#### **UNITED STATES** SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): November 6, 2023

## A. O. Smith Corporation (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	1-475	39-0619790			
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)			
11270 West Park Place, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53224 (Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)					
	(414) 359-4000 (Registrant's telephone number)				
Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):					
$\square$ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)					
□ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)					
Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 C	,				
Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 C	JFR 240.13e-4(c))				
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:					
Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered			
Common Stock (par value \$1.00 per share)	AOS	New York Stock Exchange			
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).					
Emerging growth company					
If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.					

#### Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure

A. O. Smith Corporation hereby furnishes as Exhibit 99.1, a copy of A. O. Smith Corporation's slide presentation for the 2023 Investor Day scheduled on November 6, 2023.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

The following exhibit is being furnished herewith:

(99.1) Presentation of A. O. Smith Corporation Investor Day, November 6, 2023

104  $\,$  Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded with the Inline XBRL document)

#### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

#### A. O. SMITH CORPORATION

Date: November 6, 2023

By: /s/James F. Stern

James F. Stern

Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary







#### **Forward Looking Statements**

This presentation contains statements that we believe are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements generally can be identified by the use of words such as "may," "will," "expect," "intend," "estimate," "anticipate," "believe," "continue," "forecast," "guidance" or words of similar meaning. All forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated as of the date of this presentation. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from these expectations include, among other things, the following: softening in U.S. residential water heater demand; negative impacts to the Company, particularly the demand for its products, resulting from global inflationary pressures or a potential recession in one or more of the markets in which the Company participates; the Company's ability to continue to obtain commodities, components, parts and accessories on a timely basis through its supply chain and at expected costs; negative impacts to demand for the Company's products, particularly commercial products, as a result of the severity and duration of the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; further weakening in U.S. residential or commercial construction or instability in the Company's replacement markets; inability of the Company to implement or maintain pricing actions; inconsistent recovery of the Chinese economy or further decline in the growth rate of consumer spending or housing sales in China; negative impact to the Company's business in China as a result of future COVID-19-related disruptions there; negative impact to the Company's businesses from international tariffs, trade disputes and geopolitical differences, including the conflicts in Ukraine, and the Middle East; potential further weakening in the high-efficiency gas boiler segment in the U.S.; substantial defaults in payment by, material reduction in pur



## Today's Agenda

12:30 pm	Welcome & Opening Remarks Helen Gurholt   VP, Investor Relations and FP&A	2:25 pm	Break
	Innovating for the Long Term Kevin Wheeler   Chairman and Chief Executive Officer	2:40 pm	Capturing Growth Opportunities in Chin Jack Qiu   SVP and President, China
	Building on a Strong Foundation Dave Warren   SVP and President, North America Water Heating		Expanding Presence in India Parag Kulkarni   SVP and President, India
	Continuing to Build Brand Equity Steve O'Brien   SVP and President, Lochinvar		Executing Clear Financial Priorities Chuck Lauber   EVP and Chief Financial Officer
	Driving Growth for Scale and Margin Expansion Sam Karge   SVP and President, North America Water Treatment		Compelling Investment Thesis Kevin Wheeler   Chairman and Chief Executive Office
2:05 pm	Q&A Session Above Presenters	3:55 pm	Q&A Session All Presenters





## **Our Company Vision**



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### **Key Messages**



Leading with innovative products that drive technology and meet sustainability needs



Capitalizing on global megatrends in a large and growing market supported by regulatory changes



Leading
North American
water heater
and boiler
producer
with stable and
consistent
replacement
demand



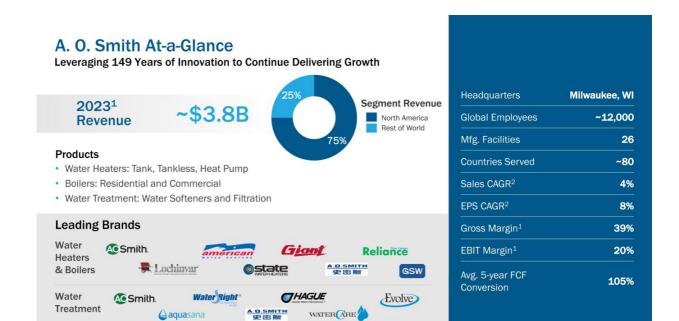
Compelling brand awareness in emerging markets with attractive growth and margin expansion opportunities



Leveraging strong balance sheet for organic and inorganic growth while returning capital to shareholders

Building on a Strong Foundation with Significant Growth Opportunities in Emerging Markets





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<sup>1</sup> 2023 Forecast <sup>2</sup> 2018 - 2023 Forecast

## A. O. Smith Geographic View



## **WellPositioned to Address Global Megatrends**



#### Climate Change

Drives regulatory changes to accelerate transition to higher-efficiency products



#### Technological Breakthroughs

Connected, energy-efficient products and digital platform that improve the customer experience



#### Change in Demographics

Global urbanization, U.S. housing shortages as well as changes to consumer preferences

#### Sustainable Competitive Advantages

- ✓ Water Technologies Expertise
  Opportunities to expand into adjacent markets
- Culture of Continuous Innovation Secures A. O. Smith as a market leader
- ✓ North America Leadership Establishes strong brand recognition
- ✓ Wholesaler and Supplier Relationships Premium partnerships help us win in the market
- Omni Channel Distribution
   Offers flexibility and enhanced customer experience
- ✓ In Country for Country Provides knowledgeable insight for local markets and shortens lead times



## **Executing a Clear Strategy**

#### **Execute Innovate and Expand Profitable Growth Operational Excellence** Research & Development New technologies · Stable & profitable core business • A. O. Smith operating system Product development Global water treatment footprint Safety, quality and delivery **Industry Leadership** Engineering footprint · Organic growth in China Decarbonization · Favorable market dynamics in India **ESG Performance** Water stewardship 2029 Regulatory Changes Technology **Acquisition Strategy Regulatory Environment** • Enhancing the customer experience 2026 / 2029

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#### Innovate & Expand **Leading With Innovation** IDENTIFY, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOP new or disruptive INNOVATION technologies with commercialization potential within 2-5 years Electronic Controls Refrigeration **PLATFORMS** Combustion Carbon **Develop and Seek New** Heat Exchangers Sensors **Innovative Products DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN standard** · Water Heating global engineering processes **PROCESSES** • Water Treatment New Product Development Reliability Heat Pumps Certification Design Quality Boilers **DEVELOP** the R&D and corporate CAPABILITIES development teams and their resources to drive the next era of innovation People Lab infrastructure Through acquisition

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## Innovation Hub: Lloyd R. Smith Corporate Technology Center

#### **Our Innovation Hub**

- Dedicated to enterprise-wide development of new energy efficient products and processes
- Teams of engineers develop concepts, test and finalize core technologies

#### **Core Competencies**

- WaterSensors
- Analytics
   Materials
- Electronics Prototypes









## **R&D Resources to Meet Current and Future Market Requirements**



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## Industry Leadership: Committed to a Culture of Innovation While Investing in Environmentally Sustainable Products



#### **Energy Efficiency**

- Driving innovation within control systems, distributed energy, and renewable energy
- Product portfolio offers water and hydronic heating products, including high efficiency gas and electric water heaters and boilers, including electric heat pumps
  - 64% of 2022 commercial and residential boiler sales were high efficiency condensing boilers
  - 1,000+ Energy Star® water heater products



#### Decarbonization

- Partnering with policymakers to promote high efficiency technology solutions, customer education, and incentives for marketplace adoption
- A. O. Smith Whitepaper research highlights the complexities of decarbonizing space and water heating, illustrating that various approaches for consideration



#### Water Stewardship

- · Market leader in water and salt efficiency
- WAVE Water Stewardship verification in 2022 for addressing enterprise-wide water challenges.
- Industry leader in water softener and reverse osmosis efficiency featuring packed bed resin design
  - Space and water efficient
  - Flow-based regeneration cycle produces less wastewater

We will announce a water-related ESG goal in 2024











#### Our Core Business: North America Water Heaters & Boilers

- Largest manufacturer and marketer of water heaters and boilers with leading share in both residential and commercial markets
- Significant reoccurring replacement cycle: 80% - 85% of water heater and boiler sales
- Increased focus on energy efficiency and decarbonization provide additional growth opportunities in both boilers and water heaters

## Resilient Business Model with Growth Opportunities

#### **Expanding Organic Growth in China**

- Leading supplier of residential water heaters with 25+ years of experience
- Growing presence in water treatment (now ~35% of sales)
  - Adding adjacent kitchen appliance business
- Focused on the long-term, supported by trends and innovation through connectivity

#### Laying the Groundwork in India

- Growing market due to large population with favorable demographics
- Driving growth through innovation, building awareness and expanded distribution
- Long-term growth supported by urbanization, decarbonization and growing demand for clean water

#### **Invest and Grow Global Water Treatment**

- Growing market with consolidation opportunities
- Omnichannel approach ensures broad market reach
- Global support through sustainability trend and quality of life issues



## Execute

## Operational Excellence Opportunities Across the Organization Drives Margin Improvement





#### Execute

#### **ESG Performance and Metrics**

#### 2022 ESG Scorecard

AMERICA'S
CLIMATE
LEADERS
2023 statista

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ı's

Reduced GHG Emissions Intensity 25% from 2019 Baseline

Health & Safety:

2022 Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR): 1.13 Industry standard TRIR: 2.641

Good Place to Work:

Invest in our people to retain talent and emphasize a collaborative and innovative work environment

Diversity

Expanded initial diversity focus on gender diversity to include racial diversity in the United States Implementing training to enhance inclusive leadership skills for all supervisors and managers globally

The A. O. Smith Foundation: \$1.8 MM in 2022

Community Support:

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics (1/25/23). Manufacturing Industry, Household Data, Annual Averages, Employed persons by detailed industry, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. \*First reporting year was 2020

	2019	2022
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Intensity (Metric Tons CO <sub>2</sub> e/\$MM rev)	54.22	40.26
Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Metric Tons CO <sub>2</sub> e)	162,270	158,538
Total Natural Gas Usage (MWh)	373,071	382,281
Total Electricity Usage (MWh)	191,052	180,819
Total Water Usage (gallons 000s)	362,129	347,650
Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR)	.094	1.13
Employees with racial/ethnic diversity among U.S. workforce	N/A*	27%
A. O. Smith Foundation grants (\$MM)	\$1.6	\$1.8



### **Experienced Leadership Team Focused on Execution**



Kevin J. Wheeler Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Joined: 1994



Samuel M. Carver SVP, Global Operations 2006



Josh Greene VP, Government, Regulatory and Industry Affairs 2016



Helen Gurholt
VP, Investor
Relations and FP&A
2002 (1)



Bob Heideman, PhD SVP and CTO 1994



Sam Karge SVP and President, North America Water Treatment



Parag Kulkarni SVP and President, India 2015



Charles T. Lauber EVP and Chief Financial Officer 1999



Stephen O'Brien SVP and President, Lochinvar 2021 (1)



Benjamin Otchere VP and Controller 2012







Melissa Scheppele SVP and CIO 2020



James F. Stern EVP, General Counsel and Secretary 2007



Jack Qiu, PhD SVP and President, China 2003 ()



Dave Warren SVP and President, North America Water Heating 1989 📢

Today's presenters

Driven Team with 250+ Years of Industry Experience



### **Experienced and Diversified Board of Directors**



Kevin Wheeler Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, A. O. Smith Elected: 2017



Ron Brown Former Vice Chairman, The Armor Group 2001



Ilham Kadri Director & CEO, Solvay S.A. 2016



Chris Mapes Chairman, President & CEO, Lincoln Electric 2023



Mark Smith Former Business Manager, Strattec Security 2001



Idelle Wolf Former President, Barnes Distribution 2005



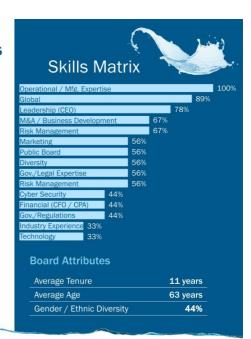
Victoria Holt Former Director, President & CEO, Proto Labs 2021



Michael Larsen SVP & CFO, Illinois Tool Works 2021



Ajita Rajendra
Former Executive Chairman,
A. O. Smith
2011



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## Clear Strategy for Long-Term Value Creation Goals\*



Annual growth

Plus fire power to accelerate growth through strategic acquisitions

**Earnings** per Share



7% - 9%

Adjusted EPS CAGR

- North America margin growth ~150 bps1
- Rest of World margin growth ~400 bps<sup>2</sup>
- Share repurchase to contribute  $1\% 2\%^3$

**Cash Flow** 



>100%

Free cash flow conversion

Value-Creating **Capital Allocation** 



Target Leverage: ~1.5x - 2x Net Debt-to-Adjusted EBITDA

Acquisitions that meet financial criteria

Pay an attractive dividend, continue share buybacks and ROIC above  $30\%^4$ 

\*2024-2028 timeframe – Growth rate is organic, except North America Water Treatment growth targeted at 15% - 17% which includes ~5% growth from acquisitions; 

¹Margin expansion versus 2023F exit rate of 24%; ²Margin expansion versus 2023F of 10%; ³Subject to ongoing board approval; ⁴ROIC defined as ANOPAT divided by average invested capital net of cash





## **Key Messages - North America Water Heating**



Market leader with long-term premier customers



Strong and stable replacement business benefiting from industry dynamics



Clear strategy for demand creation and profitable growth



Industry-leading solutions portfolio, service, and support



Regulatory environment expected to drive significant opportunity

Innovative Products and Service Deliver 4% to 5% CAGR though 2028; Regulatory Changes Accelerates Growth in 2029



## **North America Water Heating At-a-Glance**



- · Market leader in residential and commercial market
- Balanced distribution channel
- · Robust portfolio of products focused on innovation in energy efficiency
- New product investments support growth and ESG momentum
- Regulatory environment driving increased efficiency standards and expands market size

**Smith.** 



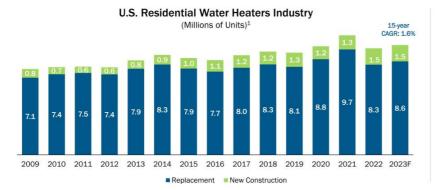


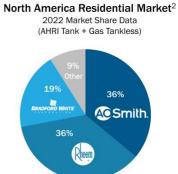


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#### North America Residential Market Leader

U.S. Housing Shortage Presents Incremental Growth Opportunity





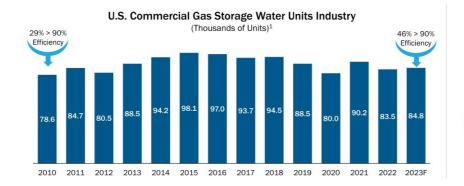
Stable Replacement Business Represents ~80 - 85% Volumes and Mitigates Housing Market Cyclicality



 $^1$  AHRI: Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration Institute; data includes gas tankless water heaters  $^2$  Market share estimated using AHRI data and company estimates

#### **North America Commercial Market Leader**

Gas Energy Efficient Units More Than Doubled Since 2010



U.S. Commercial Market <sup>2</sup> 2022 market share data (AHRI)



Higher Adoption Rates of Energy Efficient Units Supports Commercial Offerings



 $^1$  AHRI: Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration Institute; data includes gas tankless water heaters  $^2$  Market share estimated using AHRI data and company estimates

## **Executing a Clear Strategy**

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#### **Execute Innovate and Expand New Products Technology - Customer Service Execute on Key Drivers** Residential gas tankless Website / mobile platforms 2026 and 2029 regulatory changes Residential heat pump QR code platform A. O. Smith Operating System Commercial Cyclone Catalyst Virtual assistance product digitization Manufacturing flexibility and Interactive training product transition

## **Regulatory Requirements: Bringing Change to the Market**

#### 2026 Commercial - Efficiency Standard

- Elimination of low efficiency commercial gas product
- Gas Storage: 95% thermal efficiency
- · Gas Tankless: 96% thermal efficiency
- Growth of gas tankless for commercial market

Industry impact: ~55% units sold will be impacted

#### 2029 Residential - Proposed NAECA IV1 Rule

- · Elimination of low efficiency residential gas product
- Higher efficiency power vest and non-power damper products
- Condensing gas tankless water heaters
- 35+ gallon capacity heat pump water heater

Industry impact: As currently proposed, ~70% of units sold will be impacted



Federal Government and Local Utilities Incentives Drive Adoption in Advance of Regulation



<sup>1</sup> NAECA IV: National Appliance Energy Conservation Act



## **Residential: Introducing Gas Tankless Product Line**

Targeted incremental top line growth of \$100 million by 2026

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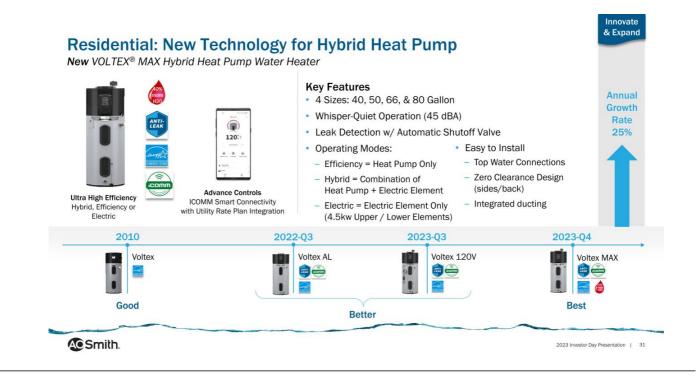
Premium Condensing 160k/180k/ 199k BTU Standard Condensing 140k/160k/180k/ 199k BTU Non-Condensing 140k/180k/ 199k BTU

#### Key Features

- · Controls on-going product development and marketing
  - A. O. Smith designed and manufactured line of gas tankless products
- · Improved design and product performance
  - Fast activation at low flow rates (0.4 gpm) and high incoming water temperature
  - Wi-Fi, Recirculation, and Cascading (up to 12 units)
- Easy access to service parts with a unique flip down control panel
- Ease of Installation
- 2" venting and 1/2" gas connection
- Eliminates annual maintenance costs ~\$200 \$300 per year
- Patent protected integrated scale prevention technology



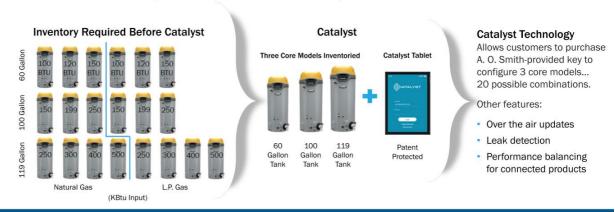






## **Commercial: Upgrading the Market Leading Cyclone Product Line**

Configures 3 Core Models with Software Key to 20 Possible Combinations



**Customer Benefit: Full Product Availability with Less Inventory Investment** 



#### Innovate & Expand

### **Innovation Improves Customer Experience and Reduces Costs**

#### **QR Code Platform**







A. O. Smith has sold 33M+ residential water heaters with QR codes since 2011

- QR mobile platform launched in 2023
- Provides customer/contractor information on the exact model installed
  - Warranty registration
     Troubleshooting videos
     Technical support
- Installation manual
   Service parts
- Provides a platform for future customer/contractor services
- Reduces administrative cost and call volumes (+\$1.5M annually)

#### **Virtual Remote Assistant**



- · Launched December 2022
- Technical support to view installation and assist in troubleshooting
- Information logged into Salesforce for future reference
- First-call resolution lowers cost to serve for contractor and A. O. Smith
- Operational savings of \$600k annually (warranty reduction)



### **New Web Platform Drives Demand Creation**

#### **New Web Platform**

#### Product Information Management Tool (PIM)



#### **Data Automation**

- Website data up-to-date and accurate
- Customer data syndication



#### Self-service

- · Mobile friendly & responsive
- · Easy access to products/parts
- Contact local contractor for service/support

#### Drives Customers to Contractors that Install A. O. Smith Products



#### **Demand Creation**

- Lead generation
- Consumer satisfaction
- Contractor loyalty

## Product Information Management Tool

Innovate & Expand

Mobile-responsive website attracts broader audience

Automated data updates to websites drives operational efficiencies and ensures accuracy

Lead generation drives contractor loyalty

Over 40,000 Contractors Participate in Our Contractor Rewards Program





## **Multi-media Approach to Training Industry**



- 1,455 training videos across 3 University sites and 7 branded sites
- Contractors gain education at their own pace
- Provide contractor certification upon completion of several modules



- Live training options available to contractors in their local market
- 245k people trained in 2022;
   300k+ expected in 2023
- Allows for interaction / questions
- · Less travel / days out of the field
- Content creation

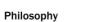


- Contractor's training on working models
- 2,500+ contractors trained on-site per year
- Allows for interaction / questions / relationship building

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## A. O. Smith Operating System Drives a Problem-Solving Culture



- Customer first
- People are most valuable resource

Enhances the A. O. Smith Culture

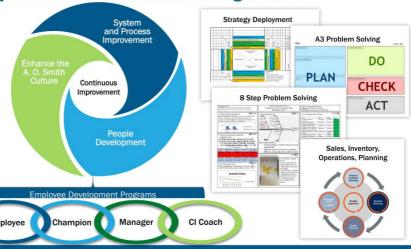
- Drive continuous improvement
- Front line focused

#### Management

 Motivate and develop people to surface and solve problems

#### Tools

Use tools and methods correctly



A Never-Ending Focus on Continuous Improvement





# Long-Term Growth Profile Targeting Growth of 4% - 5% through 2028



5 Year Revenue Growth Profile: 4% - 5%

#### **Key Drivers**

- Industry unit growth + inflation
- Improved residential mix toward higher efficiency products
- Expansion of tankless market share with A. O. Smith designed and manufactured tankless product
- 2026 Commercial regulatory change

## Preserve and Expand Margin Profile

#### **Key Initiatives**

- A. O. Smith operating system
- Build out service platform capabilities
  - Websites
  - QR code
  - Product information management
  - Training initiatives
- Expand high efficiency product offering
- Improve product mix through regulation and 3<sup>rd</sup> party incentives



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## **Key Takeaways**



Market leader with long-term premier customers



Strong and stable replacement business benefiting from industry dynamics



Clear strategy for demand creation and profitable growth



Industryleading solutions portfolio, service, and support



Regulatory environment expected to drive significant opportunity

Innovative Products and Service Deliver 4% to 5% CAGR though 2028; Regulatory Changes Accelerates Growth in 2029







## Key Messages - Lochinvar



Build on established foundation of premium products, channel and services



Capture market share and capitalize on industry shifting to high efficiency products



Maintain and grow strong channel relationships as provider-ofchoice



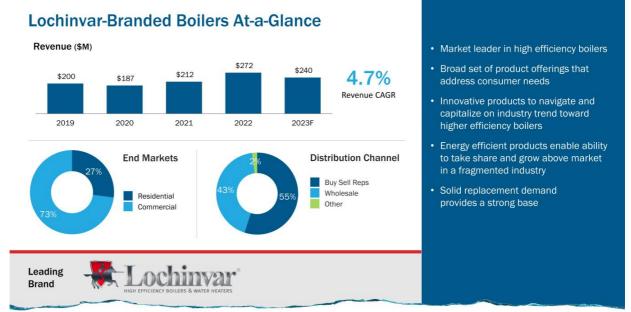
Provide highest standard of support and service



Add value through customized solutions and packaged systems

Innovative Products and Best-in-class Customer Support to Drive 5% - 7% CAGR through 2028





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## **Lochinvar-Branded Full Portfolio**





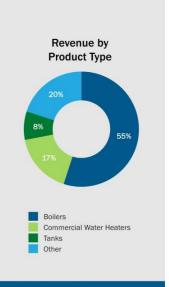




**Water Heaters** 

and Storage

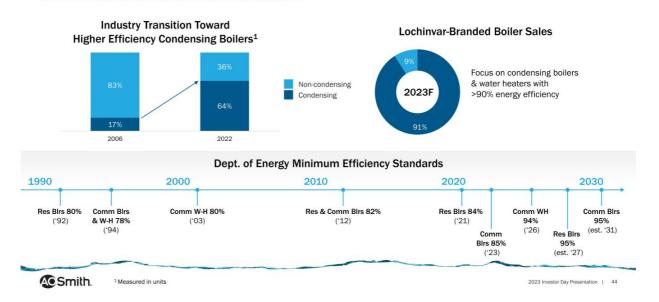
- Package SystemsHeat Pump Water Heaters
- Parts & Accessories



Boilers, Commercial Water Heaters and Tanks make up 80% of Lochinvar-branded Revenue



# Industry Continues Shift to Condensing Boiler Technology with Lochinvar as a Market Leader



### **Lochinvar-Branded Condensing Boiler Value Proposition** Wins in the Market

#### Sustainable Solutions with Real Economic Payback

	Lochinvar Crest Boilers (4) (Energy Efficient)	Non-Condensing (Non-Energy Efficient)
Efficiency	98%	70%
Yearly Operating Cost	\$213,469	\$357,814
Installed Cost	\$400,000	
Payback (Years)	2.77	

#### Commercial Boiler Example:

- Typical mid-size apartment complex or office building 2.8 year payback with \$2 million in energy savings over 15-year life

#### **Crest with Hellcat Combustion Technology**

- RealTime 02 Trim <sup>™</sup> with continuous adjustment for optimal gas/air ratio
- Feedforward sensors monitor air temperature and barometric pressure
  - Learned trim from previous settings & conditions

- ✓ Efficiency maintained over seasons
- ✓ Shorter & easier commissioning
- No service calls for seasonal adjustments
- Reduced maintenance costs





## **Executing a Clear Strategy**

#### **Innovate and Expand Execute Commercial Heat Pump Offering Training and Industry Commercial Boilers** Engagement On-site High efficiency condensing Air source Water source Value added features In-field Integrated electronic controls Cold climate **Channel Excellence Residential Boilers** Packaged Systems/Solutions High efficiency condensing Custom storage tanks · High efficiency combi System controls A Smith. 2023 Investor Day Presentation | 46



## **High Efficiency Premium Commercial and Residential Products**

#### Commercial

- Up to 98% energy efficient 23% above DOE requirement
- SmartTouch screen user interface and Con-X-Us wireless remote app control to program and adjust from anywhere

#### Residential

- Up to 95% energy efficient 13% above DOE requirement
- SmartControl user interface for easy set up and and Con-X-Us wireless remote app control to program and adjust from anywhere



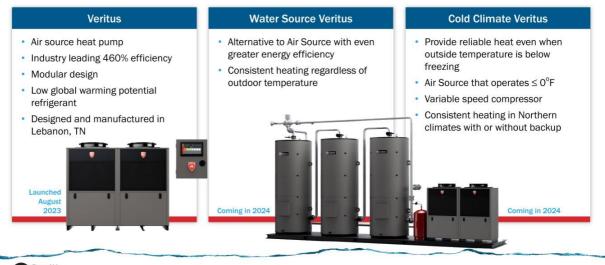
All Stainless-steel Heat Exchangers for Longer Life of Boiler

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### **New Heat Pump Products Capitalize on Decarbonization Trends**

Zero emission, water heating solutions for commercial buildings with industry leading 460% energy efficiency







### **Enhancing Packaged Systems Offering**

Single solution provider that designs, manufactures and assembles of customizable, space heating solutions

## Custom Engineering Solutions

- · Hydronic space heating
- Commercial water heating
- · Hybrid solutions
  - Gas and electric
- Space heating and domestic water heating
- Pool heating

#### **Engineered to Order**

- Boilers
- Tanks
- PumpsControls
- Accessories

## Pre-packaged for Various Applications

- Healthcare
- Car-Washes
- Aquatic Centers
- Amusement Parks

#### **Benefits**

- Expedited construction completions
- · Application expertise
- Manufacturing knowledge and capability
- Product availability
- Single source service



Annual growth of 10 - 12%

Providing Value Added Design and Assembly within Customized Solution



## Innovate & Expand

## **Case Study: Major Theme Park**

#### **Customer Need**

Major Theme Park: Open Year Round

Park Size:

53 Acres

Park Capacity:

3.6 Million Gallons

Max Heating Req. 85 Million Btu/Hr

Yearly Attendance:

1.7 Million Guests

The Lochinvar customized packaged system provides hot water for large water theme park, including several water rides, a beach and a lagoon – all with temperature-controlled water

#### A. O. Smith Unique Solution

Phase 1 Package

- 4 x Crest 6.0 with Hellcat
- Input: 24 Million Btu/Hr
- Heating Capacity: 1535 GPM
- Single Point Electrical Connections
- 10" SS Supply piping









## Innovative Channel Training and Education Help Our Customers Win

#### **University Factory Training**

- Product specific consultative programs – installation, start-up, maintenance
- Customer specific –tailored content
- ~40 per year / 800 people



## Specifying Engineer Based Programs

- Masterclass content aimed at influencers (engineers, contractors, facility managers)
- ~30 per year / 400 people



#### Field-Based Programs

- Customer specific –tailored content
- ~15 per year / 300 people





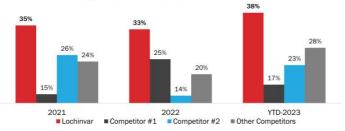


## Continue to Build on Channel Excellence, Strong Relationships and Provider-of-Choice

#### **Commercial Condensing Boiler Projects**

- · Best-in-Class buy / sell rep excellence
- Premium sales and support expertise
- Engineering specification pulls through demand

#### U.S. Basis of Design by Manufacturer





- Basis of Design enables higher win rates
- Specifications are typically determined by mechanical and plumbing engineering firms
- Market leading performance and advanced features - opportunities to maintain the specification with less competition
- Unparalleled training programs reps and distributors master designing, installing and servicing of Lochinvar products



Source: Construct Connect



## Specified Products Buy / Sell Manufacturers' Rep Strength

#1 or #2 position in revenue or income in 80% of Manufacturers' Representatives that carry the Lochinvar product lines

#### **Core Tenants of our Partnerships**

- Business development at engineer / contractor/ facility manager level
  - Packaging strength / product lines
- Application expertise
- · Technical support services
- · Dedicated start-up and/or service staff
- · Commercial product inventory in territories



~80% Commercial Specified Product Demand is Created by Manufacturers' Representatives Activities



# Long-Term Growth Profile Targeting Growth of 5% - 7% through 2028



5 Year Revenue Growth Profile: 5% - 7%

#### **Key Drivers**

- Continued market trend toward energy efficient products
- Innovation driven market leading products including newly introduced heat pump products
- Packaged systems drive down installation costs and time

#### Preserve and Expand Margin Profile

#### **Key Initiatives**

- Product innovation and premium service drives premium position
- Innovative designs drive specifications that win business
- A. O. Smith Operating System is in initial steps of implementation, providing a margin improvement runway



Smith.

## **Key Takeaways**



Build on established foundation of premium products, channel and services



Capture market share and capitalize on industry shifting to high efficiency products



Maintain and grow strong channel relationships as provider-ofchoice



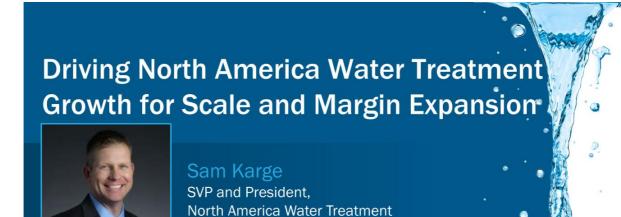
Provide highest standard of support and service



Add value through customized solutions and packaged systems

Innovative Products and Best-in-class Customer Support to Drive 5% - 7% CAGR through 2028







## **Key Messages - North America Water Treatment**



Full suite of premium and innovative products designed to meet consumers' broader needs



Multi-channel approach improves penetration in a fragmented market



Brand awareness through innovative marketing programs and consumer tools



Targeted
vertical
integration and
improved supply
chain drives
margin
improvement



Geographic expansion through acquisition and organic growth drive 2028 sales target of \$500 million

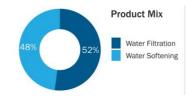
Acquisitions, Innovative Products and Best-in-class Customer Support to Drive 15% - 17% CAGR through 2028



## North America Water Treatment At-a-Glance



Water Right



@Smith.

aquasana





Evolve

- A market leader in water treatment with strong industry leadership and influence
- Significant growth opportunity from market consolidation
- Channel-focused marketing
- Direct consumer relationships
- Innovation drives efficiency and differentiation
- High margin replacement filter consumables (~15% - 20% of sales) drive recurring revenues and stickiness

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Leading

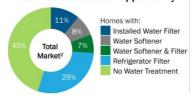
**Brands** 

### **North America Water Treatment Market Environment**

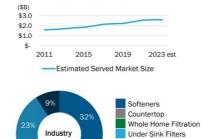
#### Market Opportunity<sup>1, 2</sup>

- \$2.6B current addressable market
- Represents only ~25% of U.S. households having a water treatment device

#### **Market Penetration Opportunity**



#### ~4% - 5% Industry CAGR Over Last Decade<sup>2</sup>



#### **Market Growth Drivers**

- Consumer awareness and greater focus on water quality
- · Aging U.S. infrastructure
- PFAS/PFOS water contamination
- Environmental Protection Agency PFAS/PFOS, Lead/Copper, Arsenic regulations
- Lead contamination in over 100 major cities across U.S.
  - Impacts ~15 22M people<sup>3</sup>





Leverage Strong Brand and Industry Presence to Capture Share in Large and Growing Market

Shower Fridge Filters

Pitcher Filters



<sup>1</sup> Sources: 2020 comprehensive market interviews, SEAS Capital Primary Research 2017, WQA consumer study 2019,2021, A. O. Smith customer research study 2017,2019, 2021, WQA Valve and Tank Report 2022. \*\$2.6B excludes Fridge filters due to low filter change compliance; total market including Fridge and Pitcher categories ~\$4B. <sup>3</sup> EPA lead and copper rule instruction materials

## **Executing a Clear Strategy**





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## A. O. Smith Technology Group

- 275 global water treatment technology professionals
- New Corporate Technology Center Milwaukee
- · Global engineering center China
- Industry-leading R&D facilities

#### **Certification Differentiator from Competition**

- Highest health claims for contaminant reduction with reverse osmosis and carbon filtration
- · Certification for safety and product efficiency





#### **Innovative Technologies Drive Growth** By Removing the Most Contaminants with the Least Waste

#### Sidestream™ Technology

- Patented highest efficiency reverse osmosis technology on the market
- 4-to-1 water recovery

Problem

Solutions

média Reduces hardness,

system

CrystalRight<sup>\*</sup>

iron, ammonia, tannin Innovative self-sanitizing

Water









### WaterMAX™ Softener

Claryum™ Filter

carbon filter

A. O. Smith developed

Certified to remove

Most certified carbon

PFAS, Lead, VOC, Mercury

First filters to receive PFAS/PFOS

and microplastics certification

filter on the market

77 contaminants

- Technology Highest efficiency softener on the market
- Compact size with full flow performance

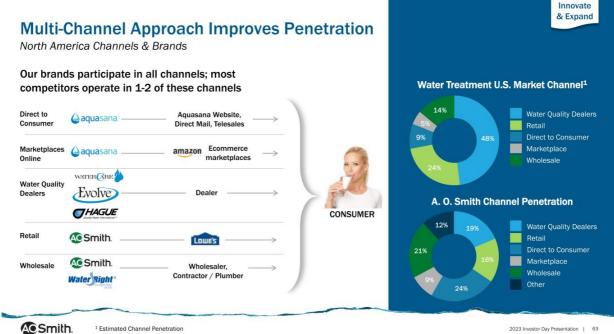








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## **Marketing Programs and Consumer Service Tools**

#### **Direct To Consumer Innovation**

- Constantly evolving marketing programs to be part of consumers' decision-making process
- Omni-channel marketing television, radio and online coordinated messaging
- · Online influencers market differentiation

#### Professional Dealer Strength ~ 400 dealers in network and growing

- · Best-in-class dealer products for home water solutions
- · Dealer education, seminars and online training
- Unrivaled dealer marketing support including consumer lead-generation programs and website creation

#### **Retail Merchandising Evolution**

- · Industry-leading contaminant reduction certifications
- Highest-efficiency reverse osmosis and softener products in retail market
- QR codes innovative product selection tool







## **Building Scale through M&A Strategy**

#### Inorganic geographic expansion across North America in residential and commercial

- · Water treatment is "local" regional expertise
- Acquire geographically for regional assembly and distribution
- · Creating regional centers of excellence
- · Commercial water treatment expertise
  - Commercial market space estimated to be ~2x size of residential
  - Targeted expertise in large-scale filters, reverse osmosis and high purity waster systems
  - Specification-driven growth
    - Similar to Lochinvar









Acquisitions are Critical to Building Scale



# **Targeted Vertical Integration and Streamlined Supply Chain Improve Margin Profile**



#### **Vertical Integration of Critical Components**

- Growth driven by innovative core filtration products
- · A. O. Smith innovative new filtration technologies:
- Claryum™ carbon block
- Sidestream™ reverse osmosis elements
- Vertically integrated many key filtration medias and cartridges within our factories
- Faster product launch
- Reduced overall cost due to shorter supply chain



#### **Shortening Material Supply Chain Length**

- · Many water treatment base materials originate in Asia
- Some materials may cross the Pacific Ocean up to 3x in journey from raw material to finished good
- Many materials have a 25-week lead time due to long supply chain
- Innovative planning and demand tools to help drive down overall supply chain lead time
- Resourcing key systems back to U.S. – including new high efficiency RO System



Targeting 100bps of Annual Margin Improvement



## **Long-Term Growth Profile** Path to \$500+ million and Mid-Teens Margins through 2028



5 Year Revenue Growth Profile: 15% - 17%

#### **Key Drivers**

- Grow faster than the market<sup>1</sup> with organic annual growth of 10% – 12% by: - 2% – 3% inflation
- Marketing programs and service tools
- Portfolio mix improvement
- Dealer and e-commerce growth Direct to Consumer growth
- Bolt-on acquisitions to add
- ~5% of annual sales growth

#### Margin Expansion: Mid-teens by 2028

#### **Key Initiatives**

- · Leverage growth within current footprint
- · Enhance premium brand via leading technology and best-in-class service
- · Annual material, labor and logistics cost reductions of \$3 - \$4 million annually





 $^{1}$  Annual market growth assumption of 4% - 5%

## **Key Takeaways**



Full suite of premium and innovative products designed to meet consumers' broader needs



Multi-channel approach improves penetration in a fragmented market



Brand awareness through innovative marketing programs and consumer tools



Targeted
vertical
integration and
improved supply
chain drives
margin
improvement



Geographic expansion through acquisition and organic growth drive 2028 sales target of \$500 million

Innovative Products and Best-in-class Customer Support to Drive 15% - 17% CAGR through 2028









# **Key Messages - China**



Leading position in premium segment with growing replacement base and recurring filter revenue



Maintaining a balanced go-to-market channel strategy



Focusing on customer experience using digital selling and service tools



Capturing growth through new adjacencies and expanding commercial markets



Leveraging strong in-country market presence and brand recognition for sustainable, profitable growth

Innovative Products and Best-in-class Customer Support Drive 5% – 6% CAGR through 2028



#### China At-a-Glance



- 25+ years operating in China with ability to scale
  - Strong in-country leadership
  - Operational improvements and organizational driving margin expansion
- Premium brand recognition to reach middle / affluent classes
- Multiple distribution channels, including service network
- Dual brand strategy to preserve premium brand
- Continuous innovation around new technology and operational excellence
- ~60% of water heater sales are replacement
- ~20% 25% of water treatment sale are replacement filters

Smith.

# **Balanced Go-To-Market Strategy with Key Partnerships**

#### **Major Channels**

# Offline Retail





📀 苏宁易则 suning.com

# II 中國海外 CHINA OVERSEAS

**Project** 

vanke

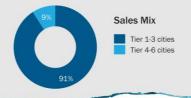
LONGFORT龙湖

#### **Balanced Channel Strategy**

- A. O. Smith exclusive specialty store are 100% dedicated to the success of the A. O. Smith product family
- · Leading partners in the national and regional offline retail
- Leveraging e-commerce activity to drive in-store experience to upsell product offering

#### 9,600 Points of Sale Across China

- ~4,500 Stores in Tier 1 Tier 3 Cities
- ~1,800 A. O. Smith Specialty Stores
- ~1,400 ~1,300 Retail Stores
  - Regional
- ~5,100 Outlets in Tier 4 Tier 6 Cities





# Investments in R&D and Manufacturing in place to Support Growth







~\$500M Invested in China's 3 Manufacturing and R&D Facilities







Digitalization

Automation

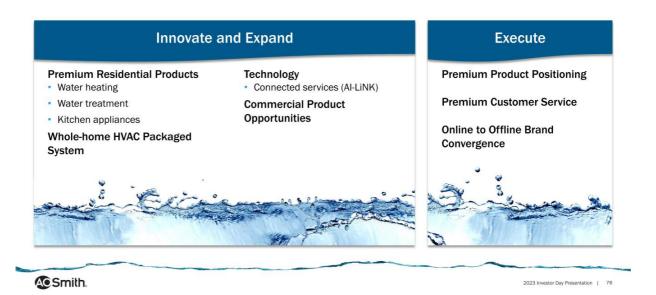
**Reliability Testing** 

#### Industry-Leading Technology

- Focus on quality excellence, safety and social responsibility
- Invest in digitalization and automation for productivity and profitable growth

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# **Executing a Clear Strategy**



# **Innovative Core Product Offerings**





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#### **Differentiated Features**









- Slim design electric wall-hung, extremely quiet and zero-cold-water gas tankless
- Soft-water-integrated gas tankless and









- · Large flow and hot water feature
- Al-LiNK connectivity to water treatment models with filter life display / calculation based on real water consumption
- Dual-function water purifier with 2 separate applications: drinking & cooking and washing dishes, vegetables, etc.



# Residential: Expanding into other Kitchen Appliance Categories as a Catalyst for Growth







# Al-LiNK Smart Home: "Good Air" HVAC System as a Solution

#### **Maximum Comfort and Most Efficient**

- Customized, whole home packaged system that provides heating, cooling and fresh air
- A. O. Smith is single solution provider that designs, installs and services system – transforming to a system solutions provider
  - Comfort and energy efficiency with control of one digital display
  - Combi boiler
  - Heat pump
- Fresh air unit









Annual Sales to Grow to \$100 Million by 2028, a 12% CAGR from 2023





# **Al-LiNK Smart Home, Good Water System**

How A. O. Smith Will Own the Kitchen

#### **AI-LiNK Smart Home**

- Al-LiNK Technology (Power Line +Wi-Fi Dual-mode Connection)
- "Smart Home Box" creates a unique IOT system with enhanced safety and privacy protection
- Expand bundled offerings to drive growth and increase value to consumers



Al-Link and Bundled Sales to Grow to \$100 Million by 2028, a 25% CAGR from 2023



# **Commercial Product Offerings are Catalysts for Growth**



#### Annual Growth of 10-12%









Hot Water







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#### **Commercial Strategy**

- Develop channels and win landmark projects to enhance brand influence
- Promote high efficiency condensing boiler and heat pump, with multienergy management Al-LiNK smart system
- Focus on opportunities in the existing building renovation market
- Offer diversified water treatment solutions, catering to all scenarios

Smith.



# Market Positioning Al-LiNK / A. O. Smith / Chanitex

#### CHANITEX 佳尼特

Young, Stylish Brand

#### Mid-end



- Mid price positioning
- Good quality and mid-range features to attract younger generation / first-time buyers

#### A.D.SMITH 史密斯 Best Product



- Market-leading full range of products with differentiated features
- Uniform pricing across online and offline channels

Avg Selling Price, Avg. Margir

## AI-LINK

Smart Linked Lifestyle

#### Premium



- Elevate our premium name
- Smart linked lifestyle with good air & water
- · Professional one-stop solution provider

A Smith.

#### Execute

## **Technology Drives Best-in-Class Customer Service**



Design / Installation / After Service

- Digital tools to empower and manage the process of design, installation and after service
- Deliver high quality, turn-key system with customized solutions



- Optimized warehouse, logistics, and fully barcode, visualized online system
- Provides full line of service parts to support premium services



#### A. O. Smith Industry College

- Established 2021, provides training to HVAC sales professionals, service technicians and onsite supervisors: supports Al-LiNK HVAC systems business
- Delivers premium customer solution for the HVAC system

+7M

Consumers Online

6,000+

**4.2m** Service Orders (2022)

100K+
President Hotline
Messages

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## Merge Online & Offline Brand Building to Complete the Sale

#### Social Media Platform













#### Online-Offline Integration



#### Offline Sales & Service

Model

Brand exposure

and traffic





 Cooperating with influencers for livestreaming and creating high-quality content

Execute

 Leveraging Tmall.com and JD online platforms to showcase A. O. Smith high-end offline products to achieve synergies through online-offline model

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# Long-Term Growth Profile Path to \$1.1+ Billion Revenue and 15% Operating Margin in 2028



# 5 Year Revenue Growth Profile: 5% - 6%

#### **Key Drivers**

- Core business (residential water heating and water treatment) growth driven by new product introductions and project sales
- Expansion into targeted kitchen appliance adjacencies
- Al-LiNK technology
- Expand into higher growth and higher margin commercial business

# Margin Expansion: From 11% to 15%

#### **Key Initiatives**

- Leverage growth within current footprint
- Enhance premium brand via Al-Link and Best-in-Class service
- Annual cost reduction target \$5+ million





# **Key Takeaways**



Leading position in premium segment with growing replacement base and recurring filter revenue



Maintaining a balanced go-to-market channel strategy



Focusing on customer experience using digital selling and service tools



Capturing growth through new adjacencies and expanding commercial markets



Leveraging strong in-country market presence and brand recognition for sustainable, profitable growth

Innovative Products and Best-in-class Customer Support Drive 5% – 6% CAGR Through 2028





# **Key Messages - India**



Premium brand positioning and broad product portfolio



Positive market demographics present emerging opportunities



Deep industry knowledge and local market expertise



Strong channel relationships and broad distribution network drive market share

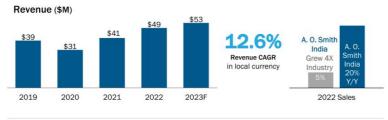


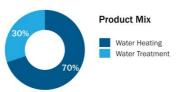
Near-term investments in innovative new products drive sustainable and profitable growth

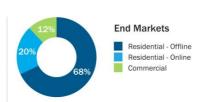
Above Market Growth of 15% to 20% CAGR through 2028



#### India At-a-Glance







India's evolving demographics and economic transformation create significant growth opportunities

- GDP growth projected 6%+ in 2024
- \$5T economy by 2026
- · Rapid urbanization
- Government-supported investments in infrastructure
- Innovative new products
- · Premium, niche solutions
- Broad distribution network
- Ecommerce / digital consumption

A Smith.



# **Executing a Clear Strategy**

#### **Innovate and Expand Execute Build Brand New Premium Products and Best-in-Class Customer** Technology 360 engagement Experience Residential water heating Accreditation / certification / **Process and Platform Approach** · Residential water treatment service **Channel Expansion Demand Creation** Unique customer relationship platform Growing commercial channel A Smith. 2023 Investor Day Presentation | 91



#### Residential Water Heaters - Innovation Raises the Bar in the Market

Value-added features including a longer life, energy savings & faster heating





RRID: Rust Resistance Inlet Diffuser

# Residential Water Treatment - Product Introductions Create New Trends in the Industry









# **Demand Creation: Creating New Trends in the Market**

#### Hot is The New Healthy

- Hot as a unique consumer benefit
- · Young, upwardly mobile, urban consumer family
- 7 offerings in 8 years
- · Hot is the new healthy
- · Health-conscious urban buyer







#### Under the Counter, Over the Top

- · Young, upwardly mobile, urban family
- Modern, minimalistic, modular, technologically advanced kitchen
- 4 products in 6 years





#### Premium UV Range with Industry Firsts

- Sustainability driven premium offering to appeal to educated urban consumers
- Digitally advanced user interface
- Compact for new age homes





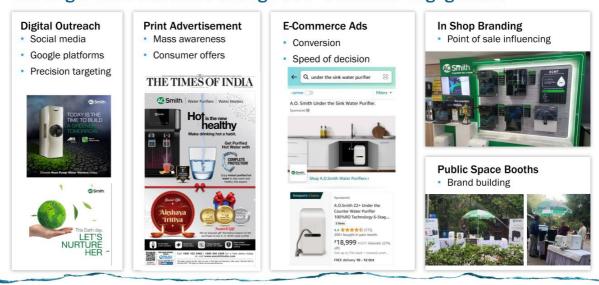


Creating Premium, Niche Segments within Water Treatment - Investing & Nurturing





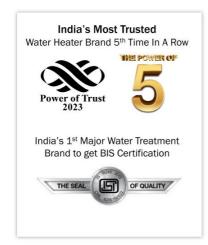
# **Building Brand Awareness through 360° Consumer Engagement**





#### Innovate & Expand

# **Building Brand Through Accreditation, Certification & Service**



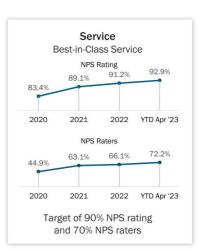
# One of the Highest Rated Brands on E-commerce Platform

40K+

Ratings & Reviews

~90% of ratings are 5-stars (maximum rating)

Top Rated Product in Water Heating and Water Treatment





BIS: Bureau of Indian Standards; SDC: Same Day Closure, NPS: Net Promoter Score

# **Channel Expansion through Strong Channel Relationships** to Fuel Growth



#### A. O. Smith Top Customer Engagement Platform



Year 2016 "Strengthen The Core"

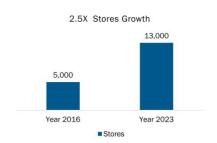


Year 2023 "Enhance The Core"



- Annual event to award achievement, set future goals and aspirations
- Introduce new products and programs
- Build bonds between A. O. Smith and distributor network

#### Store Focus



Channel expansion supports strong foundation for sustainable growth



# **Growing Commercial Presence through Premium Value Proposition for Heat Pumps**



#### **Heat Pumps**



#### **Applications**

- Top education institutes
- · Villas, weekend retreats
- Healthcare facilities
- Green buildings
- Premium condominiums
- Corporate campuses
- Luxury hotels & resorts



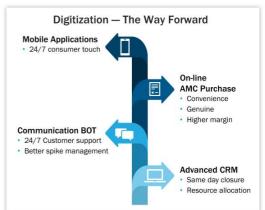






# Leveraging Technology to Create Best-in-Class Consumer Experience Raising The Bar on Customer Service with Superior Service Provider Training and Technology

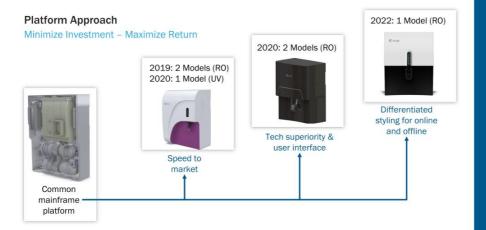




Best-in-Class Service, Cementing Premium Brand Imagery



# Process and Platform Approach Supports Product Introductions, Quality and Cost Position



Execute

# Channel and Consumer Benefits:

- Speed to market of new products
- Improved technical support & user interface

#### A. O. Smith Benefits:

- Common platform
- Improved manufacturability
- Minimizes tooling costs
- · Improves quality

Smith.

# Long-Term Growth Profile Targeting Growth of 15% - 20% through 2028



5 Year Revenue Growth Profile: 15% - 20%

#### **Key Drivers**

- New product introductions
- Best-in-Class Service
- Expand commercial presence
- Expand channel footprint with unique custom relationship platform

#### Margin Profile:

3% - 5%

#### **Key Initiatives**

- Reinvest for growth
- Expand into commercial market and service
- Process and platform approach



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# Key Takeaways - India



Premium brand positioning and broad product portfolio



Positive market demographics present emerging opportunities



Deep industry knowledge and local market expertise



Strong channel relationships and broad distribution network drive market share



Near-term investments in innovative new products drive sustainable and profitable growth

Above Market Growth of 15% to 20% CAGR through 2028





# **Key Messages**



Track record of delivering revenue and earnings growth



Industry-leading free cash flow conversion of 100%+



Balance and disciplined capital allocation approach for optimal returns



Strong balance sheet supports growth through strategic M&A

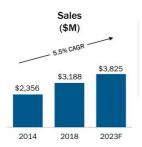


Clear strategy for long-term growth and value creation

Above Market Growth and Strategic Capital Allocation Drives Shareholder Value



# **Strong Track Record of Delivering Financial Results**









#### **Historical Drivers**

## · Invested in digital platforms

heating and boilers

- · Grew North America sales from 69% to 75% of total sales Repurchased 40M+ shares Large base of repeatable
- Implemented price/cost actions
- · Introduced new, innovative products replacement business in water
- Regulatory changes

#### **Performance Drivers**

## **Positioned for Future Performance**

- · Launch of internallydeveloped innovative tankless products
- Continued energy efficiency convergence in boiler market
- · Organic and inorganic growth opportunities in water treatment
- Above market growth in India
- China positioned for growth
- Future regulatory changes



- $^{\rm 1}$  Non-GAAP measure. See reconciliation to GAAP measures in Appendix.  $^{\rm 2}$  ROIC defined as ANOPAT divided by average invested capital net of cash

## **Key Financial Objectives**





## Resilient Business Model and Disciplined Capital Management Generate Best-in-Class Cash Flow

2019 – 2023F Cumulative Free Cash Flow (\$ in Millions)	
Sales	\$17,006
Net earnings (excl 2022 pension settlement)	2,254
D&A	383
Working Capital	71
Other	(8)
Cash Flow from Operations	2,700
Capital Expenditures	(331)
Free Cash Flow	2,369
FCF Conversion %	105%

#### "Annuity" Model

Consistent, recurring revenue stream

#### Low Capital Intensity\*

Capital expenditures ~2% - 3% of annual revenue

#### Strong Working Capital Management

Net working capital ~20% - 25% of annual revenue

#### **Leverage Opportunity**

Allows for inorganic investments for long-term growth



\* Including incremental investments in growth for tankless and innovation, total 2024-2025 capital expenditures projected to remain below 3% of annual revenue

## **Capital Allocation Philosophy**



Targeting Debt-to-Adjusted-EBIDTA of ~1.5-2x



<sup>1</sup> Subject to ongoing Board approval

## **Investing in Core Remains Top Priority with Key Innovation and Growth Investments**

#### Capital Expenditures - target 2% - 3% of sales over the cycle

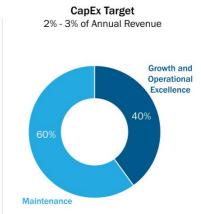
- Includes maintenance (~1% of sales)
- 2024-2025 Capital investments for growth (~\$85 million)
  - Commercial R&D engineering facility with testing capability Lebanon, TN
  - Tankless manufacturing production Juarez, MX
  - Heat pump production capacity expansion Juarez, MX
  - Commercial water heating production capacity due to 2026 regulatory change

#### R&D ~ \$90M annually

Products / capabilities

#### **Operational Excellence and Channel Enhancement**

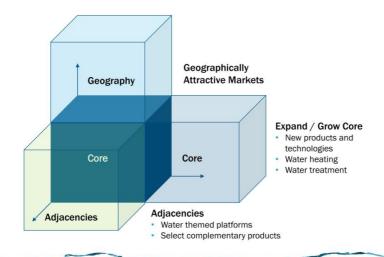
- · Innovation in services, delivery, training and overall premium customer experience
- · Channel expansion in India
- Efficiency and process improvement through A. O. Smith Operating System



Best Use of Capital Expected to Produce Highest Risk-Adjusted Returns



## Strong Financial Position Supports Growth through Strategic M&A



#### Strategic Fit

- Grow TAM
- Capitalize on megatrends
- · Expand geographically
- New water themed platforms
- Grow / leverage existing capabilities and technology
- New or complimentary technology or innovation

#### **Financially Attractive**

- Accretive to EPS in the first year
- ROIC above cost of capital by the third year
- Meet risk adjusted IRR hurdle rates
- Accretive to growth or margin profile



## **Returning Capital to Shareholders**

#### **Dividend Priorities**

- · Pay attractive dividend that grows with earnings
- Conduct peer analysis and assess yield / payout ratio
- Continued commitment to increasing dividend<sup>1</sup>



#### Share Repurchase since 2014:

- Repurchased 41M+ shares for \$2.1B (~\$51/share)
- Diluted shares outstanding reduced ~17%²
- As of September 30, 2023: 5.5M shares remain under authorization
- Share repurchase expected to remain an important and attractive option<sup>1</sup>



Dividend Aristocrat - Nearly 30 Consecutive Years of Dividend Increases



<sup>1</sup> Subject to ongoing Board approval <sup>2</sup> Net of shares issued for stock-based compensation

## **Delivering Sustainable Growth**



2023F		North America		Rest o	f World		
	Water Heating	Boilers	Water Treatment	China	India	2028	2029
CAGR	4% - 5%	5% - 7%	15% - 17%	4% - 6%	15% - 20%	Incremental	
% of Sales	65%	~5% - 10%	~5% - 10%	~20% - 25%	~1%		
Drivers	Industry unit growth + inflation     2026 commercial regulations     Tankless market share     Residential mix	Energy efficient market growth     Customized packages     Specified business     Training	Dealer / D2C / e-commerce     Geographic expansion     Portfolio mix     Strategic M&A	Core business     New kitchen categories     Al-LiNK technology     Commercial opportunity	New products     Channel expansion     Premium service     Commercial market	Strategic M&A     Proposed 2029     residential wate	regulatory changes in r heating



## Clear Strategy for Long-Term Value Creation Goals\*



5% - 6%

Annual growth

Plus fire power to accelerate growth through strategic acquisitions

Earnings per Share

7% - 9%

Adjusted EPS CAGR

- North America margin growth ~150 bps<sup>1</sup>
- Rest of World margin growth ~400 bps<sup>2</sup>
- Share repurchase to contribute 1% 2%3

**Cash Flow** 



>100%

Free cash flow conversion

Value-Creating Capital Allocation



Target Leverage: ~1.5x - 2x Net Debt-to-Adjusted EBITDA

Acquisitions that meet financial criteria

Pay an attractive dividend, continue share buybacks and ROIC above  $30\%^4$ 

\*2024-2028 timeframe - Growth rate is organic, except North America Water Treatment growth targeted at 15% - 17% which includes -5% growth from acquisitions; 

¹Margin expansion versus 2023F exit rate of 24%; ² Margin expansion versus 2023F of 10%; ³Subject to ongoing board approval;



## **Key Takeaways**



Track record of delivering revenue and earnings growth



Industry-leading free cash flow conversion of 100%+



Balance and disciplined capital allocation approach for optimal returns



Strong balance sheet supports growth through strategic M&A



Clear strategy for long-term growth and value creation

Above Market Growth and Strategic Capital Allocation Drives Shareholder Value





### **Powerful Investment Thesis**

1

Leading with innovative products that drive technology and meet sustainability needs 2

Capitalizing on global megatrends in a large and growing market supported by regulatory changes 3

Leading
North American
water heater and
boiler producer
with stable and
consistent
replacement
demand

4

Compelling brand awareness in emerging markets with attractive growth and margin expansion opportunities 5

Leveraging strong balance sheet for organic and inorganic growth while returning capital to shareholders

Smith.



Where water flows – our legacy grows The 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of A. O. Smith will acknowledge our rich history and celebrate our future among global employees, Smith family members, elected officials, our community and customers around the world.

#### Our year-long celebration will:

- · instill pride in the company
- emphasize our good name and values
- showcase our ongoing commitment to innovation and growth
- · elevate our strength as a leading global water technology company









Kevin J. Wheeler Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Kevin Wheeler was named chairman of the A. O. Smith Corporation board of directors on May 1, 2020. He was named president and chief executive officer on September 1, 2018 – the 10th chief executive officer in the company's history. He has responsibility for the company's global operations, as well as strategy development and implementation, profitability and shareholder returns.

Prior to becoming CEO, Kevin was president and chief operating officer from June 2017. In this role, he was responsible for A. O. Smith's global water heater and boiler operations as well as its global water treatment business. He also oversaw the company's global research and information technology functions. Kevin was elected to the A. O. Smith board of directors in July 2017.

Kevin joined A. O. Smith in 1994 as a regional sales manager for the former Water Products Company. In 1999, he was named managing director of A. O. Smith Water Products Company B.V., headquartered in Veldhoven, the Netherlands. In that role, he was responsible for the company's water heater business in Europe and the Middle East. He returned to the U.S. in 2004 to serve as vice president-international with responsibility for all European and Asian operations. During this time, the company expanded its business in China and began evaluation of the India residential water heater market.

In 2007, Kevin was named senior vice president and general manager of the U.S. retail business for the Water Products Company. In that position, he oversaw all aspects of the U.S. retail business including sales, marketing, manufacturing, product engineering, and customer service. In 2011, he was named senior vice president and general manager of A. O. Smith's largest operating unit – the North America, India and Europe water heating business – and became president of that business in 2013. Kevin began his career in 1984 at Hoyt Water Heater Company. He also held sales management positions at Bradford White Corporation and American Water Heater Company.

Kevin is a member of the Manufacturers Alliance Board of Trustees. He has served as chairman and an at-large director of the Air-conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI). He is a director of Graco Inc. (NYSE: GGG). He is a graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno and the Advanced Management Program at Harvard University.





Chuck Lauber EVP and Chief Financial Officer

Chuck Lauber was named executive vice president and chief financial officer of the company in May 2019. He is responsible for all financial functions of the company including treasury, controllership, cash management, and investor relations

Chuck joined A. O. Smith as corporate director of tax and audit in December 1999. He was named vice president and controller of the former Electrical Products Company division in 2001 and was named vice president – global finance for Electrical Products in 2004. In 2006, he was promoted to senior vice president and group chief financial officer for the Water Products Company division.

Chuck was named to the newly created position of senior vice president – strategy and planning in January 2013 and assumed the position of senior vice president - strategy and corporate development in March 2013.

Before joining A. O. Smith, he held a number of auditing and management positions with Ernst & Young from 1984 to 1999.

He serves on the board of directors of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) and H.B. Fuller.

Chuck earned a BS in accounting from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and an MBA from Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.





David R. Warren SVP and President, North America Water Heating

Dave Warren was named president and general manager of the North America Water Heating business unit in July 2017. In this role, Dave has profit and loss responsibility for the 10 brands that make up the operation. He oversees the unit's 4,860 employees at facilities in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

Dave last served as vice president of the India, Europe and export businesses, overseeing the company's international water heater operations in Europe, and water heater and water treatment operations in Turkey and India. He also was responsible for the company's export water heater activities.

He joined A. O. Smith in 1989 as a wholesale sales coordinator and was promoted to district manager of the South Texas District. In 1999, he was named a regional sales manager for the South-Central Region. In 2002, he became director of Reliance retail water heater sales. In 2004, Dave was named managing director of the company's Veldhoven operation with responsibility for the European and Middle Eastern markets and export water heater sales.

Dave is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with a BA in sales and marketing and has taken courses in international business from Franklin University-Switzerland in Lugano, Switzerland.





Steve O'Brien
SVP and President,
Lochinvar

Stephen O'Brien was named senior vice president of A. O. Smith Corporation and president of Lochinvar, LLC in April 2022. He joined Lochinvar as chief operating officer in August 2021, overseeing the engineering, manufacturing, quality, sales, marketing and business development functions.

Steve originally joined the company in 1997 as sales engineer for A. O. Smith Electrical Products Company, where he steadily progressed through sales and marketing roles, until being named senior vice president & general manager – HVAC, Hermetic and Appliances in 2008.

When Electrical Products Company was sold to Regal Beloit in 2011, he served as their acquisition integration leader and vice president & business leader, responsible for the P&L of the Marathon and Century Commercial Motor Business for four years. In 2015, he joined Mitsubishi Electric Cooling & Heating where he was instrumental in transforming the channel strategy through the formation of the Mitsubishi Electric Trane joint venture. He became senior vice president of the residential and commercial businesses and led the creation of strategies and programs resulting in significant revenue and net profit growth.

Steve earned his MBA from the University of Dayton and BA in mathematics and computer science from the State University of New York – Potsdam.





D. Samuel Karge SVP and President, North America Water Treatment

Sam Karge was named senior vice president of A. O. Smith Corporation & president – North America Water Treatment on September 1, 2018. He joined A. O. Smith in March 2018 as president of the newly created North America Water Treatment business unit. In this position, he has profit and loss responsibility for the unit, which consists of A. O. Smith-branded water treatment products for North America, and the Aquasana, Hague, Master Water Conditioning, Atlantic Filter and Water-Right lines.

Sam joined A. O. Smith after serving as vice president sales & marketing for Zurn Industries of Milwaukee, part of the Rexnord Water Management Platform from April 2016 until March 2018. Prior to that, Sam worked at Pentair Residential Filtration of Milwaukee, holding positions in platform management and marketing management. He also held the positions of vice president global marketing and director of global marketing & product management. From 2001 until 2008, he worked at GE Water and Process Technologies, with roles in global marketing and sales, product management, and new product development. Sam began his career as a marketing manager with Osmonics, Inc. of Milwaukee.

Sam holds a BS in communications and advertising with an emphasis in engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He currently serves as the vice president of the Water Quality Research Foundation. Previously, he was a member of the board of directors of the Water Quality Association from 2007 until 2016 and served as the association president during the 2014-2015 term. He also chaired the association's Government Relations Committee and the Convention Committee. Sam received the Water Quality Association's Hall of Fame Award in 2017, the highest award presented by the organization. He also is a 2009 recipient of a Key Award from the WOA.





Jack Qiu, PhD SVP and President, China

Jack Qiu was named senior vice president of A. O. Smith corporations and president – A. O. Smith China in October 2020. He has profit and loss responsibility for A. O. Smith's water heating and water treatment business in China, based in Nanjing and Lishui, and he oversees the company's strategic growth in the region.

Prior to his promotion in October 2020, Jack served as managing director of the A. O. Smith (China) Water Products Co., Ltd., driving growth of the Company's traditional gas water heater business and expansion of the combi boiler line. As general manager for residential gas water heaters, Jack played an integral leadership role in growing net sales for the segment from \$26 million to \$255 million over his 2008-2018 tenure, which also included construction of a state-of-the-art 960,000 sq. ft. manufacturing and research facility, opened in 2013. He first joined A. O. Smith in 2003 as deputy general manager of product engineering, leading the team's new product development process, continuous quality improvement efforts and pre- and after-sale technical support functions.

In the years preceding, Jack led a 30-person engineering team for York's air conditioning and refrigeration unit, developing technologies in slim ducting, dual-fan water cooling and heat pumps for residential and commercial products. He began his career as a design engineer and project manager with Royal Service Air Conditioning, designing and leading the implementation of commercial HVAC infrastructure for clients such as Maxwell House and Amway.

Jack holds a BS in HVAC from Tsinghua University, a MS in power engineering from South China University of Technology and a PhD in engineering thermophysics from Southeast University.





Parag Kulkarni SVP and President, India

Parag Kulkarni was named senior vice president-international and president of A. O. Smith India Water Products Private Limited, in September 2022, with profit & loss responsibility for the Company's operations in India, Vietnam, Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

As managing director of A. O. Smith India Water Products Private Limited since April 2015, Parag led the company to market-leading positions in India's water heating and water purifying categories. Under his leadership, A. O. Smith India has been recognized as the country's Most Trusted Brand for water heaters each year since 2019 and received certification as a Great Place to Work twice. In addition, the India team has been recognized internally for product innovation, environmental initiatives and workplace safety.

Parag came to A. O. Smith after 22 years with Wipro Limited, a leading technology services and consulting company, growing from a territory sales lead to senior vice president & business head for Wipro's commercial lighting and consumer care group. He began his career as a senior sales engineer with Atlas Copco India, a manufacturer of compressors, vacuum solutions, generators, pumps, power tools and assembly systems.

Parag was named one of the 50 Most Impactful Leaders in Global Water Management in 2017, among India's Best Leaders in Crisis in 2021 for managing the company through the global pandemic, and one of the country's Most Trusted CEOs in 2017, following the successful expansion of the water purification business. He earned his BE in mechanical engineering from the Government Engineering College in Jabalpur and an MDBA in business management from Pune's Institute of Management Development. He also completed McGill University's Executive Leadership Experience.





Helen E. Gurholt VP, Investor Relations and FP&A

Helen Gurholt, vice president – investor relations and financial planning and analysis, is responsible for investor relations, financial planning and analysis for the company. She also oversees the treasury and insurance functions.

Helen joined A. O. Smith as accounting supervisor in 2002. She was promoted several times to roles with increasing responsibilities, to director of accounting in July 2013 and vice president & controller in May 2019.

Helen is a member of the Manufacturers Alliance Investor Relations Council and the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI). She serves on the Executive Council of the board of directors of the Wisconsin Policy Forum. Helen also serves on the board of directors of Milwaukee Women inc. and the American Red Cross of Wisconsin Southeast Chapter.

Helen earned her bachelor's degrees in business administration and Spanish from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and is a certified public accountant.





## Reconciliation of reported earnings before provision for income taxes to total segment earnings (non-GAAP) and adjusted segment earnings (non-GAAP):

segment earnings (non-daar).									
(\$millions)	2019	20	20	202	21	202	2	2023	3F
arnings Before Provision for Income Taxes (GAAP)	\$ 472	2.1 \$	443.9	\$	625.6	\$	223.7	\$	735.
Add: Corporate expense <sup>(1)</sup>	46	6.0	52.0		52.1		128.9		60.0
Add: Interest expense	1:	1.0	7.3		4.3		9.4		11.0
Total Segment Earnings (non-GAAP)	\$ 529	9.1 \$	503.2	\$	682.0	\$	362.0	\$	806.
North America <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 488	8.9 \$	503.5	\$	590.8	\$	266.0	\$	721.
Rest of World <sup>(3)</sup>	40	0.2			91.4		96.3		85.
Intersegment earnings elimination		×	(0.3)		(0.2)		(0.3)		
Total Segment Earnings (non-GAAP)	\$ 529	9.1 \$	503.2	\$	682.0	\$	362.0	\$	806.0
Additional Information									
(1) Corporate Expenses	(46	6.0)	(52.0)		(52.1)		(128.9)		(60.0
Pension settlement expense (income)							70.5		(1.0
Impairment expense		*	196						3.
Pension (income) expense		2	-		(2.6)		2.0		
Terminated acquisition-related expenses		8	-		(9)		4.3		
Adjusted Corporate expense (non-GAAP)	(46	5.0)	(52.0)		(54.7)		(52.1)		(57.9
(2) North America	488	8.9	503.5		590.8		266.0		721.
Pension settlement expense (income)					(6)		346.8		(5.0
Pension (income) expense			10		(10.5)		9.7		
Legal judgment income			100		-		(11.5)		
Severance and restructuring expenses	77	ū.	2.7						
Adjusted North America (non-GAAP)	488	8.9	506.2		580.3		611.0		716.
(3) Rest of World	40	0.2	10		91.4		96.3		85.
Impairment expense			100				12		12.
Severance and restructuring expenses			5.0				1000		
Adjusted Rest of World (non-GAAP)	40	0.2	5.0		91.4		96.3		97.



# Reconciliation of Reported Cash Flow from Operating Activities to FCF (Non-GAAP)

(\$millions)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023F
Cash provided by operating activities (GAAP)	\$ 456	\$ 562	\$ 641	\$ 391	\$ 650
Less: Capital Expenditures	(64)	(57)	(75)	(70)	(65)
Free cash flow (non-GAAP)	\$ 392	\$ 505	\$ 566	\$ 321	\$ 585



## Reconciliation of Earnings Before Provision for Income Taxes to Adjusted EBITDA (Non-GAAP)

(\$millions)	2014	2018	2023F
Earnings before provision for income taxes (GAAP)	\$ 287	\$ 558	\$ 735
Add: Depreciation and amortization expense	60	72	70
Add: Interest expense	6	8	10
Add: Pension settlement expense	-	-	H
Adjusted EBITDA (non-GAAP)	\$ 353	\$ 638	\$ 815



## Reconciliation of EPS to Adjusted EPS (Non-GAAP)

	2014	2018	2023F
Diluted EPS (GAAP)	\$ 1.14	\$ 2.58	\$ 3.68
Impairment Expense	-	-	0.10
Pension Settlement Costs (Income)	0.08		(0.03)
Restructuring and impairment expenses	-	0.03	1
Adjusted EPS (non-GAAP)	\$ 1.22	\$ 3.61	\$ 3.75

