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# Earnings Presentation

# Earnings Call Q1FY26

25<sup>th</sup> July 2025

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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 and encourages his teams to work towards solid all-round growth at work and in life.

## **Strategic Priorities for FY26**

# STC

Strategic Priorities for FY26

Focus on gaining market share in Optical business

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3 Focus on profitable growth in STL Digital

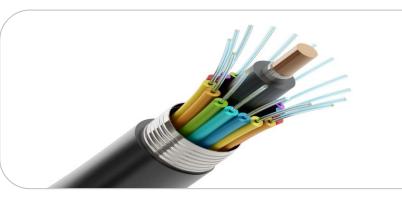


## **Strategic priorities for FY26**



# Grow

# **Optical Networking**



- Increasing OFC market share and optical connectivity attach rate
- Rapidly building data centre product portfolio
- Driving technology & cost leadership

# **Build** STL Digital



- Consciously invest in building technology and domain capability
- Focus on profitable growth

## Transforming lives through social responsibility initiatives





RoboEdge: Empowering students with NextGen skills & focus on Robotics. Covered 11 schools and benefitted 8,000 students

Jeewan Jyoti: Empowering underprivileged women by training them in vocational skills. Benefitted 6,000+ women.



4523 kWp Solar Panels Installed across plants to reduce Carbon Footprint | Afforestation and water replenishment efforts with 53 villages creating 100 water structures, replenishing 2.69 Mn m3 of water in Maharashtra. Planting & maintaining 4+ Lakh saplings.



Swashthya Suraksha: Hybrid healthcare programs across Aurangabad, Gadhchiroli, and Nandurbar districts, impacted >26 Lakh lives.

## Committed to net-zero emissions by 2030 MSCI \* ESG rating at A

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# ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE

#### **Eco-labelled products**

**270,000+ MT** Waste diverted from landfills (FY19 – Q1FY26)

**39,000+ tCO<sub>2</sub>e** Reduced through energy efficiency initiatives (FY21 – Q1FY26)

**10,00,000+ m3** of water recycled (FY19 – Q1FY26) **36.04%** 

Procurement (by value) done locally (FY25)

Collaborated with Hygenco for supply of Green Hydrogen



#### Committed to the UN SDGs<sup>1</sup>

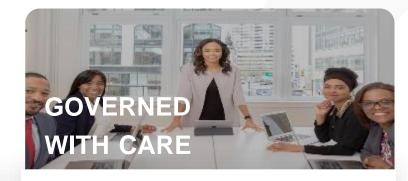
**16** Aligned with 16 of the 17 SDGs

### 912,000+

Lives benefitted through STL's ed-tech & women empowerment programmes (FY19 – Q1FY26)

**2.75 mn+** Lives benefitted through STL's healthcare programmes (FY19 – Q1FY26)

**4,523 kWp** Solar panels installed; reducing carbon footprint



#### Strong internal governance

#### Two of the Big Four

as statutory & internal auditors

Executive and Management committees in place

100+ ESG awards won (FY19 – Q1FY26)

# STL becomes world's first optical manufacturer to be zero liquid discharge certified & zero waste to landfill certified

\* MSCI - Morgan Stanley Capital International © 2024-2025 Sterlite Technologies Limited

# Optical Business; STL's focus on gaining market share

Strategic Priorities for FY26 Focus on gaining market share in Optical business

Focus on profitable growth in STL Digital

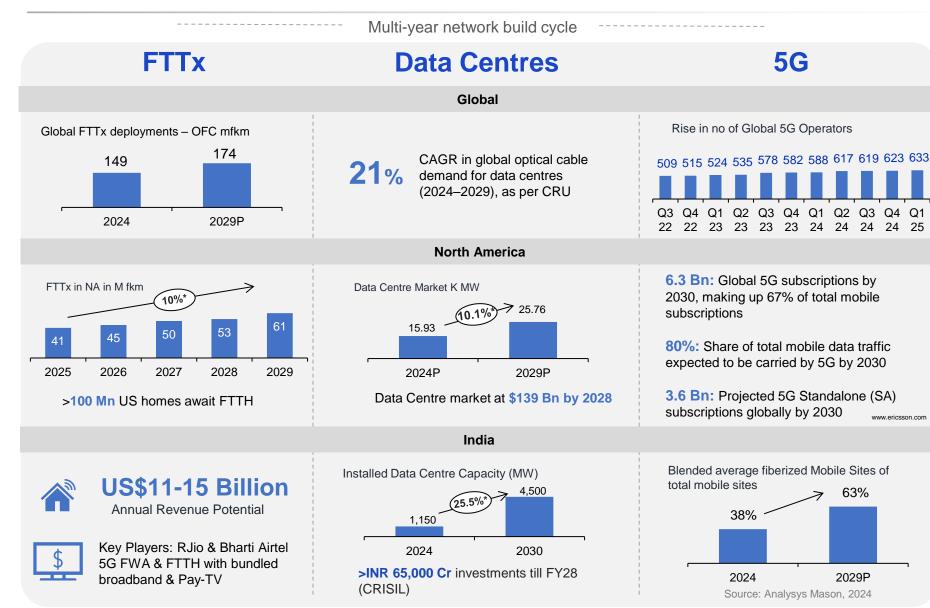
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Robust Financials STC

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## Three investments cycles coinciding





#### Supported by:

- DCs giving rise to long haul fibre deployments for inter DC connectivity
- Big Tech network capex to exceed \$100B (2024–30), rising to 5–10% of total capex (vs. 4–5% historically)

#### **Government programs**

- India's \$2.5B BharatNet Phase 3 outlay—a 238%
   YoY jump—set to boost rural broadband and drive growth for telecom and cable players
- USA Govt Funding of ~\$97
  bn for broadband infra (BEAD program \$42.5 Bn)

Years are Calendar Years ,\* - CAGR, Source: Omdia , FTTH Council Europe, Industry News, Crisil & CRU 9

## Fiber remains the backbone of all digital infrastructure

5G, FTTH, AI-DC all bank on the DNA that is optical fiber

#### "Best broadband technology available today –fiber."

After reaching over 30 Million Fiber Locations ahead of schedule, AT&T has reiterated its goal of reaching approximately 60 million fiber locations by end of 2030.



# *"Fiber networks represent the core of AI critical infrastructure"*

The power of Fiber architectures has become like water in our infrastructure, moving down and upstream carrying gigabytes of data for thousands of applications across media, IoT, logistics, retail, automotive, and mobile



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# "Frontier's assets are a catalyst for fiber expansion and broadband growth!"

"Our fiber build is tracking ahead of plan, and we're positioned to deliver 650,000 incremental passings this year," said Hans Vestberg, CEO of Verizon

# Fiber Demand Surges as AI, Hyperscalers Drive Bandwidth Boom!



Metro fiber demand and long-haul fiber demand are expected to continue to grow by an average of ~20% and ~35%, respectively, year-over-year over the next five years, fueled by AI and digital transformation

# BT has ramped up its full fibre rollout plans after hitting record build and connection highs!

BT has now upped its FY26 build target by 20% to 5 million, keeping it on course to hit 25 million premises passed by the end of 2026.



verizon

# Cloud hyperscalers aren't taking chances on network capacity!

Players like Lumen outlined plans to spend as much as \$4.3 billion on capex in 2025, up from \$3.2 billion in 2024, it's CFO Chris Stansbury said the extra \$1 billion or so will primarily go toward execution of the \$8.5 billion worth of public cloud deals it has signed with hyperscale partners.

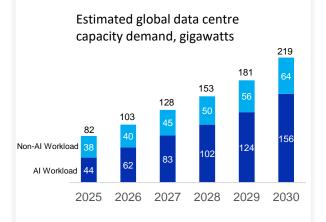


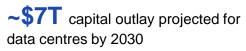


# Al revolution and data centre expansion presenting unprecedented opportunity

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### Opportunity





Global Datacentre Demand could be >3.5X by 2030

**70%** of Demand for AI-specific infrastructure by 2030

India DC Capacity 1,150 MW to 4,500 MW (2024–2030)

### Fibre explosion in DC



Al-Driven Fibre Demand



**36X** more fiber required for GPU-dense vs. CPU racks

**70%** higher fiber density in AI data centres than traditional ones

#### **Investment in Fibre**

**\$2 billion** capex for data centre fibre over a decade

### STL's Al-DC Portfolio

### Make in India for the World



### End to end portfolio for DCs

Right fit for GPU-Dense, High bandwidth, low latency DC requirements

Al-Optimised : Scalable and future ready

#### Enterprise and Data Centre

Achieved 23%

this quarter

Progressing steadily towards achieving significant revenues from Data Centre and Enterprise suit of products in medium term

\*Source- JLL, Mckinsey, Bharatnet.in, Economic Times, Press Releases, STL Analysis

# Global demand poised for modest rebound in 2025, long term outlook remains stable

#### Reflections

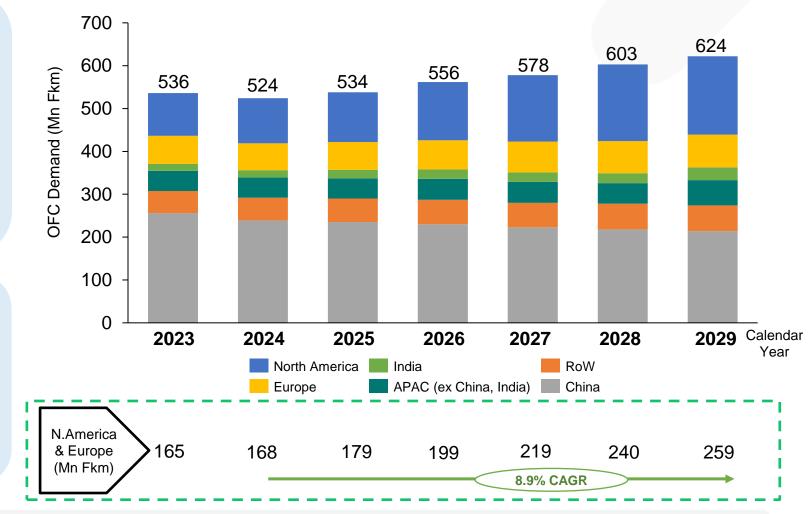
As per CRU;

- Global optical cable demand is expected to return to growth in 2025, rising 1.9% YoY after two years of decline.
- This recovery is primarily driven by robust demand in North America and Europe, fueled by significant investments in FTTx rollouts and the rapid expansion of data centers.

#### **Future Outlook**

As per CRU;

- World demand ex-China is on a positive trajectory, with strong mid-term growth expected.
- North America leads this trend, supported by FTTH rollouts and AI-led data centre investments.
- Select Southeast Asian markets and parts of Europe also show encouraging potential.

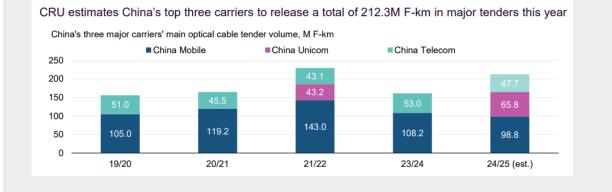


STL's focus markets North America expected to lead demand growth, with CRU projecting a 11.6% CAGR through 2029.

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#### **Stronger-than-Expected China Demand**

China Mobile Tender: 98.8M F-km (vs CRU estimate of 80–85M F-km) China Unicom Tender (recently closed): 68.5M F-km Indicates continued aggressive fibre rollout in China



#### **Key Takeaways**

- Price correction already factored in; reduced downside risk from China pricing
- Tender volumes validates STL's global demand visibility
- Short-term pricing stability, aiding planning and margins
- STL remains geographically diversified, less exposed to direct price competition in China, but global pricing signals matter

#### Order Intake (INR Cr.)



### **Key Strategic Wins**

- Multi-Year Commitment: Signed a 3-year Long-Term Supply Agreement (LTSA) with a leading European telecom operator
- Strong Momentum in North America: Secured significant order inflows from top-tier North American telecom operators

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## **Technology update**

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#### **Key Developments This Quarter**

**DC portfolio -** Launched STL's next-gen Data Centre portfolio to address highperformance, AI-ready infrastructure needs.

**Multicore fibre launch -** Introduced India's first Multicore Fibre, enabling ultra-high-capacity, space-efficient networks for the future.



BABA compliant optical products from Lug-off plant

#### **IP Portfolio**

**740 patents** (filed and granted) **76 new patents** filed in FY'25

#### **Building Next-gen capability**

New Product Laund	ches

#### OFC:

• IBR Portfolio extended to higher fibre count

#### **Optical Connectivity:**

- NanODC compact closure up to 24F Splice capacity added.
- **OptoFit** Pre connectorized drop solution co developed with European customer.

#### **Copper Cable :**

Secured CPR certificates and customer approvals for SIGNAL Copper cables (TRACK CIRCUIT) from large Railway cos in Italy • Recognized by **TEPC (Bharat Telecom 2025)** in the category '**Telecom Products (Hardware** & **Software) – Large Enterprises**' for driving global exports through Make-in-India innovation.

Awards and accolades



 OFC Rakholi, SCB & OC Dadra facilities has been recommended for Social Compliance Recertification (SA 8000:2014) by the certification body Intertek.

• Exceed Occupational Health & Safety Platinum Award 2024





• Al–Fibre Optic Sensing (Sensron) solution sees expanding commercial adoption

#### 'First in the World / India'



India's First Quantum-Secured Network – Breakthrough with Multi-Core Fibre



**Green Hydrogen -** Pioneering Sustainability in the Optical Industry **160 micron fibre** – World's Slimmest Optical Fibre

# STL's newly launched DC portfolio: powering Al-enabled data centres

### **Comprehensive Solution Suite**

- Fiber and copper cabling for data centres, campuses, and smart buildings.
- Pre-terminated multi-fiber systems with LC/MPO connectors for rapid deployment.
- Celesta<sup>™</sup> high-density IBR technology ensures low-latency and scalable deployments.

### **Built for AI & Hyperscale Demands**

- Engineered to handle the high density, low latency, and sustainability requirements of modern AI workloads.
- Fully compliant with global standards (ANSI/TIA-942, ISO 11801) for assured performance.

#### Future-Ready Manufacturing Platform

Backed by over 30 years of optical leadership, STL's products are manufactured and tested in-house, ensuring future-ready designs and a 25-year performance warranty.

### Strategic GTM Partnership

Exclusive distribution through '**Tech Data India,**' a TD SYNNEX subsidiary, providing market reach across 70+ Indian cities and facilitating STL's expansion through robust supply chain and financing.

"The future of data centres lies in architectures that balance scale, speed, and sustainability,"

- Rahul Puri, CEO, Optical Networking Business, STL



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# Multi-Core Fibre: Innovation for Quantum-Safe, Multi-Terabit Networks



### Secure More. Transmit More

Multi-Core Fibre for Quantum-Safe Networks

- Multi-Core Fibre (MCF) contains multiple independent data cores within a single optical fibre strand.
- Enables 4x-7x higher data capacity compared to standard single-core fibre.
- Maintains the same physical size, resulting in space efficiency.

Press Release

- Reduces deployment and infrastructure costs.
- Ideal for Al-driven data centres, long-haul 5G networks, and high-performance interconnects.

#### **Proof of Capability**

First globally to deploy MCF in both aerial & underground networks. Now leading global standards in MCF design and testing.



#### मी-डॉट India's First QKD over MCF

- STL + C-DOT: quantum + high-speed data ٠ on same fibre
- 100 km real-world transmission
- Validates security, isolation, and ٠ performance



#### India's First MCF Testbed

- 5+ km live testbed @ IIT Madras
- Underground + aerial deployment
- Open for R&D STL as ecosystem enabler

#### **Applications**



**Data Centres** 

**Banking & Financial Systems** 

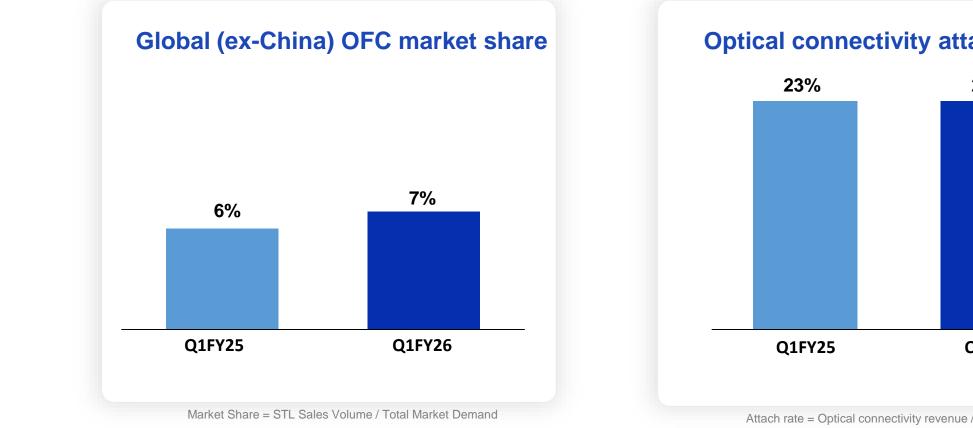




#### Government & Defense Telecom Operators 17

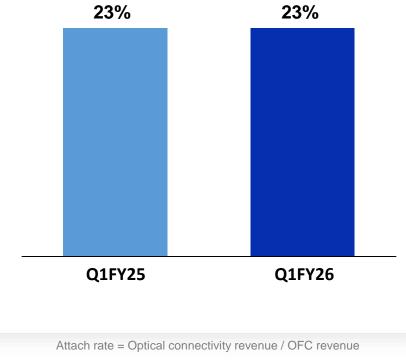
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## Market share and optical connectivity attach rate



### Stable OFC market share. Focus on growing the market share

#### **Optical connectivity attach rate**



Continued Strength in Attach Rate

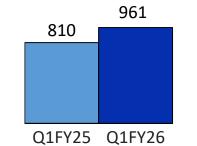
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# **Optical Networking Business financial highlights**

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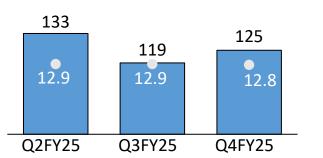


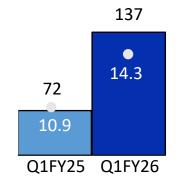




#### EBITDA\* (INR Cr.)

EBITDA %





### Q1 FY26 revenue at INR 961 Cr.

 Improved volumes and revenues on YoY basis

### Q1 FY26 EBITDA margin at 14.3%

 Improved EBITDA margins on YoY basis

### Well positioned to grow the Optical Networking Business



# Focus on growth in STL Digital

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Strategic 1 Priorities for FY26

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Focus on gaining market share in Optical business

Focus on profitable growth in STL Digital

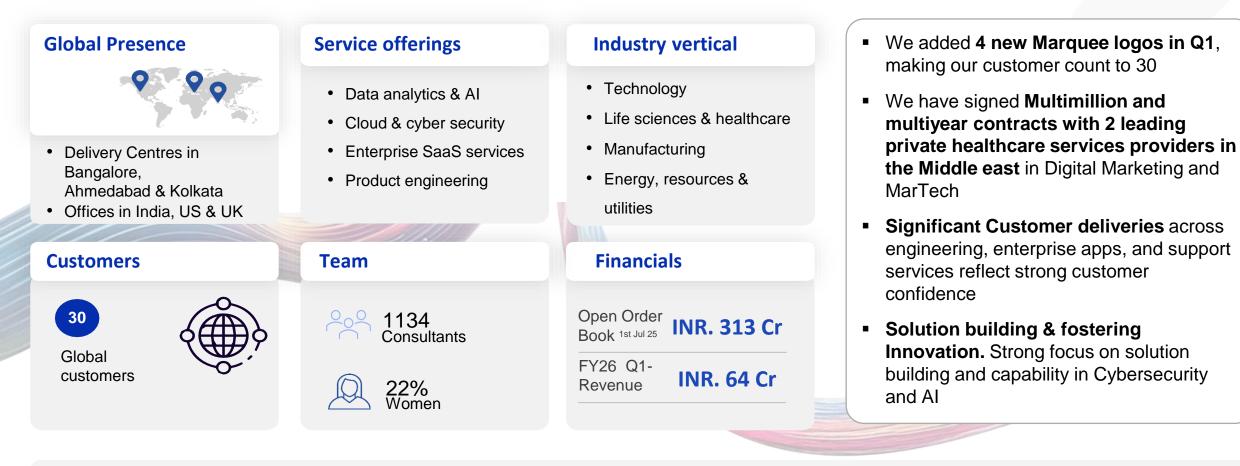
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Robust Financials

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# **Continued growth momentum in STL Digital**

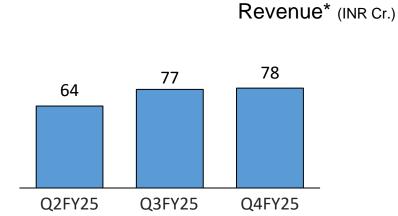
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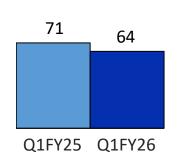


#### Well poised to grow with strong focus on Customer Centricity and Innovation

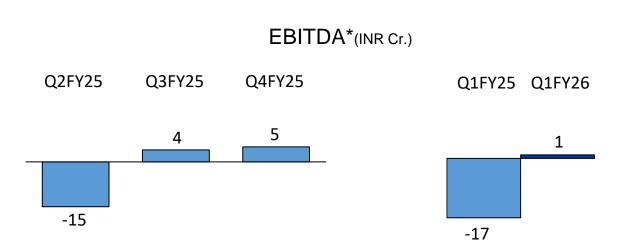
# **Digital business financial highlights**











Q1 FY26 Revenue at INR 64 Cr.

#### Q1 FY26 EBITDA at INR 1 Cr.

• Sustained profitable growth, delivering consecutive EBITDA-positive quarters



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# Ajay Jhanjhari

#### **CFO- Optical Networking Business**

Ajay is Chartered Accountant and has a rich experience of nearly 15 years bring a deep expertise in the areas of fundraising, capital allocation, merger & acquisition, treasury management, and Business partnering.

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 joined STL as a Management Trainee and has held various leadership positions within the company before becoming CFO for Optical Networking Business last year.

# Focus on maintaining operating profitability & reducing debt

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Strategic 1 Priorities for FY26

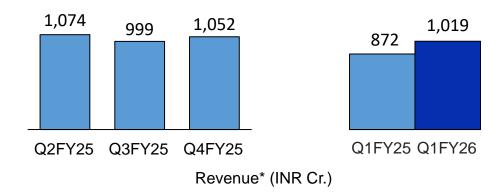
Focus on gaining market share in Optical business

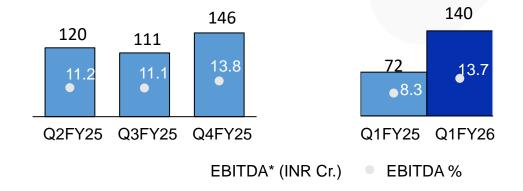
3 Focus on profitable growth in STL Digital

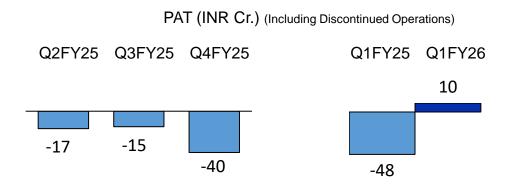


## **STL** financial highlights

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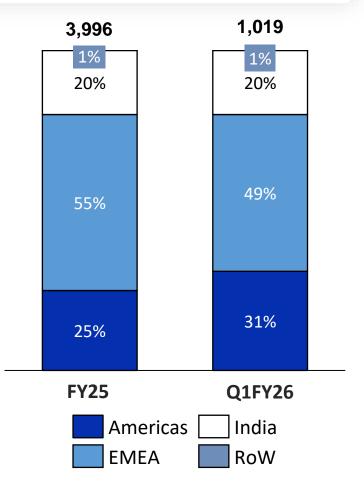


## **Diversified revenue mix**

#### Large order wins in Q1 FY26

- Signed a 3-year Long-Term Supply Agreement (LTSA) of IBR cables with a leading European telecom operator
- Witnessed strong order inflows in ONB top-tier North American telecom operators
- Secured multi-million, multi-year contracts in Digital with two leading private healthcare providers in the Middle East for Digital Marketing and MarTech services
- Executed key project deliveries across engineering, enterprise applications, and support services, reflecting strong customer confidence

#### Geographical distribution Revenues\* (INR Cr.)



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## **Order book highlights**

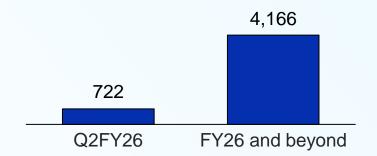
Q4FY25



**Open order book** (INR Cr.) 4,378 4,888

Q1FY26

Order book spread (INR Cr.)



## **Consolidated financials: Abridged version**

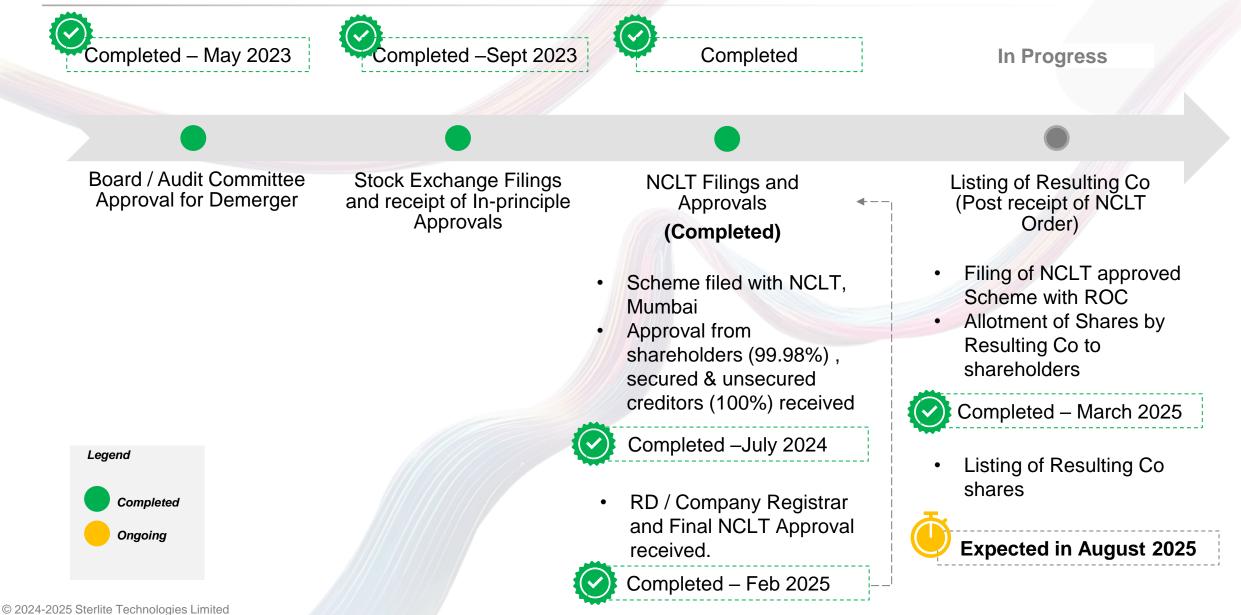
P&L (INR Cr.)	Q4 FY25	Q1 FY25	Q1 FY26	
Revenue*	1,052	872	1,019	
EBITDA*	146	72	140	
EBITDA %	13.9%	8.3%	13.7%	
Depreciation	79	78	77	
EBIT*	67	-6	63	
Finance Costs	65	56	50	
Exceptional Items	0	0	0	
<b>PBT*</b> (Before share of Associates and JV)	2	-62	13	
Тах	-3	-14	3	
<b>Net Profit*</b> (After minority Interest & share of JV )	5	-48	10	
Profit (loss) from discontinued operations	-45	0	-0	
Net Profit	-40	-48	10	

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#### **Key Updates**

- Net Debt stands at 1,300 Cr at Q1FY26
- Net Debt to Equity ratio stands at 0.64 at Q1FY26
- Net Debt to EBITDA stands at 2.3x at Q1FY26

# Global Services demerger status: Completed; Listing expected in **Q2 FY26**



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## **Summary focus areas**

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#### **Optical Business**

- Increase sales in focused markets
- Increase optical connectivity growth and attach rate
- Rapidly growing data centre business

#### **Digital Business**

Continue to grow revenue with focus on profitability

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# Lets answer your queries!



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