

31 August 2023

## **ASX RELEASE**

## Atlas Arteria H1 2023 Results and Distribution Guidance

Atlas Arteria (**ASX:ALX**) today announced results for the six months ended 30 June 2023, and reaffirmed distribution guidance of 20.0 cents per security for H1 2023, and 20.0 cents per security for H2 2023.

- Traffic benefitted from a favourable operating environment in France, with strong revenue growth resulting from increased tolls in an environment of high inflation
  - Weighted average traffic was 4.5% above H1 2022 (3.4% above H1 2019)
  - Traffic for APRR Group was 4.6% above H1 2022 (7.0% above H1 2019)
  - Traffic at Warnow Tunnel was 7.2% above H1 2022 (1.9% below H1 2019)
  - Traffic at Chicago Skyway was 2.4% below H1 2022 (1.7% above H1 2019)
  - Traffic at Dulles Greenway was 8.4% above H1 2022 (28.4% below H1 2019)
- Statutory net profit after tax of \$136.5 million (H1 2022: net profit of \$117.1 million)
- Net profit after tax for APRR of €568.0 million (H1 2022: €534.9 million, H1 2019: €447.8 million)
- Prioritised improving safety across all businesses and corporate offices
- Second standalone Sustainability Report released in April
- Progress made against strategic objectives at Chicago Skyway as set out at the time of acquisition
  - Traffic in H1 2023 was above the business acquisition case despite the roadworks on the Indiana Toll Road (ITR) which were flagged at the time of the acquisition
  - On track with transition to a pro-active maintenance approach with vendors appointed to deliver the asset management system and digital twin
  - Engaged vendor to upgrade the back-office tolling system
  - Appointed financial advisor for refinancing of mature debt to enable capital releases in 2023 and 2024
- Continue to pursue and progress growth opportunities at APRR
  - €410 million Investment Plan signed with the French State in January providing additional toll increases at APRR and AREA for 2023 to 2026
- Pursuing a two-pronged strategy at Dulles Greenway
  - Rate case application for increased tolls at Dulles Greenway submitted on 11 July (USA)
  - Preferred outcome being a change in legislation to implement distance-based tolling
- Distribution guidance of 20.0 cents per security for H1 2023 and 20.0 cents per security for H2 2023, in line with 2023 distribution guidance of 40.0 cps<sup>1</sup>
  - H1 2023 distribution guidance will be fully funded by operating business cash flows and cash on the balance sheet and is not contingent on refinancing activities at Chicago Skyway

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Distribution guidance remains subject to continued business performance, movements in foreign exchange rates, and other future events (including refinancing at Chicago Skyway).

### Atlas Arteria CEO Graeme Bevans said:

"Atlas Arteria delivered a solid performance during the period, driven by strong operating conditions in France. Our flagship asset APRR outperformed what was a record H1 2022. We continued to benefit from the high inflationary environment, which is supporting toll increases and earnings, while the high proportion of fixed rate debt across our businesses is providing protection from rising interest rates. These factors, along with favourable movements in exchange rates, have led to H1 2023 distribution guidance of 20.0 cps being fully funded by operating business cash flows and cash on balance sheet with no reliance on capital releases from Chicago Skyway."

"We are pleased to see the French Government and regulator starting to engage on the future of the toll road concession system in France. Recently, both the Finance and Transport Ministers have affirmed their view that the private concession model is the most effective way to operate the French toll road network. It appears likely that future concessions will have a different risk profile and a more regulated return. The SANEF concession is the first to expire in 2031 and discussions will commence in the lead up to expiry. While various reviews are underway, as evidenced in the past and confirmed publicly by Government members, the State intends to respect the concession contracts in place."

"At Chicago Skyway, the transition to a pro-active maintenance approach is on track. Once complete, this will allow us to better monitor and manage the toll road, through detecting the required maintenance early and selecting the right intervention to improve safety, reduce risk, and reduce the overall capex requirements of the business. Our other focus this year is the refinancing of maturing debt along with a regearing at the Chicago Skyway to enable capital releases. We are well progressed on this and expect the first refinancing to be completed in H2 2023. In the short-term capital releases from the refinancings expected to occur in 2023 and 2024 will be used to smooth distributions."

"At Dulles Greenway, we submitted a rate case application for increased tolls with the State Corporation Commission on 11 July. As previously stated, our preferred outcome is to lower tolls for motorists through the implementation of distance-based tolling. However, as the Virginia legislature did not pass facilitating legislation in 2023, we have sought toll escalation pursuant to the current regulatory framework."

"Looking forward we have very clear strategic priorities, and our financial position is strong. We are positively correlated to an inflationary environment, which has translated to significant toll increases and strong earnings during the period. These increases combined with the robust traffic performance support the delivery of long-term value for securityholders."

## Key operational and strategic highlights by business

# APRR Group<sup>2</sup>

- APRR Group traffic increased by 4.6% vs H1 2022 and was 7.0% higher than H1 2019. Pension reform strikes affecting rail and public transport impacted traffic during the half. Traffic numbers also reflect traffic from the 17.5km stretch of the A6 North and from the A79 which commenced tolling in November 2022.
- Excluding A79 traffic and traffic attributable to additional 17km stretch of A6 North, APRR Group traffic increased 2.1% vs H1 2022.
- APRR Group toll revenue up 7.5% to €1,386.5 million (\$2,218.2 million) and EBITDA up 8.3% to €1,117.4 million (\$1,787.6 million).
- Construction completed on the A43-A41 Chambery junction and works commenced on the A6 Chalon Nord on/off ramp upgrade.
- Commenced works on projects under the €410 million Investment Plan signed with the French State in January. The Investment Plan provides additional toll increases at APRR and AREA for 2023 to 2026<sup>3</sup> in return for delivery of motorway upgrades, environmental protection, safety developments and customer service improvements.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> APRR Group includes APRR, AREA and A79 concessions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> APRR and AREA decided that the supplemental toll increases would exceptionally not be applied in 2023.

#### **ADELAC**

- ADELAC traffic increased 7.6% vs H1 2022, reflecting an increase in office-based work driving traffic from cross border commuters as well as strong traffic around weekends. Traffic increased 5.3% vs H1 2019.
- ADELAC toll revenue up 13.1% to €33.4 million (\$53.5 million) and EBITDA up 12.2% to €28.2 million (\$45.1 million).

### Warnow Tunnel

- Traffic increased by 7.2% vs H1 2022 as a result of roadworks on the competing route along Am Strande, increasing time savings for commuters using the Warnow Tunnel. The Am Strande works were originally expected to complete by the end of 2022 but were still ongoing at the end of the period.
- Traffic was down 1.9% compared to H1 2019, a period which experienced significant roadworks on competing routes increasing traffic.
- Toll revenue up 14.3% to €7.0 million (\$11.1 million) and EBITDA up 16.4% to €5.0 million (\$7.9 million).

# Chicago Skyway

- As flagged at the time of acquisition, traffic was negatively impacted by the planned ITR roadworks, albeit, traffic was better than the acquisition business case with traffic down 2.4% vs H1 2022.
- The prior period was also positively impacted by roadworks on the Frank Borman Expressway (I-94) which resulted in elevated traffic on the Skyway. Traffic was 1.7% higher vs H1 2019.
- Toll revenue up 8.6% to US\$59.1 million (\$87.6 million) and EBITDA up 6.8% to US\$50.2 million (\$74.3 million).
- The shift to a pro-active maintenance approach is proceeding to plan with vendors appointed to deliver the asset management system and digital twin.
- Work on optimising the capital structure continued including the refinancing of mature debt along with a regearing to release capital. Refinancing activities are expected to be completed in two tranches across 2023 and 2024.

## **Dulles Greenway**

- Traffic increased by 8.4% vs H1 2022, largely driven by higher weekday traffic, which increased by 9.5%, while weekend traffic was up 4.6% versus the prior corresponding period. Traffic remained 28.4% lower vs H1 2019 in line with the gradual return to office-based work.
- Toll revenue increased 9.5% to US\$35.1 million (\$52.0 million), supported by the increase in weekday traffic.
- EBITDA increased 10.5% vs H1 2022 to US\$28.0 million (\$41.5 million).
- On 11 July submitted a rate case application to the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC) seeking approval for an increase in the maximum level of tolls for the Dulles Greenway. There is no statutory deadline for a decision from the SCC. However, past rate case decisions have typically been received between 12-18 months after initial filing request. The hearing date has been set for January 2024.
- Hosted the third Run the Greenway fun run event in May with c. 2,000 runners raising over US\$268,000 for local charities.

# Sustainability

During the period, Atlas Arteria continued to make good progress across its sustainability priorities: safety, our people, customers and community and environmental stewardship. The Company's STEER<sup>4</sup> principles were recently refreshed, ensuring they remain relevant and meaningful, and work continues with employees to address feedback received through surveys.

Testing of two major safety innovations continue at APRR, including the use of robotic equipment to perform tasks associated with higher injury risk when working on motorways. Renewable electricity options are being pursued at businesses and corporate headquarters alongside initiatives to reduce energy use. Work at Chicago

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Safety is at our heart, Transparency in all we do, Engage for better outcomes, Environmentally and socially responsible and Respect in every interaction.

Skyway to align the business's approach to sustainability has also commenced, with an initial focus on improving insight into, and management over, greenhouse gas emissions.

In April 2023, Atlas Arteria delivered its second standalone Sustainability Report. Following significant progress made during 2022 to identify and assess climate related risks and opportunities, this Report was Atlas Arteria's first to align with the four pillars of the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures recommendations.

The Company published its third Modern Slavery Statement in June 2023 with the Report taking a more holistic approach to assess the risk of modern slavery practices in the Group's operations and supply chains.

#### **Distribution Guidance**

Atlas Arteria is pleased to reaffirm distribution guidance for H1 2023 and H2 2023.

Distribution guidance of 20.0 cents per security for H1 2023 will be fully funded by operating business cash flows and cash on the balance sheet and is not contingent on refinancing activities at Chicago Skyway. Atlas Arteria has hedged the upcoming APRR distribution to mitigate FX risk.

Distribution guidance of 20.0 cents per security for H2 2023, in line with 2023 distribution guidance of 40.0 cents per security, remains subject to refinancing activities at Chicago Skyway where Atlas Arteria expects to receive capital releases, which in the short-term will be used to smooth distributions.

All distribution guidance is subject to continued business performance, movements in foreign exchange rates, and other future events.

## **Investor Conference Call Details**

A briefing for analysts and investors will be held today by Graeme Bevans (CEO) and David Collins (CFO) at 10.30am Australian Eastern Standard Time. The briefing will be via a live audio webcast and accessible from the Atlas Arteria website: www.atlasarteria.com/investor-centre.

To participate and ask questions in the briefing, pre-registration is required via the following <u>link</u>. Registered participants will receive a calendar invite, dial-in details and a unique code which is to be quoted when dialing into the call.

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# For further information please contact:

# **Investors:**

Chloe Heazlewood Acting Director, Investor Relations +61 (0) 438 493 692

cheazlewood@atlasarteria.com

# Media:

Lisa Keenan Nightingale Advisors +61 (0) 409 150 771

lisa@nightingaleadvisors.com.au

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Boards of Atlas Arteria Limited and Atlas Arteria International Limited.

## **About Atlas Arteria**

Atlas Arteria (ASX:ALX) is a global owner, operator and developer of toll roads, creating value for our investors over the long-term through considered and disciplined management. The roads we own, operate and develop benefit communities through reduced travel time, greater time certainty, reduced fuel consumption and carbon emissions.

Today the Atlas Arteria Group consists of five businesses. We currently own a 31.14% interest in the APRR toll road group in France. Adjacent to the APRR business is the smaller ADELAC business which connects to APRR in south-east France. Together APRR and ADELAC comprise a 2,424km motorway network located in the East and South East of France. In the US, we own a 66.67% interest in the Chicago Skyway, a 12.5km toll road in Chicago and have 100% of the economic interest in the Dulles Greenway, a 22km toll road in the Commonwealth of Virginia. In Germany, we own 100% of the Warnow Tunnel in the north-east city of Rostock.

## www.atlasarteria.com

## **Important Notice:**

Investors should note that neither of the Atlas Arteria entities has been, or will be, registered under the U.S. Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "U.S. Investment Company Act"), in reliance on the exception in Section 3(c)(7) from the definition of "investment company". Accordingly, Atlas Arteria securities cannot be held at any time by, or for the account or benefit of, any "U.S. person" (as defined in Rule 902(k) under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933) ("U.S. Person") that is not a "qualified purchaser" (as defined in section 2(a)(51) of the U.S. Investment Company Act and the rules and regulations thereunder) ("Qualified Purchaser" or "QP") at the time of their acquisition. Any U.S. Person that is not a Qualified Purchaser, or any investor acting for the account or benefit of any U.S. Person that is not a Qualified Purchaser, is an "Excluded U.S. Person" and may not hold Atlas Arteria securities.

For further details of ownership restrictions that apply to residents of the United States and other U.S. Persons that are not Qualified Purchasers, please see our website.

https://atlasarteria.com/stores/\_sharedfiles/US\_Ownership/AtlasArteria-USownershiprestrictions.pdf

# **Review of H1 2023 Operations**

# **Summary Financial Performance**

	H1 2023	H1 2022	H1 2023 vs H1 2022 (%)	H1 2019	H1 2023 vs H1 2019 (%)
Atlas Arteria Key Financial Metrics (A\$m)					
Net Profit after tax – Statutory	136.5	117.1	16.6%	(87.6)	255.8%
Net Profit after tax – Underlying <sup>5</sup>	136.5	117.1	16.6%	88.2	54.8%
Net Corporate Cashflows	228.6	194.5	17.5%	94.7	141.3%
Distributions	290.2	196.6	47.6%	102.5	183.1%
Distribution paid per share (dps)	20.0	20.5	(2.4%)	15.0	33.3%
Closing Corporate Cash Balance	105.3	131.7	(20.0%)	79.6	32.3%
Key Financial Metrics by business unit					
APRR Group <sup>6</sup> (€m)		1			_
Total Traffic (VKT millions)	12,375	11,828	4.6%	11,562	7.0%
Toll Revenue	1,386.5	1,289.6	7.5%	1,215.0	14.1%
EBITDA	1,117.4	1,031.5	8.3%	955.3	17.0%
EBITDA margin excl. construction services (%)	76.8%	76.5%	0.3%	76.4%	0.5%
NPAT	568.0	534.9	6.2%	447.8	26.9%
Total Liquidity	3,082.2	2,951.0	4.4%	2,805.7	9.9%
ADELAC (€m)					
Total Traffic (m)	5.59	5.20	7.6%	5.31	5.3%
Toll Revenue	33.4	29.6	13.1%	27.9	19.8%
EBITDA	28.2	25.1	12.2%	23.1	22.0%
EBITDA margin (%)	83.9%	84.6%	(0.7%)	82.6%	1.3%
Warnow Tunnel (€m)					
Total Traffic (m)	2.30	2.15	7.2%	2.35	(1.9%)
Toll Revenue	7.0	6.1	14.3%	6.3	9.8%
EBITDA	5.0	4.3	16.4%	4.9	0.1%
EBITDA margin (%)	70.8%	69.5%	1.3%	77.7%	(6.9%)
Total Liquidity	8.0	10.6	(24.5%)	4.6	74.1%
Chicago Skyway (US\$m)					
Total Traffic (m)	6.17	6.32	(2.4%)	6.07	1.6%
Toll Revenue	59.1	54.5	8.6%	43.9	34.8%
EBITDA	50.2	47.0	6.8%	36.9	36.0%
EBITDA margin (%)	84.8%	86.2%	(1.4%)	84.1%	0.8%
Total Liquidity	59.1	65.2	(9.4%)	75.9	(22.1%)
Dulles Greenway (US\$m)					
Total Traffic (m)	6.37	5.87	8.4%	8.90	(28.4%)
Toll Revenue	35.1	32.1	9.5%	44.2	(20.6%)
EBITDA	28.0	25.4	10.5%	36.3	(22.7%)
EBITDA margin (%)	79.4%	78.7%	0.7%	81.7%	(2.4%)
Total Liquidity	170.7	178.7	(4.5%)	183.1	(6.8%)

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 $^{\rm 5}$  Excludes items that are not related to underlying operational performance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Includes the A79 concession which began tolling on 4 November 2022.