



Benchmark<sup>®</sup>

# **LEADING PROVIDER OF AQUACULTURE SOLUTIONS**

January 2019



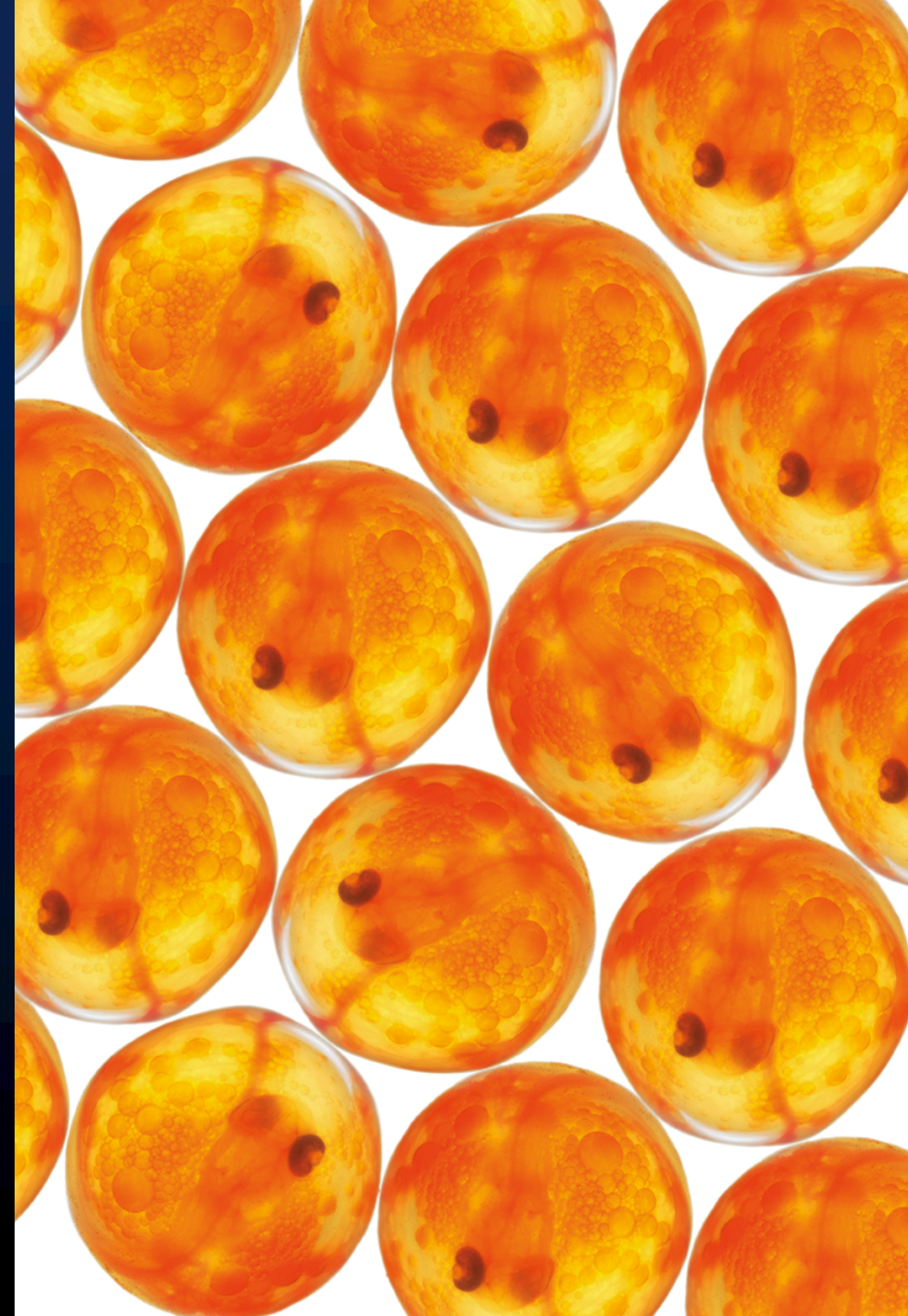


# DRIVING SUSTAINABILITY IN FOOD PRODUCTION

Our mission is to enable food producers to improve their sustainability and profitability

We bring together biology and technology to develop innovative products which improve yield, quality and animal health and welfare for our customers

We aim to be aquaculture's leading provider of solutions in genetics, health and specialist nutrition





# 2018: GROWTH IN REVENUES AND UNDERLYING PROFITS, AND STRENGTHENING DELIVERY

Group  
Revenue

**£151.5m**

**+13%**

Constant currency<sup>2</sup>

2017: £140.2m

Adjusted  
EBITDA<sup>1</sup>

**£17.0m**

**+86%**

Constant currency

2017: £10.1m

**99%+**

**Efficacy**

in commercial  
scale trials of next  
generation sea lice  
treatment

Successful trials of  
**Disease  
Resistant Shrimp**

Showing  
significantly higher  
survival rates

**Capacity  
for Growth**

- JV with AquaChile
- First production  
at new facility  
in Norway

**Strengthened  
team to drive  
integration**

Chief Scientific  
Officer

Group Marketing  
Director

**Six new products  
launched**

4 Advanced Nutrition  
2 Genetics

**Excellent  
customer take-up**

**Industry  
Leadership**

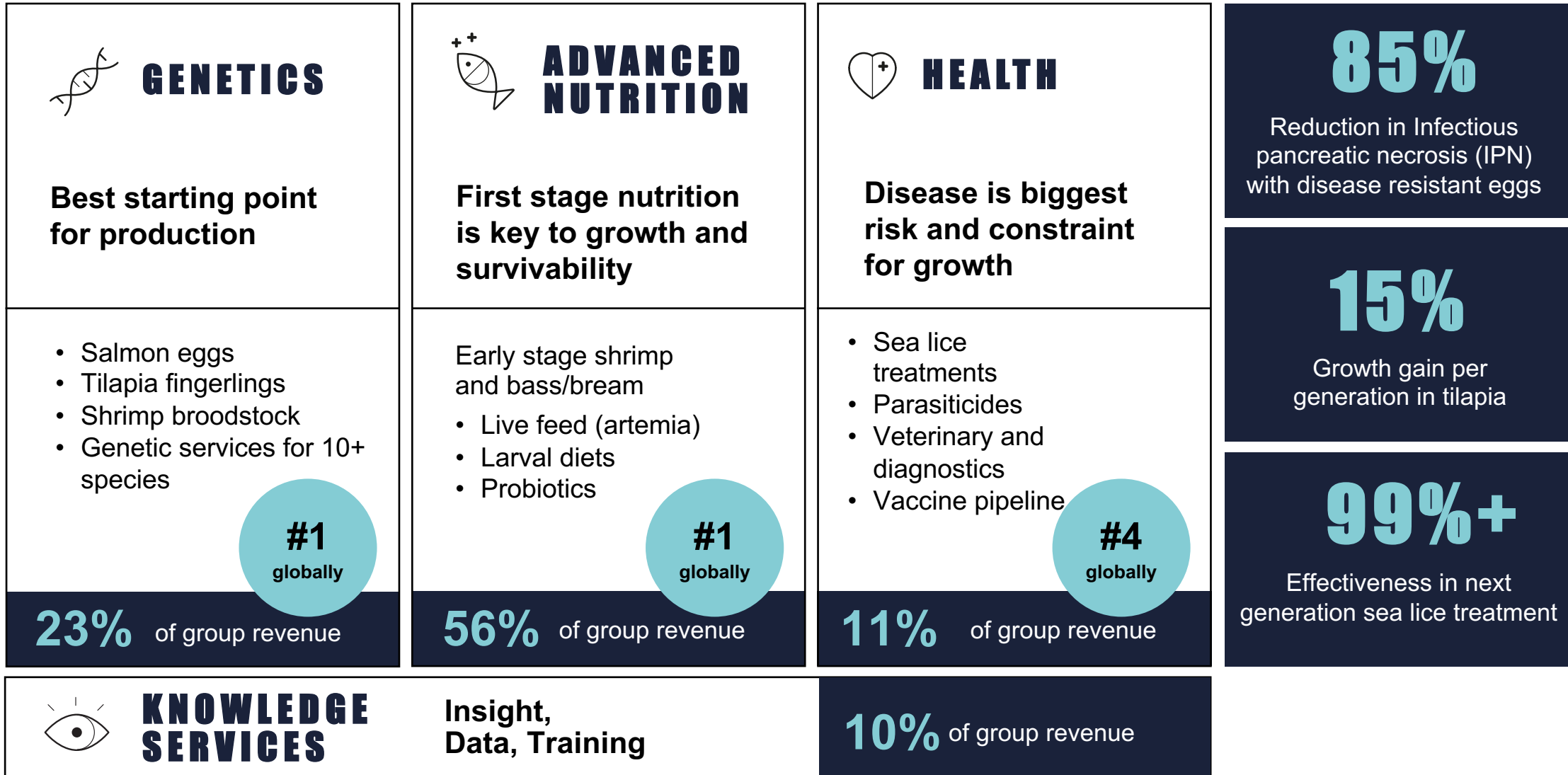
Chinese Shrimp  
Alliance Founding  
member

Sustainability and  
manufacturing  
excellence awards



# THREE CRITICAL COMPONENTS IN PRODUCTION CYCLE

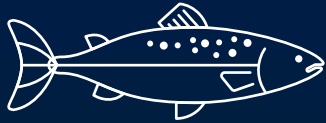
Complementary and synergistic







# INVESTMENT SUMMARY



Aquaculture is **growing faster** than any other animal protein production and **our markets are growing at least at twice that rate**



With **#1** market positions, cutting edge technology, a focused strategy and an experienced team, we are uniquely positioned to deliver on this opportunity



Investment for organic growth complete, our operational leverage will translate into higher margins and shareholder returns



**Good momentum** — Strong results and progress in 2018 and a positive outlook ahead



# OUR SECTORS ARE GROWING FASTER THAN THE MARKET

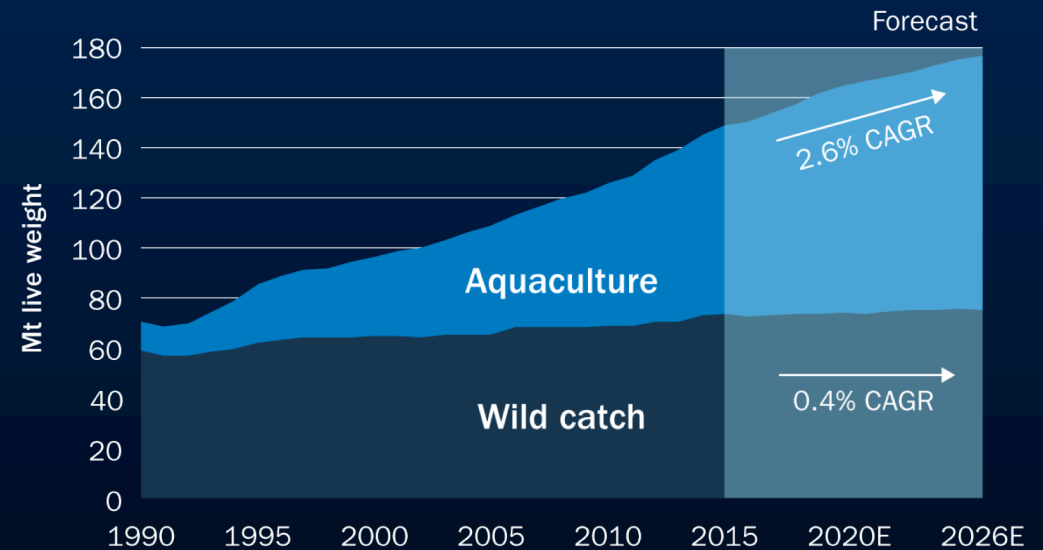
## Aquaculture's long term growth

- Achieving progress that in other food proteins took generations
- Rising fish consumption and capped wild catch fisheries
- Lowest animal protein carbon footprint

## Benchmark's products grow at 2x+ industry – why?

1. Industry requires technology to meet demand growth and regulatory constraints, while improving productivity
2. Our genetics, health and advanced nutrition solutions can materially improve productivity by enhancing yield and managing disease
3. Our unique approach combining genetics, health and nutrition into tailored solutions creates additional benefits and promotes sustainability

## Aquaculture overtaken wild catch and growing at c£2bn p.a.



Source: United Nations, OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2017-2026

1990 1995 2000 2005 2010 2015 2020E 2026E

Source: United Nations, OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2017-2026





# FOCUSED STRATEGY FOR SHAREHOLDER VALUE

1

## Grow in established markets from existing capacity

- New salmon egg facility in Norway increases capacity by 75% — £12m EBITDA at full capacity
- AquaChile JV accelerates entry of world's 2nd largest salmon market –£4m EBITDA at full capacity
- Organic expansion of Advanced Nutrition into farm segment – target to triple in 5 years

2

## Commercial delivery of pipeline products

- New sea lice treatment/CleanTreat addresses biggest disease challenge – £45m estimated peak sales
- Seabass/bream and salmon vaccines – £70m combined estimated peak sales
- Establish development and commercial partners for non-aquaculture products

3

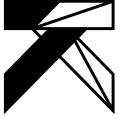
## Focused investment in markets that leverage Group platform

- Disease resistant shrimp – £50m estimated peak sales
- Probiotics – technology transfer across species
- Strategically position Benchmark in areas of future growth

4

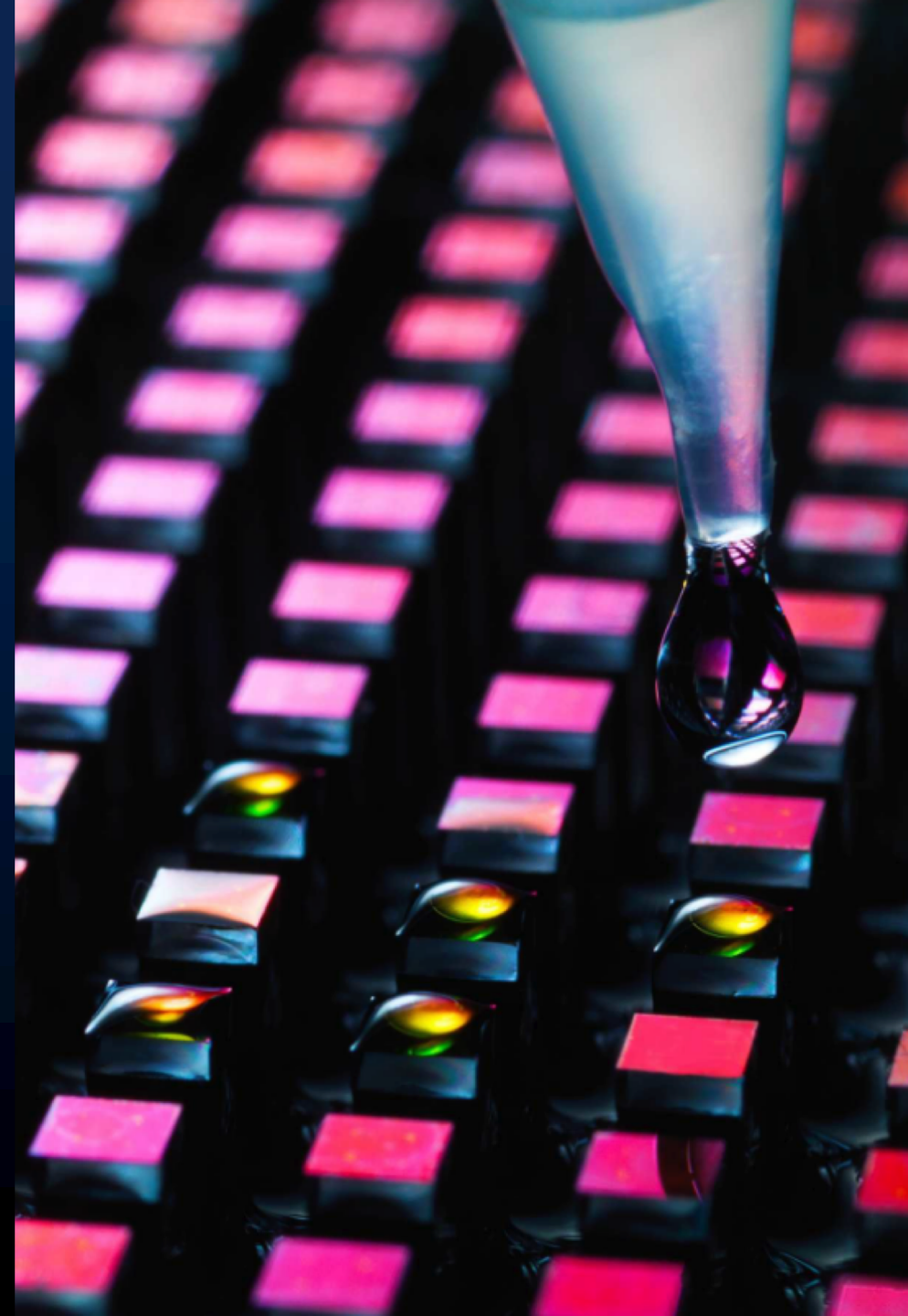
## Integration and efficiency

- Focussing on aquaculture
- Divestment of certain non-core activities and KS alignment
- Ongoing programme working on integration and cost efficiencies



# **INTRODUCTION TO ALEX RAEER**

**Chief Scientific Officer**



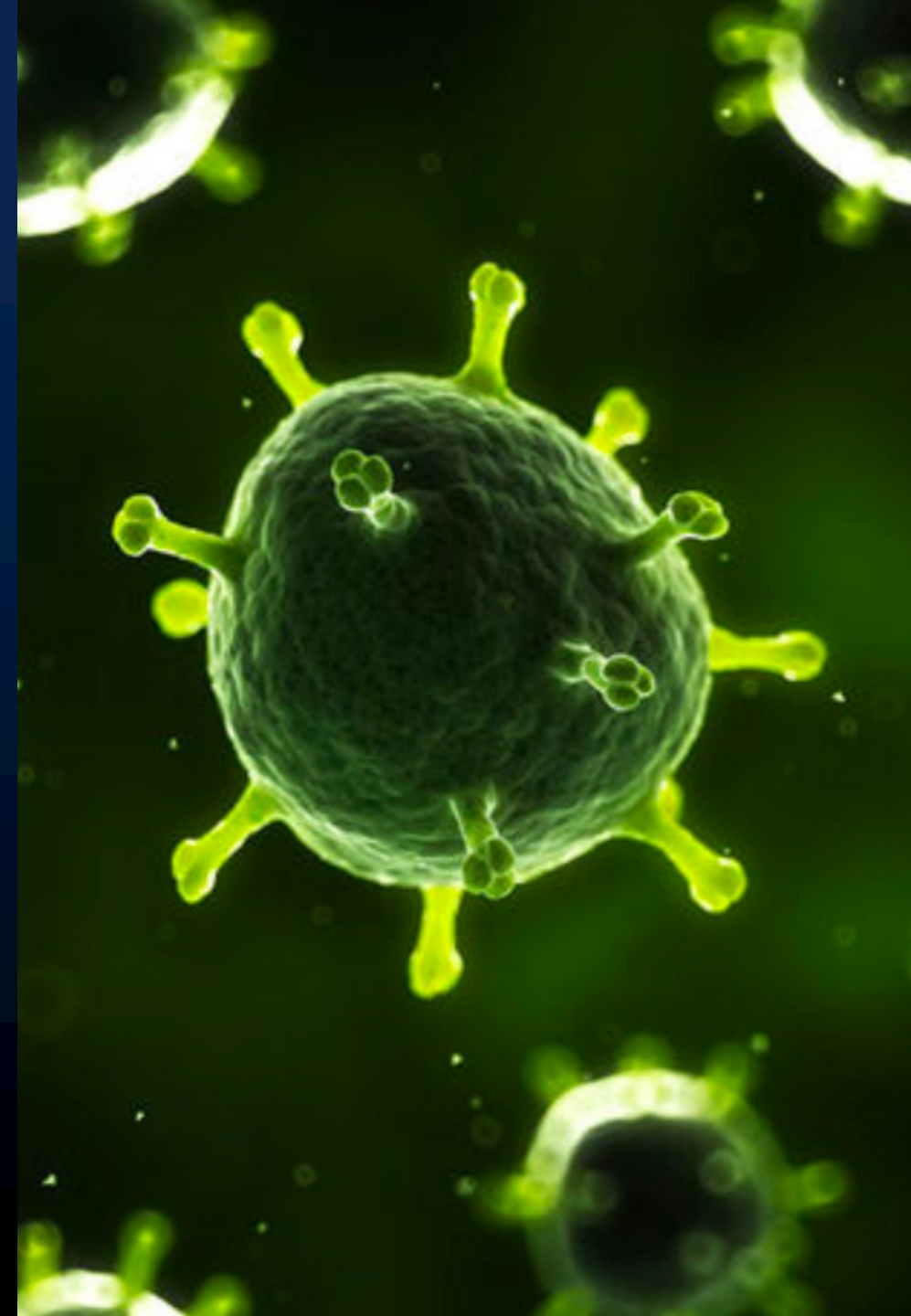




# BENCHMARK'S INNOVATION PLATFORM

- **Groupwide innovation leadership team formed**
  - Top scientists leading each technology area with an average 20+ years experience each
  - Identifying opportunities for R&D synergies and efficiencies
  - Focused in local market capabilities and expertise
- **Pipeline of products addressing main challenges — mature and early stage**
  - Unique platform technologies with exciting application potential — i.e. Genomic tools, VLP vaccines
  - Continue to identify exciting and innovative ideas through University and industry relationships

With opportunity for further synergies and efficiencies





# INNOVATION TRANSLATES INTO ROBUST IP AND KNOW-HOW

## Strong patent portfolio

- 240 patents, 28 families
- Well balanced – granted patents (44%) and applications (56%) to support growth
- Actively identify and source external rights to strengthen portfolio

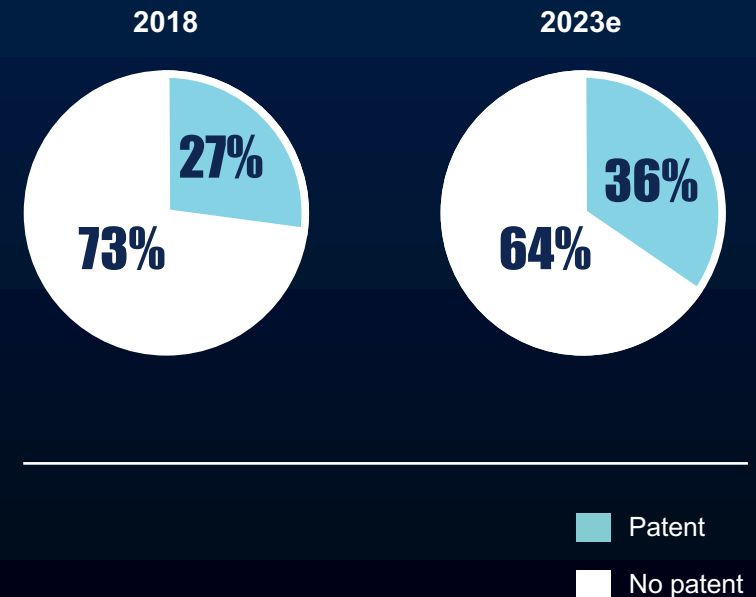
## Know-how complements patents

- In addition to IP protection, manufacturing know-how creates significant barrier to entry

## Focus on IP protection

- Successfully prosecuted infringement in Asia of Artemia technology
- Revoked a competitor's European patent in diagnostics

## Patent coverage (% of revenues)







# CORE OPPORTUNITIES HAVE POTENTIAL TO DOUBLE GROUP REVENUES

	Est. Peak Sales	Risk Weighted	2019 Milestone
Next generation sea lice treatment	£45m	£36m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue trials and progress to MA</li></ul>
Shrimp Genetics	£50m	£30m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commercial scale trials</li><li>• Prepare market launch</li></ul>
Sea bass/bream vaccines	£31m	£16m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Field trials for combined vaccines</li></ul>
Salmon vaccines	£52m	£26m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ongoing development</li></ul>
Total	£178m	£108m	



# NEXT GENERATION SEA LICE TREATMENT — 99%+ EFFICACY

## CleanTreat®

- **99%+ efficacy** including in populations resistant to other medicines
- **No detectable medicine discharged**
- **Excellent fish welfare**

### Roll-out update

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| <b>2009</b> | • Programme launch   |
| <b>2014</b> | • Proof of concept   |
| <b>2016</b> | • CleanTreat – proof of concept  |
| <b>2018</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Successful commercial scale trials</li><li>• Optimisation of CleanTreat system</li><li>• Regulatory process ongoing in 2 new markets</li></ul> |
| <b>2019</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commence trials in one new market</li><li>• Regulatory process commenced in two further markets</li></ul>                                      |
| <b>2020</b> | • Marketing approval expected  |





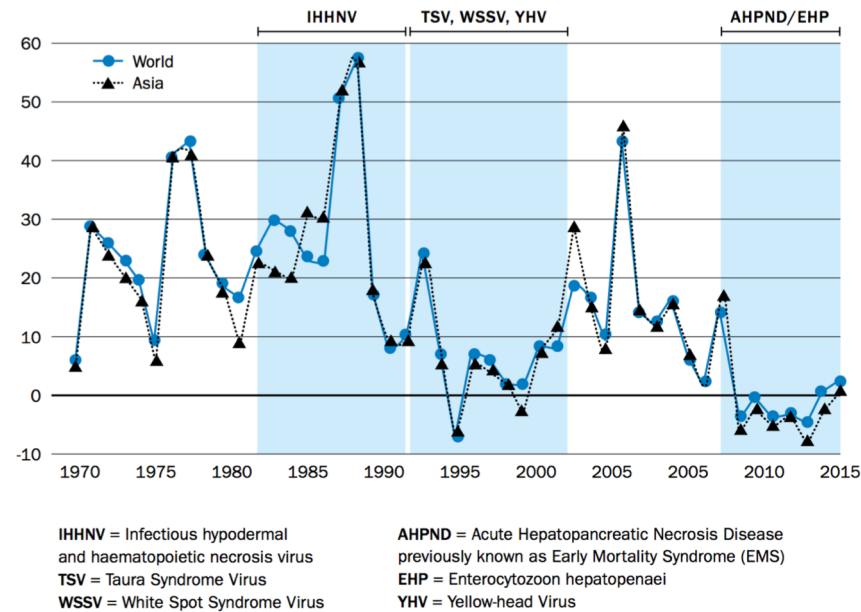
# BENCHMARK SHRIMP GENETICS ADDRESS DISEASE CHALLENGE

- Disease resistant shrimp breeding programme with 20+ years of development acquired in 2016 for \$2m; \$4m invested since
- Leverages Group experience in genetics and leading presence in shrimp hatcheries
- Roll-out strategy
  - Moving from LatAm into key Asian markets adapting genetics to local markets
  - JV strategy to accelerate commercialisation and mitigate risk
  - First multiplier commissioned in Florida

## \$45bn

Lost to shrimp diseases over the last decade in Asia alone

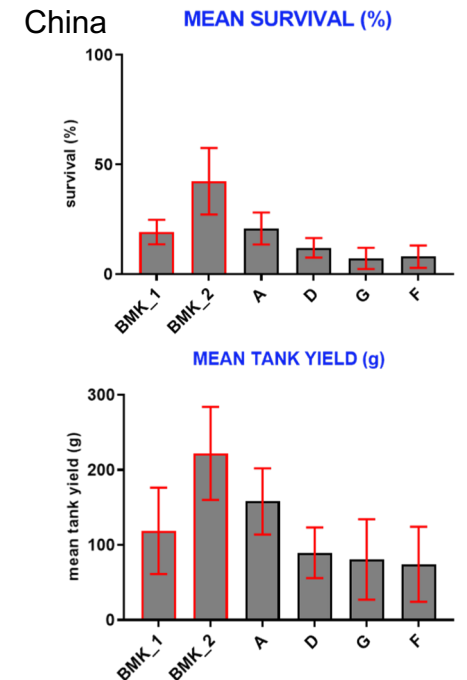
YoY change in growth of shrimp production  
Impact of episodes of disease



## £50m

Estimated peak sales

Excellent results in field trials in Asia



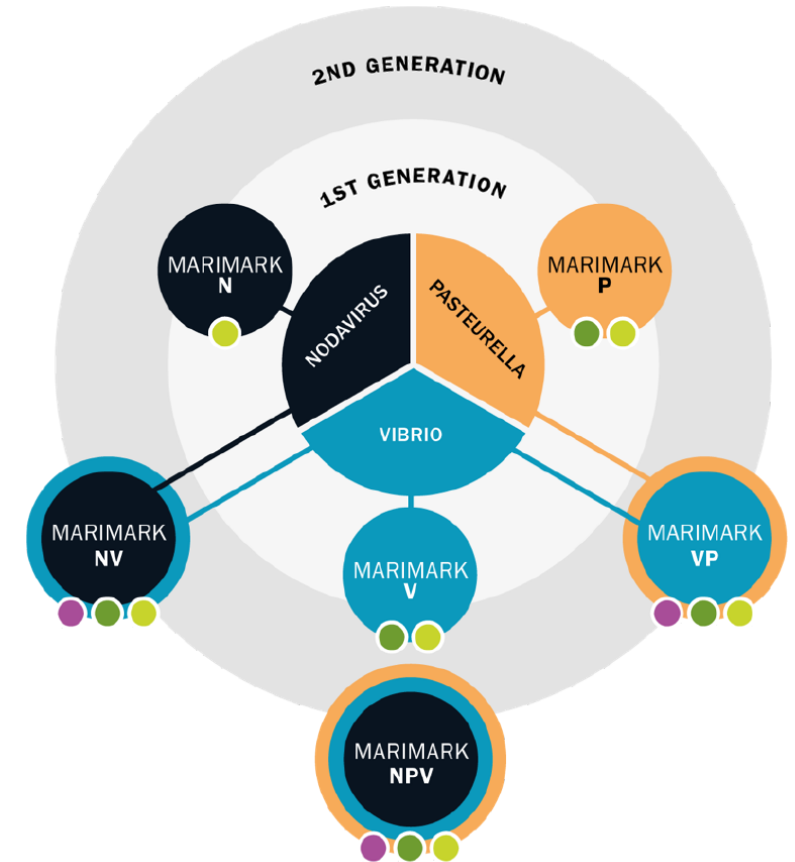


# SEA BASS/BREAM VACCINE PORTFOLIO

- Strategy to build a portfolio of combined vaccines tackling main diseases
- Opportunity to leverage established position in sea bass/bream hatcheries
- Scope to extend technology to other species
- Benchmark's innovation
  - High efficacy in 2018 trials
  - Oral vaccines

## Delivery methods

NURSERY → HATCHERY → GROW-OUT →



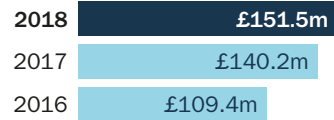


# 2018 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

## Revenue

**£151.5m**

+8% (+13% constant currency<sup>3</sup>)



## Gross margin

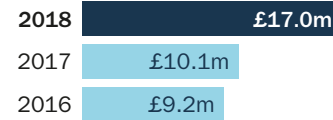
**49%**



## Adjusted EBITDA<sup>1</sup>

**£17.0m**

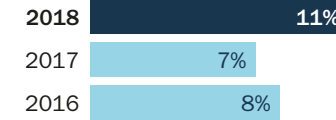
+68% (+86% constant currency)



## Adjusted EBITDA margin

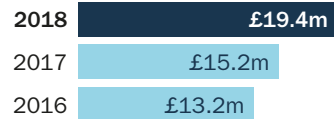
**11%**

25% Advanced Nutrition  
22% Genetics



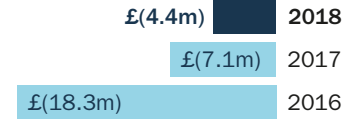
## Total invested in R&D (expensed and capitalised)

**£19.4m**



## Net loss after tax

**£(4.4m)**



## Net debt

**£55.7m**

2017: £23.9m

## 2018 Adjusted PBT:

**£5.6m**

2017: £4.7m

## Adjusted operating profit<sup>2</sup>

**£10.2m**

2017: £5.2m

## 2018 Capex Investment:

**£32.7m**

2017: £35.2m

- (1) Adjusted EBITDA which reflects underlying profitability, is earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, amortisation, impairment, exceptional items and acquisition related expenditure
- (2) Adjusted Operating Profit is operating loss before exceptional items including acquisition related items and amortisation of intangible assets excluding development costs
- (3) Constant Currency reflects the movement after retranslating 2018 figures using the same foreign exchange rates experienced in 2017.



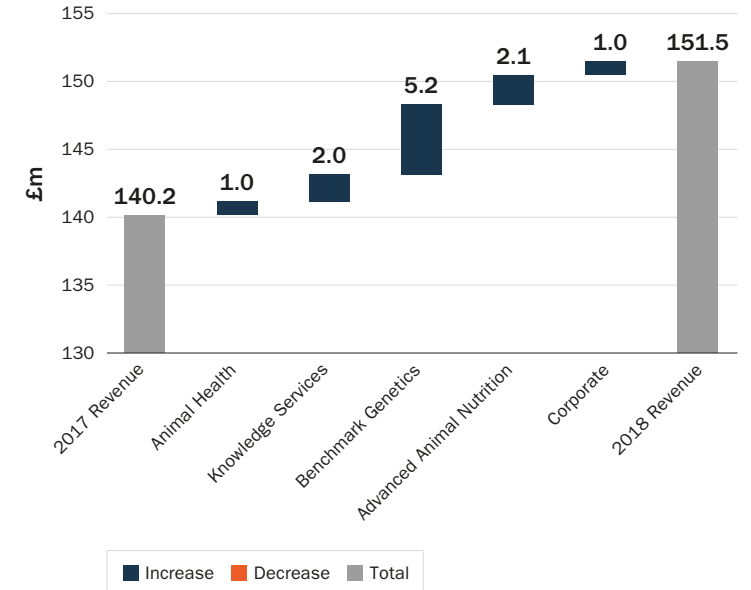


# REVENUE GROWTH ACROSS ALL DIVISIONS

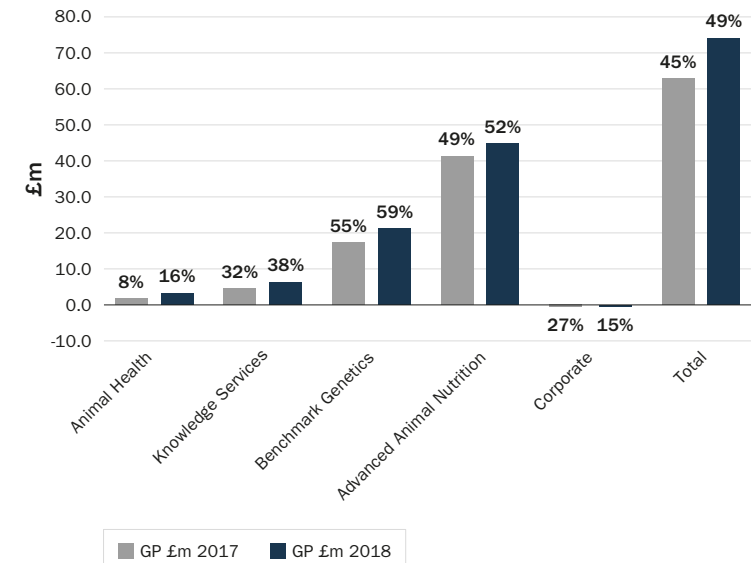
## 13% Revenue increase in constant currency

- **Genetics +17% (+21% constant currency<sup>1</sup>)**
  - New products launched
  - Growing demand for salmon eggs with superior genetic profile
- **Advanced Nutrition +3% (+9% constant currency)**
  - Increasing demand for higher value, specialist replacement diets and health products
- **Health +7%**
  - First successful trials for next generation sea lice treatment
  - Underlying sales of mature sea lice treatment up

Group Revenue by Division



Gross Profit



(1) Constant Currency reflects the movement after retranslating 2018 figures using the same foreign exchange rates experienced in 2017.



# OPERATING COSTS AND R&D INVESTMENT

## Operating Expenses as % of sales stable at 29%

- Readying commercial and product support teams for product launches
- Key hires and strengthened plc board
- 2018 bonuses reflect improved performance
- Legal costs from successfully prosecuting patent infringement

## Total R&D Investment as % of sales increased to 13%

- Total investment in R&D increased 28%
  - Health +37% - focus on products in final stage of development means less expensed and more capitalised R&D
  - Genetics +33% - driving leadership with genomic tools

### Operating costs as % of revenue

2018	29.4%	£44.6m
2017	28.0%	£39.3m

### Investment in R&D as a % of sales

2018	12.8%	£19.4m
2017	10.8%	£15.2m

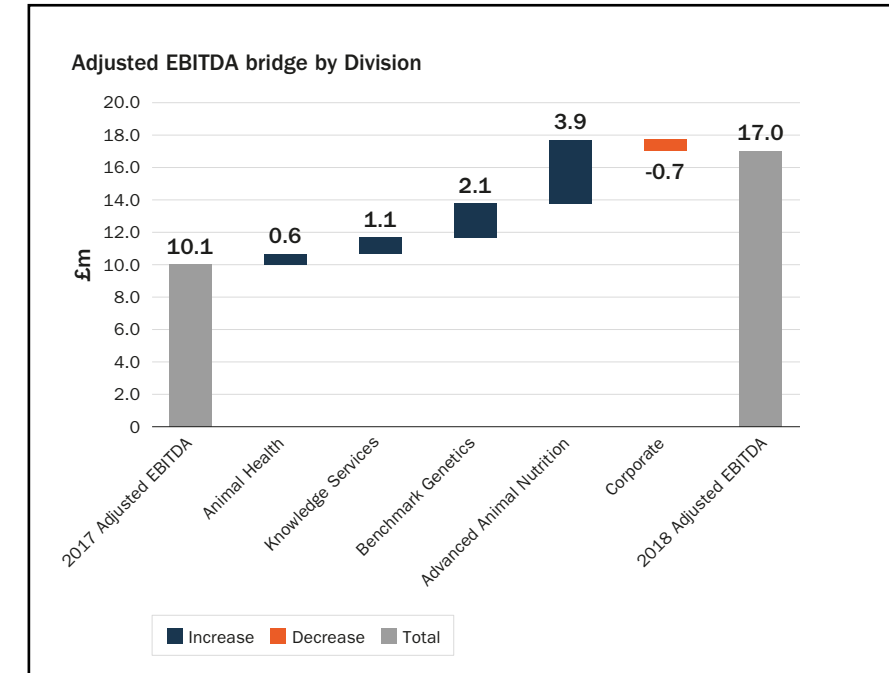
Ongoing programme to  
drive cost efficiencies



# ADJ. EBITDA – GROWTH AND MARGIN PROGRESSION

## Adjusted EBITDA<sup>1</sup> up 67% (+86% constant currency)

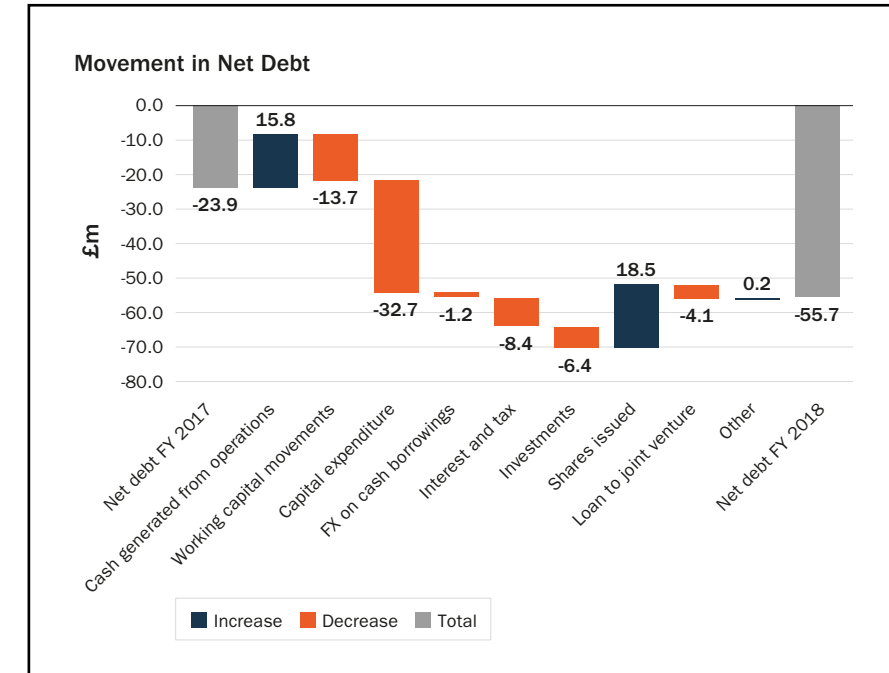
- Group Adjusted EBITDA margin 11% (2017: 7%)
  - Genetics 22% (2017: 19%)
  - Advanced Nutrition 25% (2017: 21%)
  - Health loss narrowed
    - progress towards product launches
    - assisted by lower expensed R&D
  - Knowledge Services moved into profitability





# CASH FLOW GENERATION AND MOVEMENT IN NET DEBT

- **Net debt increased to fund investments**
- FCF outflow of £36.1m resulting from:
  - £28m completion of investment capex
  - Increase in working capital:
    - One offs to secure key suppliers and customers
    - Overall growth in trading activity and margin improvement
- Year end bank covenants: leverage 2.7x v's 3.25x threshold; interest cover 8.3x v's 4.0x
- Post year end debt facility extended by £16m and leverage covenant relaxed
- Cash balances and enlarged facility provide funding for further growth and additional headroom







# GUIDANCE AND OUTLOOK

Double digit organic growth – good growth across all divisions

- Peak sales from four core new product opportunities have potential to double revenues
- Mid-twenties Adjusted EBITDA margin achievable by 2021
  - Operational leverage – EBITDA CAGR significantly ahead of revenue CAGR over next five years
- Opportunity for further integration benefits and cost savings
- Operational leverage translates into stronger cash flow generation and deleveraging

- Drivers remain strong
- Trading ahead of the same period last year
- Confident of delivering in line with expectations for the full year





# APPENDIX





# DISCLAIMER

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

This presentation has been prepared by Benchmark Holdings plc (the "**Company**") in connection with the Final Results on 24 January 2019.

This presentation does not constitute a prospectus or an admission document relating to the Company, nor does it constitute or form part of any offer or invitation to purchase, sell or subscribe for, or any solicitation of any such offer to purchase, sell or subscribe for, any securities in the Company nor shall this presentation or any part of it, or the fact of its distribution, form the basis of, or be relied on in connection with, any contract for the same.

No reliance may be placed, for any purposes whatsoever, on the information contained in this presentation or on its completeness. No representation or warranty, express or implied, is given by or on behalf of the Company, Numis Securities Limited ("**Numis**") or any of their respective directors, partners, officers, employees, advisers or any other persons as to the accuracy, fairness or sufficiency of the information or opinions contained in this presentation and none of the information contained in this presentation has been independently verified by any person, including Numis. Save in the case of fraud, no liability is accepted for any errors, omissions or inaccuracies in such information or opinions.

This presentation is being made only in the United Kingdom and is directed only at (i) persons having professional experience in matters relating to investments, i.e. investment professionals within the meaning of Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the "**FPO**"), (ii) persons in the business of disseminating information within the meaning of Article 47 of the FPO and (iii) high net-worth companies, unincorporated associations and other bodies within the meaning of Article 49 of the FPO and (iv) persons to whom it is otherwise lawful to make the presentation. The investment or investment activity to which this presentation relates is available only to such persons and will be engaged in only with such persons. Persons who fall outside categories (i) - (iii) above must check that they fall within category (iv).

Neither this presentation nor any copy of it may be (i) taken or transmitted into the United States of America, (ii) distributed, directly or indirectly, in the United States of America or to any US person (within the meaning of regulations made under the Securities Act 1933, as amended), (iii) taken or transmitted into or distributed in Canada, Australia, the Republic of Ireland or the Republic of South Africa or to any resident thereof, or (iv) taken or transmitted into or distributed in Japan or to any resident thereof. Any failure to comply with these restrictions may constitute a violation of the securities laws or the laws of any such jurisdiction. The distribution of this document in other jurisdictions may be restricted by law and the persons into whose possession this document comes should inform themselves about, and observe, any such restrictions.

This presentation is confidential and must not be copied, reproduced, published, distributed, disclosed or passed to any other person at any time without the prior written consent of the Company.