# **SECTION 3**

#### **RISK FACTORS**

Our business, operations and financial condition are subject to various risks and uncertainties. We have described below significant factors that may adversely affect our business, operations, financial performance and condition or industry. Readers should be aware that the occurrence of any of the events described in these risk factors, elsewhere in or incorporated by reference into this Annual Report, and other events that we have not predicted or assessed, could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

#### **Business and Operational Risks**

Our business is dependent on the residential and commercial construction markets.

Demand for our products depends in large part on the residential construction markets and, to a lesser extent, on commercial construction markets. The level of activity in residential construction markets depends on residential remodeling projects and new housing starts, which are a function of many factors outside our control, including general economic conditions, the availability of financing, regulatory changes, mortgage and other interest rates, inflation, household income and wage growth, unemployment, the inventory of unsold homes, the level of foreclosures, home resale rates, housing affordability, demographic trends, gross domestic product growth and consumer confidence in each of the countries and regions in which we operate.

Any slowdown in the markets we serve would likely result in decreased demand for our products and cause us to experience decreased sales and operating income. In addition, deterioration or continued weaknesses in general economic conditions, such as higher interest rates, high levels of unemployment, restrictive lending practices, restricted covenants, heightened regulation and increased foreclosures, could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

Substantial and increasing competition in the building products industry would likely materially adversely affect our business.

Competition in the building products industry is based largely on price, quality, performance, service and brand recognition. Our products compete with products manufactured from natural and engineered wood, vinyl, stucco, masonry, brick, gypsum and other materials, as well as fiber cement and fiber gypsum products offered by other manufacturers. Some of our competitors may have greater product diversity, greater financial and other resources, and better access to raw materials than we do and, among other factors, may be less affected by reductions in margins resulting from price competition.

Increased competition in any of the markets in which we compete would likely cause pricing pressures in those markets. Any of these factors would likely have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

We may experience unforeseen delays and/or cost overruns in our planned capital expenditures in future periods, and such delays and/or cost overruns could result in additional expenses and impairment charges. Unforeseen delays may also impact our ability to add additional manufacturing capacity at the appropriate time.

We have incurred significant levels of capital expenditures in the past and we expect to incur significant capital expenditures in future periods on facility upgrades and expansions, equipment to ensure regulatory compliance, the implementation of new technologies and to improve efficiency. We may incur unforeseen delays and/or cost overruns due to a variety of factors, including, but not limited to, a decline in general economic conditions, a downturn in the principal markets in which we operate, the entrance of a key competitor, increased costs resulting from tariffs or other international trade disputes or an adverse change in the regulatory environment impacting our business. Any one or combination of these or other factors could have a significant adverse effect on the nature, timing, extent and amount of our planned capital expenditures, and may also result in potential additional expenses and a write-down in the carrying value of our capital projects and other existing production assets. Such delays, cost overruns and asset impairment charges could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, results of operations and liquidity.

As a result of unforeseen delays, we may also fail to achieve the levels of additional manufacturing capacity we have forecasted for our plants, as described in Section 1 - "Property, Plant and Equipment". We cannot provide assurances that these additional manufacturing capacities will be achieved or that the related projects will be completed as anticipated or at all or that such additional capacities will operate at their expected utilization rate. These projections are based on our current estimates, but they involve risks, uncertainties, assumptions and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from our estimates. Neither our independent auditors nor any other independent auditors have examined, compiled or performed any procedures with respect to these projections, nor have they expressed any opinion or any other form of assurance on such information or their achievability. Although management believes these estimates and the assumptions underlying them to be reasonable, they could be inaccurate, and investors should not place undue reliance upon them.

We may experience adverse fluctuations in the supply and cost of raw materials and energy supply necessary to our business, which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Cellulose fiber (wood-based pulp), silica, cement and water are the principal raw materials used in the production of fiber cement, and the availability and cost of such raw materials are critical to our operations. Our fiber cement business periodically experiences fluctuations in the supply and costs of raw materials, and some of our supply markets are concentrated.

Gypsum, paper, water and cement are the principal raw materials used in the production of fiber gypsum and cement bonded boards, and the availability and cost of such raw materials are critical to our operations. Our fiber gypsum business periodically experiences fluctuations in the supply and costs of raw materials, and some of our supply markets are concentrated.

Price fluctuations, significant cost inflation, or material delays may occur in the future due to lack of raw materials, suppliers, or supply chain disruptions. The loss or deterioration of our relationship with a major supplier, an increase in demand by third parties for a particular supplier's products or materials, delays in obtaining materials, or significant increases in fuel and energy costs, could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

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# Our reliance on third-party distribution channels could impact our business.

We offer our products directly and through a variety of third-party distributors and dealers. Changes in the financial or business condition, or continued consolidation of these distributors and dealers could subject us to losses and affect our ability to bring our products to market and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

Severe weather, natural disasters and climate change could have an adverse effect on our overall business.

Natural disasters and widespread adverse climate changes that directly impact our plants, other facilities or suppliers could materially adversely affect our manufacturing or other operations and, thereby, harm our overall financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

Additionally, we rely on a continuous and uninterrupted supply of electric power, water and, in some cases, natural gas, as well as the availability of water, waste and emissions discharge facilities. Any future shortages or curtailments could significantly disrupt our operations and increase our expenses. While our insurance includes coverage for certain "business interruption" losses (i.e., lost profits) and for certain "service interruption" losses, any losses in excess of the insurance policy's coverage limits or any losses not covered by the terms of the insurance policy could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition. Any future material and sustained interruptions in our ability to continue operations at our facilities could damage our reputation, harm our ability to retain existing customers or obtain new customers and could result in lost revenue, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

# Financial Risks

Warranty claims relating to our products and exceeding our warranty reserves could have a material adverse effect on our business.

We have offered, and continue to offer, various warranties on our products, including a 30-year limited warranty on certain fiber cement siding products in the United States. We accrue for such warranties within "Accrued product warranties" on our consolidated balance sheet and have disclosed the movements in our consolidated warranty reserves in Note 11 to our consolidated financial statements in Section 2. Although we maintain reserves for warranty-related claims that we believe are adequate, we cannot assure you that warranty cost levels will not exceed our reserves. Costs significantly exceeding our warranty reserves could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

Because we have significant operations outside the United States and report our earnings in US dollars, unfavorable fluctuations in currency values and exchange rates could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Because our reporting currency is the US dollar, our non-US operations face the additional risk of fluctuating currency values and exchange rates. Such operations may also face hard currency shortages and controls on currency exchange. Approximately one third of our net sales in fiscal years 2022, 2023 and 2024 were from sales outside the United States. Consequently, changes in the value of foreign currencies (principally Australian dollars, New Zealand dollars, Philippine pesos, Euros, UK pounds and Canadian dollars) could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. We evaluate and consider foreign exchange risk mitigation by entering into contracts that require payment in local currency, hedging transactional risk, where appropriate, and having non-US operations borrow in local currencies. We enter into such financial instruments from time to time to

manage our foreign exchange risks. There can be no assurance that we will be successful in these mitigation strategies, or that fluctuation in foreign currencies and other foreign exchange risks will not have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

# **Legal and Regulatory Risks**

Our ability to sell our products is influenced by legislation and regulations such as local building codes or federal standards which may hinder our ability to compete effectively in certain markets and to increase or maintain our current market share for our products.

Most countries, states and localities in the markets in which we sell our products maintain building codes, standards, ordinances and regulations that affect both the building materials that may be purchased or used and the methods of constructing homes and buildings for which our products are intended. Our products may not qualify under building codes, standards, ordinances or regulations in certain markets or for certain applications, preventing or limiting our customers' purchase and use of our products and limiting our ability to sell our products in those markets. In addition, ordinances and codes may change over time and any such changes may, from the time they are implemented, prospectively limit or prevent the use of our products, causing us to lose sales in those markets. Further, the raw material, utility and labor inputs for manufacturing our products are subject to environmental, safety, labor, and/or import/export regulations that can adversely affect both the cost and/or the availability of our products. Although we track and monitor current and proposed building codes, standards, ordinances and regulations in the markets in which we sell or plan to sell our products and, when appropriate, become involved in the relevant rule making or legislative processes, our efforts may be ineffective, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

Losses and expenses relating to ongoing New Zealand product liability litigation could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Starting in 2015, our New Zealand subsidiaries (as well as certain other members of the James Hardie Group) began defending a number of large construction defect and/or product liability claims in New Zealand that related to weathertightness claims in residential buildings and a number of non-residential buildings, primarily constructed from 1998 to 2004.

As of 31 March 2024, there remains only one material outstanding New Zealand Weathertightness Claims ("NZWT") claim, which the Company is currently defending vigorously and believes it has substantial factual and legal defenses to this claim. For additional information, see Note 14 to our consolidated financial statements in Section 2.

Any losses incurred in connection with defending and resolving New Zealand weathertightness claims could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

We may incur significant costs, including capital expenditures, in complying with applicable environmental and health and safety laws and regulations.

In each jurisdiction, we are subject to environmental, health and safety laws and regulations. Under these laws and regulations, we may be held jointly and severally responsible for the remediation of regulated materials at our or our predecessors' past or present facilities and at third-party waste disposal sites. We may also be held liable for any claims, penalties or fines arising out of human exposure to regulated materials, other environmental damage, including damage to natural resources, or our failure to comply with applicable environmental regulations.

Many of our products contain crystalline silica, which can be released in a respirable form in connection with the manufacturing of our fiber cement products or while cutting our fiber cement products during installation or demolition. Respirable crystalline silica is classified as a carcinogen by certain governmental entities and is associated with certain lung diseases, including silicosis, which have been the subject of tort litigation.

Many jurisdictions, including the United States, Australia and New Zealand, have recently adopted or are considering adopting regulations that significantly reduce the occupational exposure limit to respirable crystalline silica, as well as introducing more stringent regulations on the processing of materials containing crystalline silica an imposing additional training, employee medical surveillance and exposure monitoring and recordkeeping requirements. It is possible that these regulations could have additional impacts on our business as a result of further increased compliance efforts and associated costs, if any, for our manufacturing operations, as well as those of our business partners (e.g., suppliers, home builders, distributors, installers, etc.); and, as such, the rule changes may possibly have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

The costs of complying with environmental and health and safety laws relating to our operations or the liabilities arising from our failure to comply may result in us making future expenditures that could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows. In addition, we cannot make any assurances that the laws currently in place that directly or indirectly relate to environmental or health and safety liability will not change. Such changes could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

Because our intellectual property and other proprietary information may become publicly available, we are subject to the risk that competitors could copy our products or processes.

Our success depends, in part, on the proprietary nature of our technology, including non-patentable intellectual property, such as our process technology. To the extent that a competitor is able to reproduce or otherwise capitalize on our technology, it may be difficult, expensive or impossible for us to obtain adequate legal or equitable relief. Also, the laws of some foreign countries may not protect our intellectual property to the same extent as do the laws of the United States. In addition to patent protection of intellectual property rights, we consider elements of our product designs and processes to be proprietary and confidential and/or trade secrets. To safeguard our confidential information, we rely on employee, consultant and vendor nondisclosure agreements and contractual provisions and a system of internal and technical safeguards to protect our proprietary information. However, any of our registered or unregistered intellectual property rights may be subject to challenge or possibly exploited by others in the industry, which could materially adversely affect our financial position, liquidity, results of operations, cash flows and competitive position.

Cybersecurity risks related to the technology used in our operations, including security and data privacy incidents involving company, customer, employee, or vendor systems or information, could result in a major disruption or failure of our information technology systems, which could adversely affect our business and operations.

We rely on information systems to run most aspects of our business, including manufacturing, sales and distribution, raw material procurement, accounting and managing data and records for employees and other parties. Like other large business organizations, we face numerous and evolving cybersecurity risks of increasing scale and volume.

We have made and continue to make significant investments to continuously improve and maintain our cybersecurity program processes, procedures and controls, including careful design, implementation, updating, and internal and independent third-party assessments. Our efforts focus on continuously protecting, detecting, responding to, addressing, managing and enhancing the security of our information systems, software, networks, and other digital assets. Our systems and facilities, as well as those of third parties with which we do business, are targeted by those seeking to gain unauthorized access to technology systems and may be vulnerable to security breaches, cyber-attacks, employee theft or misconduct, computer viruses and malware infections, misplaced or lost data, programming and/or human errors or other similar events. Network, system, and data breaches could result in misappropriation of sensitive data or significant operational disruptions, including interruption to systems availability and denial of access to and misuse of applications required by our customers to conduct business with us. In addition, misuse of internal applications, theft of intellectual property, trade secrets, or other corporate assets, and inappropriate disclosure of confidential information could stem from such incidents. Theft of personal or other confidential data and sensitive proprietary information could also occur as a result of a breach in cybersecurity, exposing us to costs and liabilities associated with privacy and data security laws in the jurisdictions in which we operate. Furthermore, we face additional cybersecurity risks related to some of our employees continuing to work remotely. Although we strive to have appropriate security controls in place, prevention of all computer security incidents cannot be assured.

Any security incident involving the misappropriation, loss or other unauthorized disclosure of our confidential information, whether by us or by third parties with which we do business, could result in losses, regulatory penalties, damage to our reputation, risk of litigation, significantly disrupt our operations and have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. We may be required to expend additional resources to continue to enhance our security measures or to investigate and remediate any security vulnerabilities.

Privacy and data security concerns and regulation could result in additional costs and liabilities.

As a global organization, we are subject to various regulations regarding privacy, data protection and data security, including among others those set forth in the European Economic Area's General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR"), the California Consumer Privacy Act ("CCPA"), and the California Privacy Rights Act ("CPRA"). Laws such as the GDPR, CCPA, and CPRA regulate and place limitations on the collection, processing, storing, sharing, and transfer of personal and customer data and impose substantial penalties for non-compliance. Our efforts to comply with GDPR, CCPA, and the CPRA and other privacy and data protection laws increases compliance complexity and related costs, with such complexities and costs likely to increase over time. We could also incur costs, penalties, reputational harm, or litigation expenses due to any violations of existing or future data privacy laws and regulations.

# Asbestos-Related Risks

Our wholly-owned Australian Performing Subsidiary is required to make payments to a special purpose fund that provides compensation for Australian asbestos-related personal injury and death claims for which certain Former James Hardie Companies are found liable. These payments may affect our ability to grow the Company.

On 21 November 2006, JHI plc, AICF, the NSW Government and the Performing Subsidiary entered into the AFFA to provide long-term funding to AICF, a special purpose fund that provides compensation for Australian asbestos-related personal injury and death claims for which the Former James Hardie Companies are found liable.

As a result of our obligation to make payments under the AFFA, our funds available for capital expenditures (either with respect to our existing business or new business opportunities), repayments of debt, payments of dividends or other distributions have been, and will be, reduced by the amounts paid to AICF, and consequently, our financial position, liquidity and cash flows have been, and will be, reduced or materially adversely affected. Our obligation to make these payments could also affect or restrict our ability to access equity or debt capital markets.

Potential escalation in proven claims made against, and associated costs of AICF could require an extension of the period of time that the Company is obliged to make annual funding payments as defined in the AFFA, beyond the currently anticipated expiration date of that obligation, which may cause us to have to increase our asbestos liability in the future.

The amount of our asbestos liability is based, in part, on actuarially determined, anticipated (estimated) future annual funding payments to be made to AICF on an undiscounted and uninflated basis. Future annual payments to AICF are based on updated actuarial assessments that are to be performed as of 31 March of each year to determine expected asbestos-related personal injury and death claims to be funded under the AFFA for the financial year in which the payment is made and the next two financial years. Estimates of actuarial liabilities are based on many assumptions, which may not prove to be correct, and which are subject to considerable uncertainty, since the ultimate number and cost of claims are subject to the outcome of events that have not yet occurred, including social, legal and medical developments, as well as future economic conditions.

If future proven claims are more numerous or the liabilities arising from them are larger than that currently estimated, we may be required to increase our asbestos liability, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

Even though the AFFA has been implemented, we may be subject to potential additional liabilities (including claims for compensation or property remediation outside the arrangements reflected in the AFFA), because certain current and former companies of the James Hardie Group previously manufactured products that contained asbestos.

Prior to 1987, ABN 60, which is now owned and controlled by AICF, manufactured products in Australia that contained asbestos. In addition, prior to 1987, two former subsidiaries of ABN 60, Amaca and Amaba, which are now also owned and controlled by AICF, manufactured products in Australia that contained asbestos. ABN 60 also held shares in companies that manufactured asbestos-containing products in Indonesia and Malaysia, and held minority shareholdings in companies that conducted asbestos-mining operations based in Canada and Southern Africa. Former ABN 60 subsidiaries also exported asbestos-containing products to various countries. AICF is designed to provide compensation only for certain claims and to meet certain related expenses and liabilities, and legislation in New South Wales, Australia in connection with the AFFA seeks to defer all other claims against the Former James Hardie Companies. The funds contributed to AICF will not be available to meet any asbestos-related claims made outside Australia, or claims made arising from exposure to asbestos occurring outside Australia, or any claim for pure property loss or pure economic loss or remediation of property. In these circumstances, it is possible that persons with such excluded claims may seek to pursue those claims directly against us. Defending any such litigation could be costly and time consuming, and consequently, our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows could be materially adversely affected.

Prior to 1988, a New Zealand subsidiary in the James Hardie Group manufactured products in New Zealand that contained asbestos. In New Zealand, the majority of asbestos-related disease compensation claims are managed by the state-run Accident Compensation Corporation ("ACC"). Our New Zealand subsidiary that manufactured products that contained asbestos contributed financially to the ACC fund as required by law via payment of an annual levy while it carried on business. All decisions

relating to the amount and allocation of payments to such claimants in New Zealand are made by the ACC in accordance with New Zealand law. The Injury Prevention, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2001 (NZ) bars compensatory damages for claims that are covered by the legislation which may be made against the ACC fund. However, we may be subject to potential liability if any of these claims are found not to be covered by the legislation and are later brought against us, and consequently, our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows could be materially adversely affected.

Because the asbestos liability is denominated in Australian dollars and payments pursuant to the AFFA are made in Australian dollars, we may experience unpredictable volatility in our reported results due to changes in the US dollar compared to the Australian dollar.

Payments pursuant to the AFFA are required to be made to AICF in Australian dollars. In addition, annual payments to AICF include calculations based on various estimates that are denominated in Australian dollars. To the extent that our future obligations exceed Australian dollar cash flows from our Australian operations and to the extent we do not hedge this foreign exchange exposure, we will need to convert US dollars or other foreign currency into Australian dollars in order to meet our obligations pursuant to the AFFA.

In addition, because our results of operations are reported in US dollars and the asbestos liability is based on estimated payments denominated in Australian dollars, fluctuations in the AUD/USD exchange rate caused unpredictable volatility in our reported results.

# The AFFA imposes certain non-monetary obligations.

Under the AFFA, we are also subject to certain non-monetary obligations that could prove onerous or otherwise materially adversely affect our ability to undertake proposed transactions. For example, the AFFA contains certain restrictions that generally prohibit us from undertaking transactions that would have a material adverse effect on the relative priority of AICF as a creditor, or that would materially impair our legal or financial capacity and that of the Performing Subsidiary, in each case such that we and the Performing Subsidiary would cease to be likely to be able to meet the funding obligations that would have arisen under the AFFA had the relevant transaction not occurred. Those restrictions apply to dividends and other distributions, reorganizations of, or dealings in, share capital which create or vest rights in such capital in third parties, and non-arm's length transactions. While the AFFA contains certain exemptions from such restrictions (including, for example, exemptions for arm's-length dealings; transactions in the ordinary course of business; certain issuances of equity securities or bonds; and certain transactions provided certain financial ratios are met and certain amounts of dividends), implementing such restrictions could materially adversely affect our ability to enter into transactions that might otherwise be favorable to us and could materially adversely affect our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

# The AFFA does not eliminate the risk of adverse action being taken against us.

There is a possibility that, despite certain covenants agreed to by the NSW Government in the AFFA, adverse action could be directed against us by one or more of the NSW Government, the government of the Commonwealth of Australia, governments of the other states or territories of Australia or any other governments, unions or union representative groups, or asbestos disease groups, with respect to the asbestos liabilities of the Former James Hardie Companies or other current and former companies of the James Hardie Group. Any such adverse action could materially adversely affect our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

# The complexity and long-term nature of the AFFA and related legislation and agreements may result in litigation as to their interpretation.

Certain legislation, the AFFA and related agreements, which govern the implementation and performance of the AFFA, are complex and have been negotiated over the course of extended periods between various parties. There is a risk that, over the term of the AFFA, as has already occurred, some or all parties may become involved in disputes as to the interpretation of such legislation, the AFFA or related agreements or the terms of the AFFA may change. We cannot guarantee that no party will commence litigation seeking remedies with respect to such a dispute, nor can we guarantee that a court will not order other remedies not previously anticipated which may materially adversely affect us.

# We may have insufficient Australian taxable income to utilize tax deductions.

We may not have sufficient Australian taxable income to utilize the tax deductions resulting from the funding payments under the AFFA to AICF. Further, if as a result of making such funding payments we incur tax losses, we may not be able to fully utilize such tax losses in future years of income. Any inability to utilize such deductions or losses could materially adversely affect our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

# Certain AFFA tax conditions may not be satisfied.

Despite Australian Taxation Office ("ATO") rulings for the expected life of the AFFA, it is possible that new (and adverse) tax legislation could be enacted in the future. It is also possible that the facts and circumstances relevant to operation of the ATO rulings could change over the life of the AFFA. We may elect to terminate the AFFA if certain tax conditions are not satisfied for more than 12 months. However, we do not have a right to terminate the AFFA if, among other things, the tax conditions are not satisfied as a result of the actions of a member of the James Hardie Group.

Under certain circumstances, we may still have an obligation to make annual funding payments on an adjusted basis if the tax conditions remain unsatisfied for more than 12 months. If the tax conditions are not satisfied in a manner which does not permit us to terminate the AFFA, our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows may be materially adversely affected. The extent of this adverse effect will be determined by the nature of the tax condition which is not satisfied.

# Risks Related to Ireland

Irish law contains provisions that could delay or prevent a change of control that may otherwise be beneficial to you.

Irish law contains several provisions that could have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control of our ownership. The Irish Takeover Rules would generally (subject to certain very limited exceptions) require a mandatory cash offer to be made for our entire issued share capital if, because of an acquisition of a relevant interest (including interests held in our ordinary shares, CUFS or ADSs) in such shares, the voting rights of the shares in which a person (including persons acting in concert with that person) holds relevant interests increase: (i) from below 30% to 30% or more; or (ii) from a starting point that is above 30% and below 50%, by more than 0.05% in a 12-month period. However, this prohibition is subject to exceptions, including acquisitions that result from acceptances under a mandatory takeover bid made in compliance with the Irish Takeover Rules. Although the Irish Takeover Rules may help to ensure that no person acquires voting control of us without making an offer to all shareholders, they may also have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control that may otherwise be beneficial to you. In addition to the operation of the Irish Takeover Rules, we may, from time

to time, put in place appropriate retention arrangements to ensure that we retain our key employees during periods of corporate change.

Our ability to pay dividends and conduct share buy-backs is dependent on Irish law and may be limited in the future if we are not able to maintain sufficient levels of distributable profits.

Under Irish law, in order to pay dividends and/or conduct a buy-back of shares, an Irish company requires sufficient distributable profits which are determined under the Irish Companies Act 2014 and applicable accounting practices generally accepted in Ireland. We believe that our current corporate structure has allowed us to maintain sufficient levels of distributable profits to continue paying dividends and/or conduct share buy-backs in accordance with our publicly disclosed capital management policy, which is updated from time to time. However, transactions or events could cause a reduction in our distributable profits, resulting in our inability to pay dividends on our securities or to conduct share buy-backs, which could have a material adverse effect on the market value of our securities.

#### Risks Related to Taxation

We are subject to risks related to taxation in multiple jurisdictions.

We operate in multiple jurisdictions and pay tax on our income according to the tax laws of these jurisdictions. Various factors, some of which are beyond our control, determine our effective tax rate. The primary drivers of our effective tax rate are the tax rates of the jurisdictions in which we operate, the level and geographic mix of pre-tax earnings, intra-group royalties, interest rates and the level of debt which gives rise to interest expense on external debt and intra-group debt, and the value of adjustments for timing differences and permanent differences, including the non-deductibility of certain expenses, all of which are subject to change and which could result in a material increase in our effective tax rate. Such changes to our effective tax rate could materially adversely affect our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

Tax laws are dynamic and subject to change as new or revised laws and treaties are passed and new interpretations are issued or applied. Due to the nature of our historic and current operations, we are exposed to potential tax risks in a number of jurisdictions, including, without limitation, Ireland, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the Netherlands and various parts of Europe. For example, many countries are actively considering making changes to existing tax laws and treaties, which could alter or increase our tax obligations, could materially affect our business, financial condition or results of operations and could potentially have a material adverse impact on holders of our securities.

Exposure to additional tax liabilities due to audits and reviews could materially adversely affect our business.

Due to our size and the nature of our business, we are subject to ongoing audits and reviews by authorities, including the Australian Taxation Office in Australia, on various tax matters, including challenges to various positions we assert on our income tax and withholding tax returns. We accrue for tax contingencies based upon our best estimate of the taxes ultimately expected to be paid, which we update over time as more information becomes available. Such amounts are included in taxes payable or other non-current liabilities, as appropriate.

We record additional tax expense in the period in which we determine that the recorded tax liability is less than the ultimate assessment we expect. The amounts ultimately paid on resolution of reviews by taxing jurisdictions could be materially different from the amounts included in taxes payable or other non-current liabilities and result in additional tax expense which could materially adversely affect our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

Tax benefits are available under the US-Ireland Income Tax Treaty to US and Irish taxpayers that qualify for those benefits. Our eligibility for benefits under the US-Ireland Income Tax Treaty is determined on an annual basis and we could be audited by the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") for this issue. If during a subsequent tax audit or related process, the IRS determines that we are not eligible for benefits under the US-Ireland Income Tax Treaty, we may not qualify for treaty benefits. As a result, our effective tax rate could significantly increase and we could be subject to a 30% US withholding tax rate on payments of interest and dividends from our US subsidiaries to our Irish resident subsidiaries.

We believe that interest and dividends paid by our US subsidiaries to our Irish resident subsidiaries qualify for treaty benefits in the form of reduced withholding tax under the US-Ireland Income Tax Treaty.

We believe that, under the limitation on benefits ("LOB") provision of the US-Ireland Treaty, no US withholding tax applies to interest that our US subsidiaries paid to our Irish resident subsidiaries. The LOB provision has various conditions of eligibility for reduced US withholding tax rates and other treaty benefits, all of which we believe are satisfied. If, however, we do not qualify for benefits under the US-Ireland Income Tax Treaty, those interest payments would be subject to a 30% US withholding tax.

We believe that, under the US-Ireland Income Tax Treaty, a 5% US withholding tax applies to dividends paid by our US subsidiaries to our Irish resident subsidiaries. The LOB provision of the US-Ireland Income Tax Treaty has various conditions of eligibility for reduced US withholding tax rates and other treaty benefits, all of which we believe we have satisfied. If, however, we do not qualify for benefits under the US-Ireland Treaty, dividend payments by our US subsidiaries would be subject to a 30% US withholding rate.

Our eligibility for benefits under the US-Ireland Tax Treaty is determined on an annual basis and we could be audited by the IRS for this issue. If during a subsequent tax audit or related process, the IRS determines that we are not eligible for benefits under the US-Ireland Income Tax Treaty, we may not qualify for treaty benefits. As a result, our effective tax rate could significantly increase beginning in the fiscal year that such determination is made and we could be liable for taxes owing for calendar year 2022 and subsequent periods, which could adversely affect our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

#### **LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

# **Legal Matters and Environmental**

The Company is involved from time to time in various legal proceedings and administrative actions related to the normal conduct of its business, including general liability claims, putative class action lawsuits, and litigation concerning its products.

Discussion of legal matters with respect to this item may be found in Note 14 to our audited consolidated financial statements in Section 2, which information is incorporated by reference in this "Section 3 – Legal Proceedings" of this Annual Report.

# **Tax Contingencies**

Due to our size and the nature of our business, we are subject to ongoing audits and reviews by taxing authorities, including the Australian Taxation Office in Australia, on various tax matters. We accrue for tax contingencies based upon our best estimate of the taxes ultimately expected to be paid, which we update over time as more information becomes available. Such amounts are included in taxes payable or other non-current liabilities, as appropriate. If we ultimately determine that payment of these amounts is unnecessary, we reverse the liability and recognize a tax benefit during the period in which we determine that the liability is no longer necessary. We record additional tax expense in the period in which we determine that the recorded tax liability is less than the ultimate assessment we expect.

We file income tax returns in various jurisdictions, including Australia, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, Spain and the United States.

# **CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

# Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

# Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report. In designing and evaluating our disclosure controls and procedures, our management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives and are subject to certain limitations, including the exercise of judgment by individuals, the difficulty in identifying unlikely future events, and the difficulty in eliminating misconduct completely. Based upon that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at a reasonable assurance level as of 31 March 2024 to ensure the information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act were recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC and that such information was accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, to allow for timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

# Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) of the Exchange Act. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect all misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

We assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of 31 March 2024. In making this assessment, we used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission in Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013). Based on our assessment using those criteria, we concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of 31 March 2024.

The effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of 31 March 2024 has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report below.

# Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal controls over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by this Annual Report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

# Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and the Board of Directors of James Hardie Industries plc

# Opinion on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

We have audited James Hardie Industries plc's internal control over financial reporting as of 31 March 2024, based on criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework) (the COSO criteria). In our opinion, James Hardie Industries plc (the Company) maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of 31 March 2024, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the consolidated balance sheets of the Company as of 31 March 2024 and 2023, the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income, changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended 31 March 2024, and the related notes and our report dated 20 May 2024 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

# Basis for Opinion

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects.

Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

#### Definition and Limitations of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Irvine, California 20 May 2024

# **CYBERSECURITY**

# Risk Management and Strategy

The Company's comprehensive cybersecurity program is aligned with the National Institute for Standards and Technology Cybersecurity Framework ("NIST CSF"), an industry standard that sets guidelines to manage cybersecurity risks. The cybersecurity program includes processes, procedures and controls to reasonably mitigate our cybersecurity and information technology risk. Our efforts focus on continuously protecting, detecting, responding to, managing and enhancing the security of our information systems, software, networks and digital assets. Such efforts are designed to protect against and mitigate the effects of, among other things, security and data privacy incidents including cyber-attacks, ransomware and identifying deliberate attempts to exploit known and existing vulnerabilities. The cybersecurity program is designed to minimize the impact and disruption to business operations.

The efforts to prevent, detect and respond to cybersecurity threats are managed by our VP, Cybersecurity in collaboration with our Chief Information Officer ("CIO"), whose teams are responsible for leading our cybersecurity strategy, policy, communication, training, architecture and processes. Our cybersecurity program includes:

- identifying and confirming the adequacy of security measures;
- identifying security deficiencies and data from which to predict effectiveness of proposed security measures:
- detection and reporting requirements for identifying unusual internal or external activity or events that may compromise the availability, confidentiality and integrity of our information technology resources;
- specific testing to be performed within specific timelines, including but not limited to, networks, web
  applications and network accounts;
- regularly review relevant threat and vulnerability information from appropriate goods and services vendors, third-parties and public domain resources;
- verifying compliance with cybersecurity policies through various methods, including but not limited to, system and tool reports, internal and external audits and feedback to the policy owner;
- review of our cybersecurity policies at least annually or when there are significant changes within the company's facilities or infrastructure to ensure their continuing suitability, adequacy and effectiveness;
- a crisis management governance plan that outlines the members of the crisis management team, escalation path and escalation thresholds; and
- periodic tabletop exercises with our management team to test our crisis management governance plan and to familiarize our management team with the elements and operation of our crisis management governance plan.

When a cybersecurity threat or incident is identified, our security incident plan outlines the members of the security incident response team ("SIRT"), escalation path and escalation thresholds. The SIRT considers each incident's impact to our operations, technology, safety and reputation and any legal or regulatory impacts. If any individual situation or situations in the aggregate triggers any one severity level, the event is immediately escalated according to the appropriate response path for each incident classification. We have also retained a third-party service provider to complement our incident response capabilities, if required.

We engage third parties to conduct annual security penetration testing against our networks, both internally and externally, to identify and mitigate cyber risks. We have and will continue to conduct cybersecurity program assessments to evaluate its maturity against the NIST CSF.

We require ongoing cybersecurity training for all employees, focusing on the appropriate protection and security of confidential company and third-party information. Additionally, employees participate in mandatory, monthly cybersecurity awareness training that covers a broad range of security topics, including business email compromise, phishing schemes, remote work and reporting and responding to suspicious activities.

# **Governance**

Our executive leadership team ("ELT") also supports and monitors the effectiveness of and compliance with the cybersecurity policies and other security and data protection requirements. The ELT externally communicates data breaches, provides protocol and processes for internal and external communication and analyzes business impacts of a cybersecurity incident.

Our VP, Cybersecurity has over 20 years of experience developing and implementing cybersecurity programs to protect organizations against cyber-attacks. The responsibilities of the VP, Cybersecurity include, but are not limited to, developing, deploying and maintaining the cybersecurity policies; developing, deploying and maintaining cybersecurity program documentation, processes and procedures; validating compliance with cybersecurity policies by staff and third parties; and reviewing and approving cybersecurity policies deviations, waivers and exceptions. The VP, Cybersecurity also evaluates security and data protection incidents, analyzes business impacts, provides security and risk guidance and recommendations, and reviews security incident reports.

Our CIO has over 30 years of IT experience, including 17 years as CIO for businesses in a variety of industries. Our CIO has a track record of developing effective, leading-edge technology solutions that create business value. The CIO reviews and approves cybersecurity policies and reviews, approves and monitors security policies, deviations, waivers and exceptions.

The Board of Directors considers cybersecurity risk as part of its risk oversight function and oversees the risks from cybersecurity threats. As such, it receives updates on our cybersecurity practices, events and risks from our CIO at the Board's regularly scheduled meetings.

In fiscal year 2024, we did not identify any cybersecurity threats that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect our business strategy, results of operations or financial condition. Readers are referred to Section 3 – Risk Factors for cybersecurity risks.

# **EMPLOYEES**

During each of the last three fiscal years, we employed the following average number of people:

	Fiscal Years Ended 31 March						
	2024 2023						
Fiber Cement United States and Canada	3,337	3,228	3,014				
Europe Building Products	1,043	981	935				
Fiber Cement Australia	597	594	583				
Fiber Cement New Zealand	43	45	53				
Fiber Cement Philippines	352	360	362				
Research & Development, including Technology	167	181	186				
General Corporate	140	84	63				
Total Employees	5,679	5,473	5,196				

As of the end of 31 March 2024, of the 5,679 average number of people employed, approximately 866 employees have their employment conditions determined by collective agreements negotiated with labor unions (approximately 791 and 75 employees in Europe and Australia, respectively). Under European law, employees that are part of a collective agreement are not required to inform their employer if they are a member of a labor union. In Australia, it is a matter of individual choice whether an employee in a collective agreement is a member of a union. As such, it is possible that some of our employees covered by collective agreements in Europe and Australia may not be members of a union. In accordance with Australian law, we do not keep records of union membership. Our management believes that we have a satisfactory relationship with these unions and there are currently no ongoing labor disputes. We currently have no employees who are members of a union in the United States.

# LISTING DETAILS

#### **Trading Markets**

As a company incorporated under the laws of Ireland, we have listed our securities for trading on the ASX, through the Clearing House Electronic Subregister System ("CHESS"), via CHESS Units of Foreign Securities ("CUFS"). CUFS are a form of depositary security that represent a beneficial ownership interest in the securities of a non-Australian corporation. Each of our CUFS represents the beneficial ownership of one share of common stock of JHI plc, the legal ownership of which is held by CHESS Depositary Nominees Pty Ltd ("CDN"). The CUFS are listed and traded on the ASX under the symbol "JHX."

We have also listed our securities for trading on the NYSE. We sponsor an ADS program, whereby beneficial ownership of CUFS is represented by ADS. These ADSs trade on the NYSE in the form of ADRs, under the symbol "JHX." Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas ("Deutsche Bank") has acted as the depository for our ADS program. Unless the context indicates otherwise, when we refer to ADSs, we are referring to ADRs or ADSs and when we refer to our common stock we are referring to the shares of our common stock that are represented by CUFS.

We cannot predict the prices at which our shares and ADSs will trade or the volume of trading for such securities, nor can we assure you that these securities will continue to meet the applicable listing requirements of these exchanges.

### Trading on the Australian Securities Exchange

The ASX is headquartered in Sydney, Australia, with branches located in each Australian state capital. Our CUFS trade on the ASX under the symbol "JHX." The ASX is a publicly listed company with trading being undertaken by brokers licensed under the Australian Corporations Act. Trading principally takes place between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Australian Eastern Standard Time on each weekday (excluding Australian public holidays). Settlement of trades in uncertificated securities listed on the ASX is generally effected electronically. This is undertaken through CHESS, which is the clearing and settlement system operated by the ASX.

### Trading on the New York Stock Exchange

In the United States, our ADSs trade on the NYSE under the symbol "JHX." Trading principally takes place between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time on each weekday (excluding US public holidays). All inquiries and correspondence regarding ADSs should be directed to Deutsche Bank, 1 Columbus Circle Floor 17S, New York, New York 10019, United States. To speak directly to a Deutsche Bank representative, please call 1-212-250-9100. You may also send an e-mail inquiry to adr@db.com or visit the Deutsche Bank website at <a href="https://www.adr.db.com">https://www.adr.db.com</a>.

# Fees and Charges Payable by Holders of our ADSs

The following is a summary of the fee provisions of our deposit agreement with Deutsche Bank. For more complete information regarding our ADS program, investors are directed to read the entire amended deposit agreement, a copy of which has been filed as Exhibit 2.1 and 2.2 to this Annual Report.

Service	Fees
Issuance of ADSs, including issuances resulting from a distribution of shares or rights or other property	Up to US\$0.05 per ADS issued
Cancellation of ADSs	Up to US\$0.05 per ADS issued
Distribution of cash dividends or other cash distributions	Up to US\$0.05 per ADS issued
Operational and maintenance costs	An annual fee of US \$0.05 per ADS held on the applicable record date established by the depositary

Additionally, under the terms of our deposit agreement, Deutsche Bank is entitled to charge each registered holder the following:

- taxes and other governmental charges;
- registration fees as may from time to time be in effect for the registration of transfers of CUFS generally on the CHESS;
- expenses for cable, telex and fax transmissions and delivery services;
- expenses incurred for converting foreign currency into US dollars;
- fees and expenses incurred in connection with compliance with exchange control regulations and other regulatory requirements applicable to CUFS, deposited securities, ADSs and ADRs; and
- fees and expenses incurred in connection with the delivery or servicing of CUFS on deposit.

If any tax or other governmental charge becomes payable with respect to any security on deposit, such tax or other governmental charge is payable by the ADS holder to Deutsche Bank. Deutsche Bank may refuse to affect any transfer or withdrawal of a deposited security until such payment is made. Deutsche Bank may withhold any dividends or other distributions or may sell for the account of the ADS holder any part or all of the deposited securities, and may apply such dividends, other distributions, or proceeds of any such sale in payment of such tax or other governmental charge and the ADS holder will remain liable for any deficiency.

Generally, Deutsche Bank collects its fees for delivery and surrender of ADSs directly from investors depositing shares or surrendering ADSs for the purpose of withdrawal or from intermediaries acting for them. Additionally, Deutsche Bank collects fees for making distributions to investors by deducting those fees from the amounts distributed or by selling a portion of distributable property to pay the fees. Deutsche Bank may collect its annual fee for depositary services by deductions from cash distributions or by directly billing investors or by charging the book-entry system of accounts of participants acting for them. Deutsche Bank may generally refuse to provide fee-attracting services until its fees for those services are paid.

As part of its service as depositary, Deutsche Bank has agreed: (i) to arrange for the local custody of the underlying shares and absorb the costs of servicing the same; (ii) to make certain annual reimbursements to us based on a percentage of net revenues collected for ADS issuance and cancellation fees, net of custody costs, which we will use toward investor relations expenses and other expenses related to the maintenance of the ADS program (we received US\$87,803 in reimbursements of this type in fiscal year 2024); (iii) to waive the cost associated with administrative and reporting services under the ADS program, such costs being valued at US\$60,000 per year; and (iv) to waive the access charges to <a href="www.adr.db.com">www.adr.db.com</a>, such costs being valued at US\$10,000 per year.

# PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY THE ISSUER AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS

On 8 November 2023, the Company announced a new share buyback program to acquire up to an additional US\$250 million of its outstanding shares through 31 October 2024. Between November 2022 and October 2023, the Company completed its previously announced share buyback program and acquired approximately US\$200 million of its outstanding shares.

Below is the activity under these programs:

In Millions, except price per share	Total Number of Shares Purchased	verage Price id per Share (US\$)	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Program	(	aximum Dollar Value of Shares That May Yet be Purchased Under the Program (US\$)
Total as of 31 March 2023	3.8		3.8		
1 April 2023 - 30 April 2023	_	\$ -	_	\$	121.6
1 May 2023 - 31 May 2023	1.0	\$ 24.84	1.0	\$	96.8
1 June 2023 - 30 June 2023	1.0	\$ 25.65	1.0	\$	72.6
1 July 2023 - 31 July 2023	_	_	_	\$	72.6
1 August 2023 - 31 August 2023	2.1	\$ 29.31	2.1	\$	11.1
1 September 2023 - 30 September 2023	0.3	\$ 30.18	0.3	\$	0.3
1 October 2023 - 31 October 2023	_	_	_	\$	0.3
1 November 2023 - 30 November 2023	1.3	\$ 31.20	1.3	\$	210.3
1 December 2023 - 31 December 2023	1.1	\$ 33.21	1.1	\$	175.0
1 January 2024 - 31 January 2024	_	\$ _	_	\$	175.0
1 February 2024 - 29 February 2024	0.7	\$ 38.02	0.7	\$	149.1
1 March 2024 - 31 March 2024	1.2	\$ 40.19	1.2	\$	99.8
Total as of 31 March 2024	12.5		12.5		

# **TAXATION**

The following summarizes the material US and Irish tax consequences of an investment in shares of our common stock. This summary does not address every aspect of taxation relevant to a particular investor subject to special treatment under any applicable law and is not intended to apply in all respects to all categories of investors. In addition, except for the matters discussed under "Irish Taxation", this summary does not consider the effect of other foreign tax laws or any state, local or other tax laws that may apply to an investment in shares of our common stock. This summary assumes that we will conduct our business in the manner described in this Annual Report. Changes in our organizational structure or the manner in which we conduct our business may invalidate all or parts of this summary. The laws on which this summary is based could change, perhaps with retroactive effect, and any law changes could invalidate all or parts of this summary. We will not update this summary for any law changes after the date of this Annual Report.

This discussion does not bind either the US or Irish tax authorities or the courts of those jurisdictions. Except where outlined below, we have not sought a ruling nor will we seek a ruling of the US or Irish tax authorities about matters in this summary. We cannot assure you that those tax authorities will concur with the views in this summary concerning the tax consequences of the purchase, ownership or disposition of our common stock or that any reviewing judicial body in the United States or Ireland would likewise concur.

Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding the particular tax consequences of acquiring, owning and disposing of shares of our common stock, including the effect of any foreign, state or local taxes.

# **United States Taxation**

The following is a summary of the material US federal income tax consequences generally applicable to "US Shareholders" (as defined below) who beneficially own shares of our common stock and hold the shares as capital assets. For purposes of this summary, a "US Shareholder" means a beneficial owner of our common stock that is: (1) an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States (as defined for US federal income tax purposes); (2) a corporation or other entity created or organized in or under the law of the United States or any of its political subdivisions; (3) an estate whose income is subject to US federal income taxation regardless of its source; or (4) a trust if (i) a court in the United States can exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust, and one or more United States persons can control all of the substantial decisions of the trust, or (ii) the trust has in effect a valid election to be treated as a United States person for US federal income tax purposes. If a partnership (including for this purpose any entity treated as a partnership for US federal tax purposes) is a beneficial owner of a share of our common stock, the US federal tax treatment of a partner in the partnership generally will depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. A holder of our common stock that is a partnership and partners in that partnership should consult their own tax advisers regarding the US federal income tax consequences of holding and disposing of those shares.

This summary does not comprehensively describe all possible tax issues that could influence a current or prospective US Shareholder's decision to buy or sell shares of our common stock. In particular, this summary does not discuss: (1) the tax treatment of special classes of US Shareholders, like financial institutions, life insurance companies, tax exempt organizations, tax-qualified employer plans and other tax-qualified or qualified accounts, investors liable for the alternative minimum tax, dealers in securities, shareholders who hold shares of our common stock as part of a hedge, straddle or other risk reduction arrangement, or shareholders whose functional currency is not the US dollar; (2) the tax treatment of US Shareholders who own (directly or indirectly by attribution through certain related parties) 10% or more of our voting stock; and (3) the application of other US federal taxes, like the US federal estate tax. The

summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code"), applicable US Department of Treasury regulations, judicial decisions and administrative rulings and practice, all as of the date of this Annual Report.

#### <u>Treatment of ADSs</u>

For US federal income tax purposes, a holder of an ADS is considered the owner of the shares of stock represented by the ADS. Accordingly, except as otherwise noted, references in this summary to ownership of shares of our common stock includes ownership of the shares of our common stock underlying the corresponding ADSs.

# <u>Taxation of Distributions</u>

Subject to the passive foreign investment company rules discussed below, the tax treatment of a distribution on shares of our common stock held by a US Shareholder depends on whether the distribution is from our current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined under US federal income tax principles). To the extent a distribution is from our current or accumulated earnings and profits, a US Shareholder will include the amount of the distribution in gross income as a dividend. To the extent a distribution exceeds our current and accumulated earnings and profits, a US Shareholder will treat the excess first as a non-taxable return of capital to the extent of the US Shareholder's tax basis in those shares and thereafter as capital gain. See the discussion of "Capital Gain Rates" below. Notwithstanding the foregoing described treatment, we do not intend to maintain calculations of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. Dividends received on shares of our common stock will not qualify for the inter-corporate dividends received deduction.

Distributions to US Shareholders that are treated as "qualified dividend income" are generally subject to a maximum rate of 20%. "Qualified dividend income" includes dividends received from a "qualified foreign corporation." A "qualified foreign corporation" includes (1) a foreign corporation that is eligible for the benefits of a comprehensive income tax treaty with the United States that contains an exchange of information program and (2) a foreign corporation that pays dividends with respect to shares of its stock that are readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States. We believe that we are, and will continue to be, a "qualified foreign corporation" and that dividends we pay with respect to our shares will qualify as "qualified dividend income." To be eligible for the 20% tax rate, a US Shareholder must hold our shares un-hedged for a minimum holding period (generally, 61 days during the 121-day period beginning on the date that is 60 days before the ex-dividend date of the distribution). Although we believe we presently are, and will continue to be, a "qualified foreign corporation," we cannot guarantee that we will so qualify. For example, we will not constitute a "qualified foreign corporation" if we are classified as a "passive foreign investment company" (discussed below) in either the taxable year of the distribution or the preceding taxable year. In addition, the net investment income (including dividend income) of certain taxpayers are subject to an additional 3.8% tax rate.

Distributions to US Shareholders that are treated as dividends are generally considered income from sources outside the United States and, for purposes of computing the limitations on foreign tax credits that apply separately to specific categories of income, foreign source "passive category" income or, in the case of certain holders, "general category" income. In addition, special rules will apply to determine a US Shareholder's foreign tax credit limitation if a dividend distributed with respect to our shares constitutes "qualified dividend income" (as described above). See the discussion of "Credit of Foreign Taxes Withheld" below.

The amount of any distribution we make on shares of our common stock in foreign currency generally will equal the fair market value in US dollars of that foreign currency on the date a US Shareholder receives it. A US Shareholder will have a tax basis in the foreign currency equal to its US dollar value on the date of receipt and will recognize ordinary US source gain or loss when it sells or exchanges the foreign currency. US Shareholders who are individuals will not recognize gain upon selling or exchanging foreign currency if the gain does not exceed US\$200 in a taxable year and the sale or exchange constitutes a "personal transaction" under the Code. The amount of any distribution we make with respect to shares of our common stock in property other than money will equal the fair market value of that property on the date of distribution.

# Credit of Foreign Taxes Withheld

Under certain conditions, including a requirement to hold shares of our common stock un-hedged for a certain period, and subject to limitations, a US Shareholder may claim a credit against the US Shareholder's federal income tax liability for the foreign tax owed and withheld or paid with respect to distributions on our shares. Alternatively, a US Shareholder may deduct the amount of withheld foreign taxes, but only for a year for which the US Shareholder elects to deduct all foreign income taxes. Complex rules determine how and when the foreign tax credit applies, and US Shareholders should consult their tax advisers to determine whether and to what extent they may claim foreign tax credits.

# <u>Sale or Other Disposition of Shares</u>

Subject to the passive foreign investment company rules discussed below, a US Shareholder will recognize capital gain or loss on the sale or other taxable disposition of shares of our common stock, equal to the difference between the US Shareholder's adjusted tax basis in the shares sold or disposed of and the amount realized on the sale or disposition. Individual US Shareholders may benefit from lower marginal tax rates on capital gains recognized on shares sold, depending on the US Shareholder's holding period for the shares. See the discussion of "Capital Gain Rates" below. Capital losses that do not offset capital gains are subject to limitations on deductibility. The gain or loss from the sale or other disposition of shares of our common stock generally will be treated as income from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit purposes, unless the US Shareholder is a US citizen residing outside the United States and certain other conditions are met.

#### Capital Gain Rates

Long-term capital gains of certain US individual Shareholders are subject to a maximum rate of 20%. In addition, the "net investment income" (including long and short-term capital gain income) of certain taxpayers is subject to an additional tax of 3.8%.

# Passive Foreign Investment Company ("PFIC") Status

Special US federal income tax rules apply to US Shareholders owning capital stock of a PFIC. A foreign corporation will be a PFIC for any taxable year in which 75% or more of its gross income is passive income or in which 50% or more of the average value of its assets is "passive assets" (generally assets that generate passive income or assets held for the production of passive income). For these purposes, passive income excludes certain interest, dividends or royalties from related parties. If we were a PFIC, each US Shareholder would likely face increased tax liabilities upon the sale or other disposition of shares of our common stock or upon receipt of "excess distributions," unless the US Shareholder elects (1) to be taxed currently on its pro rata portion of our income, regardless of whether the income was distributed in the form of dividends or otherwise (provided we furnish certain information to our shareholders), or (2) to mark its shares to market by accounting for any difference between the shares' fair market value and adjusted basis at the end of the taxable year by either an inclusion in income or a

deduction from income (provided our ADSs, CUFS or common shares satisfy a test for being regularly traded on a qualified exchange or other market). Because of the manner in which we operate our business, we are not, nor do we expect to become, a PFIC.

#### Controlled Foreign Corporation Status

If more than 50% of either the voting power of all classes of our voting stock or the total value of our stock is owned, directly or indirectly, by citizens or residents of the United States, United States domestic partnerships and corporations or estates or trusts other than foreign estates or trusts, each of which owns 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of our stock entitled to vote, which we refer to as "10-Percent Shareholders," we could be treated as a Controlled Foreign Corporation ("CFC"), under the Code. This classification would, among other consequences, require 10-Percent Shareholders to include in their gross income their pro rata shares of our "Subpart F income" (as specifically defined by the Code) and our earnings invested in US property (as specifically defined by the Code).

In addition, gain from the sale or exchange of our common shares by a United States person who is or was a 10-Percent Shareholder at any time during the five-year period ending with the sale or exchange is treated as dividend income to the extent of the earnings and profits attributable to the stock sold or exchanged. Under certain circumstances, a corporate shareholder that directly owns 10% or more of our voting shares may be entitled to an indirect foreign tax credit for income taxes we paid in connection with amounts so characterized as dividends under the Code.

# US Federal Income Tax Provisions Applicable to Non-United States Holders

A Non-US Holder means a beneficial owner of our common stock that is (1) a non-resident alien of the United States for US federal income tax purposes; (2) a corporation created or organized in or under the law of a country, or any of its political subdivisions, other than the United States; or (3) an estate or trust that is not a US Shareholder. A Non-US Shareholder generally will not be subject to US federal income taxes, including US withholding taxes, on any dividends paid on our shares or on any gain realized on a sale, exchange or other disposition of the shares unless the dividends or gain is effectively connected with the conduct by the Non-US Shareholder of trade or business in the United States (and is attributable to a permanent establishment or fixed base the Non-US Shareholder maintains in the United States if an applicable income tax treaty so requires as a condition for the Non-US Shareholder to be subject to US taxation on a net income basis on income related to the common stock). A corporate Non-US Shareholder under certain circumstances may also be subject to an additional "branch profits tax" on that type of income, the rate of which may be reduced pursuant to an applicable income tax treaty. In addition, gain recognized on a sale, exchange or other disposition of our shares by a Non-US Shareholder who is an individual generally will be subject to US federal income taxes if the Non-US Shareholder is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year in which the sale, exchange or other disposition occurs and certain other conditions are met.

# US Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Dividend payments on shares of our common stock and proceeds from the sale, exchange or redemption of shares of our common stock may be subject to information reporting to the Internal Revenue Service and possible US backup withholding at a current rate of 24%. Backup withholding will not apply to a shareholder who furnishes a correct taxpayer identification number or certificate of foreign status and makes any other required certification or who is otherwise exempt from backup withholding. United States persons who are required to establish their exempt status generally must provide that certification on a properly completed Internal Revenue Service Form W-9 (Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification). Non-US Shareholders generally will not be subject to US information reporting or backup withholding. However, Non-US Shareholders may be required to provide certification of non-

US status in connection with payments received in the United States or through certain US related financial intermediaries.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Amounts withheld as backup withholding may be credited against a shareholder's US federal income tax liability, and a shareholder may obtain a refund of any excess amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules by filing the appropriate claim for refund with the Internal Revenue Service and furnishing any required information.

#### **Irish Taxation**

The following is a summary of the material Irish tax consequences generally applicable to shareholders who invest in shares of our common stock, who are neither tax resident, nor ordinarily resident in, Ireland. This summary does not contain a detailed description of all of the Irish tax consequences for all shareholders, which depend on that shareholder's particular circumstances, and should not be a substitute for advice from an appropriate professional adviser in relation to all of the possible tax issues that could influence a prospective shareholder's decision to acquire shares of our common stock. This summary is based on Irish tax legislation, relevant Irish case law, other Irish Revenue guidance and published opinions and administrative pronouncements of the Irish tax authorities, income tax treaties to which Ireland is a party, and such other authorities as we have considered relevant, all as in effect and available as at the date of this Annual Report, any of which may change possibly with retroactive effect.

#### Treatment of ADSs

In general, for Irish tax purposes, an owner of depositary receipts is considered the owner of the shares of stock represented by depositary receipts. Accordingly, except as otherwise noted, references in this Annual Report to ownership of shares of our common stock includes ownership of the shares underlying the corresponding ADSs.

#### Irish Dividend Withholding Tax

Distributions made by us to non-Irish resident shareholders will, subject to certain exceptions, be subject to Irish dividend withholding tax at a standard rate of income tax of 25% unless you are a shareholder who falls within one of the categories of exempt shareholders referred to below. Where dividend withholding tax applies, we will be responsible for withholding the dividend withholding tax at source. For dividend withholding tax purposes, a dividend includes any distribution made by us to our shareholders, including cash dividends, non-cash dividends and additional shares taken in lieu of a cash dividend.

Dividend withholding tax is not payable where an exemption applies provided that we have received all necessary documentation required by the relevant legislation from our shareholders prior to payment of the dividend.

Certain of our non-Irish tax resident shareholders (both individual and corporate) are entitled to an exemption from dividend withholding tax. In particular, a non-Irish tax resident shareholder is not subject to dividend withholding tax on dividends received from us where the shareholder is:

- an individual shareholder resident for tax purposes in either a member state of the EU (apart from Ireland) or in a country with which Ireland has a double tax treaty, and the individual is neither resident nor ordinarily resident in Ireland;
- a corporate shareholder not resident for tax purposes in Ireland nor ultimately controlled, directly or indirectly, by persons so resident and which is resident for tax purposes in either a member state of the EU (apart from Ireland) or a country with which Ireland has a double tax treaty;

- a corporate shareholder that is not resident for tax purposes in Ireland and which is ultimately controlled, directly or indirectly, by persons resident in either a member state of the EU (apart from Ireland) or in a country with which Ireland has a double tax treaty;
- a corporate shareholder that is not resident for tax purposes in Ireland and whose principal class of shares (or those of its 75% parent) is substantially and regularly traded on a recognized stock exchange in either a member state of the EU (including Ireland where the Company trades only on the Irish stock exchange) or in a country with which Ireland has a double tax treaty or on an exchange approved by the Irish Minister for Finance; or
- a corporate shareholder that is not resident for tax purposes in Ireland and is wholly-owned, directly or indirectly, by two or more companies the principal class of shares of each of which is substantially and regularly traded on a recognized stock exchange in either a member state of the EU (including Ireland where the Company trades only on the Irish stock exchange) or in a country with which Ireland has a double tax treaty or on an exchange approved by the Irish Minister for Finance; and
- provided that, in all cases noted above, the shareholder has made the appropriate non-resident declaration to us prior to payment of the dividend.

Where the shareholder is not the beneficial owner, we will be required to withhold Irish dividend withholding tax at an income tax rate of 25% unless the shareholder is a qualifying intermediary under Irish law and that shareholder has received all necessary documentation required by the relevant legislation, as described above, from the beneficial owner prior to payment of the dividend.

Where our shareholders hold ADSs, they may not be required to submit an appropriate declaration in order to receive dividends without deduction of Irish dividend withholding tax provided their registered address is in the US.

Shareholders must complete and send to us a non-resident declaration form in order to avoid Irish dividend withholding tax. If the appropriate declaration is not made, these shareholders will be liable for Irish dividend withholding tax of 25% on dividends paid by us and may not be entitled to offset this tax. In this case, it will be necessary for shareholders to apply for a refund of the withholding tax directly from the Irish Revenue authorities.

Shareholders that do not fulfill the documentation requirements or otherwise do not qualify for one of the withholding tax exemptions outlined above may be able to claim treaty benefits under a double taxation convention. In this regard, where a double taxation convention is in effect between Ireland and the country of residence of a non-resident shareholder, depending on the terms of that double taxation convention, such a non-resident shareholder may be eligible for a full or partial exemption resulting in a lower dividend withholding tax rate than 25%.

For example, under the US-Ireland Treaty, certain US corporate shareholders owning directly at least 10% of our voting power, are eligible for a reduction in withholding tax to 5% with respect to dividends that we pay, unless the shares of common stock held by such residents form part of the business property of a business carried on through a permanent establishment in Ireland. The same exception applies if the beneficial owner of the shares, being a citizen or resident of the United States, performs independent personal services from a fixed base situated in Ireland and the holding of the shares of common stock in respect of which the dividends are paid pertains to such fixed base in Ireland. A shareholder of our common stock, other than an individual, will be ineligible for the benefits of the US-Irish Treaty unless the shareholder satisfies certain tests under the LOB provisions of Article 23 of the US-Ireland Treaty. To prevent so-called dividend stripping, Irish law generally denies the treaty benefit of a reduced dividend withholding tax rate for any dividend paid to a recipient who is not the "beneficial owner" of the dividend.

# <u>Irish Taxes on Income and Capital Gains</u>

Shareholders who are neither tax resident of, nor ordinarily resident in, Ireland should not be subject to any Irish taxes in respect of dividends distributed by us (other than the dividend withholding tax described above) or capital gains realized on the disposition of shares of our common stock unless such shares are used, held or acquired for the purposes of a trade carried on in Ireland through a branch or an agency. An individual who is temporarily a non-resident of Ireland at the time of the disposal may, under anti-avoidance legislation, still be liable to Irish taxation on any chargeable gains realized (subject to the availability of exemptions).

# <u>Capital Acquisitions Tax</u>

Irish capital acquisitions tax ("CAT") applies to gifts and inheritances. Subject to certain tax-free thresholds (which are determined by the relationship between the donor and successor or donee), gifts and inheritances are liable to tax at the rate of 33%. Gifts and inheritances passing between spouses are exempt from CAT.

Where a gift or inheritance is taken under a disposition made on or after 1 December 1999, it will be within the charge of CAT:

- to the extent that the property of which the gift or inheritance consists is situated in Ireland at the date of the gift or inheritance;
- where the person making the gift or inheritance is or was resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland at the date of the disposition under which the gift or inheritance is taken; or
- where the person receiving the gift or inheritance is resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland at the date of the gift or inheritance.

Please note that the charge to CAT in respect of appointments from a discretionary trust can be different and as a result, specific advice should be taken in this regard.

A non-Irish domiciled individual will not be regarded as resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland for CAT purposes on a particular date unless they are resident or ordinarily resident in Ireland on that date and have been resident in Ireland for the five consecutive tax years immediately preceding the year of assessment in which the date falls.

A gift or inheritance of our common stock will be within the charge of CAT, notwithstanding that the person from whom or by whom the gift or inheritance is received is domiciled or resident outside Ireland.

The Estate Tax Convention between Ireland and the United States generally provides for CAT paid on inheritances in Ireland to be credited against US federal estate tax payable in the United States and for tax paid in the United States to be credited against tax payable in Ireland, based on priority rules set forth in the Estate Tax Convention. The Estate Tax Convention does not apply to CAT paid on gifts. Irish domestic legislation also provides for a general relief from double taxation in respect of gifts and inheritances.

# <u>Irish Stamp Duty</u>

If a shareholder undertakes an off-market transaction involving a transfer of the underlying shares, this will be subject to Irish stamp duty at a rate of 1% of market value or consideration paid, whichever is greater, and will not be able to be registered until duly stamped. A transfer of CUFS (whether off-market and evidenced in writing or through the CHESS system) will be subject to the 1% Irish stamp duty. However, in the case of electronic transfers of shares (CUFS) through the CHESS system, no stamp duty will be collected on such transfers unless and until such time as a collection and administration process has been determined by the Revenue Commissioners in Ireland. For completeness, a conversion of shares into CUFS or ADSs or a conversion of CUFS or ADSs into underlying shares will be liable to 1% Irish stamp duty where the conversion is on a sale or in contemplation of a sale. In each case, payment of this stamp duty will be the responsibility of the person receiving the transfer. Any electronic transfers of shares through the ADR system will not be regarded as transfers of interests in securities and will not be brought within the charge to Irish stamp duty.

# QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Cash and cash equivalents include amounts on deposit in banks and cash invested temporarily in various highly liquid financial instruments with original maturities of three months or less when acquired.

We have operations in foreign countries and, as a result, are exposed to foreign currency exchange rate risk inherent in purchases, sales, assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the US dollar. We also are exposed to interest rate risk associated with our long-term debt, foreign exchange risk relative to our Euro denominated long-term debt and commodity price risk relative to changes in prices of commodities we use in production.

Periodically, forward exchange contracts are used to manage market risks and reduce exposure resulting from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates. Our policy is to enter into derivative instruments solely to mitigate risks in our business and not for trading or speculative purposes. There can be no assurance that we will be successful in these mitigation strategies or that fluctuation in interest rates, commodity prices and foreign currency exchange rates will not have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

#### Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk

We have significant operations outside of the United States and, as a result, are exposed to changes in exchange rates which affect our financial position, results of operations and cash flow. In addition, payments to AICF are required to be made in Australian dollars which, because the majority of our revenues are produced in US dollars, exposes us to risks associated with fluctuations in the US dollar/Australian dollar exchange rate. See "Section 3 - Risk Factors" of this Annual Report.

For our fiscal year ended 31 March 2024, the following currencies comprised the following percentages of our net sales, expenses and liabilities:

	US\$	A\$ Euros		NZ\$	Other <sup>1</sup>
Net sales	69.7 %	10.3 %	10.4 %	2.2 %	7.4 %
Expenses <sup>2</sup>	65.2 %	14.2 %	11.8 %	2.2 %	6.6 %
Liabilities (excluding borrowings) <sup>2</sup>	30.5 %	56.3 %	10.2 %	1.1 %	1.9 %

For our fiscal year ended 31 March 2023, the following currencies comprised the following percentages of our net sales, expenses and liabilities:

	US\$	US\$ A\$ Euros NZ\$		NZ\$	Other <sup>1</sup>
Net sales	70.0 %	10.1 %	10.2 %	2.3 %	7.4 %
Expenses <sup>2</sup>	68.6 %	9.3 %	12.3 %	3.1 %	6.7 %
Liabilities (excluding borrowings) <sup>2</sup>	25.7 %	59.2 %	11.0 %	2.3 %	1.8 %

Comprised of Philippine pesos, United Kingdom pounds and Canadian dollars.

Expenses include cost of goods sold, SG&A expenses, R&D expenses and adjustments to the asbestos liability. Liabilities include the A\$ denominated asbestos liability. See "Section 3 - Risk Factors," and Note 12 to our consolidated financial statements further information regarding the asbestos liability.

We purchase raw materials and fixed assets and sell some finished product for amounts denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the business in which the related transaction is generated. Further, in order to protect against foreign exchange rate movements, we may enter into forward exchange contracts timed to mature when settlement of the underlying transaction is due to occur. For further information, see Note 13 to our consolidated financial statements in Section 2.

### **Interest Rate Risk**

We have market risk from changes in interest rates, related to our revolving credit facility and Term Loan. Assuming both facilities were fully drawn for the entire year, each one percentage point increase (decrease) in interest rates would result in a US\$9.1 million and US\$6.1 million increase (decrease) in annual cash interest expense for the year ended 31 March 2024 and 2023, respectively.

# **Commodity Price Risk**

We are exposed to changes in prices of commodities used in our operations, primarily associated with energy, fuel and raw materials. While we expect to continue operating in tight markets for these commodities, we do enter into various sourcing arrangements in an effort to minimize additional working capital requirements caused by rising prices. These arrangements provide discounts on the prices of such commodities in relation to market prices and indices, however, if such commodity prices do not continue to rise, these fixed pricing arrangements may negatively impact our cost of sales over the longer-term.

We have assessed the market risk of our core commodities and believe that a +/- 10% change in the average cost of these materials for the year ended 31 March 2024 would have resulted in +/- US\$51.1 million or 2.2% impact on our cost of sales for fiscal year 2024.

For fiscal year 2023, we have assessed the market risk of our core commodities and believe that a +/- 10% change in the average cost of these materials for the year ended 31 March 2023 would have resulted in +/- US\$60.4 million or 2.5% impact on our cost of sales for fiscal year 2023.

#### OTHER INFORMATION

#### Constitution

Our corporate domicile is in Ireland and our registered office is located at 1st Floor, Block A, One Park Place, Upper Hatch Street, Dublin 2, D02 FD79, Ireland. We are registered at the Companies Registration Office of the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation in Dublin, Ireland under number 485719. Copies of our Memorandum of Association and our Articles of Association are filed as Exhibits 1.1 and 1.2 to this Annual Report. A description of our dividend distribution policy and each class of securities registered under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is included in Exhibit 2.17 to this Annual Report and is incorporated herein by reference.

#### Material Contracts

Other than the contracts that are described elsewhere in this Annual Report, including, without limitation, the AFFA and related agreements, our revolving credit facility and Term Loan, the indentures governing our senior unsecured notes, the deposit agreement governing our ADS program, our executive compensation and equity incentive plans and certain material employment contracts described in "Section 1 - Remuneration Report" and any material contracts that have been entered into in the ordinary course of business, the Company does not have any material contracts otherwise requiring disclosure in this Annual Report.

# **Exchange Controls**

The European Union ("EU") has imposed financial sanctions on a number of governments, entities, groups and individuals throughout the world in furtherance of the EU's common foreign and security policy. Ireland has given effect to these sanctions through the implementation of regulations and statutory instruments. We do not have any subsidiaries located in countries with imposed financial sanctions by the EU. In addition, we do not conduct business or other revenue-generating activities contrary to any such sanctions.

Except for restrictions contained in the regulations or statutory instruments referred to above, there are no legislative or other legal provisions currently in force in Ireland or arising under our Constitution restricting the import or export of capital, including the availability of cash and cash equivalents for use by JHI plc and its wholly owned subsidiaries, or remittances to our security holders not resident in Ireland. In addition, except for restrictions contained in the regulations or statutory instruments referred to above, cash dividends payable in US dollars on our common stock may be officially transferred from Ireland and converted into any other convertible currency.

There are no limitations, either by Irish law or in our Constitution, on the right of non-residents of Ireland to hold or vote our common stock.

# **Documents Available for Review**

We are subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act applicable to "foreign private issuers" and in accordance therewith file reports, including annual reports, and other information with the SEC. Such reports and other information have been filed electronically with the SEC since 4 November 2002. The SEC maintains a site on the Internet, at <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a>, which contains reports and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC. In addition, such reports may be obtained, upon written request, from our company secretary at our corporate headquarters in Ireland or our Investor Relations department in Australia. Such reports and other information filed with the SEC prior to November 2002 may be inspected and copied at prescribed rates at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC at 100 F Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549, or obtained by written request to our company secretary. Although, as a foreign private issuer, we are exempt from the rules under the Exchange Act prescribing the furnishing and content of proxy statements and annual reports to shareholders and the quarterly reporting requirements of the Exchange Act, we:

- furnish our shareholders with annual reports containing consolidated financial statements examined by an independent registered public accounting firm; and
- furnish quarterly reports for the first three quarters of each fiscal year containing unaudited consolidated financial information in filings with the SEC under Form 6-K.

# **Annual Report to Security Holders**

We will submit the annual report to security holders in electronic format in accordance with the EDGAR Filer Manual.

# **SECTION 4**

# SHARE/CHESS UNITS OF FOREIGN SECURITIES INFORMATION

As of 30 April 2024, JHI plc had 433,784,634 CUFS issued over ordinary shares listed on the ASX and held by CHESS Depositary Nominees Pty Ltd ("CDN") on behalf of 37,197 CUFS holders. Each CUFS represents the beneficial ownership of one ordinary share and carries the right to one vote. Each CUFS holder can direct CDN on how to vote the ordinary shares on a one vote per CUFS basis. RSUs issued by the Company carry no voting rights.

At 30 April 2024, to our knowledge, we are not directly or indirectly owned or controlled by another corporation, by a foreign government or by any other natural or legal persons severally or jointly, and we are not aware of any arrangements the operation of which may at a subsequent date result in a change in control of the Company.

# Geographic Distribution of Beneficial Ownership of James Hardie Industries plc

The following table shows the geographic distribution of the beneficial holders of our CUFS at 31 March 2024 and 2023:

Geographic Region	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
Australia	48.60 %	58.52 %
United States	20.28 %	14.82 %
United Kingdom	4.63 %	3.76 %
Europe (excluding the United Kingdom)	9.82 %	7.30 %
Asia	5.61 %	4.15 %
Other	11.06 %	11.45 %

As of 30 April 2024, 0.03% of the outstanding shares of our common stock was held by 70 CUFS holders with registered addresses in the United States. In addition, as of 30 April 2024, 1.83% of the outstanding shares of our common stock was represented by ADSs held by 12 holders, all of whom have registered addresses in the United States, except 2 holders having registered addresses in Germany and the United Kingdom. A total of 1.86% of our outstanding capital stock was registered to 80 US holders as of 30 April 2024.

# <u>Distribution Schedule of James Hardie Industries plc</u>

The following table shows a distribution of the holders of our CUFS at 30 April 2024:

Circ of Holding Dongs		CUFS		<b>Options</b>			
Size of Holding Range	Holders	Holders Holdings Total		Holders	Holdings		
1-1,000	29,947	8,221,293	1.90	-	-		
1,001-5,000	6,125	12,911,202	2.98	-	-		
5,001-10,000	693	4,954,230	1.14	-	-		
10,001-100,000	378	8,324,971	1.92	-	-		
100,001 and over	54	399,372,938	92.06	-	-		
Totals	37,197	433,784,634	100.00	-	-		

Based on the closing price of A\$54.21 on 30 April 2024, there were 328 CUFS holders that held less than a marketable parcel of shares.

# Substantial CUFS holders of James Hardie Industries plc

As at 30 April 2024, the Company had received notification of the following interests in its share capital, which were equal to, or in excess of, 3%:

CUFS holder	Shares Beneficially Owned	Percentage of Shares Outstanding	Date became substantial shareholder
Blackrock, Inc.	26,020,998	6.00 %	16 October 2014
OppenheimerFunds, Inc.	23,564,091	5.43 %	30 June 2016
The Vanguard Group, Inc.	22,013,078	5.07 %	17 August 2018
AustralianSuper Pty Ltd	21,754,891	5.02 %	2 September 2019
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	17,819,160	4.11 %	15 August 2014
KKR Entities	17,556,051	4.05 %	1 December 2021
Challenger Limited	17,466,712	4.03 %	23 May 2018
Bennelong Funds Management Group Pty Ltd	17,389,710	4.01 %	16 December 2020
FIL Limited	13,876,711	3.20 %	22 November 2023

# James Hardie Industries plc 20 largest CUFS holders and their holdings as of 30 April 2024

Name	CUFS Holdings	Percentage	Rank
HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Limited	162,295,086	37.41 %	1
J P Morgan Nominees Australia Pty Limited	101,500,470	23.40 %	2
Citicorp Nominees Pty Limited	63,410,959	14.62 %	3
BNP Paribas Nominees Pty Ltd	12,512,225	2.88 %	4
National Nominees Limited	8,775,243	2.02 %	5
BNP Paribas Noms Pty Ltd Deutsche Bank TCA	7,955,340	1.83 %	6
Citicorp Nominees Pty Limited	7,383,287	1.70 %	7
BNP Paribas Noms Pty Ltd	6,214,916	1.43 %	8
Australian Foundation Investment Company Limited	4,170,000	0.96 %	9
HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Limited	3,126,637	0.72 %	10
HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Limited-GSCO ECA	2,854,995	0.66 %	11
BNPP Noms Pty Ltd HUB24 Custodial Serv Ltd	2,068,331	0.48 %	12
HSBC Custody Nominees (Australia) Limited - A/C 2	1,743,704	0.40 %	13
Netwealth Investments Limited	1,603,281	0.37 %	14
UBS Nominees Pty Ltd	976,606	0.23 %	15
BNP Paribas Nominees Pty Ltd Barclays	938,682	0.22 %	16
Moorgate Investments Pty Ltd	883,799	0.20 %	17
Argo Investments Limited	791,000	0.18 %	18
Ecapital Nominees Pty Limited	664,732	0.15 %	19
The Senior Master of the Supreme Court	658,370	0.15 %	20
TOTAL	390,527,663	90.01 %	

# **GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS**

# $\underline{\textbf{Abbreviations}}$

ADDI EVIALIDIIS	
2001 Plan	2001 Equity Incentive Plan
ADR	American Depositary Receipt
ADS	American Depositary Share
AFFA	Amended and Restated Final Funding Agreement, as amended from time to time
AGM	Annual General Meeting
AICF	Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund
ASC	Accounting Standards Codification
ASIC	Australian Securities and Investments Commission
ASP	Average net sales price per msf
ASU	Accounting Standards Update
ASX	Australian Securities Exchange
AT0	Australian Taxation Office
CARES Act	US Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
CCPA	California Consumer Privacy Act
CDN	CHESS Depositary Nominees Pty Ltd
CE0	Chief Executive Officer
CF0	Chief Financial Officer
CIO	Chief Information Officer
CHESS	Clearing House Electronic Subregister System
CP Plan	Company Performance Plan
CUFS	CHESS Units of Foreign Securities
ELT	Executive Leadership Team
EPS	Earnings Per Share
ESG	Environmental, Social and Governance
FASB	Financial Accounting Standards Board
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
HMOS	Hardie™ Manufacturing Operating System
HOS	Hardie <sup>™</sup> Operating System
IP Plan	Individual Performance Plan
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
JHX	James Hardie
LOB	Limitation on Benefits
LTI	Long-Term Incentive
LTIP	Long-Term Incentive Plan 2006
NOLs	US net operating losses
NSW	New South Wales
NYSE	New York Stock Exchange
NZWT	New Zealand Weathertightness
PDG	Primary Demand Growth
R&D	Research and Development
ROCE	Return on Capital Employed

### Abbreviations (continued)

RSU	Restricted Stock Unit
SEC	United States Securities and Exchange Commission
SG&A	Selling, General and Administrative
STI	Short- Term Incentive
TCFD	Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures
TSR	Total Shareholder Return
ZH	Zero Harm

# <u>Definitions</u>

This Annual Report contains financial measures that are considered to be non-US GAAP, but are consistent with those used by Australian companies. Because the Company prepares its consolidated financial statements in accordance with US GAAP, the following cross-references each US GAAP financial measure as used in the Company's consolidated financial statements to the equivalent non-US GAAP financial measure listed.

EBIT - Earnings before interest and tax is equivalent to the US GAAP financial statement line item Operating income (loss).

EBIT margin - EBIT margin is defined as EBIT as a percentage of net sales. EBIT margin is equivalent to the US GAAP terminology Operating income (loss) margin.

# Other Financial Measures

#### Sales Volume

 $\it mmsf$  - million square feet, where a square foot is defined as a standard square foot of 5/16" thickness.

msf - thousand square feet, where a square foot is defined as a standard square foot of 5/16" thickness.

Average net sales price per msf ("ASP") - Total net sales of fiber cement and fiber gypsum products, excluding accessory sales, divided by the total volume of products sold.

Working Capital – The working capital calculation used in our cash provided by operating analysis includes the change in: (1) Accounts and other receivables, net; (2) Inventories; and (3) Accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

#### Non-GAAP Financial Information Derived from GAAP Measures

This Annual Report includes certain financial information to supplement the Company's consolidated financial statements which are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("US GAAP"). These financial measures are designed to provide investors with an alternative method for assessing our performance from on-going operations, capital efficiency and profit generation. Management uses these financial measures for the same purposes. These financial measures include:

- · Adjusted operating income;
- Adjusted net income;
- Adjusted diluted earnings per share;
- Adjusted Return on Capital Employed ("ROCE");
- Adjusted interest, net;
- Adjusted income before income taxes;
- Adjusted income tax expense;
- Adjusted effective tax rate;
- North America Fiber Cement Segment Adjusted operating income;
- Asia Pacific Fiber Cement Segment Adjusted operating income;
- Europe Building Products Segment Adjusted operating income;
- · North America Fiber Cement Segment Adjusted operating income margin;
- Asia Pacific Fiber Cement Segment Adjusted operating income margin; and
- Europe Building Products Segment Adjusted operating income margin.

These financial measures are or may be non-US GAAP financial measures as defined in the rules of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and may exclude or include amounts that are included or excluded, as applicable, in the calculation of the most directly comparable financial measures calculated in accordance with US GAAP. These financial measures are not meant to be considered in isolation or as a substitute for comparable US GAAP financial measures and should be read only in conjunction with the Company's consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with US GAAP. In evaluating these financial measures, investors should note that other companies reporting or describing similarly titled financial measures may calculate them differently and investors should exercise caution in comparing the Company's financial measures to similar titled measures by other companies.

# Adjusted operating income

(Millions of US dollars)	FY24	FY23	FY22	FY	21	FY20
Operating income	\$ 767.4	\$ 741.4	\$ 682.6	\$	472.8	\$ 342.5
Excluding:						
Asbestos:						
Asbestos adjustments loss	151.7	37.0	131.7		143.9	58.2
AICF SG&A expenses	1.6	1.4	1.3		1.2	1.7
Asset impairment - greenfield site	20.1	_	_		_	_
Restructuring and product line discontinuation expenses	_	_	-		11.1	84.4
Adjusted operating income	\$ 940.8	\$ 779.8	\$ 815.6	\$	629.0	\$ 486.8

# Adjusted net income

(Millions of US dollars)	FY24		FY23	FY22	FY21	FY20
Net income	\$ 51	0.2	\$ 512.0	\$ 459.1	\$ 262.8	\$ 241.5
Excluding:						
Asbestos:						
Asbestos adjustments loss	15	L.7	37.0	131.7	143.9	58.2
AICF SG&A expenses		L.6	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.7
AICF interest income, net	(	0.0)	(4.2)	(0.9	(0.5)	(1.4)
Asset impairment - greenfield site	2	0.1	_	-	_	_
Restructuring and product line discontinuation expenses		-	_	_	11.1	84.4
Tax adjustments <sup>1</sup>	3	2.9	59.3	29.5	39.5	(31.6)
Adjusted net income	\$ 70	7.5	\$ 605.5	\$ 620.7	\$ 458.0	\$ 352.8

 $<sup>^{</sup> ext{1.}}$  Includes tax adjustments related to the amortization benefit of certain US intangible assets, asbestos, and other tax adjustments

# <u>Adjusted diluted earnings per share</u>

	FY24	FY23	FY22	FY21	FY20
Adjusted net income (millions of US dollars)	\$ 707.5	\$ 605.5	\$ 620.7	\$ 458.0	\$ 352.8
Weighted average common shares outstanding - Diluted (millions)	439.6	445.6	445.9	445.4	444.1
Adjusted diluted earnings per share (US dollars)	1.61				

# Adjusted Return on Capital Employed ("Adjusted ROCE")

(Millions of US dollars)	llars) FY24		FY23 FY22		FY21		FY20		
Numerator									
Adjusted operating income	\$	940.8	\$	779.8	\$	815.6	\$	629.0	\$ 486.8
Denominator									
Gross capital employed (GCE)		2,382.8		1,816.5		1,653.9		1,780.8	1,753.7
Adjustments to GCE <sup>1</sup>		(673.9)		(184.8)		(56.4)		(193.6)	(195.5)
Adjusted gross capital employed		1,708.9	\$	1,631.7	\$	1,597.5	\$	1,587.2	\$ 1,558.2
Adjusted ROCE		55%		48%		51%		40%	31%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Calculated as Total Assets minus Current Liabilities as reported in our financial results; adjusted by: (i) excluding balance sheet items related to legacy issues (such as asbestos adjustments), dividends payable and deferred taxes; (ii) adding back asset impairment charges in the relevant period, unless otherwise determined by the remuneration committee; (iii) deducting all greenfield construction-in-progress, and any brownfield construction-in-progress projects involving capacity expansion that are individually greater than US\$20 million, until such assets reach commercial production and are transferred to the fixed asset register and assets held for sale; and (iv) proceeds from the Term Loan A not currently employed (FY24).

# Adjusted interest, net

(Millions of US dollars)	FY24	FY23
Interest, net	\$ 15.3\$	30.7
ATCF interest income, net	(9.0)	(4.2)
Adjusted interest, net	\$ 24.3\$	34.9

# Adjusted effective tax rate

(Millions of US dollars)		FY24	FY23
Income before income taxes	\$	754.8 \$	723.5
Asbestos:			
Asbestos adjustments loss		151.7	37.0
AICF SG&A expenses		1.6	1.4
AICF interest income, net		(9.0)	(4.2)
Asset impairment - greenfield site		20.1	_
Adjusted income before income taxes	\$	919.2 \$	757.7
Income tax expense		244.6	211.5
Tax adjustments <sup>1</sup>		(32.9)	(59.3)
Adjusted income tax expense	\$	211.7 \$	152.2
Effective tax rate		32.4%	29.2%
Adjusted effective tax rate		23.0%	20.1%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes tax adjustments related to the amortization benefit of certain US intangible assets, asbestos, and other tax adjustments

# North America Fiber Cement Segment Adjusted operating income

(Millions of US dollars)	FY24	FY23	FY22	FY21	FY20
Operating income	\$ 921.1	\$ 767.5	\$ 741.2	\$ 585.5	\$ 429.3
Excluding:					
Restructuring and product line discontinuation expenses	_	_	_	2.5	41.2
North America Fiber Cement Segment Adjusted operating					
income	\$ 921.1	\$ 767.5	\$ 741.2	\$ 588.0	\$ 470.5
North America Fiber Cement segment net sales	2,891.4	2,787.6	2,551.3	2,040.2	1,816.4
North America Fiber Cement Segment Adjusted operating					
income margin	31.9%	27.5%	29.1%	28.8%	25.9%

# Asia Pacific Fiber Cement Segment Adjusted operating income

(Millions of Australian dollars)		FY24		FY23		FY22		FY21		FY20
Operating income	A\$	252.7	A\$	208.8	A\$	217.4	A\$	172.4	A\$	80.8
Excluding:										
Restructuring expenses		_		_		_		4.9		58.3
Asia Pacific Fiber Cement Segment Adjusted operating income	A\$	252.7	A\$	208.8	A\$	217.4	A\$	177.3	A\$	139.1
Asia Pacific Fiber Cement segment net sales		856.3		787.0		777.7		635.2		614.1
Asia Pacific Fiber Cement Segment Adjusted operating income margin		29.5%		26.5%		28.0%		28.0%		22.7%

# **Europe Building Products Segment Adjusted operating income**

(Millions of Euros)		FY24		FY23		FY22		FY21		FY20
Operating income	€	41.5	€	25.2	€	54.2	€	31.4	€	10.0
Excluding:										
Restructuring expenses		_		_		_		4.5		4.9
Europe Building Products Segment Adjusted operating income	€	41.5	€	25.2	€	54.2	€	35.9	€	14.9
Europe Building Products segment net sales		444.5		431.8		420.5		350.6		334.2
Europe Building Products Segment Adjusted operating income										
margin		9.3%		5.8%		12.9%		10.4%		4.5%

# **EXHIBIT LIST**

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description
1.1	Memorandum of Association of James Hardie Industries plc, as amended (filed as Exhibit 1.1 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 18 May 2021 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
1.2	Articles of Association of James Hardie Industries plc (filed as Exhibit 1.2 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 18 May 2021 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.1	Amended and Restated Deposit Agreement, by and among James Hardie Industries plc, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as depositary, and the holders and beneficial owners of American depositary shares evidenced by American depositary receipts issued thereunder (filed as Exhibit 99.A to the Company's Registration Statement on Form F-6 filed on 25 September 2014 (Commission File Number 333-198928) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.2	Form of Amendment No. 1 to Amended and Restated Deposit Agreement (filed as Exhibit 99(A)(2) to the Company's Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to Form F-6 filed on 3 September 2015 (Commission File Number 333-198928) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.3	Guarantee Trust Deed, dated 19 December 2006, by and between James Hardie Industries N.V. and AET Structured Finance Services Pty Limited (filed as Exhibit 4.12 to the Company's Post-Effective No. 1 to Form F-4 filed on 17 June 2010 (Commission File Number 333-165531) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.4	Performing Subsidiary Undertaking and Guarantee Trust Deed, dated 19 December 2006, by and between James Hardie 117 Pty Limited and AET Structured Finance Services Pty Limited (filed as Exhibit 4.14 to the Company's Post-Effective No. 1 to Form F-4 filed on 17 June 2010 (Commission File Number 333-165531) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.5	Intercreditor Deed, dated 19 December 2006, by and among The State of New South Wales, James Hardie Industries N.V., Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited and AET Structured Finance Services Pty Limited (filed as Exhibit 10.34 to the Company's Post-Effective No. 1 to Form F-4 filed on 17 June 2010 (Commission File Number 333-165531) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.6	Letter Agreement, dated 21 March 2007, amending the Intercreditor Deed, dated 19 December 2006, by and among The State of New South Wales, James Hardie Industries N.V., Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited and AET Structured Finance Services Pty Limited (filed as Exhibit 10.35 to the Company's Post-Effective No. 1 to Form F-4 filed on 17 June 2010 (Commission File Number 333-165531) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.7	Performing Subsidiary Intercreditor Deed, dated 19 December 2006, by and among The State of New South Wales, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited and AET Structured Finance Services Pty Limited (filed as Exhibit 10.37 to the Company's Post-Effective No. 1 to Form F-4 filed on 17 June 2010 (Commission File Number 333-165531) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.8	Letter Agreement, dated 21 March 2007, amending the Performing Subsidiary Intercreditor Deed, dated 19 December 2006, by and among The State of New South Wales, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited and AET Structured Finance Services Pty Limited (filed as Exhibit 10.38 to the Company's Post-Effective No. 1 to Form F-4 filed on 17 June 2010 (Commission File Number 333-165531) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.9	Amending Deed to Guarantee Trust Deed, dated 6 October 2009, by and between James Hardie Industries N.V. and AET Structured Finance Services Pty Limited (filed as Exhibit 2.10 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 30 June 2010 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.10	Amending Deed to Performing Subsidiary Undertaking and Guarantee Trust Deed, dated 6 October 2009, by and between James Hardie 117 Pty Limited and AET Structured Finance Services Pty Limited (filed as Exhibit 2.12 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 30 June 2010 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.11	Amending Deed (Intercreditor Deed), dated 23 June 2009, by and among The State of New South Wales, James Hardie Industries N.V., Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited and AET Structured Finance Services Pty Limited (filed as Exhibit 4.36 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 30 June 2010 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description
2.12	Amending Deed (Performing Subsidiary Intercreditor Deed), dated 23 June 2009, by and among The State of New South Wales, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited and AET Structured Finance Services Pty Limited (filed as Exhibit 4.39 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 30 June 2010 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.13	Indenture, dated 13 December 2017, by and among James Hardie International Finance Designated Activity Company, the guarantors named therein and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas (filed as Exhibit 2.13 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 22 May 2018 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.14	Form of 5.000% Senior Note due 2028 (filed as Exhibit 2.15 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 22 May 2018 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.15	Indenture, dated 4 October 2018, among James Hardie International Finance Designated Activity Company, the guarantors listed therein, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Trustee and Registrar and Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch, as Paying Agent and Transfer Agent (filed as Exhibit 99.8 to the Company's Report on Form 6-K filed 8 November 2018 (Commission File Number 001-15240 and incorporated by reference herein)
2.16	Form of 3.625% Senior Notes due 2026 ((filed as Exhibit 99.8 to the Company's Report on Form 6-k filed 8 November 2018 (Commission File Number 001-15240 and incorporated by reference herein)
2.17	Description of Securities Registered Under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (filed as Exhibit 2.19 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 18 May 2021 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.18	Credit and Guaranty Agreement, dated 21 December 2021, by and among James Hardie International Finance Designated Activity Company and James Hardie Building Products Inc., as borrowers, James Hardie International Group Limited and James Hardie Technology Limited, as guarantors, James Hardie Industries plc, as parent, HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as administrative agent, and the other lender parties thereto (filed as Exhibit 2.18 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 17 May 2022 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
2.19*	Credit and Guaranty Agreement, dated 27 October 2023, by and among James Hardie International Finance Designated Activity Company and James Hardie Building Products Inc., as borrowers, James Hardie International Group Limited and James Hardie Technology Limited, as guarantors, James Hardie Industries plc, as parent, Bank of America, N. A. as administrative agent, and the other lender parties thereto
4.1	Amended and Restated James Hardie Industries SE 2001 Equity Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 17 May 2022 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.2	Amended and Restated James Hardie Industries plc Long Term Incentive Plan 2006 (filed as Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 17 May 2022 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.3	Form of Joint and Several Indemnity Agreement among James Hardie N.V., James Hardie (USA) Inc. and certain indemnitees thereto (filed as Exhibit 4.15 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 7 July 2005 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.4	Form of Joint and Several Indemnity Agreement among James Hardie Industries N.V., James Hardie Inc. and certain indemnitees thereto (filed as Exhibit 4.16 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 7 July 2005 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.5	Form of Deed of Access, Insurance and Indemnity between James Hardie Industries N.V. and supervisory board directors and managing board directors (filed as Exhibit 4.9 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 8 July 2008 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.6	Form of Indemnity Agreement between James Hardie Building Products, Inc. and supervisory board directors, managing board directors and certain executive officers (filed as Exhibit 4.10 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 8 July 2008 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description
4.7	Form of Irish law-governed Deed of Access, Insurance and Indemnity between James Hardie Industries SE, a European Company registered in Ireland, and its directors, company secretary and certain senior employees thereto (filed as Exhibit 10.10 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form F-4 filed on 23 June 2009 (Commission File 333-160177) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.8	Form of Deed of Access, Insurance and Indemnity between James Hardie Industries plc, and certain indemnitees thereto (filed as Exhibit 4.9 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 21 May 2015 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.9	Deed of Release - Unions and Banton, dated 21 December 2005, by and among James Hardie Industries N.V., Australian Council of Trade Unions, Unions New South Wales, and Bernard Douglas Banton (filed as Exhibit 4.23 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 29 September 2006 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.10	Deed of Release, dated 22 June 2006, by and between James Hardie Industries N.V. and The State of New South Wales (filed as Exhibit 4.25 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 29 September 2006 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.11	Amended and Restated Final Funding Agreement, dated 21 November 2006, by and among James Hardie Industries N.V., James Hardie 117 Pty Ltd, The State of New South Wales and Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited in its capacity as trustee of the Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund (filed as Exhibit 99.4 to the Company's Report on Form 6-K filed on 05 January 2007 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.12	Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Amended and Restated Trust Deed, dated 14 December 2006, by and between James Hardie Industries N.V. and Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited (filed as Exhibit 4.22 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 6 July 2007 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.13	Second Irrevocable Power of Attorney, dated 14 December 2006, by and between Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited and The State of New South Wales (filed as Exhibit 4.26 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 6 July 2007 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.14	Deed of Accession, dated 14 December 2006, by and among Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited, James Hardie Industries N.V., James Hardie 117 Pty Limited and The State of New South Wales (filed as Exhibit 4.27 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 6 July 2007 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.15	Amendment to Amended and Restated Final Funding Agreement, dated 6 August 2007, by and among, James Hardie Industries NV, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, The State of New South Wales and Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited in its capacity as trustee of the Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund (filed as Exhibit 4.22 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 8 July 2008 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.16	Deed Poll, dated 11 June 2008, amendment of the Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Amended and Restated Trust Deed (filed as Exhibit 4.27 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 8 July 2008 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.17	Amendment to Amended and Restated Final Funding Agreement, dated 8 November 2007, by and among, James Hardie Industries NV, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, The State of New South Wales and Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited in its capacity as trustee of the Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund (filed as Exhibit 4.23 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 8 July 2008 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.18	Amendment to Amended and Restated Final Funding Agreement, dated 11 June 2008, by and among, James Hardie Industries NV, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, The State of New South Wales and Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited in its capacity as trustee of the Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund (filed as Exhibit 4.24 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 8 July 2008 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description
4.19	Amendment to Amended and Restated Final Funding Agreement, dated 17 July 2008, by and among, James Hardie Industries NV, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, The State of New South Wales and Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited in its capacity as trustee of the Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund (filed as Exhibit 10.27 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form F-4 filed on 23 June 2009 (Commission File 333-160177) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.20	Deed of Confirmation, dated 23 June 2009, by and among James Hardie Industries N.V, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, The State of New South Wales and Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited in its capacity as trustee of the Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund (filed as Exhibit 10.37 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form F-4/A filed on 10 July 2009 (Commission File 333-160177) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.21	Amending Agreement (Parent Guarantee), dated 23 June 2009, by and among Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited, The State of New South Wales and James Hardie Industries N.V. (filed as Exhibit 4.30 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 30 June 2010 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.22	Deed to amend the Amended and Restated Final Funding Agreement and facilitate the Authorized Loan Facility, dated 9 December 2010, by and among James Hardie Industries SE, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, The State of New South Wales and Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited in its capacity as trustee of each of the Compensation Funds (filed as Exhibit 4.25 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 29 June 2011 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.23	AICF facility agreement, dated 9 December 2010, by and among Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited, ABN 60 Pty Limited, Amaca Pty Ltd, Amaba Pty Ltd and The State of New South Wales (filed as Exhibit 4.40 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 29 June 2011 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.24	Fixed and Floating Charge, dated 9 December 2010, by and among Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited, ABN 60 Pty Limited, Amaca Pty Ltd, Amaba Pty Ltd and The State of New South Wales (filed as Exhibit 4.41 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 29 June 2011 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.25	Deed to amend the Amended and Restated Final Funding Agreement, dated 29 February 2012, by and among James Hardie Industries SE, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, The State of New South Wales and Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited in its capacity as trustee of each of the Compensation Funds (filed as Exhibit 4.27 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 2 July 2012 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.26	Deed to amend the Amended and Restated Final Funding Agreement, dated 28 March 2012, by and among James Hardie Industries SE, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, The State of New South Wales and Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited in its capacity as trustee of each of the Compensation Funds (filed as Exhibit 4.28 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 2 July 2012 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.27	Summary of Amendments to Amended and Restated Final Funding Agreement, dated 20 December 2013, by and among, James Hardie Industries NV, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, The State of New South Wales and Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited in its capacity as trustee of the Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund (filed as Exhibit 4.37 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 26 June 2014 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.28	Deed of Amendment, dated 27 February 2015, by and among Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited, ABN 60 Pty Limited, Amaca Pty Ltd, Amaba Pty Ltd and The State of New South Wales (filed as Exhibit 4.32 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 21 May 2015 (Commission File Number 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
4.29	Deed of Amendment, Amended and Restated Final Funding Agreement, dated 19 December 2017, by and among James Hardie Industries plc, James Hardie 117 Pty Limited, The State of New South Wales and Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund Limited in its capacity as trustee for each of the Compensation Fund (filed as Exhibit 4.31 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 22 May 2018 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description
4.30	James Hardie Industries plc 2020 Non-Executive Director Equity Plan (filed as Exhibit 4.34 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on 18 May 2021 (Commission File 001-15240) and incorporated by reference herein)
8.1*	List of significant subsidiaries of James Hardie Industries plc
<u>11.1*</u>	Insider Trading Policy
12.1*	Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
<u>12.2*</u>	Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
13.1*	Certification of the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
<u>15.1*</u>	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm
<u>15.2*</u>	Consent of KPMG
<u>97.1*</u>	Policy for Recovery of Erroneously Awarded Compensation
101.INS*	Inline XBRL Instance Document (the instance document does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document)
101.SCH*	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL*	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.DEF*	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
101.LAB*	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Labels Linkbase Document
101.PRE*	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document
104*	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as Inline XBRL and included as part of the Exhibit 101 Inline XBRL Document Set)

<sup>\*</sup> Filed herewith

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# **SIGNATURES**

The registrant hereby certifies that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form 20-F and that it has duly caused and authorized the undersigned to sign this Annual Report on its behalf.

JAMES HARDIE INDUSTRIES plc

/s/ AARON ERTER Aaron Erter

Chief Executive Officer

This Annual Report has been approved by the Board of Directors of James Hardie Industries plc.

JAMES HARDIE INDUSTRIES plc

/s/ ANNE LLOYD

Anne Lloyd

Chairperson

Date: 20 May 2024

Date: 20 May 2024