

#### ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

#### Half Year 2025 Results Highlights Presentation

I enclose the Half Year 2025 Results Highlights Presentation for the Bega Group (ASX:BGA) to be discussed on the Half Year Result 2025 Conference Call scheduled for 11:00am today.

20 February 2025

For further information please contact Brett Kelly Company Secretary Bega Cheese Limited 02 6491 7777 www.begagroup.com.au



#### Bega Cheese Limited

# TH FY2025 RESULTS PRESENTATION

Barry Irvin – Executive Chairman Pete Findlay – CEO Gunther Burghardt – CFO

20 February 2025



## creating great food for a better future



Barry Irvin Executive Chairman



## **Our transformation**

We have built the capability and focus to grow as a leading branded food business.

#### BUILD 1899-2000

- Dairy co-operative based in Bega Valley
- Primarily cheese production

### EXPAND 2001-2016

- Acquisition of Tatura and Strathmerton
- Investment in scale and capacity
- Successful ASX listing
- Product expansion into nutritionals, cream cheese, cheese cut and wrap

## BALANCE 2017-2020

- New platform with acquisition of grocery brand portfolio including Vegemite
- Grow branded business while diversifying milk sourcing
- Product expansion into spreads and other non-dairy

## STRENGTH 2021-FUTURE

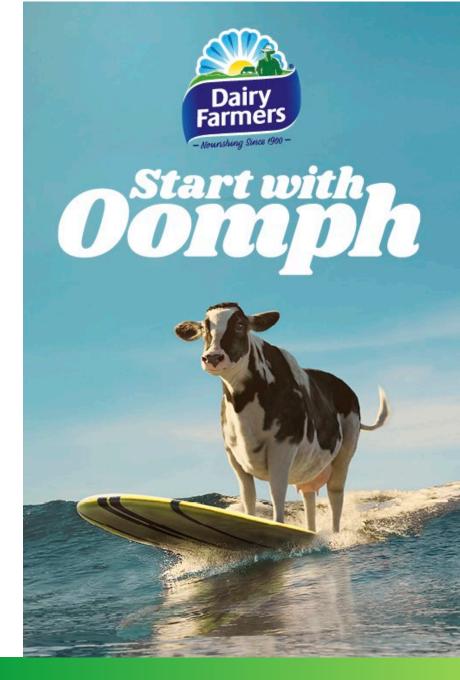
- Increased brand portfolio with iconic dairy brands
- Extensive distribution network with expanded customer base
- Accelerated investments in innovation and branded growth
- Product expansion into beverages, yoghurts and more





# Key messages

- Strong 1H FY2025 Group results with continued successful implementation of Strategic Plan
- Resilient Branded performance driven by focus on key categories and savings programs
- Bulk business recovery
- Continued refinement of Branded assets and footprint
- Financial performance
  - Strong cash performance, well placed to execute strategic opportunities
  - Leverage ratio improves to 1.3x in 1H FY2025 from 1.9x in 1H FY2024
  - Revenue growth of 3% to \$1.8b
  - Group 1H FY2025 normalised EBITDA of \$110.3m improved +\$33.8m compared with 1H FY2024
  - Statutory NPAT of \$30.2m, normalised NPAT of \$35.9m improved +\$22.6m compared with 1H FY2024





## Performance highlights

Strong progress on all key financial metrics in 1H FY2O25 when compared to 1H FY2O24.



\* Normalised



1H FY2O25 Results Presentation 5



## **Pete Findlay** CEO



**Gunther Burghardt** CFO



Our vision, purpose and values continue to shape and sustain our growth

**Our Vision** ECOME FOOD COMPANY

**Our Purpose** 

## **A BETTER FUTURE**

**Our Values** 

OUR

GROW PASSION FOR THE PEOPLE CUSTOMER AND CONSUMER

INVEST IN OUR FUTURE SUPPORT EACH OTHER



# Strategy 2028 priorities

#### **Grow Branded business**

- Core domestic grocery
- Chilled distribution network servicing petrol & convenience, route, foodservice
- Select international markets

#### Enhance capability, efficiency & cost effectiveness

- MyBega business B2B portal now fully operational and delivering sales growth and better customer experience
- Streamline sites and reduce cost through value creation
- Enable a high-performing organisation

#### Margin optimisation

- Further enhancements to pricing and promotional analytics toolkit
- An agile Bulk business delivering highest value fat and protein returns





# 1H FY2O25 strategy highlights

#### **Branded innovation**

- Dare and Farmers Union high protein offers
- Strong growth in better for you offers lactose free extensions, no sugar added, protein
- Strong growth in pouched yoghurt kids focus

#### Increased investment behind power brands

- Eight brand campaigns combining TV, Radio and Out of Home, Point of Sale promotions
- Launch of Dairy Farmers 'Start with OOMPH' campaign with brand 125th anniversary
- Extended licencing on Vegemite and Zooper Dooper brands

#### Bulk segment agility

- Further enhancement of our product mix to higher returning fat and protein lines e.g. Milk Protein Concentrate capacity, lactoferrin capacity and cream cheese
- Continued focus on costs and agility of bulk assets





Contains min. 25% less added sugar vs. regular FUIC which contains 3.8 g/100 mL added sugar.



# 1H FY2O25 strategy highlights

#### International revenue growth

- 1H FY2025 record sales in South East Asia.
- Increased in 'on the ground' presence in Singapore, Thailand and Dubai including In-house Chef based in Malaysia covering SEA sales.
- Direct model in China with select key retailers.

#### **Domestic Food Service**

- Above market growth in food service with high single digit volume increase despite soft out-of-home consumption.

#### Continued refinement of branded assets and footprint

- Leeton site sale and long-term supply agreement.
- Consolidation of Tasmania's Betta Milk to Lenah Valley and closure of Meander Valley Dairy site.

#### **Optimisation of Chilled distribution network**

- Distribution centre and warehouse reviews.
- 'Cost to Serve' initiatives success in reviewing minimum order values, route density improvements and optimal range reviews.
- Laverton warehouse automation investments progressing







## **Consumer trends**

Four key consumer trends continue to shape portfolio and activation priorities

## **Better Value**

Cost of living pressures see consumers shift to seek better value from food & beverages

## Functional Health

Continuing desire for functional foods that enhance everyday offers

## Demographic Evolution

Australia trends towards smaller and more ethnically diverse households

## Sustainability

Sustainable solutions becoming consumer & customer base expectation



## Market leading brands in growth categories

- Our eight 'power brands' contribute >70% of branded revenue
- Iconic Australian brands with enduring appeal
- Strong market positions
- Covering essential consumer items to discretionary purchases
- Widely available and accessible for most Australians

Category	Category size \$m	Category annual growth	Bega's share	Market position	Bega Bra	nds
Fresh white milk	2,148	0%	12%	3	Dairy Farmers - Junting time time	
Yoghurt	1,998	9%	24%	2	EST 1880 FARMERS UNION	Dairy Woplait
Milk based beverages	1,071	7%	49%	1	(Jale	Tender Internet Inter
Spreads	755	3%	29%	1	VEGEMITE	Peter Surply
Chilled juice	693	4%	18%	2	DAILYJUICE	THE JUICE Stildug
Creams and custards	657	3%	8%	4	Dairy Farmers - Bucklag Bire Mo-	PURA
Water ice	68	2%	86%	1	ZOOPER DOOPER	BERRI 1943

Data (retail sales value) sourced from Circana Market Edge 12 months to 29 December 2024 based on data definitions provided by Bega. (Market: AU Grocery Unweighted and Structured Convenience). Excludes Costco, Aldi, local trade and unstructured convenience.



# Portfolio innovation lead growth

Expanded portfolio in core categories

## **Functional Health**



Evolving the portfolio to respond to consumer preferences:

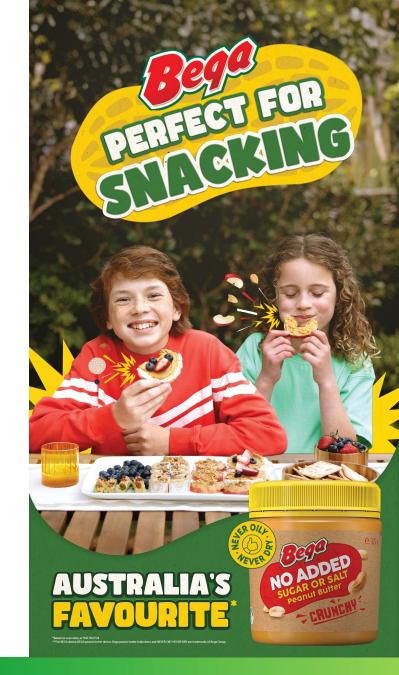
- Meeting demand for protein
- Promotion health with No Sugar Added offers
- Providing new Lactose
  Free options for those with intolerances
- Providing value size formats, and value price points
- Improved food service product portfolio



# Core brand growth

Focused Brand investment enabled growth

- 125 year anniversary of Dairy Farmers 'Start with OOMPH' campaign launch including TV advertising and out of home campaign
- Dare 'A Dare Fix'll Fix it' campaign TV, retail media and out of home campaign and 'R U OK' instore brand activity
- Bega Peanut Butter 'Spread, Snack, Bake & Shake' Australia's Favourite campaign, including national TV spots in partnership with Channel 9's 'The Block' and street furniture campaign
- Vegemite 'Unite with Vegemite' campaign, Sunrise promotional special, Foodbank support, Melbourne Stars and Big Bash Vegemite event partnerships
- Dairy Farmers Thick & Creamy 'The best flavours down under' out of home campaign
- Masters support of MIX 94.5 'Milk Carton Regatta' driving local support for 'WA Made'
- Yoplait 'Open a tub of Joy' TV campaign, radio partnership with Nova 96.9 FM
- Daily juice 'Daily Dose of Happiness' campaign retail media





## Manufacturing network

Continuous focus on streamlining and simplifying

Bentlev

#### Key 1H FY2O25 Initiatives:

- Sale of Leeton juice primary processing facility in October 2024 further simplified our supply network
- Strategic review of Peanut Company of Australia (PCA) underway
- Reduced over 25% of coolrooms and warehouse over the past 4 years
- Completed consolidation of Tasmanian footprint.





## Farm gate milk price and commodity returns



Source: Ever.Ag Insights

#### Key themes:

- Bulk business recovering, however, still not at long term historic levels
- In response to normalising commodity prices, Bega has increased its Victorian milk price range to \$8.05/kgMS to \$8.35/kgMS
- Major commodity drivers are milkfat dominant products, driven by shortages in the EU and US
- Mix adjustments in protein products has reduced impacts from subdued Skim Milk Powder (SMP) pricing



## Refreshed sustainability strategy

Our strategy has evolved to meet our sustainability ambitions for the future

Our sustainability ambition

# **GREAT FOOD FOR A BETTER FUTURE**

#### CIRCULARITY

Leading in circularity through our practices, industry partnerships and effective use, reuse and recycling of our resources.

#### COMMUNITY

Making a positive and lasting impact by supporting our people, their families and our communities.

#### **COLLABORATION**

Working together with our producers and communities to enable sustainable practices, grow domestic economies and deliver great Australian products that people love and trust.





## Financial key messages

# Group normalised EBITDA \$110.3 million, higher by \$33.8 million (+44%) compared to 1H FY2O24.

- Branded EBITDA \$104.2 million, higher \$7.4 million (+8%)
  - Strong growth in Yoghurt, Spreads, Foodservice and International.
  - Growth in Grocery and Foodservice offset reduced foot traffic in Impulse & Convenience and QSR.
  - Further manufacturing rationalisation and overhead savings mitigating cost inflation.
  - EBITDA margin expansion by 0.4 percentage points to 6.8%, still short of a Branded business expectation.
- Bulk segment EBITDA returns to profitability with 1HFY2O25 EBITDA \$24.4 million, compared to a loss in 1H FY2O24 of \$5.6 million.
  - Farmgate milk prices better reflect global commodity markets.
  - Stable milk intake with focus on high value Bulk products.
- Sale of Leeton primary juice processing site and impairment of selective equipment associated with manufacturing footprint and portfolio rationalisation.
- Net debt at \$207.2 million and leverage ratio of 1.3x, well below 1.9x 1H FY2024.



## Profit and loss

Normalised \$ millions	1H FY2O25	1H FY2O24	+/- %
Net Revenue	1,782.1	1,728.0	3%
EBITDA	110.3	76.5	44%
D&A	(46.0)	(42.9)	7%
EBIT	64.3	33.6	91%
Net Finance Costs	(16.7)	(16.5)	1%
Profit Before Tax	47.6	17.1	178%
Тах	(11.7)	(3.8)	208%
Profit After Tax	35.9	13.3	170%
Basic EPS (cents per share)	11.8	4.4	168%

<b>Statutory</b> \$ millions	1H FY2O25	1H FY2O24	+/- %
Net Revenue	1,782.1	1,728.0	3%
EBITDA	109.3	86.1	27%
D&A*	(52.7)	(42.9)	23%
EBIT	56.6	43.2	31%
Net Finance Costs	(16.7)	(16.5)	1%
Profit Before Tax	39.9	26.7	49%
Тах	(9.7)	(0.2)	++
Profit After Tax	30.2	26.5	14%
Basic EPS (cents per share)	9.9	8.7	14%

\* includes impairment

#### Key points

- 1H FY2O25 net revenue growth +3%
- Normalised Profit After Tax (PAT) +170%; Statutory PAT +14% with prior year benefitting from gain on sale of Canberra.
- Relatively stable interest rate environment leading to flat financing costs.
- Normalised EPS more than double to 11.8 cents per share.



# Key performance measures

\$ millions unless otherwise stated	1H	1H	
(Normalised)	FY2025	FY2024	Change
Net Revenue Growth vs prior year	3.1%	3.2%	(0.1) ppts
Gross margin (% of Net Revenue)	21.8%	20.2%	1.6 ppts
EBITDA	110.3	76.5	44%
Depreciation and Amortisation	(46.0)	(42.9)	7%
Net Finance Costs	(16.7)	(16.5)	1%
Profit After Tax	35.9	13.3	170%
Basic EPS (cents per share)	11.8	4.4	168%
Dividends per share (cents per share)	6.0	4.0	50%
Net Debt	207.2	250.9	(17)%
Leverage Ratio (times)	1.3	1.9	(0.6)
Return on Funds Employed (%)*	7.9%	4.7%	3.2 ppts

\* calculated on 12 month rolling basis

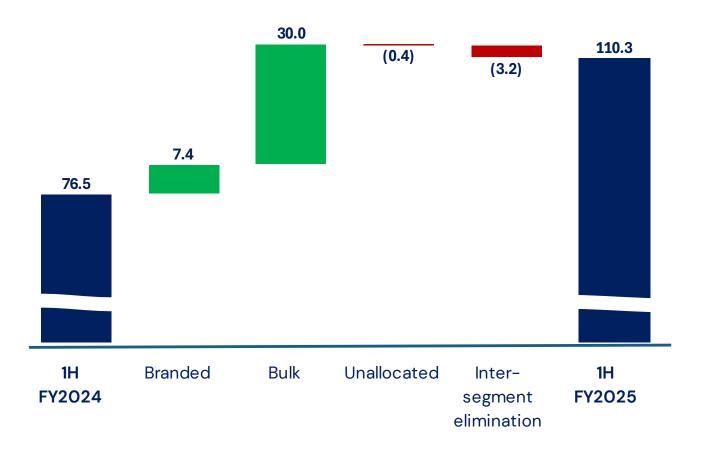
#### Key points

- Revenue growth 3.1%, similar to the growth achieved in prior year.
- Margin expansion to 21.8% mostly in the Bulk segment. Branded margin expansion of +0.4 ppts in challenging consumer environment.
- Net debt and leverage ratio improvement mostly from increased earnings and working capital reduction when compared to December 2024.
- Improvement in ROFE by +3.2 percentage points to almost 8%.
- Increase in interim FY2O25 fully franked dividends of 6.0 cents declared.



## Bulk turnaround and Branded growth

Normalised EBITDA (\$ millions) 1H FY2024 to 1H FY2025





1H FY2O25 Results Presentation 21

## Segment performance

(\$ million)	Branded	Bulk	Unallocated overheads		Group total
External revenue *	1,522.2	259.9	-	-	1,782.1
Growth vs 1H FY2O24 %	1%	18%	-	-	3%
Normalised EBITDA	104.2	24.4	(16.5)	(1.8)	110.3
Increase/(decrease) vs 1H FY2O24	7.4	30.0	(0.4)	(3.2)	33.8

\* excludes inter-segment sales from Bulk to Branded

#### Branded

- Strong growth in Yoghurt, Spreads, Foodservice and International. Growth in Grocery and Foodservice more than offset reduced foot traffic in Impulse & Convenience / QSR.
- Further manufacturing rationalisation and cost savings programs reducing cost of goods sold

#### Bulk

- Realignment between dairy commodity and farmgate milk prices returning Bulk to profitability in 1H FY2O25.
- Stable milk intake and conversion costs with focus on favourable mix across the Bulk portfolio.

#### Unallocated overheads

- Carryover and new restructuring benefits mostly offset salary inflation.



## Reconciliation of normalised result

Consolidated period ended 29 December 2024 (\$ million)	Per financial statements	Manufacturing footprint rationalisation*	Normalised outcome
Revenue	1,782.1	-	1,782.1
Cost of sales	(1,393.0)	-	(1,393.0)
Gross Profit	389.1	-	389.1
EBITDA	109.3	1.0	110.3
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	(52.7)	6.7	(46.0)
EBIT	56.6	7.7	64.3
Net finance costs	(16.7)	-	(16.7)
Profit before income tax	39.9	7.7	47.6
Income tax expense	(9.7)	(2.0)	(11.7)
Profit for the period	30.2	5.7	35.9
Basic earnings per share - cents	9.9		11.8

\* includes sale and exit of juice primary processing at Leeton and other production equipment associated with footprint & portfolio rationalisation.



## **Balance sheet**

Balance Sheet*	1H FY2O25 \$m	2H FY2O24 \$m
Cash	57.8	65.6
Trade and other receivables	309.8	350.9
Inventories	404.5	358.1
Property, plant and equipment	656.9	673.4
Right-of-use assets	157.3	150.8
Intangible assets	473.9	476.6
Total Assets	2,118.8	2,138.8
Trade and other payables	478.4	558.4
Borrowing (net of costs)	263.6	226.7
Lease liabilities	200.7	192.2
Provisions	119.5	120.6
Total Liabilities	1,085.6	1,124.0
Net Assets	1,033.2	1,014.8
Net Debt	(207.2)	(162.4)

\* Key balances represented only

#### Key points

- Net debt of \$207m, a seasonal increase of \$44m against 2H FY2024.
- Leverage ratio of 1.3x is equal to the 2H FY2O24 position and lower when compared to 1.9x in 1H FY2O24.
- Receivables and payables reduction reflects phasing impact of sales and purchases.
- Inventory \$46m higher than June 2024 and reflects seasonal build in dairy inventory
- Right-of-use asset and lease liabilities reflect extension of office lease.



## Cash flow

Cashflow	1H FY2O25 \$m	1H FY2O24 \$m
Receipts from customers	1,879.0	1,798.5
Payments to suppliers and employees	(1,825.9)	(1,785.5)
Net proceeds from Trade Receivables Facility	(35.2)	6.3
Net interest and other costs of financing paid	(16.7)	(16.5)
Income tax paid	(12.3)	(5.8)
Operating activities	(11.1)	(3.0)
Investments in new PP&E and intangibles	(30.4)	(40.3)
Business combinations payments	-	(11.1)
Net proceeds from sale of PP&E and intangibles	18.9	26.2
Investing activities	(11.5)	(25.2)
Net repayments of borrowings	37.0	50.0
Principal elements of lease payments	(11.0)	(10.8)
Dividends paid to shareholders	(11.2)	(8.3)
Financing activities	14.8	30.9
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(7.8)	2.7

#### Key points

- Operating cashflow +\$24m excluding the reduction in the use of Trade Receivable Facility by \$35m.
- Increase in receipts from customers and payments to suppliers reflects growth and inflation.
- Capital & intangible expenditure of \$30m and includes warehouse automation as the leading initiative.
- Partial funding of investment in new PP&E through sale of Leeton primary processing site which occurred in 1H FY2025. Sale of Canberra site occurred in 1H FY2024.



## Outlook

- The Group reaffirms its guidance of a normalised EBITDA of \$190 to \$200m in FY2025. The Group expects to be at the upper end of this range.
- Challenging consumer environments expected to continue through 2H FY2O25
- Increase in A&C investments to support innovation and our brands
- Planned acceleration of capital investment from 2H FY2O25 to unlock growth and efficiency
- Focus on high value categories and cost management program underpin continued branded margin growth
- On track to FY2O28 EBITDA target \$250m plus, ROFE >10%





## creating great food for a better future



Barry Irvin Executive Chairman





## THANK YOU & QUESTIONS

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## Appendix – glossary

Term	Definition	
Basic EPS	Basic earnings per share calculated by dividing net profit (or loss) after tax by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period	
CMV	Commodity Milk Value, an indicator that is based on a weighted basket of spot prices of major commodities such as cheese, butter, skim milk powder and whole milk powder converted to an Australian dollar-denominated value of milk	
D&A	Depreciation and amortisation (including impairment)	
Dairy solids	Dairy solids are the non-water portion of a dairy product and is a term commonly used to describe dairy ingredient inputs in manufacturing. These solids include components such as proteins, fat, lactose and minerals	
EBIT	Earnings before interest and tax	
EBITDA	Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation	
EBITDA margin	EBITDA divided by net revenue	
Funds employed	Sum of net assets and net debt	
1H, 2H	1H refers to the first half of the Australian financial year – July to December, 2H refers to the second half of the Australian financial year – January to June	
Leverage ratio	Net debt divided by EBITDA after adjusting for leases in both the numerator and the denominator	
Material items	Items of income or expense which have been determined as being sufficiently significant by their size, nature or incidence and are disclosed separately to assist in understanding the Group's financial performance	
MBB	Milk based beverages	
Net debt	Net debt is calculated by subtracting total cash and cash equivalents from total short-term and long-term debt	
Normalised	Result excluding one-off material items that do not reflect the underlying performance	
P&C	Petrol and convenience stores	
Return on funds employed (ROFE)	EBIT as a percentage of average funds employed	
YOY	Year on year	
D Var Assents		

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