



# Chorus Full Year Result, FY13 26 August 2013, Wellington

For 12 months ending  
30 June 2013



# Disclaimer

## Forward-Looking Statements

- > This presentation may contain forward-looking statements regarding future events and the future financial performance of Chorus, including forward looking statements regarding industry trends, strategies, capital expenditure, the construction of the UFB network, credit ratings and future financial and operational performance. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees or predictions of future performance, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are beyond Chorus' control, and which may cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the statements contained in this presentation. No representation, warranty or undertaking, express or implied, is made as to the fairness, accuracy or completeness of the information contained, referred to or reflected in this presentation, or any information provided orally or in writing in connection with it. Please read this presentation in the wider context of material previously published by Chorus and released through the NZX and ASX.
- > Except as required by law or the NZX Main Board and ASX listing rules, Chorus is not under any obligation to update this presentation at any time after its release to you, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

## Not an offer of securities

- > None of the information contained in this presentation constitutes an offer of, or a proposal or an invitation to make an offer of, any security (and, in particular, does not constitute an offer of securities in the United States of America or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons (as defined in Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended)). Distribution of this presentation (including an electronic copy) may be restricted by law and, if you come into possession of it, you should observe any such restrictions. These materials are provided for information purposes only.

## Investment Advice

- > This presentation does not constitute investment advice or a securities recommendation and has not taken into account any particular investor's investment objectives or other circumstances. Investors are encouraged to make an independent assessment of Chorus.

An aerial photograph of a coastal city at sunset. The city is built on a hillside overlooking a large body of water. The sky is a mix of orange and blue, and the water reflects the light. In the foreground, there are residential buildings and a large parking lot. In the middle ground, there is a large marina with many boats. In the background, there are more buildings and hills.

# Mark Ratcliffe

Chorus CEO



# Agenda

Mark Ratcliffe, CEO

- > Full year performance overview
- > Connection trends
- > UFB and RBI programmes

Andrew Carroll, CFO

- > Financial results
- > Capex and UFB cost per premises passed, including FY14 guidance
- > Dividend and Dividend Reinvestment Plan

Mark Ratcliffe, CEO

- > UFB initiatives and regulatory framework
- > FY14 Outlook
- > Q&A

## A good operating result...

- > Net Profit After Tax of **\$171 million**
- > EBITDA of **\$663 million**
- > Revenue of **\$1,057 million**
- > Total fixed line connections stable at **1,784,000**
- > Fibre connections grew 90% to **19,000**
- > **6%** increase in copper broadband connections
- > UFB and RBI programmes ahead of rollout target

## BUT regulatory headwinds and capital expenditure demands remain

- > Ongoing regulatory uncertainty as framework remains misaligned with Government's UFB initiative
  - Copper pricing critical to fund fibre rollout
  - Fibre uptake linked to regulatory price settings
  
- > 64% of revenue spent on capex; driven higher by UFB deployment cost challenges
  - UFB production line taking shape, but not yet 'steady state'
  - Need to achieve further efficiencies in UFB rollout

# Fixed line connections stable

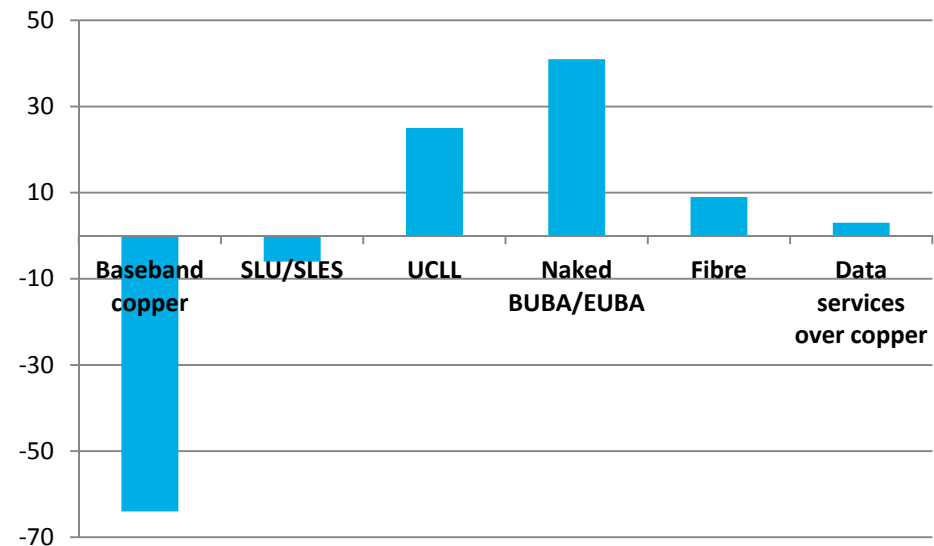
Fixed line connections	30 June 2013	30 June 2012
Baseband copper	1,521,000	1,585,000
UCLL	122,000	97,000
SLU/SLES	6,000	12,000*
Naked Basic/Enhanced UBA and Naked VDSL	91,000	50,000
Data services over copper	25,000	22,000**
Fibre	19,000	10,000
<b>Total fixed line connections</b>	<b>1,784,000</b>	<b>1,776,000</b>

> Connections increased by **8,000** including adjustments for:

- \* **7,000** lines double counted in SLU/SLES at 30 June 2012
- \*\* **7,000** lines omitted from data services over copper at 30 June 2012

> **90%** increase in fibre connections

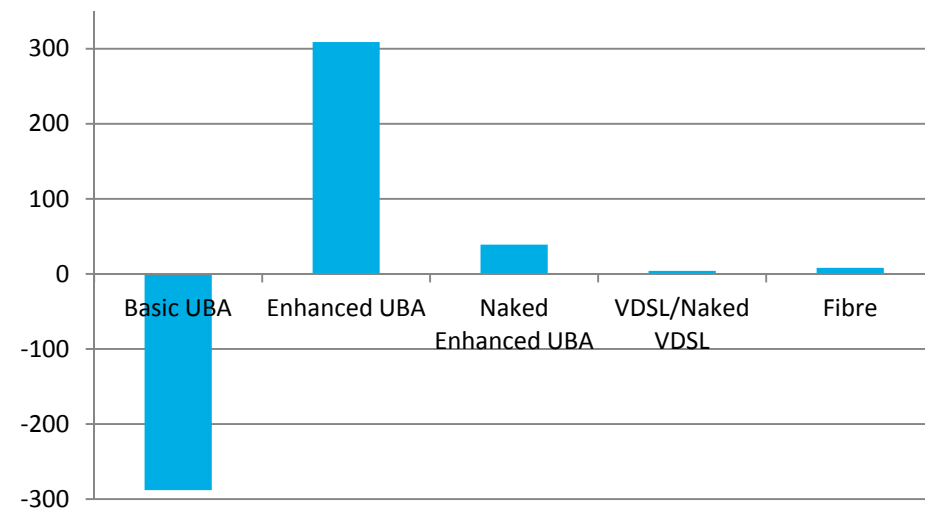
> **82%** growth in 'Naked' connections



# Continuing broadband growth

Broadband connections	30 June 2013	30 June 2012
Basic UBA	331,000	619,000
Naked Basic UBA	11,000	11,000
Enhanced UBA	680,000	371,000
Naked Enhanced UBA	78,000	39,000
VDSL/Naked VDSL	4,000	NM
Fibre (Bitstream 2, 3 and fibre subdivisions)	8,000	NM
<b>Total broadband connections</b>	<b>1,112,000</b>	<b>1,040,000</b>

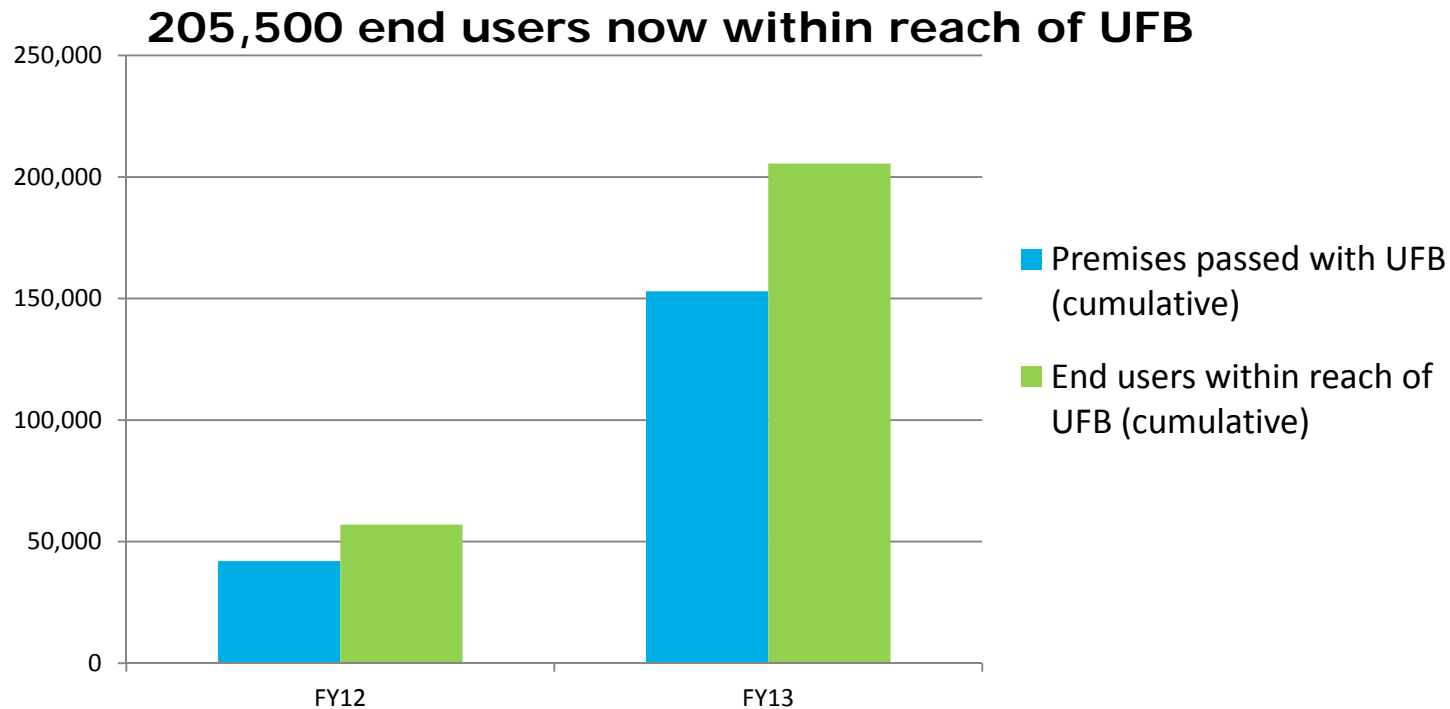
- > 6% growth in copper broadband connections
- > copper lines with Chorus broadband increased from 60% to 63%
- > now including some fibre connections in broadband total





# UFB build ahead of plan

- > **18%** of way through rollout
  - > Build complete for **153,000 premises** (target 149,000)
    - includes **38,000** priority premises: **685 schools**
  - > **105,679** premises tested and paid at 30 June



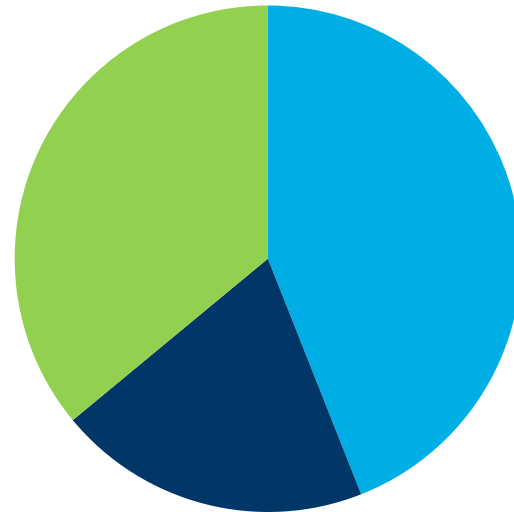
# Rural Broadband rollout

- > 2,150km fibre laid; 779 schools complete
- > 51,200 lines within reach of better broadband

	Complete		To be completed		
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16
<b>Schools</b>	473	306	163	67	1
<b>Hospitals</b>	4	17	16		
<b>Fibre to RBI tower sites</b>	13	40	50	39	12
<b>FTTN cabinets</b>	192	320	306	222	179
<b>Fixed lines served</b>	20,400	30,800	22,100	18,000	10,700
<b>Total \$m</b>	\$59m	\$106m			

# Chorus fibre connections

- > 19,000 fibre connections comprise:
  - **44%** Next Generation Access (includes UFB Bitstream 2 and 3 and education connections) and pre-UFB fibre subdivision end-users. Predominantly residential connections to 30 June.
  - **36%** Bandwidth Fibre and High Speed Network Services/Bitstream 4)
  - **20%** Direct Fibre ('dark fibre')



■ NGA: \$37.50 to \$175 per month

■ Direct Fibre: \$355 per month

■ Bandwidth Fibre and HSNS: \$380 to \$1,355 per month

# Andrew Carroll

Chorus CFO



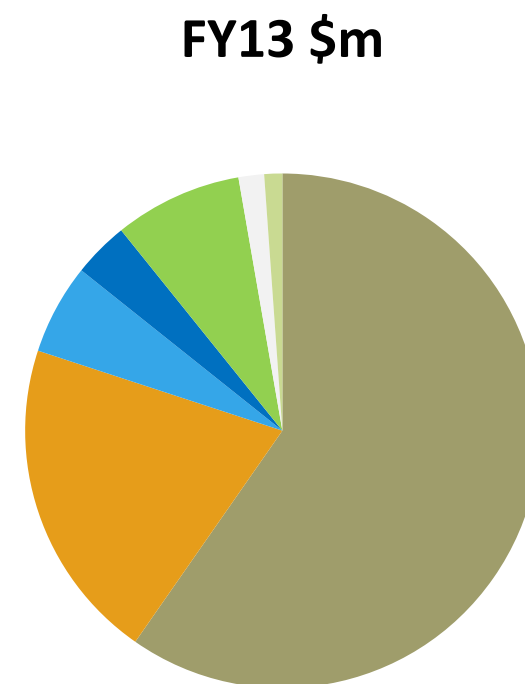
# Income statement

	FY13 \$m
Operating revenue	1,057
Operating expenses	(394)
<b>Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA)</b>	<b>663</b>
Depreciation and amortisation	(319)
Earnings before interest and income tax	344
Net interest expense	(108)
Net earnings before income tax	236
Income tax expense	(65)
Net earnings for the period	\$171m

- > **FY13 normalised EBITDA** **\$654m**
- > **FY12 normalised, annualised EBITDA** **\$646m**

# FY13 Revenue

Revenue category	FY13 \$m	FY13 \$m Normalised	FY12 \$m Normalised, annualised
Basic copper	631	623	665
Enhanced copper	215	215	152
Fibre	60	60	48
Value Added Network Services	37	37	31
Field Services	85	85	81
Infrastructure	17	17	24
Other	12	11	12
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>1,057</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>1,013</b>



- > Basic copper normalised for UCLL pricing reduction and insurance proceeds

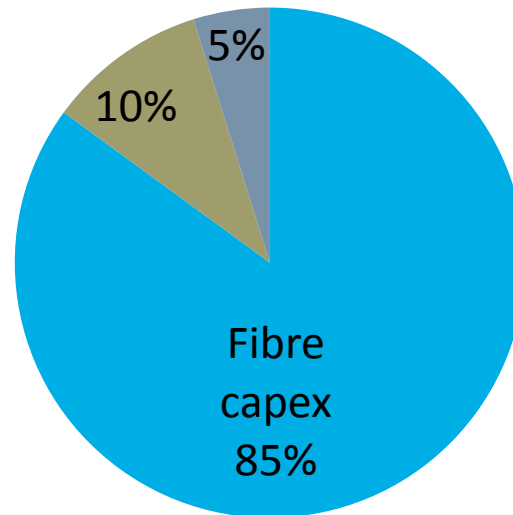
# FY13 Operating expenses

	FY13 \$m	FY12 \$m Annualised
Labour costs	67	53
Provisioning	51	39
Network maintenance	100	89
Other network costs	37	38
Electricity	13	19
Rents, rates and property maintenance	24	24
IT costs	52	51
Consultants	6	9
Insurance	4	5
Other	40	40
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>367</b>

# FY13 gross capex summary

- > **Total capex of \$681m**
- > consistent with H1 guidance of \$640 - \$690m and includes:
  - \$14m additional WIP for FY14 UFB premises
  - \$27m of capex brought forward and \$9m of additional capex that was fully funded

<b>Fibre capex</b>	<b>\$579m</b>
UFB communal	362
UFB connections & fibre layer 2	31
Fibre products & systems	27
Other fibre connections & growth	53
RBI	106



<b>Copper capex</b>	<b>69</b>
Network sustain	33
Copper connections	21
Copper layer 2	8
Product	7

<b>Common capex</b>	<b>33</b>
Information technology	16
Building & engineering services	16
Other	1



# CPPP: within FY13 guidance

- > CPPP on track. H1 FY13 guidance was **\$2,900 to \$3,200** for FY13

Year 1	Year 2
CCPP: <b>\$3,567</b>	CCPP for UFB 'new build' premises: <b>\$3,048</b> Blended CPPP: <b>\$2,935</b> (includes existing Broadband Over Fibre premises and new subdivisions)

- > **FY14 CPPP guidance of \$2,900 to \$3,200**
  - consistent with CPPP trend chart (FY13 H1 result)
  - continuing to see good progress in bringing costs down for majority of areas
  - FY14 contains challenging mix of build areas with ~10% of areas expected to drive much higher than average costs (e.g. Wellington CBD and Auckland CBD, Ponsonby)

# Cost per premises connected (CPPC)

- > Very early days with less than 1% of ultimate UFB footprint connected
- > Programme view: \$900 to \$1,100 (real) average cost to connect standard residential premises; cost expected to be higher in early years of deployment

	Deployment method	Standard Install – Chorus funded up to non standard distance	Non Standard install	
Lead-in	New underground	Up to 15m	15m – 200m	} Chorus \$20m fund
	Existing conduit or open trench	Up to 100m	100m-200m	
	Aerial	1 span	Any additional spans required	
In-home wiring	To ONT	Up to 5m	Over 5m*	

\* Chorus currently installing ONT at point of highest data usage. Incremental in-home wiring ~10% of standard install cost, based on initial data

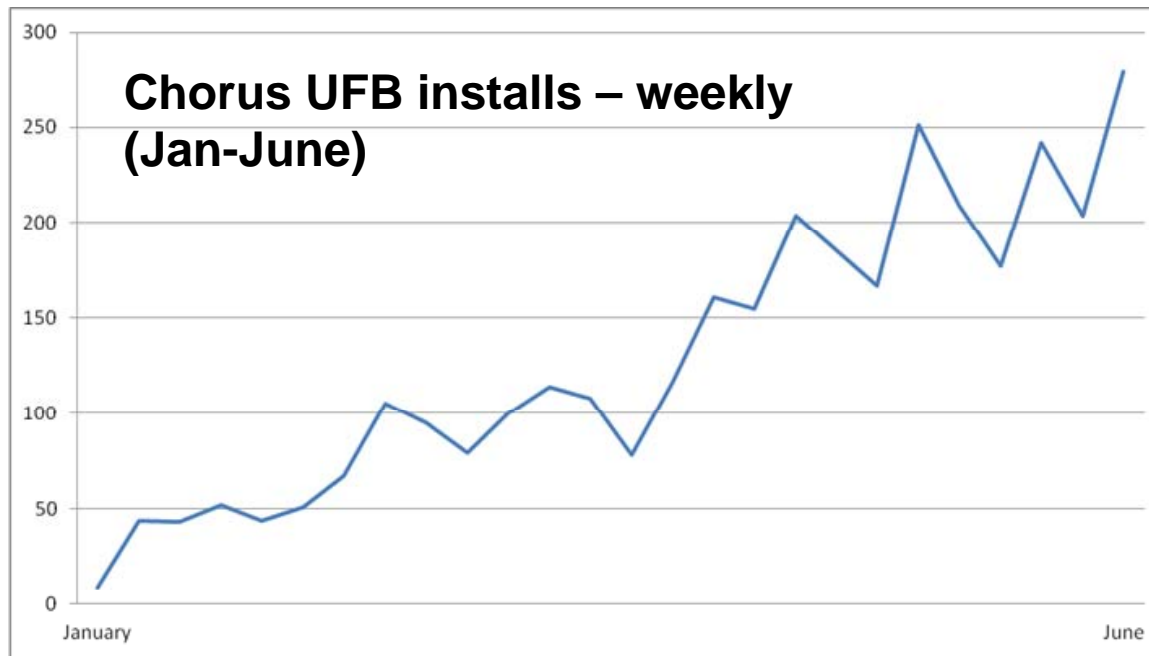
# CPPC: H2 view from Chorus data

- > Indicative sample of connections (January-June):
  - mostly Auckland-based single dwelling units
  - mix of connection types influences costs
  - still developing training, processes with service companies
  - early days for RSP interaction
- > \$100k deducted from Chorus NSI fund to 31 March

	% of installs: Standard	% of installs: Non-standard
<b>Lead-in</b>	86%	14%
<b>In-home wiring</b>	30%	70%
<b>Average cost</b>	\$1,600 (includes all non-standard in-home wiring)	\$650 (incremental cost of external lead-in)
<b>Average time taken</b>	16 hours	19 hours

# CPPC: Early UFB install volumes

- > building workforce capacity ahead of demand
- > efficiency gains challenging while order levels vary
- > order volumes vary widely between UFB areas
- > UFB installs averaging ~200 per week; compared to ~3,500 average for copper broadband



# CPPC: next steps

- > Continuing to build operational capability from 70 crews today
- > Establish longer term commercial agreements for resourcing
- > Develop demand forecasting to ensure efficient resourcing
- > Implement systems and processes to increase productivity
  - new deployment technologies
  - new ordering system in development
  - property pre-qualification tools
  - phased installation: scope > lead-in > in-home wiring
  - separate workstream for large MDUs
- > Improved industry and end-user communication to underpin process and experience

# FY14 capex guidance

	FY14 guidance \$m	FY13 guidance \$m
Copper capex	70 - 75	70 - 75
Common capex	60 - 65	30 - 35
Fibre capex	530 - 550	540 - 590
<b>Gross capex</b>	<b>660 - 690</b>	<b>640 - 690</b>

Note: The individual ranges presented above are not necessarily additive

- > **Copper capex:** consistent with prior period
- > **Common capex:** expected increase reflects separation and other IT spend as per H1 guidance
- > **Fibre capex:** modest reduction expected relative to FY13 with RBI spend expected to halve and total communal spend down, partially offset by growth in connection capex and other fibre growth investment

# Net Debt / EBITDA

- > Debt increased relative to FY12, reflecting negative FCF through period. Leverage ratio expected to increase through build period
  - Key financial covenants require ratio less than 3.75 times
  - Chorus policy not to materially exceed 3.5 times
  - Calculation below reflects Standard & Poor's treatment

	As at 30 June 2013 \$m
Borrowings	1,872
+ PV of CFH debt securities (senior)	15
+ Net Finance leases	120
+ Operating leases	<u>26</u>
Sub total	2,033
- Cash	(80)
<b>Total net debt</b>	<b>1,953</b>
Net debt/EBITDA	2.9 times

# Dividends and DRP

- > FY13 final dividend of 15.5 cents per share, fully imputed
  - Supplementary dividend of 2.7353 cents per share payable to non-resident shareholders
  - Record date: **27 September 2013**
  - Payment date: **11 October 2013**
- > DRP applies for this dividend with 3% discount to the prevailing market price. Shareholders eligible to participate if resident in New Zealand or Australia
- > FY14 dividend guidance is unchanged
- > The Chorus Board will continue to monitor developments and expects to reassess Chorus' optimal capital management settings as the outcomes from the Government's regulatory framework review become clearer

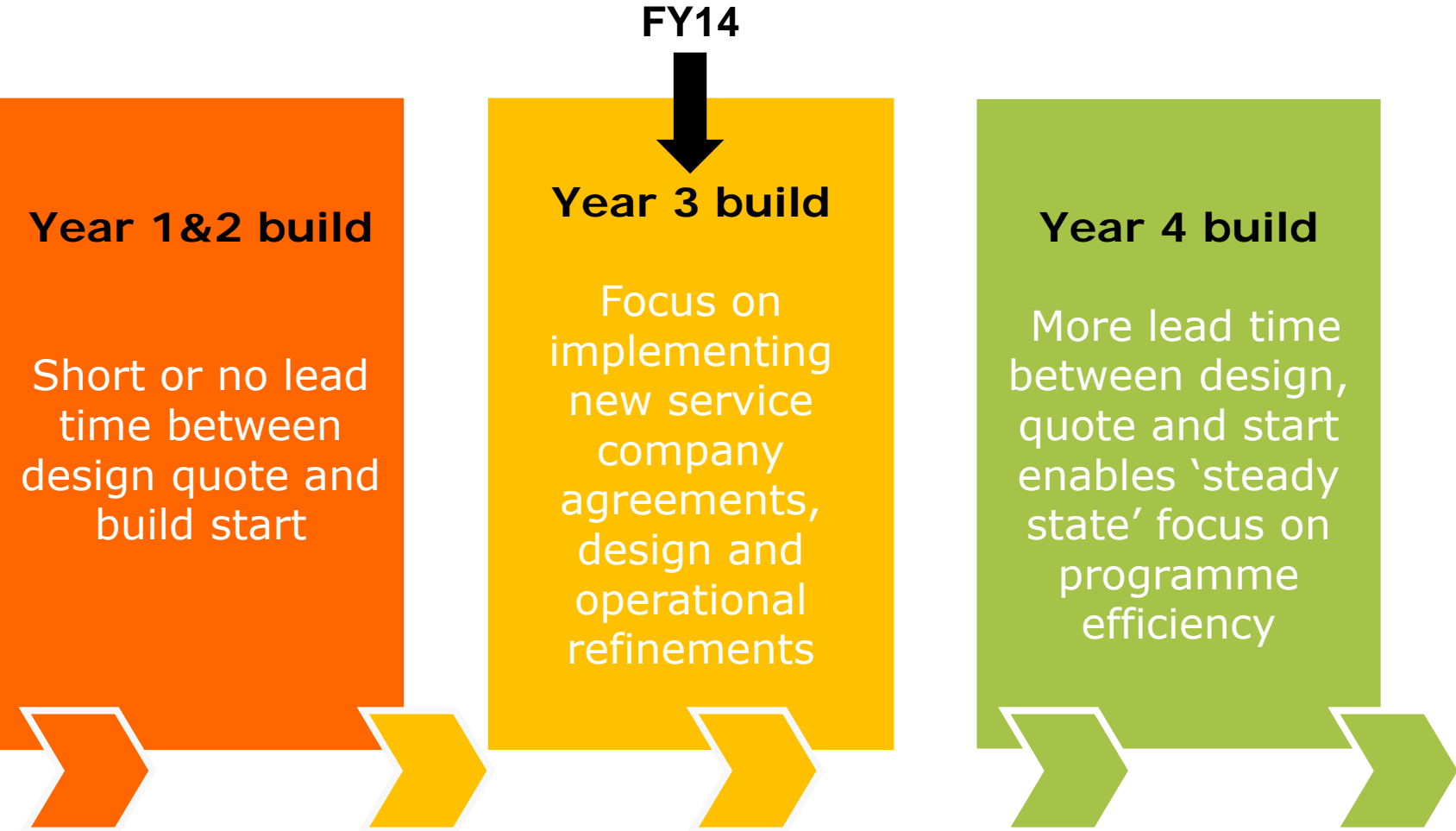


# Mark Ratcliffe

Chorus CEO



# Moving to 'steady state' roll out



# Achieving UFB cost efficiencies

- > Many initiatives complete or underway:
  - organisational changes
  - service company contracts
  - technology evolution
  - local authority requirements
  - deployment techniques



# Parallel Government and regulatory processes

## Government reviews

### TSO review

- Telecommunications Service Obligation (TSO) requires Chorus to maintain lines/coverage and provide voice input service
- submissions made 20 August 2013

### Regulatory framework review (first phase)

- Government discussion document (7 August) puts forward three options linking copper pricing to entry level fibre prices between \$37.50 - \$42.50. Implies annual EBITDA reduction of \$20m to \$100m
- Submissions due 13 September. Subject to outcome, pricing may apply from November 2014 or 2015

## Commerce Commission processes

### UBA pricing review

- Commission continuing with UBA benchmarking process for copper broadband pricing
- final decision expected end October 2013
- current legislation requires pricing to apply from December 2014

### UCLL/UCLFS pricing review

- Chorus requested review of Commission's December 2012 reduction of UCLL/UCLFS copper line pricing
- discussion document expected 18 October 2013
- process scheduled to late 2015

# FY14: another challenging year

## Earnings outlook for FY14

- flat to low single digit percentage decline in EBITDA, relative to normalised FY13 EBITDA of \$654 million
  
- > **Regulatory framework:** any changes to regulated pricing will influence Chorus' future revenues and fibre demand
- > **UFB rollout:** strong focus on achieving ongoing cost efficiencies
- > **IT transformation:** Chorus will be running two IT systems in parallel
- > **Industry:** intensifying RSP focus on Chorus input costs and potential fixed to mobile substitution with 4G networks
- > **Competition:** other UFB networks past 76,000 premises
- > **End-user demand:** fibre product choice affects ARPU; VDSL connection volumes may increase short term costs

# Focus on the future

- > Our strategy is to grow connections and lead New Zealand to fibre
- > New fibre plans to assist retail service providers with product diversity
- > VDSL re-priced to provide a stepping stone for fibre
- > 5,000 people building and maintaining our network, and delivering wholesale services
- > Chorus people engagement at 80%
- > Now in FTSE4Good Index and shared award for waste minimisation



An aerial photograph of a coastal city at sunset. The city is built on a hillside overlooking a large body of water. The sky is a mix of orange and blue, and the water reflects the light. In the foreground, there are residential buildings and a large church with a prominent steeple. A marina with many sailboats is visible in the middle ground. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

# Any questions?



# Revenue categories

Basic Copper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• core regulated products that are earlier technology or products with limited scope for further development e.g Baseband copper (UCLFS), Basic UBA, Naked UBA, UCLL, SLU, SLES</li></ul>
Enhanced Copper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• products enhanced to deliver higher speed capability and better customer experience e.g. Enhanced UBA, VDSL2, Baseband IP, HSNS Lite Copper</li></ul>
Fibre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• existing business fibre and new UFB services. Also includes UFB backhaul and direct, or 'dark', fibre</li></ul>
Value Added Network Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• products and expertise for higher value or specialist services. Includes carrier network services which provide connectivity across backhaul links</li></ul>
Field Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• field force in provisioning, maintaining and installing copper or fibre products</li></ul>
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• services that provide access to Chorus' network assets, principally exchange co-location space</li></ul>



# Capex categories

## Fibre capex categories

### UFB communal

- cost of building UFB network along street to pass premises

### UFB connections & fibre layer 2

- UFB connections are subject to demand via RSPs
- Layer 2 electronics

### Fibre products & systems

- Fibre- related product and system development

### Other fibre connections & growth

- Demand driven by greenfield & business fibre growth
- Regional backhaul to enable RSP traffic
- Fibre lifecycle investment

### RBI

- Layers 0, 1 - network duct and fibre; Layer 2 cabinet electronics
- Expect total 5 year programme to cost around \$280-295 million. Spend weighted to front end of programme

## Copper capex categories

### Network sustain

- Upgrading or replacing plant (e.g. poles, cabinets, cables) where risk of failure or degraded service
- Proactive network replacement more cost effective than reactive maintenance

### Copper connections

- Demand for copper connections for residential / business customers (e.g. infill housing, new buildings)

### Copper layer 2

- Demand driven layer 2 investment in broadband capacity and growth. Expected to reduce slowly as customers migrate to fibre

### Product fixed

- Largely RSP driven investment in copper-related products

## Common capex categories

### Information technology

- Investment in future Chorus IT platforms, in part to meet June 2014 deadline to move from Telecom enterprise systems

### Building and engineering services

- Spend for growth and plant replacement (e.g. power, air conditioning) at Chorus exchange, building and remote sites

### Other

- Items such as office accommodation and equipment

# Contributions to capex

## UFB

- CFH funds up to \$929 million over course of programme, at a rate of \$1,118 per premise

## RBI

- Government grant funding of ~\$236 million over 5 years to cover most layer 0 and 1 capex spend
- Layer 2 is not covered by the grant
- Grant is payable on completion of build work
- Annual grant around 80 - 85% of annual RBI capex spend

## Other

- Central & local government contribute to cost (often 100%) when requesting Chorus to relocate or rebuild existing network