position in specialist and hospital markets
- Most resilient Australian pathology company

Sonic growth

- ► FY 2010 organic revenue growth 2.3% vs market growth of <1%
- FY 2010 organic revenue growth ex-Queensland 4.2%
- Queensland volumes fully recovered and now in strong growth mode
- Sonic Australian pathology returning to historical growth trend

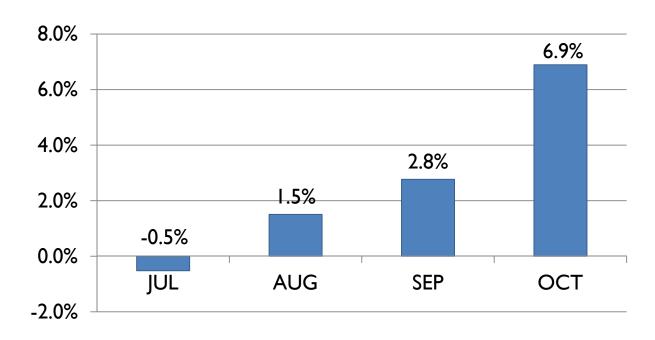
Market growth

- Flat market volume growth since November 2009
- Market growth expected to recover from Nov 2010 anniversary of low growth cycle



Sonic Australian Pathology

Organic Volume Growth 2010



- Industry growth Rolling 3-month episode growth to Sept '10 is -1.0% (source: Medicare data)
- Sonic's strong volume growth continuing month-to-date November

Organic Volume Growth = Average patient episodes per working day for each month vs same month previous year, excluding acquisitions



USA

- Sustained strong performance from Sonic USA
- Integration of acquisitions
 - ▶ East Side (Rhode Island) integrating with Sunrise (NY operations)
 - Piedmont Medical consolidated with Virginia operations
 - Axiom (Tampa, FL) consolidated with Florida operations
 - Recent announcement to acquire CBLPath in New York
- Infrastructure for growth in Sonic's key markets
 - Sunrise (NY) relocated to 10,000 square metre building in September
 - ► CPL (Austin, TX) 3,500 square metre laboratory extension completed
 - ▶ AEL (Memphis,TN) relocating to new, purpose built 8,000 square metre lab in December
- Stable regulatory environment
- Acquisition pipeline active



CBLPath Acquisition

- CBLPath based in New York
- Strong presence in Northeast USA and expanding more broadly across the USA
- Excellent entry into the US anatomical pathology market (~US\$5 billion p.a.)
- An outstanding business quality, service, management and growth
- Purchase price US\$123.5 million, settlement expected in December 2010
- Annual revenue ~US\$80 million
- Significant revenue and cost synergies expected
- Immediately EPS accretive, ROIC accretive in first full year



Germany

- Financial performance FY 2010
 - Organic revenue growth >3%
 - Margin expansion of 20 bps (follows > 100 bps expansion in FY 2009)
 - Despite fee cuts in early 2009
- Synergy gains on track
 - Initial synergy target of €15 million p.a. ~70% achieved to date
 - Synergy target expected to be exceeded
 - Mergers: Hamburg lab merger completed, two more planned for 2011
- Stable regulatory environment
 - No changes expected to public (EBM) or private (GOÄ) fee schedules
- Management
 - Establishment of German head office in Berlin
 - Appointment of CEO, Sonic Healthcare Germany Mr Evangelos Kotsopoulos (to relocate from Sydney to Berlin)



Sonic Enters Belgian Market

- Acquisition of Medhold Group completed 12 Feb 2010
- Entry into a leading market position in Belgium and the Netherlands
- Based in Antwerp, serving predominantly Flanders region, Brussels and the Netherlands
- Exceptional management team and highly efficient operations
- New state-of-the-art central laboratory fully operational
- Belgian laboratory market fragmented
- Active pipeline of synergistic add-on acquisitions in Belgium



Sonic Imaging

- Organic revenue growth 3.5% in FY 2010
- Revenue and volume
 - Medicare fee increase in Nov 2009 only applicable to bulk-billed items
 - Strong growth in MRI and nuclear medicine
 - Low industry CT volumes persist
- Efficiency benefits in FY 2011
 - ▶ Sonic's new broadband network esp in regional areas
 - Closure of underperforming sites
- Regulatory update
 - Nov '09 fee increase a valued interim measure
 - Imaging funding still remains inadequate
 - Industry working collaboratively with Government towards affordable and sustainable funding solution



Sonic Debt Summary

Investment Grade Credit Metrics

		30 Jun 10	31 Dec 09	30 Jun 09
Net interest-bearing debt	A\$M	1,501	1,149	1,198
Gearing ratio	%	37.0	31.3	32.0
Interest cover	Х	9.4	9.7	6.5
Debt cover	Х	2.6	1.9	2.2

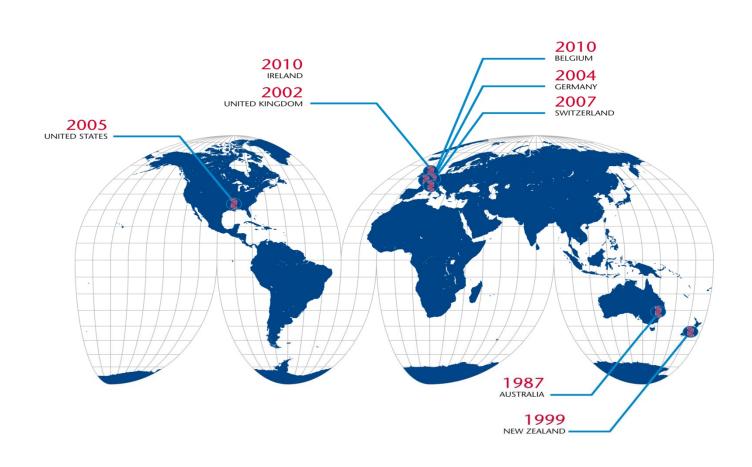
- ▶ Long-term (7-10 years) US debt raising completed Jan 2010 US\$250 million
- Bank debt tranche (A\$450 million equivalent) refinanced for 5 years in April 2010
- ► Current available headroom ~A\$400 million (after CBLPath acquisition settlement)

- ► Gearing ratio = Net debt / Net debt + equity (bank covenant limit <55%)
- ▶ Interest cover = EBITA / Net interest expense (bank covenant limit >3.25)
- Debt cover = Net debt / EBITDA (bank covenant limit <3.5)</p>
- Formulas as per bank facility definitions



Sonic Healthcare

Global Operations





Outlook

- Sonic Healthcare in strong position in key markets
 - Australia, USA, Germany
- Strong growth and synergies in USA and Europe
 - Critical mass, integration prospects, outstanding management teams
- Australian pathology
 - Sonic returning to normal growth trend
 - ▶ Collaboration with Government to achieve sustainable funding solution
- Underlying industry growth drivers remain strong
 - Ageing of population, preventative medicine, new tests
- Pipeline of synergistic acquisitions
 - USA, Germany, Belgium
- Security for staff, customers and shareholders
 - Investment grade balance sheet
 - ▶ Global operations spread of risk
 - Management stability
 - Market leadership positions





Thank You















