



Merrill Lynch Building
Materials Conference

CRH
Continuing Growth

Myles Lee
Finance Director
CRH plc

October 2007



Contents

Overview	3
2006 / 2007 Development Highlights	14
APAC – Delivering the Promise	21
Summary	29
Contact Us	30



CRH Overview

CRH Overview

The International Building Materials Group

- 1970 merger of Irish Cement and Roadstone; Sales €26M, 95% Ireland
- Now in 30 countries; 3,300+ locations; 80,000+ people
- Annualised Sales over €20Bn focused on three core businesses
- Evenly balanced across geographies, products and sector end-use
- Market Cap c.€15Bn, top 6 in sector worldwide
- Listed: Dublin (CRH.I), London (CRH.L) and NYSE (CRH)



Three Core Businesses

Focused product diversity

Primary Materials



2006 Sales €7.7Bn

Cement/RMC/	
Concrete Products	31%
Aggregates/Asphalt	36%
Contracting Revenues	33%

Building Products



2006 Sales €6.8Bn

Concrete Products	60%
Clay Products	9%
Glass Fabrication	9%
Insulation	6%
Const Accessories	6%
Building Envelope	10%

Distribution



2006 Sales €4.2Bn

B Merchants - Europe	47%
DIY - Europe	19%
Specialist Dist - US	34%

Three Core Businesses

Leading European & US Positions

Primary Materials



Europe

Top 10 Cement producer
Leading national Aggs/RMC
positions

USA

No 3 in Aggregates
No 1 in Asphalt

Building Products



Europe

No 1 Concrete Products
No 1 Const Accessories

USA

No 1 Concrete Products
No 1 Fabricated Glass

Distribution



Europe

Top 3 Building Materials
Distributor

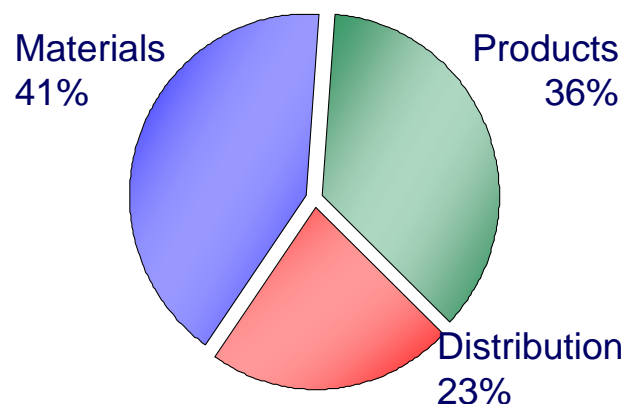
USA

Top 3 Roofing / Siding
Distributor

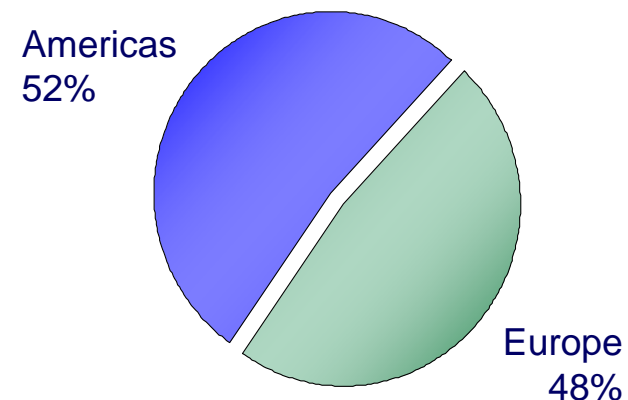
CRH Balance

Balanced exposure to industry demand drivers

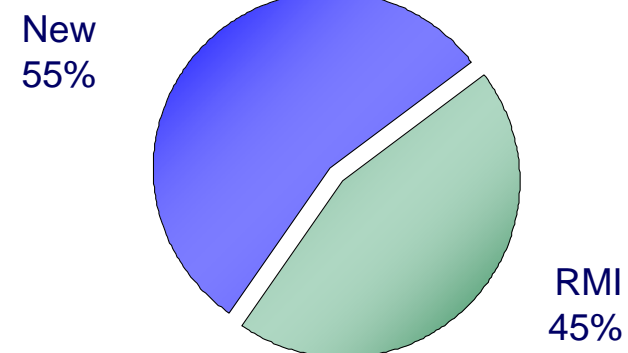
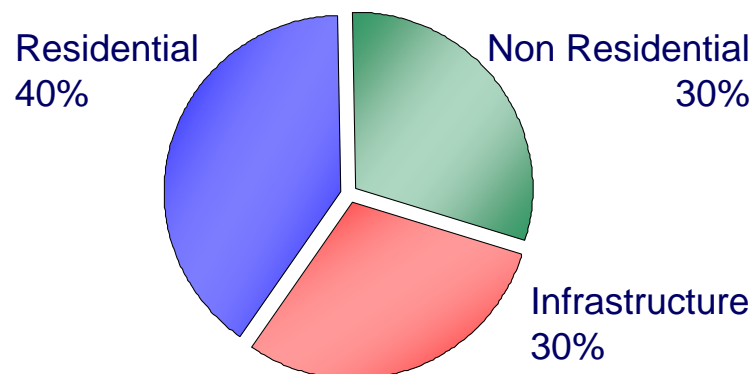
Product End Use*



Geographic End-Use*



Sectoral End Use*

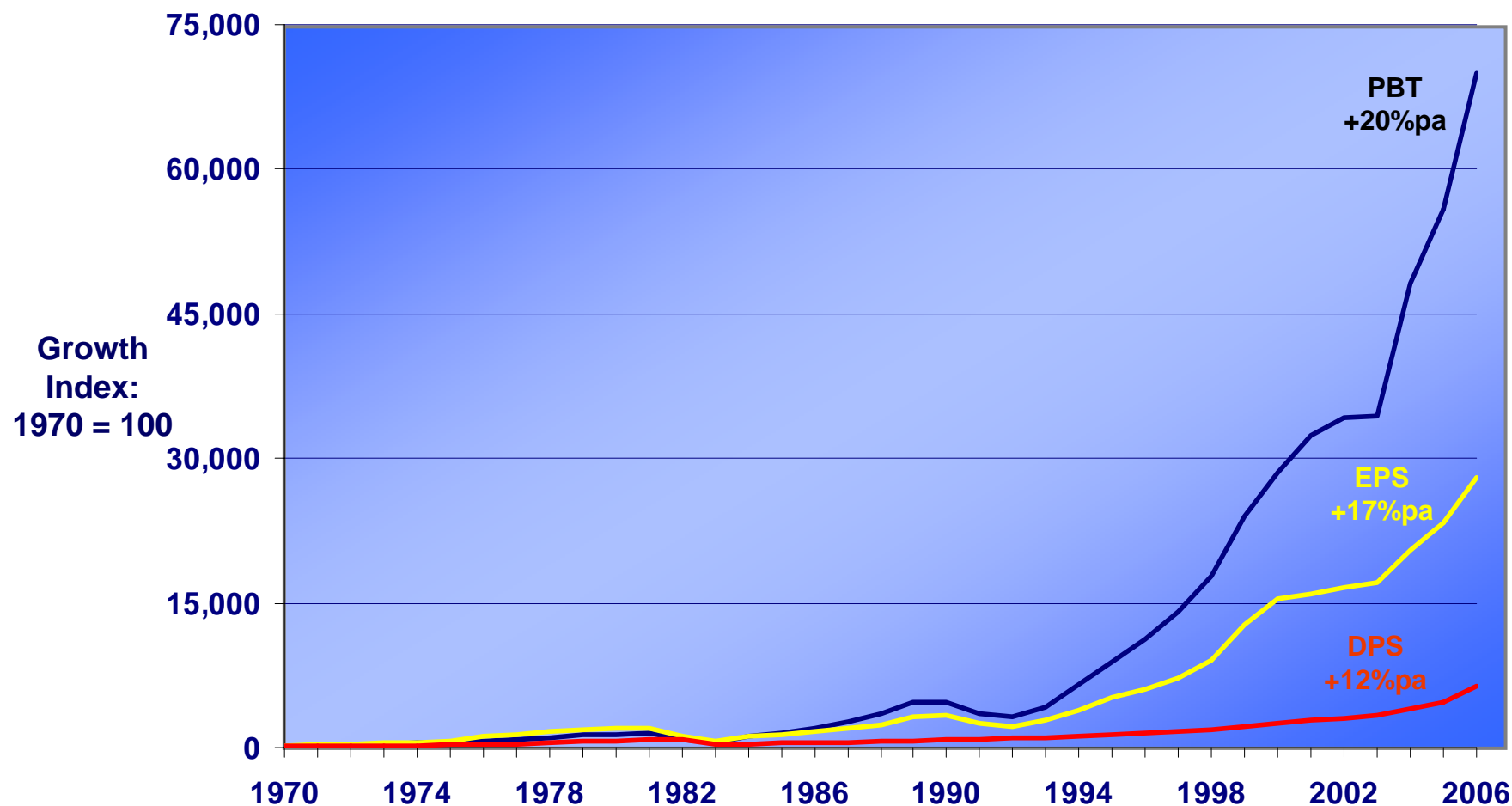


* based on 2006 sales



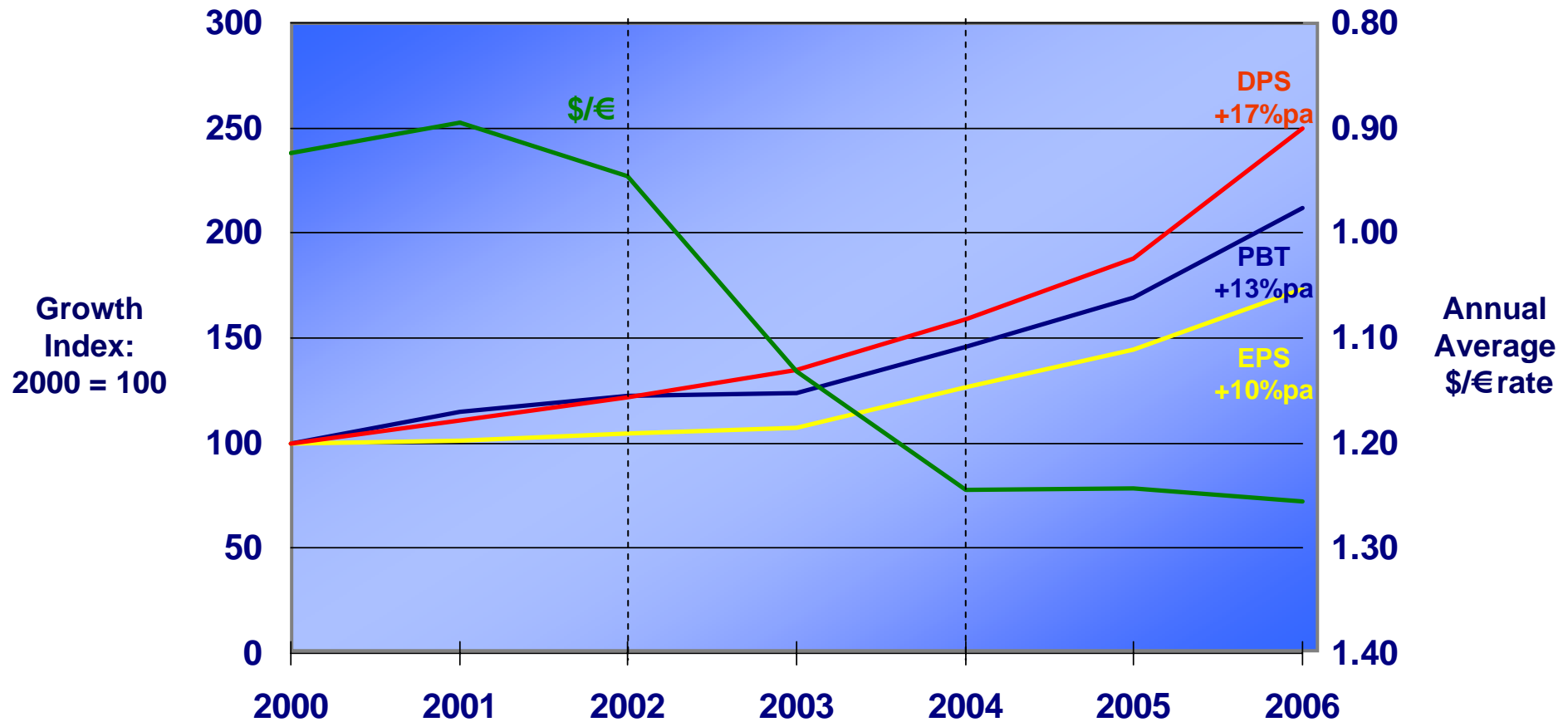
Delivering Performance & Growth

20% CAGR in Total Shareholder Return since 1970



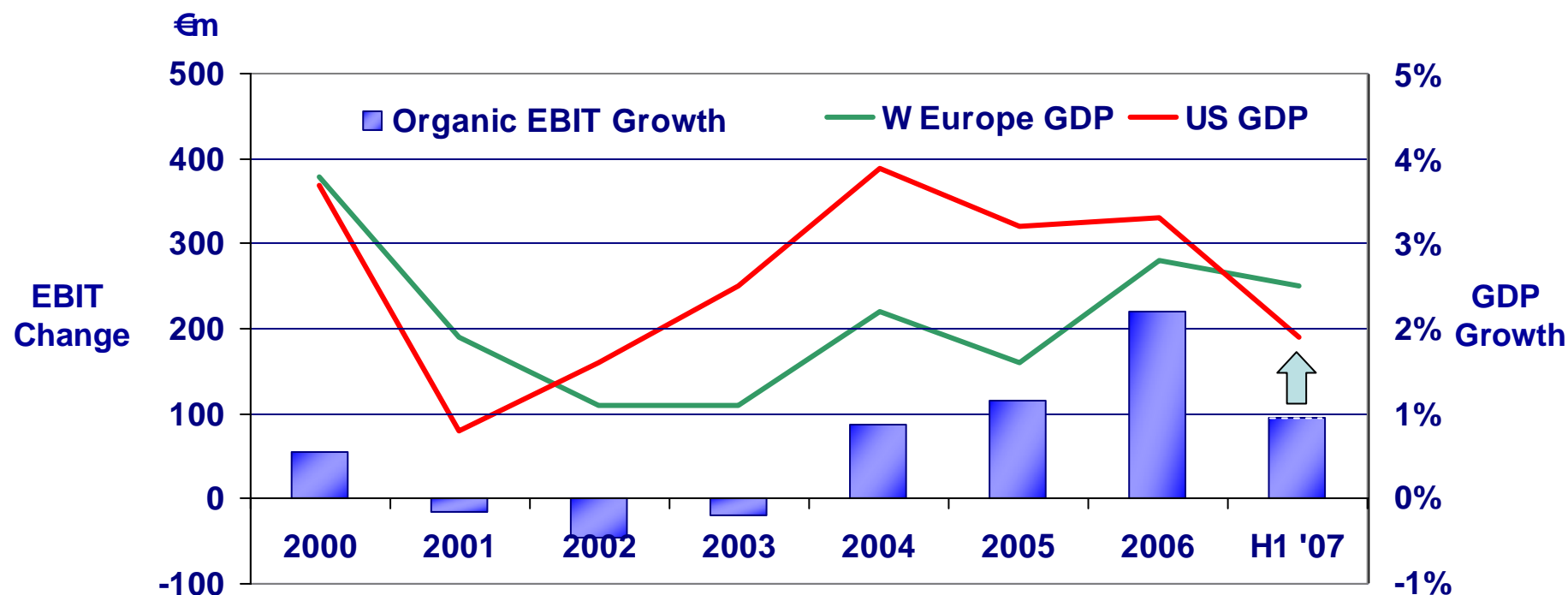
2000 – 2006 Performance

Good growth despite weakening US dollar



'00 – '07 H1 Organic EBIT Growth

Strong delivery through the economic cycle



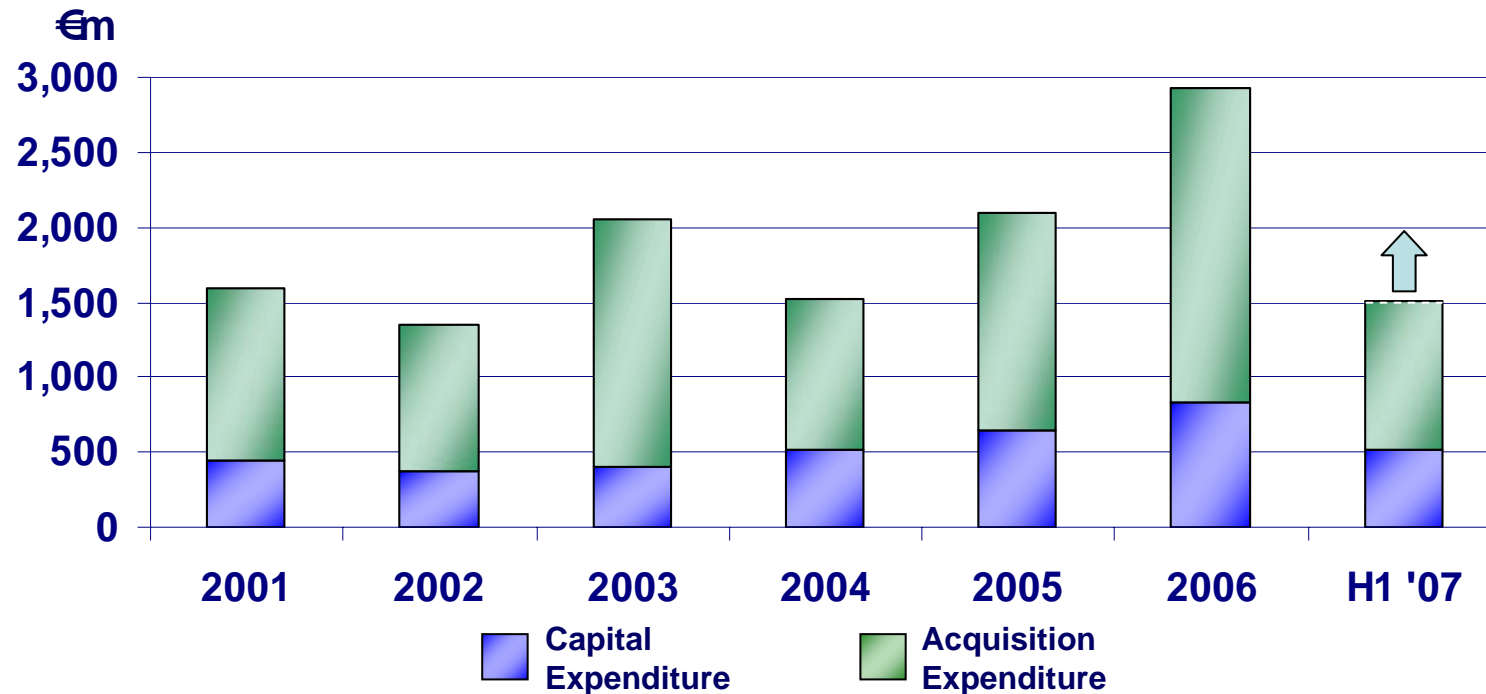
- 2001 – 2003 ... modest organic profit decline post 9/11 GDP setback
- 2004 – 2007 ... capitalised on GDP recovery, first in US then in Europe

Group balance limits the downside; delivers the upside

CRH

Significant Development Focus

Average €2Bn p.a. development spend 2001 – 2007

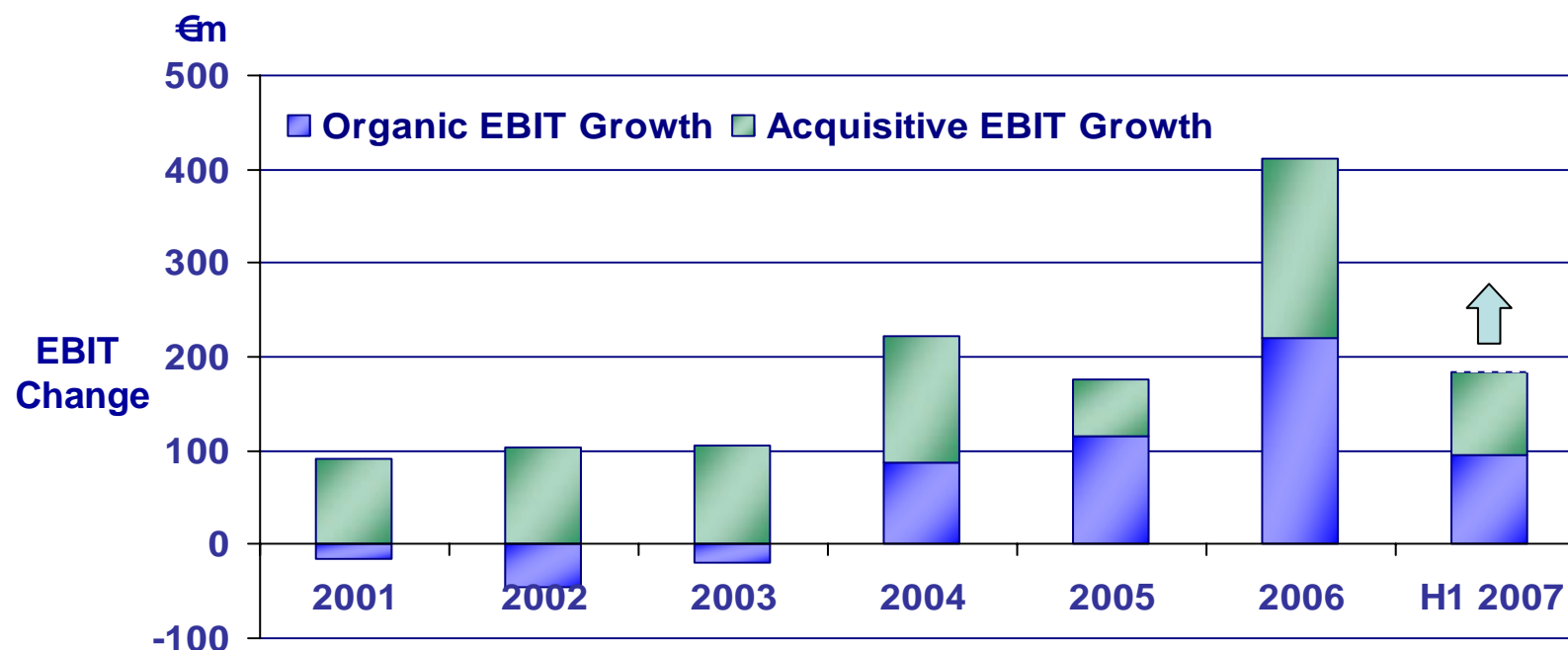


- Ongoing capital investment to maintain low-cost positions
- Value-creating acqs sourced, evaluated & delivered by experienced teams

Generally mid-sized acqs with some larger transactions

'01 – '07 Organic & Acquisitive Growth

Delivering Superior Performance through the Cycle

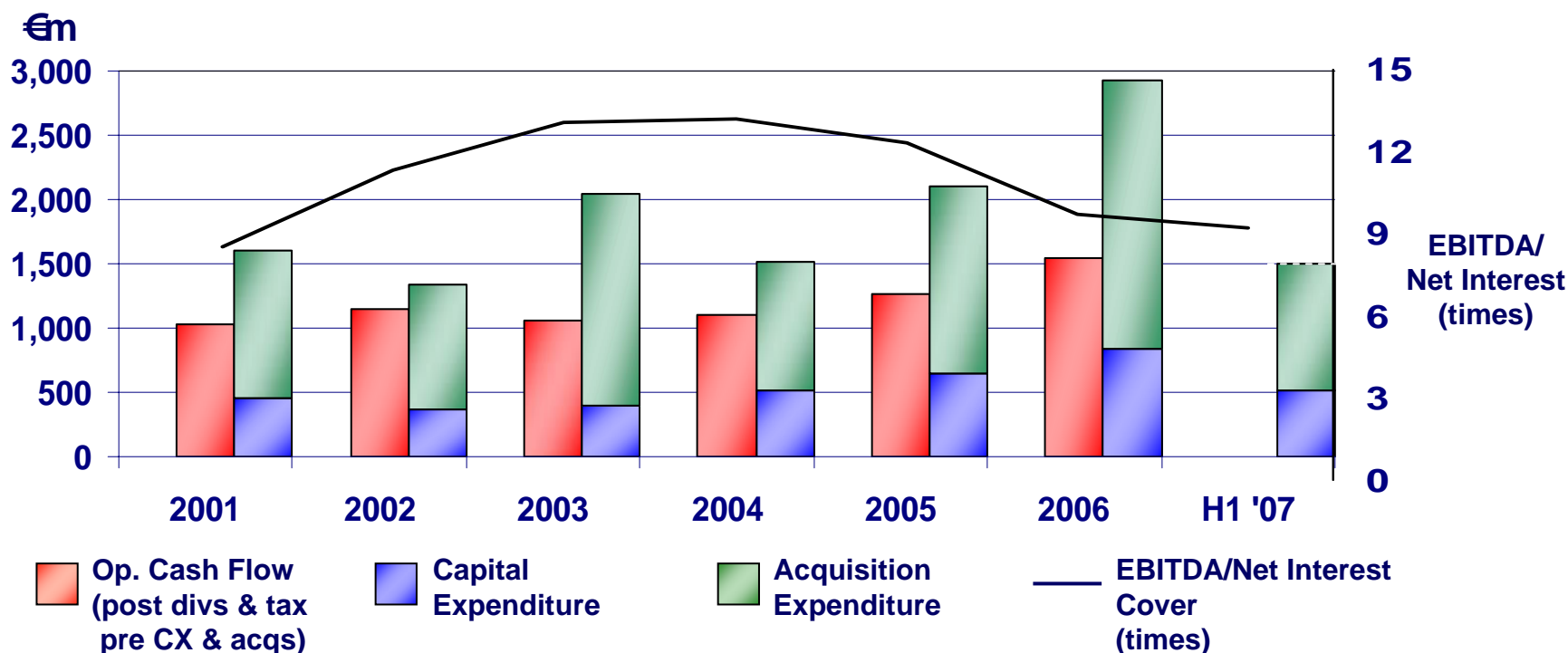


- Ongoing focus on price/cost effectiveness across the operations
- Healthy blend of organic and acquisitive growth

EBIT Growth broadly 1/3rd Organic, 2/3rd Acquisitive

Strong Cash Flow / Interest Cover

EBITDA/Net Interest; the best financial prudence measure



- EBITDA/Net Interest “comfort” level 6x (Bank covenant level 4.5x)
- EBITDA/Net Interest 9.2x for 12 months ended June '07

Committed to optimising balance sheet while maintaining investment grade credit rating

CRH

2006/2007 Development Highlights

Europe Materials

Initial steps into China & Turkey, new regional platforms



- Harbin Sanling Cement
- Acquired 100% Feb 2007
- 0.65m tpa cement capacity



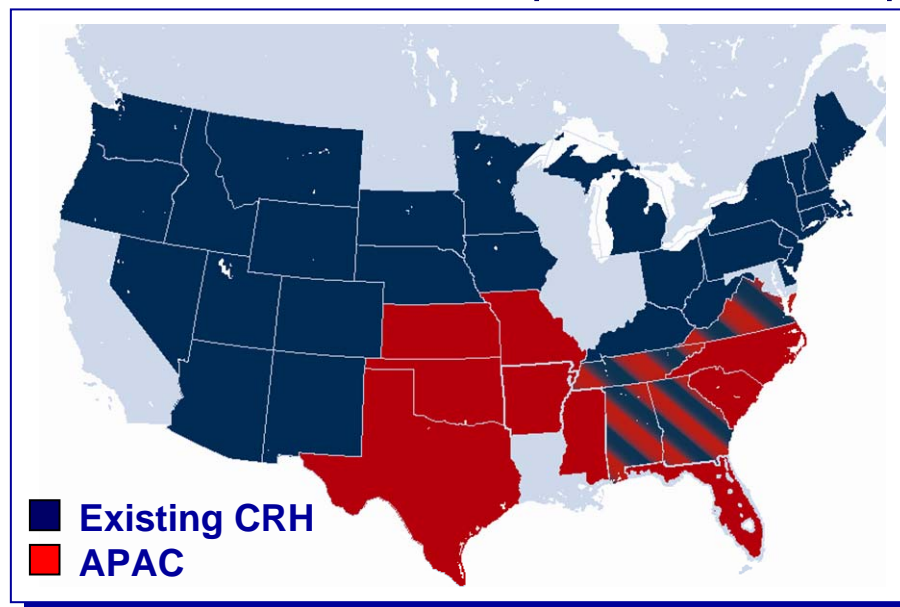
- Denizli Cement
- Acquired 50% April 2007
- 1.8m tpa cement + rmc

Expanding the Cement Platform through Acqs & CX

Americas Materials

New platform in mid-western and southern US

- APAC, Aug '06, significantly increases US aggregates & asphalt positions
- Sales post-disposals \$2.4Bn : 5.8x EBITDA multiple
- Substantial scope for administrative, operational and purchasing synergies



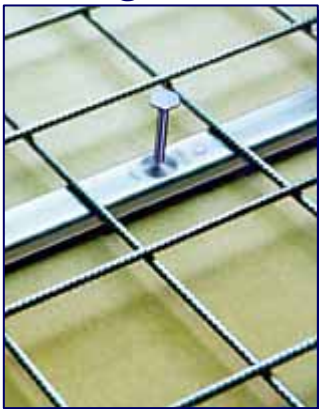
Expanding footprint of largest integrated US Materials business

Europe Products

Doubling of position in Construction Accessories

- Halfen, leading European metal construction accessories producer
- Acquired May 2006 – Sales c. €0.2Bn : 7.7x EBITDA
- CRH now No.1 in Construction Accessories in Europe – Sales €0.4Bn

Anchoring Technology



Façade Systems



Fixing/Framing Systems



Building pan-European positions in Building Products

Americas Products

New platform business & major expansion in Glass



- MMI, April 2006, new US platform
- In sectors familiar in Europe
- CA (20%), WWR (35%), Fencing (45%)
- Sales \$0.7Bn, 7.0x EBITDA multiple



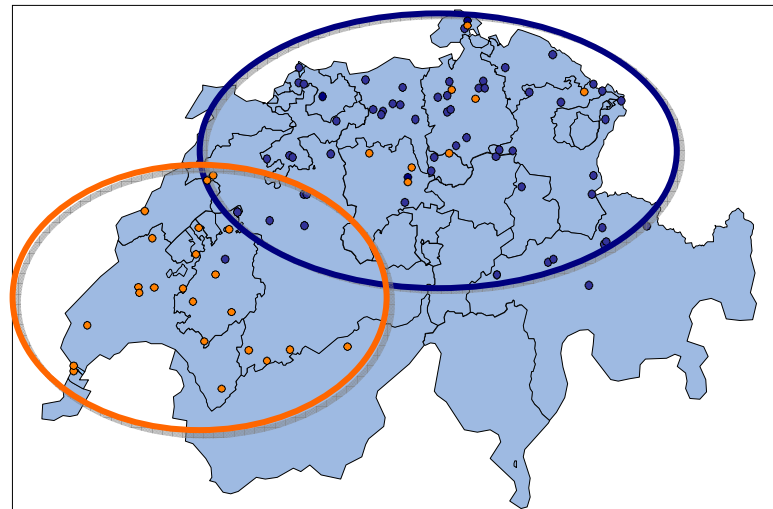
- Vistawall, June 2007
- Architectural glazing systems
- Provides scale and critical mass
- Sales \$0.3Bn, 7.0x EBITDA multiple

Extension into complementary Product Platforms

Europe Distribution

Establishment of leading Builders Merchants position in Switz

- Gétaz Romang, leading BM distributor in French-speaking Switzerland
- Acquired May 2007 – Sales €0.5Bn; 8.2x EBITDA, 7.0x post synergies
- Excellent fit with CRH ops in German-speaking Switzerland



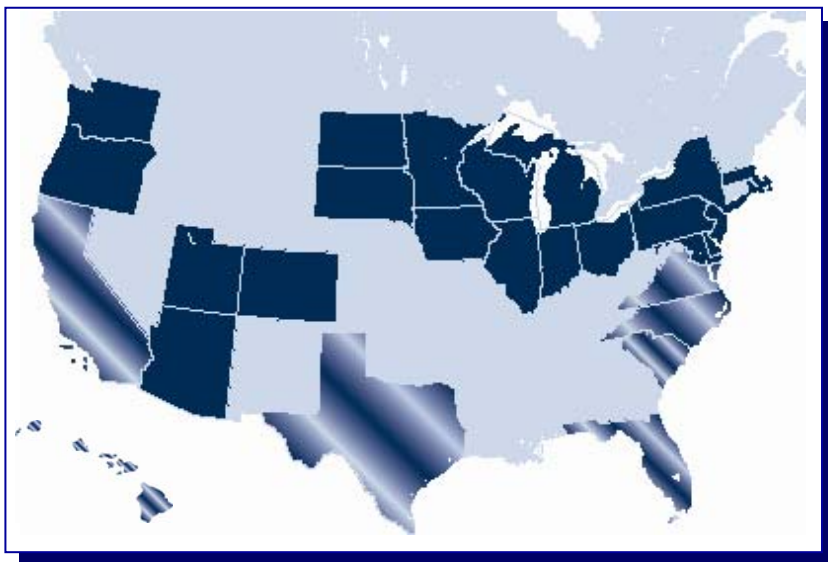
Developing strong positions in mature European markets



Americas Distribution

Strong development momentum

- 8 acquisitions (2006: 6; 2007: 2) added \$0.4Bn Sales
- Adding locations in Florida, Texas, California, Carolina, Hawaii & Virginia
- Mainly focused on Interior Products segments



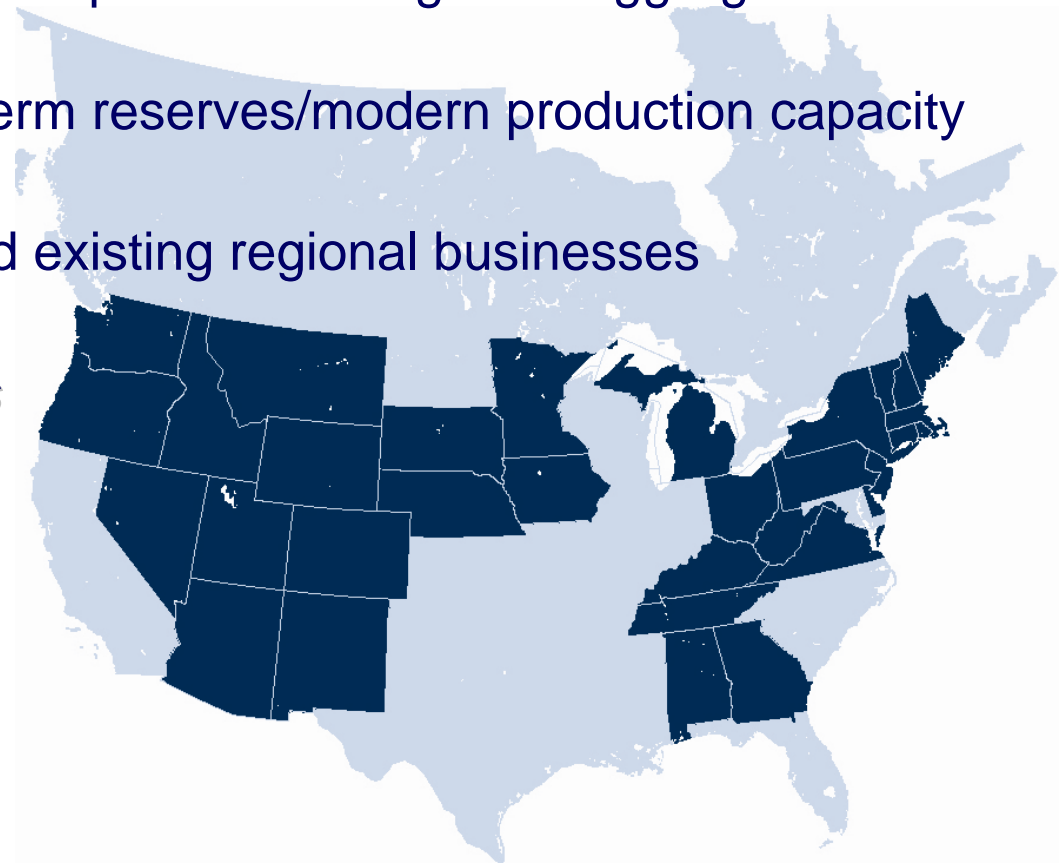
Leveraging Interior Products business line

APAC – Delivering the Promise

Americas Materials

Development Strategy

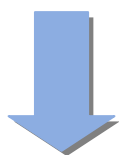
- Leverage strong regional market positions / long-term aggregates reserves
- Ongoing investment in long-term reserves/modern production capacity
- Bolt-on acquisitions to expand existing regional businesses
- ***Seek new growth platforms***



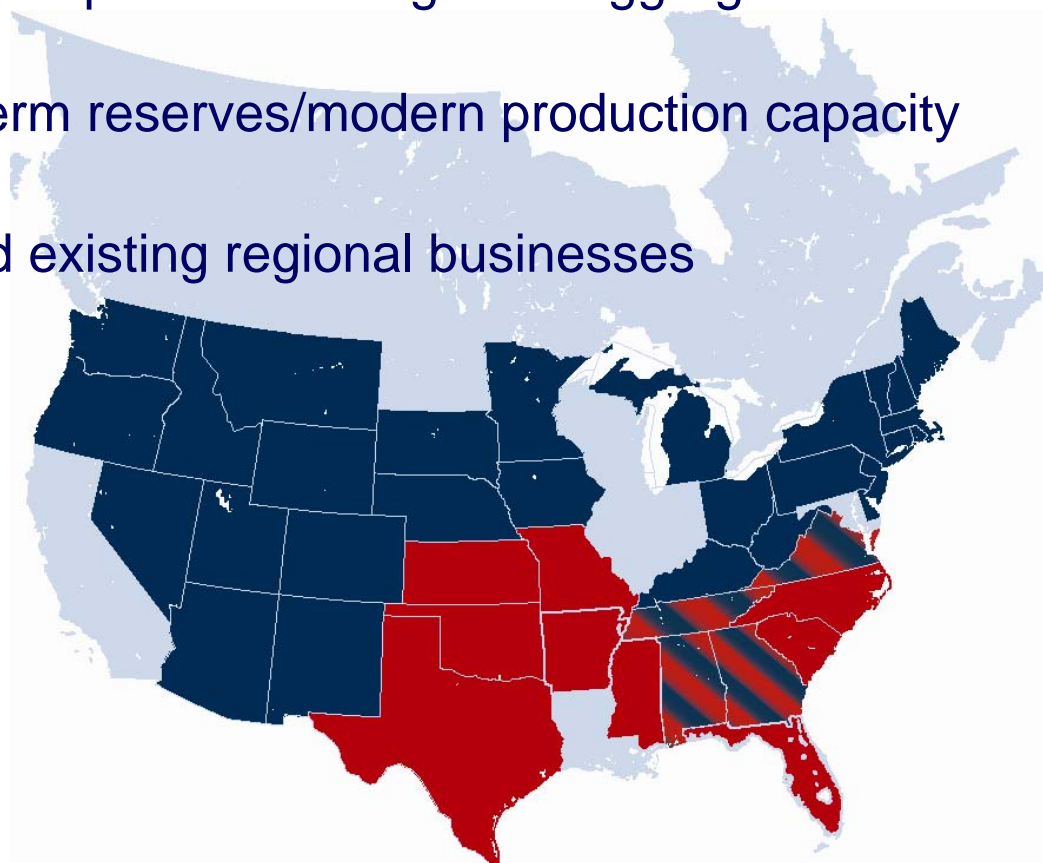
Americas Materials

Development Strategy

- Leverage strong regional market positions / long-term aggregates reserves
- Ongoing investment in long-term reserves/modern production capacity
- Bolt-on acquisitions to expand existing regional businesses
- ***Seek new growth platforms***



APAC



APAC

Enterprise Value \$1.3Bn

- Subsidiary of Ashland; HQ Atlanta; ops in 14 midwest & southern states
- LTM June 2006; Sales \$2.9bn, EBITDA \$220m, multiple 5.9x
- Aggregates: 29.5 m tpa; 1.8 Bn+ tonnes permitted reserves
- Asphalt: 28.1 m tpa
- R/mixed concrete: c0.8 m cmtrs
- Construction: c\$1.7 Bn sales net
- 9,700 employees



APAC

The Opportunities

- Transition emphasis from APAC' s former “**Construction First**” focus to ... CRH's “**Materials First**” approach
- Through selective disposals of contracting / non-integrated units
.... followed over time by aggregates / other downstream bolt-ons
- Implement CRH's aggregates/asphalt pricing model
... and leverage asphalt/energy purchasing arrangements
- Synergies c\$40m within three years to provide margin improvement

APAC

Integration Progress to Date

- Disposal of non-core contracting and asphalt activities
- Conversion to Americas Materials IT system completed by May, 2007
- Substantial reduction in fixed overhead costs
- Significant pricing benefits being realised
- Active participation in Americas Materials *Best Practice Groups*
- Culture of “**Materials First**” beginning to take hold throughout organisation

APAC

Delivering the Promise

	Rolling 12 mths to June 2006	Adjusted 12 mths to June 2006	Forecast 2007
\$m	<i>(EV \$1.3Bn)</i>	<i>(EV \$1.1Bn post disposals)</i>	<i>(EV \$1.1Bn post disposals)</i>
Sales	2,879	2,359	~2,100
EBITDA	220	190	~230
EBIT	114	102	~130
EBITDA Margin	7.6%	8.1%	~11%
EBIT Margin	4.0%	4.3%	~6%

- Significant progress to date in realising synergies
- Poised to progress bolt-on acquisition opportunities

Americas Materials

Largest integrated materials & highway construction company in US

**Post
APAC**

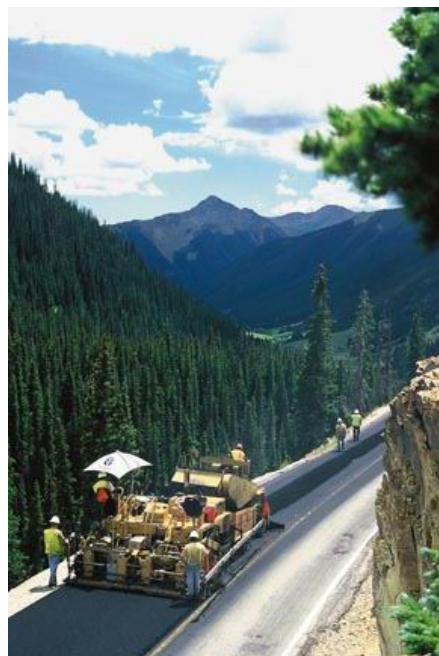
#3 in US Aggregates
(2006: 181 m tonnes)



**Pre
APAC**

#4 in US Aggregates
(2005: 147 m tonnes)

#1 in US Asphalt
(2006: 61 m tonnes)



#1 in US Asphalt
(2005: 37 m tonnes)

Top 10 in Readymix
(2006: 8.4 m cmtrs)



Top 10 in Readymix
(2005: 6.5 m cmtrs)

Summary

Summary

CRH strategy continues to deliver

- Ongoing focus on price / cost effectiveness driving organic performance
- Strong development spend to date in 2007
- Active pipeline of opportunities across all business segments
- Due diligence in progress regarding selective Cemex assets
- Geographic, sectoral and product balance continues to deliver

Performance and Growth

Contact Us

CRH plc
Investor Relations
Belgard Castle
Clondalkin
Dublin 22
Ireland

Phone: + 353 1 404 1000
Fax: + 353 1 404 1007
Email: ir@crh.com
or look up our Website - www.crh.com



FTSE4Good

This presentation contains certain forward-looking statements as defined under US legislation. By their nature, such statements involve uncertainty; as a consequence, actual results and developments may differ from those expressed in or implied by such statements depending on a variety of factors including the specific factors identified in this presentation and other factors discussed in our Annual Report on Form 20-F filed with the SEC.

CRH® is a registered Trade Mark of CRH plc

