

# Transform to perform

Financial Highlights Q4/FY 2023

covestro.com Q4/FY 2023 | Earnings Call



# Forward-looking statements

This presentation may contain forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by Covestro AG.

Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors could lead to material differences between the actual future results, financial situation, development or performance of the company and the estimates given here. These factors include those discussed in Covestro's public reports, which are available on the Covestro website at <a href="https://www.covestro.com">www.covestro.com</a>.

The company assumes no liability whatsoever to update these forward-looking statements or to adjust them to future events or developments.

# FY 2023 Highlights





## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Sales



€14.4bn

**FOCF** 



€232m

**EBITDA** 



€1.1bn

Share buyback ended<sup>(3)</sup>



~€200m

## NON-FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

GHG emissions (Scope 1 & 2)



-8.4%(1)

4.9m tons

Power purchase agreement (PPA)



virtual PPA for 90 MW / ~12% of Baytown site starting 2024

Renewable Electricity



16% of renewable electricity share

Digitalization



Al<sup>(2)</sup> tools roll-out across Covestro

Circularity

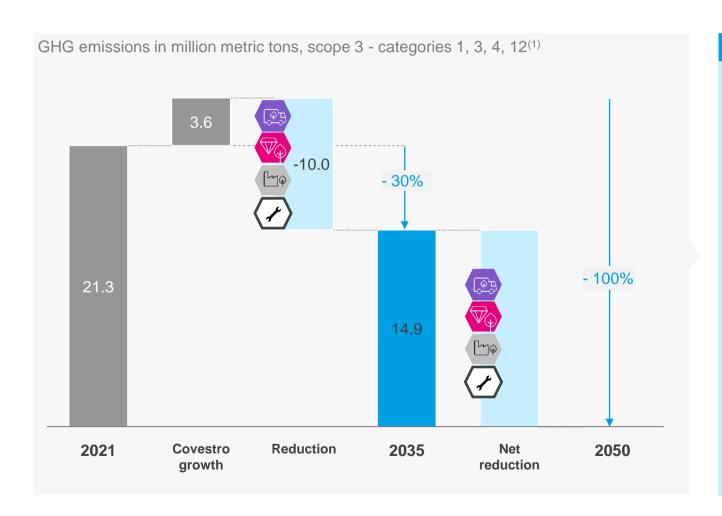


Chemical recycling for MDI, TDI and PC developed

## Target reduction of 10m tons GHG until 2035 and net-zero until 2050



## Climate neutrality target for GHG emissions scope 3



#### **EMISSION REDUCTION MEASURES**

 Four main levers make a vital contribution to reduce scope 3 GHG emissions:



Supplier scope 1&2 reduction



Advancing MAKE projects



Profitable sales of products based on alternative raw materials



Other measures

- Contribution of different levers can vary depending on technical realization of MAKE projects
- Scope 3 emissions represent ~80% of Covestro's 2023 greenhouse gas emissions
- Strict commitment to net-zero underlines consistent implementation of the green transformation
- Net-zero 2050 target in line with SBTi and 1.5° goal

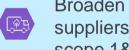
# Strategic levers supporting transformation towards climate neutrality



## Target for GHG emissions scope 3



## **FOCUS ON SUPPLIERS**



Broaden engagement with suppliers that achieve scope 1&2 reductions



Identify first mover supplier



Develop strategy on CO<sub>2</sub> reduced top raw materials



## **ADVANCING MAKE PROJECTS**



Continue innovation & digital R&D in renewable technologies



Prove technical feasibility of own technologies



**Execute investments** according to strategybased asset planning



## **FOCUS ON CUSTOMERS**



Identify first mover customers to deliver climate neutral products



Enhance value proposition & active customer engagement



Secure access to strategic waste feedstock



#### **OTHER MEASURES**



Green logistics initiatives



Primary energy generation

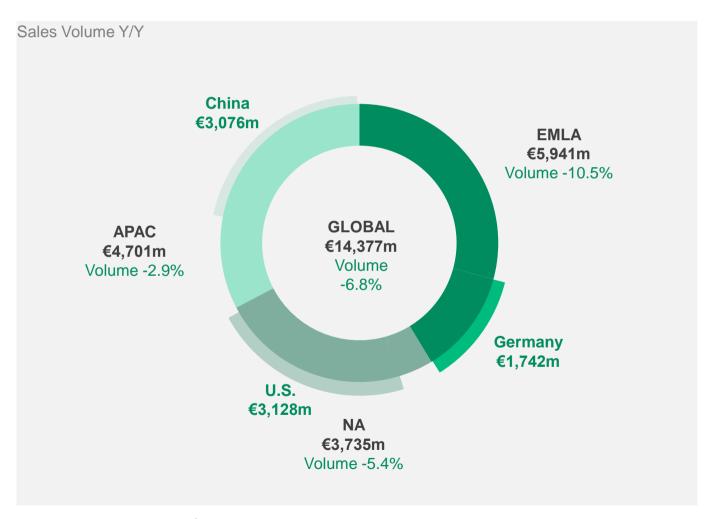


Increased recycling quota

# Ongoing weak global demand

## FY 2023 – Regional split





## **HIGHLIGHTS**

 Year-on-year mixed volume development in the different industries:

Auto mid-single-digit % increase

Furniture/wood flat development

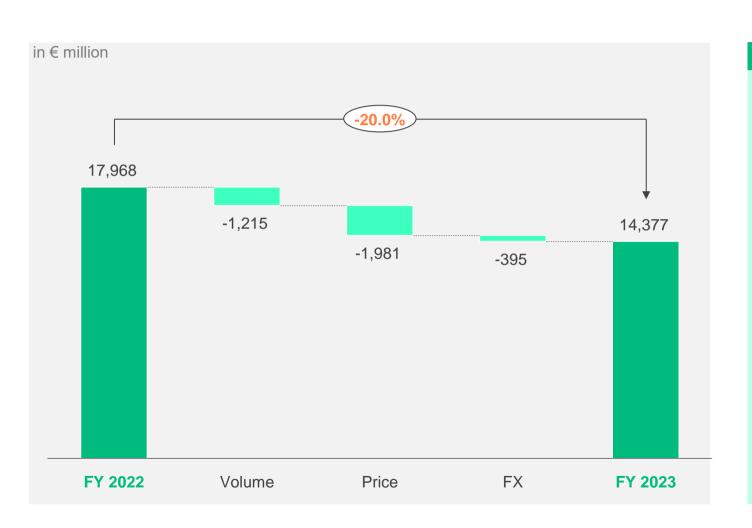
Electro low single-digit % declineConstruction high single-digit % decline

- EMLA: Ongoing demand weakness with slight decline in construction, furniture and strong decline in electro partially caused by temporary technical limitations; auto with slight increase
- NA: Slight increase in auto, electro flattish, furniture with slight decline while construction showing ongoing significant decline
- APAC: Furniture and auto with slight growth, whereas electro flattish and construction with strong decline

# Sales decrease driven by strong price and volume decline

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## FY 2023 – Sales bridge



## **HIGHLIGHTS**

## Volume negative

Volume decline of 6.8% Y/Y

## Pricing negative

- Pricing affected sales by -11.0%
- Performance Materials strongly affected (-15.7% Y/Y) whereas Solutions & Specialties only with decline (-6.4% Y/Y)

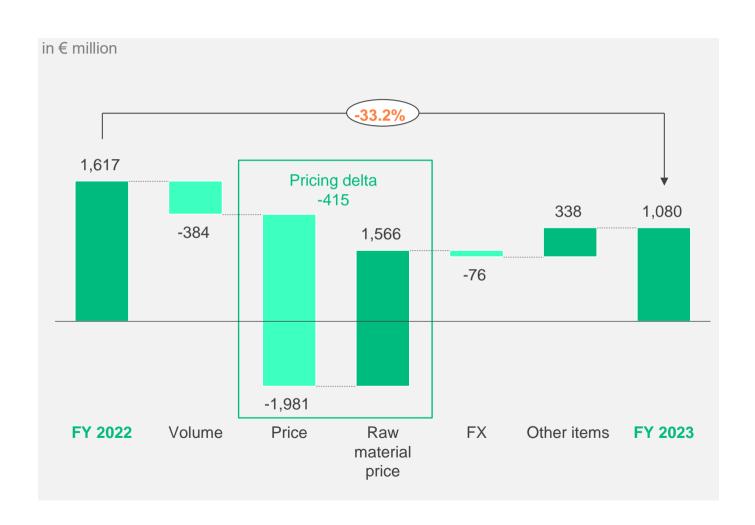
## FX negative

 FX affected sales by -2.2% Y/Y mainly driven by RMB, USD, INR and JPY

# Earnings decline counterbalanced by significant fix cost reduction

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## FY 2023 – EBITDA bridge



#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

## Negative volume

- Volume leverage<sup>(1)</sup> of only 32%
- Volume leverage below long-term average due to low margins per ton reflecting the stage of the cycle

## Negative pricing delta

 Strong margin decline due to unfavorable supplydemand situation

#### Other items

- Significantly lower operational cost
- Book gains from the divestment of the Additive Manufacturing business of €35m
- Expenses/provisions for closure/discontinuation of different business activities of €26m
- Higher provisions for short- and long-term variable compensation of €166m

# Seasonality and price pressure affecting sales and EBITDA

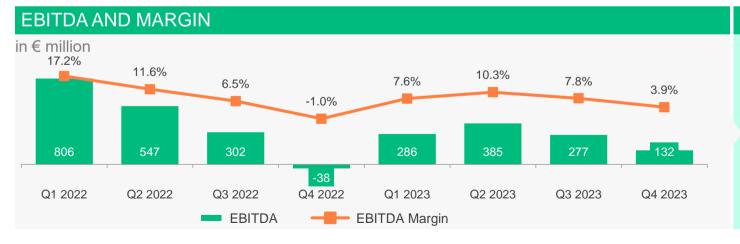


## Group results – Highlights Q4 2023



### HIGHLIGHTS Q4 2023

- Year-on-year sales decline (-15.6%) mainly attributable to negative pricing (-15.7%) and FX (-3.0%) but with positive volume (+3.1%)
- Sequentially, seasonally declining sales development with positive volume development but negative effects of pricing and currency



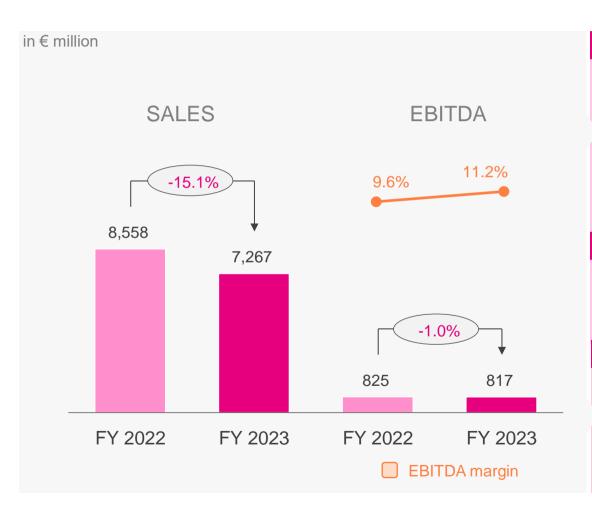
## HIGHLIGHTS Q4 2023

- Year-on-year EBITDA improved strongly based on positive volume and lower idle costs despite negative pricing delta and FX
- Sequentially, earnings declined due to negative pricing delta and seasonally lower volumes
- EBITDA margin declined to 3.9% in Q4 2023

# Resilient EBITDA despite lower sales

## Solutions & Specialties segment





#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

#### 2023

- Sales decline less pronounced compared to group level
- Volume decline of 6.2% Y/Y due to recessionary environment
- EBITDA benefitted from lower raw material costs.
- EBITDA margin improved by 160bp
- RFM integration ahead of plan

#### OUTLOOK 2024

- EBITDA significantly<sup>(1)</sup> above 2023 level
- Further EBITDA margin expansion

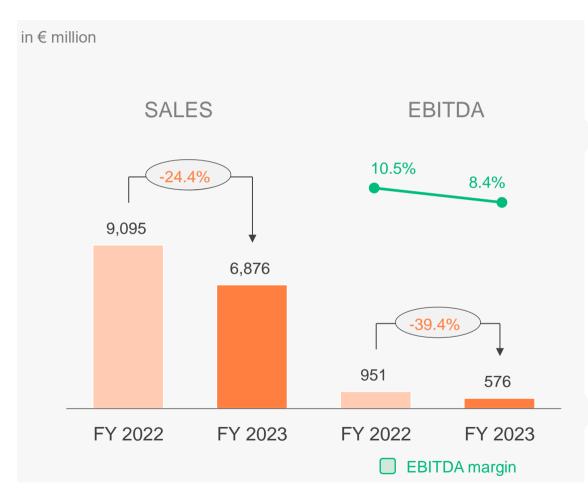
## SEGMENT PROFILE

- Success factors Market innovative products and manage complexity
- Products Coatings and Adhesives raw materials, Polycarbonate compounds, Specialty-MDI and -polyols, Specialty Films, Elastomers and Thermoplastic Polyurethanes

# EBITDA down due to negative pricing delta and lower volumes



## Performance Materials segment



## HIGHLIGHTS

#### 2023

- Weak demand and technical limitations resulting in lower volumes
- Negative pricing delta despite lower raw material and energy prices caused by oversupply

#### **OUTLOOK 2024**

- EBITDA between €400m and €800m
- Focus on asset utilization and cost leadership
- 1H 2024 with continuously low margins
- 2H 2024 some margin recovery expected

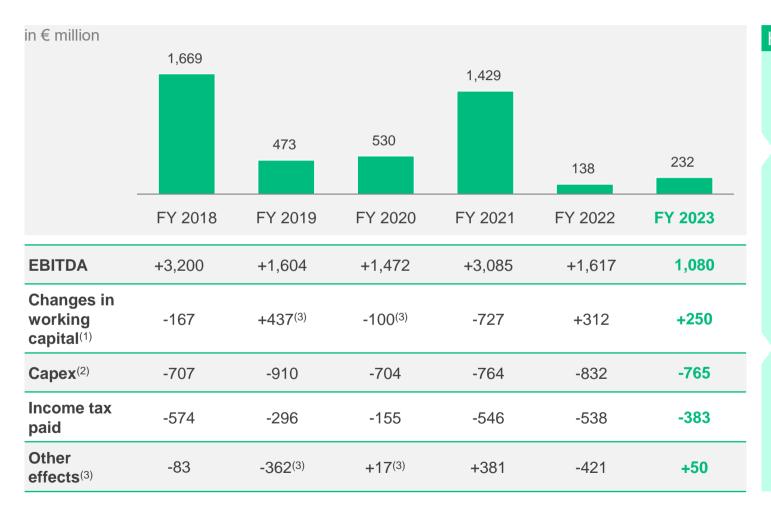
#### **SEGMENT PROFILE**

- Success factors Leverage leading cost position with highest possible asset utilization
- Products Standard MDI, TDI, long chain polyols, standard Polycarbonate resins and basic chemicals

## Solid FOCF in a trough year

## Historical FOCF development





#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Q4 2023 FOCF of €73m
- FY 2023 FOCF increase driven by continuous working capital management throughout the year despite declining EBITDA
- Working capital to sales ratio<sup>(4)</sup> increased to 16.6% (FY 2022: 15.1%), driven by steadily declining sales despite lower year-end inventories
- FY 2023 capex of €765m slightly below guidance due to efficiencies
- FY 2023 income taxes influenced by unfavorable geographical earnings mix; tax payments include a settlement of a German tax audit for fiscal years 2016-18
- Other effects: FY 2022 included payout of bonus provisions of €475m; no bonus payout in FY 2023

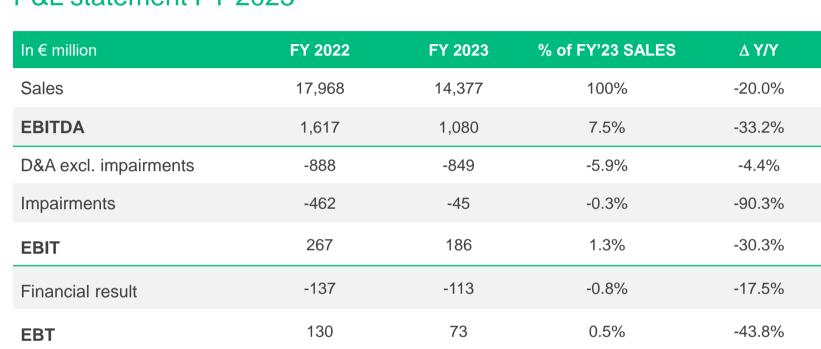
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Notes:

<sup>(2)</sup> Cash-relevant capex(3) Restated for fiscal year 2019-2020 for the change in presentation for rebates granted to customers, affecting trade and other liabilities

## Net losses due to unfavorable geographical earnings mix

## P&I statement FY 2023



-36

-239

-198

-1.05

-156

-255

-272

-1.42



#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Impairments**

 Impairment loss of €31m due to discontinuation of Maezio® product line and related site closure in Q1 2023

## Deferred tax assets (DTA)

- Not recognized deferred tax assets on tax loss carryforwards and temporary differences
- DTA adjustments of €239m in FY 2023 due to negative earnings mainly in Germany and Switzerland

-0.3%

-1.7%

-1.4%

-76.9%

-6.3%

-27.2%

-26.1%

Earnings per share (in €)<sup>(2)</sup>

Income taxes excl. DTA

adjustments

**DTA** adjustments

Net income<sup>(1)</sup>

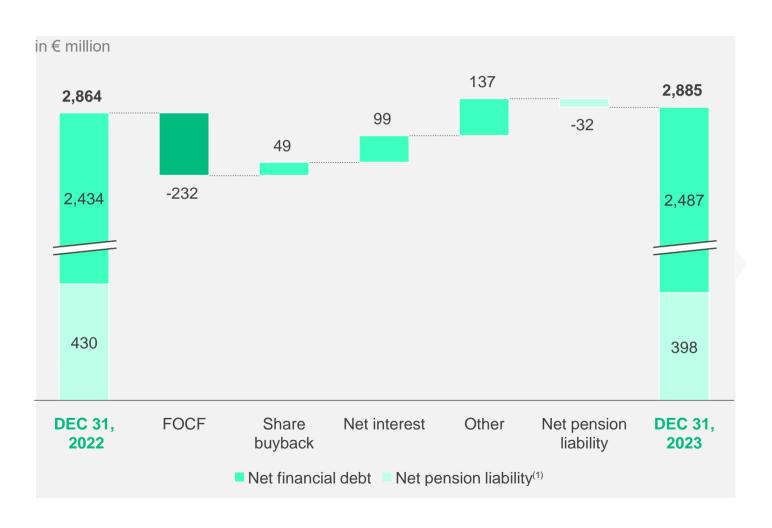
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Notes:

## Total net debt stable

## December 31, 2023 – Total net debt





## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Total net debt to EBITDA ratio<sup>(2)</sup> of 2.7x at the end of FY 2023 compared to 1.8x at the end of FY 2022
- Higher net debt to EBITDA ratio reflects the cyclical nature of Covestro's business and is expected to be only temporary
- Others mainly driven by lease contracts
- No financial covenants in place
- Solid investment grade rating of Baa2 with stable outlook confirmed by Moody's in June 2023

# Still depressed outlook for core industries going into 2024

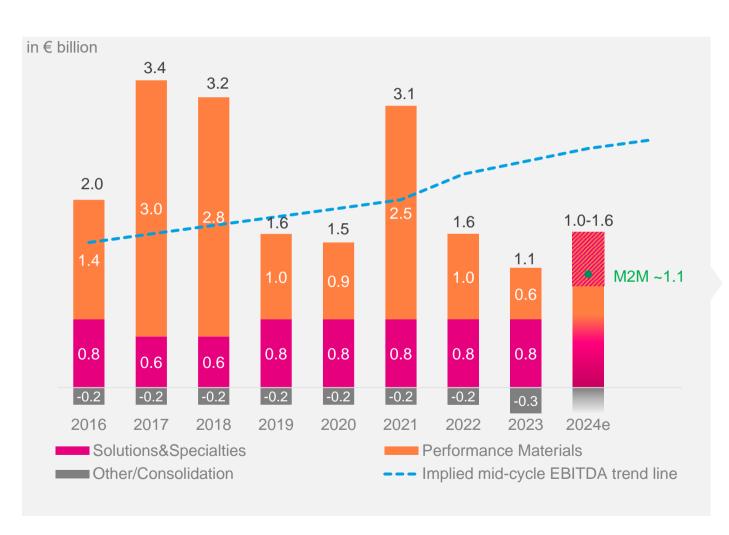
## Global demand development

KEY CUSTOMER INDUSTRIES		2022 Y/Y	2023 Y/Y <sup>(1)</sup>	2024e <sup>(2)</sup>
Global GDP		+3.1%	+2.7%	+2.4%
Automotive EV / BEV		+7.1% +72.8%	+10.2% +29.8%	+0.8% +28.9%
Construction Residential		+0.7% +0.2%	-2.4% -4.3%	-2.5% -5.8%
Furniture Soft furniture		-3.6% -5.2%	-3.7% -3.8%	+0.1% +0.5%
Electrical, electronics and household appliances  Appliances	HH	-0.9% -1.3%	-0.9% +7.2%	+1.5% +1.4%

# FY 2024 EBITDA expected between €1.0 to 1.6bn

## EBITDA development between 2016 and 2024e





## **HIGHLIGHTS**

## Mark-to-market (M2M):

 Mark-to-market (M2M) EBITDA in FY 2024 around €1.1bn; theoretical calculation based on January 2024 margins flat forward and budget assumptions for 2024

## Mid-cycle EBITDA:

- Mid-cycle definition: Respective year's EBITDA performance under average market conditions
- In 2022, mid-cycle EBITDA additionally increased due to RFM acquisition
- Mid-cycle EBITDA expected to increase yearly based on capacity additions

# Outlook reflecting ongoing weak demand environment

# Full year guidance 2024



	FY 2023	GUIDANCE FY 2024		
EBITDA	€1,080m	€1,000 to 1,600m		
FOCF	€232m	€0 to 300m		
ROCE above WACC <sup>(1)</sup>	-6.1pp	-7 to -2pp		
GHG emissions (scope 1 and 2)	4.9m tons	4.4 to 5.0m tons		
Additional financial expectations				
Sales	€14.4bn	€14.0 to 15.0bn		
EBITDA Q1	€286m	€180 to 280m		
D&A	€894m	~€850m		
Financial result	€-113m	€-120 to -160m		
Income tax	€275m	€250 to 350m		
Capex <sup>(2)</sup>	€765m	~€800m		

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

## 2024 FX sensitivity

- 1pp change equals
  - +/- €10m for CNY/EUR (basis 7.90)
  - +/- €5m for USD/EUR (basis 1.10)

## FOCF range

 Smaller range compared to EBITDA due to counterbalancing working capital effects

#### **GHG** emissions

 GHG range mainly driven by expected increase in production volumes offset by EEG exit in Germany

#### Income tax

- Income tax driven by unfavorable geographical earnings mix (nondeductible losses in Germany)
- Long-term tax rate estimated between 24-26%<sup>(3)</sup>

<sup>(2)</sup> Cash-relevant capex (3) Covestro estimate

# Transform to perform

## FY 2023 Highlights





Sales decreased to €14.4bn

caused by lower prices, lower volumes and unfavorable FX



EBITDA FY 2023 of €1.1bn in line with guidance

burdened by negative pricing delta, lower volumes and FX



Solid FY 2023 FOCF of €232m

supported by successful working capital management



FY 2024 guidance announced

with an expected EBITDA of €1.0 to 1.6bn



Covestro continues climate neutrality pathway

by announcing scope 3 GHG emission targets with climate neutrality until 2050



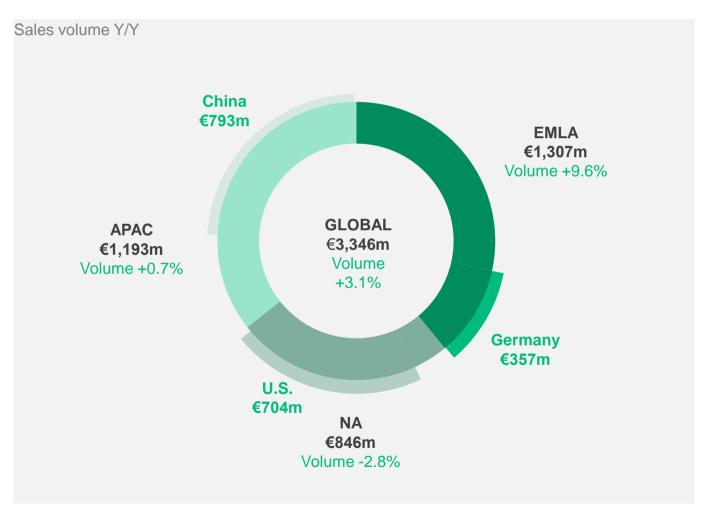
# Appendix

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# Positive volume development

## Q4 2023 – Regional split





#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

 Year-on-year volume development in the different industries:

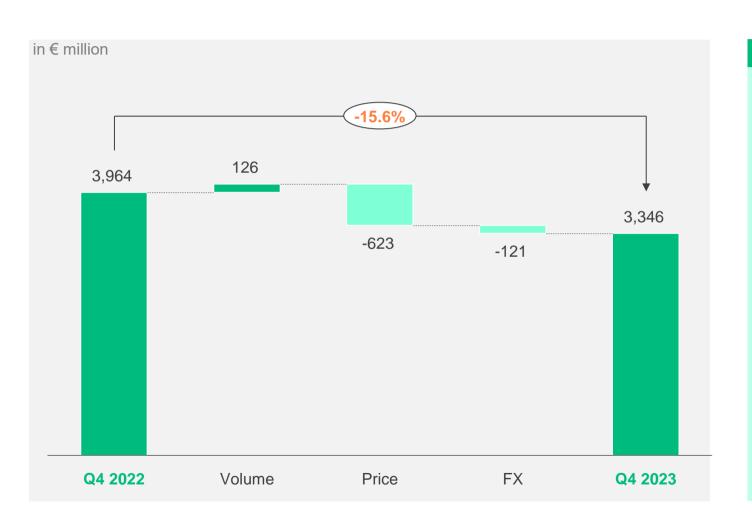
Construction low teens % increase
 Furniture/wood high single-digit % increase
 Auto low single-digit % increase
 Electro low single-digit % increase

- EMLA: Resolution of most chlorine issues leading to increased production rates in Q4 2023 with significant increase in construction, electro and furniture while auto was flattish
- NA: Electro and construction with slight increase, auto flat, furniture with slight decline
- APAC: Furniture and auto exhibiting significant growth, electro flat while construction with ongoing significant decline

# Sales decrease due to pricing pressure but positive volumes



## Q4 2023 – Sales bridge



## **HIGHLIGHTS**

## Volume positive

Volume increase of 3.1% Y/Y

## Pricing negative

Performance Materials strongly affected (-22.0% Y/Y), Solutions & Specialties with significant decline as well (-10.2% Y/Y)

## **FX** negative

 FX affected sales by -3.0% Y/Y mainly driven by RMB, USD, INR and JPY

# EBITDA increase mainly from significantly reduced fixed cost



## Q4 2023 – EBITDA bridge



#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

## Low volume leverage<sup>(1)</sup>

- Volume leverage of 41%
- Volume leverage below long-term average due low margins per ton reflecting the stage of the cycle

## Slightly negative pricing delta

- Raw material and energy prices significantly down compared to Q4 2022
- Strongly declining prices due to declining raw material prices and ongoing weak demand

## Other items driven by:

- Significantly reduced operational cost
- Provisions for advisory cost of €21m
- Higher provisions for variable compensation of €52m

# Solutions & Specialties – Q4'23 EBITDA seasonally down

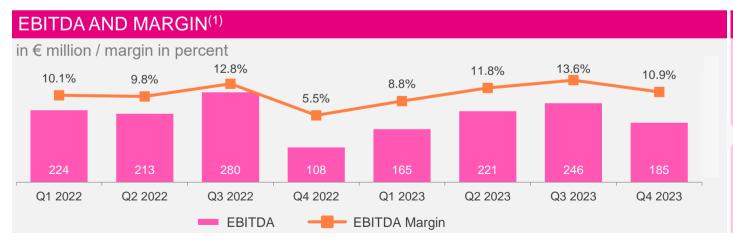


Segment results – Highlights Q4 2023



### HIGHLIGHTS Q4 2023

- Sales declined by 13.8% Y/Y, mainly driven by lower prices (-10.2%), unfavorable FX (-3.3%) while stable volumes (-0.3%)
- Sequentially, sales strongly declined in EMLA and NA whereas APAC showed a flat sales development; sales decline in EMLA and NA mainly attributable to volume decline



## HIGHLIGHTS Q4 2023

- Compared to prior year, EBITDA improved due to positive pricing delta despite negative volume and FX
- Quarter-on-quarter seasonally lower EBITDA driven by negative volumes while positive pricing delta as an effect of lower raw material cost
- EBITDA margin seasonally declined to 10.9% in Q4 2023

# Performance Materials – hitting low season in weak environment

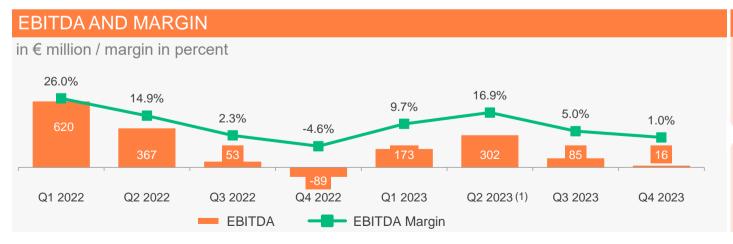


## Segment results – Highlights Q4 2023



#### HIGHLIGHTS Q4 2023

- Sales decreased by 17.1% Y/Y driven by price (-22.0%) and FX effect (-2.8%) partly compensated by positive volume (+7.7%);
- Quarter-on-quarter, strong sales decline in NA and APAC while only slight decline in EMLA; sequentially positive volume growth in EMLA while decline in NA and APAC



## HIGHLIGHTS Q4 2023

- Compared to prior year, EBITDA came out positive due to increasing volumes and lower idle costs despite negative pricing delta and FX
- Quarter-on-quarter, EBITDA seasonally decreasing due to negative pricing delta and lower volumes while supported by positive others

# Upcoming IR events



## Find more information on <a href="mailto:covestro.com/en/investors">covestro.com/en/investors</a>

## **REPORTING DATES**

April 30, 2024
July 30, 2024
October 29, 2024
Q1 2024 Quarterly Statement
2024 Half-Year Financial Report
Q3 2024 Quarterly Statement

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 17, 2024 Annual General Meeting

## SELLSIDE EVENT

March 6, 2024
 Sellside Round Table with CEO, London

## **BROKER CONFERENCES**

March 21, 2024
 April 9-10, 2024
 J.P. Morgan European Chemicals Forum, London
 HSBC Global Investment Summit 2024, Hong Kong