Management's Discussion and Analysis of



For the nine months ended September 30, 2023

## **Corporate Overview**

Decisive Dividend Corporation ("Decisive" or the "Company") is an acquisition-oriented company focused on opportunities in manufacturing.

Decisive's purpose statement is:

- To be the sought-out choice for exiting legacy-minded business owners, who will be provided the opportunity to stay involved in Decisive;
- To support the long-term success of the businesses acquired, including through sharing resources with other Decisive companies; and
- To create sustainable and growing shareholder returns.

The Company intends to meet these objectives by:

- acquiring already profitable, well-established, high quality manufacturing companies that have a sustainable competitive advantage, a focus on non-discretionary products, steady cash flows, growth potential and established, strong leadership;
- continuing the business legacies of the vendors of companies acquired by Decisive and remaining committed to the communities our businesses are located in;
- providing resources, support and oversight to ensure sound business operations through ongoing active collaboration and monitoring while recognizing that the people running the business know it best; and
- implementing appropriate expansion strategies to pursue active organic growth of its operating subsidiaries.

The Company was incorporated under the *Business Corporations Act* (British Columbia) on October 2, 2012 and is listed on the TSX Venture Exchange, trading under the symbol "DE". The head office of the Company is located in Kelowna, British Columbia.

To date, the Company has completed the acquisition of eleven manufacturing companies. The principal wholly-owned operating subsidiaries of the Company are managed through two reportable segments and were acquired as follows:

### Finished Product Segment

- Valley Comfort Systems Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiary Blaze King Industries Inc.; collectively referred to herein as "Blaze King"; acquired in February 2015.
- Slimline Manufacturing Ltd. ("Slimline"); acquired in May 2018.
- Marketing Impact Limited ("Marketing Impact"); acquired in April 2022.
- ACR Heat Products Limited ("ACR"); acquired in October 2022.
- Capital I Industries Inc. and its sister company, Irving Machine Inc.; collectively referred to herein as "Capital I"; acquired in April 2023.
- Innovative Heating Technologies Inc. ("IHT"); acquired in July 2023.

#### Component Manufacturing Segment

- Unicast Inc. ("Unicast"); acquired in June 2016.
- Hawk Machine Works Ltd. ("Hawk"); acquired in June 2018.
- Northside Industries Inc. ("Northside"); acquired in August 2019.
- Micon Industries Ltd. ("Micon"); acquired in April 2023.
- Procore International Radiators Ltd. ("Procore"); acquired in April 2023.

### **Preface**

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") focuses on key items from the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements of Decisive for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022. The condensed consolidated financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standard 34, Interim Financial Reporting. All amounts are expressed in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted. This discussion should not be considered all-inclusive as it excludes changes that may occur in general economic, political and environmental conditions. Additionally, other matters may occur which could affect the Company in the future.

This MD&A should be read in conjunction with the Company's unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements and the related notes for the period ended September 30, 2023, the annual audited consolidated financial statements and the related notes for the year ended December 31, 2022, the annual MD&A for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements for the period ended September 30, 2022. This MD&A covers the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and the subsequent period up to the date of filing. In this MD&A, the Company and its subsidiaries, collectively, are referred to as the "Group".

This MD&A was prepared effective November 6, 2023.

Certain statements in this MD&A constitute forward-looking information and forward-looking statements, as such this MD&A should be read in conjunction with the Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information and Statements included later in this MD&A.

In this MD&A, reference is made to "Adjusted EBITDA", "Free Cash Flow", "Growth Capital Expenditures", "Maintenance Capital Expenditures", "Dividend Payout Ratio" and "Return on Invested Capital", which are financial measures that are not recognized financial measures under IFRS but are believed to be meaningful in the assessment of the Group's performance. The Company's method of calculating Non-IFRS financial measures may differ from that of other corporations or entities and therefore may not be directly comparable to measures utilized by other corporations or entities. A reader should not place undue reliance on any Non-IFRS financial measures. Detailed descriptions of these financial measures are included later in this MD&A under the heading "Non-IFRS Financial Measures" and reconciliations to their most comparable IFRS measure are included throughout the MD&A where applicable.

Additional information regarding the Company, including the Company's Annual Information Form, is available on SEDAR at <a href="https://www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>, or on the Company's website at <a href="https://www.decisivedividend.com">www.decisivedividend.com</a>.

# **Overall Performance**

# Financial Highlights

The financial results of the Group for the periods indicated below are, as follows:

	Fo	r the three	mont	hs ended	Fo	For the nine months ended				
September 30,		2023		2022		2023		2022		
Sales	\$	37,654	\$	25,932	\$	99,213	\$	67,810		
Gross profit		16,346		8,912		38,966		22,867		
Gross profit %		43%		34%		39%		34%		
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>1</sup>		7,862		3,999		18,021		9,651		
Per share basic		0.43		0.32		1.07		0.77		
Profit before tax		3,992		2,644		8,587		4,702		
Profit		2,739		2,029		5,907		3,423		
Per share basic		0.15		0.16		0.35		0.27		
Per share diluted		0.14		0.15		0.33		0.26		
Free cash flow <sup>1</sup>		4,795		2,235		10,854		5,511		
Per share basic		0.26		0.18		0.65		0.44		
Free cash flow less maintenance capital <sup>1</sup>		4,573		2,014		9,791		4,770		
Per share basic		0.25		0.16		0.58		0.38		
Dividends declared		2,210		1,193		5,465		3,238		
Per share basic		0.12		0.09		0.33		0.26		
For the trailing twelve month period ended Sep	tember 30	),				2023		2022		
Dividend payout ratio <sup>1</sup>						55%		71%		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> – As defined under the heading "Non-IFRS Financial Measures" later in this MD&A.

The non-IFRS measures referenced in the table above reconcile to the IFRS measures reported in the Company's consolidated financial statements as follows, except for dividend payout ratio which is analyzed on a trailing twelve-month basis to reduce the impact of seasonality on the analysis, the reconciliation of which is included later in this MD&A under the heading "Dividends and Dividend Payout Ratios":

### Adjusted EBITDA

(Stated in thousands of dollars)								
	Fo	r the three	month	For the nine months ended				
September 30,		2023		2022		2023		2022
Profit for the period	\$	2,739	\$	2,029	\$	5,907	\$	3,423
Add (deduct):								
Financing costs		1,076		672		2,713		1,784
Income tax expense		1,253		615		2,680		1,279
Amortization and depreciation		2,232		1,204		5,322		3,221
Acquisition and restructuring costs		397		61		999		639
Share-based compensation expense		283		26		637		124
Foreign exchange gains		(100)		(598)		(124)		(793)
Interest and other expense (income)		21		(5)		(5)		(13)
Gain on sale of equipment		(39)		(5)		(108)		(13)
Adjusted EBITDA		7,862		3,999		18,021		9,651

Free Cash Flow and Free Cash Flow Less Maintenance Capital

(Stated in thousands of dollars)		·		·		·		·
	Fo	or the three	month	s ended	F	or the nine r	nonth	s ended
September 30,		2023		2022		2023		2022
Cash provided by operating activities	\$	964	\$	3,821	\$	7,928	\$	5,113
Add (deduct):								
Changes in non-cash working capital		4,883		122		6,169		2,921
Income taxes paid		1,597		-		2,930		991
Current income tax expense		(1,574)		(838)		(3,409)		(1,601)
Acquisition and restructuring costs		397		61		999		639
Interest paid		(1,045)		(620)		(2,592)		(1,648)
Lease payments		(371)		(311)		(1,060)		(904)
Required principal repayments on debt		(56)		-		(111)		-
Free cash flow	\$	4,795	\$	2,235		10,854		5,511
Maintenance capital expenditures		(222)		(221)		(1,063)		(741)
Free cash flow less maintenance capital		4,573		2,014		9,791		4,770

The financial position of the Group for the periods indicated below is, as follows:

FINANCIAL POSITION				
(Stated in thousands of dollars)	Sept	ember 30,	Dec	ember 31,
		2023		2022
Working capital	\$	21,332	\$	17,929
Property and equipment		23,493		12,299
Total assets		156,297		98,434
Long-term debt, excluding debt issuance costs		46,711		32,988
Equity		56,600		34,130
Share Information (000s)				
Common shares issued and outstanding		18,795		14,888

#### Discussion of Overall Performance

# Q3 Consolidated Financial Highlights

Sales for the third quarter increased by 45% to \$37.7 million from \$25.9 million in Q3 2022. The overall increase was driven by a 58% increase in the finished product segment and a 37% increase in the component manufacturing segment. The sales generated by ACR, which was acquired in October 2022, as well as the sales generated in the three businesses acquired in April 2023 (Capital I, Micon and Procore) and the first sales reported for IHT, which was acquired in July 2023, contributed meaningfully to the consolidated sales increases. Blaze King and Unicast both achieved strong sales during the quarter, consistent with sales levels in Q3 2022. Marketing Impact sales decreased 19% relative to the higher sales realized in Q3 2022, however quarterly sales levels remained in-line with pre-acquisition averages. Slimline sales increased 22% on the back of a significant sale within its wastewater evaporator business that contributed \$3.5 million in sales in the quarter. Hawk sales increased 25% compared to Q3 2022 and Northside sales increased 55% relative to Q3 2022 with both businesses facing robust demand.

Overall gross profit was \$16.3 million in Q3 2023, an increase of \$7.4 million, or 83%, relative to Q3 2022, driven by the increase in overall sales. Gross profit percentages in Q3 2023 increased by 9 percentage points compared to Q3 2022. Both segments contributed to the margin increase that were a result of product mix changes, including the high margin wastewater evaporator sales in Slimline in Q3 2023, pricing increases and other margin enhancing activities, as well as the contribution from the five high margin business acquired since Q3 2022.

Overall operating expenses increased from \$6.9 million in Q3 2022 to \$12.5 million in Q3 2023. The increase was primarily a result of the overall increase in scale due to the five acquisitions completed between September 30, 2022 and September 30, 2023 and the associated acquisition costs, as well as increased financing costs. The head office team also increased in the quarter with the addition of a VP Manufacturing, a VP People & Culture, and an AVP Finance, each of which augment the ability of Decisive to support existing subsidiaries in achieving organic growth and complete acquisitions.

Adjusted EBITDA for the third quarter of 2023 was a record \$7.9 million, a \$3.9 million, or 97%, increase compared to Q3 2022. The overall increase in Adjusted EBITDA was primarily driven by the increases in sales and gross profit relative to Q3 2022.

Foreign exchange gains also affected profit between Q3 2023 and Q3 2022. The Q3 2023 foreign exchange gains of \$0.1 million were considerably lower than the \$0.6 million foreign exchange gain in Q3 2022 which were a result of increases in the value of the United States dollar, relative to the Canadian dollar.

Consolidated net profit in the quarter was \$2.7 million, or \$0.15 per share, an increase of \$0.7 million, \$0.01 lower on a per share basis, compared to Q3 2022.

#### Year-to-Date Consolidated Financial Highlights

Sales for the first nine months of 2023 increased by \$31.4 million, or 46%, to \$99.2 million from \$67.8 million in the first nine months of 2022. The overall increase was driven by a 58% increase in the finished product segment and a 36% increase in the component manufacturing segment. These increases were a result of the sales generated by the six businesses added to the Group from the beginning of 2022 to the end of September 2023, as well as aggregate organic revenue growth from businesses owned prior to 2022. Marketing Impact, ACR, Capital I, Micon, Procore and IHT, each of which were acquired since the start of 2022, each generated sales consistent with or ahead of their respective pre-acquisition averages and contributed meaningfully to the consolidated sales increases. In the first nine months of 2023, on an aggregate basis, the five businesses owned prior to 2022 experienced organic revenue growth of 15% relative to the same period in 2022, driven primarily by increased sales at Northside, Hawk and Unicast.

The overall sales increase led to an overall gross profit increase of \$16.1 million, or 70%, to \$39.0 million in the first nine months of 2023 compared to \$22.9 million in the first nine months of 2022. Gross profit percentages in the first nine months of 2023 increased to 39%, up 5 percentage points compared to the same period in 2022, mainly driven by the component manufacturing segment where product mix changes, pricing increases and other margin enhancing activities, as well as the effect of higher sales covering a larger percentage of fixed costs led to increased segment margins.

Overall operating expenses increased from \$19.0 million in the first nine months of 2022 to \$30.6 million in the first nine months of 2023. The increase was primarily a result of the overall increase in scale due to the six acquisitions completed since the beginning of 2022, the associated acquisition costs, and increased financing costs.

Adjusted EBITDA in the first nine months of 2023 was \$18.0 million, a \$8.4 million, or 87%, increase compared to the first nine months of 2022. The overall increase in Adjusted EBITDA was primarily driven by the increase in sales and gross profit noted above.

Foreign exchange gains also affected profit between the first nine months of 2023 and the first nine months of 2022. The 2023 foreign exchange gains of \$0.1 million were considerably lower than the 2022 foreign exchange gains of \$0.8 million, which were a result of a \$0.10 increase in the value of the United States dollar, relative to the Canadian dollar during the first nine months of 2022.

Consolidated net profit was \$5.9 million, or \$0.35 per share, an increase of \$2.5 million, or \$0.08 per share, compared to the first nine months of 2022.

## **Acquisitions**

On April 5, 2023, the Company acquired 100% ownership of Capital I, Micon and Procore. Capital I, Micon and Procore manufacture and sell a range of products that support non-cyclical road maintenance and construction customers, as well as heavy equipment maintenance customers across multiple industries and geographies.

On July 19, 2023, the Company acquired 100% ownership of IHT, a well-established manufacturer and developer of high efficiency heating mats and lighting solutions for hog production.

These businesses are further described later in this MD&A under the headings "Finished Product Segment Overview" and "Component Manufacturing Segment Overview".

The acquisitions of Capital I, Micon, Procore and IHT are anticipated to have a positive financial impact on Decisive as they are expected to result in an increase in sales, gross profit, profit, and Adjusted EBITDA. The table below sets forth the pro forma combined financial information of Decisive and the applicable pre-acquisition periods for the acquisitions completed in the last twelve months:

(Stated in thousands of dollars, except per share amounts)				Add	
			pre-	acquisition	
				periods for	
				acquired	
		Decisive*	bι	usinesses**	Pro forma
For the trailing twelve month period ended September 30, 2023	(	unaudited)	(	unaudited)	(unaudited)
Sales	\$	129,992	\$	27,498	\$ 157,490
Gross profit		48,955		14,996	63,951
Gross profit %		38%		55%	41%
Profit		6,565		7,522	14,087
Per share basic		0.40			0.76
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>1</sup>		22,040		10,123	32,163
Per share basic		1.35			1.75

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> – see IFRS measurement to non-IFRS measurement reconciliation table below.

<sup>\* -</sup> based on Decisive's unaudited financial information reported for the twelve-months ended September 30, 2023.

<sup>\*\* –</sup> based on the unaudited financial information for the pre-acquisition period from October 1, 2022 to April 4, 2023 for each of Capital I, Micon, and Procore, and the unaudited financial information of IHT for the period from October 1, 2022 to July 18, 2023.

(Stated in thousands of dollars)				Add		
			pre-a	cquisition		
			р	eriods for		
				acquired		
		Decisive*	bu	sinesses**		Pro forma
For the trailing twelve month period ended September 30, 2023	(u	naudited)	(unaudited)		(unaudited)	
Profit	\$	6,565	\$	7,522	\$	14,087
Add (deduct):						
Financing costs		3,452		39		3,491
Income tax expense		3,005		2,680		5,685
Amortization and depreciation		6,986		434		7,420
Acquisition and restructuring costs		1,440		-		1,440
Inventory fair value adjustments and write downs		22		-		22
Share-based compensation expense		656		-		656
Foreign exchange gains		52		(119)		(67)
Interest and other expense (income)		(12)		(6)		(18)
Gain on sale of equipment		(126)		(427)		(553)
Adjusted EBITDA		22,040		10,123		32,163

The components of the consideration paid to acquire these businesses are as follows:

(stated in thousands of dollars)					
For the nine months ended September 30,					
2023	Capital I	Micon	Procore	IHT	Total
Cash (net of cash acquired)	\$ 10,077 \$	2,991 \$	4,331 \$	12,243 \$	29,642
Common shares	848	379	610	2,325	4,162
Long term debt assumed	588	-	-	-	588
Contingent consideration	2,260	-	-	6,676	8,936
	\$ 13,773 \$	3,370 \$	4,941 \$	21,244 \$	43,328

The cash portion of the consideration in each of these acquisitions was initially funded using the Company's revolving term acquisition facility. Subsequent to the acquisitions of Capital I, Micon and Procore, a large portion of the amount drawn on the acquisition facility was repaid using the net proceeds of a bought deal equity financing. After the acquisition of IHT, \$4.0 million of the amount drawn on the acquisition facility was repaid using the cash proceeds from the exercise of warrants. The share portion of the consideration was funded through the issuance of an aggregate 583,191 common shares of Decisive to the vendors of Capital I, Micon, Procore and IHT.

Overall, the consideration paid for these four acquisitions was funded 45% with debt and 55% with equity, bringing Decisive's cumulative acquisition funding mix to 48% debt and 52% equity, consistent with the Company's long-term acquisition funding target of 50/50 debt and equity. The Company's revolving term acquisition facility and above noted equity transactions are described later in this MD&A under the heading "Liquidity and Capital Resources".

Additionally, the vendors of Capital I can be paid up to an additional \$4.5 million and the vendors of IHT can be paid up to an additional \$10.0 million, contingent on Capital I and IHT meeting certain earnings targets over the next three years. For each acquisition, the contingent consideration recorded by the Company reflects the estimated fair value of the earnings target being met, as at the acquisition date.

The preliminary allocation of the purchase price to the acquisition date fair value of the assets acquired, and liabilities assumed in these transactions are as follows.

(stated in thousands of dollars)					
For the nine months ended September 30, 2023	Capital I	Micon	Procore	IHT	Total
Working capital, excluding cash	\$ 6,723 \$	408 \$	985 \$	2,168 \$	10,284
Property and equipment	3,688	225	603	4,247	8,763
Goodwill and intangible assets	5,574	3,371	4,222	19,340	32,507
Lease obligation	(890)	(47)	(121)	(2,345)	(3,403)
Deferred income taxes	(1,322)	(587)	(748)	(2,166)	(4,823)
	\$ 13,773 \$	3,370 \$	4,941 \$	21,244 \$	43,328

Further particulars regarding Capital I, Micon, Procore and IHT, including certain (unaudited) historical financial information, are set forth in Decisive's material change reports dated April 10, 2023 and July 19, 2023, copies of which are available on SEDAR at <a href="https://www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>.

# Outlook

The Company has significantly advanced its growth strategy with six acquisitions completed in a 15-month span: Marketing Impact in April 2022, and ACR in October 2022, followed by Capital I, Micon and Procore in April 2023 and IHT in July 2023. Marketing Impact was a platform acquisition into a new industry for the Group, while ACR was Decisive's first add-on acquisition into an industry in which it had previously invested. The acquisitions of Capital I, Micon and Procore (as described under "Acquisitions" in this MD&A) diversify the Group's product offering while creating potential cross-selling opportunities in leveraging customer relationships in similar industries and complementary geographic regions. The acquisition of IHT adds another business that has elements that overlap businesses already in the portfolio: IHT, Marketing Impact and Micon produce plastic and rubber products; and both IHT and Slimline service the agriculture sector. Decisive is executing on its buy, build, and hold business model and completing six acquisitions in a 15-month period demonstrates the Company's ongoing commitment to its shareholders to continue to grow the business through acquisition.

Decisive has built a strong pipeline of acquisition opportunities, and new opportunities are consistently being added to the Company's acquisition prospect pipeline. This reflects the fact that we are in the middle of the largest period of inter-generational transfer of wealth in history, where many businesses are assessing alternatives as to how the business can be carried forward into the future, including seeking out new owners. This trend will continue to provide opportunities for Decisive, with its legacy-maintaining business model being a key differentiator in a competitive acquisition marketplace.

From an operational perspective, Q3 2023 was a strong quarter for Decisive with all but two portfolio businesses ahead of or in-line with results from Q3 2022. Notably, margin enhancing activities that each of the businesses have been actively pursuing, including controlling costs and increasing pricing, resulted in an increase in gross profit percentages and improved per share Adjusted EBITDA and Free Cash Flow metrics in Q3 2023. These efforts are ongoing though indications of softening economic activity and its impact on demand for certain businesses, relative to what has been experienced over the last twelve months, is being actively monitored. Decisive see's continued robust demand characteristics at certain subsidiaries but are also seeing a slower seasonal ramp up at ACR into Q4 2023 than last year, order levels trailing last year's orders at Unicast, and softer demand for Marketing Impact products relative to 2022, though orders have started to increase in Q4 2023. Slimline posted extremely strong Q3 2023 results based on a significant wastewater evaporator sale, but orders on the agricultural sprayer side continue to lag last year. Management is pleased with the steps being taken by the new business leaders who have stepped into roles at Slimline, Micon and Procore and are also in the process of bringing new leadership into Capital I, as part of the agreed to post-transaction transition processes, and at Marketing Impact, where performance lagged expectations. Though the leadership changes made in other

subsidiaries have resulted in significant positive effects as teams, strategies and processes are upgraded to support longer term growth objectives in the businesses, these changes can have an impact on short-term results as change is affected. Decisive's results continue to be positively impacted by the diversification and growth in scale of its portfolio, even if an individual business faces near-term challenges. Further, even if concerns regarding a potential recession unfold, management believes the overall business is well positioned due to the strength of the industries Decisive's portfolio companies operate in.

The Company has been focused on increasing production capacity and improving operational efficiency in its businesses. In aggregate, \$3.0 million of growth capital expenditures on manufacturing equipment were made over the last 24 months and the use of strategic third-party manufacturing partners was expanded. Additional productivity and automation initiatives are also being explored to increase production capacity and improve operational efficiency in order to meet the expected future demand levels of the Group's customers and capitalize on future market expansion opportunities. Any such initiatives will be assessed on whether they have the potential to earn a greater than 15% return on invested capital, the same target return the Company uses in assessing potential acquisitions. Further commentary surrounding the outlook for each of the businesses in the Group is provided in the MD&A under the headings "Finished Product Segment Industry Trends and Outlook" and "Component Manufacturing Segment Industry Trends and Outlook".

Based on operating results in 2022 and to date in 2023, as well as management's assessment of Decisive's operational outlook, the Company increased its monthly dividend to \$0.035 per share effective for its April 2023 dividend payment and announced a further increase to its monthly dividend to \$0.04 per share effective for its August 2023 dividend payment. These increases are consistent with Decisive's objective of providing shareholders with long-term, sustainable, and growing dividends.

Decisive's balance sheet remains strong. The Company utilized its financial flexibility to acquire four businesses in 2023 using its increased revolving term acquisition facility and then subsequently paid down a large portion of that facility through a bought deal equity financing, the proceeds from exercise of warrants outstanding from the 2022 private placement, and with cash generated in the businesses. This demonstrates Decisive's ability to access debt and equity financing through its relationships with its lenders, shareholders, and various investment banks. The increases to the Company's revolving term acquisition and operating facilities, coupled with a conservative 1.5 times debt to Adjusted EBITDA ratio as of September 30, 2023, leaves the Company with significant capacity to pursue its strategic objectives. Despite the successful bought deal in April, continued volatility in financial markets may constrain capital availability and impact the cost of available capital in the near term. Management believes that the balance sheet strength and flexibility gained over the last year as well as ongoing investor interest in the Company's story of growth and yield has the Company well positioned to take advantage of potential opportunities for further growth, both through organic growth as well as further acquisitions, as they arise.

Management remains confident in the long-term fundamentals of Decisive's business model.

## **Summary of Quarterly Results**

The Group's interim results are impacted by seasonality factors primarily driven by weather patterns, including the impact thereof on heating, planting and harvesting seasons, as well as the timing of ground freeze and thaw in Western Canada and the effect thereof on the oil and gas industry. Blaze King and ACR's businesses historically experience lower demand in the first and second quarters of the calendar year, Slimline's business historically experiences lower demand in the third and fourth quarters, and Hawk's business historically experiences lower demand in the second quarter. Seasonality does not have a significant impact on the businesses of Decisive's other subsidiaries. In each subsidiary, there are substantial fixed costs that do not meaningfully fluctuate with product demand in the short-term.

# QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE

(Stated in thousands of dollars, except per share amounts)

(Stated in thousands of dollars, except per share amounts)				
	Q3 2023	Q2 2023	Q1 2023	Q4 2022
Sales \$	37,654	\$ 30,706	\$ 30,854	\$ 30,778
Gross profit	16,346	11,499	11,122	9,988
Gross profit %	43%	37%	36%	32%
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	7,862	5,266	4,894	4,018
Per share basic	0.43	0.31	0.33	0.27
Profit before tax	3,992	1,911	2,684	983
Profit	2,739	1,201	1,966	659
Per share basic	0.15	0.07	0.13	0.04
Per share diluted	0.14	0.06	0.12	0.04
	Q3 2022	Q2 2022	Q1 2022	Q4 2021
Sales	25,932	23,189	18,689	17,852
Gross profit	8,912	7,756	6,198	5,843
Gross profit %	34%	33%	33%	33%
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	3,999	3,344	2,305	2,091
Per share basic	0.32	0.27	0.19	0.17
Profit before tax	2,644	1,245	814	985
Profit	2,029	884	512	918
Per share basic	0.16	0.07	0.04	0.08
Per share diluted	0.15	0.07	0.04	0.07

 $<sup>^{\</sup>mathrm{1}}-\mathrm{see}$  IFRS measurement to non-IFRS measurement reconciliation table below.

The non-IFRS measures referenced in the table above reconcile to the IFRS measures reported in the Company's consolidated financial statements as follows:

(Stated in thousands of dollars)				
	Q3 2023	Q2 2023	Q1 2023	Q4 2022
Profit for the period	\$ 2,739	\$ 1,201	\$ 1,966	\$ 659
Add (deduct):				
Financing costs	1,076	881	755	740
Income tax expense	1,253	710	718	324
Amortization and depreciation	2,232	1,771	1,320	1,663
Acquisition and restructuring costs	397	578	25	440
Inventory fair value adjustments and write downs	-	-	-	22
Share-based compensation expense	283	115	239	19
Foreign exchange losses (gains)	(100)	18	(42)	176
Interest and other expense (income)	21	(8)	(18)	(7)
Gain on sale of equipment	(39)	-	(69)	(18)
Adjusted EBITDA	7,862	5,266	4,894	4,018

(Stated in thousands of dollars)				
	Q3 2022	Q2 2022	Q1 2022	Q4 2021
Profit for the period	\$ 2,029	\$ 884	\$ 512	\$ 918
Add (deduct):				
Financing costs	672	657	455	497
Income tax expense	615	361	302	67
Amortization and depreciation	1,204	1,140	876	976
Acquisition and restructuring costs	61	578	_	115
Inventory fair value adjustments and write downs	-	-	_	27
Share-based compensation expense	26	28	70	16
Foreign exchange losses (gains)	(598)	(291)	94	(66)
Interest and other income	(5)	(4)	(4)	(404)
Gain on sale of equipment	(5)	(9)	-	(55)
Adjusted EBITDA	3,999	3,344	2,305	2,091

### Discussion of Quarterly Performance

In addition to the effects of seasonality as described above, the variation in the Group's results on a quarterly basis are as follows:

### Q3 2023 Consolidated Financial Highlights

For the discussion of Q3 results see "Overall Performance" earlier in this MD&A.

# Q2 2023 Consolidated Financial Highlights

Sales for the second quarter increased by 32% to \$30.7 million from \$23.2 million in Q2 2022. The overall increase was driven by a 37% increase in the finished product segment and a 26% increase in the component manufacturing segment. The sales generated by ACR, which was acquired in October 2022, as well as the sales generated in the three businesses acquired in April 2023 (Capital I, Micon and Procore), contributed meaningfully to the consolidated sales increases. Traditional seasonality negatively impacted sales for Blaze King and Hawk during the quarter. Blaze King sales were also affected by reduced productivity in the quarter and Slimline sales continued to be negatively impacted by leadership and sales personnel transitions. These decreases were more than offset by increased sales at Northside and Unicast, which highlights the benefit of diversification in the portfolio.

Overall gross profit was \$11.5 million in Q2 2023, an increase of \$3.7 million, or 48%, relative to Q2 2022, driven by the increase in overall sales. Gross profit percentages in Q2 2023 increased by 4 percentage points compared to Q2 2022, which was driven by the component manufacturing segment where product mix changes, pricing increases and other margin enhancing activities led to increased segment margins.

Overall operating expenses increased from \$6.8 million in Q2 2022 to \$9.6 million in Q2 2023. The increase was primarily a result of the overall increase in scale due to the four acquisitions completed between June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2023 and the associated acquisition costs, as well as increased financing costs.

The above noted increases in sales and gross profit, were the primary drivers of the \$1.9 million, or 57%, increase in Adjusted EBITDA and \$0.3 million increase in net profit relative to Q2 2022.

### Q1 2023 Consolidated Financial Highlights

Sales for the first quarter increased by 65% to a record \$30.9 million from \$18.7 million in Q1 2022. The overall increase was driven by an 88% increase in the finished product segment and a 42% increase in the component manufacturing segment. The portfolio businesses are experiencing robust customer demand supported by favorable underlying economic conditions and strong commodity prices. Further, the sales generated by both Marketing Impact and ACR, which were acquired in April and October of 2022 respectively, contributed meaningfully to the finished product segment and consolidated sales increases. Year-over-year organic growth was also achieved in the quarter. The five businesses owned prior to 2022 experienced aggregate revenue growth of 22% in Q1 2023, relative to Q1 2022.

Overall gross profit was \$11.1 million in Q1 2023, an increase of \$4.9 million, or 79%, relative to Q1 2022, driven by the increase in overall sales. Gross profit percentages in Q1 2023 increased by 3 percentage points compared to Q1 2022, which was driven by the component manufacturing segment where product mix changes, pricing increases and the effect of higher sales covering a larger percentage of fixed costs led to increased segment margins.

Overall operating expenses increased from \$5.3 million in Q1 2022 to \$8.6 million in Q1 2023. The increase was primarily a result of increased financing costs, selling costs associated with the increase in overall sales, and overall scale due to the acquisitions of Marketing Impact and ACR.

The above noted increases in sales and gross profit, were the primary drivers of the \$2.6 million, or 112%, increase in Adjusted EBITDA and \$1.5 million increase in net profit relative to Q1 2022.

### Q4 2022 Consolidated Financial Highlights

Sales for the fourth quarter increased by 72% to a record \$30.8 million from \$17.9 million in Q4 2021. The overall increase was driven by a 124% increase in the finished product segment and a 19% increase in the component manufacturing segment. Each of the portfolio businesses experienced robust customer demand supported by favorable underlying economic conditions and strong commodity prices. Further, the sales generated by both Marketing Impact and ACR, which were acquired in April and October of 2022 respectively, contributed meaningfully to the finished product segment and consolidated sales increases. Relative to Q4 2021, Blaze King sales increased 16%, Slimline sales increased 22%, Unicast sales increased 22%, Hawk sales increased 52% and Northside sales were consistent.

Overall gross profit was \$10.0 million in Q4 2022, an increase of \$4.1 million, or 71%, relative to Q4 2021, driven by the increase in overall sales. Gross profit percentages in Q4 2022 remained relatively in-line with Q4 2021.

Overall operating expenses increased from \$5.4 million in Q4 2021 to \$8.9 million in Q4 2022. The increase was primarily a result of increased financing costs, acquisition costs, selling costs associated with the increase in overall sales, enhancements to the management team, and overall scale due to the acquisitions of Marketing Impact and ACR.

The above noted increases in sales and gross profit, were the primary drivers of the \$1.9 million, or 92%, increase in Adjusted EBITDA relative to Q1 2022. Net profit for the quarter decreased by \$0.2 million relative to Q1 2022 due in part to the impact of foreign exchange gains and losses between the quarters and a \$0.4 million non-cash gain on a reduction of the remaining contingent consideration recorded on the acquisition of Northside in 2019.

# **Segment Overview and Performance**

Decisive's overall business is conducted through three operating segments comprised of finished product; component manufacturing; and head office. An overview of these segments and the businesses within each segment is set forth below.

## Finished Product Segment Overview

The finished product segment manufactures and sells products that are purchased and used by end customers as designed. Within the finished product segment, there are six separate businesses: Blaze King, Slimline, Marketing Impact, ACR, Capital I and IHT.

### Blaze King

The Company acquired Blaze King in February 2015. The business of Blaze King is producing and selling high-quality, high-efficiency wood burning stoves, wood burning fireplace inserts, gas stoves, gas fireplaces, and gas fireplace inserts. All of its products are manufactured in its premises in Penticton, British Columbia and Walla Walla, Washington. Blaze King has been operating since 1977, and its hearth products are sold worldwide. Blaze King's wood burning stoves and inserts are recognized as some of the longest-burning and most efficient in the hearth market. Blaze King management believes that its products have developed a strong reputation for quality. These factors have helped build the Blaze King brand and reputation, which drives sales through dealer and customer loyalty. Blaze King has a growing distribution base that includes a large network of retailers and distributors across Canada, the United States and New Zealand.

### **ACR**

The Company acquired ACR in October 2022. ACR produces and sells woodburning, multifuel, and gas stoves and sells them primarily in the United Kingdom. It also produces electric stoves, electric fireplaces and outdoor pizza ovens. ACR was founded in 2004, has a well-established brand in the United Kingdom marketplace and is known for its high-quality and attractively designed products. ACR utilizes third party partners to manufacture its products making ACR scalable and versatile. It then distributes these products at accessible price points that drive a strong value proposition for its customers. Further, with its EcoDesign Ready models, ACR is compliant with the emissions standards in place in the United Kingdom and across Europe.

# <u>Slimline</u>

The Company acquired Slimline in May 2018. Slimline and predecessor companies have been manufacturing and selling air blast sprayers since 1948. The air blast sprayers are used primarily in the agricultural industry to apply treatments to crops such as apples, cherries, grapes, almonds, walnuts, oranges, and peaches. Slimline also designs, manufactures, and sells EcoMister evaporator systems primarily used in the mining, oil and gas, and waste management industries. In addition to its two main product lines, Slimline manufactures custom products and sells various sprayer, evaporator, and other industrial parts. Slimline's sprayers and evaporators utilize common technology including pumps and fan assemblies. Slimline sells its sprayers under the name "Turbo Mist" which includes a heavy-duty series, a standard series, a cherry blower, and multiple attachments for different crop types. Slimline's sprayers are primarily sold through its dealer network throughout Canada and the United States. Slimline's EcoMister evaporator division has been in operation since 1996. It produces an environmental and economical state of the art solution that meets specific customer needs in the elimination of wastewater. Slimline's evaporators are sold into markets throughout the world.

#### Marketing Impact

The Company acquired Marketing Impact in April 2022. Marketing Impact designs, manufactures, and distributes a comprehensive range of merchandising products, systems and solutions for retail customers including grocery stores, convenience stores, and pharmacies. Its catalogue of over 4,000 products includes: product pusher systems, loss prevention solutions, merchandising bins and accessories, shelf management systems, and sign holder systems, among others. Marketing Impact also designs and manufactures displays for consumer-packaged goods customers. Since commencing operations in 1986,

Marketing Impact has had a strong reputation for customer service, responsiveness, and innovation amongst its robust list of blue-chip, well-diversified retail customers across North America. Its design team is a leading innovator of merchandising systems and consumer-packaged goods displays as evidenced by the more than 15 patents issued or pending in Marketing Impact's portfolio.

#### Capital I

Capital I, located in Tisdale, Saskatchewan, has been designing, manufacturing and distributing high-quality road maintenance and construction equipment since 1993. Capital I's innovative products include dozer blades, snow blades and wings, slopers, gravel reclaimers, gravel groomers, lifts, mulchers and mowers, that are used in the construction and maintenance of gravel roads. Capital I's products are tailored to fit numerous makes and models of heavy equipment used in road maintenance which allows them to service a diverse customer base ranging from OEMs, dealers and municipalities. In addition, excess manufacturing capacity is used to fabricate parts for various mining, oil and gas and agricultural customers.

#### IHT

IHT, located outside of Winnipeg, Manitoba, is a well-established manufacturer and developer of high efficiency heating mats and lighting solutions for hog production. IHT was founded in 1995 and offers a diverse range of reliable and energy-efficient equipment, with a strong emphasis on research and development of new innovative technologies. The current focus of the business is centered on heat mats, lighting products and related equipment for hog producers. Management believes that the key competitive advantages for these products are durability, anti-microbial characteristics, energy efficiency, optimal heat distribution, and safety and hazard prevention, all of which promote animal welfare and cost savings for their customers. IHT continues to innovate and launched a line of cooling mats in Q3 2023 and expects to expand the use of fiberglass reinforced plastics into additional product lines in the future.

# Finished Product Segment Performance

(Stated in thousands of dollars)										
	For the three months ended					For the nine months ended				
September 30,		2023		2022		2023		2022		
Sales	\$	23,185	\$	14,724	\$	58,542	\$	37,077		
Gross profit		10,998		6,115		24,756		15,136		
Gross profit %		47%		42%		42%		41%		
Profit		3,536		2,330		7,690		5,541		
Add (deduct):										
Financing costs		106		78		302		212		
Income tax expense		858		522		1,477		1,030		
Amortization and depreciation		1,417		572		3,114		1,456		
Foreign exchange income		(103)		(128)		(84)		(121)		
Interest and other expense (income)		23		(3)		(1)		(9)		
Gain on sale of equipment		(39)		(5)		(39)		(6)		
Adjusted EBITDA		5,798		3,366		12,459		8,103		

IFRS measurement to non-IFRS measurement reconciliation presented in the table above.

### Three Months Ended September 30, 2023

Overall sales for the segment in Q3 2023, increased by \$8.5 million, or 58%, relative to Q3 2022. The increase was driven primarily by the sales generated in the three businesses acquired post-Q3 2022: ACR, Capital I, and IHT. Both Capital I and IHT experienced strong demand for their products during the quarter, resulting in quarterly sales levels consistent with pre-acquisition averages. Although warm weather in the United Kingdom impacted the start of ACR's seasonal increase in sales of its wood stove products, ACR still contributed positively to overall segment sales in the quarter. Blaze King achieved strong sales in the quarter which were consistent with sales levels in Q3 2022. Q3 2023 sales at Marketing Impact decreased 19% relative to the higher sales realized in Q3 2022, however quarterly

sales levels remained in-line with pre-acquisition averages. Slimline sales increased by 22% in Q3 2023, compared to Q3 2022 primarily as a result of a substantial sale within its wastewater evaporator business that contributed \$3.5 million of sales in the quarter.

The increase in overall sales resulted in a \$4.9 million, or 80%, increase in gross profit in Q3 2023 compared to Q3 2022. The 5% increase in segment gross profit percentage in Q3 2023 compared to Q3 2022 was driven by product mix changes as quarterly decreases in gross profit percentage at Marketing Impact based on a higher percentage of lower margin merchandising products sold in Q3 2023 relative to Q3 2022, were more than offset by the higher margin wastewater evaporator sales in Slimline in Q3 2023, as well as the contribution from the three high margin business acquired since Q3 2022.

Overall segment Adjusted EBITDA was \$5.8 million in Q3 2023; an increase of \$2.4 million, or 72%, compared to Q3 2022, driven by the increases in overall sales and gross profit described above.

#### Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023

Overall sales for the segment in the first nine months of 2023 increased by \$21.5 million, or 58%, relative to the first nine months of 2022. The increase was a result of the sales generated by Marketing Impact, ACR, Capital I and IHT since their respective acquisition dates of April 14, 2022, October 3, 2022, April 5, 2023, and July 19, 2023. Sales for Marketing Impact and ACR in the first nine months of 2023, and sales for Capital I and IHT since their acquisition dates, are each ahead of their respective pre-acquisition averages. Blaze King sales in the first nine months of 2023, were consistent relative to the same period in 2022, as pricing increases more than offset an 8% decrease in the number of units sold as traditional seasonal demand patterns reduced unit sales in Q2 2023. Sales for Slimline in the first nine months of 2023 decreased 6% relative the first nine months of 2022, primarily due to decreases in agricultural sprayer sales relative to a year ago, which were partially offset by increased wastewater evaporator sales.

Overall gross profit increased by \$9.6 million, or 64%, in 2023 relative to 2022, driven by the overall increase in sales. A 1% increase in gross profit percentage was realized in the first nine months of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022, based on pricing increases in Blaze King as well as the impact of acquiring three high margin business (ACR, Capital I and IHT) since Q3 2022, which was partially offset by margin compression at Marketing Impact.

Overall segment Adjusted EBITDA was \$12.5 million in the first nine months of 2023; an increase of \$4.4 million, or 54%, compared to the first nine months of 2022, driven by the increases in overall sales and gross profit described above.

### Finished Product Segment Industry Trends and Outlook

### Blaze King and ACR

- All Blaze King products meet stringent EPA 2020 regulations in effect for wood burning appliances in North America. Blaze King's top selling King and Princess model woodstoves are listed first and second in North America in terms of efficiency by the EPA. Similarly, all of ACR's products meet the environmental standards in effect in the United Kingdom and Europe.
- Investments made with respect to EPA 2020 readiness positioned Blaze King to increase its market share. According to information published by the EPA, since October 2019, the total number of wood stove manufacturers declined by 45% and the total number of certified fireboxes declined by 66%.
- United States government's tax credit program, effective until 2032, is buoying demand as Blaze King products make up 10% of eligible wood stoves. Consumers can apply for a tax credit of up to \$2,000 to replace older non-efficient wood stoves and fireplaces.

- Recent volatility in the availability and costs of heating alternatives such as natural gas, have also been positive for the demand of wood stoves and fireplaces in North America, the United Kingdom and Europe.
- Accessible price points that ACR distributes its products at have also driven demand given the
  inflationary pressures impacting the United Kingdom and Europe. However, ACR has witnessed a
  slower start to its seasonal ramp up into Q4 2023 than last year.
- Based on its current strong backlog, Blaze King management is focused on increasing production capacity to continue to satisfy demand and to capitalize on future market expansion opportunities. Investments in growth capital were made in 2021, 2022 and 2023 with additional investments underway and planned in the coming months. In addition, third party manufacturers (including Northside) are beginning to be utilized to increase production.
- Blaze King and ACR are in the early stages of leveraging synergies between the two businesses
  which could include the introduction of Blaze King products into Europe and the introduction of
  ACR products into North America, supported by the extensive dealer networks both businesses
  have in their respective markets.

#### Slimline

- Slimline's agriculture sprayers have strong brand equity and market penetration in British Columbia and in the Pacific Northwest and is aiming to capitalize on the wider industry movement toward precision agriculture.
- In February 2023, Daryll Lowry was named the new president of Slimline. Leadership transition has progressed considerably over the last eight months.
- New leadership team is focused on improving service to the existing customer base in the Pacific Northwest while also pursuing expansion in other large agricultural markets in North America, such as California, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and New York. This renewed focus is expected to have Slimline well positioned for the next agricultural sprayer buying season, however agricultural sprayer orders continue to lag relative to 2022.
- Other worldwide markets being explored as potential expansion opportunities to augment its North American sprayer business.
- Opportunities for Slimline's wastewater evaporator products to provide alternative wastewater remediation solutions in the waste management, oil and gas and mining industries.
- The development of a larger scale evaporator for use in larger scale tailings ponds over the last several months has led to a substantial order that was fulfilled in Q3 2023.

#### Marketing Impact

- Services a wide range of top-tier retail and consumer packaged goods customers that are in non-cyclical industries selling non-discretionary products. Grocery stores, convenience stores, and pharmacies, as well as the consumer-packaged goods that are shelved by these outlets, have all experienced strong demand trends over the last few years and that is expected to continue in the long-term.
- Demand from these customers has softened to date in 2023. However, Marketing Impact is uniquely positioned as a domestic supplier of merchandising products, systems, solutions and displays for these customer groups. Its product pusher and anti-theft systems can demonstrate a strong return on investment to its customer base as they support labour savings and reduced shrinkage for its customers.

- Well established with its customer base in Eastern Canada. Given its market position and the
  quality of its products, management believes there are opportunities for growth in Western
  Canada, Quebec and the United States. In the United States, the grocery and pharmacy
  industries are more fragmented than in Canada, which provides for a wider potential customer
  sales base.
- Transition of leadership from the founders currently underway is limiting growth in the business. Decisive focused on inserting new leadership in Marketing Impact to ensure the business positioned to pursue growth in a methodical fashion.

### Capital I

- Innovative products designed for optimizing maintenance of gravel roads that can demonstrate a
  strong return on investment for its customers through reduced use of consumables, improved
  visibility and safety of drivers given the proprietary method of product attachment to grader units,
  and improved performance as a result of the unique design attributes of its products relative to its
  competitors.
- Delivery of summer implement orders nearing completion and backlog of winter implement orders beginning to build.
- Current project underway to manufacture oil and gas machinery in conjunction with Hawk and Unicast.
- Opportunities for growth in Eastern Canada and the United States.
- Vernon Snidal hired as President in November 2023, supporting leadership transition from the exiting founders of this business.

#### IHT

- The energy efficiency of IHT's products results in significant cost savings for pork producers relative to other technologies used in the industry.
- Similarly, its products optimize heating conditions, and improve safety and hazard prevention, all of which enhance animal welfare and additional cost savings for its customers.
- The North American pork market has faced high feed costs and low market pricing over the last year. Management of IHT believes that pork pricing may begin to rebound in mid-2024. Despite these industry headwinds, IHT sales have been increasing as a result of the cost savings its products can provide for customers.
- Opportunities to expand product offering with near term launch of cooling mats and expanded use
  of fiberglass reinforced plastics into additional product lines.
- Opportunities for growth in other pork producing countries in South America and Europe.

### Component Manufacturing Segment Overview

The component manufacturing segment manufactures and sells products based on specifications determined by its customers for use in its customers' processes. Within the component manufacturing segment, there are five separate businesses: Unicast, Hawk, Northside, Micon and Procore.

### **Unicast**

The Company acquired Unicast in June 2016. The business of Unicast is producing and distributing wear parts and valves for the mining, aggregate and cement industries. Wear parts are consumable parts for machinery that wear out when crushing rock, which is done extensively in the mining, aggregate and cement industries. Unicast has been in operation since 1994. Unicast is focused on providing quality wear parts that are more durable and last longer than the products of its competitors. Unicast's products are designed to have fewer issues regarding installation and maintenance by using novel alloys, precision engineering, three-dimensional scanning technology, robust quality control processes, and comprehensive collaboration agreements involving academia and industry partners. Unicast management believes that these are Unicast's primary competitive advantages over its competitors. Unicast has a growing dealer distribution base that includes distributors across Canada and the United States, with continuing growth in Latin America, the Middle East, Asia, and Europe.

### <u>Hawk</u>

The Company acquired Hawk in June 2018. Hawk was founded in 1998 and is positioned in the computer numerical control (CNC) machining/fabrication market as a complete turnkey solution for customized machining products. Over the last five years, customers of Hawk have primarily been market participants in the down hole tool sector of the oil and gas industry, power utility generation, appliance, and other original equipment manufacturers. Products and services include: general machining; hydraulic fracturing tools; ground and subsurface tools; rods and couplings; reconditioning services; and resale parts. Hawk routinely delivers product direct to end-users rather than customers' facilities for inspection as a result of its low historical failure rates.

### Northside

The Company acquired Northside in August 2019. Northside was founded in 1967 and is a full-service provider of welding and fabrication solutions for a diverse number of industries. The primary focus of Northside is supplying products for the commercial vehicle and forestry sectors; however, Northside also has exposure to the agriculture, environmental, mining and oil and gas sectors, among others. Northside has produced an expansive range of products for its customers over the years including: truck and automotive components, fuel-hydraulic fluid tanks, j-brackets and straps, bumpers, truck chassis components, cab panels, tanks, architectural components, tool and battery boxes, steel under-decking and much more.

#### Micon

Micon, located in Merritt, British Columbia, designs, manufactures and distributes high-quality radiator seals and grommets for heavy duty equipment. Its products are designed to help reduce downtime associated with cooling system failures of the equipment used in the demanding mining and road construction industries. Micon utilizes strategic distribution hubs and distribution partners to reduce time to fulfill orders to its worldwide base of customers.

#### Procore

Procore, located in Merritt, British Columbia, designs, manufactures and distributes high-performance radiators for heavy duty equipment. Procore radiators are designed for the cooling systems found in the heavy-duty equipment used in the mining, oil and gas and road construction industries. Procore manufactures a full line of folded core radiators as well as a growing list of AMOCS Radiators to fit into Caterpillar™ type equipment. Procore's innovative designs reduce expensive downtime for its customers, and it utilizes strategic distribution hubs and distribution partners to reduce time to fulfill orders to its worldwide base of customers.

### Component Manufacturing Segment Performance

(Stated in thousands of dollars)								
	For the three months end		hs ended	For the nine		months ended		
September 30,		2023		2022		2023		2022
Sales	\$	15,441	\$	11,265	\$	41,956	\$	30,888
Gross profit		5,348		2,797		14,210		7,731
Gross profit %		35%		25%		34%		25%
Profit		2,129		1,258		5,427		2,208
Add (deduct):								
Financing costs		38		25		95		79
Income tax expense		369		35		1,162		102
Amortization and depreciation		800		616		2,166		1,735
Acquisition and restructuring costs		-		-		-		237
Foreign exchange expense (income)		3		(470)		(40)		(672)
Interest and other income		(2)		-		(4)		(1)
Gain on sale of equipment		-		-		(69)		(7)
Adjusted EBITDA		3,337		1,464		8,737		3,681

IFRS measurement to non-IFRS measurement reconciliation presented in the table above.

### Three Months Ended September 30, 2023

The \$4.2 million, or 37%, increase in segment sales in Q3 2023 relative to Q3 2022, was driven by sales increases in Unicast, Hawk and Northside as well as the sales generated in the two businesses acquired in April 2023: Micon and Procore. The sales generated by Micon and Procore in Q3 2023 were consistent with pre-acquisition averages. Unicast sales increased 4% in Q3 2023 compared to Q3 2022, Hawk sales increased 25% compared to Q3 2022 and Northside sales increased 55% relative to Q3 2022. Demand levels in these businesses has continued to be strong, supported by commodity prices and customer diversification efforts.

The increase in sales was a key driver of the \$2.6 million, or 91%, increase in segment gross profit for the three-month period ended September 30, 2023, compared to the same period in 2022. In addition, segment gross profit percentages increased by 10 percentage points in Q3 2023 compared to Q3 2022, as a result of product mix changes, pricing increases and the impact of Northside moving production of certain lower margin products to a strategic partner in a lower cost jurisdiction.

Segment Adjusted EBITDA was \$3.3 million in Q3 2023; an increase of \$1.9 million, or 128%, compared to Q3 2022. The increase in segment Adjusted EBITDA was driven by the increased sales and gross profit generated in the quarter.

### Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023

For the nine months ended September 30, 2023, segment sales increased by \$11.1 million, or 36%, compared to the same period in 2022. The overall increase was a result of sales increases of 26%, 27% and 34% in each of Unicast, Hawk and Northside respectively, as well as the sales generated in the two businesses acquired in April 2023: Micon and Procore. Demand levels in Unicast, Hawk and Northside continue to increase in Q3 2023, reflecting strength in demand from the industries that these component manufacturing businesses serve. In addition, customer acquisition efforts through the last several quarters have further diversified the customer base for both Hawk and Unicast relative to the first nine months of 2022.

Overall segment gross profit in the first nine months of 2023 increased by \$6.5 million, or 84%, compared to same period in 2022 and gross profit percentages increased by 9 percentage points over the same respective periods. The higher sales levels in the first nine months of 2023 were a driver of the overall gross profit increase, however margin enhancing activities undertaken over the last year had an even

greater impact on both the overall gross profit increase as well as the increase in gross profit percentages.

Segment Adjusted EBITDA in the first nine months of 2023 was \$8.7 million; an increase of \$5.1 million, or 137%, compared to the first nine months of 2022. The increase in segment Adjusted EBITDA was driven by the increase in sales and gross profit.

# Component Manufacturing Segment Industry Trends and Outlook

## Unicast, Micon and Procore

- Long-term demand expectations for cement and aggregate industries continue to be strong based on infrastructure spending initiatives that have been introduced by governments globally. Near-term economic and geopolitical uncertainty has resulted in reduced order activity, as some customers are electing to differ maintenance on machinery or delay capital projects, the impact of which may be seen in Q4 2023 and Q1 2024 results.
- Unicast continues to diversify its supply chain with over 30% of the products delivered in Q3 2023 coming from suppliers outside of China. Unicast can produce over 90% of its wear parts from suppliers outside of China, which greatly mitigates geopolitical and supply chain risk for its business.
- Mark Watson named President of Unicast in May 2022 with a focus on highlighting Unicast's product differentiators to support sales growth, focusing on higher margin products and expanding Unicast's sales team and distribution networks while diversifying suppliers.
- Brian McDonald hired as the General Manager of Micon and Procore in August 2023, supporting leadership transition from the exiting founders of these businesses along with operational efficiency enhancement and customer acquisition activity.
- Opportunity for market share increases through cross selling amongst complementary customer bases and geographies served between Unicast, Micon and Procore. Further geographic expansion opportunities in Latin America, Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East.

#### Hawk

- Customer base currently tied closely to the North American oil and gas industry. Over the last year, customer base has diversified which has lessened the reliance on its main customer considerably.
- Current oil and natural gas price levels continue to be supportive of strong activity levels in the oil
  and gas industry, evidenced by increasing rig counts in Western Canada in the second half of
  2023, which is positive with respect to demand for Hawk's products.
- Tim Stewart named President of Hawk in January 2022, with a focus on pursuing sales growth from a broad range of customers, supporting the ongoing diversification of Hawk's revenue mix while continuing to provide turnkey services to its main customers.

### Northside

- Northside's primary focus is supplying products to two main customers in the commercial vehicle and forestry sectors.
- Demand for commercial vehicle products has increased significantly in 2023 and based on current production forecasts, the provision of these products is expected to continue to support strong demand levels for commercial vehicle products for the remainder of 2023 and into 2024.
- Conversely, North American lumber prices have declined in 2023, as rising interest rates have reduced demand for lumber. Demand for forestry equipment has moderated as a result, which has negatively impacted demand for the products connected to this sector.

- Northside is committed to improving production capacity and efficiency and successfully entered
  into a strategic partnership to produce certain lower margin products in a lower cost jurisdiction in
  Q2 2023 to help mitigate the effect of cost increases over the last few years and meet the
  expected future demand levels of its customers while also increasing production capacity.
- Production capacity improvements are being used to produce fireboxes for Blaze King, which commenced in Q3 2023. These efficiencies are also allowing Northside to pursue other value-add manufacturing opportunities.

### Head Office Segment Overview

The Canadian public company parent, Decisive Dividend Corporation, is considered a third and separate segment, as its function is as an investment holding and management company.

(Stated in thousands of dollars)										
	Fo	For the three months ended				For the nine months ended				
September 30,		2023		2022		2023		2022		
Loss	\$	(2,926)	\$	(1,559)	\$	(7,210)	\$	(4,326)		
Add (deduct):										
Financing costs		932		569		2,316		1,493		
Income tax expense		26		58		41		147		
Amortization and depreciation		15		16		42		30		
Acquisition and restructuring costs		397		61		999		402		
Share-based compensation expense		283		26		637		124		
Interest and other income		-		(2)		-		(3)		
Adjusted EBITDA		(1,273)		(831)		(3,175)		(2,133)		

IFRS measurement to non-IFRS measurement reconciliation presented in the table above.

### Three Months Ended September 30, 2023

During the three-month period ended September 30, 2023, Head Office expended \$2.9 million on corporate activities. This was an increase of \$1.4 million relative to Q3 2022.

The increase was primarily a result of an increase in financing costs; acquisition costs; salaries, wages and benefits; and share-based compensation. The \$0.4 million increase in financing costs in the quarter was due to the increase in long-term debt used to fund acquisitions over the preceding twelve months and to fund increased working capital across the Group, as well as an increase in variable rate borrowing costs. The acquisition activity in Q3 2023 resulted in a \$0.3 million increase in acquisition costs relative to Q3 2022. In addition, salaries, wages and benefits increased \$0.4 million due to the addition of three new team members at head office as well as short-term incentive accruals based on the strong overall operating performance of the Group in the first nine months of 2023. The three team members added included the roles of VP Manufacturing, VP People & Culture, and AVP Finance, each of which augment the ability of head office to support existing subsidiaries in achieving organic growth and complete acquisitions. Also, share-based compensation was \$0.3 million higher in Q3 2023, versus Q3 2022, as a result of restricted share units issued in the quarter.

#### Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023

For the nine months ended September 30, 2023, Head Office expended \$7.2 million on corporate activities. This was an increase of \$2.9 million relative to the first nine months of 2022.

The increase was primarily a result of a \$0.8 million increase in financing costs in the first nine months of 2023 due to the increase in long-term debt used to fund acquisitions over the preceding twelve months and to fund increased working capital across the Group, as well as an increase in variable rate borrowing costs. The acquisition activity in the first nine months of 2023 resulted in a \$0.6 million increase in

acquisition costs relative to the same period in 2022. Professional fees were also \$0.2 million higher in the first nine months of 2023 as a result of recruitment costs incurred to fill additional head office positions and increased audit fees. In addition, salaries, wages and benefits increased due to the additional resources at head office as well as short-term incentive accruals based on the strong overall operating performance of the Group in the first nine months of 2023. Also, share-based compensation was \$0.5 million higher in the first nine months of 2023, versus the same period in 2022, primarily as a result of deferred share units and restricted share units issued in 2023.

# **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

The Company's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, so that it can provide returns for shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders.

The capital structure of the Group currently consists of equity and debt. The Company manages the capital structure and adjusts it in the light of changes in economic conditions and the risk characteristics of the underlying assets. To maintain or adjust the capital structure, the Company may issue new shares, purchase shares for cancellation pursuant to a normal course issuer bid ("NCIB"), adjust the amount of dividends paid to align the dividend policy with shareholder expectations, place new debt, refinance existing debt, or sell assets. Management reviews its capital management approach on a regular basis.

The Company is continuing to manage its financial position in accordance with its capital management objectives and considering its current operating environment.

The industry trends outlined in the "Finished Product Segment Industry Trends and Outlook" and "Component Manufacturing Segment Industry Trends and Outlook", as well as the market risks described under "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Information Form and its Annual MD&A can significantly affect the financial condition and liquidity of the Company.

### Cash and Working Capital

As of the date of this MD&A, the Company had cash of \$3.6 million, compared to cash of \$2.4 million at September 30, 2023, and cash of \$4.7 million at December 31, 2022.

As at September 30, 2023, the Company had net working capital of \$21.3 million (December 31, 2022 - \$17.9 million) as follows:

	September 30,			
(Stated in thousands of dollars)		2023		2022
Cash	\$	2,359	\$	4,734
Accounts receivable		26,037		16,380
Inventory		24,678		14,940
Prepaid expenses and deposits		1,993		2,433
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		(29,934)		(17,909)
Dividends payable		(752)		(447)
Warranty provision		(597)		(579)
Customer deposits		(474)		(344)
Current portion of lease obligations		(1,751)		(1,279)
Current portion of long-term debt		(227)		
Net working capital	\$	21,332	\$	17,929

### Capital Expenditures

(Stated in thousands of dollars)									
	For the three months ended			ns ended	For the nine months ended				
September 30,		2023		2022		2023	2022		
Purchase of property and equipment	\$	1,129	\$	1,297	\$	2,781 \$	1,909		
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment		-		(5)		(81)	(22)		
		1,129		1,292		2,700	1,887		
Growth capital expenditures		907		1,071		1,637	1,146		
Maintenance capital expenditures		222		221		1,063	741		
	\$	1,129	\$	1,292	\$	2,700 \$	1,887		

The increase in capital expenditures was a result of increases in both maintenance capital and growth capital expenditures. Growth capital expenditures in 2023 were directed toward production capacity enhancements for Blaze King, including capital expenditures at Northside required to setup a manufacturing cell for Blaze King products, and capability enhancements at Hawk.

### Free Cash Flow

(Stated in thousands of dollars)									
	Fo	r the three	month	ns ended	For the nine months ended				
September 30,		2023		2022		2023		2022	
Cash provided by operating activities	\$	964	\$	3,821	\$	7,928	\$	5,113	
Add (deduct):									
Changes in non-cash working capital		4,883		122		6,169		2,921	
Income taxes paid		1,597		-		2,930		991	
Current income tax expense		(1,574)		(838)		(3,409)		(1,601)	
Acquisition and restructuring costs		397		61		999		639	
Interest paid		(1,045)		(620)		(2,592)		(1,648)	
Lease payments		(371)		(311)		(1,060)		(904)	
Required principal repayments on debt		(56)		-		(111)			
Free cash flow	\$	4,795	\$	2,235		10,854		5,511	

The increase in Free Cash Flow in 2023, was primarily a result of the increase in Adjusted EBITDA relative to 2022, which was partially offset by increases in interest paid, current income taxes and lease payments on right of use assets.

### **Dividends and Dividend Payout Ratios**

The Company's Board of Directors regularly examines the dividends paid to shareholders. The following dividends were declared during the nine months ended September 30, 2023, and throughout 2022:

(Stated in thousands of dollars, except per share amounts)

Otated III triousarius or dollars, exce		2023						2022			
	_			Dividend				Dividend			
84 a 4 la		Per share		Amount		Per share		Amount			
Month		(\$)		(\$)		(\$)		(\$)			
January	\$	0.030	\$	448	\$	0.025	\$	303			
February		0.030		450		0.025		304			
March		0.035		528		0.025		305			
April		0.035		608		0.030		377			
May		0.035		610		0.030		377			
June		0.035		611		0.030		378			
July		0.040		712		0.030		379			
August		0.040		746		0.030		379			
September		0.040		752		0.030		436			
October				-		0.030		441			
November		_		_		0.030		443			
December		_		_		0.030		447			
Total	\$	0.320	\$	5,465	\$	0.345	\$	4,569			

The above dividends were paid on or about the 15th of the month following their declaration. Of the dividends paid in 2023, \$3.7 million were settled in cash and \$1.5 million were reinvested in additional common shares of the Company, pursuant to the dividend reinvestment and cash purchase plan "the DRIP".

On March 15, 2023, the Company announced an increase in its monthly dividend to \$0.035 per share and on June 22, 2023 announced a further increase in its monthly dividend to \$0.04 per share effective for the August 2023 dividend payment declared in July 2023. The increased monthly dividend represents annualized dividends of \$0.48 per common share, up from the annualized March level of \$0.42 per common share and the previous level set at \$0.36 per common share on an annualized basis.

The Company utilizes Free Cash Flow Less Maintenance Capital to analyze the percentage of cash generated from operations returned to shareholders as dividends. This is analyzed on a trailing twelve-month basis in order to reduce the impact of seasonality on the analysis. Cash outflows associated with acquisitions, including acquisition costs, and growth capital expenditures are not included in this payout ratio as they are expected to generate incremental cash inflows in the future. The Company's dividend payout ratio decreased in the trailing twelve-month period ended September 30, 2023 compared to the same period in 2022, primarily as a result of the \$10.3 million increase in Adjusted EBITDA for the trailing twelve-month period ended September 30, 2023, compared to the same period in 2022, which was partially offset by increases in interest paid, current income taxes and lease payments on right of use assets.

(Stated in thousands of dollars)				
For the trailing twelve month period ended September 30,	2023	2022		
Cash provided by operating activities	\$ 11,242	\$	7,211	
Add (deduct):				
Changes in non-cash working capital	6,440		2,801	
Income taxes paid	2,930		991	
Current income tax expense	(3,552)		(1,787)	
Acquisition and restructuring costs	1,440		754	
Interest paid	(3,298)		(2,110)	
Lease payments	(1,383)		(1,178)	
Required principal repayments on debt	(111)		(1)	
Free cash flow	13,708		6,681	
Maintenance capital expenditures	(1,276)		(882)	
Free cash flow less maintenance capital	12,432		5,799	
Dividends declared	6,797		4,144	
Dividend payout ratio	55%		71%	

Cumulative dividends, paid since Decisive's inception, for the nine months ended September 30, 2023, are as follows:

(Stated in thousands of dollars)	September 30, 2023
Cumulative dividends, beginning of period	\$ 19,686
Dividends declared during the period	5,465
Cumulative dividends, end of period	\$ 25,151

Subsequent to September 30, 2023, the Company undertook the following dividend actions:

• A dividend of \$0.04 per share was declared on October 13, 2023, for shareholders of record on October 31, 2023, which is payable on November 15, 2023.

## Long-Term Debt

			No	vember 6,	Sept	ember 30,	Dec	ember 31,
				2023		2023		2022
(Stated in thousands of dollars)	Authorized		Outstanding		Outstanding		Outstanding	
Revolving term operating facility (i)	\$	15,000	\$	9,742	\$	8,459	\$	4,988
Revolving term acquisition facility (ii)		25,000		7,300		10,000		-
Non-amortizing term loan (iii)		28,000		28,000		28,000		28,000
Equipment loans		465		465		479		-
	\$	68,465	\$	45,507	\$	46,938	\$	32,988

The Company has a credit agreement in place with its senior lenders, Canadian Western Bank and CWB Maxium Financial Inc., a wholly-owned division of Canadian Western Bank, which provides for the credit facilities described in (i), (ii) and (iii) below:

- (i) The revolving term operating facility bears interest at the lender's prime rate plus 1.0%. The Company's ability to access the revolving term operating facility is dependent on a borrowing base which is measured against the Group's accounts receivable and inventory. Standby fees of 0.25% per annum are paid quarterly on the unused portion of the revolving term operating facility.
- (ii) The revolving term acquisition facility bears interest at the lender's prime rate plus 2.5% and is available to the Company for acquisition purposes. Standby fees of 0.25% per annum are paid guarterly on the unused portion of the revolving term acquisition facility.
- (iii) The non-amortizing term loan bears interest at a fixed rate of 6.9% with no required principal payments for the term of the loan.

In Q3 2023, the Company renewed the credit agreement with its senior lenders, increased the amount available, lowered the borrowing costs on its revolving term acquisition facility by 0.5%, and extended the term of the agreement by one year so that all drawn amounts now mature in June 2026. On renewal, the total amount available under the credit agreement was increased to \$68.0 million from \$53.0 million as follows:

(Stated in thousands of dollars)	Previously Authorized	Increases	Currently Authorized
Revolving term operating facility (i) Revolving term acquisition facility (ii) Non-amortizing term loan (iii)	\$ 10,000 15,000 28.000	\$ 5,000 10,000	\$ 15,000 25,000 28,000
	\$ 53,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 68,000

The Company utilized its revolving term acquisition facility in each of the four acquisitions completed to date in 2023. The acquisition facility was subsequently paid down through the net proceeds of an equity offering completed in April 2023, proceeds on the exercise of warrants (both of which are described later in this MD&A under the heading "Disclosure of Outstanding Share Data"), and operating cash flows leaving ample liquidity for future acquisitions.

There are no required principal payments on these three facilities for the committed three-year term of the credit agreement, which also provides for annual extension provisions. The credit facilities with the Company's senior lenders are collectively secured by a general security agreement, assignment of insurance, and guarantees. In addition, the Company and its subsidiaries have agreed to maintain the following ratios (as defined in the credit agreement) as a group on a trailing twelve-month basis:

- Maximum total funded debt to Adjusted EBITDA of 4.00:1
- Maximum total senior funded debt to Adjusted EBITDA of 3.25:1
- Minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.10:1

As at September 30, 2023, the Group was in compliance with these ratios.

### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

The Group's does not have any off-balance sheet arrangements.

### Disclosure of Outstanding Share Data

The following table sets forth the Company's share capital data as at November 6, 2023, September 30, 2023, and December 31, 2022. Each deferred share unit and restricted share unit entitled the holder thereof to one common share of the Company pending the satisfaction of certain vesting, settlement and/or redemption criteria. Each warrant and stock option entitled the holder thereof to purchase one common share of the Company pending the satisfaction of certain vesting criteria.

	November 6, 2023	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
Common shares, basic	18,845,673	18,795,077	14,888,021
Warrants outstanding	968,082	969,582	924,181
Deferred share units outstanding	43,745	43,745	-
Restricted share units outstanding	68,698	68,698	-
Stock options outstanding	395,002	401,002	659,666
Common shares, fully diluted	20,321,200	20,278,104	16,471,868

An aggregate of 422,534 common shares were issued during the nine months ended September 30, 2023, through Decisive's employee share purchase plan, DRIP and the exercise of stock options. These share issuances generated cash proceeds of \$0.7 million and reduced the amount of cash dividends paid by \$1.5 million. In addition, 936,843 common shares were issued during the nine months ended September 30, 2023 on the exercise of warrants which generated \$4.8 million in cash proceeds. Of the warrants exercised, 819,175 warrants issued to Waratah Capital Advisors Ltd. in 2022 were exercised at a price of \$4.94 per warrant for total cash proceeds \$4.0 million, which was used to pay down the Company's revolving term acquisition facility following the acquisition of IHT.

During the second quarter, as part of the consideration paid for the acquisitions of Capital I, Micon and Procore described earlier in this MD&A under the heading "Acquisitions", the Company issued an aggregate 268,577 common shares to the vendors of Capital I, Micon, and Procore at a price of \$6.84 per share. In the third quarter, as part of the consideration paid for the acquisition of IHT described earlier in this MD&A under the heading "Acquisitions", on July 19, 2023, the Company issued an aggregate 314,614 common shares to the vendors of IHT at a price of \$7.39 per share.

Also during the second quarter, the Company closed a bought deal equity offering, with a syndicate of underwriters, of 1,964,488 common shares at a price of \$5.91 per share. In addition, for each common share subscribed for under the bought deal equity offering, the subscriber also received a one-half common share purchase warrant. Each whole common share purchase warrant entitles the holder thereof to purchase one common share at a price of \$7.09 for a period of 24 months following the closing of the bought deal equity offering.

As at November 6, 2023, there were 906,844 shares in escrow relating to the Company's completed acquisitions, as follows:

- Marketing Impact 156,863 to be released half per year in April 2024 and 2025 respectively.
- ACR 166,790 to be released at one-third per year in November 2023, 2024, and 2025 respectively.
- Capital I 123,962 to be released at one-third per year in April 2024, 2025, and 2026 respectively.
- Micon 55,434 to be released at one-third per year in April 2024, 2025, and 2026 respectively.
- Procore 89,181 to be released at one-third per year in April 2024, 2025, and 2026 respectively
- IHT 314,614 to be released at one-third per year in July 2024, 2025, and 2026 respectively.

# **Related Party Transactions**

The Group's related parties consist of directors, officers and key management or companies associated with them. Key management, including directors and officers of the Group, are those personnel having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing, and controlling the Group.

Key management compensation for the nine months ended September 30, 2023, included \$1.53 million of salaries, benefits and director fees (2022 - \$0.89 million) and \$0.48 million of share-based compensation (2022 - \$0.06 million).

# **Accounting Policies**

The Company's significant accounting policies are disclosed in Note 3 of Decisive's audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022. During 2023, there have not been any changes in the accounting policies or methods of computation used.

# **Critical Accounting Estimates**

This MD&A is based on the Company's consolidated financial statements. The preparation of the consolidated financial statements requires that certain estimates and judgements be made with respect to the reported amounts of revenues and expenses and the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities. These estimates are based on historical experience and management's judgement. Anticipating future events involves uncertainty and consequently the estimates used by management in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements may change as future events unfold, additional experience is acquired or the Company's operating environment changes. The estimates and judgements considered to be the most significant in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements were described in the Company's 2022 Annual MD&A under the heading "Critical Accounting Estimates". There were no significant changes to the methodologies employed in applying these estimates and judgements in the first nine months of 2023.

## **Financial Instruments and Financial Risk Management**

### Fair Value Measurement and Disclosures

The basis for fair value measurements and/or disclosures were described in the Company's 2022 Annual MD&A under the heading "Financial Instruments". There were no changes in the classification or in the fair value measurement basis of the Group's financial instruments since December 31, 2022.

At September 30, 2023, the carrying amounts of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and dividends payable, approximate their fair value due to their short-term nature.

Management determined that the fair value of the Company's long-term debt was not materially different than their carrying amounts as they are based on market interest rates.

## Financial Risk Management

The Company's primary business activities consist of the acquisition of businesses in the manufacturing sector. The Company examines the various financial risks to which the Group is exposed and assesses the impact and likelihood of occurrence. These risks may include liquidity risk, credit risk, currency risk, and interest rate risk. The Company's risk management program strives to evaluate the unpredictability of financial and commodity markets and its objective is to minimize the potential adverse effects of such risks on the Group's financial performance, where financially feasible to do so. When deemed material, these risks may be monitored by the Group's corporate finance group and they are regularly discussed

with the Company's board of directors or one of its committees. There were no changes in the Company's assessment of risks from the use of financial instruments or in the financial risk management policies of the Company since December 31, 2022.

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Group will not be able to meet its financial obligations when they become due. To mitigate this risk, the Group has a planning and budgeting process in place to determine the funds required to support its ongoing operations and capital expenditures. The Group's cash is held in business accounts which are available on demand for the Group's programs. The contractual maturities of financial instruments are as follows:

(Stated in thousands of dollars)

	Carrying	Total contractual	Within one	Two to five	More than
September 30, 2023	value	cash flows	year	years	five years
Accounts payable	\$ 29,934	\$ 29,934	\$ 19,236	\$ 10,698	\$ _
Dividends payable	752	752	752	-	-
Long-term debt	46,668	56,838	3,831	53,007	-
Lease obligations	11,128	13,453	2,222	6,697	4,534
	\$ 88,482	\$ 100,977	\$ 26,041	\$ 70,402	\$ 4,534

Liquidity risk management involves maintaining sufficient cash or cash equivalents and availability of funding through an adequate amount of committed credit facilities. The Group's cash is held in business accounts which are available on demand for the Group's programs. The Company also attempts to maintain flexibility in funding by securing committed and available credit facilities. The Company's credit agreement with its senior lenders provides the Group access to a revolving term operating facility and a revolving term acquisition facility. The Group's ability to access the revolving term operating facility is dependent on a borrowing base which is measured against the Group's accounts receivable and inventory. The Group continues to manage its financial position in accordance with its capital management objectives and in light of its current operating environment.

Counterparty credit risk is the risk that the financial benefits of contracts with a specific counterparty will be lost if a counterparty defaults on its obligations under the contract. This includes any cash amounts owed to the Group by those counterparties, less any amounts owed to the counterparty by the Group where a legal right of set-off exists and also includes the fair values of contracts with individual counterparties which are recorded in the consolidated financial statements.

The Group's credit risk is predominantly limited to cash balances held in financial institutions, and the recovery of the Group's accounts receivable. The maximum exposure to the credit risk is equal to the carrying value of such financial assets. At September 30, 2023, the Company expects to recover the full amount of such assets, less any expected credit losses.

Cash and cash equivalents are only deposited with or held by major financial institutions where the Group conducts its business.

The following details the aging of the Group's trade accounts receivable and expected credit losses:

(Stated in thousands of dollars)

	September 30, 2023			
Not yet due	\$ 16,489	68%		
31-60 days overdue	3,903	16%		
61-90 days overdue	767	3%		
>90 days overdue	3,204	13%		
Trade accounts receivable	24,363	100%		
Less: expected credit losses	(182)			
Net trade accounts receivable	\$ 24,181			

Of the amounts over 90 days due, \$0.5 million were collected subsequent to the end of the quarter. The Group is working with its customers to develop plans to have the remaining amounts over 90 days due collected in Q4 2023, and as at September 30, 2023, the Group expects to recover the full amount of its trade receivables, less any expected credit losses. The objective of managing counterparty credit risk is to minimize potential losses in financial assets. The Group assesses the quality of its counterparties, taking into account their creditworthiness and reputation, past performance and other factors. In certain cases, the Group obtains insurance to assist in managing its credit risk.

The functional currency for Blaze King Industries Inc. and Unicast is the US dollar ("USD"), the functional currency for ACR is the British pound sterling ("GBP"), while all other entities in the group have a Canadian dollar ("CAD") functional currency. The Company's reporting currency is the Canadian dollar. As a result, the Group's profit or loss and total comprehensive income are in part impacted by fluctuations in the value of each foreign currency ("FC") in which it transacts in relation to the CAD.

The table below summarizes the quantitative data about the Group's exposure to currency risk:

(Ctatad in	thousands	of dollare

	Entities w functional		Entities with functional co		Entities with a functional cur		
As at September 30, 2023	CAD	USD	CAD	USD	CAD	GBP	Total
Cash	\$ 334 \$	\$ 982 \$	15 \$	199 \$	- \$	829 \$	2,359
Accounts receivable	15,719	6,418	243	2,708	-	949	26,037
Accounts payable	(26,014)	(697)	(117)	(982)	- (	2,124)	(29,934)
Dividend payable	(752)	-	-	-	-	-	(752)
Inter-company amounts	3,384	-	(5,790)	2,408	(2)	-	-
Long-term debt	(46,189)	(479)	-	-	-	-	(46,668)
Net exposure	(53,518)	6,224	(5,649)	4,333	(2)	(346)	(48,958)
Effect of 5% strengthening of FC versus CAD:							
Profit (loss)	-	311	282	-	-	-	593
OCI	\$ - 9	\$ - \$	- \$	(217) \$	- \$	17 \$	(200)

The Company is at times exposed to interest rate risk on its long-term debt, as described under the heading "Long-term Debt" earlier in this MD&A, due to the interest rate on certain of its credit facilities being variable. Of the Company's interest-bearing debt outstanding at September 30, 2023, 39% was variable rate. The Company does not enter into derivative contracts to manage this risk.

The table below summarizes the quantitative data about the Company's exposure to interest rate risk:

### (Stated in thousands of dollars)

Interest rate risk	September 30, 2023		
Floating instruments	\$ 18,459		
Average balance Impact on profit (loss) of a change in interest rates:	10,484		
-1%	105		
+1%	\$ (105)		

### **Risk Factors**

The Company and its subsidiaries are subject to a number of risk factors. These risk factors relate to the organizational structure of the Company and to the operations of its subsidiaries. There were no changes to the principal risk factors from those reported in the Company's Annual MD&A for the year ended December 31, 2022.

#### Non-IFRS Financial Measures

"Adjusted EBITDA", "Free Cash Flow", "Growth Capital Expenditures", "Maintenance Capital Expenditures", "Dividend Payout Ratio" and "Return on Invested Capital" are not recognized financial measures under IFRS but are believed to be meaningful in the assessment of the Group's performance as defined below.

"Adjusted EBITDA" is defined as earnings before finance costs, income taxes, depreciation, amortization, foreign exchange gains or losses, other non-cash items such as gains or losses recognized on the fair value of contingent consideration items, asset impairment, share-based compensation, and restructuring costs, and other non-operating items such as acquisition costs.

Adjusted EBITDA is a financial performance measure that management believes is useful for investors to analyze the results of the Group's operating activities prior to consideration of how those activities are financed and the impact of non-operating charges related to planned or completed acquisitions, foreign exchange, taxation, depreciation, amortization, and impairment charges.

The most directly comparable financial measure is profit or loss. Set forth below are descriptions of the financial items that have been excluded from profit or loss to calculate Adjusted EBITDA and the material limitations associated with using these Non-IFRS financial measures as compared to profit or loss:

- The amount of interest expense incurred, or interest income generated, may be useful for investors to
  consider and may result in current cash inflows or outflows. However, management does not consider
  the amount of interest expense or interest income to be a representative component of the day-to-day
  operating performance of the Group.
- Depreciation and amortization expense may be useful for investors to consider because it generally represents the wear and tear on the property and equipment used in the Group's operations. However, management does not believe these charges necessarily reflect the current and ongoing cash charges related to the Group's operating costs as they also include expenses related to the amortization of the fair value of intangible assets acquired in business combinations.
- Acquisition costs are non-operating expenses that can affect costs with respect to planned and completed acquisitions. While a necessary expense as part of an acquisition, the magnitude and timing of these items may vary significantly depending upon the acquisition. As such, management does not consider acquisition costs incurred to be a representative component of the day-to-day operating performance of the Group.
- Additionally, management does not consider foreign exchange gains or losses to be a representative component of the day-to-day operating performance of the Group.
- Manufacturing costs include non-cash charges to expense the fair value increment of acquired inventories sold in the period that were originally valued as part of the initial purchase in a business acquisition, inventory write downs, and allowances for inventory obsolescence. Management does not consider these non-cash charges to be a representative component of the day-to-day operating performance of the Group.

- Similarly, goodwill impairment losses and gains or losses recognized on fair value adjustments of contingent consideration liabilities are non-cash items that management does not consider to be a representative component of the day-to-day operating performance of the Group.
- Share-based compensation may be useful for investors to consider because it is an estimate of the
  non-cash component of compensation received by the Group's directors, officers and employees.
  Management does not consider these non-cash charges to be a representative component of the
  day-to-day operating performance of the Group as the decisions that gave rise to these expenses
  were not made to increase revenue in a particular period, but were made for the Group's long-term
  benefit over multiple periods.

Adjusted EBITDA per share is also presented, which is calculated by dividing Adjusted EBITDA, as defined above, by the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period.

"Free Cash Flow" is defined as cash provided by operating activities, as defined by IFRS, adjusted for changes in non-cash working capital, timing considerations between current income tax expense and income taxes paid, interest payments, required principal payments on long-term debt and right of use lease liabilities, and any unusual non-operating one-time items such as acquisition and restructuring costs (as described above).

Free Cash Flow is a financial performance measure used by management to analyze the cash generated from operations before the impact of changes in working capital items or other unusual items and after giving effect to expected income taxes thereon, as well as required interest and principal payments on long-term debt and right of use lease liabilities.

The most directly comparable financial measure is cash provided by operating activities. Adjustments made to cash provided by operating activities in the calculation of Free Cash Flow include other IFRS measures, including changes in non-cash working capital, current income tax expense, income taxes paid, interest paid, and principal payments on long-term debt and right of use lease liabilities.

Free Cash Flow per share is also presented, which is calculated by dividing Free Cash Flow, as defined above, by the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period.

"Free Cash Flow Less Maintenance Capital" is defined as Free Cash Flow, as defined above, less Maintenance Capital Expenditures, as defined below. Free Cash Flow Less Maintenance Capital is a financial performance measure used by management to analyze the cash generated from operations before the impact of changes in working capital items or other unusual items and after giving effect to expected income taxes thereon, as well as required interest and principal payments on long-term debt and right of use lease liabilities, and capital expenditures required to sustain the current operations of the Company.

The Company presents Free Cash Flow Less Maintenance Capital Expenditures per share, which is calculated by dividing Free Cash Flow Less Maintenance Capital, as defined above, by the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period.

"Growth and Maintenance Capital Expenditures" maintenance capital expenditures are defined as capital expenditures required to maintain the operations of the Group at the current level and are net of proceeds from the sale of property and equipment. Growth capital expenditures are defined as capital expenditures that are expected to generate incremental cash inflows and are not considered by management in determining the cash flows required to sustain the current operations of the Company. While there are no comparable IFRS measures for Maintenance Capital Expenditures or Growth Capital Expenditures, the total of Maintenance Capital Expenditures and Growth Capital Expenditures is equivalent to the total purchases of property and equipment, net of proceeds from the sale of property and equipment, on the Company's statement of cash flows.

"Dividend Payout Ratio" the Company presents a dividend payout ratio, which is calculated by dividing dividends declared by the Company by Free Cash Flow Less Maintenance Capital, as defined above. The Dividend Payout Ratio is a financial ratio used by management to analyze the percentage of cash generated from operations, before the impact of changes in working capital items or other unusual items and after giving effect to expected income taxes thereon, as well as required interest and principal payments on long-term debt and right of use lease liabilities, and capital expenditures required to sustain the current operations of the Company, returned to shareholders as dividends.

"Return on Invested Capital" the Company references a return on invested capital ratio, which is calculated by dividing Free Cash Flow Less Maintenance Capital, as defined above, by the associated capital cost of the applicable investment. Specifically, the Return on Invested Capital for the aggregate investments completed by the Company to the end of a given period would be measured as follows: cumulative Free Cash Flow Less Maintenance Capital (as defined above) divided by the sum of: 1) the aggregate consideration paid for completed acquisitions (net of cash acquired); 2) aggregate acquisition costs (as described above); and 3) aggregate Growth Capital Expenditures (as defined above). The Return on Invested Capital Ratio is a financial ratio used by management to analyze the returns of competing investment opportunities.

While the above Non-IFRS financial measures are used by management of the Company to assess the historical financial performance of the Group, as applicable, readers are cautioned that:

- Non-IFRS financial measures, such as Adjusted EBITDA, Free Cash Flow, Growth Capital Expenditures, Maintenance Capital Expenditures and Dividend Payout Ratio, are not recognized financial measures under IFRS;
- The Company's method of calculating Non-IFRS financial measures may differ from that of other corporations or entities and therefore may not be directly comparable to measures utilized by other corporations or entities;
- In the future, the Company may disclose different Non-IFRS financial measures in order to help its investors more meaningfully evaluate and compare future results of operations to previously reported results of operations.
- Non-IFRS financial measures should not be viewed as an alternative to measures that are recognized under IFRS such as profit or loss or cash provided by operating activities; and
- A reader should not place undue reliance on any Non-IFRS financial measures.

Reconciliations of Non-IFRS financial measures to their most relevant IFRS measures, are included in this MD&A under "Overall Performance – Financial Highlights", "Summary of Quarterly Results", and "Segment Overview and Performance".

# **Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward Looking Information and Statements**

Certain statements in this MD&A constitute forward-looking information and forward-looking statements. All statements other than statements of historical fact contained in this report are forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, statements regarding the future financial position, operations, business strategy, future acquisitions, and the potential impact of completed acquisitions on the operations, financial condition, capital resources and business of the Company and its subsidiaries, the Company's policy with respect to the amount and/or frequency of dividends, if any, budgets, forecasts, litigation, projected costs and plans and objectives of or involving the Company and/or its subsidiaries. Readers can identify many of these forward-looking statements by looking for words such as "believes", "expects", "will", "may", "intends", "projects", "anticipates", "plans", "estimates", "continues" and similar words or the negative and grammatical variations thereof.

Forward-looking statements are necessarily based upon a number of expectations or assumptions that, while considered reasonable by management at the time the statements are made, are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive risks, uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are beyond the Company's control and many of which are subject to change. Readers are cautioned to not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements which only speak as to the date they are made. Although management believes that the expectations and assumptions underlying such forward-looking statements are reasonable, there can be no assurance that such expectations or assumptions will prove to be correct. A number of factors could cause actual future results, performance, achievements and developments of the Company to differ materially from anticipated results, performance, achievements and developments expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to risks relating to: general economic conditions; pandemics; competition; government regulation; environmental regulation; access to capital; market trends and innovation; climate risk; general uninsured losses; risk related to acquisitions; dependence on customers, distributors and strategic relationships; supply and cost of raw materials and purchased parts; operational performance and growth: implementation of the growth strategy; product liability and warranty claims; litigation; reliance on technology, intellectual property, and information systems; availability of future financing; interest rates and debt financing; income tax matters; foreign exchange; dividends; trading volatility of common shares; dilution risk; reliance on management and key personnel; employee and labour relations; and conflicts of interest.

Assumptions about the performance of the businesses of the Company are considered in setting the business plan and financial targets for the Company and its businesses. Key assumptions include assumptions relating to the demand for products and services of the businesses of the Company and relating to the Canadian and other markets in which the businesses are active. Should one or more of the risks materialize or the assumptions prove incorrect, actual results, performance or achievements of the Group may vary materially from those described in forward-looking statements.

All forward-looking statements contained herein are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement. Except as required by law, the Company disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking information or forward-looking statements to reflect future events or results or otherwise.

# **Internal Controls Over Financial Reporting**

The Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, in accordance with National Instrument 52-109 ("NI 52-109"), have both certified that they have reviewed the most recent interim financial report and this MD&A (the "Interim Filings") of the Company and that, based on their knowledge having exercised reasonable diligence: (a) the Interim Filings do not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated or that is necessary to make a statement not misleading in light of the circumstances under which it was made with respect to the period covered by the Interim Filings; and (b) the interim financial report together with the other financial information included in the Interim Filings fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, financial performance and cash flows of the Company as of the date of and for the periods presented in the Interim Filings.

Investors should be aware that there are inherent limitations on the ability of the certifying officers to cost effectively design and implement Disclosure Controls and Procedures and Internal Controls over Financial Reporting (as those terms are used in NI 52-109). This may result in additional risks to the quality, reliability, transparency and timeliness of interim and annual filings and other reports provided under securities legislation.