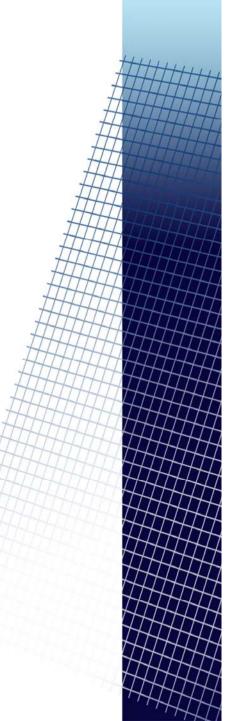
#### **The Carphone Warehouse**

Building a sustainable growth business

14 April 2005

¿Carphone Warehouse



#### Agenda

- 09.00 09.50 Q4 trading, market outlook and strategy
- 09.50 10.30 Distribution and Mobile Services
- 10.30 10.45 Break
- 10.45 11.30 Fixed Line
- 11.30 12.15 FY06 guidance and IFRS
- 12.15 12.45 Closing remarks and Q&A

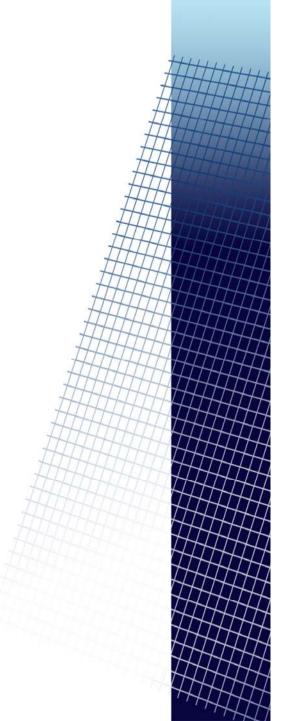


## Introduction

Hans Roger Snook

#### Chairman

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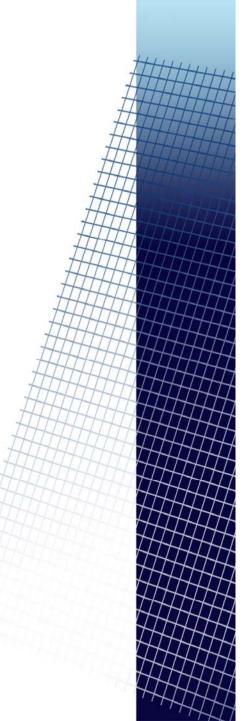


## Market environment and strategy

**Charles Dunstone** 

CEO

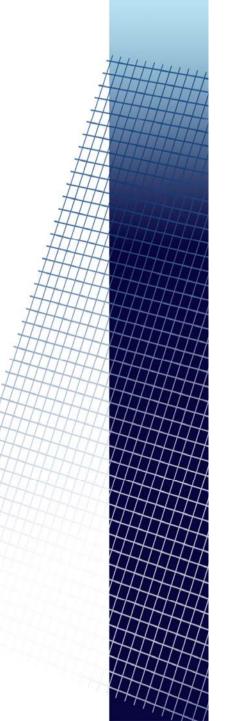




### **Structure**

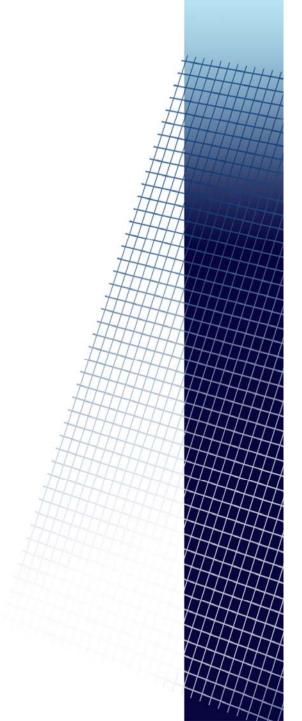
- Q4 update
- Market environment
- Our strengths
- Our agenda





## **Market environment**

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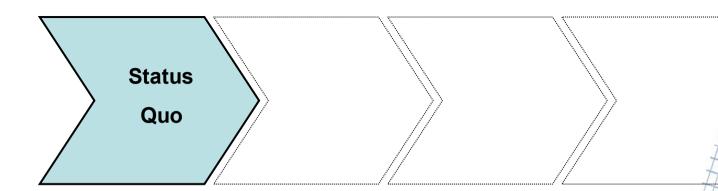


## **Q4 highlights**

- Connections up 16.6% to 1.68m
- Subscription connections up 9.9% to 0.73m
- Insurance base up 24.3% year-on-year to 1.65m
- TalkTalk UK base up to 920,000
- Full year pre-tax profit expected to be at the upper end of market expectations



Stage 1: Status Quo

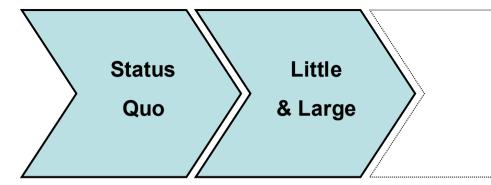


- Description: few players, little meaningful competition
- Countries: France, Ireland
- Catalysts for change: new entrants, regulatory intervention

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Stage 2: Little & Large

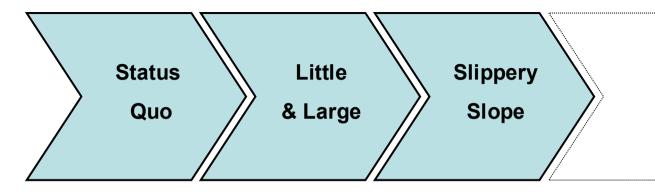


- Description: few players but with material market share imbalances
- Countries: Belgium, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland
- Catalysts for change: smaller players become more aggressive; retaliation by market leaders

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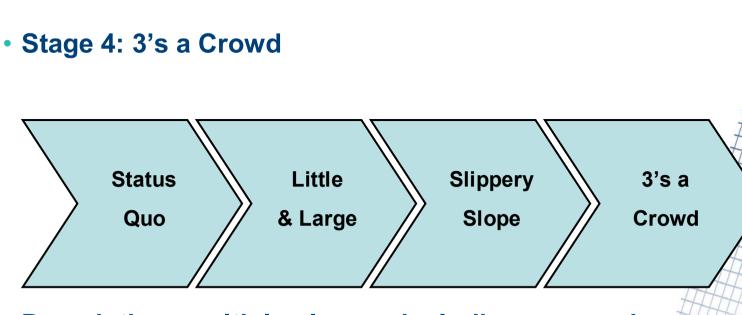


Stage 3: Slippery Slope



- Description: multiple players, including MVNOs
- Countries: now Netherlands; soon Ireland
- Catalysts for change: More of the same





...But they are all heading the same way

- Description: multiple players, including aggressive new entrants and MVNOs; most networks have launched 3G
- Countries: Sweden, UK
- Catalysts for change: ?



## Did you know which model of handset you wanted before you came to the store?



- Increased number of suppliers has diminished loyalty to particular manufacturers
- Customers have basic awareness of products but need assistance to make final choice
- Stores still play key role on influence of which model is chosen

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## Did you know which network you wanted before you came to the store?



- Pricing key motivator of choice
- Promotional offers are a significant influence
- Availability of a wide range of handsets is critical
- No talk of network features or Data Services

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# What do you think are the principal differences between the networks?



- Perceived lack of differentiation
  between operators
- Coverage perceived as equivalent
- Pricing significant differentiator
- Inclusive cross-network minutes have reduced loyalty for families or friends all to be on the same network



## How regularly do you change your handset?



- Increasing awareness of 'right' to change handset annually
- Influenced by faster product life cycles and pricing competition between the networks

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## What influenced your purchase more, the handset or the network?



- Handset more important influence than network
- Networks with widest range of handsets invariably win
- Increased fashionability of product is a key driver
- Customers generally have higher awareness of handset features over network features

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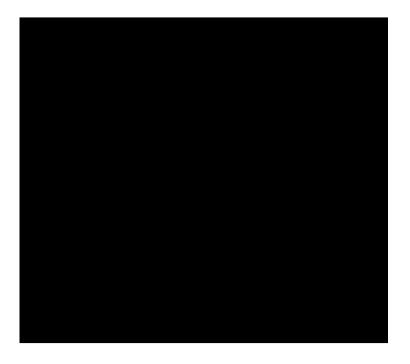
# Are you aware of what 3G is, and what it gives you in addition to normal phones?



- Awareness low on 3G
- Ideas of quality are mixed
- Principally regarded as cheaper than 2G

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## Can you see yourself making video calls with your phone?



- Video calls were the only 3G feature we could get people to name
- Attitudes towards demand for the service were mixed and people have trouble imagining how they would use it

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## Conclusions

#### **Customers**

- Educated
- Cynical about market practices
- Aware of breadth of choice
- Not yet excited about 3G

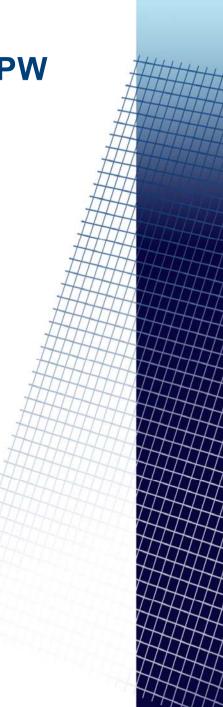
#### Market

- Increasingly fragmented
- Failing to differentiate
- Failing to innovate in the eyes of customers



## How these mobile market conditions suit CPW

- Increasing network fragmentation
  - Greater choice
  - More competition for customers
  - Growing need for impartial advice
- Increasing handset market innovation
  - Greater choice
  - More product complexity
  - Acceleration of replacement cycle
- 3G
  - Will need to be sold; will not be requested



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### **Fixed line market**

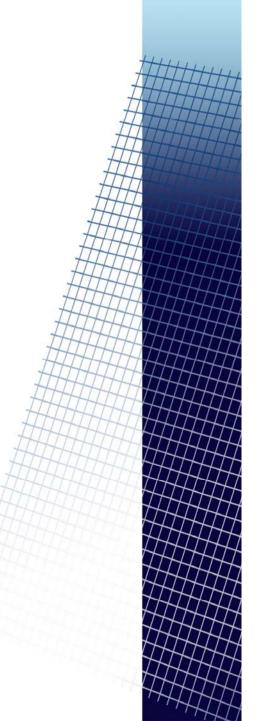
- Entering a crucial period of regulatory change
  - Telecoms market review equivalence
  - Local access pricing impact on WLR and LLU
- BT still the dominant player
- Broadband becoming a key growth market
- Inevitable move towards broadband and bundled services

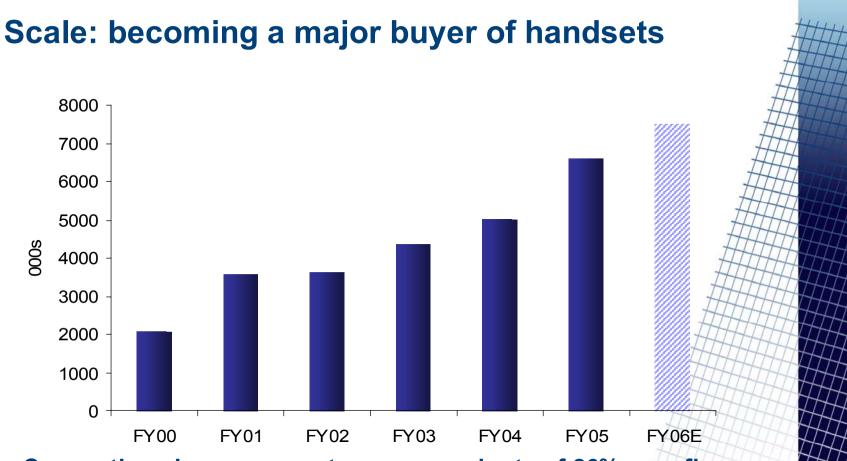
## How these fixed line market conditions suit CPW

- We own a network and therefore retain all of the margin
- We have the cheapest customer recruitment channel
- We have a strong and trusted telecoms brand
- We have experience in billing and managing millions of customers
- We remain small, nimble and entrepreneurial...
- ...but we will soon be the largest CPS provider in the UK

## **Our strengths**

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- Connections have grown at a compound rate of 26% over five years
- This has a significant impact on our purchasing power and ranks us very highly as a buyer of handsets in Europe

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## **Proposition**



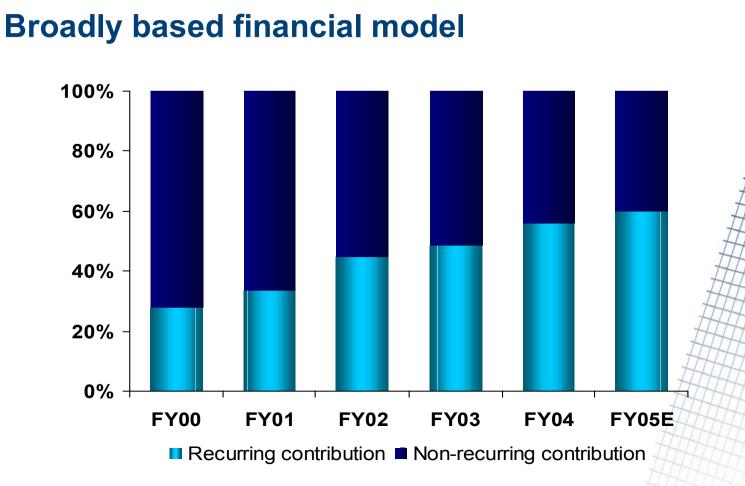
Business Excellence Award Innovative Employer Award



Best Large Retailer for 11<sup>th</sup> year running: "Carphone continually moves the goalposts for the other large retailers"



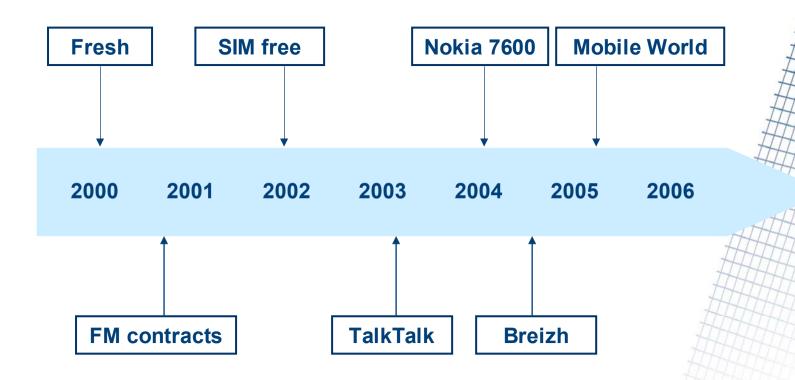
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 Strong underlying earnings visibility and recurring customer contact give us confidence to invest in new services

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## **Entrepreneurial approach**



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### **Physical presence**





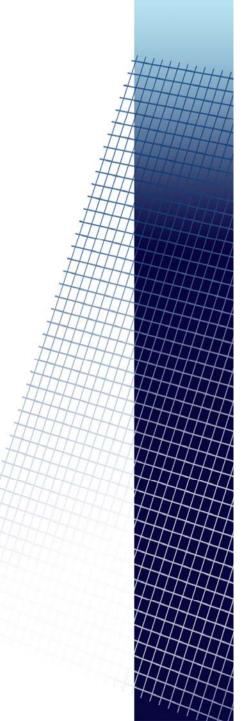
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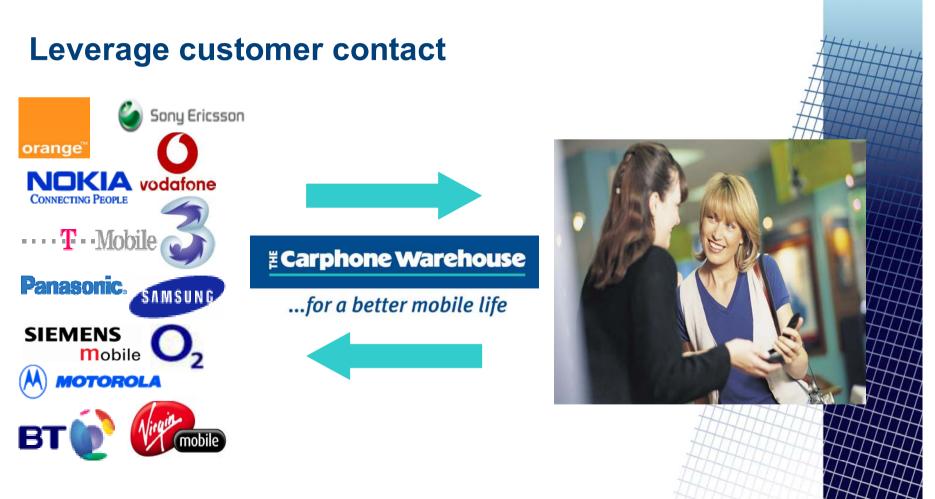
## Our agenda

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#### **Increase scale**

- Into second year of major expansion programme
- New stores and new channels
  - Online
  - Franchise
- Extend distance between us and our competitors
  - Continue to set the benchmark in pricing and proposition



• We are focused on becoming *the* route to customers for networks and manufacturers AND *the* route to the market for mobile customers

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## Leverage network relationships

- 'Smart' MVNOs
  - Fresh, Breizh, Mobile World
- FM deals/customer management
- Better terms than our competitors
- Exclusives



## Leverage buying scale

- Direct sourcing
  - Broader range than networks
  - Better visibility or our own economics
- Pricing
  - Now the number 3 buyer of handsets across Europe
- Exclusives
  - Nokia 1100, 7600, 6630

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## TalkTalk: taking it to the next level

- Our next customer target is longer term
  - 2m customers by March 2008
  - 10% market share
- How do we get there?
  - Investing in the brand: marketing, innovation, customer service
  - Offering new or improved services: broadband, line rental, mobile convergence
  - Consolidation opportunities will arise



#### **Broadband**

- A key growth market
- Initial success in selling despite no promotional support
- Important in the future as we move towards bundled services
  - Strengthens profitable voice relationship
  - Need to make IP Stream work for us
  - Returns should improve with scale and investment (LLU)
- European DSL strategy



#### **Line rental**

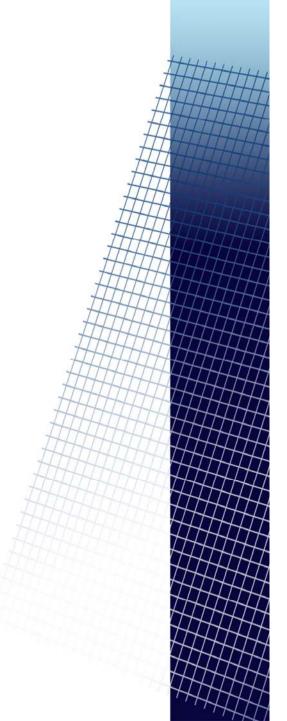
- Wholesale line rental (WLR) still more expensive than retail price
- Major OFCOM investigation
  - Cost of copper
  - BT's cost of capital
- Expect wholesale rate to fall 10-20% by June/July
- Single billing increases sign-up rates and brings down churn

# **Distribution**

**Geoffroy Roux de Bezieux** 

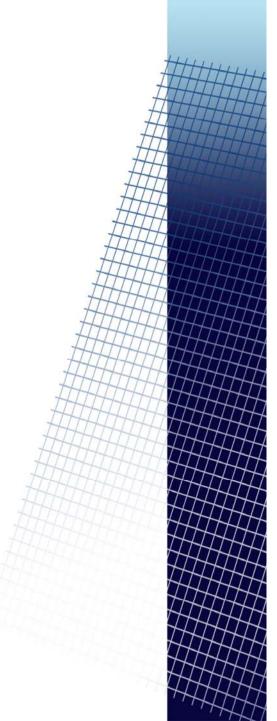
**COO**, Distribution





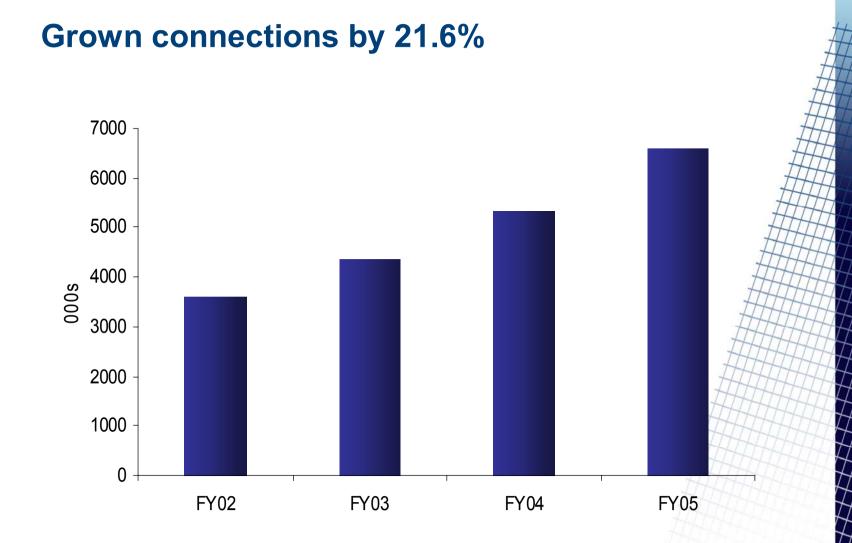
#### **Structure**

- Achievements of last 12 months
- Increasing our distribution scale
- Becoming the handset champion
- Germany

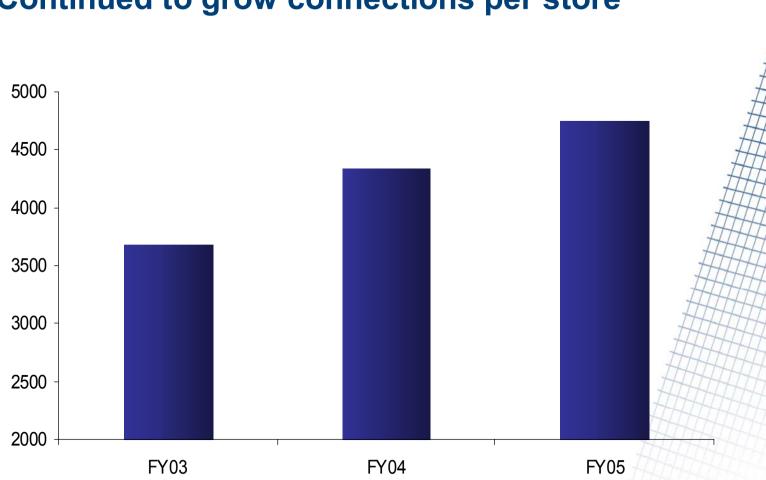


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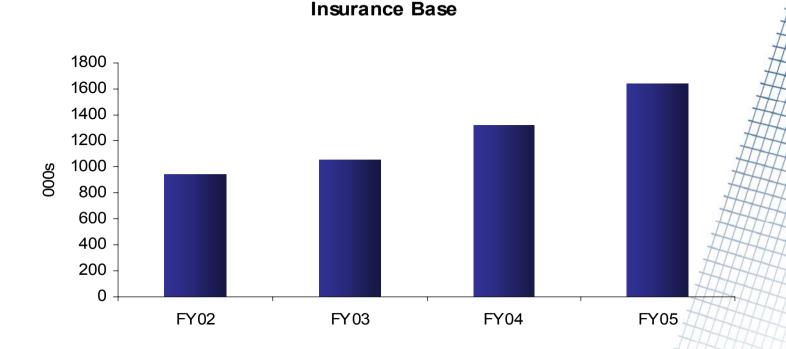
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#### **Continued to grow connections per store**

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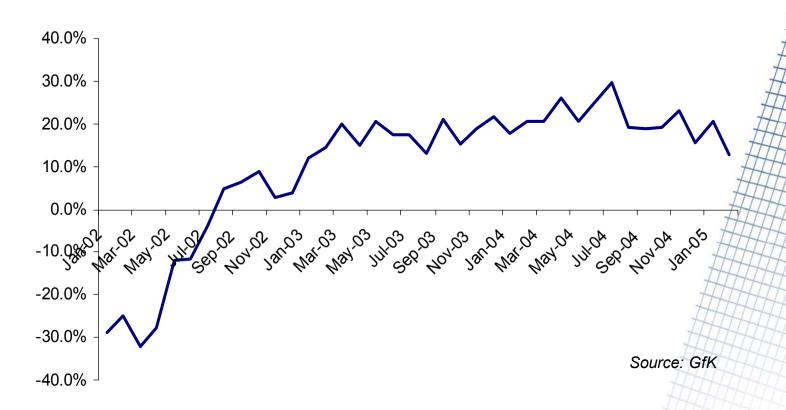
# Made significant contribution to recurring revenue streams



Plus Ongoing, TalkTalk, FM customer bases, Fresh

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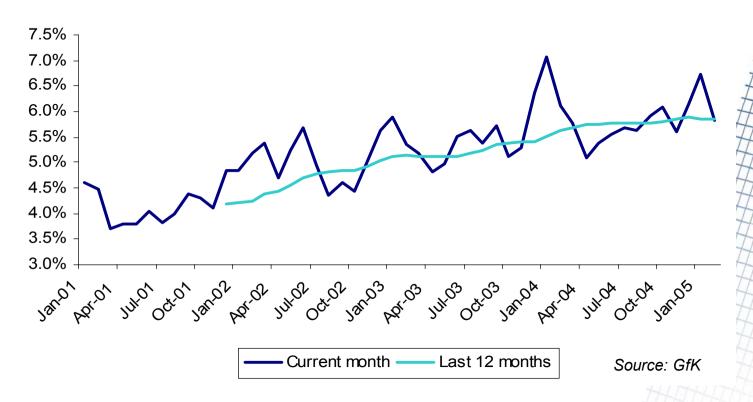
### The market has continued to grow strongly



- Pre-pay the main driver
- Rates of growth vary significantly across our markets

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# Our market share has continued to make progress despite return of non-specialists to pre-pay market



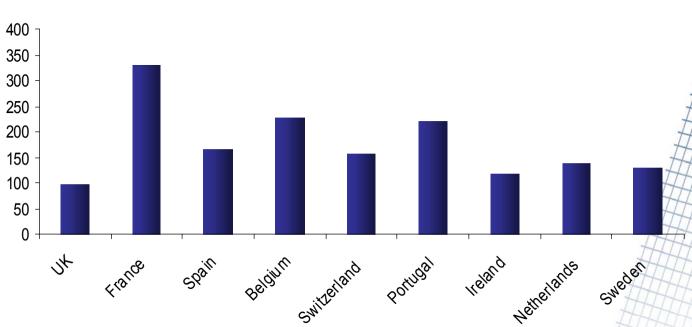
 Importance of pan-European scale (manufacturers), and individual country scale (networks)

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# Store growth opportunity

Pop per store (000s)



- On the continent, the roadmap is much easier still targeting major towns and cities
- In the UK, we are progressively targeting smaller towns and the economics continue to be very good

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#### **New store appraisal**

- Demographic data: shopper and catchment population, census info, correlation with existing stores
- Competition: independents, networks, locals
- Specific site data: footfall, vehicular counts, other retail tenants
- Cannibalisation: assess existing customers from neighbouring stores on mapping system
  - Huge customer database is a key differentiator age, address, purchasing history etc



# **Example: Marlborough, Wiltshire**

- Total fit-out costs £120k (shop fit, computers, fees)
- On-going costs £44k (rent, rates, service charge)
- Population: urban 7.7k, shopper 11.2k, catchment (20 min drive time) 54k
- Demographics: good (high proportion of "Wealthy Achievers")
- Competition: none



# **Example: Marlborough, Wiltshire**

- Target 45 weekly connections (29 breakeven)
- Performance since opening (November 2004)
  - 52 connections/week
  - EBITDA £41,500 to February
  - Annualised ROI (adjusting for Christmas uplift) c. 70%
- 150 more small towns identified
  - 56 definite development opportunities
  - 94 areas to monitor
- Significant implications for potential scale of our portfolio across Europe



# Store payback is very good on a 'pure' retail basis...

Cohort	ROI (pure Retail)	ROI (lifetime value)
Opened between 10/02 and 3/03	62%	
Opened between 4/03 and 9/03	67%	
Opened between 10/03 and 2/04	64%	

 Pure Retail ROI calculated as last 12 months' Retail EBITDA (to Feb 2005) as % of total store investment (fit-out, IT hardware and fees)



## ...and really excellent on customer lifetime value

Cohort	ROI (pure Retail)	ROI (lifetime value)
Opened between 10/02 and 3/03	62%	123%
Opened between 4/03 and 9/03	67%	143%
Opened between 10/03 and 2/04	64%	141%

 Adjusted ROI includes lifetime value of Insurance, Ongoing and TalkTalk (UK only)

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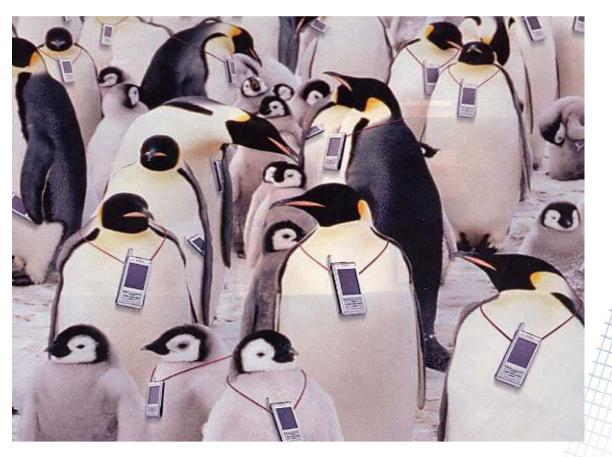
# **Other distribution channels**

- Online
  - As with other Retail segments, Online market for mobile is growing rapidly
  - We are a leader, not a follower
  - Multi-channel and multi-brand strategy
  - Our scale and physical presence gives significant advantages over 'virtual' retailers

# **Other distribution channels**

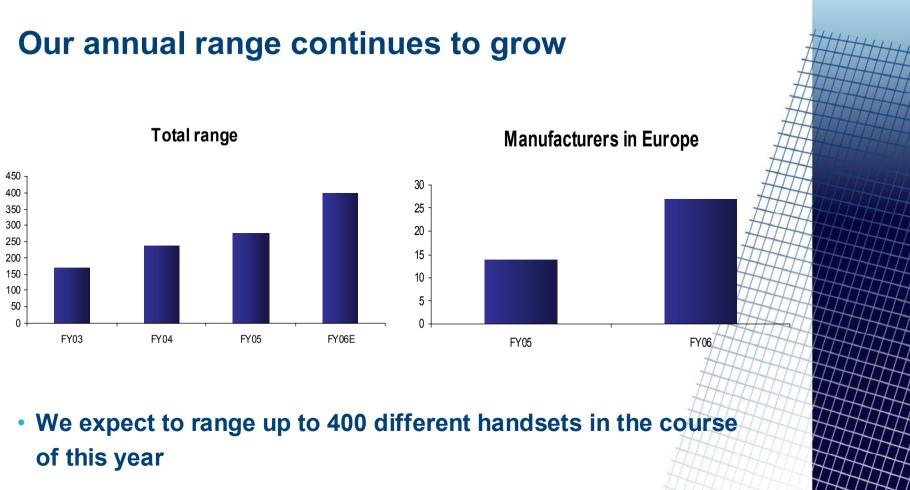
- Franchises
  - Grow scale in certain countries (NL, France, Spain, Germany)
  - Low capital commitment
  - Same design, same offer
  - Mystery-shopped every month with strong results
  - Buying and volume bonus benefits

#### Our customers are not penguins...



... They do not all want to own the same mobile!





 A significant number of new manufacturers are seeking to break in



# **Purchasing: the way it was**

- All markets making their own ranging decisions
- All markets negotiating locally
- No inter-country communication
- Inevitably led to disparate pricing and Ts & Cs, and overstocks
- Markets had varying levels of negotiating power, depending on scale and market share

### Purchasing: the way it is now

- Leveraging total buying power from all markets to:
  - Harmonise pricing on all handsets in all markets
  - Harmonise Ts & Cs in all markets
  - Combine volumes across all markets to negotiate better volume pricing eg Nokia 1100, Sony Ericsson T610
  - Secure launch partner status on handsets eg Siemens SF65
  - Deal with centralised manufacturer account managers
- Savings to date in excess of £4m



# Landmark deals in FY05

- Nokia 1100
  - Tender to manufacturers in mid-2004 to 'win' our entry level handset contract
  - Purchased >500k at very attractive price and created the market for this product
- Bluetooth headsets
  - 4 exclusives in FY05, 8% share of bluetooth headsets for ALL Europe
  - Key launch partner going into FY06 for a number of new products



## **Purchasing: the way it could be**

- Absolute harmonisation of all Ts & Cs both pre- and post-sale
- Menu of handsets and prices negotiated centrally that the markets will buy from
- Utilising scale to be first to market on a number of key handsets
- Creating our own variant of key handsets to tailor them to our customers' needs and reflect our own product set
- Driving a higher proportion of direct sourced handsets
- Becoming a purchasing partner for smaller networks and retailers

# A few words on Germany

- A retailer's graveyard where we experienced our own 'near-death experience'
- Hutchison Telecoms acquisition has transformed the business by adding a distribution network
- Now ready to commit further investment in acquiring customers and building our physical presence



# The SP model is just a variation on a theme

- Service providers account for >30% of the German mobile market
- Closely regulated with clear protections for SP licence holders
- To CPW/TPH, it is just an evolution of the Ongoing model – like MVNOs, FM agreements and ARPU share
  - We are leveraging our distribution platform to obtain good terms from networks

# **Financial turnaround**

£m	FY03	FY04	<b>FY05</b>
			(provisional)
Germany Retail EBITA	(7.4)	(3.9)	(1.5)
Germany SP EBITA	-	9.1	14.5
Germany EBITA	(7.4)	5.2	13.0

• £30m investment is paying back handsomely

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## **Expansion plans**

- Opening new stores for the first time for several years
- Growing our dealer channels aggressively
- Taking advantage of uncertainty among major SP competitors
- Focusing on improving the quality of sale eg insurance

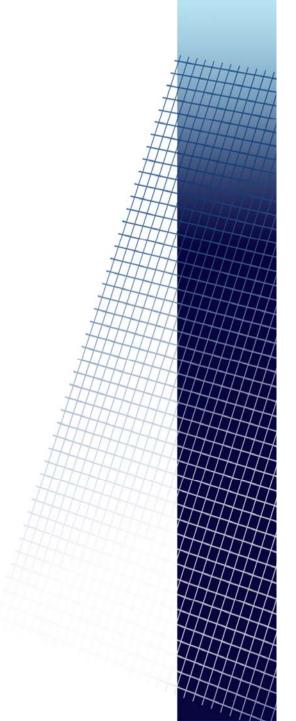


### **Fixed Line Network**

#### **Neil McArthur**

#### **MD**, Networks

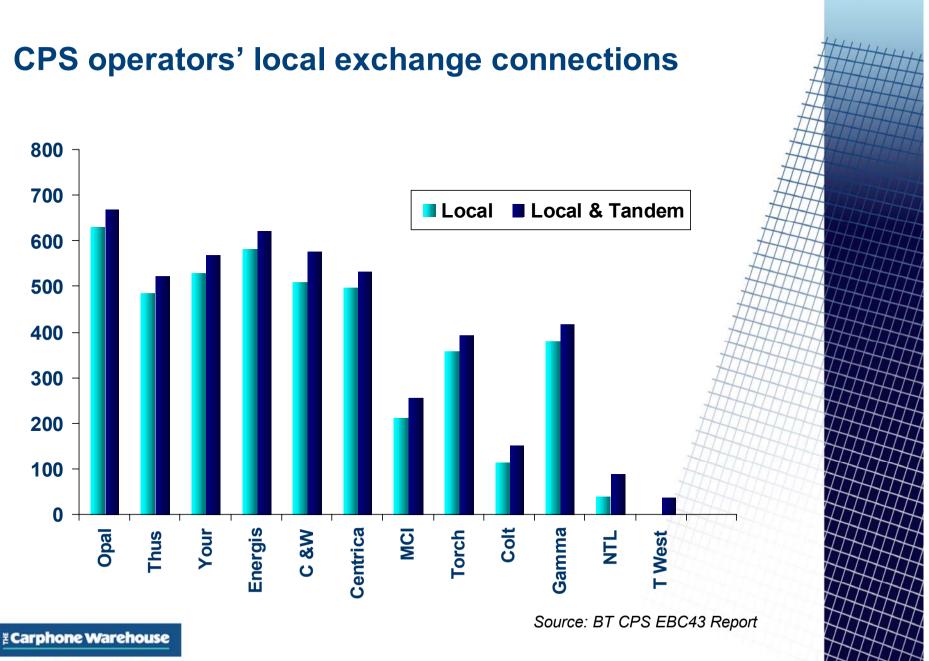
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## **UK network**

- Opal switches over 1bn minutes of traffic a month
- Opal operates 3 main Hubs at Manchester, Birmingham, and Brentford
- 14 switches, 11 operational, 3 in commissioning/on order
- Network designed for 2bn minutes of traffic a month by the end of 2006
- 673 Interconnects to BT
- The most interconnected OLO in the UK
- Network supply agreements with BT,C&W, Colt, Fibernet, NTL,Telewest, THUS, SSE & Your Comms





#### **Network rescaling**

- Major works in 2004 to prepare for network rescaling from 1bn, through 1.5bn, to 2bn billable minutes of switching capacity per month
- Phase 1 in 2004/5 included building works, ancillary equipment, 3 new switches and major upgrades to transmission & trunk network
- Phase 2 in 2005/6 includes a further 3 switches, completion of new facilities at Manchester and Brentford, softswitch introduction, new IP core network, relocation of London City switch
- Capex for 2005/6 £15m



### **Network efficiency**

- 631 connections to BT local exchanges, up from 437 in 2004
- Over 90% of our traffic originates/terminates at local exchanges.
- Switching costs have fallen in 2004/5 despite phase 1 of network re-scaling from 1 to 2bn minutes capacity
- Switching costs will fall below 0.2p/minute this year as we add volume on the network
- Network availability has been at an all time high despite major engineering works; helped by our use of multiple network suppliers
- Retention of local calls in the local loop will recover network capacity

# Spain (Xtra)

- Expansion of Xtra's network in 2005
- Major switch & trunk network upgrades
- Monthly traffic up from 45m to 74m minutes
- Interconnects to Telefonica doubled to 500E1s
- Network built to Opal in London
- Opal carrying Xtra's UK and international traffic
- First advanced IN services launched

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## **International network**

#### Interconnects & trunk network into:

- Austria
- Belgium
- France
- Germany
- Ireland
- Netherlands
- Spain
- Switzerland



# **21CN**

- Opal's plans to integrate with BT's 21CN well
  advanced
- BT interconnects expected to fall to 120 over 5 years from 2006
- All BT 21CN interconnect locations in plan
- Opal will have no stranded network. All Opals trunk network on 5 year agreements, most with 3 years to run
- Tenders out for the supply of softswitches



#### **Broadband**

- Broadband services launched using BT IP Stream
- 50,000 subscribers
- Valuable operational experience
- Rescaling of support platforms
- Development of Broadband Support team
- New core IP network in build to support broadband expansion
- LLU in trial stages, some regulatory issues outstanding

# **Mobile World**

- Opal/CPW first company to originate traffic on a UK Mobile network
- Mobile prepay platform developed and operated by Opat/
- Back office systems developed to support Mobile services
- All international calls delivered by Opal
- Phase 2 enhancements underway
- Further developments planned with T Mobile
- Mobile World is helping drive scale in our international traffic



# **Major opportunities**

- Further improvements in costs of basic service delivery
- International trade and termination in the UK
- Mobile service creation
- WLR
- Broadband
- LLU

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#### **Summary**

- We are the most interconnected OLO in the UK
- We operate the most efficient network in the UK
- Our switching costs per minute will continue to fall
- Migration plan to 21CN
- Strong development team (Mobile World)
- We are prepared for LLU if it becomes economically sensible
- Core IP network in place
- The network division is a business in its own right and has many opportunities to develop

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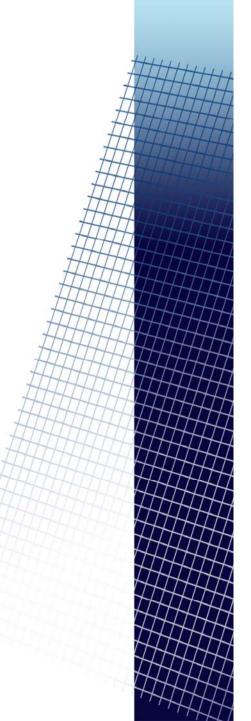
<sup>...</sup> for a better mobile life

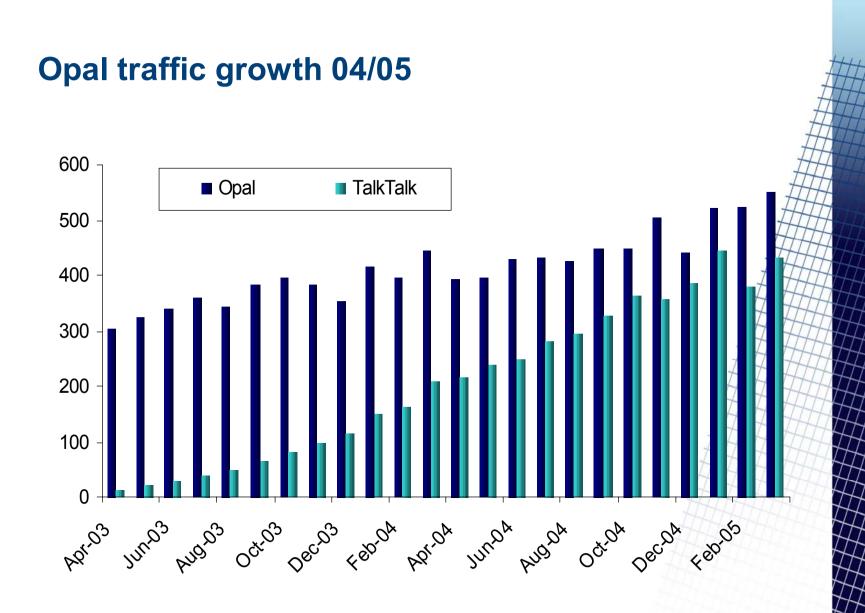
#### **Fixed Line Trading Review**

**David Goldie** 

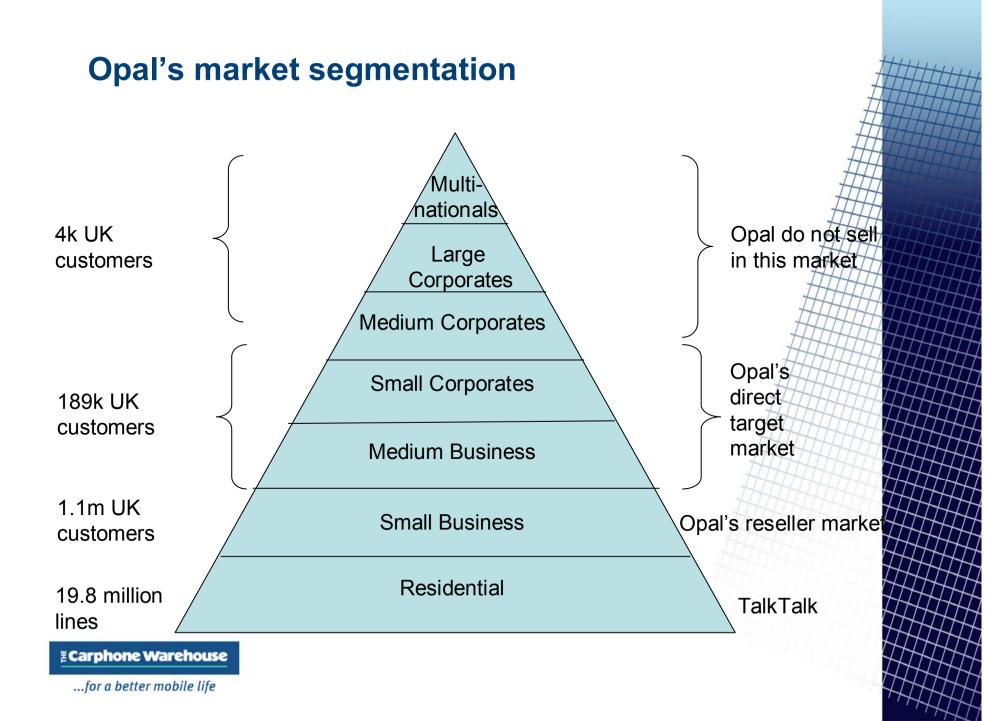
COO, Telecoms

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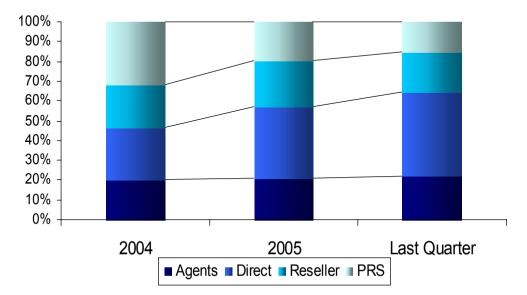




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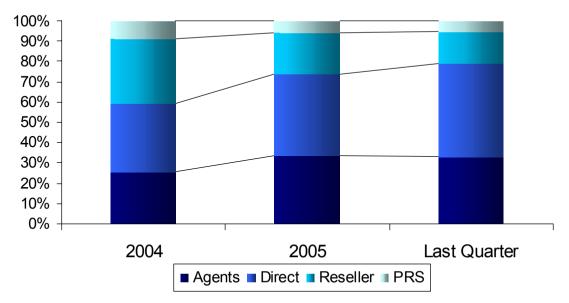
# **Opal's revenue mix**



- Continuing de-emphasis on low margin premium rate
- Strong growth in directly served customers
  - Better customer tenure
  - Wider concentration
  - Improved opportunity for value-added
- Balanced distribution a core strategy

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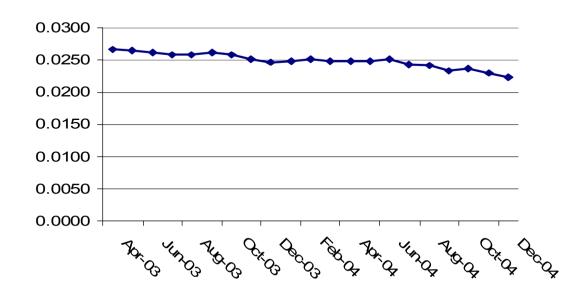
# **Opal's contribution mix**



- PRS contribution now below 5% of total
- Improvement in Direct contribution follows growth in revenue.
- Reseller share falling due to:
  - Growth in direct business
  - Mobile termination price review
  - Intensity of competition in reseller market

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\* Rolling 3 month average, excludes TalkTalk

- Feb's average CPS sales price per minute has fallen 9% yoy
- Opal passed the benefit of the mobile termination review onto all customers during the Autumn – Effectively a reduction of 12%
- Compensating improvement in revenue per min. due to improving business mix
- Margin softening as planned, cushioned by network roll-out and regulated BT Wholesale price reductions

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#### **Opal's Directly Served Customers**

- National team of >110 field sales people
- 2005 focus on deepening customer relationship through:
  - Line rental (30,000 WLR lines in service)
  - Broadband
  - Mobile
- TalkTalk Business launched for small enterprise clients
  - Selling through a new sales team
  - Customers will enjoy free calls from TalkTalk
    TalkTalk
  - Range of small business tariffs

Business

Business Telecoms from # Carphone Warehouse

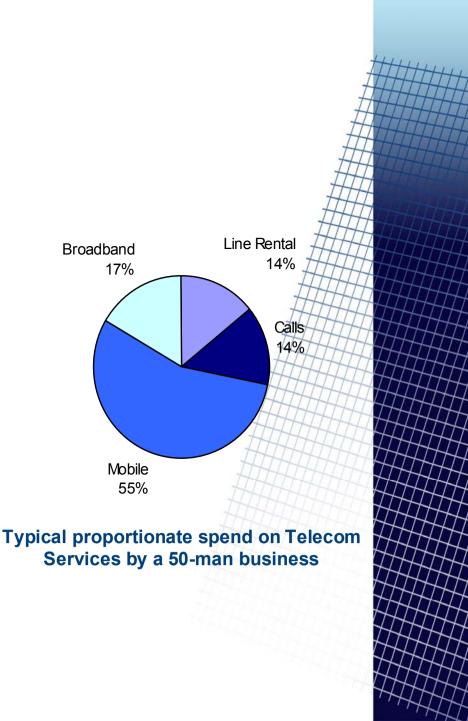
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# **Opal's Reseller market**

- Intense competition including C&W, Colt, Energis, Gamma Networks
- Impact of mobile termination review
- Opal's automated business processes keep reseller cost to serve below 2% of sales – others cannot compete
- Opal continues to acquire reseller customer bases
  - 5 small acquisitions during the year
  - Minimal contribution in 04/05 as most deals were in H2

# **Opal's strategic focus**

- Opal has only focused on serving 28% of a typical customer's needs
- Opal is now delivering mobile, fixed line and line rental on a single account
- We aim to introduce a growing set of broadband services during 05/06
- Broadband and mobile contribution should be significant from 06/07



... for a better mobile life

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# Xtra – B2B in Spain

- In March 2004 CPW acquired Xtra
- Xtra is a capex-lite fixed line operator with 4 main business streams:
  - Business to business fixed line customers
  - Wholesale for resellers and carriers
  - International prepay cards sold via retailers
  - Services to international prepay callshops
- Our strategy is to drive earnings quality through growth in B2B targeting over 50% growth in contribution from this stream
- Other streams are stable



# **B2B Summary**

- UK Focus is on:
  - Driving efficiency to defend margins despite price erosion
  - Deepening the customer relationship
    - WLR
    - Broadband
    - Mobile
  - Attacking the small business market via TalkTalk Business
- Spanish focus is on improving quality of earnings from B2B growth

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# **TalkTalk - Milestones**

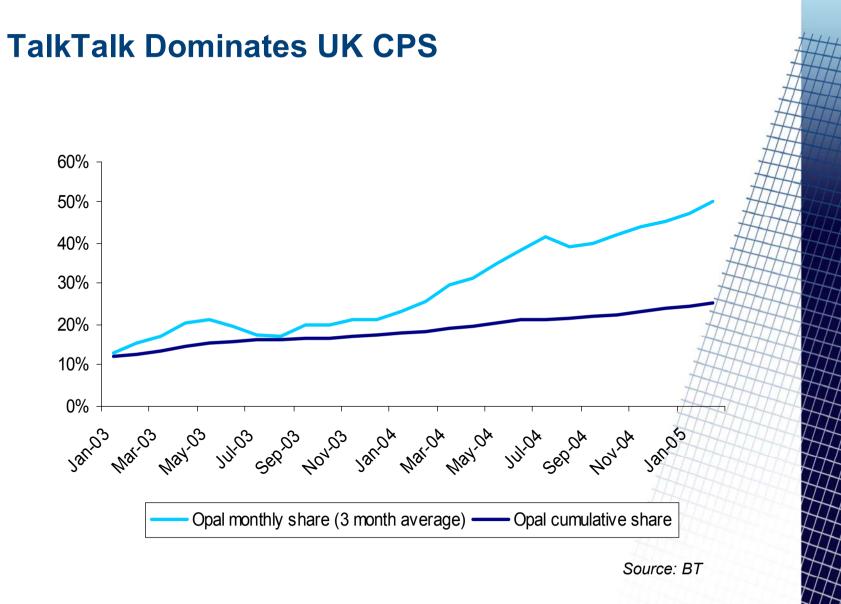
- TalkTalk pioneers the launch of "Free Calls"
- Brand awareness builds with "Big Brother" sponsorship – renewed for 2005
- Broadband launch, c.50,000 subscribers join in first 5 months
- TalkTalk UK CPS base at 920,000
- TalkTalk has dominant CPS market share
- Pan-European business

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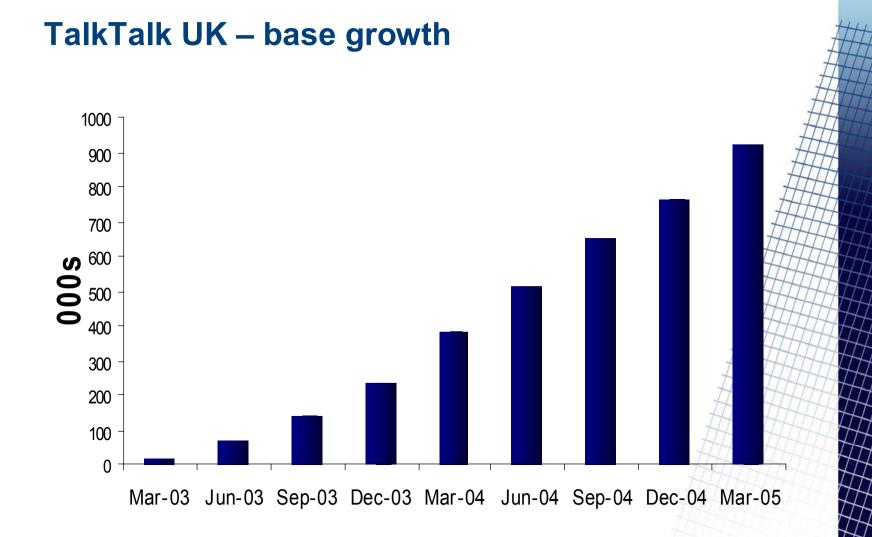
#### **European Telecoms**

- TalkTalk is available in France, Spain, Germany and Switzerland
- Non-UK residential CPS customer base stands at 170k
- Launches are planned in Republic of Ireland and Belgium during H1
- Almost all sales come from Phone House retail stores SAC is therefore very low
- Sales are growing in every market
- Market conditions vary so customer NPV also varies
- We aim to minimise cost to serve through the use of a common European billing and CRM platform









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## **TalkTalk Broadband**

- "Soft launch" in November 04
- Broadband offer is competitive if taken with CPS
- No third party channels
- A learning experience Our objective was to:
  - Test market appetite and retail sales capability
  - Understand price elasticity and customer usage dynamics
  - Refine customer service processes
- Sales have outperformed expectations c.50,000 customers

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# **UK Broadband experiences**

- Strong sales performance given lack of promotional support web sales in particular being impressive
- Customers need a lot of handholding in set-up and costs to serve have been high but are now declining
- Difficult to make money from Broadband using BT Wholesale services, but benefits felt in CPS loyalty
- LLU changes the structure of supply in the market opportunities may lie there, Ofcom regulation and BT process efficiency is key
- March 06 customer base may be between 100k and 150k but not material to profitability



# WLR update

- Today WLR is uneconomic
- Ongoing Ofcom consultation on pricing of copper and equivalence of processes
- Small margin may be created between wholesale and retail products
- CPW's launch depends on the timing of Ofcom
- Key to long term meaningful competition in UK residential telecoms
- WLR likely to have substantial customer loyalty benefits



## **Growth areas**

- Continue to drive strong base growth with target of 2m UK customers within three years
- WLR
- Fixed/mobile convergence
- Broadband



# **Summary**

- TalkTalk dominates the UK and is growing strongly in Europe
- The opportunity to enhance TalkTalk's profitability and customer loyalty through WLR and broadband is significant
- TalkTalk has the most effective low-cost customer recruitment channel in the market

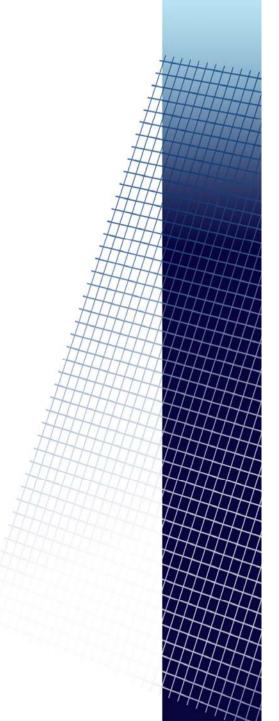


# FY06 guidance

**Roger Taylor** 

CFO

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# **Contribution trends for FY06**

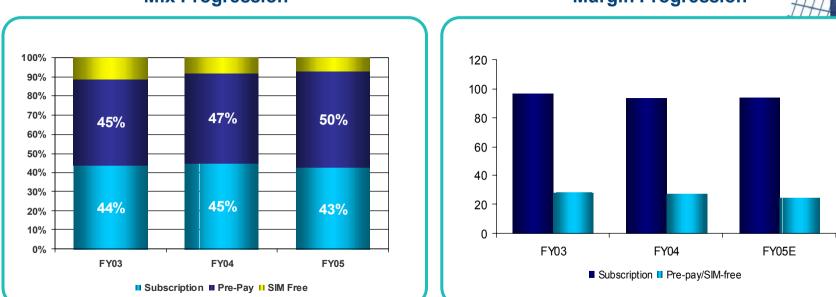
Business Unit	Trend	<u>Remarks</u>
Retail/Online	+	250 store openings, UK Online channels
Ongoing	++	Continued base growth, focus on terms
Insurance	++	Continued base growth
Telecoms - Mobile	+	German SP broadening distribution; more MVNO opportunities
Opal	+	Strong top line growth, some margin erosion; investment in new products
TalkTalk	++	Becomes meaningful profit contributor; further investment in broadband and European TalkTalk
Support costs	-	Further investment in growth platform
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## **Retail/Online**

- Broadly flat LFL gross profit
  - UK consumer outlook and no assumption on aggressive 3G migration
- Low teens % growth in connections: driven by new space (average new space growth 14%)
- Similar rates of growth in subscription and pre-pay
- Average revenue per connection to rise again in FY06
- Average gross profit constant in both subscription and pre-pay



# **Mix and Margin**



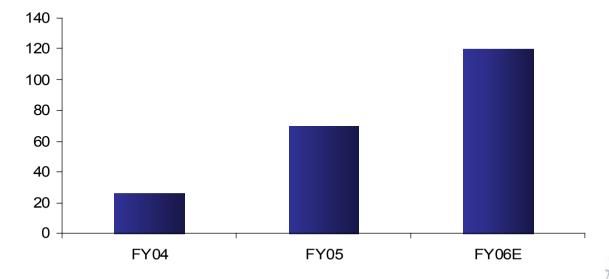
Mix Progression

**Margin Progression** 

- Subscription mix to remain broadly flat year-on-year
- Subscription gross profit is robust and pre-pay has stabilised

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# Impact of franchise stores



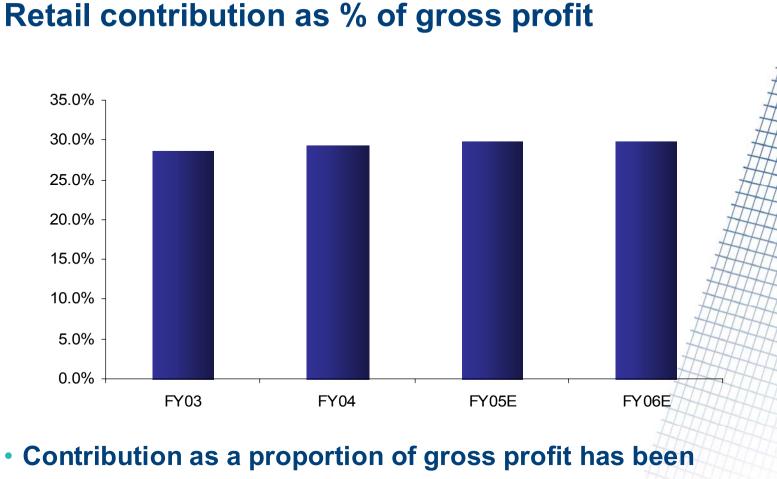
- Connections and revenue not included in Retail figures; profits are included in Retail gross profit and contribution
- Typical contribution £30k per franchise but other benefits accrue eg buying, volume bonuses, brand awareness
- Relevant markets: Spain, Netherlands, France, Germany

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# **Retail costs and contribution margin**

- Net direct costs expected to rise in line with gross profit
  - Impact of extent of new store openings
  - Variable elements (commissions)
  - Rents
  - Pre-opening costs
- Contribution margin expected to fall by 50 bps year-onyear to 7.5-8.0%
- 53<sup>rd</sup> week added about £2m to Retail contribution





very consistent



#### Online

- Further strong growth in connections, revenue and contribution
- Driven by management focus on additional UK channels
- Targets separate segment of the market
- Operates on lower margins (c. 6% contribution) but benefits overall Group economics
  - Volume
  - Ongoing
  - Insurance

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# **Ongoing revenue**

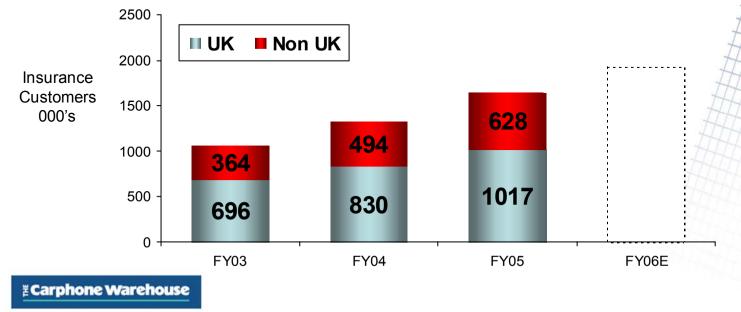
- Big internal focus on terms
- Increased scale has improved negotiating position
- Strong link with customer management relationships in A UK and France



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#### Insurance

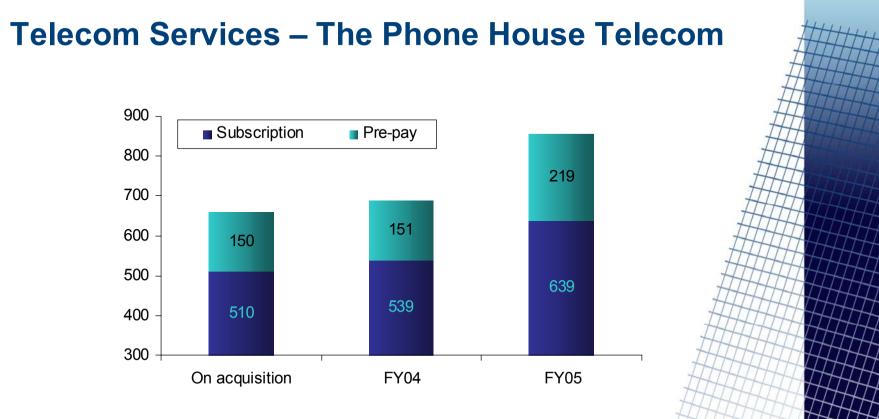
- Very strong base growth in FY05, with UK now c. 1m customers
- Driven by subscription sales 15-20% growth for FY06
- Online and TPHT channels can deliver additional growth
- Margins maintained
- Third party business still small but growing



# **Distribution - summary**

- Overall revenue growth of c. 20%
- High margin, recurring streams will grow faster than Retail
- Contribution margin down slightly on FY05 due to higher ARPC
- Divisional EBIT margin maintained at around 6%
- 3G uptake potential upside





- Valuable separable asset
- Further strong base growth anticipated
- SAC increasing marginally
- Significant customer lifetime value

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<sup>...</sup> for a better mobile life

#### **Telecom Services – Mobile**

- The Phone House Telecom is the key driver of profitability
  - c. 80% of business unit revenues and 65% of contribution
  - Unlikely to replicate strong margin performance of FY05 but base growth focus will drive contribution growth
- FM business important for network relationships
  - Benefits felt in Ongoing and upgrade connections
  - Limited year-on-year profits growth
- MVNO initiatives could drive upside

Total Mobile revenue growth of 20% in FY06, contribution margin maintained at 6-7%



# **Telecom Services – Opal**

- Revenue growth c.15% in FY06 organic and FY05 acquisitions
- Markets still competitive but business retains defensive 
  characteristics
- Investment in new areas
  - TalkTalk Business
  - Mobile
  - Business broadband/data products





# **Telecom Services – TalkTalk**

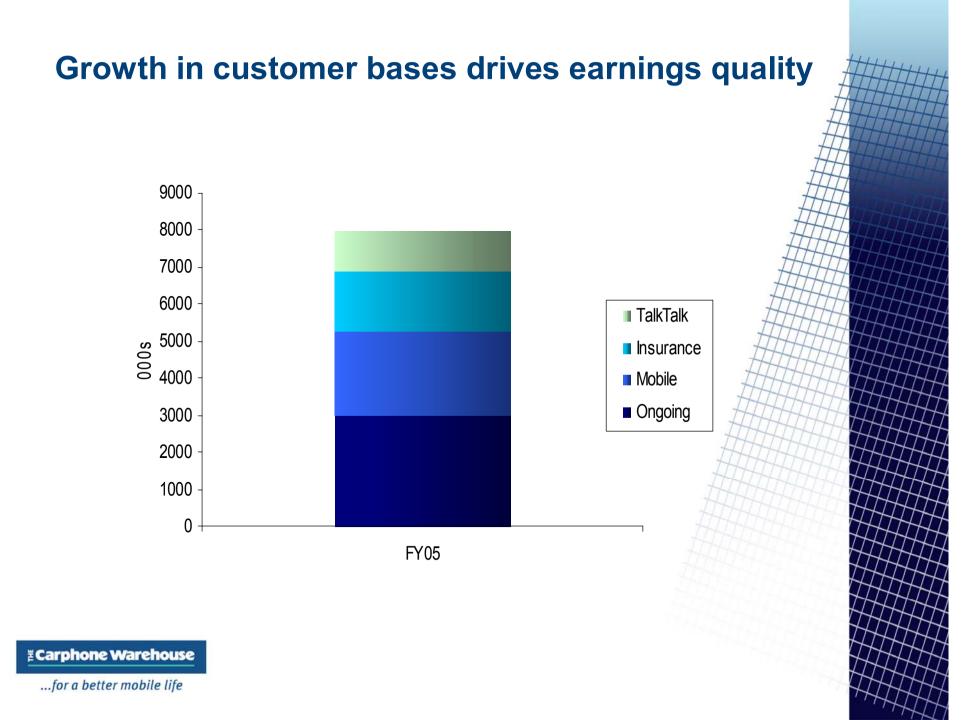
- TalkTalk UK
  - Continued strong base growth, likely to be weighted towards H2 given regulatory position
  - ARPU declining slightly with lower mobile rates
  - Total SAC and marketing spend similar to FY05
  - Marketing budget weighted towards H1, as for FY05
  - Residential broadband to lose another £2-3m
  - Strong profit generation in FY06 with contribution on voice revenues of 7-8%
- Non-UK
  - Further investment in base growth and product refinements
  - Overall small positive contribution from non-UK TalkTalk operations

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#### **Telecoms Services - summary**

- Divisional revenue growth of c. 25%
- Substantial profits growth driven by TPHT and TalkTalk
- Investment in broadband and new Opal business streams
- Blended contribution margin of c.7.5-8.0%: strong improvement on likely FY05 outcome
- EBIT % expanding marginally year-on-year, but within 2.5-3.0% range

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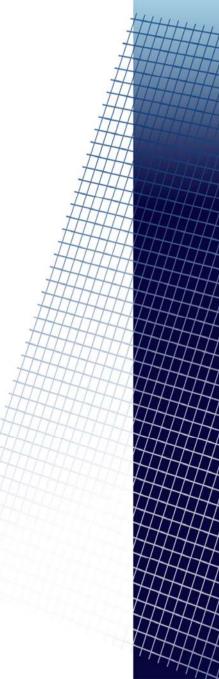
# Plan to re-invest cash generated for future growth

- Total capex of up to £90m budgeted for FY06
  - £20m on new stores
  - £15m on refits/relocations/in-store upgrades
  - £30m on IT
  - £15m on telecoms infrastructure
  - £10m on other maintenance projects
- Continue to finance future growth from internal cash generation
- Working capital investment of c. £40m driven mainly by TPHT working capital terms and underlying growth

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# **Group IT key projects**

- New group billing platform
- Group infrastructure requirements
- Software licence costs
- New Insurance systems
- Implementation of new telephony architecture
- Roll-out of new chip and pin solution
- Retail store efficiency projects
- CRM project



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# Support costs, depreciation, interest and tax

- Support costs growth in line with profits growth
  - Productivity focus
  - BUT investment required in getting the right management and infrastructure in place to support sustainable long term growth
- Depreciation growth of c. 20%
  - Continues to be driven by our heavy investment programme
- Interest
  - Year-on-year funding position broadly unchanged
- Tax
  - Medium term effective rate of 25-26% continues to be achievable



# **Movement in support costs**

Category	Y-o-Y increase £m
Distribution growth	5
Business development	3
ІТ	4
Central management	2
Local management	3

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# **Share options**

- IFRS 2 requires that options are valued at their fair value at the date of grant
- Companies are required to estimate the total number of options that are likely to vest where internal performance conditions are attached
- Where performance measures are 'external' (eg TSR), no annual reassessment is required
- £3m charge in FY05 under IFRS
- £4m charge for FY06 assumed in consensus forecasts



# Goodwill

- IFRS prohibits amortisation of goodwill and introduces annual impairment testing
- Customer bases will be classified separately to goodwill and classified as intangible assets on all business acquisitions from March 2004 - £12m in total
- We will amortise these over a 12 month period with a c.
  £6m charge in FY05 and FY06 under IFRS



No change to headline normalised PBT or EPS

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# **Opening balance sheet 31 March 2004**

- No significant net change in b/f net asset position
- Underlying adjustments include:
  - Redenomination of goodwill
  - IAS 39 liability recognition
  - Dividend liability de-recognition
  - Extension of rent-free periods
  - Deferred tax

#### **Other matters**

- Capitalisation of leases
- Presentation of intangibles
- Segmental reporting markets and business units





# FY06 summary

- Strong growth in revenue and earnings
- H1/H2 growth rates similar
- Significant investment but attractive ROI
- Further development of ROCE

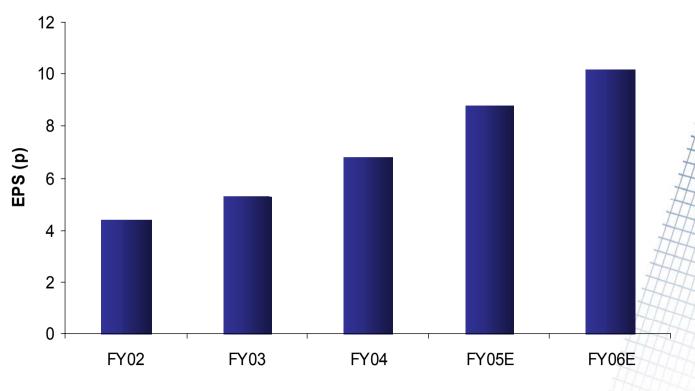


# FY07 and beyond

- Distribution
  - Continue to drive connections growth through new stores, new channels and LFL
  - Leverage scale to improve purchasing terms and network
    commercials
  - Focus on recurring profit streams
  - Maintain EBIT margins
- Telecoms Services
  - Continue to invest in customer recruitment for TPHT,
    TalkTalk and Broadband
  - Strong top line growth and EBIT margin progression



# EPS growth through organic growth and new business development



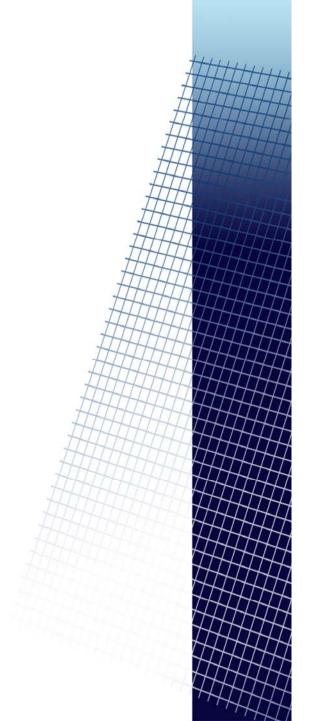
*E* = *Reuters* consensus market estimates

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# **Closing remarks**

#### **Charles Dunstone**

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# **Misconception 1: Disintermediation**

"Ultimately all the networks will deal direct with their customers and disintermediate the independent adviser"

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# **Misconception 1: Disintermediation**

- Network churn is 30%
- That means that every year, networks need to 'find' enough new customers to replace this churn just to stand still
- If they are not competitive in the leading independent chain, they will lose market share to those that are
- Current rising levels of SAC have not dented network margins: their business models are still highly profitable
- Customers generally shop for handsets, not networks
- CPW/TPH must strive to remain the independent channel of choice because of our greater scale and high service levels (for both networks and customers)



#### **Misconception 2: Market maturity**

"The mobile phone market is maturing. Network competition will subside and customers will upgrade less often"

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# **Misconception 2: Market maturity**

- High penetration ≠ market maturity
- When penetration begins to plateau, competition increases
  - No 'new' customers to find; networks can only grow by poaching each other's customers
- Sweden is the template of advanced market dynamics
  - Low SAC, high postpay mix market becomes intensely competitive as penetration reaches saturation levels
- Replacement cycle continues to contract
  - 20% growth in European handset market last year was not all new customers!

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# **Misconception 3: Technology slowdown**

"Phones already have a lot of redundant functionality that customers don't want. The rate of technological innovation will slow from here"

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# **Misconception 3: Technology slowdown**

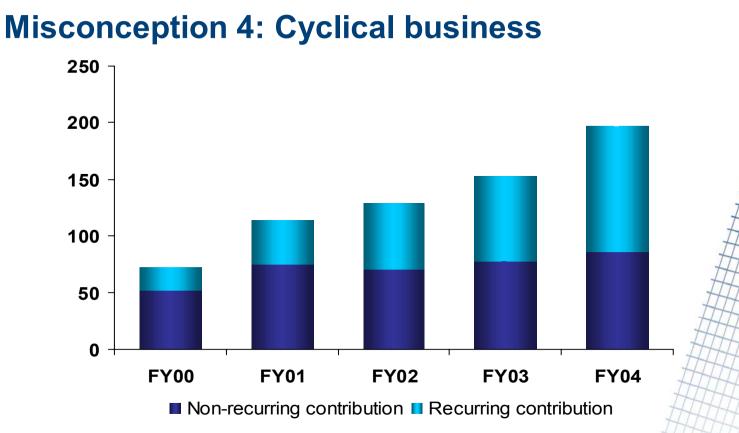


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#### **Misconception 4: Cyclical business**

"Carphone is heavily reliant on the handset cycle. When growth reverses, earnings will fall"

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- Profits from recurring revenues were 55% of total last year
- Nearer to 60% this year and continuing to grow
- Fixed line provides a new growth platform and further insulation from handset market

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#### **Misconception 5: TalkTalk unsustainable**

"TalkTalk is a short term opportunity driven by changes in regulation. Margins will be competed away over time"

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# **Misconception 5: TalkTalk unsustainable**

- One company will emerge as the clear no. 2 to BT
- We are the only major player with all of the key building blocks:
  - Our own highly efficient network
  - Our own retail distribution
  - Proven marketing and brand-building skills
  - A strong reputation for customer service
  - Engineering know-how
  - A strong balance sheet

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# The basis of our projections

- Factored into our assumptions
  - Uncertain UK consumer outlook
- Not factored into our assumptions
  - Significant pick up in 3G migration
  - Further acceleration in replacement cycle from technological change in the handset market
  - Meaningful regulatory change in the fixed line market