



**ASX Release
28 August 2023**

Investor Presentation

Further to the Appen Limited's (ASX:APX) announcement to the market today on its results for the half-year ended 30 June 2023, please find attached the presentation to be delivered to investors and analysts this morning.

Authorised for release by the Board of Appen Limited.

For more information, please contact:

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About Appen

Appen is a global market leader in data for the AI Lifecycle. With over 25 years of experience in data sourcing, data annotation, and model evaluation by humans, we enable organisations to launch the world's most innovative artificial intelligence systems.

Our expertise includes a global crowd of more than 1 million skilled contractors who speak over 235 languages, in over 70,000 locations and 170 countries, and the industry's most advanced AI-assisted data annotation platform. Our products and services give leaders in technology, automotive, financial services, retail, healthcare, and governments the confidence to launch world-class AI products. Founded in 1996, Appen has customers and offices globally.

28
August
2023



Powering Real

World AI

1H FY23 half year results



Important information

The forward-looking statements included in these materials involve subjective judgement and analysis and are subject to significant uncertainties, risks and contingencies, many of which are outside the control of, and are unknown to, Appen Limited. In particular, they speak only as of the date of these materials, they are based on particular events, conditions or circumstances stated in the materials, they assume the success of Appen Limited's business strategies, and they are subject to significant regulatory, business, competitive, currency and economic uncertainties and risks.

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All amounts are in US\$ unless stated otherwise.

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Agenda

- 01 | Introduction
- 02 | 1H FY 23 financial performance
- 03 | Turnaround progress & outlook
- 04 | Q&A

02

1H FY23 Financial Performance

Justin Miles, Deputy CFO



1H FY23 summary

US\$M	1H23	1H22	change
Revenue	138.9	182.9	-24%
Underlying EBITDA ¹	(18.1)	8.5	nm
Underlying EBITDA margin	-13.0%	4.6%	
Underlying EBITDA ¹ before FX	(15.7)	9.6	nm
Underlying EBITDA margin before FX	-11.3%	5.2%	
Underlying NPAT ²	(34.2)	(3.8)	
Statutory NPAT	(43.3)	(9.4)	

1. Underlying EBITDA excludes restructure costs, transaction costs, inventory losses, and acquisition-related and one-time share-based payment expense.

2. Underlying NPAT excludes after tax impact of restructure costs, transaction costs, inventory losses, one-time share-based payment expense, and acquisition related costs, including amortisation of acquisition related intangibles, share-based payment expense, and deemed interest on earn-out liability.



- Revenue decreased 24% to \$138.9M, primarily reflecting a lower contribution from the Global Services Division
- Underlying EBITDA (before FX) loss of \$15.7M reflects lower gross margin and a proportionally higher cost base versus FY22
- No material EBITDA benefit in 1H FY23 from cost reduction program
- Statutory NPAT includes one off restructure costs of \$5.0M associated with cost reduction program and \$1.3M associated with leadership changes to align with refreshed strategy and turn around focus
- Nil interim dividend to ensure appropriate allocation of capital

Revenue

Group



\$138.9M

\$182.9M in 1H FY22

- Revenue down 24% on 1H FY22
- Majority of decline from Global Services

Global Services



\$100.1M

\$137.8M in 1H FY22

- Revenue down 27% on 1H FY22
- Reduction in spend due to the ongoing challenging external operating and macroeconomic conditions
- Despite challenging conditions Global Services won 45 new projects

New Markets



\$38.9M

\$45.0M in 1H FY22

- Revenue down 14% on 1H FY22
- Majority of decline from Global Product
- Excluding Global Product, New Markets 1H FY23 revenue down 5% on 1H FY22
- Enterprise, Govt and Quadrant revenue 10% up on 1H FY22
- 89 new client wins in New Markets

Underlying EBITDA¹ (before FX)

Group



(\$15.7M)

\$9.6M in 1H FY22

- EBITDA impacted by lower revenue, lower gross margin and a proportionally higher cost base coming out of FY22
- 1H FY23 operating expenses² up 9% on 1H FY22, down 1% on 2H FY22
- No material EBITDA benefit of cost reduction program in 1H FY23

Global Services



\$8.7M

\$26.2M in 1H FY22

- EBITDA of \$8.7M down 67% on 1H FY22
- EBITDA margin of 9% impacted by lower revenue on some core high margin projects, and a proportionally higher cost base coming out of FY22
- 1H FY23 operating expenses² up 2% on 1H FY22, down 10% on 2H FY22
- No material EBITDA benefit of cost reduction program in 1H FY23

New Markets



(\$21.8M)

(\$15.6M) in 1H FY22

- EBITDA impacted by lower Global Product revenue, increased costs to support Quadrant growth, lower contribution from China and a proportionally higher cost base coming out of FY22
- 1H FY23 operating expenses² up 11% on 1H FY22, up 3% on 2H FY22
- No material EBITDA benefit of cost reduction program in 1H FY23

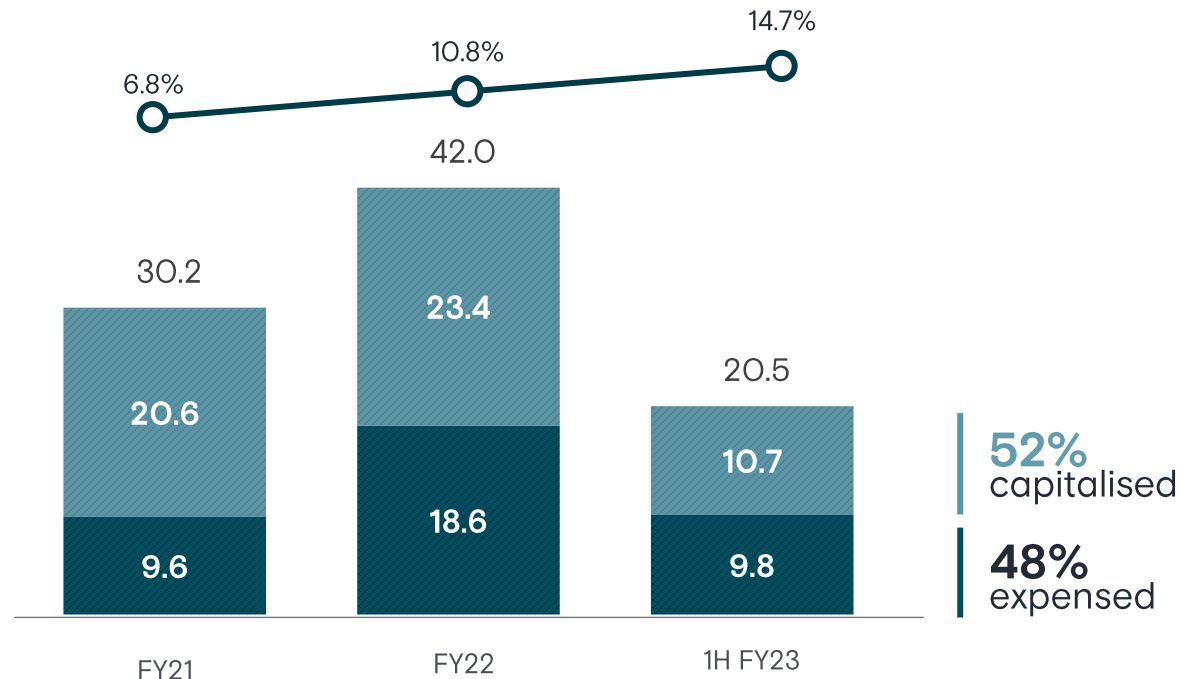
Note: All figures in USD unless stated otherwise

1. Underlying EBITDA excludes restructure costs, transaction costs, inventory losses, and acquisition-related and one-time share-based payment expense.
2. Operating expenses excludes crowd labelling services, share-based payments, depreciation & amortisation, finance costs, restructure costs, transaction costs, and inventory losses.

Investment in product development

Investment in product development¹

Product development (ex amortisation) as a % of revenue



- 1H FY23 investment of \$20.5M reflects continuing focus on product development and customer experience
- ~52% of spend capitalised in 1H FY23. Slightly lower than historical levels due to strategy refresh and update to product roadmap
- 14.7% of revenue reinvested in product development in 1H FY23. Higher than historical levels due to lower revenue for 1H FY23
- No material benefit of cost reduction program in 1H FY23. Full impact of cost reduction to be realised in FY24
- Annualised investment in product development expected to be ~\$29M by the end of Q3 FY23, 29% down on 1H FY23 annualised.

1. Product development relates to investment in engineering to ensure that the collection, annotation and evaluation products and tools support our clients and their use cases, and drive efficiencies and scale. These amounts exclude amortization expense.

On track to deliver \$46 million cost out, with further cost savings identified

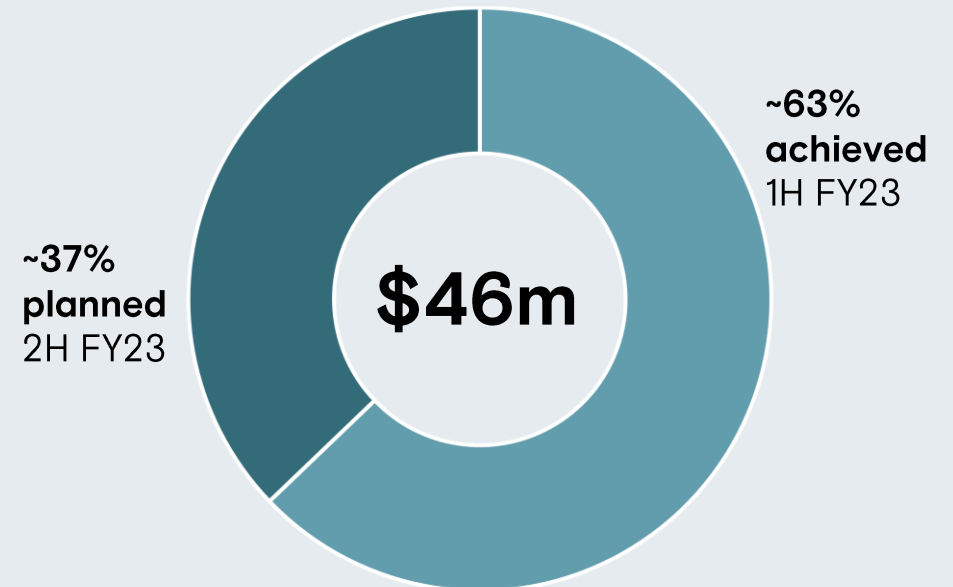
Strong progress against \$46m cost out target

- As planned, at the end of 1H FY23 approximately 63% or \$28.9M of annualised cost savings target has been achieved
- At least 80% of the \$46 million cost out program will be completed by the end of Q3 FY23; remainder on track to be delivered in Q4 FY23.
- The \$46 million cost savings were identified as part of a strategic review and Appen does not anticipate any material impact on its ability to service customers or generate revenue from these measures
- First full year impact of cost savings from FY24

Ongoing cost management

- We continue to focus on exiting FY23 with a return to underlying EBITDA and underlying cash EBITDA profitability on an annualised, run-rate basis. Costs will be managed in line with revenue forecasts and market conditions
- Further costs savings identified and are expected to be realised in FY23

Reduction in annualised operating costs



Cash flow summary



- Cash balance includes net proceeds from equity raise of \$38.2M
- Cash flow from operations decreased 50% to \$9.0M due to lower trading volumes, partially offset by positive working capital
- Positive cash flow from operations despite EBITDA loss due to strong Q4 FY22 customer receipts flowing into Q1 FY23
- Cash used to pay capex and fund operations while turnaround in progress

US\$M	1H23	1H22
Receipts	175.1	207.0
Payments and other	(166.1)	(189.1)
Cash flow from operations before interest and tax	9.0	17.9
Net interest	0.1	(0.2)
Taxes	0.6	(0.6)
Net cash from operations	9.7	17.1
Cash flows – investing activities	(12.4)	(14.8)
Cash flows – financing activities	36.3	(7.2)
Net cash flow for the period	33.6	(4.9)
Opening cash balance	23.4	47.9
FX impact	(1.8)	(0.8)
Closing cash balance	55.2	42.2
Cash flow reconciliation (US\$M)	1H23	1H22
Underlying EBITDA	(18.1)	8.5
Working capital	27.1	10.3
Cash flow from operations before interest and tax	9.0	17.9
Underlying EBITDA cash conversion	nm¹	211%

Balance sheet



US\$M	Jun 2023	Dec 2022
Cash	55.2	23.4
Receivables	43.2	64.3
Contract assets	10.8	30.4
Other current assets	9.1	6.5
Non-current assets	128.9	130.3
Total assets	247.2	254.9
Current liabilities	77.6	65.1
Non-current liabilities	22.9	41.8
Total liabilities	100.5	106.9
Net Assets	146.7	148.0
Total equity	146.7	148.0

- Cash balance of \$55.2M including net proceeds of \$38.2M from equity raise
- Receivables and contract assets decreased due to lower revenue volumes
- Non-current assets include Goodwill of \$53.1M and identifiable intangible assets of \$53.3M.
- No debt at June 2023
- Increase in current liabilities and decrease in non-current liabilities mainly due to reclassification of Quadrant earnout liability
- Quadrant earnout subject to performance metrics and payable in cash or shares in 2024

03

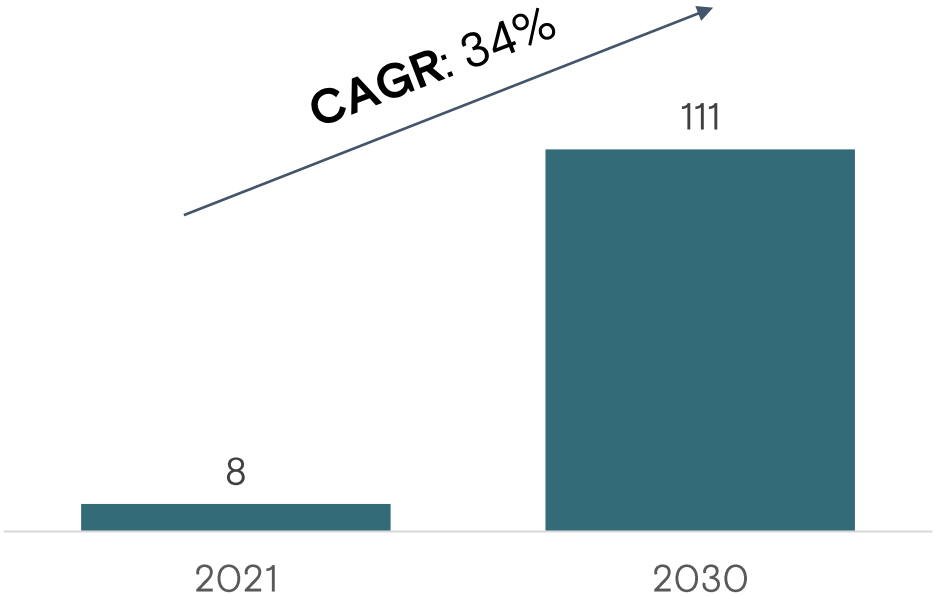
Turnaround progress & outlook

Armughan Ahmad,
CEO & President



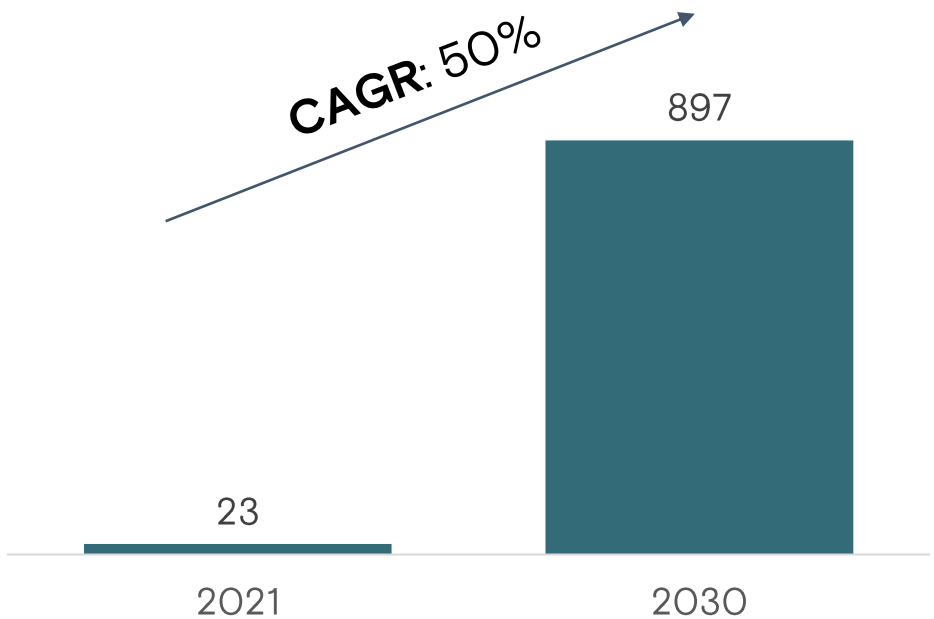
Generative AI market potential has grown

December 2022: \$111b market size by 2030



Source: Acumen Research (December 2022)

June 2023: ~\$900b market size by 2030



Source: Bloomberg Intelligence, IDC (June 2023)

Humans critical to generative AI



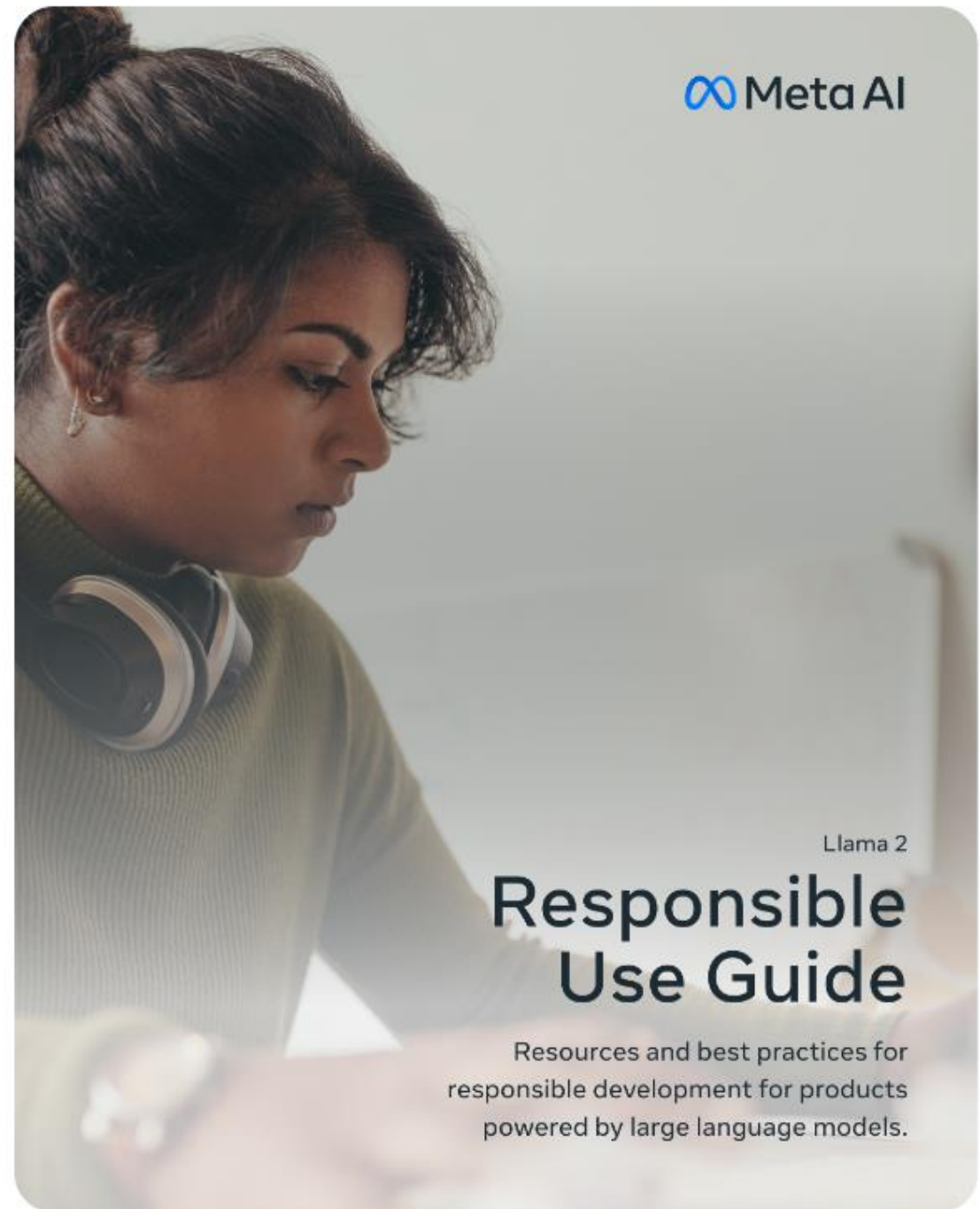
Human feedback (RLHF) is required for base models to perform at levels comparable to humans and to minimise hallucinations, bias and toxicity



Many base models do not work out of the box for companies and in a domain context – fine tuning and evaluation is required, together with real customer interactions



Human model evaluation is required, particularly when measuring against risk and compliance guidelines



Meta AI

Llama 2

Responsible Use Guide

Resources and best practices for responsible development for products powered by large language models.

Appen's growth vision

Full set of AI data services for deep-learning and generative AI

Deep-learning AI



Data collection

Point of interest

Speech

Custom collections

Synthetic data



Data annotation

Annotation

Categorisation



Relevance

Search relevance

Content moderation

Ad evaluation

Generative AI



Fine tuning

Human feedback

Instruction datasets

Model evaluation

AI feedback



Assurance

A/B testing

Benchmarking

Certification

Monitoring



Appen Data Platform



Appen Crowd Marketplace

Generative AI potential does not yet offset market headwinds

Tech spending slowdown continues

- Customers continue to reduce spending in most areas
- Reduction to customer engineering teams has impacted new projects

Customers are evaluating their AI strategies

- Generative AI has led to customers evaluating their AI strategies
- This has resulted in some projects put on pause

Generative AI projects remain small

- Many customers are exploring LLMs, few in production
- We see a pathway for small pilots to quickly turn into larger projects

Completed H1 turnaround actions



Operational rigour

- Establish business management systems
- Cost reallocation to growth vectors



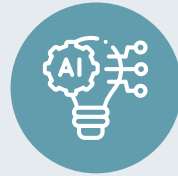
Product velocity

- Launch products that capture new market growth
- Incorporate Generative AI labeling automation
- Drive internal productivity improvements



World class go-to-market

- Build consultative sales and go-to-market capabilities
- Elevate our brand with greater marketing awareness



Ecosystem partnerships

- Expand our partner ecosystem to reach more clients
- Focus on key industry verticals



#AIforGood

- Deliver trustworthy AI for our clients
- Responsibility by design
- Establish and chair AI for Good Committee
- One Appen



Strong progress against H2 turnaround plan



Operational rigour

- Completed Execute cost saving initiatives
- Completed Target operating model deployed
- Completed Streamlined crowd onboarding process



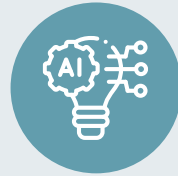
Product velocity

- Completed LLM benchmarking product launched
- Completed Model monitoring solutions launched
- In progress Synthetic LLM datasets launched



World class go-to-market

- Completed New sales leaders and structure in place
- Completed Sales ops function established
- In progress New CMO in place to amplify brand value



Ecosystem partnerships

- In progress Expanded set of ecosystem partners
- Completed Joint go-to-market approach in place



#AIforGood

- In progress Focus on conversion to renewable energy
- Completed Active recruitment of Impact Sourced Crowd



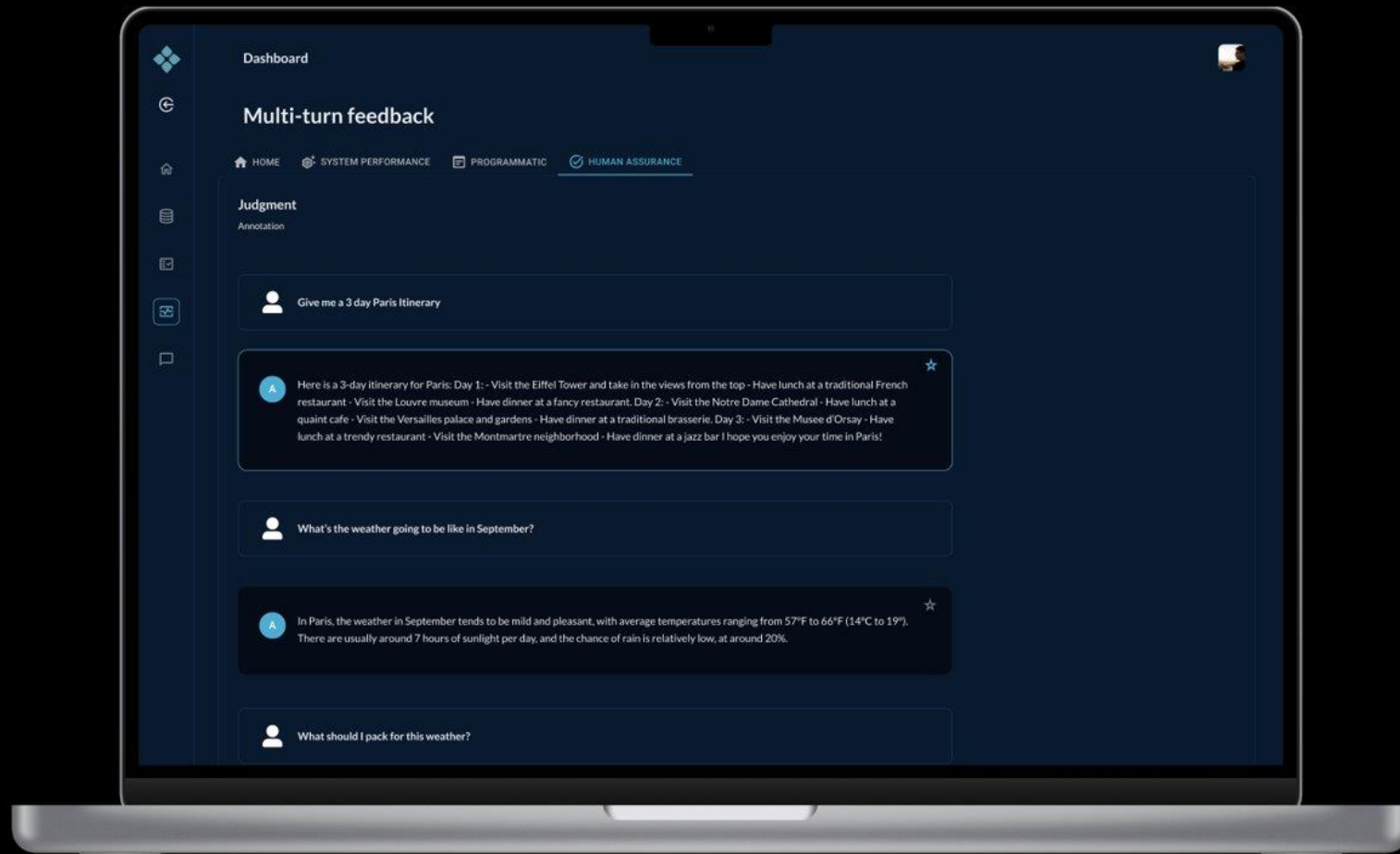
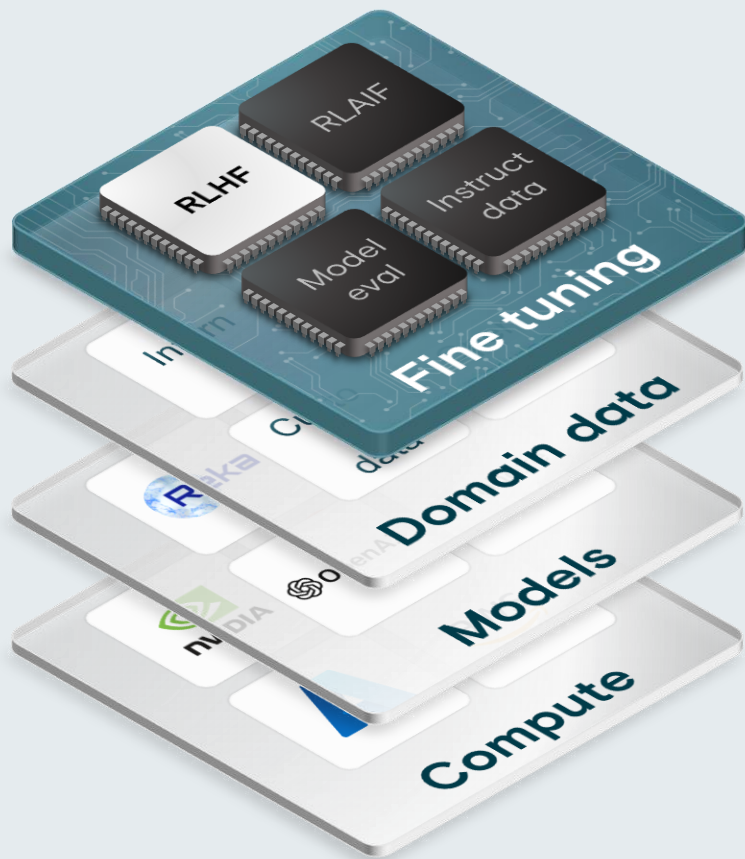
We are building new generative AI capabilities



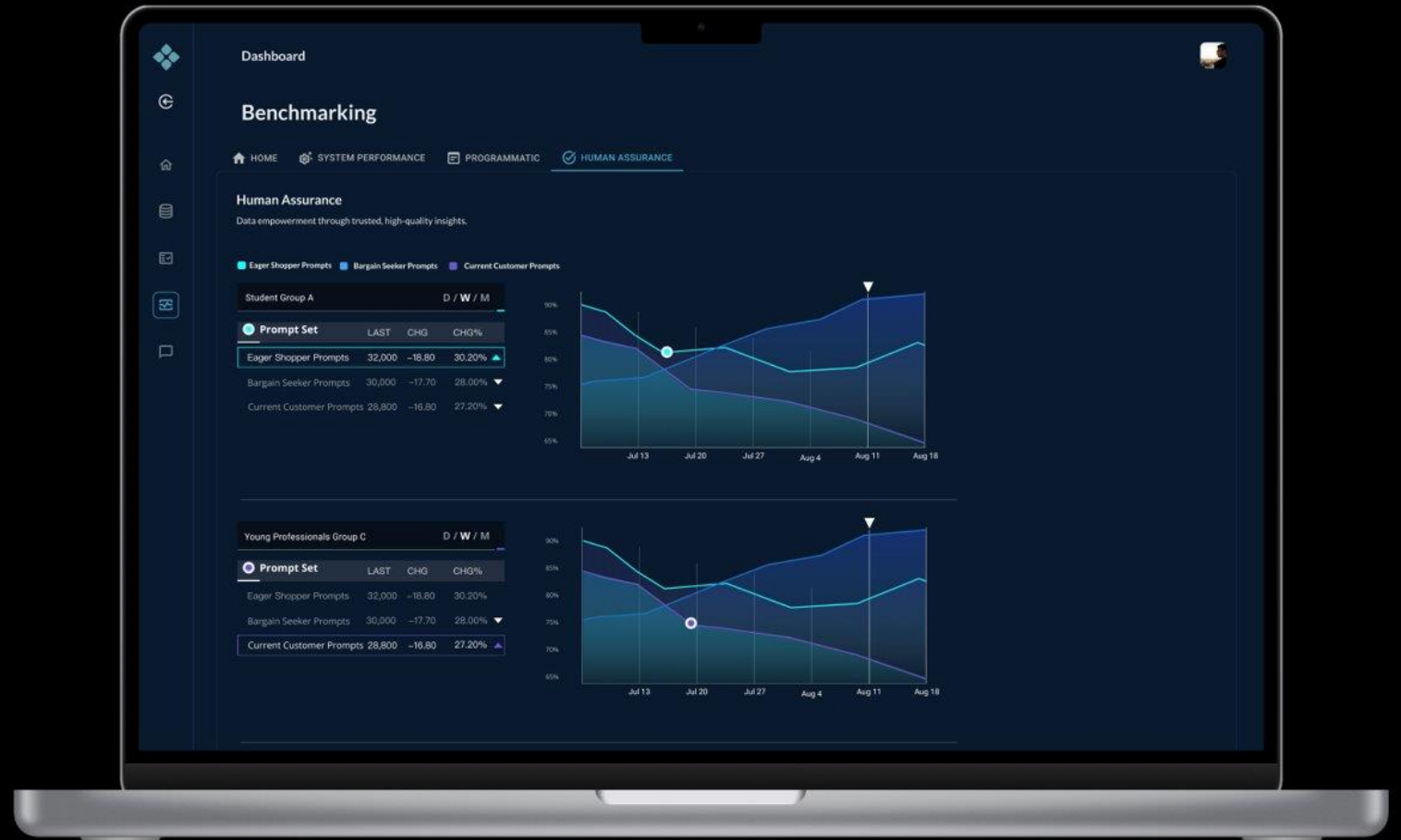
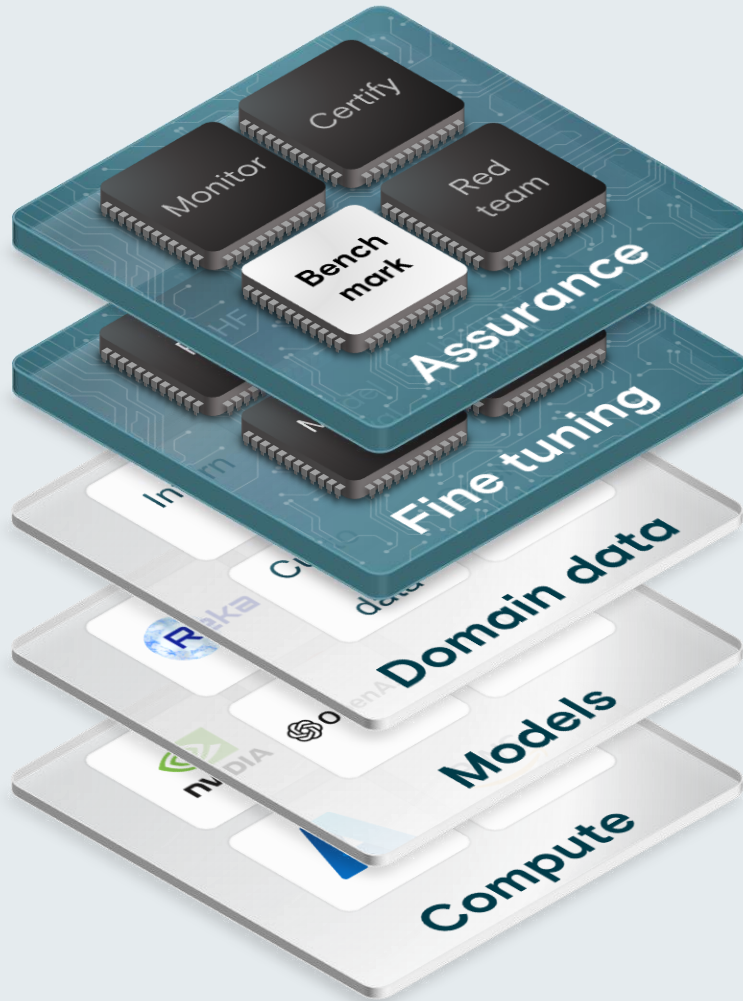
Ensuring that **model performance meets performance, risk and regulatory requirements**

Optimise model performance to **align with human experiences**

LLM conversational RLHF



LLM Benchmarking



Growing LLM success

Examples of LLM projects delivered

42

LLM projects and pilots delivered in 2023¹

40

Deals in current pipeline²

5/5

Global customers have project completed or in pipeline

LLM prompt evaluation for leading generative AI model builders

A/B testing for leading generative AI model builders

Fine-tuned LLM models through human feedback for global financial services firm

Generative AI Image categorisation for AI startup

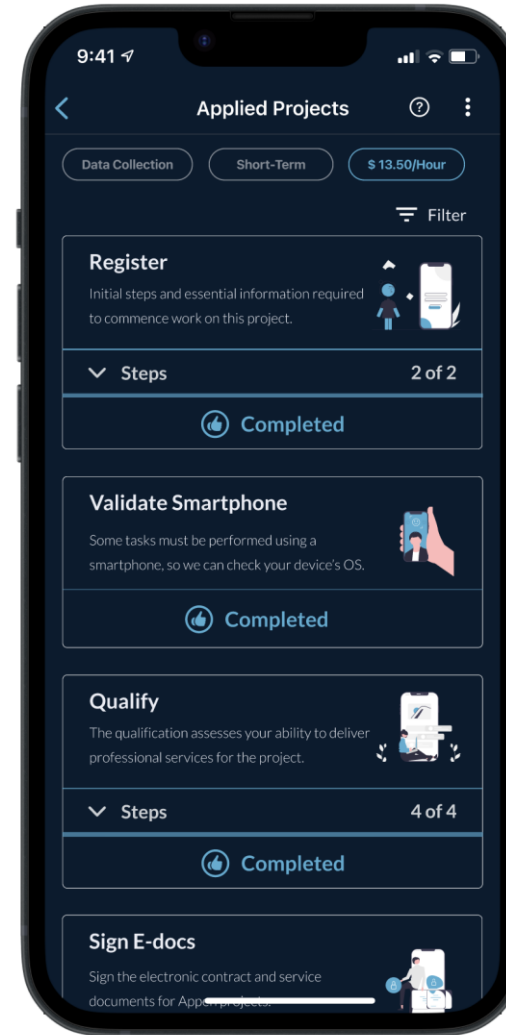
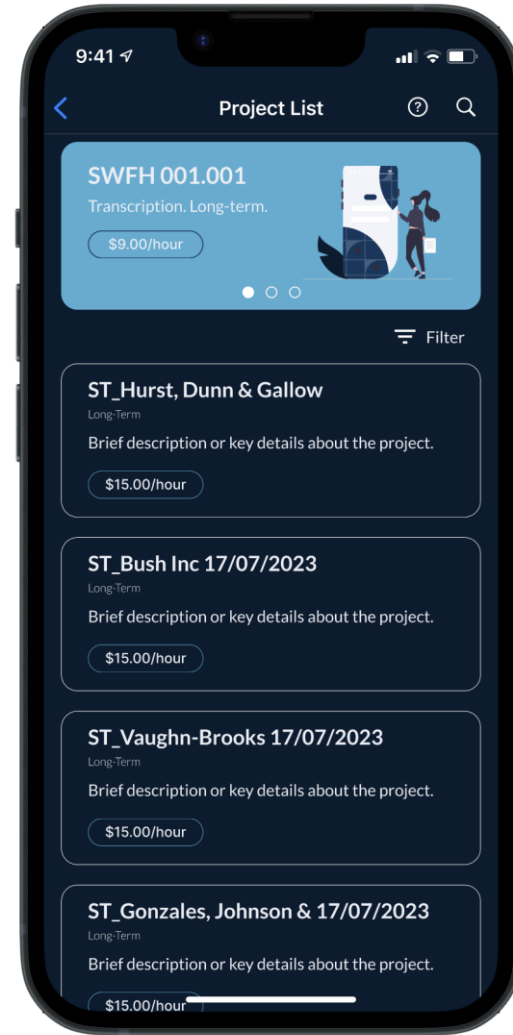
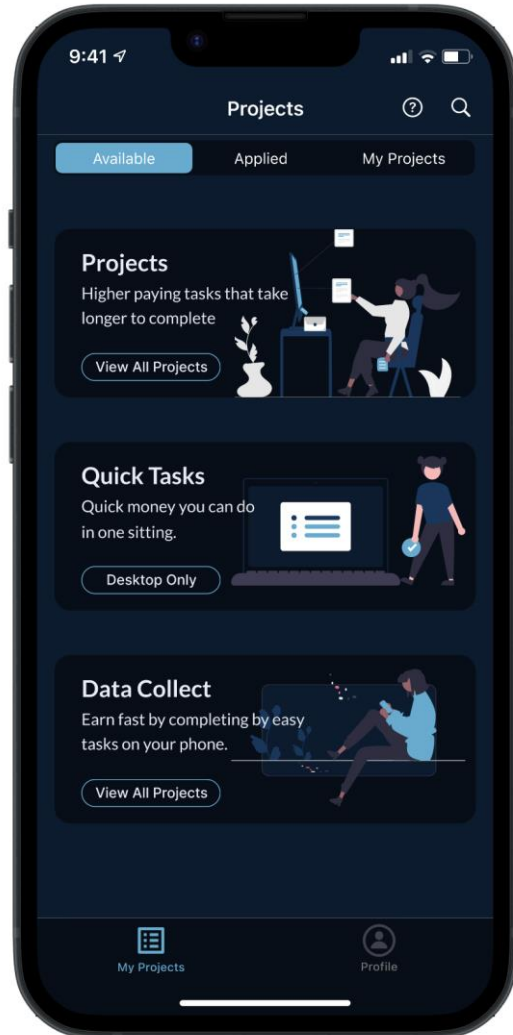
LLM model evaluation for social media company

LLM response ranking on multi-turn conversations for global technology leader

1. At 22 August 2023.

2. At 22 August 2023. There is no guarantee that these opportunities will be finalised or result in revenue generating business.

Modernised mobile-first crowd experience

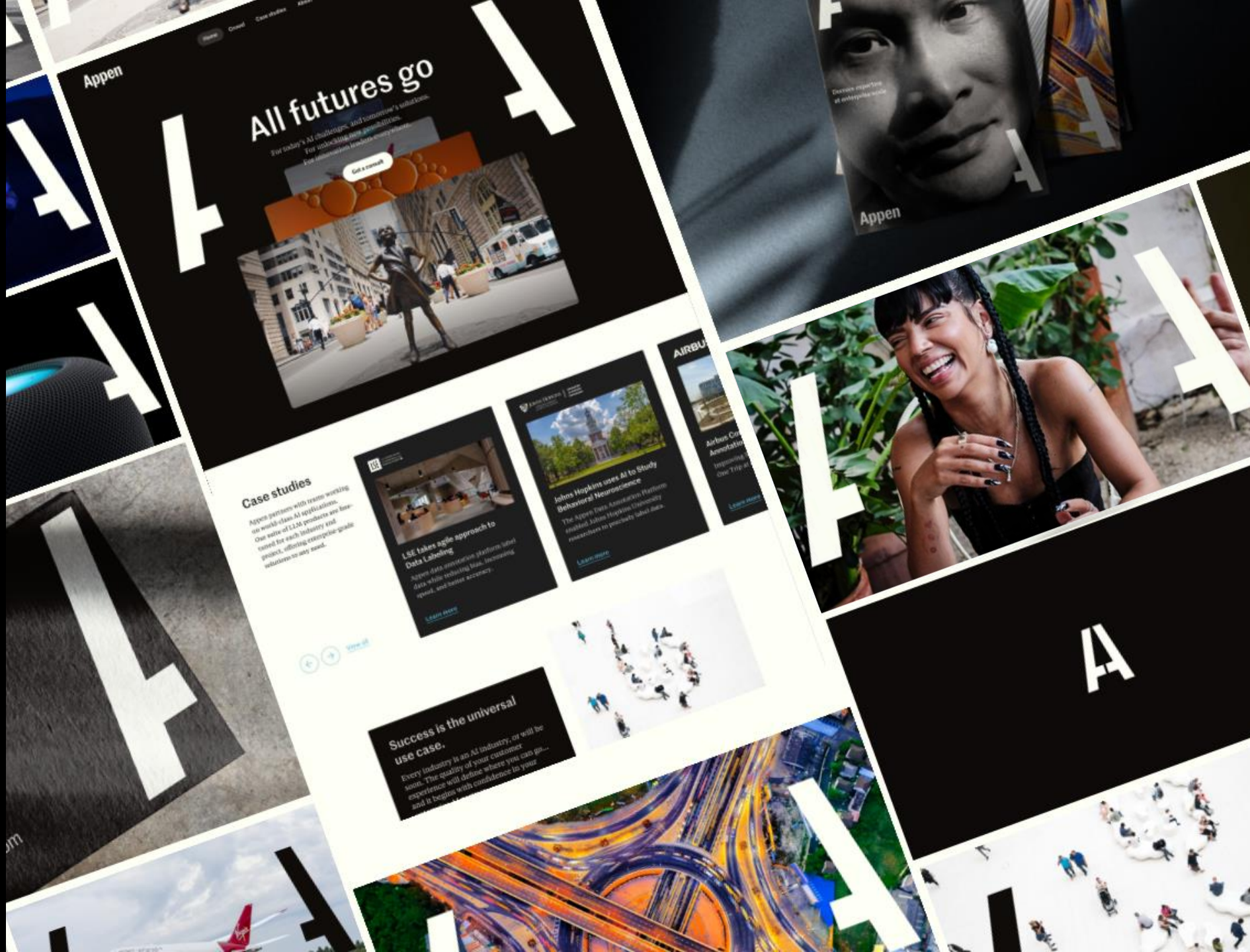


Benefits

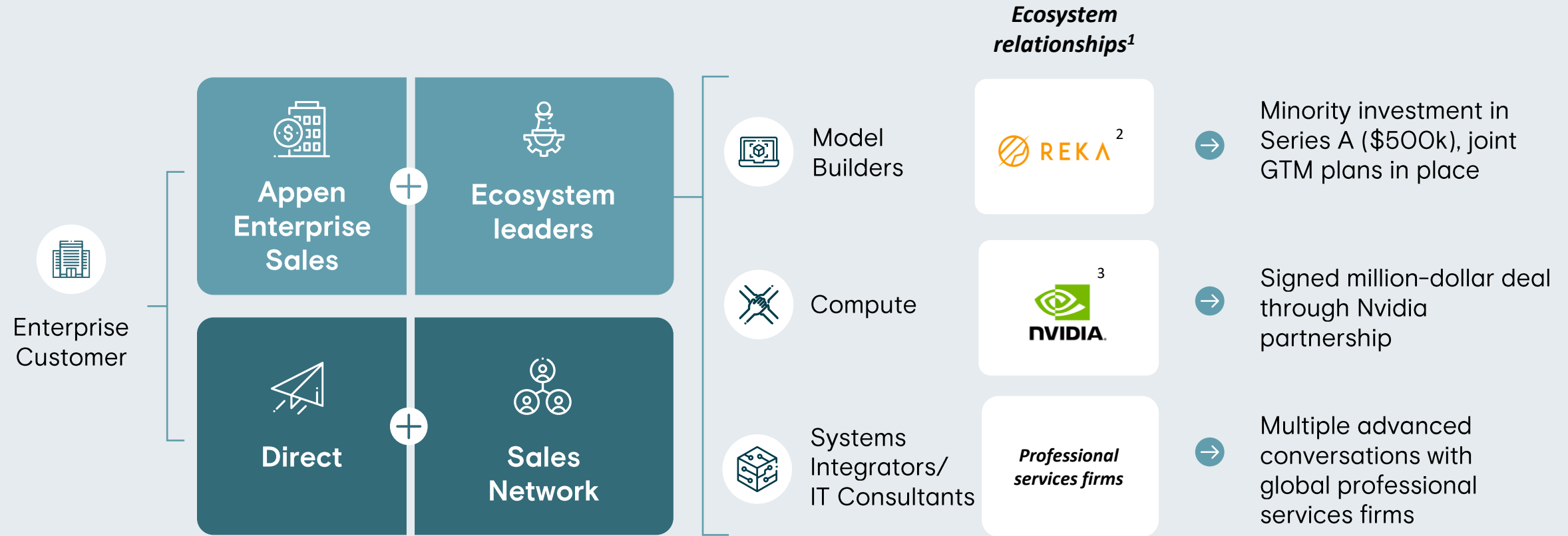
- Improved crowd experience leading to better engagement with Appen
- Faster sign on leading to reduced time to revenue
- Improved fraud signals through mobile telemetry

A

Appen



Progress against our partner strategy



Note: 1. Ecosystem relationships do not represent revenue generating customer agreements themselves, but are collaboration agreements under which the organisations agree to collaborate with a focus on serving new revenue generating customers; 2. Appen has signed a joint go-to-market collaboration agreement with Reka, with focus on promoting and delivering an end-to-end generative AI solution for enterprises; 3. Appen has signed a Master Data License and Custom Data Agreement with NVIDIA with a focus on new client acquisition.

2023 outlook

- The following outlook is provided on the basis that market conditions do not change materially.
- Appen continues to face headwinds from the broader technology market slowdown and as customers evaluate their AI strategies.
- Due to the ongoing uncertainty across all customers, we now expect an 2H FY23 revenue to be closer to 1H FY23 revenue.
- We continue to focus on exiting FY23 with a return to underlying EBITDA¹ and underlying cash EBITDA² profitability on an annualised, run-rate basis.
- We will achieve this by prioritising our growth investments into a smaller set of higher potential areas, this will simplify our business and deliver incremental costs savings but may have a negative impact on 2024 revenue.
- We now expect to exit FY23 with an annualised run-rate operating cost base lower than \$113 million.

Note:

1. Underlying results are a non-IFRS measure used by management to assess the performance of the business and are calculated from statutory measures. Non-IFRS measures are not subject to audit. Underlying EBITDA excludes restructure costs, transaction costs, inventory losses, and acquisition-related and one-time share-based payment expense.

2. Underlying cash EBITDA is underlying EBITDA less capitalised software development expenses plus non acquisition-related share-based payment expenses.

04

Questions

Thank you for
your attendance

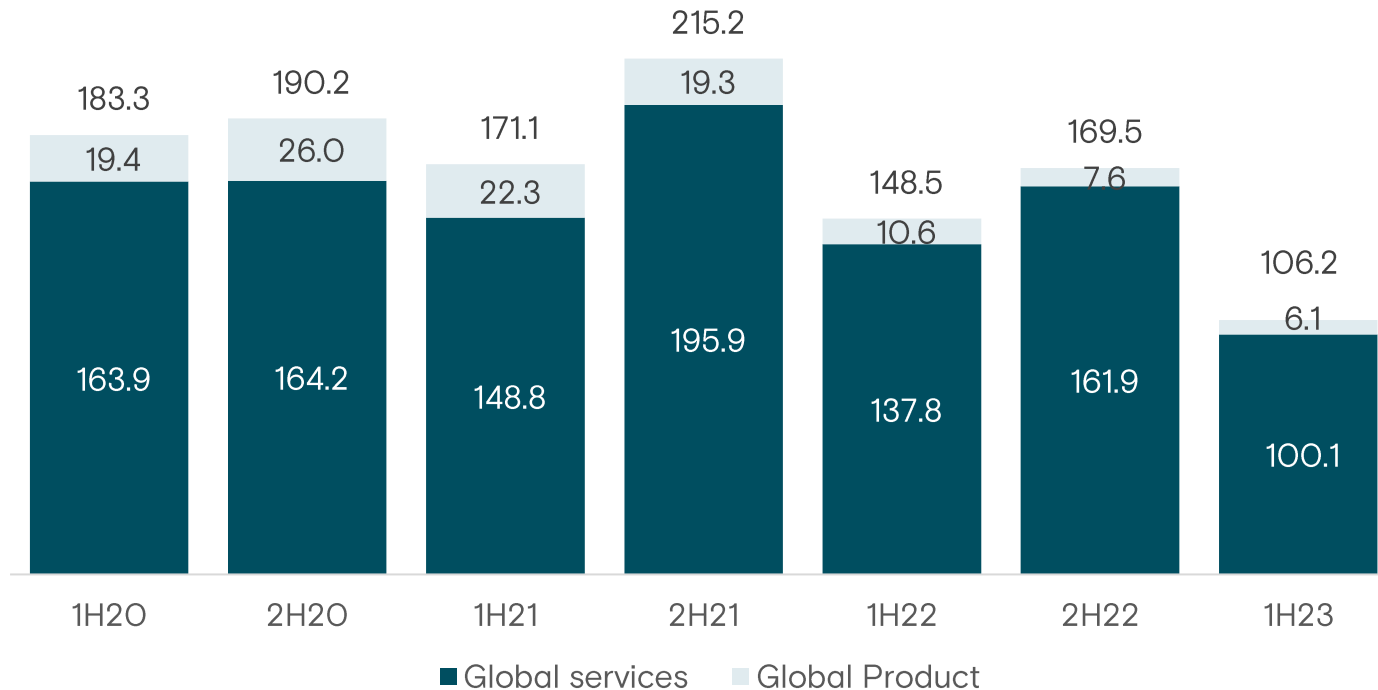




Appendix

Global revenue¹

Global division revenue by half (\$M)



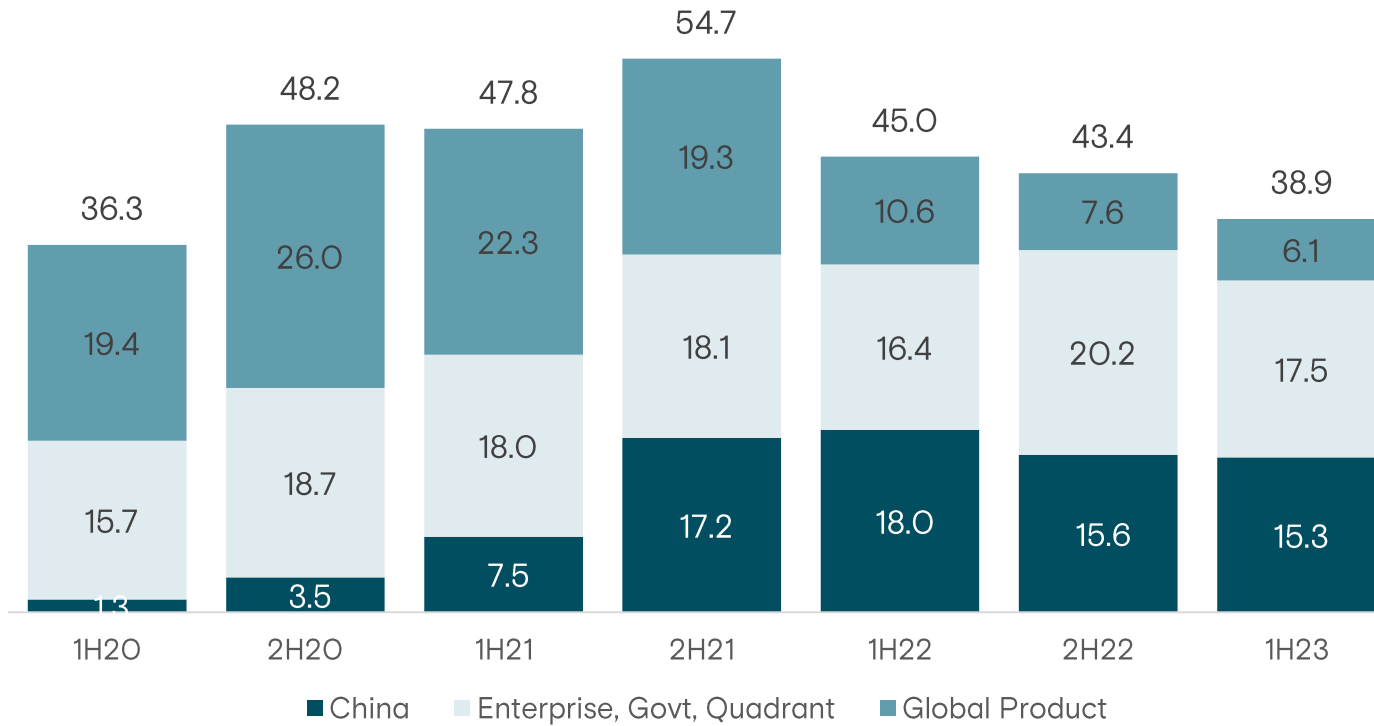
- Global revenue down 28% in 1H FY23 on 1H FY22, impacted by reduced volumes and reduction in spend by our customers
- Largest customer revenue down 34% in 1H FY23 on 1H FY22
- Global Product revenue 43% down on 1H FY22 as a small number of large projects were discounted or reduced in scope

Note: All figures in USD unless stated otherwise

¹ Global includes revenue from Global Product (Global customers using the Appen platform and tools) and Global Services.

New Markets revenue¹

New Markets revenue by half (\$M)



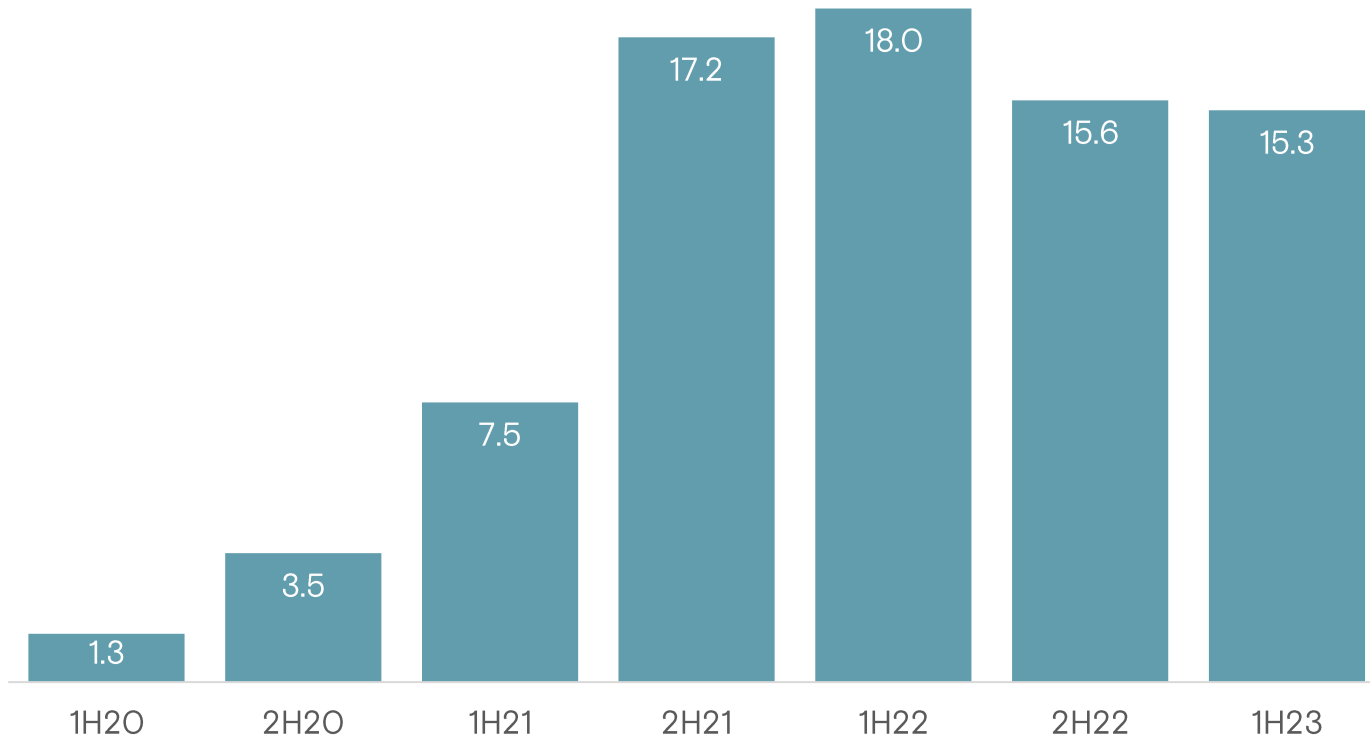
- New Markets revenue down 14% in 1H23 on 1H22, primarily impacted by Global Product revenue
- Global Product revenue 43% down on 1H FY22 as a small number of large projects were discounted or reduced in scope
- Excluding Global Product, revenue 5% down on 1H FY22
- Enterprise, Govt and Quadrant revenue 10% up on 1H FY22, 13% down on 2H FY22
- 24 non-global deals > \$250k

Note: All figures in USD unless stated otherwise

1. New Markets includes revenue from Global Product (Global customers using the Appen platform and tools) and Enterprise, China, Government and Quadrant customers.

China revenue

China revenue by half (\$M)



- China revenue down 15.2% in 1H23 on 1H22, due to impact of Covid-19 pandemic and challenging external market conditions carried over into 1H FY23
- China, Japan and Korea won 50 new clients
- Launched Appen China LLM Data Training platform
- Released a new SaaS Annotation Platform
- Appen remains a leading AI data company in China
- Achieved BSI certification ISO 14001 / ISO 45001 for China sites

Underlying¹ profit and loss summary

1. Underlying results are a non-IFRS measure used by management to assess the performance of the business and have been calculated from statutory measures. Non-IFRS measures have not been subject to audit. Underlying EBITDA excludes the impairment loss, restructure costs, transaction costs, inventory losses and acquisition-related share-based payments expenses. See following slide for reconciliation between statutory and underlying results
2. EBITDA is EBIT before depreciation and amortisation
3. EBIT is defined as earnings before interest and tax
4. Income tax expense / benefit is statutory income tax expense / benefit adjusted for tax effect of non-underlying transactions at standard tax rates for the applicable jurisdiction
5. See following slide for reconciliation between statutory and underlying results

	Half-year ended 30 June 2023 USD \$000	Half-year ended 30 June 2022 USD \$000
Revenue	138,939	182,845
Other income	431	71
Expenses		
Crowd labelling services	(82,961)	(109,526)
Employee expenses	(50,095)	(45,496)
Professional fees	(4,747)	(4,170)
Rent and occupancy expenses	(972)	(486)
Communication and travel expenses	(1,596)	(1,302)
Recruitment costs	(2,307)	(2,238)
Information technology costs	(6,600)	(5,828)
Other expenses	(4,226)	(4,652)
Share-based payments	(1,613)	361
Underlying EBITDA² before FX	(15,747)	9,579
Net foreign exchange loss	(2,325)	(1,113)
Underlying EBITDA²	(18,072)	8,466
Depreciation and amortisation	(12,462)	(12,065)
Underlying EBIT³	(30,534)	(3,599)
Interest income	131	13
Finance costs	(554)	(517)
Underlying net loss before tax	(30,957)	(4,103)
Income tax (expense) / benefit ⁴	(3,252)	309
Underlying net loss after tax⁵	(34,209)	(3,794)

Reconciliation between statutory and underlying results

1. Underlying results are a non-IFRS measure used by management to assess the performance of the business and have been calculated from statutory measures. Non-IFRS measures have not been subject to audit. Underlying EBITDA excludes the impairment loss, restructure costs, transaction costs, inventory losses and acquisition-related share-based payments expenses
2. Contingent liability with respect to the Quadrant acquisition which will settle no later than 29 February 2024, subject to Quadrant attaining revenue milestones
3. Includes CEO one-off sign-on bonus, in receipt of bonuses forgone and is intended to replace a portion of the bonus payments that the CEO would have received from his previous employer had he not ceased employment
4. EBIT is defined as earnings before interest and tax
5. EBITDA is EBIT before depreciation and amortisation

	Half-year ended 30 June 2023 USD \$000	Half-year ended 30 June 2022 USD \$000	Change
Underlying net loss after tax (NPAT) ¹	(34,209)	(3,794)	(802%)
<i>(Less)/add underlying adjustments (net of tax)</i>			
Amortisation of acquisition-related identifiable intangible assets	(3,067)	(4,953)	
Restructure costs	(4,525)	-	
Transaction costs	(273)	(210)	
Deemed interest on earn-out liability ²	(222)	(154)	
Losses on inventory	-	(228)	
Acquisition-related and one-time ³ share-based payments	(1,015)	(25)	
Statutory NPAT	(43,311)	(9,364)	(362%)
Add: tax expense/(benefit)	59	(2,415)	
Add: net interest expense	423	504	
Add: deemed interest on earn-out liability ²	317	217	
EBIT ⁴	(42,512)	(11,058)	(284%)
Add: depreciation and amortisation	16,761	18,925	
Statutory EBITDA ⁵	(25,751)	7,867	(427%)
<i>Add: underlying adjustments</i>			
Restructure costs	6,276		
Transaction costs	388	299	
Acquisition-related share-based payments ²	1015	25	
Inventory losses	-	275	
Underlying EBITDA ¹	(18,072)	8,466	(313%)
Statutory diluted earnings per share (cents)	(33.63)	(7.59)	
Underlying diluted earnings per share (cents)	(26.57)	(3.08)	
% Statutory EBITDA/sales revenue	(18.5%)	4.3%	
% Underlying EBITDA/sales revenue	(13.0%)	4.6%	