Transforming biomass into bioproducts for a more sustainable world

# **CIBC Western Institutional Investor Conference**

January 22 – 24, 2025

# MERCER international



# Forward-Looking Statements



### The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a "safe harbor" for forward-looking statements.

Certain information included in this presentation contains statements that are forward-looking, such as statements relating to results of operations and financial conditions, market expectations and business development activities, as well as capital spending and financing sources.

Such forward-looking information involves important risks and uncertainties that could significantly affect anticipated results in the future and, accordingly, such results may differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by or on behalf of Mercer.

For more information regarding these risks and uncertainties, review Mercer's filings with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

Unless required by law, we do not assume any obligation to update forward-looking statements based on unanticipated events or changed expectations.



### Our Vision

Transforming biomass into bioproducts for a more sustainable world

### Our Strategic Pillars

Financial



Strong financial results through business cycles

### Our Values

+ Be Safe & Healthy By improving processes and promot awareness

+ Be Bold

By seizing innovative and unique ide solutions, and opportunities



### Synergistic Diversification

**Circular Economy** 



Synergistic diversification of operations



Meaningful contributions to the circular economy

ting	+ Be Respectful By building a culture of diversity and inclusion
eas,	+ Be Sustainable By balancing social, environmental, and economic values

# Investment Highlights

History of sustained growth with prudent financial management

Environmental and social responsibility leader with ESG ingrained in our strategy

Strategic, purposeful diversification to reduce earnings cyclicality and contribute positively to the circular economy

### **Pulp Segment**

Sustained NBSK leader with exposure to NBHK; continuous optimization of our asset base



Lumber enhances synergistic operations with pulp segment; emphasis on rapidly-growing mass timber segment





Emphasis on fossil-fuel replacement alternatives through innovation and biomaterial technology



# Global Megatrends Driving Long-Term Demand

Population Growth



Increasing Urbanization

+ Growing middle class Higher living standards

+ Increasing consumption + Housing demographics Changing regulations

## 348 million

Tonnes of global plastic production

15%

2050 Global carbon emissions from plastic

A 5% displacement of plastic and 1% displacement of traditional building materials could create **17 million tonnes of new pulp** demand, and a \$10 billion market opportunity.

Source: UN Environment Assembly, Office of the Auditor General of Canada

Climate Change

 $\left( \mathbf{O} \right)$ 

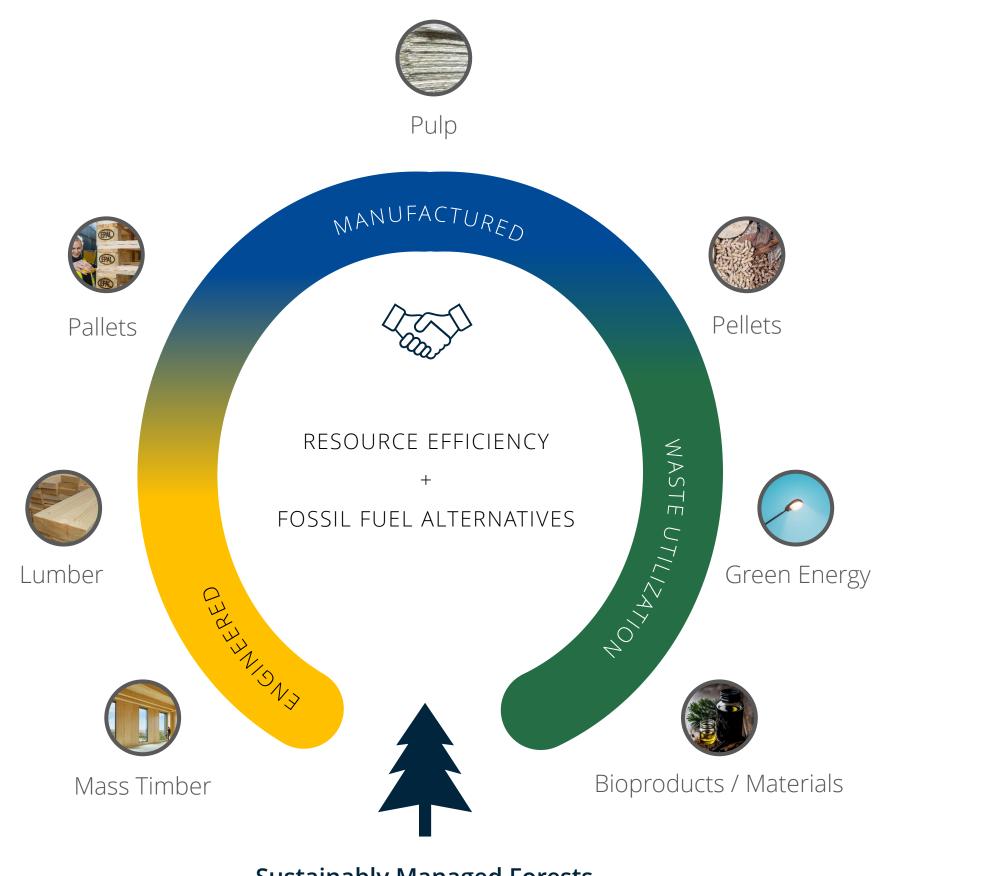
+ Fossil fuel replacement Circular economy

Resource scarcity

### 11%

Global carbon emissions from steel / concrete construction

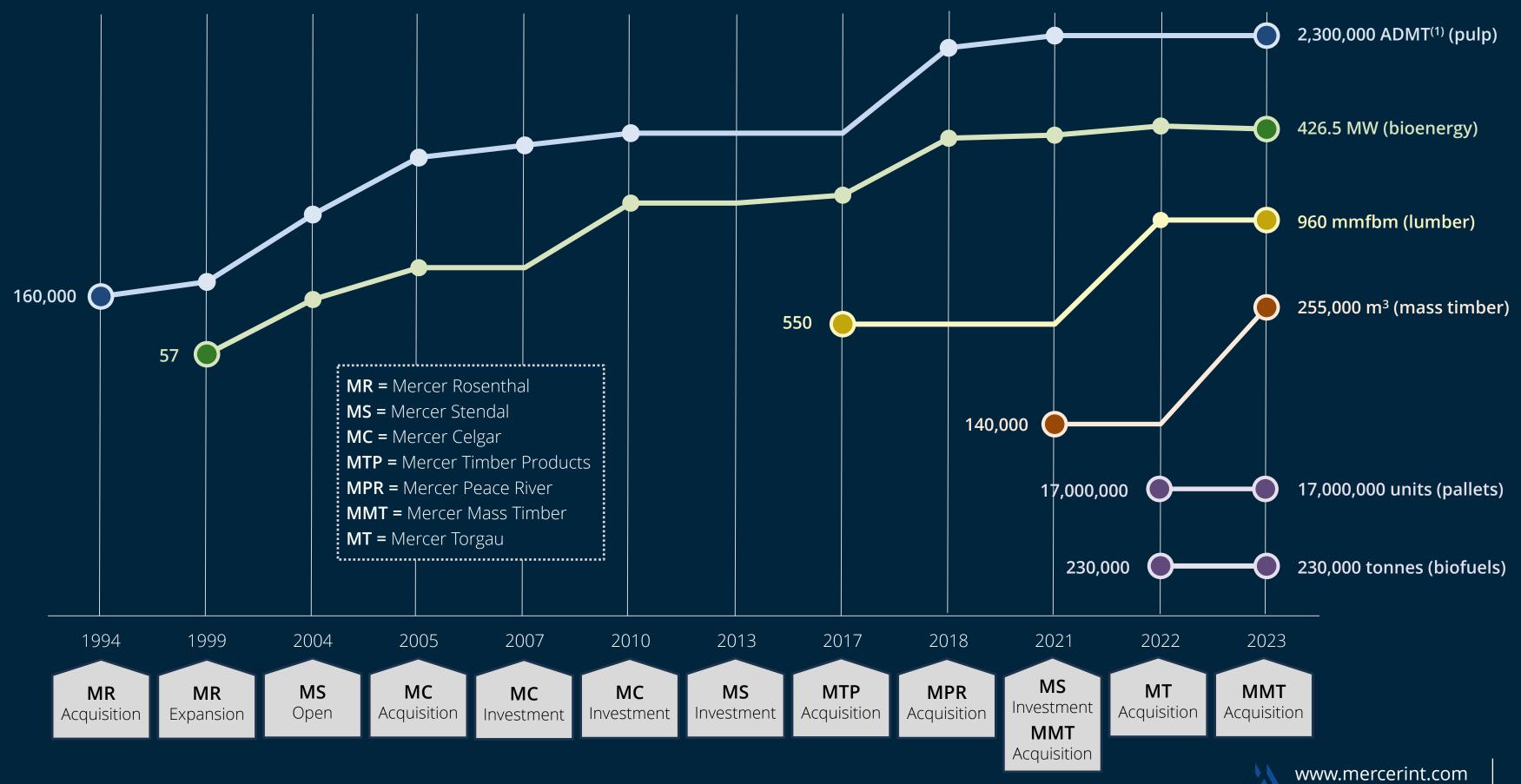
# Maximizing Value Through **Purposeful Diversification**



Sustainably Managed Forests



# Sustained Growth and Diversification



7

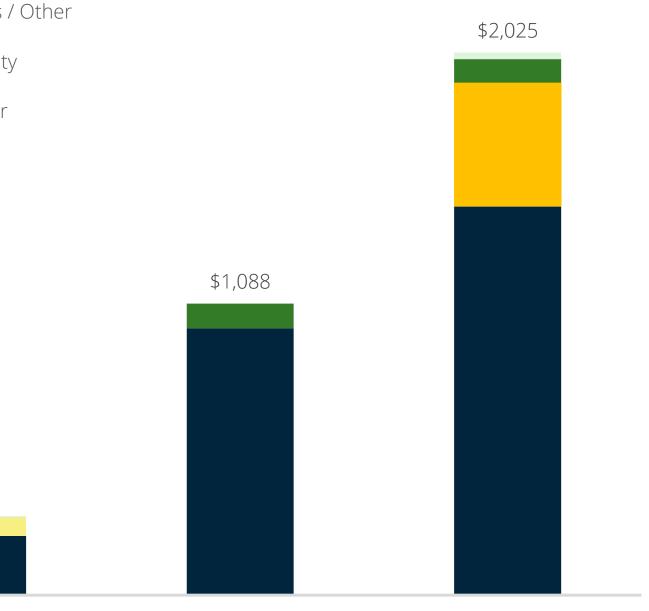
(1) Capacity has since decreased by ~170,000 ADMT following the divestiture of Mercer's 50% stake in Cariboo Pulp & Paper in Q1 2024

# Evolving Sales Mix

### **Diversified Geographies and Products**<sup>(1)</sup>...

> Pulp Segment<sup>(2)</sup> Consolidated Revenue (US\$mm) Bio-Extractives / Other 11% China Green Electricity 38% Other 22% > Product Mix Specialty Paper Germany Solid Wood North America 29% 5% Pulp 23% > Solid Wood Segment<sup>(3)</sup> 72% 18% Germany \$295 ■ Pulp Segment North America Solid Wood Segment Other 41% 2004 ■ Energy / Bio-Extractives

### ...Continued Commitment to Sustained Growth



2013

Q3 2024 LTM



Leveraging Geographic Clusters to Maximize Synergies and Value

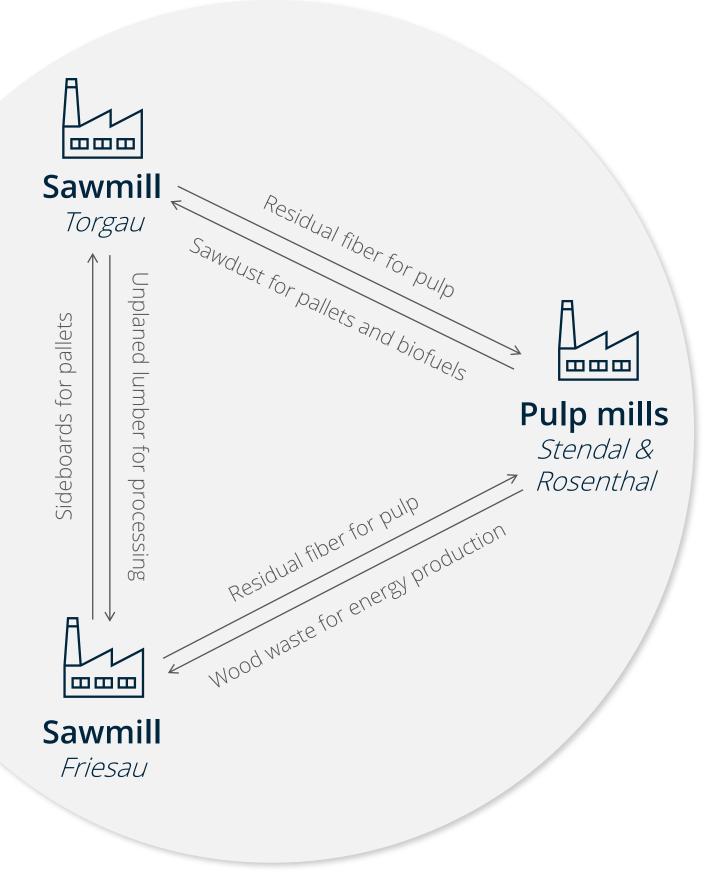
Rosenthal

Stendal

Torgau

Friesau

German Geographic Cluster





# Pulp Segment







### Mercer Rosenthal

Rosenthal am Rennsteig

- 360,000 tonnes NBSK
- 57 MW green energy





Castlegar

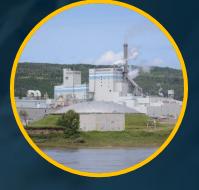
- 520,000 tonnes NBSK
- 100 MW green energy



### Mercer Stendal

💡 Arneburg

- 740,000 tonnes NBSK
- 148 MW green energy

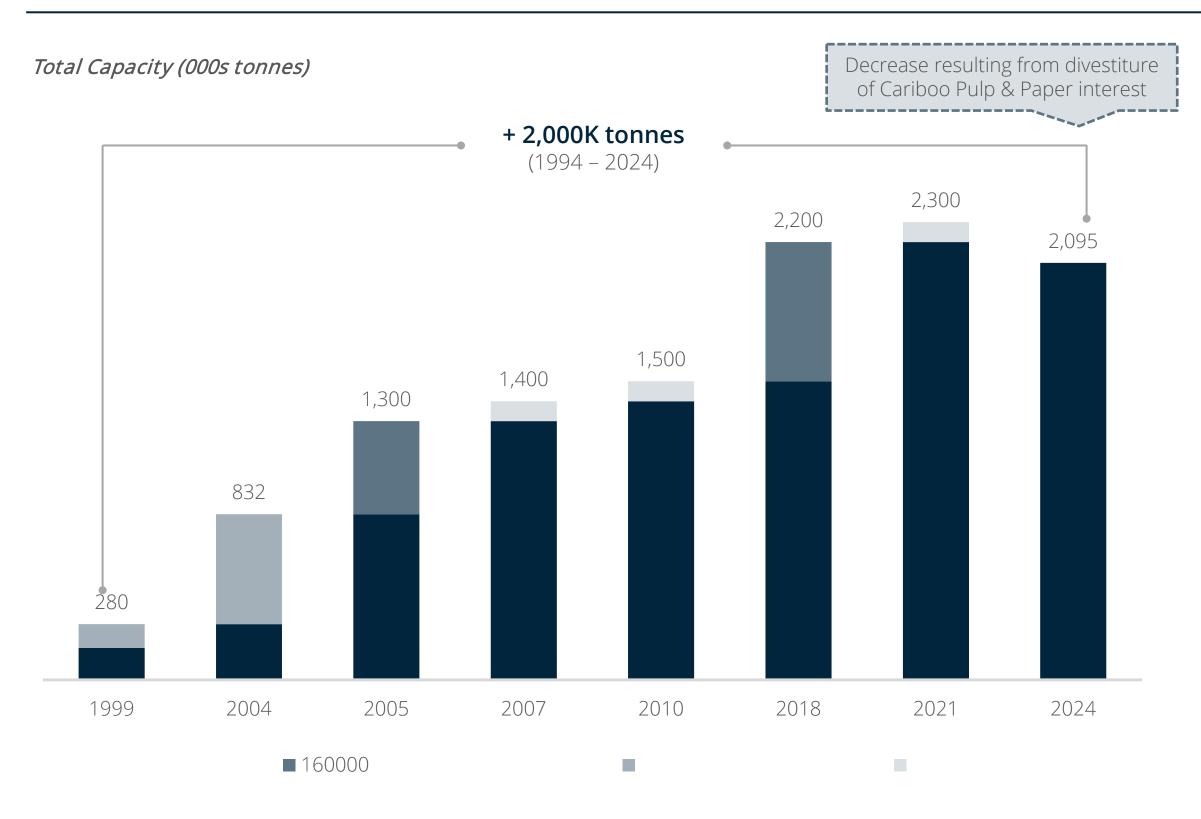


### Mercer Peace River

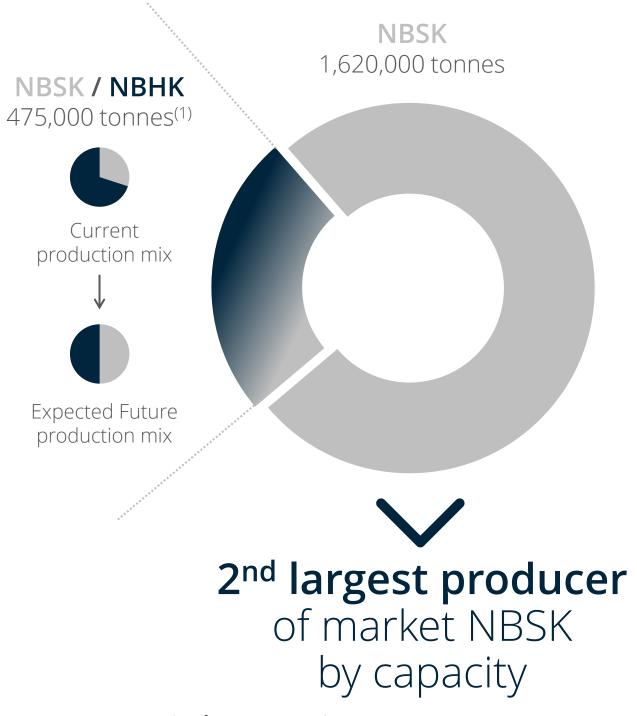
- Peace River
- 475,000 tonnes NBSK / NBHK
- 65 MW green energy

# Continued Optimization

### Mercer's Pulp Capacity has Increased Over 10-Fold Since 1994



PULP SEGMENT



(1) Represents capacity of Mercer Peace River





# Solid Wood Segment



### Mercer Timber Products (Friesau)

- Saalburg-Ebersdorf
- 550,000 mfbm sawn lumber
- 13 MW green energy



USA

Mercer Spokane
 Spokane Valley
 140,000 m<sup>3</sup> CLT / glulam

CANADA



\*

Mercer Okanagan
Okanagan Falls
41,000 m<sup>3</sup> CLT / glulam

### Mercer Torgau

- 🕈 Torgau
- 410,000 mfbm sawn lumber,
- 17 million pallets
- 80,000 tonnes briquettes
- 150,000 tonnes pellets
- 15 MW green energy

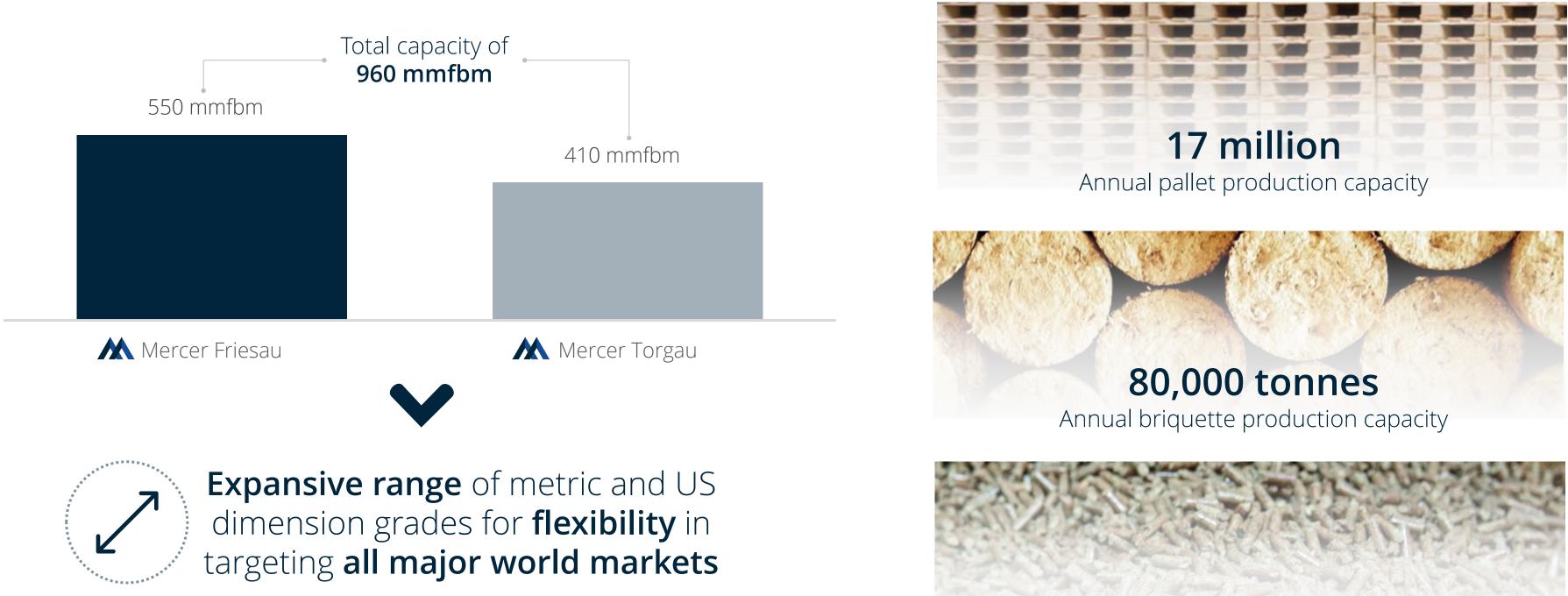


Mercer Conway Conway • 74,000 m<sup>3</sup> CLT / glulam

# Continued Expansion to Capture Synergies

Mercer's two sawmills are amongst the largest globally....





### ...And is the Largest EPAL Pallet Producer

### 150,000 tonnes Annual pellet production capacity



### Grounded in Wood Science. Driven by Innovation. Mercer Mass Timber

### Speed of Assembly

Mass timber construction is ~30% faster than traditional steel and concrete construction

### Sustainability Impact

Sustainably sourced renewable wood sequesters carbon and has a lower intensity than steel and concrete

### Jobsite Efficiency

Rapid assembly improved efficiency and occupation, and reduces demand for skilled workers

### **Biophilic Properties**

Wooden environments can improve productivity, learning, and overall wellbeing

### **Design Precision**

High-precision manufacturing for specific end-use applications with little or no job site waste

### Cost Competitive

Lightness (compared to concrete) and rapid assembly results in lower capital costs



### StructureCraft, 4%



North American facilities with wide geographic reach

State-of-the-art facilities in Northwest and Southwest United States

45,000 m<sup>3</sup>

Total glulam capacity

### 210,000 m<sup>3</sup>

Total CLT capacity

Kalesnikoff, 4% Vaagen, 4% Freres, 5% Element5,8% Sterling, 11%

Nordic, 12%







### Mercer Mass Timber, 37%

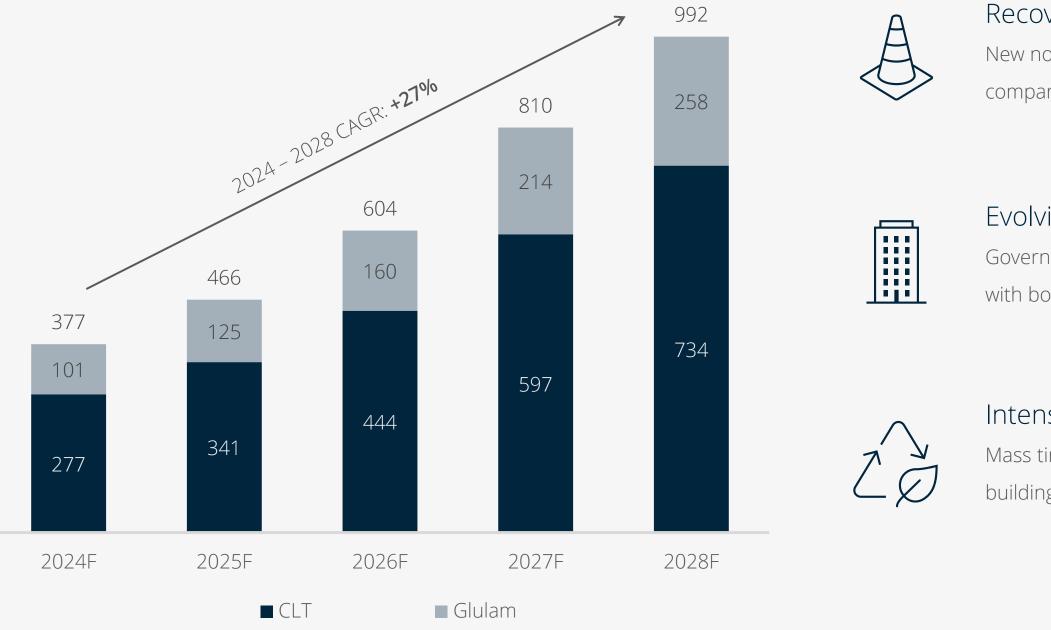
SmartLam, 15%





### Mass Timber Market Overview Unprecedented Growth

North American Forecasted Consumption (000s m<sup>3</sup>)



Source: FEA 2023 Mass Timber Annual Report (published February 2024)



### Recovering Construction Activity

New nonresidential construction is expected to increase 12% in 2027 compared to 2023 levels, respectively, following a slump in 2022.

### Evolving Building Codes

Government appetite for tall wood buildings continues to increase, with both Canada and the US now permitting up to 18 stories.

### Intensifying ESG Efforts

Mass timber buildings emit anywhere from 14% to 52% less carbon than buildings made from steel and concrete.



# Bioenergy and Biomaterials



### Tall Oil



A clean, renewable alternative to • petrochemicals such as crude oil, produced at our Stendal and Rosenthal mills.

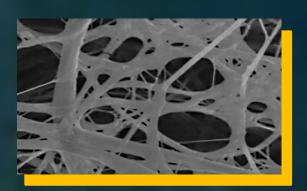
### **Green Energy**



• Over 900 GWh of surplus electricity from biomass every year, enough to power ~80,500 homes without fossil fuels.



### **Performance BioFilaments**



• Mercer's joint venture with Resolute Forest Products to develop commercial applications for cellulose filaments, in unconventional industries.

### Turpentine

• A sustainable extractive of pulp mill processes, indispensable to producers of fragrances for scenting products like perfumes and deodorants.

# Mercer Lignin Centre



### **Overview**



### Mercer Lignin Centre

- Mercer Rosenthal
- 250 tonnes high quality lignin / year



### Mercer Lignin Centre is a **state-of-the-art facility** located at the Rosenthal pulp mill for **full utilization** of wood resources

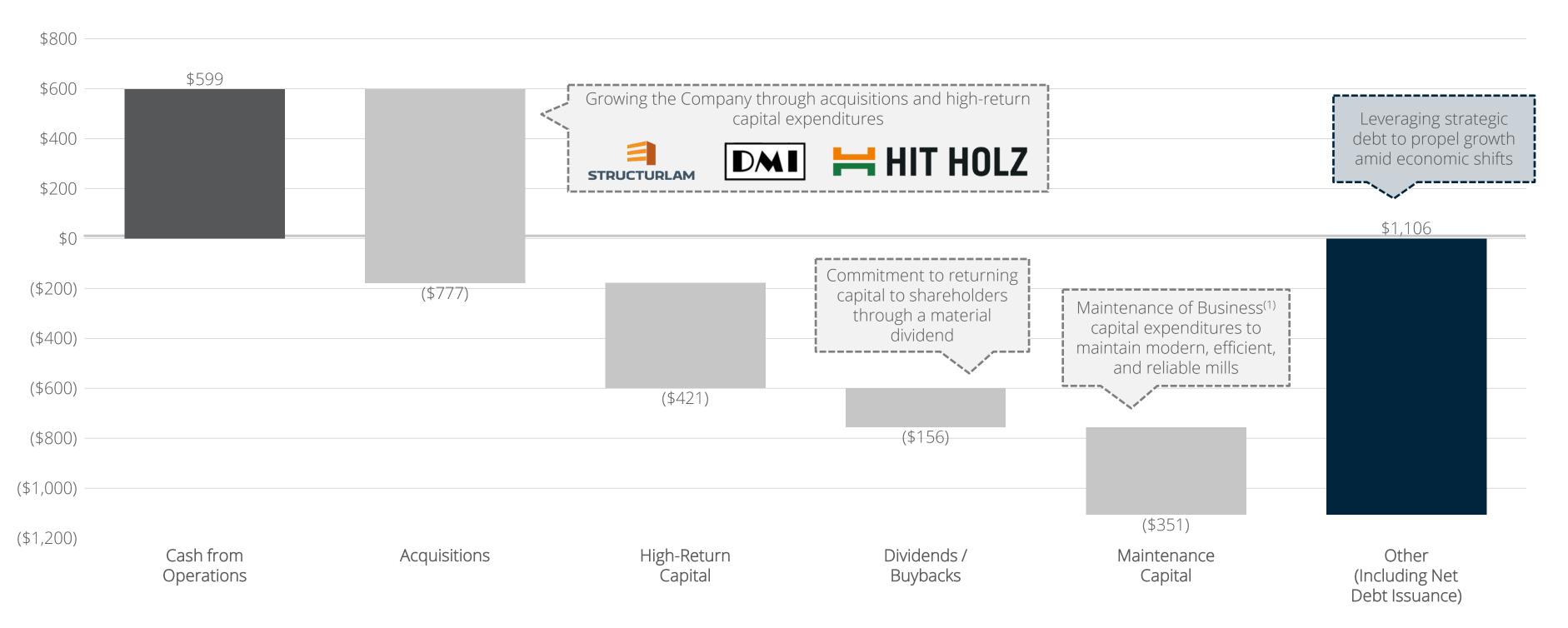
• Lignin is a traditionally underutilized natural polymer in plant cell walls and can be refined into valuable aromatic compounds and chemical building blocks.

• These offer a huge variety of applications - from resins, paints, green asphalt binders, and biogenic battery materials to cosmetics and functional fillers.



# Balanced Capital Allocation

### **Capital Allocation is Balanced and Consistent with Mercer's Strategy**



*Cumulative Capital Allocation, 2018-2023 (US\$mm)* 

(1) Maintenance of Business is a term broadly referencing the base capital required to continuously use facilities and equipment, in their designed capacity and efficiency, for their intended purpose



# Shifting Priorities In Line with Economic Conditions



Inorganic growth through acquisitions, Strategy: expansion of product offerings

Economic tailwinds, lower interest rates **Economy:** and increasing commodity prices





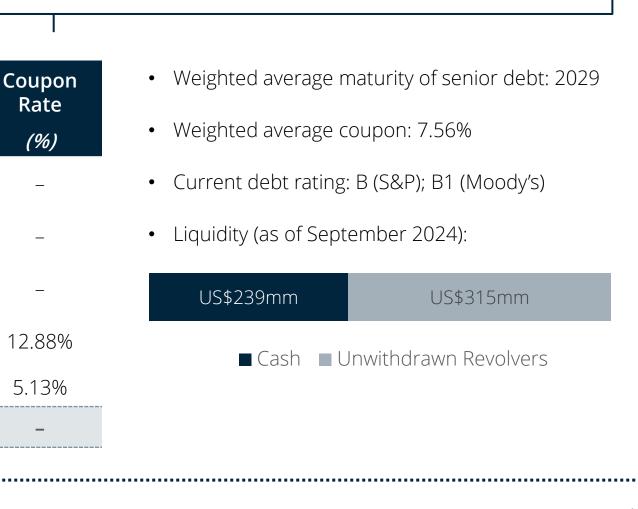
### Present



Seeking to reduce debt / deleverage to lower weighted average coupon rate on debt

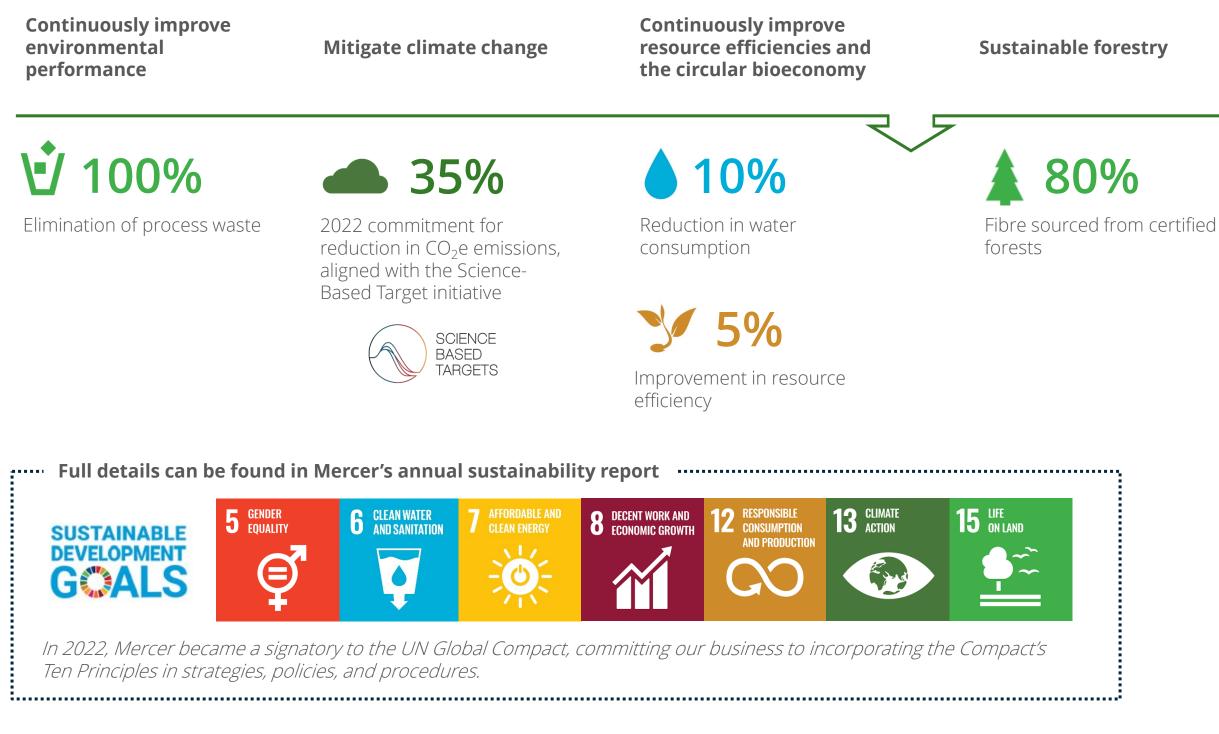
Economic headwinds, high interest rates and lower commodity prices

Maturity	Previous Debt	October '24 Refinancing	Current Debt	(
		(US\$mm)		
2025	_	-	_	
2026	\$300	(\$300)	_	
2027	_	_	_	
2028	\$200	+ \$200	\$400	
2029	\$875	-	\$875	
Total	\$1,375	(\$100)	\$1,275	





### **Sustainability Framework** 2030 Aspirations



### **Enhance stakeholder** and rights holder engagement

### **Embrace social** responsibility

**•** 75th Percentile employee engagement and survey response rate



Deliver superior customer value proposition

### **80%**

Employees who understand and believe in diversity, equity, and inclusion commitment

Total recordable injury rate, <15 injury severity, and interdependent health & safety culture



New hires that are women

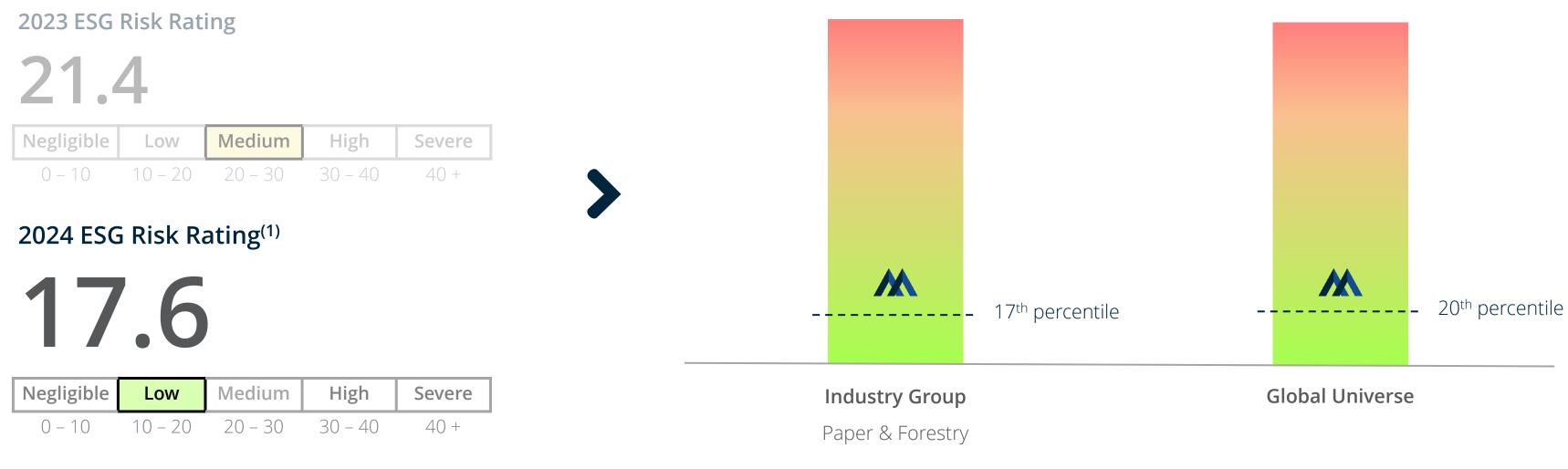


### **Sustainability Framework** ESG-Linked Loan

### Mercer's Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating has Improved by 4.0 Points since 2023

• Mercer has a €370 million revolving credit facility with a five-year term, with borrowing costs linked to ESG performance.





### Mercer is Among the Lowest Risk Within its Industry Group and Globally



# Current and Forward-Looking Market Conditions

	Softwood Pulp	<ul> <li>Lack of material greenfield NBSK capacity additions coupled with clean texcellence Ashdown, Stora Enso) is maintaining favorable supply-destrong demand coupled with global supply constraints will continue Prices have moved up in early Q1 2025, and further upward pressure</li> </ul>
	Hardwood Pulp	<ul> <li>Most growth in hardwood shipments will be from new eucalyptus of Suzano; late 2024 saw downward pressure on hardwood pulp price</li> <li>Q1 2025 seeing modest price improvements due to record price gate curtailments and producer maintenance downtime.</li> </ul>
•	Lumber	<ul> <li>Recent price increases seen across all dimensions for both SYP and Supply-demand rebalancing is underway due to production curtailn</li> <li>Weyerhaeuser and Interfor). Proposed softwood lumber tariff hikes market volatility.</li> </ul>
•	Mass Timber	<ul> <li>High interest rate environment.</li> <li>Interest rate reductions are expected to increase demand.</li> <li>North American construction CLT consumption grew approximately American mass timber consumption forecasted to grow at a 27% C</li> </ul>
	Green Energy	<ul> <li>Rising demand for renewable energy, along with increased electrific sustaining robust growth in electricity demand. This trend is expect energy systems and integrate advanced technologies requiring sub</li> </ul>

closures / curtailments (e.g. Canfor Prince George, Paper demand fundamentals.

Le to create favorable conditions for softwood pulp prices. sure expected driven by improved demand conditions.

capacity coming online from Liansheng, Arauco, UPM, and ces as the market digested this new source of supply gaps with softwood and supply constraints from announced

nd SPF, but overall prices remain weak. ilments by major producers (Canfor, West Fraser, es and transportation challenges are driving short-term

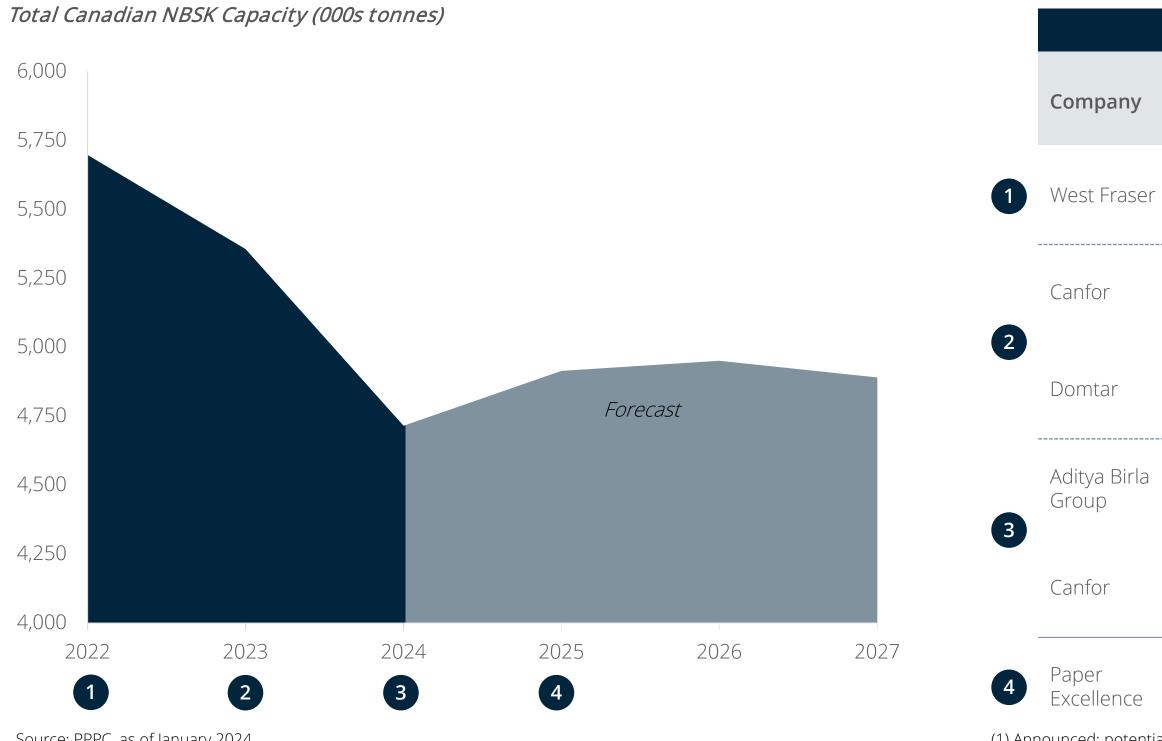
ely four-fold between 2018 and 2022; annual North CAGR between 2024 and 2028

fication of economies and Al-driven energy needs are cted to accelerate as economies transition to lower-carbon Ibstantial energy inputs.



# Canadian NBSK Supply Overview

### Substantial Decrease in Total Canadian NBSK Capacity Over the Last Few Years



Source: PPPC, as of January 2024

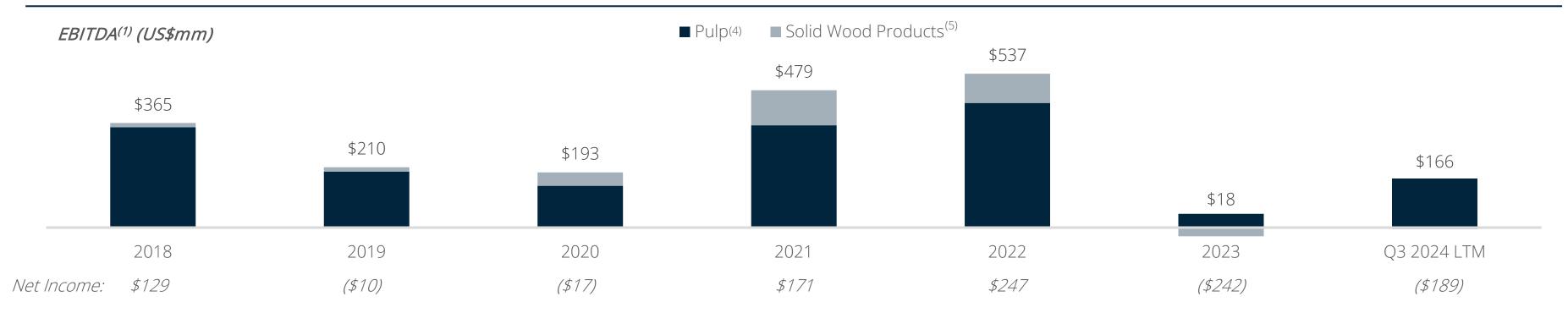
(1) Announced; potential to be delayed

Notable Capacity Changes (> 100,000 tonnes)						
Mill	Location	Change (000s tonnes)	Effective Date			
Hinton	Hinton, AB	(100)	2022, Q4			
Prince George	Prince George, BC	(250)	2023, Q2			
Espanola	Espanola, ON	(110)	2023, Q4			
AV Terrace Bay	Terrace Bay, ON	(320)	2024, Q1			
Northwood	Prince George, ON	(300)	2024, Q3			
Prince Albert <sup>(1)</sup>	Prince Albert, SK	+350	2025, H1			

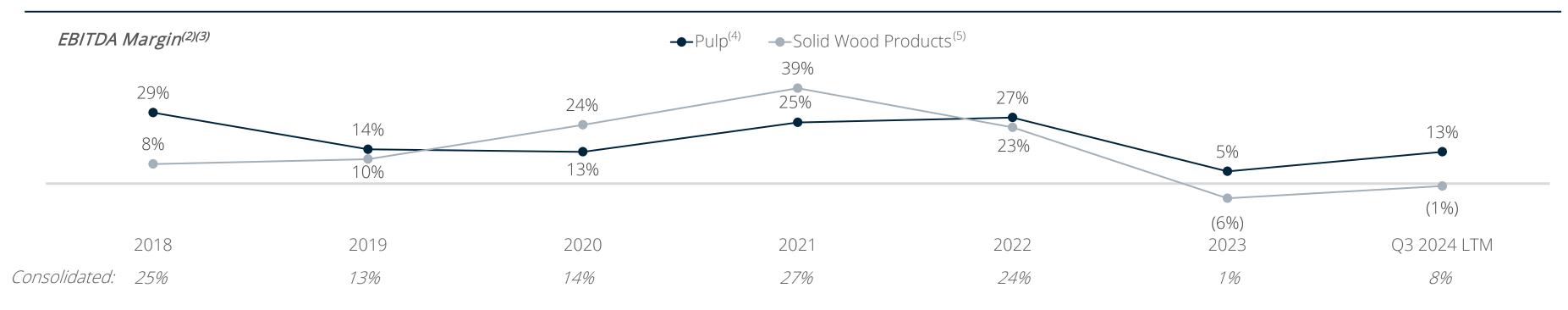


# Financial Performance

### Cyclical Earnings through the Cycle, Strongly Influenced by Commodity Pricing (Pulp, Lumber)



### History of Positive Margin Performance, Gradual Recovery from 2023 Low



(1) EBITDA is a non-GAAP measure. Please refer to the final slide for a reconciliation of Net Income (Loss) to Operating EBITDA; (2) Calculated as Operating EBITDA / Revenue; (3) Excludes unrealized MPR synergies and energy sales from 50% owned Cariboo mill (divested in Q1 2024), recorded as an equity investment; (4) Excludes corporate segment; (5) Includes Mercer Mass Timber

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# With a history of growth, and sustainability and synergistic diversification ingrained in its strategy, Mercer is well-positioned to drive its future growth engines.



### **Strong history** of positive margin performance and continued recovery from 2023 low

### Global megatrends such as fossil fuel replacement driving long-term demand

### **Synergies** from continuous leveraging of geographic clusters

### Economies of scale across pulp and solid wood segments

### Innovation

through further development of biomaterials, such as lignin

### Strong ESG performance

demonstrated through low-risk rating among industry group and globally

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# Reconciling Net Income (Loss) to Operating EBITDA

Consolidated (US\$mm) <sup>(1)(2)(3)</sup>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Q3 2024 LTM
Net Income (Loss)	\$128.6	(\$9.6)	(\$17.2)	\$171.0	\$247.0	(\$242.1)	(\$189.1)
Add: Income Tax Provision (Recovery)	\$48.7	\$19.2	\$6.1	\$89.6	\$98.3	(\$27.8)	(\$4.1)
Add: Interest Expense	\$51.5	\$75.8	\$80.7	\$70.0	\$71.5	\$89.1	\$108.1
Add: Loss on Extinguishment of Debt	\$21.5	\$4.8	_	\$30.4	_	_	_
Add: Other Income (Expense)	\$17.6	(\$6.1)	(\$5.9)	(\$14.4)	(\$24.4)	(\$8.0)	(\$6.7)
Operating Income (Loss)	\$267.9	\$84.0	\$63.7	\$346.6	\$392.4	(\$188.8)	(\$91.8)
Add: Depreciation and Amortization	\$96.7	\$126.4	\$128.9	\$132.2	\$144.2	\$172.5	\$165.8
Add: Impairment on Assets Held for Sale	_	_	_	_	_	\$33.7	\$33.7
Add: Impairment on Disposal of Joint Venture	_	_	_	_	_	_	\$23.6
Add: Impairment on Goodwill	_	_	_	_	_	_	\$34.3
Operating EBITDA	\$364.6	\$210.4	\$192.7	\$478.8	\$536.5	\$17.5	\$165.6

	Pulp + C	orporate	Solid Wood	
Segmented (US\$mm)	Q2 2024	Q3 2024	Q2 2024	Q3 2024
Operating Income (Loss)	\$4.5	\$23.5	(\$43.7)	(\$14.7)
Add: Depreciation and Amortization	\$27.2	\$28.9	\$12.5	\$12.7
Add: Impairment on Goodwill	_	_	\$34.3	-
Operating EBITDA	\$31.7	\$52.4	\$3.1	(\$1.9)

Note: The above reconciles net income (loss to EBITDA); some numbers may not add due to rounding; See next slide for additional disclosures (1) Includes MPR results since acquisition on December 10, 2018; (2) Excludes unrealized MPR synergies and energy sales from 50% owned Cariboo mill (divested in Q1 2024), recorded as an equity investment; (3) Includes Mercer Torgau results since acquisition on September 30, 2022

# Reconciling Net Income (Loss) to Operating EBITDA

# Note: For other reconciliations of Net Income (Loss) to Operating EBITDA in periods not shown, please refer to that period's respective Form 10-Q or 10-K, which can be found on our website (www.mercerint.com)

Operating EBITDA is defined as operating loss plus depreciation and amortization and non-recurring capital asset impairment charges. We use Operating EBITDA as a benchmark measurement of our own operating results and as a benchmark relative to our competitors. We consider it to be a meaningful supplement to operating loss as a performance measure primarily because depreciation expense and non-recurring capital asset impairment charges are not actual cash costs, and depreciation expense varies widely from company to company in a manner that we consider largely independent of the underlying cost efficiency of our operating facilities. In addition, we believe Operating EBITDA is commonly used by securities analysts, investors and other interested parties to evaluate our financial performance.

Operating EBITDA does not reflect the impact of a number of items that affect our net loss, including financing costs and the effect of derivative instruments. Operating EBITDA is not a measure of financial performance under GAAP, and should not be considered as an alternative to net loss or operating loss as a measure of performance, or as an alternative to net cash from (used in) operating activities as a measure of liquidity. Operating EBITDA is an internal measure and therefore may not be comparable to other companies.

Operating EBITDA has significant limitations as an analytical tool, and should not be considered in isolation, or as a substitute for analysis of our results as reported under GAAP. Some of these limitations are that Operating EBITDA does not reflect: (i) our cash expenditures, or future requirements, for capital expenditures or contractual commitments; (ii) changes in, or cash requirements for, working capital needs; (iii) the significant interest expense, or the cash requirements necessary to service interest or principal payments, on our outstanding debt; (iv) the impact of realized or marked to market changes in our derivative positions, which can be substantial; and (v) the impact of non-recurring impairment charges against our investments or assets. Because of these limitations, Operating EBITDA should only be considered as a supplemental performance measure and should not be considered as a measure of liquidity or cash available to us to invest in the growth of our business. Because all companies do not calculate Operating EBITDA in the same manner, Operating EBITDA as calculated by us may differ from Operating EBITDA or EBITDA as calculated by other companies. We compensate for these limitations by using Operating EBITDA as a supplemental measure of our performance and by relying primarily on our GAAP financial statements.