

## **3i Capital Markets Seminar**

19 March 2020

# **MACTION**









- Action remains 3i's biggest investment and best compounder of returns
- Transaction completed in January 2020 to provide liquidity to Eurofund V LPs
- 3i-led governance model, which has been instrumental to Action's success, unchanged
- 3i re-investment, with increased net interest of c.49%
- Transaction value of €10.25bn (18.2x September run-rate EBITDA) delivered an exceptional return to EFV LPs, gross 31.3x euro money multiple, 75% gross IRR
- New and existing blue-chip institutions have invested alongside 3i in the next stage of the Action journey
- 2019 results reinforce our confidence in the Action business model and its potential

## Why 3i reinvested in Action



#### Discount retail sector opportunity

- Increasing customer acceptance of underpenetrated discount retail sector
- · Counter-cyclical opportunity based on lowest prices

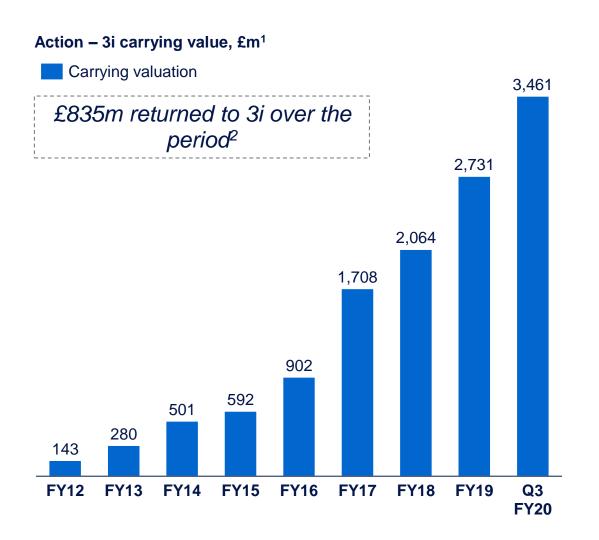
#### Winning company with exceptional customer value proposition and financial model

- Good quality products priced 30-60% below direct peers
- Sales densities 3x better than competitors
- Increasing scale benefits

#### Significant white space remaining

- Simple, scalable, repeatable model
- Significant growth runway across existing and new geographies
- Average 12-month payback on new stores

#### Material and enduring compounding benefit to 3i



## **Today's presenters**





## Sander van der Laan

**Chief Executive Officer** 

- Joined in October 2015
- 29 years of Consumer & Retail experience
- Various positions at Ahold (1998 2015)
  - CEO Albert Heijn (2011 2015)
  - COO Ahold Europe
  - General Manager Albert Heijn
  - CEO Giant Food Stores (Ahold USA)
  - EVP Marketing & Merchandising Albert Heijn
  - General Manager Gall & Gall



#### **Joost Sliepenbeek**

#### **Chief Financial Officer**

- Joined in November 2018
- 19 years of Consumer & Retail experience
- 32 years experience in finance, 20 years as CFO
  - CFO Vion (2015 2018)
  - CFO Van Gansewinkel (2013 2015)
  - CFO C1000 (2009 2012)
  - CFO HEMA (2007 2009)
  - CFO Albert Heijn (1999 2003)
  - Various positions at Ahold (1994 2007)

## Agenda

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Business performance 2019
- 3. Strategy update
- 4. Financial performance 2019
- 5. Wrap Up

Simon Borrows

Sander van der Laan

Sander van der Laan

**Joost Sliepenbeek** 

**Simon Borrows** 



# **2019** was another year of strong performance and investment for the future





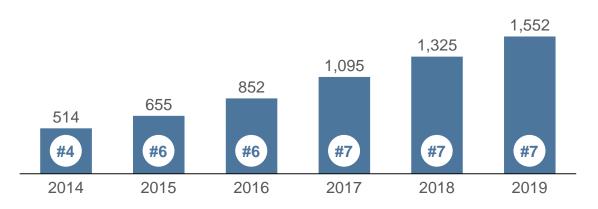
# 2<sup>nd</sup> year of significant investment in organisational capability and supply chain

## Our high growth track record continues

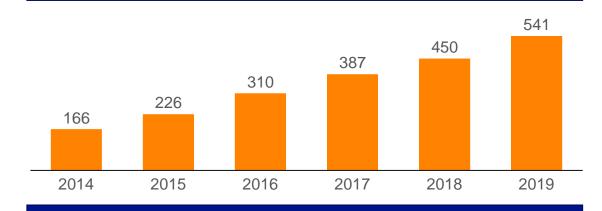




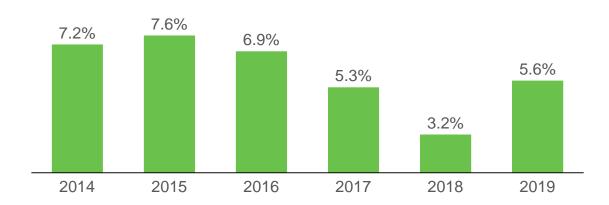
#### Store expansion (numbers) & # countries



#### Operating EBITDA (€m)



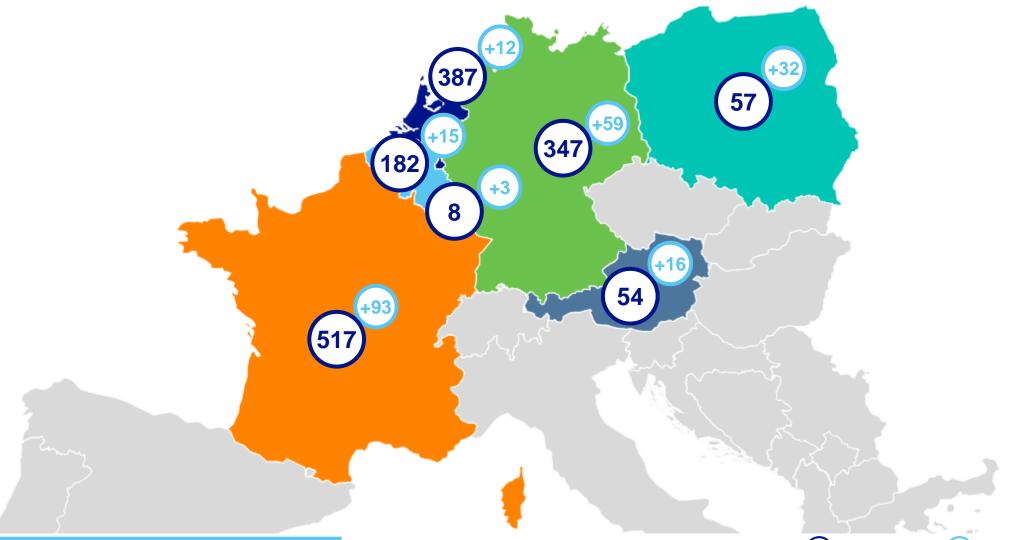
#### LfL sales growth (%)



#

# In 2019 we opened 230 new stores, continuing our strong geographic expansion

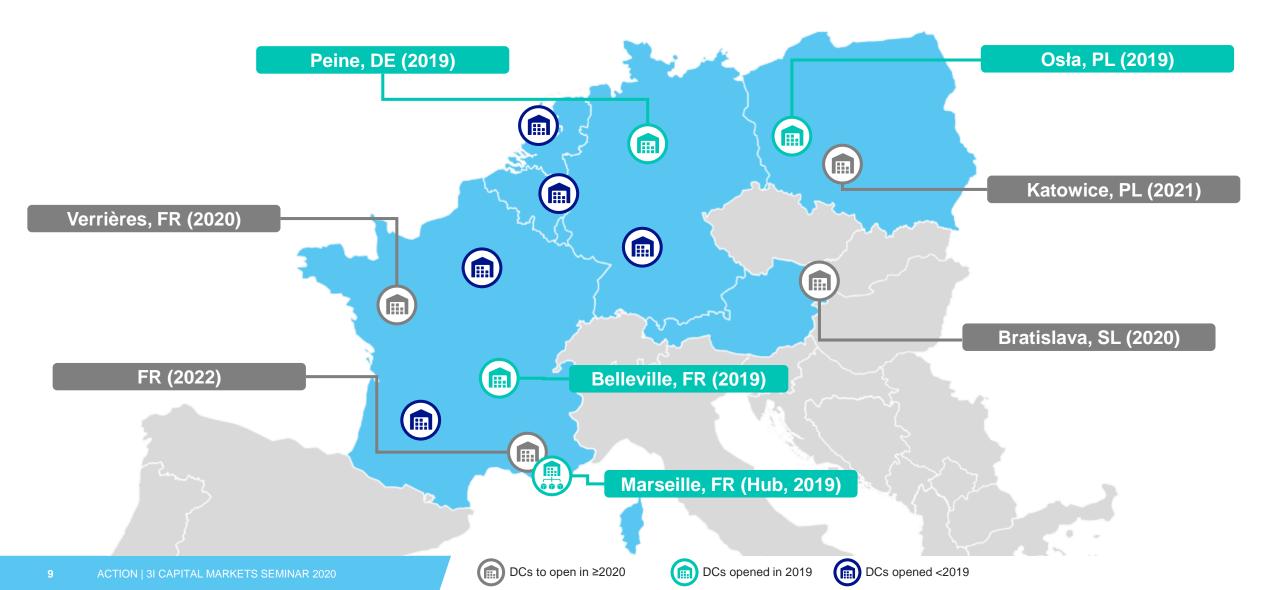




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## **Maturing DC network across countries**





# Strong LfL driven by growth in footfall and development of *MACTION* multiple customer touchpoints



1) Peak week in Dec-19

### **2019 business performance**



Excellent growth in sales and EBITDA

Strong, broad-based category performance underpinning strong LfLs

**Much improved operational performance** with further investment in supply chain, IT and digital

Another year of significant investment in **expansion**, **infrastructure and future proofing the business** 

Increased focus on ESG and digital agenda

People & labour – we have added another ~5k employees to operate our stores, DCs and offices

## **Current trading 2020**

**ACTION** 

- Trading performance to the end of week 11 has been strong
- Action is ahead of budget for sales, LfL, EBITDA and cash flow
- LfL sales growth to the end of week 11 was over 7%
- Longer term growth story and competitive positioning remain intact
- Cash position and liquidity are very strong

## COVID-19 update (1/3)



#### I. General

- Governments are taking extreme measures with significant impact on society, businesses and Action
- We are forced to temporarily close stores in a number of countries. Rules vary by country and in Germany by region
- Taking all necessary actions to operate and supply the open stores
- Established a crisis management team, with daily reporting and alignment, and good support from the 3i team
- Implementing multiple measures to reduce cost and secure our cash position

## COVID-19 update (2/3)



#### II. Stores

Country	# stores (YTD)	Status
Netherlands	388	All stores open Sell full assortment
Belgium	183	All stores closed March 18 to April 6
Luxembourg	9	8 stores open Allowed to sell only essentials (~55% of sales)
France	523	All stores currently closed, but set to reopen Allowed to sell only essentials (~55% of sales)
Germany	353	Stores subject to local approvals, 94 stores closed Allowed to sell only essentials (~39% of sales)
Austria	56	All stores closed March 16 to March 29
Poland	63	13 stores closed based in large shopping centers
Total	1,575	

## COVID-19 update (3/3)



#### **III. Employees**

- We want to provide a safe and secure work environment and have established clear protocols and guidelines
- So far we have been confronted with 11 confirmed COVID-19 cases

#### **IV. Customers**

- Action has a role in offering essential products to feed, protect and support our customers in their fight against Coronavirus
- We aim to keep our stores open when allowed/possible even when we can only sell part of our assortment

#### V. Supply Chain

- Our DCs in the Netherlands, Germany and Poland are operational
- Our DCs in France (3) are temporarily closed
- In China, situation is improving, factories are open again and producing

#### **VI. Expansion**

- We were on track to open 240+ new stores including pilots in Czech and Italy
- We are taking a pause and assessing the situation

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# Within the retail environment, specific trends are driving *MACTION* demand for value retail concepts



#### More hybrid shopping behaviour

Consumers are moving to premium and value shopping – the middle ground is under increasing pressure



## Reducing strength of branded products

Branded products command less value from consumers if they are not truly differentiated



## Social acceptance of discount and value

Discount & value shopping has broad appeal across socio-economic groups



#### Increasing awareness of value

Consumers are more educated on value for money - more expensive is not always better

## Action's strategy remains simple and consistent



Strengthen our unique customer value proposition

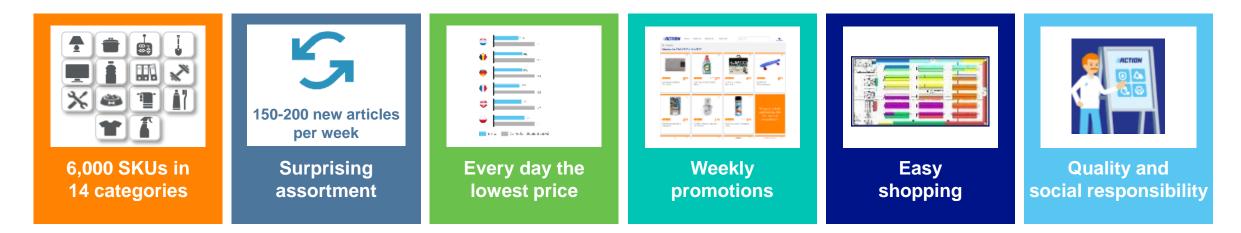
**International expansion** 

A simple, efficient, responsible and scalable operating model

**Organisation, people & values** 

# Action's winning customer proposition and brand appeals *MACTION* to everyone and is supported by a strong business model...

#### Brand promise - We go beyond expectations everyday at ACTION



Non food discounter Simple – Efficient – Cost conscious

## ... which is both low-cost and scalable...



One brand, one format, one operating model





## ...with a sustainable advantage and best-in-class unit economics



Customer value proposition

Action's increasing scale enhances profitability and builds a competitive advantage through sheer size, purchasing power and scale efficiencies



customer value proposition through even lower prices, quality and continuous surprise



**Competitive advantage** 

ACTION

Action's attractive customer value proposition led by low prices, quality and surprise drives top line growth



**Unbeatable financial model** 

Action's operating model delivers exceptionally compelling economics and cash generation to support store expansion



## Strengthen our unique customer value proposition

# Action operates an assortment of 14 complementary categories





Number of SKUs per category ranges between ~100 and ~900



Kaytan

office

essentials

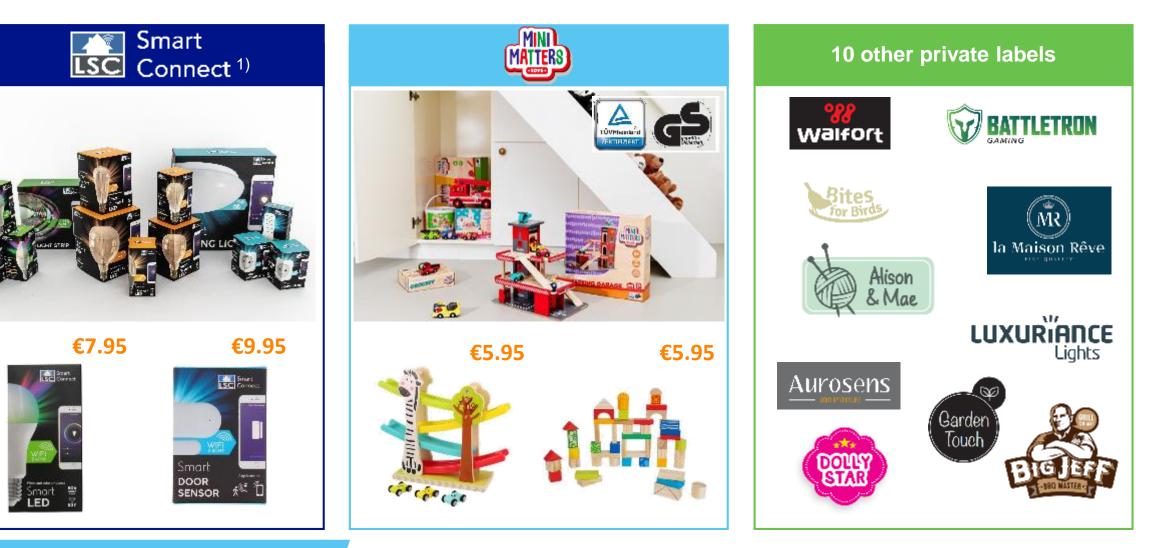
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**Product types** 

(1) A-brands are purchased both from A-brand suppliers as well as traders(2) Supplier brands incl. "white label" and "fancy label"

SPECTRUM

# **Significant expansion of new private labels across categories in 2019**



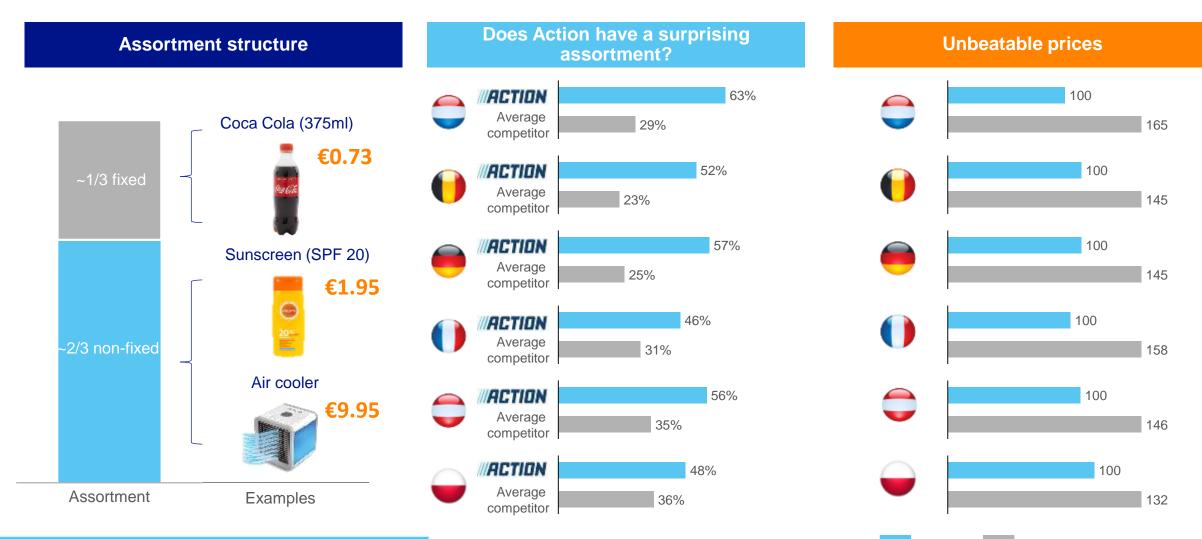
1) Not a new Private Label, but also known as LSC Light Bulbs, extended with a range of Smart products: LSC Smart Connect

///ACTION

# 21 awards won in 5 different countries across categories, *MACTION* reinforcing quality and value to our customers



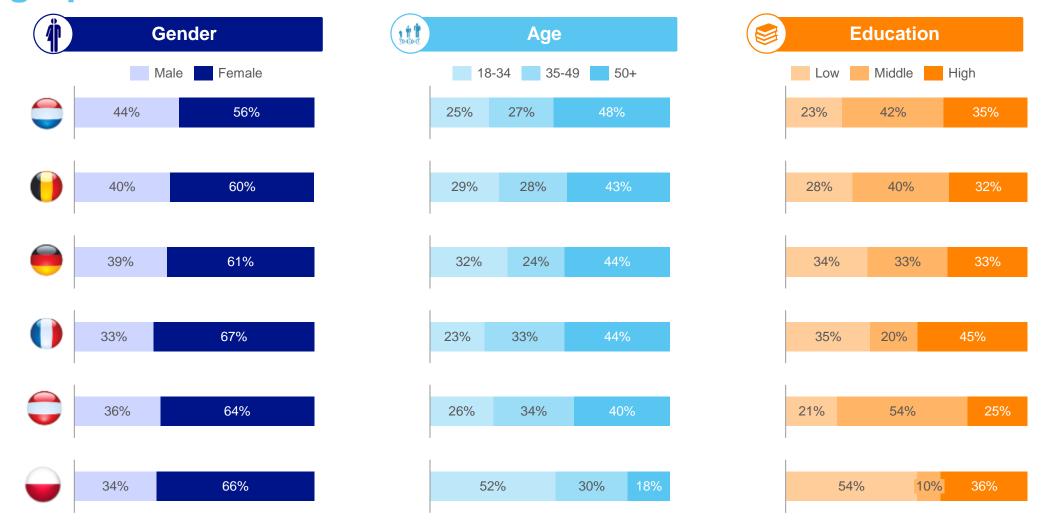
# Surprising assortment offered to our customers with unbeatable prices



Source: GfK survey, Dec 2019 and company information

//ACTION

## Action attracts a broad audience across all customer demographics



//ACTION

Source: GfK survey, Dec 2019

## Action's proposition delivers market leading sales densities with customers purchasing more than intended

#### Purchase behaviour of customers during last shopping trip (%) Average sales density (sales / m<sup>2</sup>) vs. competitors MACTION 36 7 4 2.8x Avg. competitors 29 MACTION 2.7x 25 Avg. competitors 21 3 **MACTION** (2.6x Avg. competitors 19 21 MACTION 3.7x Avg. competitors Exactly as planned Less than planned More than planned Nothina

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Source: GfK survey Dec 2019 and company information

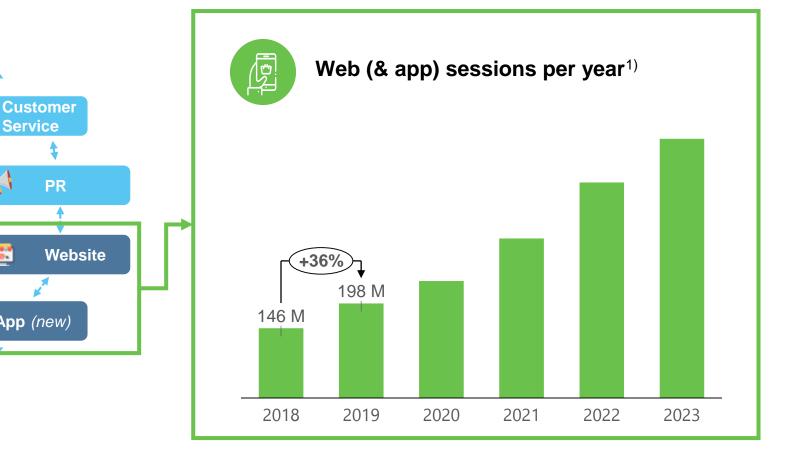
## **Driving Research Online, Purchase Offline (ROPO)**

**Service** 

App (new)

PR

0.



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Integrated marketing approach drives store traffic and ticket size and is delivered at a cost of less than 1% of sales

Leaflets

Email

Digital marketing **\*\*\*** 

Store

Social

media

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### Launch of Action app and loyalty programme to drive customer footfall



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Shop & Speer

Shop, spaar en win

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# Launch in 2020 in NL

#### World of Action Exclusive benefits ..



..and many more functionalities (product catalogue, digital receipt, wish list etc.)

#### **Polls & questionnaires**

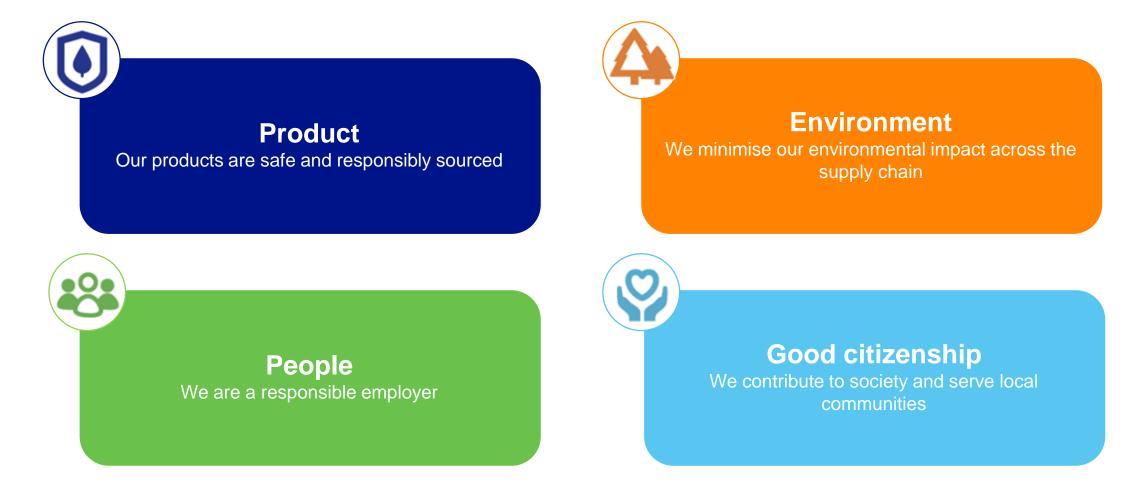


## Shop (in store) & Win





# ESG: Action Social Responsibility is a core element of our customer value proposition



MACTION

# We seek to source our products responsibly and minimise our impact on the environment...

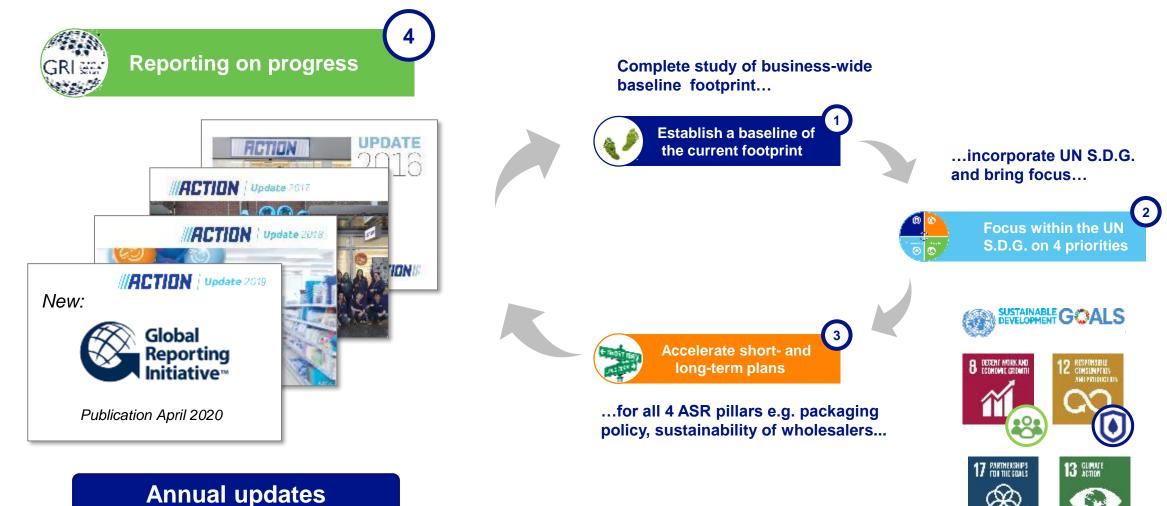


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# ...and contribute to the wellbeing of our employees and ///ACTION of society



# Development of internal and external reporting tools in order to accelerate ASR ambitions



ACTION



## **International expansion**

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# New store roll-out is the engine behind Action's growth story

#### The reason is simple...

One single and successful format

**Proven to travel across borders** 

First class store opening teams & processes

Massive white space opportunity

#### ... and the economics are extremely attractive

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1 year average historical payback on new store capex 2 Every single LfL<sup>1</sup> Action store is profitable 3 Store expansion self-funding Increasing operating leverage through size and scale

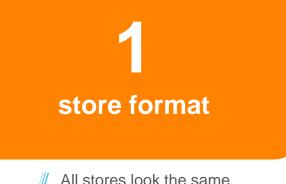
#### **One format across all countries**





- The Action name resonates in all languages
- Marketing and packaging is consistent and standardised across all countries

## International expansion of the brand is seamless



- All stores look the same
- $/\!\!/$  Stores between 700 to 1,100m<sup>2</sup>
- Over 90% of assortment is the same across all stores and countries

## Focus on simplicity enables rapid new store roll-out



- // Same policies
  // Same ordering systems
  // Same processes
  // Same employee training
- *III* Same management structure

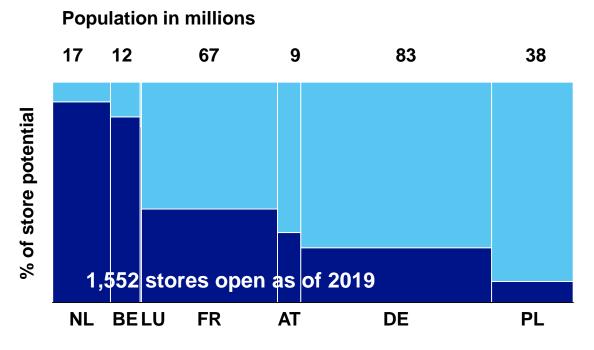
## Same proven formula applied to every new store

#### A simple, repeatable and scalable business model

## Rapid store roll-out in current markets with considerable *MACTION* white space potential

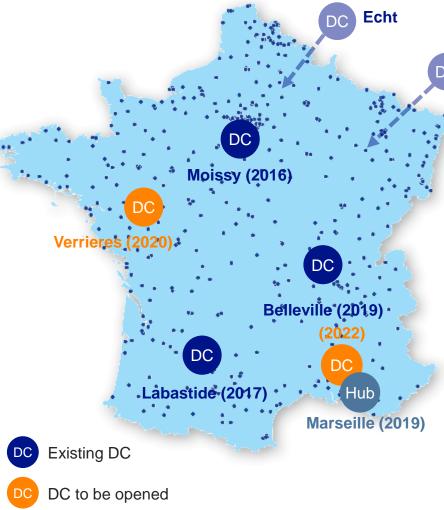


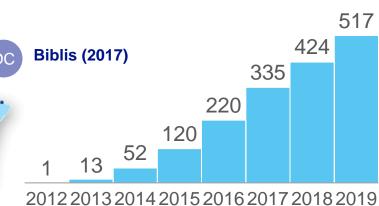
Rapid expansion in FR, GE, PL, and AT



Remaining potential in existing markets is ~2,300 new stores

#### France: continued exceptional performance driven by improved supply chain performance







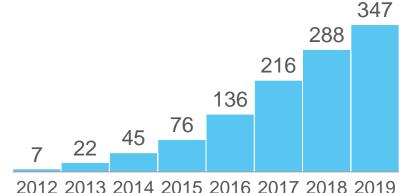
ACTION

- Further store roll-out supported by expanded DC network and significantly improved service levels
- Continued investment in organisation to support both store roll-out and embedding of store processes
- Focus on demanding stores (very high sales but challenging to operate) in e.g. Paris and Marseille



# Germany: fastest growing non-food discounter in Germany with another 59 stores opened



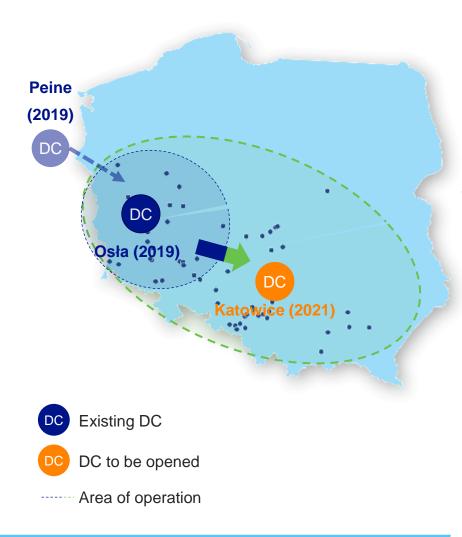


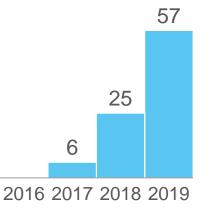


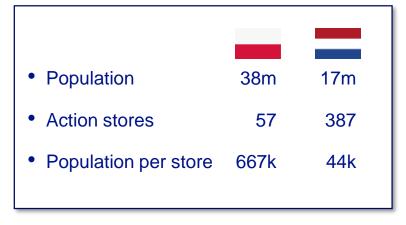
//ACTION

- Continued expansion of store network with focus on more attractive regions
- Focus on improving average sales / store and more selective expansion criteria for new stores
- Increased investment in marketing to improve brand awareness
- Opening of new DCs to reduce supply chain and transport costs

#### Poland: total number of stores increased to 57







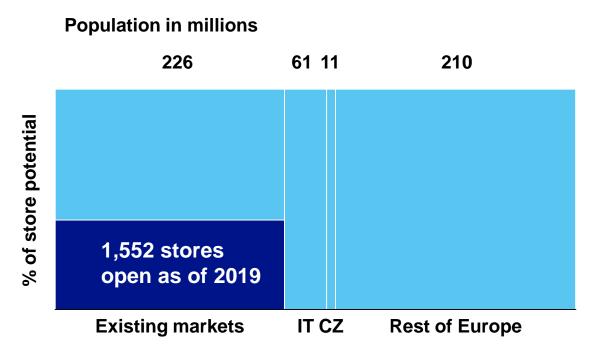
- Stores continue to show strong growth in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year
- Opened our Polish country office in Katowice
- Initial roll-out was focused on the South West of Poland to leverage proximity to Action's existing DC network
- Store roll-out is focussing on areas with a higher per capita spend (South East)
- Further embedding store processes and focus on growth of quality and size of the (new) country organisation
- Expansion will be supported by a new Polish DC that will significantly reduce transportation costs

#### ///ACTION

### Significant potential from further new country expansion *MACTION*



2020: Entry IT + CZ ≥ 2021: to be explored



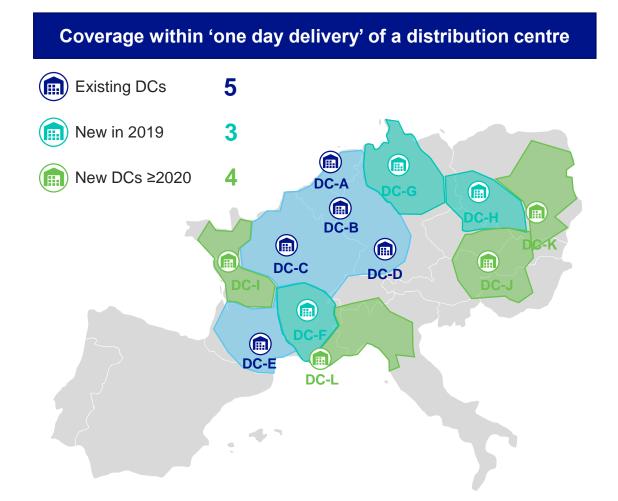
Conservative estimate of white space potential in new and existing markets (in scope) is ~4,800 stores



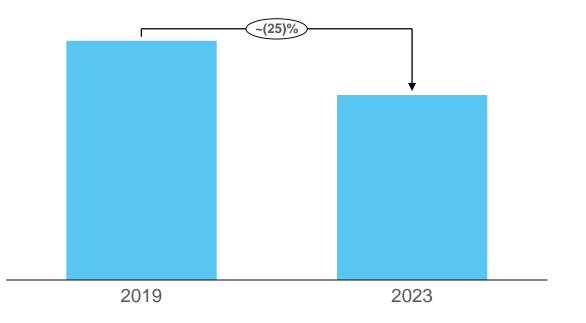
#### A simple, efficient, responsible and scalable operating model

# Action continues to grow its DC network to enable its store roll-out strategy and reduce SC costs





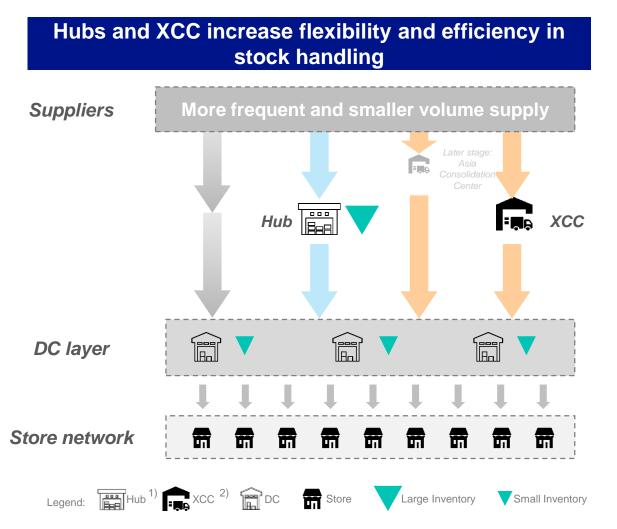
#### Average delivery distance store to DC (2019-2023)



The average delivery distance from a store to a DC is expected to be reduced by ~25% in 2023 vs 2019

### **Development of multi-layer SC network**



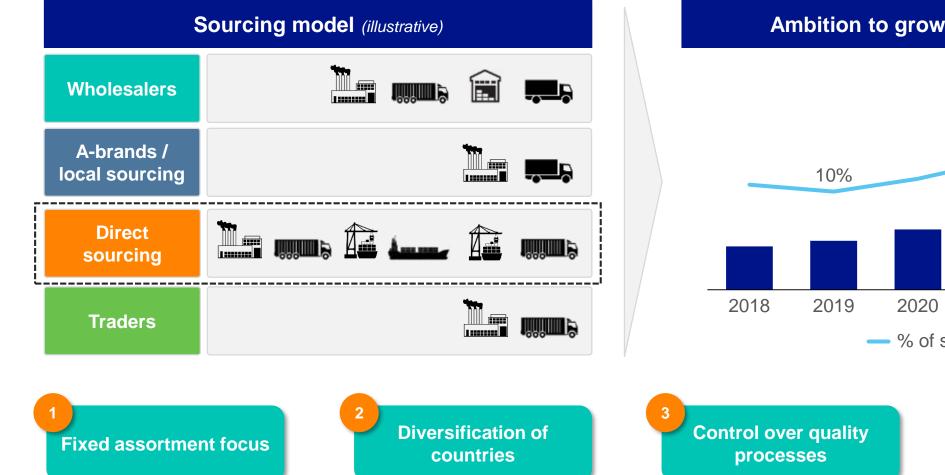


- Hubs will organise the deconsolidation of inbound containers to support multiple DCs
- Cross-dock centres (XCC) will consolidate smaller orders from multiple suppliers and transport to an Action DC
- Allows for differentiated supply chain streams and for inventory to be kept upstream
- More flexible purchasing options and efficient inventory management
- Stabilises the supply chain and facilitates higher service levels to stores

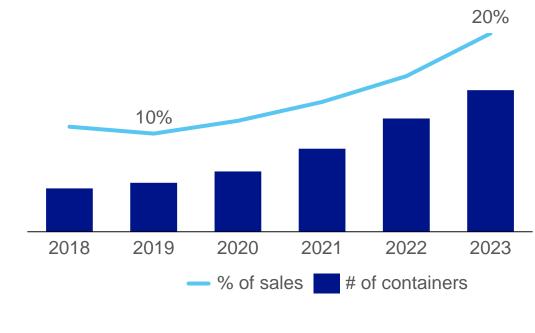
Hub: transfer and stocking of direct sourcing containers operated by partners
 XCC: a cross-dock point for small and mid sized suppliers

### **Continued growth of our Direct Sourcing (DS) volume**





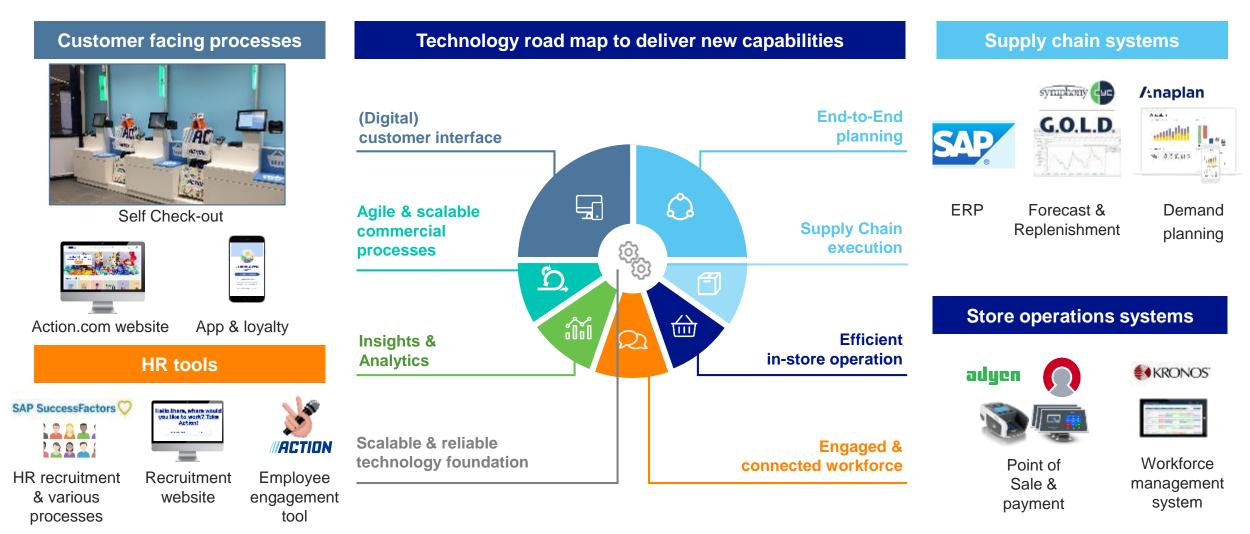
#### Ambition to grow DS to 20% of sales



Supplier selection & management

# Supported by IT investments in existing and new technologies enabling further growth and scalability



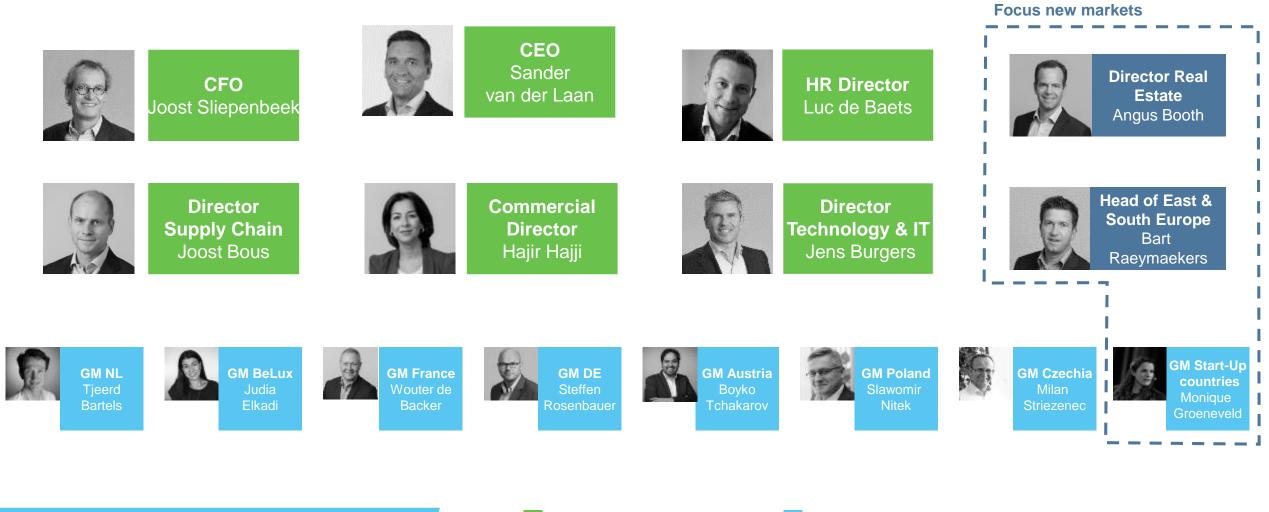




#### **Organisation, people & values**

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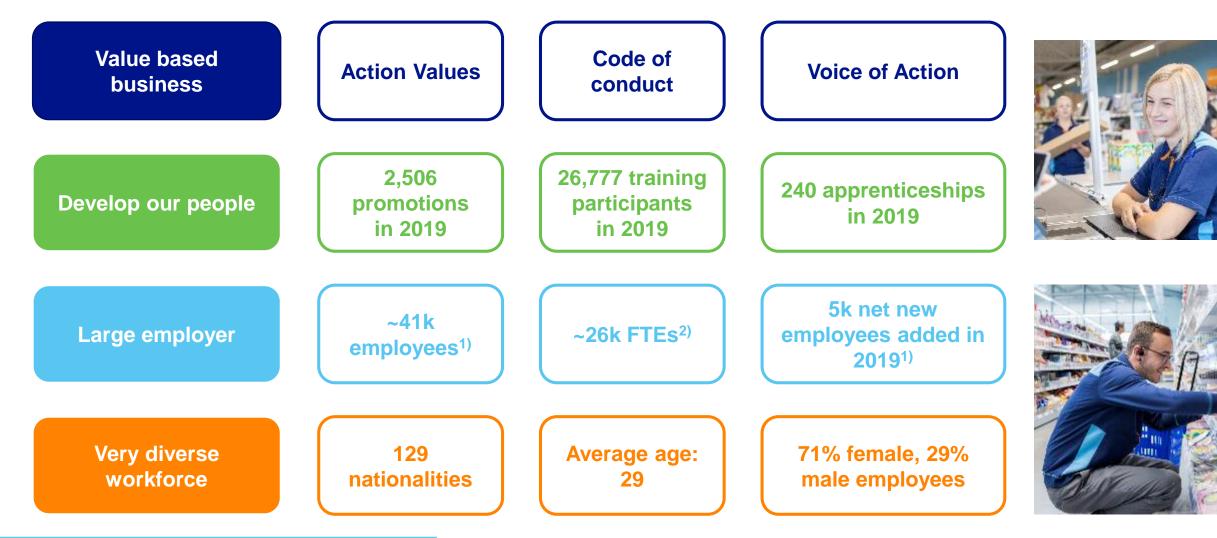
## New organizational design accelerating new market entries



//ACTION

### **Retail is all about people**





1) Excluding external personnel

2) Reported per YE 2019, including absence hours

# Our values, at the heart of our organisation, ensure we remain authentic and treat our employees respectfully





The combination of a winning customer value proposition, competitive operating model, and strong culture makes Action truly unique



## Strategy wrap up

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# Action's business model becomes increasingly difficult to replicate as scale grows



MACTION

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#### **Simon Borrows**

Sander van der Laan

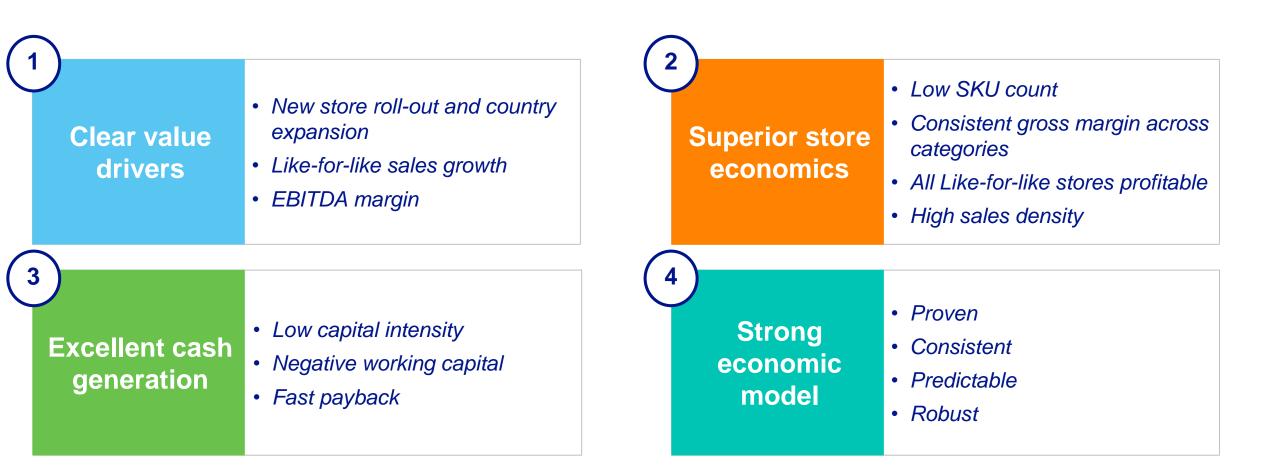
Sander van der Laan

Joost Sliepenbeek

**Simon Borrows** 



#### **Our repeatable financial model remains unchanged**

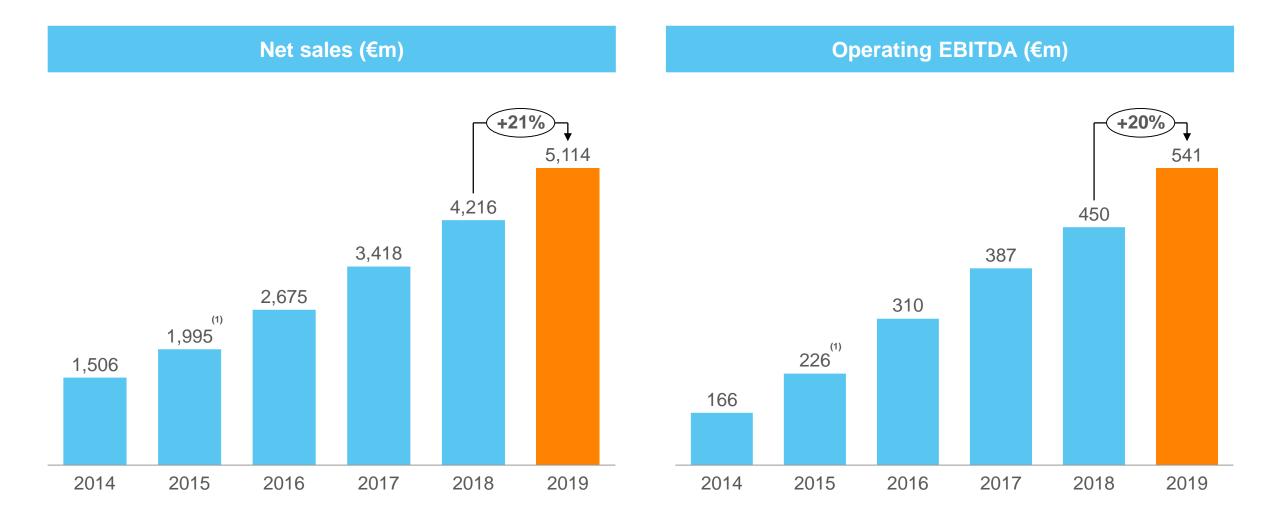


ACTION

**Delivered with discipline and tight control** 

#### **Continued strong sales and EBITDA growth**

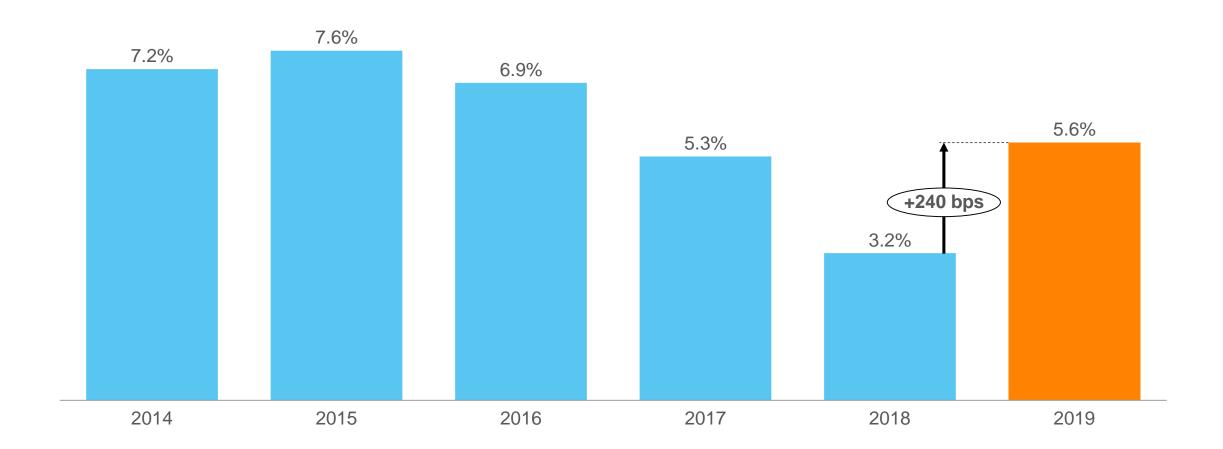




Source: company information (1) Excluding impact of 53<sup>rd</sup> week

#### **Strong like-for-like performance**



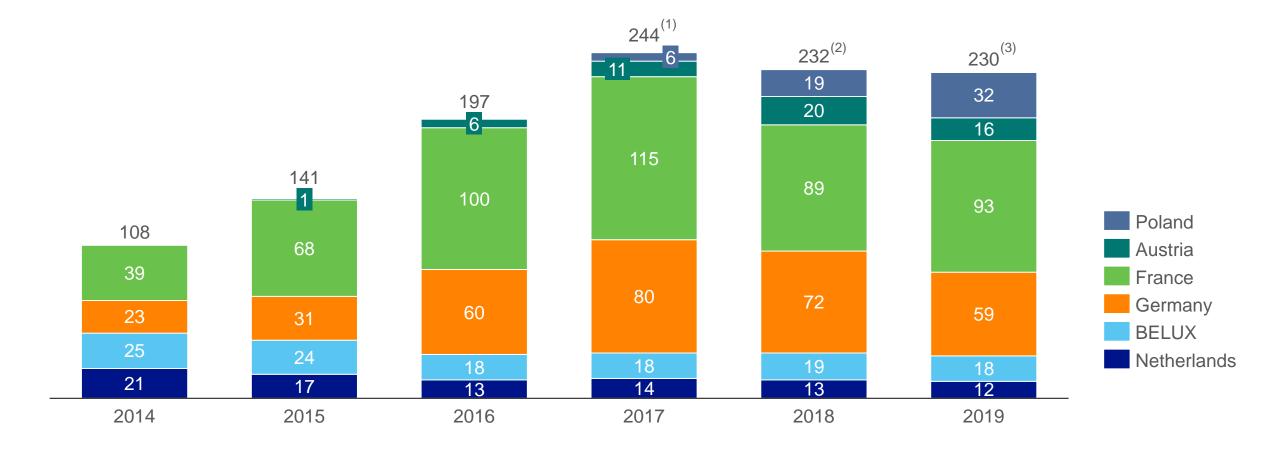


#### 57 ACTION | 3I CAPITAL MARKETS SEMINAR 2020

Source: company information

#### Store openings: continued rapid expansion in France, Germany and Poland





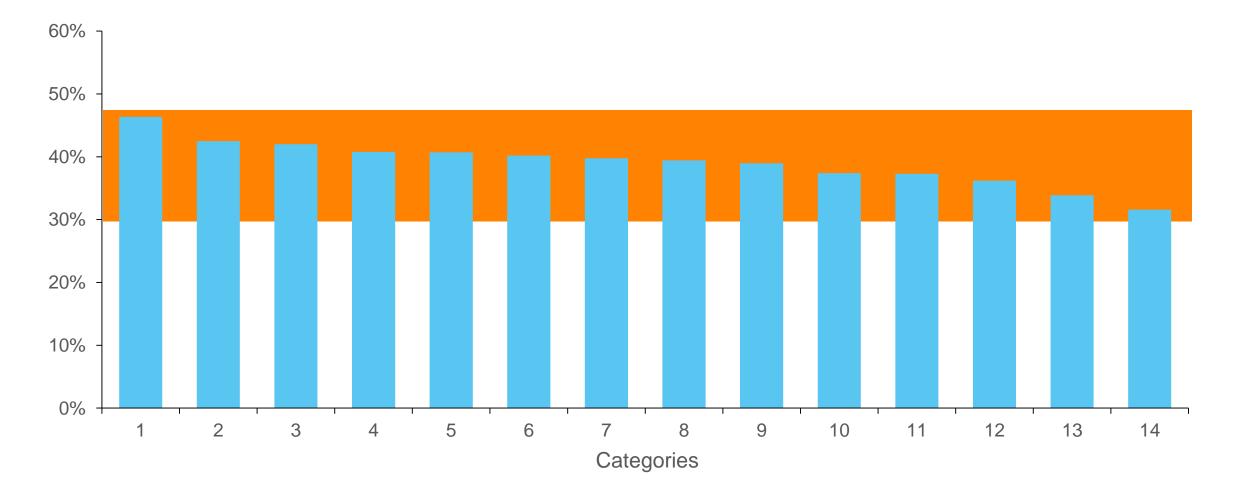
(1) Net stores added was 243 as a result of one store closing in the Netherlands

(2) Net stores added was 230 as a result of two store closings in the Netherlands

(3) Net stores added was 227 as a result of three store closings in the Netherlands

#### **Consistent margins across all categories**

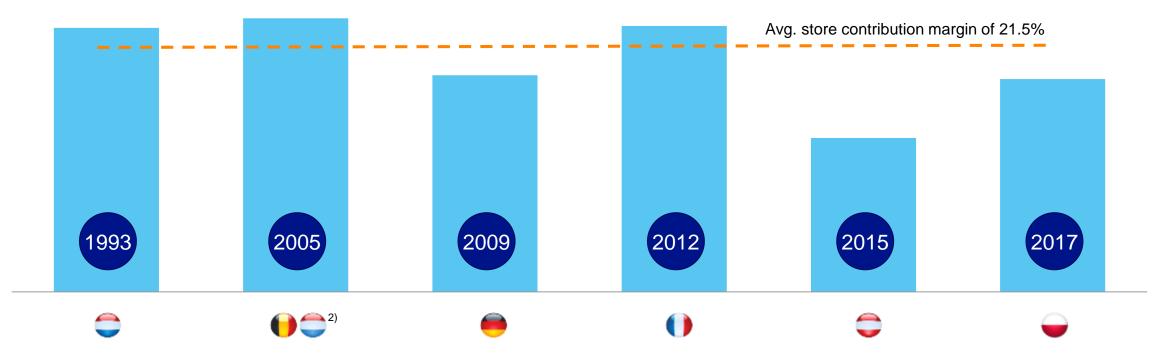


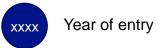


### **Consistent profitability across all geographies**



Average store contribution margin by country  $(\%) - 2019^{1}$ 





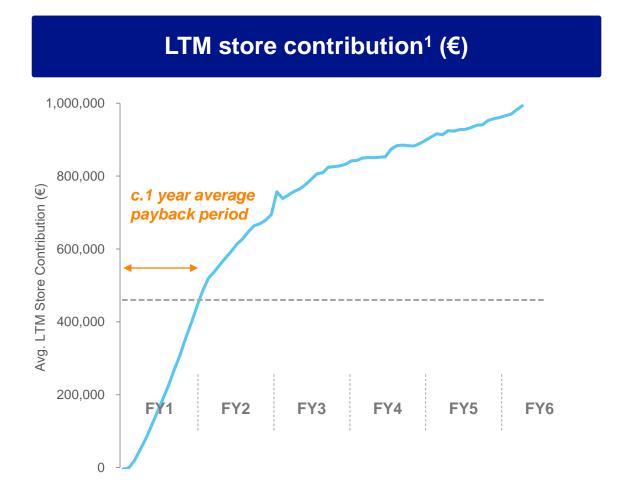
Source: Company information

1) Store contribution divided by net sales of active stores opened before 1 January 2019 (1,322)

2) First store opened in Luxembourg in 2015

#### Attractive payback periods for new stores

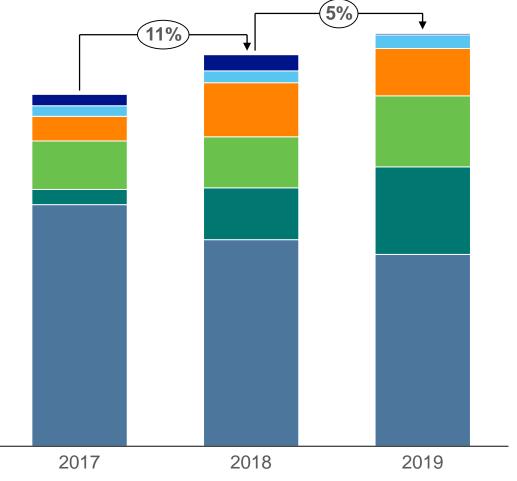




- All stores show rapid ramp-up of sales and store contribution after opening, underpinning exceptional payback periods
- On average, the LTM store contribution exceeds the average investment to open a store in about one year

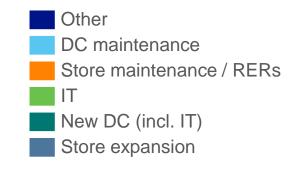
Source: Company information (1) New stores opened 2014-2019 (1,152)

**CAPEX** development



#### CAPEX growth overall mainly driven by new DCs, IT and digital investments

- Lower CAPEX for new stores reflecting continuous reduction of CAPEX per square meter
- Continued investment in IT



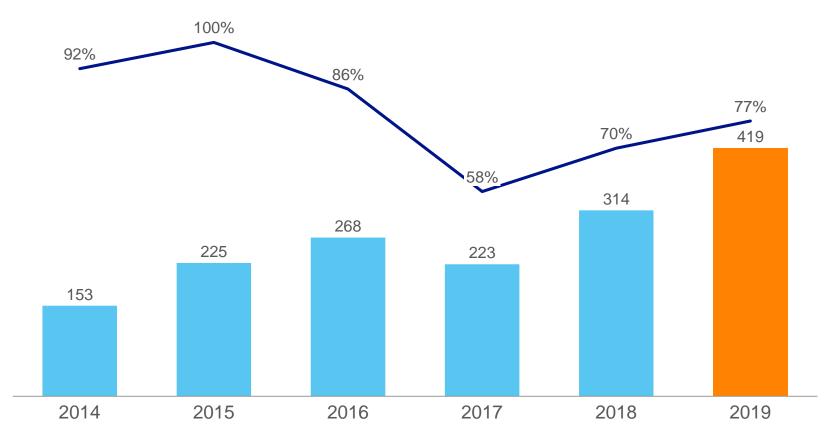


**MACTION** 

Source: company information

#### Strong cash flow: 2019 cash conversion of 77%



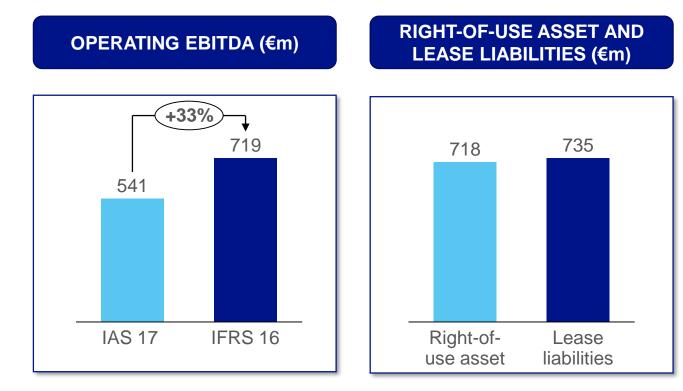


- 2019 cash conversion increased versus 2018, notwithstanding significant investment
- Low capital intensity, negative working capital and fast payback for new stores lead to strong cashflow

- Operating cashflow (excl. capex for new DCs)
- Cash conversion = Operational cashflow / Operating EBITDA

### Impact of IFRS16 on Action 2019 financials





- The average lease period of Action's store portfolio is 3 years but differs per country
- Action is desired as a tenant by landlords as it drives traffic to the destination
- At the end of a lease Action receives competitive pricing for renewals
- IFRS16 impact on other financials 2019:
  - Lease adjustment: €179m
  - Depreciation right-of-use asset: €170m
  - Interest cost outstanding lease liability: €20m

### **Overview of high-level financials**



	2018	2019	Change
Net sales (€m)	4,216	5,114	+21.3%
Like-for-like sales growth	3.2%	5.6%	
Operating EBITDA (€m)	450	541	+20.2%
EBITDA margin	10.7%	10.6%	
Cash conversion	70%	77%	
Number of stores (end of year)	1,325	1,552	+2271)

### **Summary 2019 financial performance**





### **Current trading 2020**



- Trading performance to the end of week 11 has been strong
- Action is ahead of budget for sales, LfL, EBITDA and cash flow
- LfL sales growth to the end of week 11 was over 7%
- Cash position and liquidity are very strong
- Completion of event financing of €625m in January 2020 results in gross debt of €3,035m (incl. RCF)
- Since the event financing was structured Action has effectively de-geared by c0.8x run-rate PF EBITDA<sup>1</sup>)

#### **COVID-19 impact too early to predict**



- COVID-19 will disrupt 2020 especially over the next few months too early to predict outcome
- Store openings and sales traditionally weighted to Q4
- Action is preparing for severe disruption in Q2
- (Financial) response to COVID-19:
  - Opex measures being taken
  - Substantial possibilities to reclaim wages from governments
  - Tax payments postponed
  - Working capital:
    - Stock reduction in DCs
    - Extension of payment terms
    - Close cooperation with landlords
- Significant liquidity to navigate the current uncertainty

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Business performance 2019
- 3. Strategy update
- 4. Financial performance 2019

5. Wrap Up

**///ACTION** 

**Simon Borrows** 

Sander van der Laan

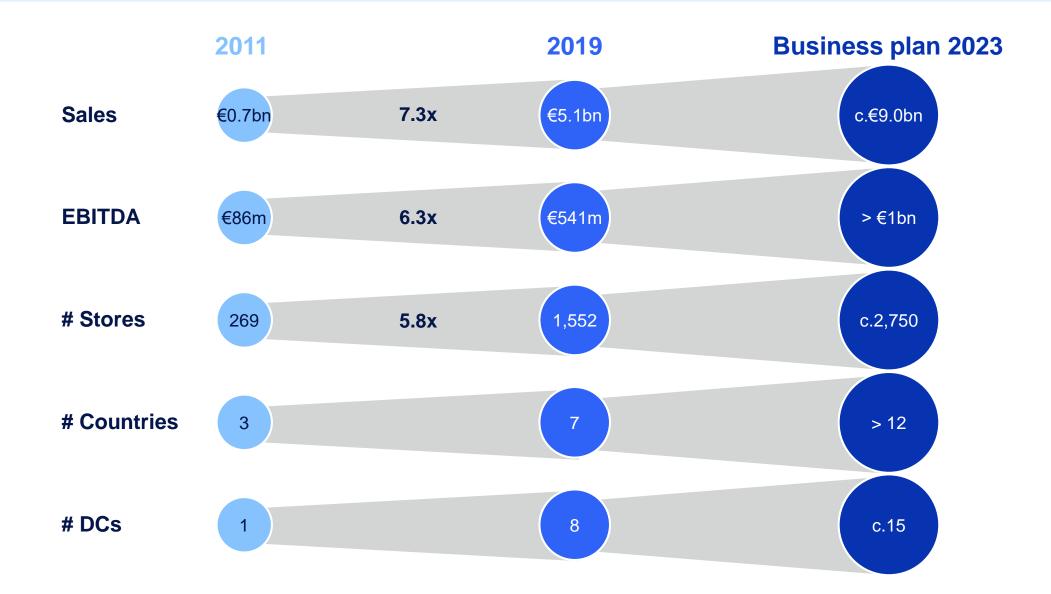
Sander van der Laan

**Joost Sliepenbeek** 

**Simon Borrows** 

#### Action's business plan





# //ACTION

## Thank you for your attention!