

# Earnings Presentation

stl.tech

Earnings Call Q4 FY23

17<sup>th</sup> May 2023

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# Ankit Agarwal

#### **Managing Director**

A believer in purpose-led organizations, Ankit has been leading STL's growth journey as it transforms billions of lives by connecting the world. He holds sustainability very close to his heart and is leading the company's ambitious Net-Zero by 2030 target, from the front.

Ankit is extremely passionate about improvement in health, education and the environment through digital inclusion. Recognized as a 40 under 40 leader, Ankit is a strong supporter of young and entrepreneurial talent. He is a fitness enthusiast, an athlete, and a long-distance runner and encourages his teams and young people to work towards solid all-round growth at work and in life.

### **Delivered on Strategic Priorities in FY23**



Delivered on Strategic **Priorities** 

Progress towards 2 becoming top 3 in Optical

Pivot in Global Services

3

Entry in multi trillion dollar IT Industry

4

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**Financials** continue to improve Corporate Action

6

## **Delivered on outlined strategic priorities in FY23**

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Achieved **Profitable growth in Optical Networking** 



+ 46% YoY Revenue growth

US



from Q2 onwards

#### 12% Mkt share

gained ~3% global ex-China market share

Crossed **Strategic milestones in Optical Networking** 



Added greenfield **OFC** Capacity



**Record Order book** 



#### Technology

Launched industry leading - Multiverse & 180 micron fibre

**Pivoted Services Business** Seeded Digital Business



**Services Business** 

Focus on private customer segment



### **Digital Business**

Seeded with more than 900 consultants

#### Exited Sub scale businesses

Divested at GBP 14 mn. consideration

IDS



#### **Telecom software**

Divested at USD 15 mn. consideration

# $\rightarrow$

#### Wireless Business Exited from from Q4 FY23 onwards

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### Increased disclosures with consistent delivery



#### **Revised Guidance**

- Revenue Growth : 20% to 25% on full year basis
- EBITDA : To reach 15% by Q4 FY23
- Net Debt : < INR 3,200 Cr. by Q4 FY23

#### **FY23 Actuals**

- Revenue Growth : 27% on full year basis
- EBITDA : 15% in Q4 FY23
- Net Debt : INR 3,121 Cr. as of Q4 FY23

### Started **Segment reporting** of ONB, GSB and Digital & Technology businesses

### **Strategic priorities for FY24**





- Increase OFC market share and optical connectivity attach rate
- Optimise raw material & fixed cost

# **O2** Consolidate

### **Global Services**



- Focus on India private
- Build capability for value added services
- Achieve profitability in UK





 Consciously invest in building technology and capability

### On course to become global top 3 in Optical



Delivered on Strategic Priorities Progress towards becoming top 3 in Optical

Pivot in 3 Global Services

Entry in multi trillion dollar IT Industry

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5 Financials 5 continue to improve

Corporate Action

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# Private investment growth moderates, public investment remains strong

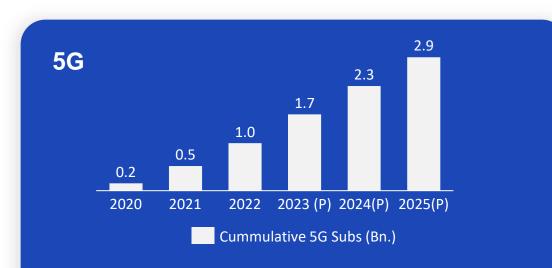
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Telcos	Data centres	Citizen Networks			
<ul> <li>Global Telco spend in telecom equipment set to grow 1% in 2023 despite the decline</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Data centre capex grew by 15% to \$241</li> <li>bn. in 2022</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>US investing \$97 bn. in broadband through RDOF, BEAD (\$42.5bn.), Mid mile</li> </ul>			
in overall capex		program, etc			
	Data centre capex to grow by single digit				
• Telcos to invest \$500 Bn. in 5G from 2022	in 2023	• Europe investing big. UK, \$8 Bn. in			
to 2025		project Gigabit. Germany, \$14 Bn. in			
	ICRA predicts six fold increase in	BVMI. France, \$24 Bn. in Tres haut Debit.			
<ul> <li>AT&amp;T Capex in 2023 is consistent with</li> </ul>	capacity in India in next 6 years. 5,000	Austria, \$2 Bn. in Symmetric Gigabit and			
2022 at \$24 Bn	MW of capacity to be added	Egypt \$32 Bn. in fibre networks			
<ul> <li>RJIO cash Capex in FY23 at INR 336 Bn. vs</li> </ul>	Data centre investments in India	• Indian Govt. planning Bharat net phase 3			
INR 288 Bn. in FY22	expected to surpass \$20 Bn. by 2025	to connect all villages			

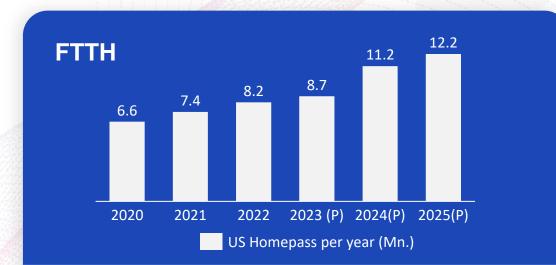
Capex for Telcos & Data centre likely to hit \$647 bn. in 2027 from \$536 bn. currently

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# 5G & FTTH deployments remain strong, 6G & FTTR will emerge in the future



- 235 service providers have launched commercial 5G services globally with 35 standalone 5G networks
- Approx 1Bn. 5G subscriptions as of Dec 2022, expected to reach to 5 Bn. by 2028
- 2.34 Mn. 5G base stations in China, to reach 2.9 Mn. by end of 2023
- Multiple countries started to develop 6G, which aims at substantially higher speeds & lower latency than 5G



- US plans increase home pass every year for the next few years
- UK and Germany also plan to increase home pass in 2023 as compared to 2022
- Chinese telcos have launched Fibre to the room (FTTR) services. In FTTR, the fibre cable network extends to every room in the home, so every room and corner will have gigabit network speed

# First commercial 6G network to be available by 2030

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#### USE CASES

- Precision Healthcare
- Smart Agriculture
- Digital Twins
- Cobots & Robot Navigation

#### **KPI's**

- Minimize TCO
- High data rates (>100 GBPS)
- Low latency (sub millisecond)
- Improved energy efficiency
- High connection density



Seamless communication between Digital, Physical & Human World

#### **CURRENT PROGRESS**

- 2019 FCC, US opened THz for trials
- 2020 China launched first 6G Satellite
- 2021 South Korea published R&D plan
- 2023 India launches Bharat 6G project

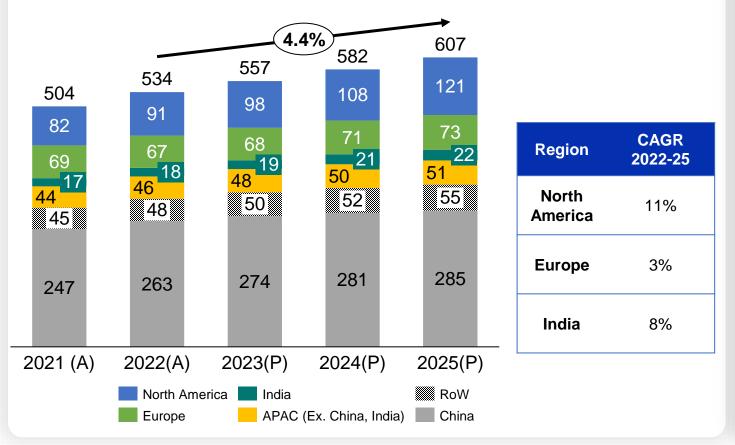
#### **FIBRE BACKBONE**

 For 6G mobile operators will need to use higher frequencies and deploy more wireless nodes. All of these nodes will be connected to fibre

#### China to introduce early 6G applications by 2025 First commercial 6G network would be available by 2030

### Medium term outlook remains healthy





#### **Regional Commentary**

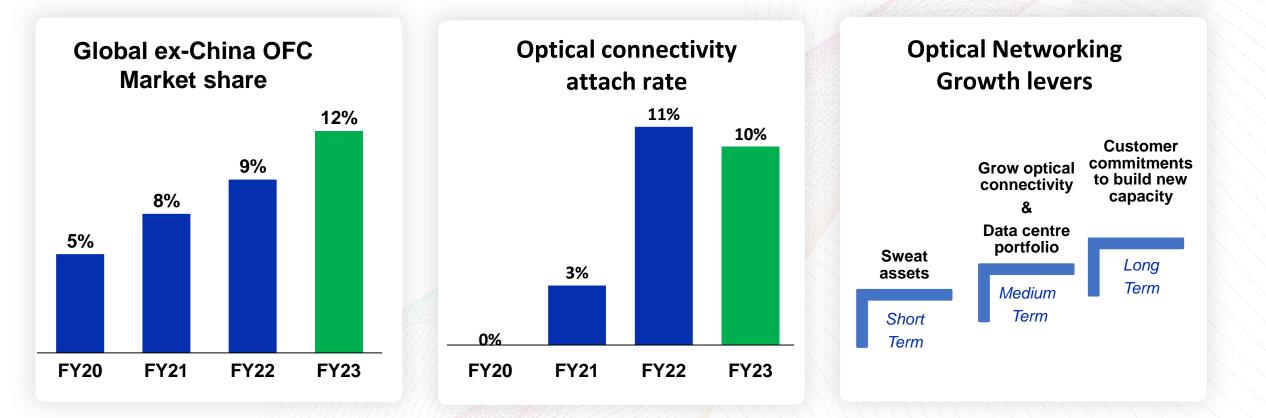
- In North America, inventory build ups in Q4 2022 may delay growth as some carriers will draw down their inventories first before new ordering starts again. The other constraint in North America is shortage of trained labor & therefore need for connectorized solutions
- In Europe, Germany and UK continue the robust FTTH deployments
- Indian market has grown in 2022 however significant impact shall come from Bharat net projects
- There is a delay in the China mobile tender

#### STL shall focus on North America, Europe & Indian markets

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# Continued momentum on global OFC market share and optical connectivity attach rate

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#### Focus on long term contracts with top-tier customers

Market Share = STL Sales Volume / Total Market Demand Total Market Demand - CRU STL Sales Volume - Company Data

# STL continues to scale capacity utilisation in new facilities



#### **Optical Fibre Facility, China**

**Optical Fibre Cable Facility, USA** 

#### **Commercial production starts at US OFC facility in Q1 FY24**

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### Launched "Industry first" new products



STL HD A2

180 Fibre

STL



#### **Multiverse**

India's first **multicore fibre** for 4x capacity for 5G networks and Fibre to the x networks

#### Slimmest fibre & cable

Ko

Developed **slimmest fibre and cable** with 180 micron optical fibre & 288 fibres packed in 6.5 mm cable

STL HD /

ST

STL HD A2

### **R&D** investments leading to 650\* patents till Q4 FY23

# Strong pipeline of new products in optical connectivity



New products commercialisation shall lead to step jump in attach rate

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### Pivot towards private customers in Global Services

Delivered on 1 Strategic Priorities Progress towardsbecoming top 3 inOptical

Pivot in Global Services

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Entry in multi trillion dollar IT Industry

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### 5G deployments in India have picked up pace



#### **5G deployments have picked up pace**

- Airtel launched 5G services in more than 3000 cities / towns; Plan to cover India by March 2024
- Jio launched 5G services in more than 2300 cities / towns; To cover India by end of 2023
- Indian 5G subs have reached more than 50 mn.

#### **Telco fibre deployment going strong**

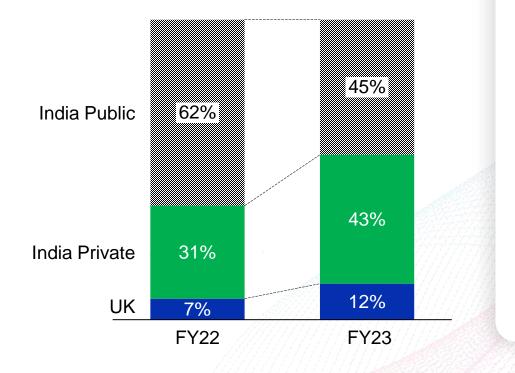
- Telcos are expected to deploy approx. 200,000 cable kms. across National long-distance network, Access network and FTTH roll out in next 18- 24 months
- Telcos expected to spend approx. \$1.5 bn. to \$2.5 bn. for fibre roll out for next 2 to 3 years

#### With 5G deployments in India, Telcos continue to strengthen optical fibre networks

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# Pivot towards better margin projects with low net fund involvement **STU**

#### **Global Services Revenue Split**



#### Target profitable projects with low fund involvement

- **Partnering with leading telcos in India** to deploy 5G networks. STL is one of the preferred partner for Airtel in India
- India private revenue share has gone up from 31% to 43% in FY23 as compared to FY22
- Building capabilities towards value-added services & pivot the business further towards better margin profile projects
- Global Services India has received **CMMI level 5 certification**

Target to reduce absolute **Net Fund Involvement** by the end of FY24

# Achieved operational break even in March'23 in UK operations





#### UK revenue up & operating losses down on QoQ

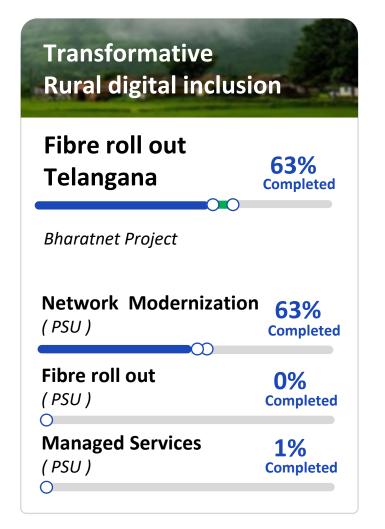
- STL UK has achieved operational break even in the month of Mar'23
- Q4 FY23 revenue has gone up and operating losses have come down on QoQ basis
- Sales engine is focused on increasing share of wallet from existing customers
- Delivery engine continues to improve as our efforts to send trained engineers from India has started to pay off

#### Aiming to be profitable from H1 FY24 in UK operations

### **Project execution on track**

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#### India - Public



#### India - Private

Modern Optical Network

Fibre roll out (Large Indian telco)

Phase - 2
100% Completed

Phase - 3
17% Completed

Fibre roll out
Image Indian telco)

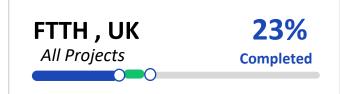
Phase - 2
10% Completed

Fibre roll out
Image Indian telco)

(Modern Optical Network) 42% Completed

#### UK





Progress in current Qtr.

# Entry in multi trillion dollar IT Industry to build Digital business

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Delivered on Strategic Priorities

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Progress towards becoming top 3 in Optical Pivot in Global Services

3

Entry in multi trillion dollar IT Industry

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# Raman Venkatraman

#### CEO, STL Digital

A strong believer in the power of high-performing teams, Raman has ~30 years of experience spanning multiple leadership roles across geographies.

Prior to STL, he was associated with TCS as the Senior VP and Global Head of Hitech and Professional Services vertical and the Global Head of Alliances and Partnerships.

As, CEO of STL Digital, Raman's vision is to deliver unprecedented value and shape the transformation journey of customers. As a leader, Raman focuses on cultivating trust and empowerment in his teams. And lives by his mantra "Failure is success in progress".

# **STL Digital | ENTRY IN IT SERVICES INDUSTRY**

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#### **Industry Tailwinds**

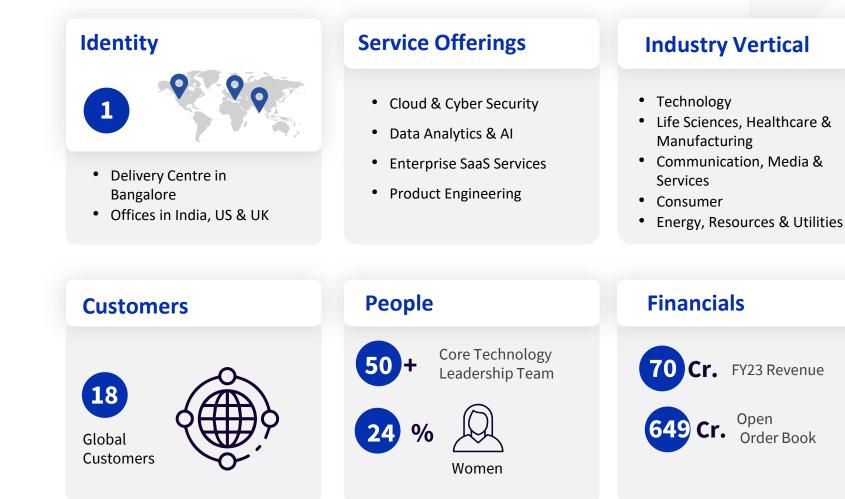
- Global IT spending to exceed \$4 trillion in 2023, growth of single digit over 2022
- Businesses across industries are accelerating their digital transformation journey. Focus on new areas like Data Analytics & AI, Cloud & Cyber Security provide an opportunity for new players to enter the industry

### **STL Capabilities**

- Through our ability to attract the talent, we onboarded experienced leadership to explore the full potential of the business
- Built a core team of Industry thought leaders along with domain experts and technology experts
- Our growth is driven by our Agility & our ability to provide differentiated customer experience to our clients

# **STL Digital | SNAPSHOT**

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# 900+

Consultants

# **STL Digital | DIFFERENTIATORS**

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P&L reaches normalised profitability To Strengthen Balance sheet in FY24



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Financials continue to improve

Time havind !

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Time pariod 2

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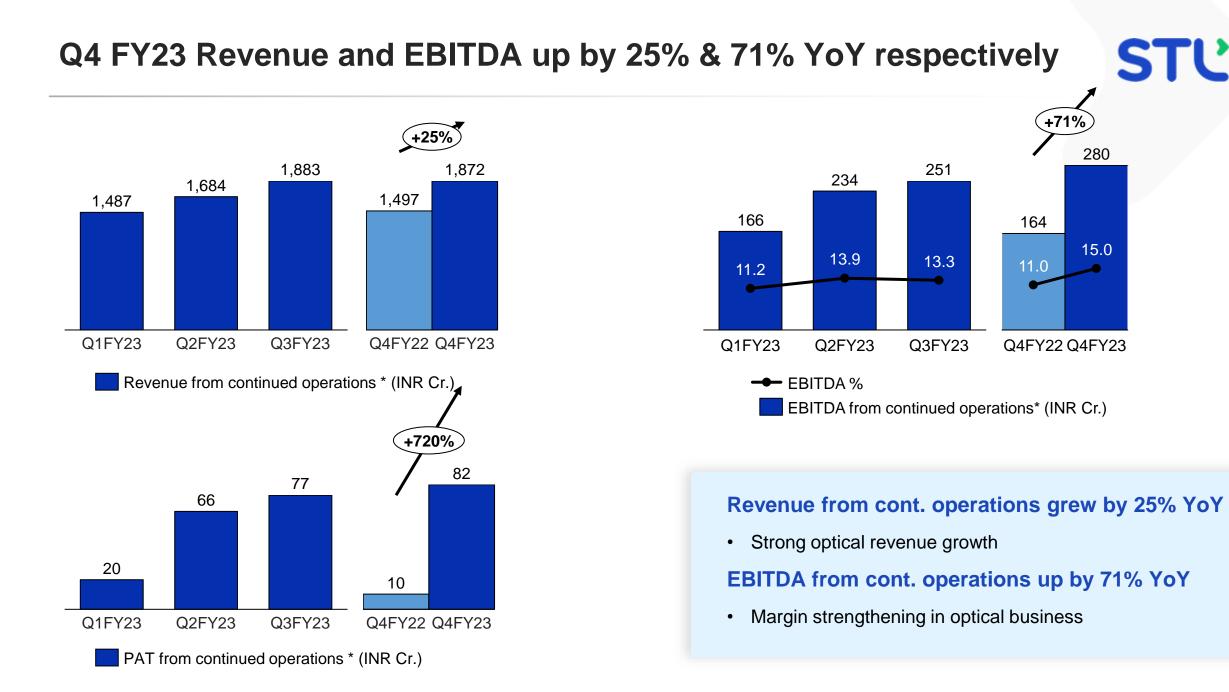
# Tushar Shroff

#### **Group CFO**

Tushar has a rich experience of nearly three decades and is highly focused on building resilient and value-creating organizations. Tushar has deep expertise in the areas of fundraising, capital structuring, merger & acquisition, treasury management, taxation, financial accounting and planning, Investor Relations, and Business partnering. He has served as the Finance committee member of GCCI ( Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry).

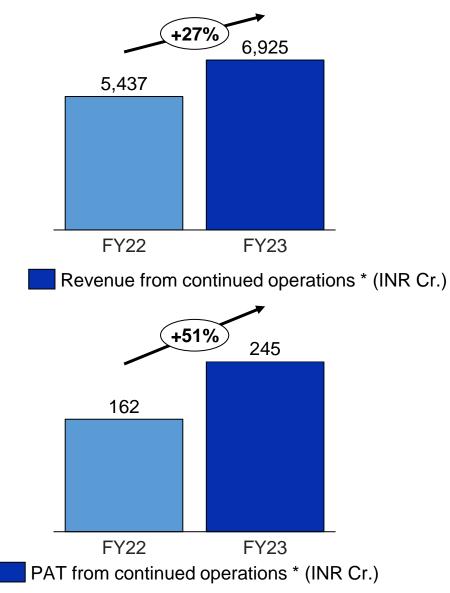
As the Chief Financial Officer at STL, his vision is to bolster the company's strategy to deliver consistent shareholder value and profitable growth.

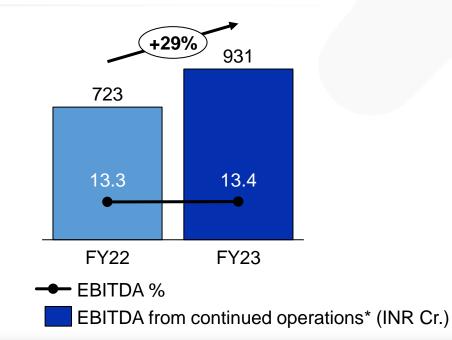
He holds the cause of all-round development and well-being of specially-abled children, close to his heart and actively dedicates his time and energy towards this.



## FY23 Revenue and EBITDA up by 27% & 29% YoY respectively

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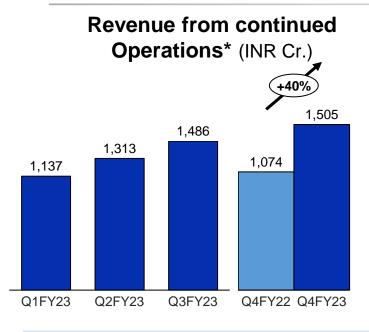
#### Revenue from cont. operations grew by 27% YoY

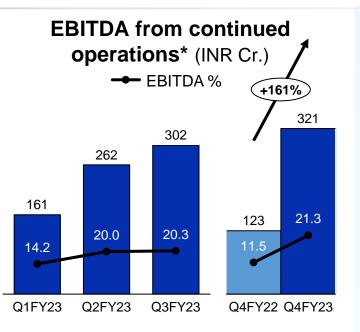
• Strong optical revenue growth

#### EBITDA from cont. operations up by 29% YoY

• Margin strengthening in optical business

# **Grew 46% YoY in Optical Networking business in FY23**





#### Q4 FY23 Revenue up 40% YoY

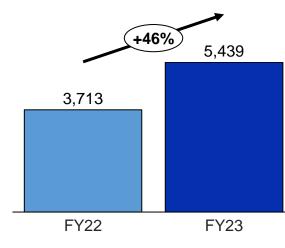
- OFC volume up
- Improved OFC realization

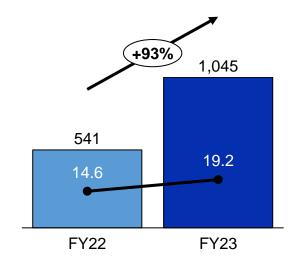
#### Q4 FY23 EBITDA up 161% YoY

Product mix shift towards higher margin products

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• Reduction in logistics cost





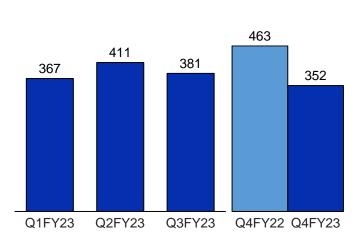
#### FY23 Revenue up 46%

- OFC volume up
- Improved OFC realization

#### FY23 EBITDA up 93%

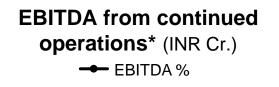
- Product mix shift towards higher margin products
- Increase in optical connectivity
- Operating leverage benefit played out

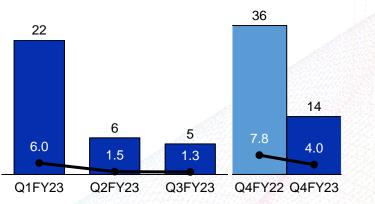
## **Consolidated towards strategic segments in Global Services**



**Revenue from continued** 

**Operations\*** (INR Cr.)





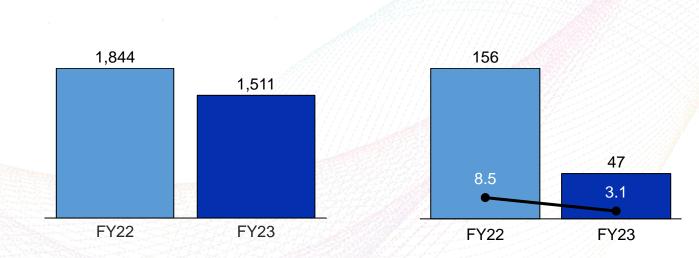
#### Q4 FY23 Revenue at INR 352 Cr.

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Consciously selective order intake & execution

#### Q4 FY23 EBITDA at INR 14 Cr.

Improving profitability from UK operations



#### FY23 Revenue at INR 1,511 Cr.

Consciously selective order intake & execution

#### FY23 EBITDA at INR 47 Cr.

- Prioritizing cash flows in Indian market
- UK business dragged profitability

## Revenue mix is moving to segments and geographies of choice

#### **Customer Segments Geographical Distribution Key Order Wins** Revenues from continued operations Revenues from continued operations Q4 FY23 (INR Cr.) (INR Cr.) 5,437 6,925 6,925 5,437 2% 4% Long distance & Intracity fibre roll 8% 5% out for one of the leading Indian Telco 0.1% 25% 15% Long distance fibre roll out along 0.2% ٠ 44% with optical fibre cables and optical connectivity solutions for one of the leading Indian Telco 35% 91% Multi million-dollar orders with a 77% European telecom player for optical 41% fibre cable 38% Multi million-dollar orders for optical ٠ fibre cable from North America 13% Multi million-dollar orders for optical **FY22 FY23 FY22 FY23** fibre cable & Optical connectivity from **Citizen Networks** Telcos Americas India APAC

Cloud

Defense / Enterprise

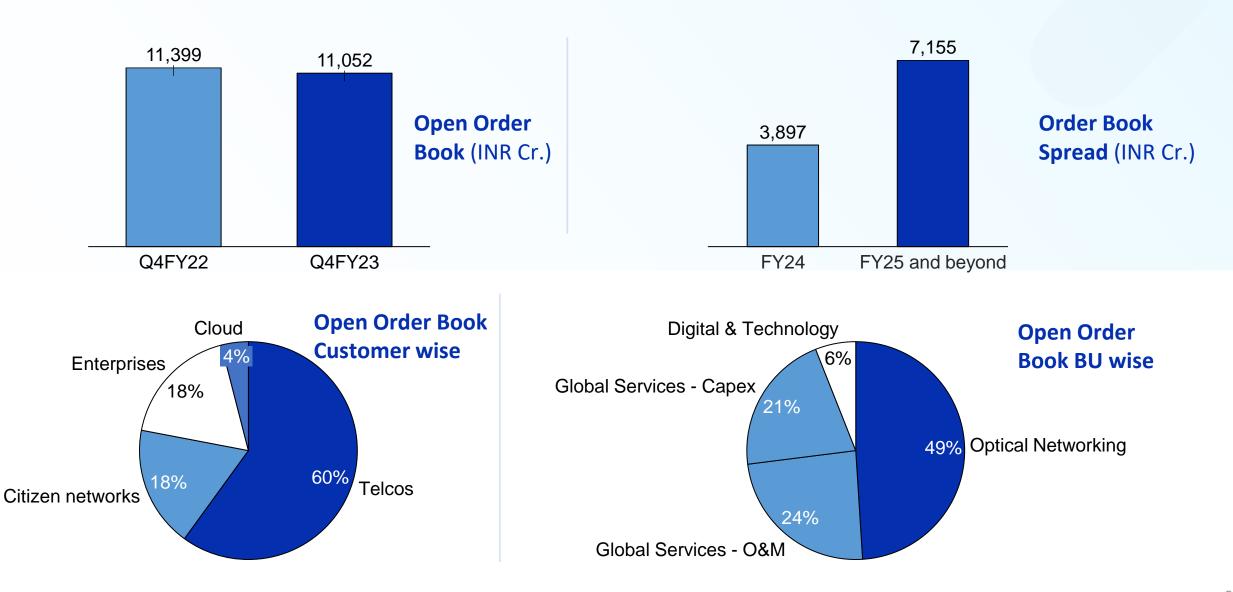
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**EMEA** 

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### Stable order book to execute in FY24







P&L (INR Cr.)	Q4 FY22	Q4 FY23	FY22	FY23	Balance Sheet (INR Cr.)	FY22	H1 FY23	
Revenue	1,497	1,872	5,437	6,925	Net Worth			
EBITDA	164	280	723	931	(incl. minority Interest)	2,047	2,006	
EBITDA %	11.0%	15.0%	13.3%	13.4%	Net Debt	2,782	3,239	3,1
Depreciation	87	78	308	309				
EBIT	78	202	415	622	Total	4,829	5,245	
Interest	68	89	238	311				
<b>PBT from continued operations*</b> (Before share of Associates and JV)	9	113	178	311	Fixed Assets	3,034	3,085	3,0
Exceptional Items	0	0	16	0	Goodwill	270	200	2
Тах	0	34	52	84				
Net Profit from continued operations * (After minority Interest & share of JV )	10	82	162	245	Net Working Capital	1,525	1,959	
Profit (loss) from discontinued operations	(32)	(17)	(102)	(104)		4,829	5,245	5,2
Net Profit	(22)	65	60	141	Total			

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# Summary : Financial Priorities FY24; To revisit periodically



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### **Committed to Net-Zero Emissions by 2030**

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#### Zero Waste to Landfill Certified<sup>1</sup> Zero Liquid Discharge Certified

#### 225,000+ MT

Waste diverted from landfills (FY19 - FY23)

23,000+ tCO<sub>2</sub>e Reduced through energy efficiency initiatives (FY21 - FY23)

**675,000+ m3** of water recycled (FY19 – FY23)



#### Committed to the UN SDGs<sup>2</sup>

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Aligned with 15 of the 17 SDGs

#### 815,000+

Lives benefitted through STL's ed-tech & women empowerment programmes (FY19 - FY 23)

### **2.20 mn.+** Lives benefitted through STL's healthcare programmes (FY19 - FY23)



#### **Strong Internal Governance**

#### Two of the Big Four

as statutory & internal auditors

Executive and Management committees in place

90+ ESG awards won (FY20 – FY23)

#### STL has committed to Science Based Target Initiatives

Source : ESG report for which independent assurance has been provided by DQS (Statement in FY 21 Annual report) <sup>1</sup> Certified by Intertek, a U.S. Quality Assurance provider <sup>2</sup> Cumulative till FY 21, SDG – Sustainable Development Goals 37

## **Corporate Action**



Delivered on Strategic Priorities

Progress towards becoming top 3 in Optical

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Pivot in Global Services

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Entry in multi trillion dollar IT Industry

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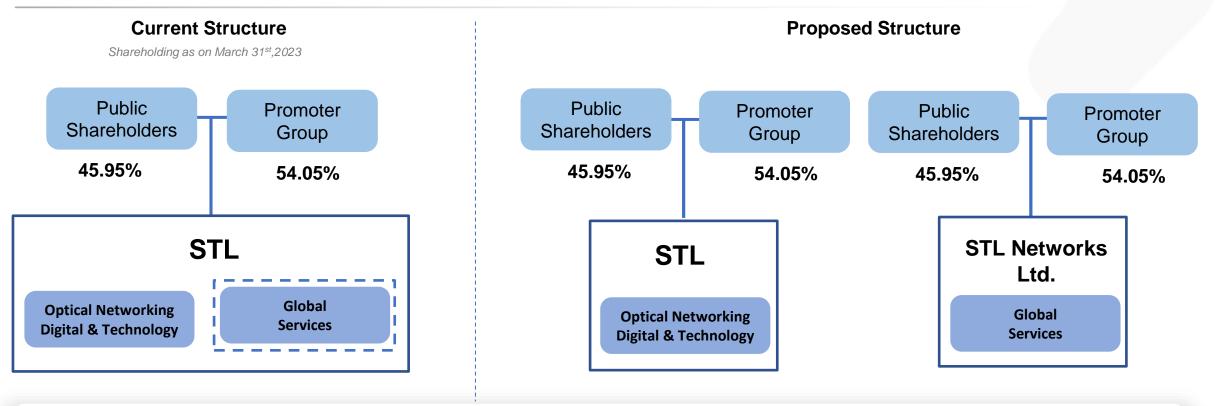
Financials 5

continue to improve



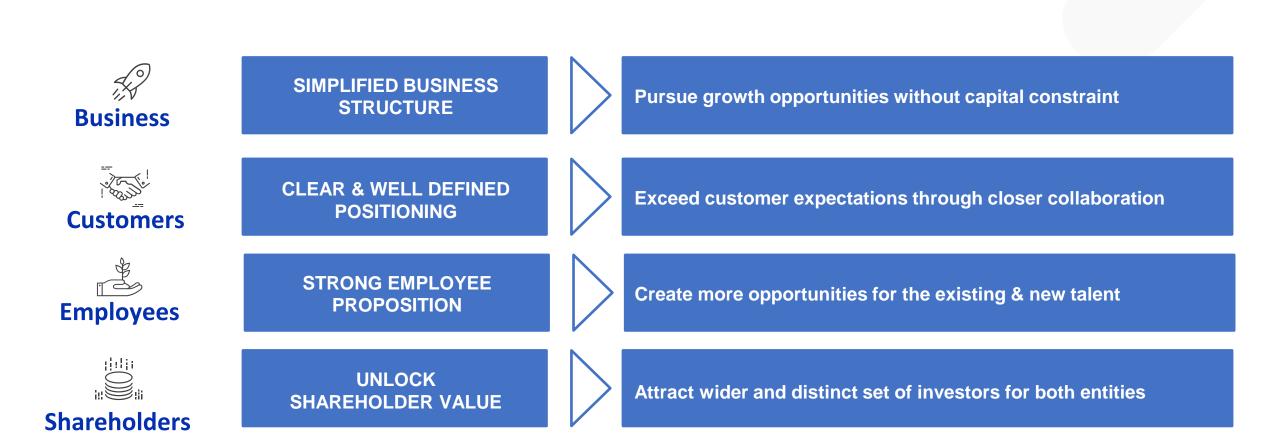
# **Proposed scheme to demerge Global Services business**

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- Global Services Business to be demerged to "STL Networks Limited" (a WOS of STL) on a going concern basis
- Demerger to be taken as a scheme of arrangement U/s 230-232 of companies Act 2013, under supervision of NCLT
- Pursuant to Demerger, STL Networks Limited shareholding will mirror STL and its shares will be publicly listed
- The demerger is intended to meet the requisite conditions under the IT Act to be tax neutral

### **Rationale for Demerger**



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### Summary



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Financials continue to improve Corporate Action

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**Profitable growth in Optical business**: Continue to gain market share in optical fibre cable in our focus markets & Increase optical connectivity attach rate. Continue to optimise cost simultaneously

**Consolidation towards strategic segments in Global services**: Focus on India Private, Move towards value added services with better margin profile & low fund involvement

**Build world class digital businesses**: Consciously invest to grow digital business on QoQ basis. Increase utilisation simultaneously to move towards profitability

**Generate Free cash to reduce net Debt**: Target to generate free cash & reduce net debt to EBITDA to less than 2.5

# Lets answer your queries

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