# TRADING STATEMENT 22 May 2025

# Good start to the year and well positioned to deliver a robust performance in 2025

- Jan-April revenue of £1,093.9m, growth of 4.6% at constant currency and 1.2% at actual rates, reflecting FX movements
- 4.5% LFL revenue growth at constant currency with strong LFL performance in our higher margin divisions: 7.8% in Consumer Products, 8.9% in Corporate Assurance, 3.5% in Health and Safety, 2.7% in Industry and Infrastructure; stable LFL in the World of Energy
- Robust margin progression driven by divisional mix, good operating leverage and productivity improvements
- Continuous daily cash management discipline delivering strong free cash flow
- Organic and inorganic investments in attractive growth and margin sectors performing well
- £350m share buyback programme started in March progressing well with £75.3m already repurchased (1.6m shares)
- Strong returns driving good year on year progression on ROIC
- Robust performance expected in 2025 in line with our expectations, reconfirming mid-single digit LFL revenue growth at constant currency, margin progression and strong cash generation

# **André Lacroix: Chief Executive Officer statement**

"We have had a good start to the year, with strong LFL revenue growth in our higher margin divisions. At the Group level we delivered LFL revenue growth of 4.5% at constant currency, driven by a strong performance across all business lines within Consumer Products, robust demand for Risk-based Assurance solutions in Corporate Assurance, continuing good demand for our ATIC solutions within Health and Safety and Industry and Infrastructure while the World of Energy division delivered a stable performance. Margin progression was robust, reflecting divisional mix, pricing initiatives, operating leverage and productivity improvements. Free cash flow was strong which, combined with our strong balance sheet, enabled us to invest in growth and commence our £350m share buyback programme in March.

Our role in society is mission-critical, providing a unique suite of industry-leading ATIC solutions to over 400,000 clients across every industry and region in each of our five divisions, and all our global business lines enjoy scale leadership positions at both the local and global level. At this time of global trade and supply chain changes, our clients around the world are in need of consulting, training and systemic ATIC solutions on global market access, enabling them to bring their products to market at speed but without compromising on the right Quality Assurance, Safety and Sustainability standards.

We are uniquely positioned to help companies navigate the current environment, capitalising on our data-driven insights and technical expertise in each of the industries we operate in. Intertek is a true pioneer in the Total Quality Assurance market, always anticipating the needs of clients and bringing to market industry-leading innovations with agility and pace to accelerate growth. A great example of our pioneering approach is <a href="SupplyTek">SupplyTek</a>, which empowers our clients to confidently navigate today's fast changing global environment, turning uncertainty into opportunity. It is at times like this where our purpose comes to life and our passion for Science-based excellence makes a huge difference for our clients.

Our clients are increasing their focus on Risk-based Quality Assurance to operate with higher standards on quality, safety and sustainability in each part of their value chain, triggering higher demand for our ATIC solutions. We believe the current environment creates additional growth opportunities for Intertek with new global trade routes to assure, more products to test and certify, and more factories to audit and inspect. Capitalising on a good start to the year, we continue to expect to deliver a robust performance in 2025 with mid-single digit LFL revenue growth at constant currency, margin progression and strong free cash flow.

The value growth opportunity for all Intertek stakeholders moving forward is significant. Our industry has always benefitted from attractive growth drivers, and now more than ever everyone wants to build an ever-better world which means that corporations will invest more in quality, safety and sustainability, accelerating the demand for our industry-leading ATIC solutions. All of us at Intertek are focused on executing our AAA growth strategy and delivering our corporate targets consistently every year of mid-single digit LFL revenue growth, margin progression targeting 18.5%+ over time, strong cash generation, and disciplined investments in organic and inorganic growth to deliver a superior ROIC."

Revenue Performance				
	4 months – January to April			
	2025 £m	2024 £m	Change at actual rates	Change at constant currency
Group				
Revenue	1,093.9	1,080.8	1.2%	4.6%
LFL revenue	1,092.1	1,079.7	1.1%	4.5%
Consumer Products				
Revenue	310.0	298.7	3.8%	7.3%
LFL revenue	310.0	297.6	4.2%	7.8%
Corporate Assurance				
Revenue	161.8	153.7	5.3%	8.9%
LFL Revenue	161.8	153.7	5.3%	8.9%
Health and Safety				
Revenue	106.7	108.1	(1.3%)	3.5%
LFL revenue	106.7	108.1	(1.3%)	3.5%
Industry and Infrastructure				
Revenue	275.3	274.2	0.4%	3.4%
LFL revenue	273.5	274.2	(0.3%)	2.7%
World of Energy				
Revenue	240.1	246.1	(2.4%)	0.3%
LFL revenue	240.1	246.1	(2.4%)	0.3%

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#### Analysts' Call

A call for analysts and investors will be held today at 9.30am UK time. Details can be found at http://www.intertek.com/investors/

# intertek

Total Quality. Assured.

Intertek is a leading Total Quality Assurance provider to industries worldwide.

Our network of more than 1,000 laboratories and offices in more than 100 countries delivers innovative and bespoke Assurance, Testing, Inspection and Certification solutions for our customers' operations and supply chains.

Intertek is a purpose-led company to Bring Quality, Safety and Sustainability to Life. We provide 24/7 mission critical quality assurance solutions to our clients to ensure that they can operate with well-functioning supply chains in each of their operations.

Our Customer Promise is: Intertek Total Quality Assurance expertise, delivered consistently, with precision, pace and passion, enabling our customers to power ahead safely.

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#### **Consumer Products Division**

In the four-month period to the end of April 2025, our Consumer Products-related business delivered LFL revenue of £310.0m up year-on-year by 7.8% at constant currency.

- Our Softlines business delivered double-digit LFL revenue growth benefitting from additional ATIC investments by our clients in e-commerce and sustainability, as well as an increased focus on new products.
- **Hardlines** reported mid-single digit LFL revenue growth, driven by ATIC investments from our clients in e-commerce and sustainability, as well as new product development in both the toy and furniture segments.
- With increased ATIC activities driven by higher regulatory standards in energy efficiency, more demand for medical devices and 5G investments, our Electrical & Connected World business delivered mid-single digit LFL revenue growth.
- Our **Government & Trade Services** business, which provides certification services to governments in the Middle East and Africa to facilitate the import of goods in their markets based on acceptable quality and safety standards, reported high-single digit LFL revenue growth.

#### 2025 outlook

We continue to expect our Consumer Products division to deliver mid-single digit LFL revenue growth at constant currency.

#### Medium- to long-term growth outlook

Our Consumer Products division will benefit from growth in new brands, SKUs & e-commerce, increased regulation, a greater focus on sustainability and technology, as well as a growing middle class. Our mid to long-term guidance for Consumer Products is low to mid-single digit LFL revenue growth at constant currency.

#### **Corporate Assurance Division**

In the four-month period to the end of April 2025, our Corporate Assurance-related business delivered LFL revenue of £161.8m, 8.9% higher year-on-year at constant currency.

- Business Assurance reported double-digit LFL revenue growth driven by increased client investments to improve the
  resilience of their supply chains, the continuing corporate focus on ethical supply and the greater need for
  sustainability assurance.
- The **Assuris** business reported low-single digit LFL revenue growth as we continue to benefit from improved demand for our regulatory assurance solutions and from increased corporate investment in ESG.

#### 2025 growth outlook

We continue to expect our Corporate Assurance division to deliver high-single digit LFL revenue growth at constant currency.

#### Medium- to long-term growth outlook

Our Corporate Assurance division will benefit from a greater corporate focus on sustainability, the need for increased supply chain resilience, enterprise cyber-security, People Assurance services and regulatory assurance. Our mid to long-term guidance for Corporate Assurance is high-single digit to double-digit LFL revenue growth at constant currency.

#### **Health and Safety Division**

In the four-month period to the end of April 2025, our Health and Safety-related business reported LFL revenue of £106.7m, an increase of 3.5% at constant currency.

- AgriWorld provides inspection activities to ensure that the global food supply chain operates fully and safely. The
  business reported mid-single digit LFL revenue growth as we continue to see more demand for inspection activities
  driven by sustained growth in the global food industry.
- Our Food business registered double-digit LFL revenue growth as we continue to benefit from increased demand for food safety testing activities as well as hygiene and safety audits in factories.

• Chemicals & Pharma reported negative low-single digit LFL revenue performance due to a demanding comparative base in the previous year. The business continues to benefit from the increased demand for regulatory assurance and chemical testing and higher R&D investment in the pharmaceutical industry.

#### 2025 growth outlook

We continue to expect our Health and Safety division to deliver mid-single digit LFL revenue growth at constant currency.

#### Medium- to long-term growth outlook

Our Health and Safety division will benefit from the demand for healthier and more sustainable food, to support a growing global population, increased regulation, and new R&D investments in the pharmaceutical industry. Our mid to long-term guidance for our Health and Safety division is mid to high-single digit LFL revenue growth at constant currency.

#### **Industry and Infrastructure Division**

In the four-month period to the end of April 2025, our Industry and Infrastructure-related business grew LFL revenue by 2.7% at constant currency to £273.5m.

- Industry Services, which includes our Capex Inspection services and Opex Maintenance services, delivered midsingle digit revenue growth benefitting from increased capex investment in traditional Oil and Gas exploration and production as well as in renewables.
- The continuing high demand for testing and inspection activities drove mid-single digit LFL revenue growth in our
   Minerals business.
- We continue to benefit from growing demand for more environmentally friendly buildings and the increased number of infrastructure projects in our **Building & Construction** business in North America, which delivered stable LFL revenue performance.

### 2025 growth outlook

We continue to expect our Industry and Infrastructure division to deliver a mid-single digit LFL revenue growth at constant currency.

# Medium- to long-term growth outlook

Our Industry and Infrastructure division will benefit from increased investment from energy companies to meet growing demand and consumption of energy from the growing global population, the scaling up of renewables, increased R&D investments that OEMs are making in EV/hybrid vehicles and from the development of greener fuels. We expect mid to high-single digit LFL revenue growth in the medium-term at constant currency.

# **World of Energy Division**

In the four-month period to the end of April 2025, our World of Energy-related business reported stable LFL revenue of £240.1m.

- Caleb Brett, the global leader in the Crude Oil and Refined products global trading markets, saw negative low-single digit LFL revenue performance due to a slow-down in trading activities from our clients in North America and a demanding comparative base in the previous year.
- **Transportation Technologies** reported low-single digit LFL revenue growth driven by increased investment in new powertrains to lower CO2/NOx emissions and in traditional combustion engines to improve fuel efficiency.
- Our CEA business continued to benefit from the increased investments in solar panels, the fastest growing form of renewable energy, but delivered negative low-single digit LFL revenue growth due to a demanding comparative base in the previous year.

#### 2025 growth outlook

Based on the first four months of the year, we now expect our World of Energy division to deliver low-single digit LFL revenue growth at constant currency.

#### Medium- to long-term growth outlook

Our World of Energy division will benefit from increased investment by energy companies to meet growing demand and consumption of energy from the growing global population, the scaling up of renewables, increased R&D investments that OEMs are making in EV/hybrid vehicles and from the development of greener fuels. Our mid to long-term LFL guidance at constant currency for the World of Energy division is low to mid-single digit.

#### **Innovation & Investment**

True to our pioneering spirit, we continue to lead the industry and innovate to meet the emerging needs of our customers with winning ATIC solutions.

We are constantly learning from our customers, using extensive feedback they provide us with every month through our comprehensive NPS research programme to help deliver ever better solutions for their evolving requirements.

We believe that successful innovation starts with investing in the insight advantage, which means having a deep understanding of what our customers need and want. With the ability to access world-class customer intelligence site-by-site from anywhere across our global network, we have a continuous stream of data that enables us to build on our insights and develop new ATIC solutions.

Our clients have also realised that they need to invest more in product and service innovation to meet the changing needs of their customers.

The other major area of investment inside corporations is sustainability and we are seeing positive momentum with new and emerging regulations. This means companies will have to re-invent the way they manage their sustainability agenda with greater emphasis on independently verified non-financial disclosures. This is excellent news for our industry-leading Total Sustainability Assurance solutions.

During the period, we launched SupplyTek, the first end-to-end global market access suite of solutions capitalising on Intertek's leading-edge Consulting, Training and Assurance solutions to provide companies with the latest intelligence to formulate compelling strategies, based on the right quality assurance solutions, to minimise the impact of re-engineering their sourcing operations to adapt to a changing global trading landscape.

We also launched a comprehensive suite of solutions to help companies comply with the new EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) that affects the import and export of seven key commodities—wood, rubber, cocoa, coffee, cattle, soy, and palm oil—within the European market.

We are seeing significant growth in the number of companies globally given the lower barriers to entry for any brand with ecommerce capabilities. The lack of Quality Assurance expertise of these young companies is excellent news for our Global Market Access solutions. Our decentralised Customer 1st organisation has a strong track record of winning new clients. During the period we opened a regional headquarters in Riyadh, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This new hub will play a key role in supporting Intertek's expanding portfolio of services and solidifying its commitment to customers in the region, as well as highlighting Intertek's role in achieving the goals of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030.

In addition, we are investing organically in the business. We have expanded our Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) pharmaceutical services laboratory near Cambridge to enhance Intertek's capabilities for inhaled biologics, and opened a state-of-the-art Caleb Brett laboratory in Bordeaux to deliver high-quality, innovative fuel testing and analysis services to the French energy and hydrocarbons industry. In April, we announced a UK Centre of Excellence to create market-leading consumer goods testing and assurance hub for UK brands, retailers and manufacturers.

#### Sustainability

Sustainability is the movement of our time and is central to everything we do at Intertek, anchored in our Purpose, our Vision, our Values and our Strategy.

Sustainability is important to all stakeholders in society who are consistently demanding faster progress and greater transparency in sustainability reporting. Companies therefore continuously need to upgrade and reinvent how they manage their sustainability agenda, particularly regarding how they disclose their non-financial performance.

This is why, under our global Total Sustainability Assurance (TSA) programme, we provide our clients with proven independent, systemic and end-to-end assurance on all aspects of their sustainability strategies, activities and operations.

The TSA programme comprises three elements:

- Intertek Operational Sustainability Solutions
- Intertek ESG Assurance
- Intertek Corporate Sustainability Certification

For Intertek's Sustainability Excellence programme, we focus on the 10 highly demanding TSA sustainability standards which are truly end-to-end and systemic.

#### Intertek is committed to:

- Reducing absolute scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions by 50% by 2030 from the 2019 base year;
- Reducing absolute scope 3 GHG emissions from business travel and employee commuting by 50% within the same timeframe;
- Ensuring 70% of its suppliers by spend will have science-based targets by 2027.

In 2024, we made progress in several areas:

- Levels of Hazard Observations increased for the fifth consecutive year, reflecting greater levels of activity across our sites as well as greater awareness and reporting of health and safety overall.
- Since 2015, we have used the Net Promoter Score ('NPS') process to listen to our customers, enabling us to improve our customer service over the years consistently. In 2024, we conducted on average 6,036 NPS interviews per month.
- We are driving environmental performance across our operations through science-based reduction targets to 2030.
   By optimising energy use in our offices and laboratories and transitioning to cleaner energy sources, we reduced our operational market-based emissions by 16.7% against 2023 and 47.2% against our base year 2019.
- In 2024 we conducted a preliminary Double Materiality Assessment, to help us meet upcoming regulations.
- We recognise the importance of employee engagement in driving sustainable performance for all stakeholders, and we measure employee engagement against our Intertek ATIC Engagement Index. In 2024, we achieved a new high score of 91 (2023: 87).
- Our voluntary permanent employee turnover improved to a five-year low rate of 11.2% in 2024 (2023: 12.3%).

We will continue to lead by example by pursuing our Sustainability Excellence agenda, energising deeply and genuinely all stakeholders: our people, our customers, our regulators, our suppliers, our communities and our shareholders.

Read more about Intertek's Sustainability Excellence programme and progress in our 2024 Sustainability Report.

#### M&A

We are investing inorganically to seize the attractive growth opportunities in the global Quality Assurance market and to strengthen our ATIC portfolio in high-margin, high-growth areas.

We have made recently four bolt-on acquisitions that are performing well:

- April 2023: the <u>acquisition of Controle Analitico</u>, a leading provider of environmental analysis, with a focus on water testing, based in Brazil to expand our footprint of leading Food and Agri TQA solutions.
- August 2023: the acquisition of US-based PlayerLync, a leading provider of high-quality mobile-first training and learning content to front-line workforces to further enhance our differentiated TQA proposition and customer excellence advantage in what is a fast-evolving landscape.
- March 2024: the <u>acquisition of Base Metallurgical Laboratories</u>, a leading provider of metallurgical testing services for the Minerals sector based in North America to establish a Minerals testing footprint for Intertek on the American continent.
- May 2025: the <u>acquisition of Tecnologia e Qualidade de Sistemas em Engenharia Ltda</u> (TESIS), a provider of high-quality testing and conformity assessment services across a broad range of building products in São Paulo, Brazil. The acquisition expands our leading Building & Construction Total Quality Assurance business into Brazil's construction industry, while also complementing Intertek's existing building products testing and assurance business in North America, opening up an attractive high growth, high margin sector for our cutting-edge ATIC solutions.

#### Outlook 2025

Our clients are increasing their focus on Risk-based Quality Assurance to operate with higher standards on quality, safety and sustainability in each part of their value chain, triggering a higher demand for our ATIC solutions. We believe the outcome of the tariff discussions will create additional growth opportunities for Intertek with new global trade routes to assure, more products to test and certify, and more factories to audit and inspect. Capitalising on a good start to the year, we continue to expect to deliver a robust performance in 2025 with mid-single digit LFL revenue growth at constant currency, margin progression and strong free cash flow.

Our mid-single digit LFL revenue growth at constant rates will be driven by:

- Mid-single digit LFL revenue growth in Consumer Products
- High-single digit LFL revenue growth in Corporate Assurance
- Mid-single digit LFL revenue growth in Health and Safety
- Mid-single digit LFL revenue growth in Industry and Infrastructure
- Low-single digit LFL revenue growth in the World of Energy

Our financial guidance for 2025 is that we expect:

- Capital expenditure in the range of £135-145m
- Net finance costs in the £42-44m range (pre-buyback and prior to any material movements due to FX or M&A)
- Effective tax rate in the 25-26% range
- Minority interests of between £23-24m
- Targeted dividend payout ratio of circa 65%
- FY25 net financial debt to be in the range of £470-520m (guidance pre-buyback and prior to any material movements due to FX or M&A)

Currency has remained volatile, and we are updating our full year guidance. The average sterling exchange rate in the last four months applied to the full year results of 2024 would reduce our full year revenue by 250bps and our full year earnings by 350bps.

# The value growth opportunity ahead is significant

The value growth opportunity ahead for all Intertek stakeholders moving forward is significant.

Our industry has always benefitted from attractive growth drivers, and now more than ever everyone wants to build an ever better world which means that corporations will invest more in quality, safety and sustainability, accelerating the demand for our industry-leading ATIC solutions.

We believe that the outcome of the current discussions on tariffs will create additional growth opportunities for Intertek, as these will create new global trade routes to assure, more products to test and certify and more factories to audit and inspect. This is why we have introduced SupplyTek, a suite of Consulting, Training and Assurance solutions, to support our clients' making changes to their sourcing strategies and help them to go to market fast with total peace of mind.

All of us at Intertek are focused on executing our AAA growth strategy and delivering our corporate targets consistently every year of mid-single digit LFL revenue growth, margin progression targeting 18.5%+ over time, strong cash generation, and disciplined investments in organic and inorganic growth to deliver a superior ROIC.

Ends