# 2019 Annual results

HighCo



### 01. Key messages

02. Mission and strategy03. Financial performance04. COVID-19 context05. Conclusion

### 01. Key messages

2019: Another year of business growth and increase in earnings

7 <sup>TH</sup> CONSECUTIVE YEAR OF GROWTH	STRONG GROWTH IN EARNINGS Adjusted headline PBIT²: €17.62 M up 9.9%	STRONG CASH GENERATION
GROSS PROFIT	Adjusted operating margin <sup>2</sup> :	NET CASH <sup>3</sup> €62.38 M
€95.22 M	18.5% up 20 bp	up €10.22 M (vs. 31 Dec. 2018)
up 4.6% LFL <sup>1</sup>	Recurring operating income:	NET CASH
up 8.7% reported	€16.54 M up 17.2%	excluding operating WC <sup>3</sup>
	Attributable net income: €9.32 M up 7.8%	<b>€3.1 M</b> up €2.13 M (vs. 31 Dec. 2018)

Continued strong growth in digital businesses (up 7.8% LFL), which accounted for 56.2% of gross profit in 2019 (52.9% on a reported basis in 2018)

- (1) Like for like: Based on a comparable scope (i.e. mainly including the subsidiary Useradgents as of 1 Jan. 2018) (3) Net cash position: Cash and cash equivalents less gross current and non-current financial debt, excluding and at constant exchange rates.
- (2) Adjusted headline profit before interest & tax: Recurring operating income before restructuring costs and excluding the cost of performance share plans. Adjusted operating margin: Adjusted headline PBIT/Gross profit.

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operating working capital (€59.29 M at 31 Dec. 2019).



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### 02. Mission and offer

**Our mission** 

As an expert in data marketing and communication, HighCo continuously innovates to work with brands and retailers in facing the retail challenges of tomorrow.

### 02. Mission and offer

#### Our offer

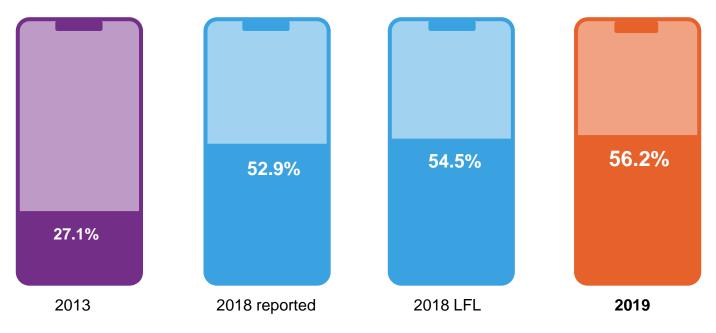
4 complementary areas of expertise cover the entire customer engagement chain from initial contact to the transaction



### 02. Overview of our strategic focuses

### Strategic focus #1: Continue digitising our businesses

Digital business as a percentage of Group gross profit



### 02. Overview of our strategic focuses

Strategic focus #2: Develop our understanding of data

# Data Collection & Analysis

- CRM data from brands and retailers
- Transaction data
- Promotion data
- Browsing data

# Targeting & Personalisation

Marketing segmentationOne-to-one

# Personalised content distribution

- All types of content
- Multi-channel distribution

Analysis & Reporting

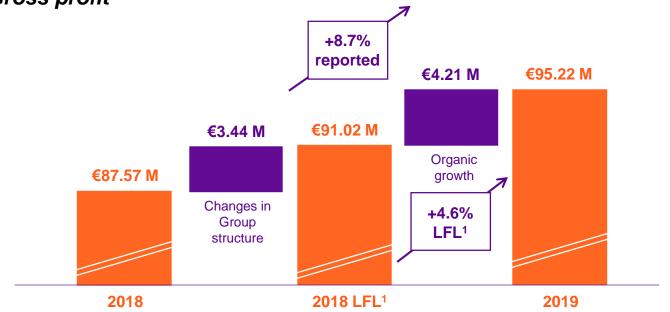
In real time

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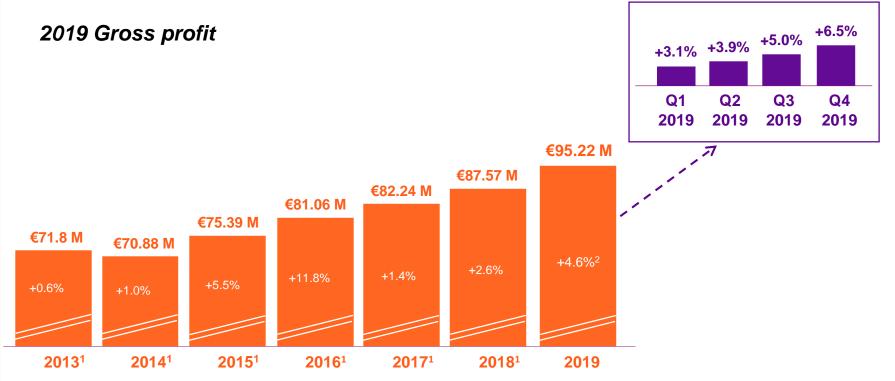
2019 Gross profit



2019 gross profit amounted to €95.22 M, up 8.7% on a reported basis and 4.6% like for like<sup>1</sup>.

(1) LFL: See definition on page 3.

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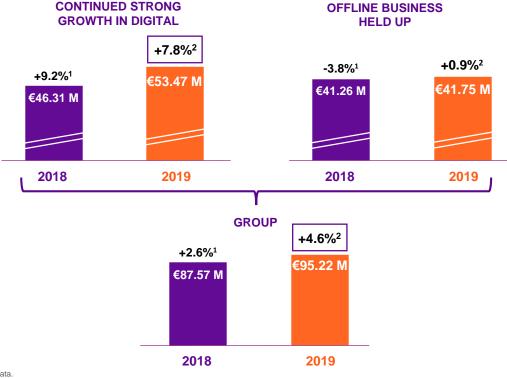


Seventh consecutive year of growth: Up 4.6% LFL<sup>2</sup>, with sequential quarterly growth.

(1) Historical LFL data.

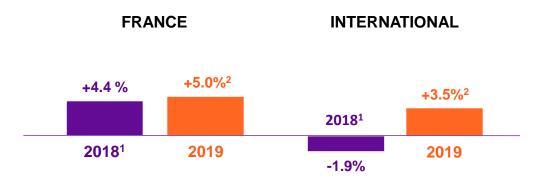
(2) LFL: See definition on page 3.

#### Business growth continues to be driven by digital



25/03/2020

Gross profit by geographical area



> Strong growth in France (up 5% to €71.52 M; 75.1% of the Group's gross profit).

> Improvement in international business (up 3.5% to €23.71 M):

- Growth in Benelux (up 3.7% to €22.61 M; 23.7% of the Group's gross profit);
- Stable activity in Spain and Italy (down 0.3% to €1.1 M; 1.2% of the Group's gross profit).

(1) Historical LFL data.(2) LFL: See definition on page 3.

France: Strong growth

> Good growth trend continues

> Strong growth in digital maintained

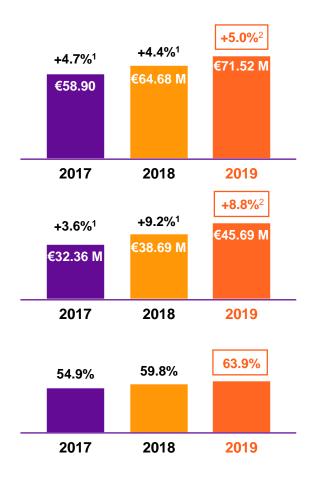
Historical LFL data.

LFL: See definition on page 3.

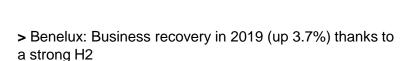
(1) (2)

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> Increase in the share of Digital: More than 60% (integration of the all-digital agency Useradgents in July 2018)



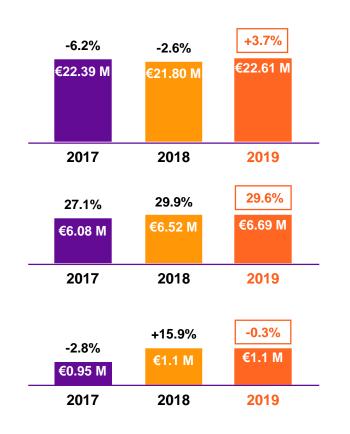
25/03/2020



International: Improved performance

> Benelux: 2.6% growth in Digital to reach nearly 30% of total business in 2019

> Stable performance in Southern Europe over the year



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#### **Business cases**

#### DIGITISING GENEROSITY ON MOBILE FORMATS

#### Objective

Facilitate access to discounts for users in the loyalty programme

#### Approach

Implementation of a mobile platform:

- Distribution of offers
- Receipt scanner
- Processing and reimbursement



Unilever

Mondelēz,





#### **Business cases**



#### SEASONAL EVENT CAMPAIGN FOR LOYALTY CARDHOLDERS

#### Objective

HighCo

Create traffic in stores and increase basket size

#### Two-part approach: bonus + game

- Manufacture and logistics of 24 million Christmas ornaments distributed at check-out for purchases of €25
- Design and management of online game





#### **Business cases**

### TRADE MARKETING SEASONAL EVENT CAMPAIGN

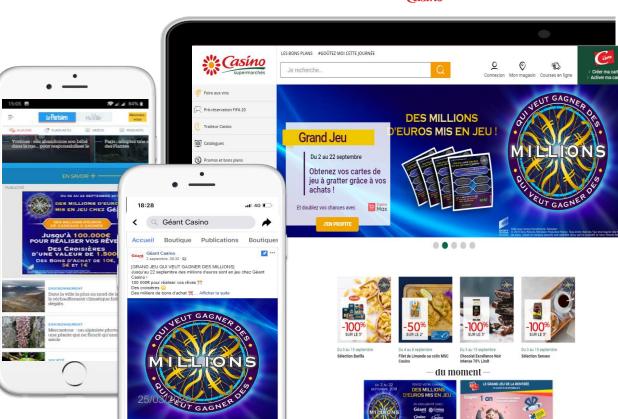
#### Objectives

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- · Create traffic to chain
- Increase in basket size for 83
   participating brands

#### Two-part approach

- 14 million scratch-to-win cards distributed at check-out to win up to €25 million in prizes
- Game with drawing







#### **Business cases**

#### UX<sup>1</sup> APPLIED TO REDESIGN BFORBANK MOBILE APP

**Objective** Make the app more user-friendly

**UX operating method** Involvement of 800 users from design to prototyping

(1) User experience

**HighCo** 







Analysez vos dépenses par catégorie et pilotez vos budgets





Gérez facilement vos cartes

### **Operating profitability**

(€ M)	2019	2018	CHANGE	LFL CHANGE <sup>1</sup>
GROSS PROFIT	95.22	87.57	+8.7%	+4.6%
OPERATING OVERHEADS	(77.61)	(71.53)	+8.5%	
Adjusted headline PBIT <sup>2</sup>	17.62	16.04	+9.9%	
Adjusted OPERATING MARGIN <sup>2</sup> (Adjusted headline PBIT/GP)	18.5%	18.3%	+20 bp	

> Strong growth in adjusted headline PBIT<sup>2</sup>: Up 9.9% in 2019.

> Slight rise in adjusted operating margin<sup>2</sup> of 20 bp to 18.5% in 2019.

(1) LFL: See definition on page 3.

(2) See definitions on page 3.

Operating profitability by geographical area

(€ M)	2019	2018	CHANGE
Adjusted headline PBIT <sup>1</sup> France	15.18	13.84	+9.7%
Adjusted headline PBIT <sup>1</sup> International	2.44	2.20	+11.1%
Adjusted headline PBIT <sup>1</sup> Group	17.62	16.04	+9.9%
Adjusted OPERATING MARGIN <sup>1</sup> Group	18.5%	18.3%	+20 bp

> France<sup>2</sup>: Strong business growth along with a further increase in adjusted headline PBIT<sup>1</sup> (up 9.7% in 2019).

> International<sup>2</sup>: Business growth and increase in adjusted headline PBIT<sup>1</sup> (up 11.1% in 2019).

(1) See definitions on page 3.

(2) Head office costs allocated on a pro rata basis of the gross profit generated by geographical region.

### **Operating profitability**

(€ M)	2019	2018	CHANGE
Adjusted headline PBIT <sup>1</sup>	17.62	16.04	+9.9%
Restructuring costs	(0.45)	(0.71)	
Adjusted recurring operating income <sup>1</sup>	17.17	15.33	+12.0%
Cost of performance share plans	(0.62)	(1.21)	
Recurring operating income	16.54	14.12	+17.2%
Other operating income and expenses	0.12	0.54	
Operating income	16.66	14.66	+13.7%

> 9.9% rise in adjusted headline PBIT<sup>1</sup>.

> 17.2% increase in recurring operating income to €16.54 M (decrease in the cost of performance share plans).

> Operating income up 13.7%.

#### Net income

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(€ M)	2019	2018	CHANGE
Operating income	16.66	14.66	+13.7%
Cost of net debt	(0.39)	(0.15)	
Other financial income and expenses	(0.07)	(0.01)	
Tax expense	(5.76)	(3.86)	
Share in associates	0.24	0.23	
Net income from held for sale and discontinued operations	-	(0.77)	
Net income	10.68	10.10	+5.7%
Net income attributable to owners of the parent	9.32	8.64	+7.8%
Adjusted net income attributable to owners of the parent <sup>1</sup>	9.65	9.75	-1.0%

> Slight rise in the cost of net debt (IFRS 16) and strong increase in tax expense (€1.5 M in tax credits in 2018).

> Attributable net income up 7.8% to €9.32 M.

> Adjusted attributable net income down 1% to €9.65 M.

(1) Adjusted attributable net income: Attributable net income excluding the net after-tax cost of performance share plans, excluding other operating income and expenses, and excluding net income from assets held for sale and discontinued operations.

#### Earnings per share



> 2019 EPS up 7.9% to €0.45 (up 8% on a diluted basis to €0.44).

(1) Attributable net income per share based on an average number of shares of 20,779,690 at 31/12/2019 and 20,803,414 at 31/12/2018.

(2) Diluted attributable net income per share based on an average number of diluted shares of 20,973,735 at 31/12/2019 and 21,011,353 at 31/12/2018.

25/03/2020

#### **Financial position**

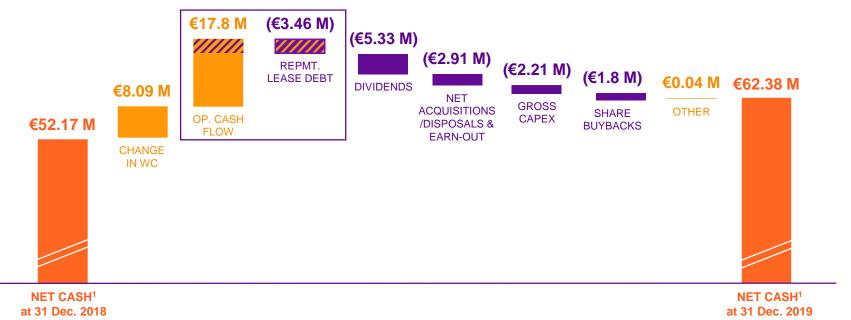
(€ M)	31 Dec. 2019	31 Dec. 2018	CHANGE
Cash and cash equivalents	69.84	62.78	+11.2%
Operating working capital	59.29	51.20	+15.8%
Gross cash	10.56	11.58	-8.9%
Gross debt	7.46	10.62	-29.7%
Net cash position <sup>1</sup>	62.38	52.17	+19.6%
Net cash excluding operating working capital	3.10	0.97	х3

> HighCo's financial position remains healthy, with net cash of €62.38 M, up €10.22 M compared to end-2018.

> Excluding operating working capital, the Group posted gross cash of €10.56 M and net cash of €3.1 M, an improvement of €2.13 M with respect to 31 December 2018.

(1) Net cash position: See definition on page 3.

#### **Financial position**



With cash-generating flows of €22.43 M (operating cash flow excluding the favourable impact of IFRS 16 and change in working capital) and cash-consuming flows of €12.21 M (dividends, acquisitions, earn-out, CAPEX and share buybacks), net cash came out at €62.38 M, up €10.21 M.

HighCo

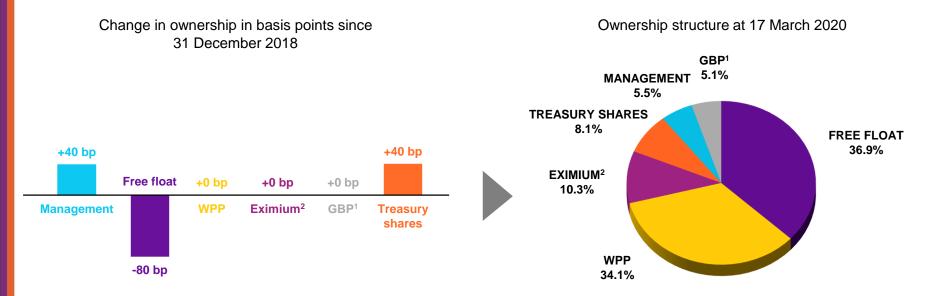
#### **Treasury shares**

	17 March 2020	31 Dec. 2019	31 Dec. 2018
Number of existing shares	22,421,332	22,421,332	22,421,332
Maximum number of potential performance shares	434,000	434,000	740,000
Number of treasury shares	(1,807,190)	(1,789,688)	(1,718,053)
Percentage of treasury shares	8.1%	8.0%	7.7%

The maximum number of potential performance shares (qualifying shares) at this date represented 1.9% of the number of existing shares.

> The proportion of treasury shares rose from 7.7% at 31 December 2018 to 8% at 31 December 2019.

#### **Ownership structure at 17 March 2020**



HighCo continues to benefit from a relatively stable ownership structure compared to 31 December 2018, with an increase in management ownership to 5.5% (up 40 bp), mainly due to the vesting of performance shares, and in treasury shares.

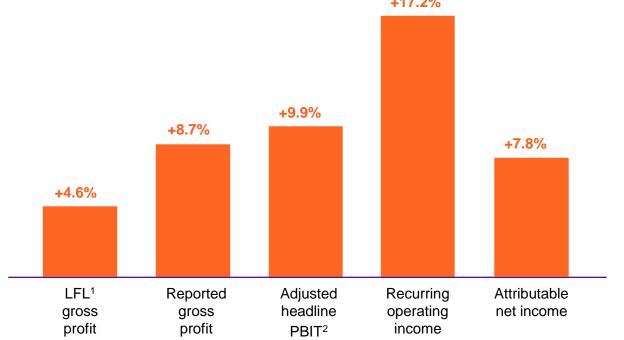
(2) Eximium: Company controlled by Michel Baulé according to the most recent declaration of threshold crossing filed with the AMF on 1 August 2017.

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25/03/2020

<sup>(1)</sup> GBP: Gérard de Bartillat Participations, member of the Supervisory Board.

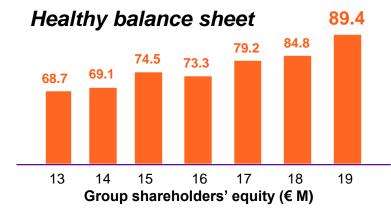
### Strong growth in main financial indicators in 2019

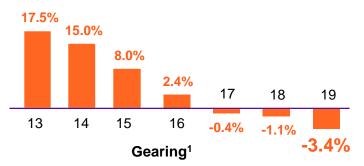


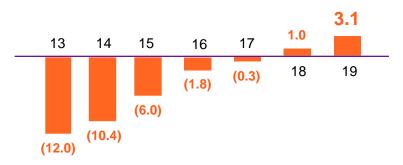
+17.2%

(1) LFL: See definition on page 3.

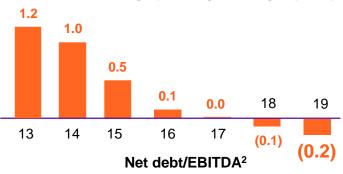
(2) See definition on page 3.







Net cash excluding operating working capital (€ M)



- (1) Gearing: Net debt/Group shareholders' equity.
- (2) Net debt/EBITDA: (Gross debt Net cash excluding WC)/Recurring operating income before amortisation and cost of performance share plans.
- (3) Gross cash position: Cash and cash equivalents (€69.84 M at 31 Dec. 2019) excluding operating working capital (€59.29 M at 31 Dec. 2019).
- > At 31 December 2019, the Group posted gross cash<sup>3</sup> of €10.56 M.



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### 04. COVID-19 context

### **Employees**

- Dissemination/reminder of "distancing techniques" on various media and stricter health protection measures.
- Closure of Group sites and rollout of measures to ensure business continuity (teleworking).
- Group cohesion maintained via collaborative tools.





# 04. COVID-19 context

#### **Businesses**

### **#1. Client environment**

Non-food retail

- Store closures.
- Large food retail
- Drive to store: Decrease in promotions, and chain seasonal event campaigns postponed or cancelled.
- In-store: Difficulty for merchandisers to access stores; printers closed.
- Digital: Click & collect sites saturated causing a sharp decline in display media.

#### #2. Impact on Group business (GP)

- Q1 2020: Decline despite a position in line with the budget showing slight growth at end-February.
- Q2 2020: Substantial impact with risk of significant decline.





#### HighCo

# 04. COVID-19 context

### Situation and action plan

#1. Cash position

Mid-March 2020: Stable cash position (gross cash) compared with 31 December 2019 (€10.56 M)

#### **#2. Government economic programmes**

Use of programmes implemented by the government to reduce the impact of the situation: postponed payment of taxes and social security charges, partial unemployment, etc.

#### #3. SBP

Suspension of the share buyback programme

#### #4. CAPEX

Suspension of non-priority investments

**#5. Dividend** Proposal to allocate 2019 profits to reserves

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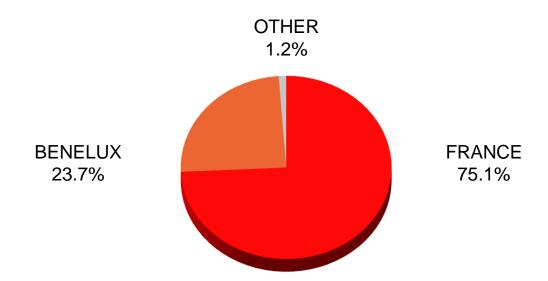
### 05. Conclusion

HighCo has posted its seventh consecutive year of growth, driven by the strong rise in digital businesses and very good financial performance.

Our financial soundness, excellent relations with our clients and financial partners, and the cohesion and involvement of our employees are our greatest strengths to get through the unprecedented health and economic crisis caused by COVID-19.



### BREAKDOWN OF 2019 GROSS PROFIT BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA



### CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

(in € thousands, except for earnings per share)	31/12/19	9 31/12/18
Sales	175,747	173,769
Purchases and external charges	(96,174)	) (105,314)
Personnel expenses	(53,474)	(49,745)
Taxes	(1,141)	(1,137)
Depreciation and amortization	(7,169)	) (2,689)
Other current operating income	264	344
Other current operating expenses	(1,508)	) (1,112)
Recurring operating income	16,544	14,117
Other operating income and expenses	120	536
Operating income	16,664	14,653
Financial income	2	2 20
Gross cost of financial debt	(389)	) (172)
Net cost of financial debt	(387)	(152)
Other financial income	11	12
Other financial costs	(85)	) (18)
Income tax expense	(5,758)	) (3,859)
Share of income of associates	237	231
Net income from continuing operations	10,681	10,867
Net income from non-current assets held for sale and discontinued operations		- (769)
Net income	10,681	10,098
– HighCo shareholders	9,316	
- Minority interest	1,365	5 1,455
Headline PBIT <sup>1</sup>	16,993	14,825
Adjusted Headline PBIT <sup>2</sup>	17,618	16,036
Basic earnings per share from continuing operations in euros <sup>3</sup>	0.51	
Diluted net earnings per share from continuing operations in euros <sup>4</sup>	0.51	0.52
Basic earnings per share in euros <sup>3</sup>	0.51	0.49
Diluted net earnings per share in euros <sup>4</sup>	0.51	0.48
Basic earnings per share attributable to HighCo shareholders in euros <sup>3</sup>	0.45	5 0.42
Diluted net earnings per share attributable to HighCo shareholders in euros <sup>4</sup>	0.44	0.41

(1) Adjusted headline profit before interest & tax: Recurring operating income before restructuring costs (2019 : €450h; 2018 : €709th).
 (2) Adjusted headline profit before interest & tax: Recurring operating income before restructuring costs (2019 : €450th; 2018 : €709th) and excluding the cost of performance share plans (2019 : €624th; 2018 : €1,211th).

(3) Based on an average number of shares of 20,779,690 at December 31, 2019 and 20,803,414 at December 31, 2018.

(4) Based on an average number of diluted shares of 20,973,735 at December 31, 2019 and 21,011,353 at December 31, 2018.

### CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

Assets (in € thousands)	31/12/19	31/12/18
Non-current assets		
Goodwill	79,811	79,811
Net intangible assets	9,477	7,855
Net tangible assets	2,791	2,591
Right-of-use assets related to leases	15,261	-
Investments in associates	578	335
Other non-current financial assets	623	597
Other non-current assets	-	-
Deferred income tax assets	1,265	1,068
Total non-current assets	109,807	92,257
Current assets		
Inventories and work in progress	45	148
Advances and prepayments	1,572	874
Trade and other receivables	44,818	48,591
Other current assets	6,797	14,360
Tax receivables due	1,056	1,657
Tax receivables	8,723	7,850
Cash and cash equivalents	69,841	62,781
Total current assets	132,852	136,261
Assets held for sale	-	-
Total assets	242,660	228,518

Liabilities (in € thousands)	31/12/19	31/12/18
Shareholders' equity		
Ordinary shares	11,211	11,211
Share premium	26,129	26,129
Other reserves	42,765	38,820
Net income for the year	9,316	8,643
Group shareholders' equity	89,421	84,803
Minority interest in equity	2,304	2,927
Total shareholders' equity	91,726	87,730
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	2,582	6,903
Lease liabilities	12,891	-
Provisions for liabilities and charges	1,869	1,797
Other non-current liabilities	2,650	2,795
Total non-current liabilities	19,991	11,495
Current liabilities		
Financial debt	4,723	3,712
Lease liabilities	3,100	-
Provisions for liabilities and charges	1,176	1,090
Trade and other payables	31,392	38,501
Other current liabilities	78,132	73,579
Tax debts payable	71	271
Tax debts	12,349	12,141
Total current liabilities	130,943	129,294
Total debts	150,934	140,788
Liabilities directly associated with assets held for sale	-	-
Total liabilities	242,660	228,518

### CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

(in € thousands)	31/12/19	31/12/18
Net income	10,681	10,098
Net income from discontinued operations	-	769
Depreciation and provisions charges (net)	7,339	7,515
Income and expenses arising from share-base payments	364	1,044
Dividends	-	535
Remeasurement (Fair Value)	(118)	(5,076)
Share of profit of associates	(237)	(231)
Deferred tax	(190)	22
Gain or loss on sales of assets	(38)	(30)
Net cash from operating activities - before changes in working capital	17,800	14,646
Changes in working capital	8,086	5,333
Net cash from operating activities	25,885	19,978
Purchases of fixed assets	(2,208)	(2,569)
Proceeds from disposal of fixed assets	46	42
Change in other non-current assets	(6)	5
Net cash allocated to subsidiary acquisitions/disposition	(2,909)	(5,987)
Net cash from investing activities	(5,078)	(8,509)
Capital increase	-	(1)
Dividends paid to shareholders	(5,331)	(4,375)
New loans	529	1
Repayment of loans	(3,561)	(3,807)
Repayment of lease liabilities	(3,585)	-
Treasury shares	(1,802)	(655)
Net cash from financing activities	(13,750)	(8,837)
Foreign exchange impact	2	(3)
Net cash inflow (outflow)	7,059	2,629
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	62,781	60,152
IFRS 5 Impact of cash and cash equivalents	-	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	69,841	62,781
Change	7,059	2,629

### INVESTOR RELATION CONTACTS AND FINANCIAL REPORTING CALENDAR



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#### 2020 Calendar

 Q1 2020 (GP)
 22 April 2020

 Q2/H1 2020 (GP)
 16 July 2020

 H1 results 2020
 26 August 2020

 Conference call H1 2020
 27 August 2020

 Q3 2020 (GP)
 14 October 2020

 Q4/FY 2020 (GP)
 20 January 2021

 Published post closing.
 20 January 2021