

2010 Interim Results 27 November 2009

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## **Our Brands**

# radio mentals mentlo

Leading operator in household goods rental market

## **THORN** Business Services

- Well positioned for development in the SME market
  - cashfirst
- Growing steadily with unsecured loans from \$1,000 to\$3,000



• Taking the lead in on-line retailing for consumer electronics



## **Performance Summary**

- 86.2% increase in Net Profit after Tax to \$10.8m
- One-off tax benefit of \$2.8m.
- Normalised Net Profit after Tax up 36.2% at \$8.0m
- Revenue up 15.3%
- 7.6% customer growth
- EBIT lift of 34.5%
- EPS of 8.38 cents, an 83.8% increase
- 9% debt/equity ratio
- BigBrownBox.com.au and Cashfirst strategies gaining impetus



#### **Performance – Core Business**

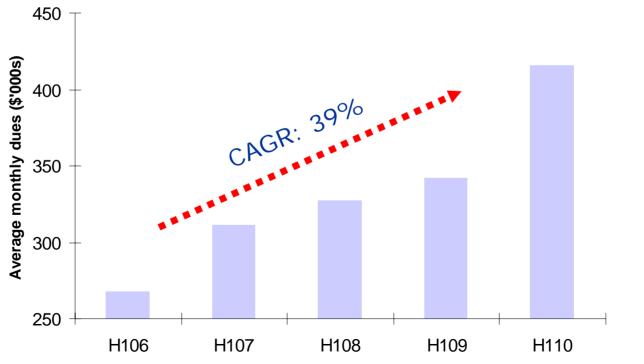
# radio rentals





#### **Revenue Growth: 15.3%**

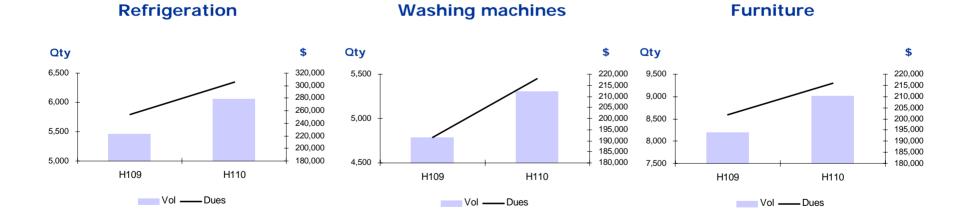
- Total installations grew 16.5%
- Installations on finance leases increased 25.2%
- Installations of operating leases increased 12.7%
- AUR (average price per unit) increased 4.3% to \$46.75





### **Revenue Growth: Operating Leases**

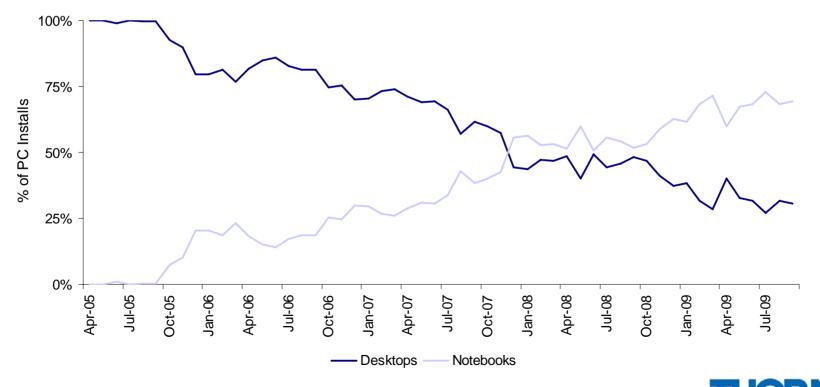
- Overall healthy demand for 'essential' products
- Refrigerators, washing machines and furniture drove performance
- 2 door refrigerators increasing; favourably impacting price
- Washing machine range expanded
- Furniture range expanded and refined to match retail trends





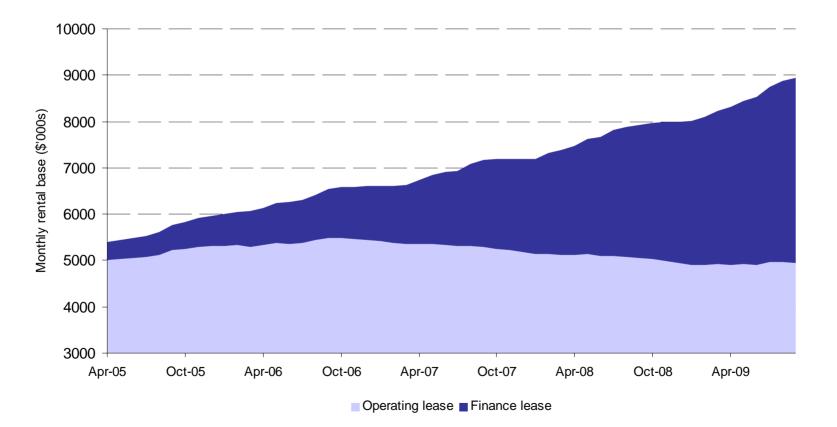
### **Revenue Growth: Finance Leases**

- Demand continues for flat panel display (FPD) TVs and computers
- FPD demand increasing for smaller screen sizes 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> sets; up from 29% to 35% of FPD volumes
- Positive impact of changing technology e.g. LCD and digital broadcasting
- Laptop computer demand continues unabated whilst desktop declines



## **Revenue Growth: Overall**

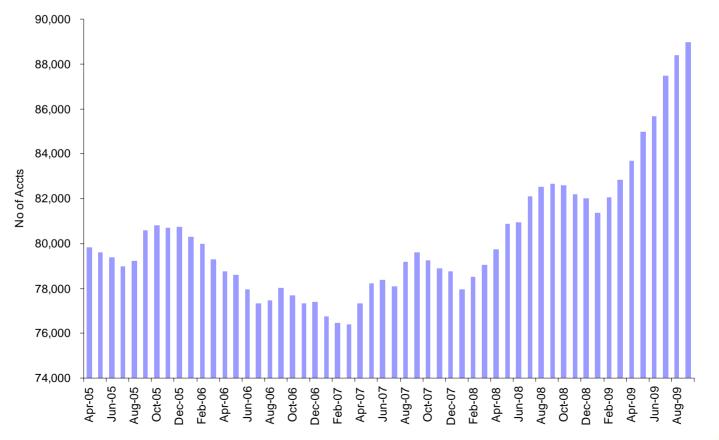
- 8.9% growth of rental base due to strong installation increases
- Disconnections remain in line with historical run rates & forecast





## Customer Growth: 7.6%

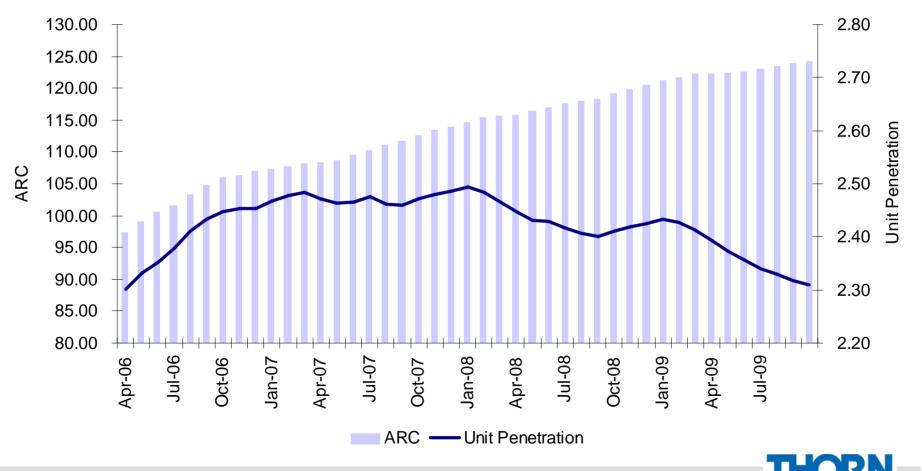
- 7.6% customer growth versus 5.6% in the prior year
- 40% customer retention rate i.e. likely to take an additional contract
- Rental customer base now nearing 90,000





#### Customer Growth: 7.6%

- Marginal growth in average payment per month to \$123.86
- Slight decline in average units per customer renting fewer but more expensive items & customer 'capacity' is closely monitored



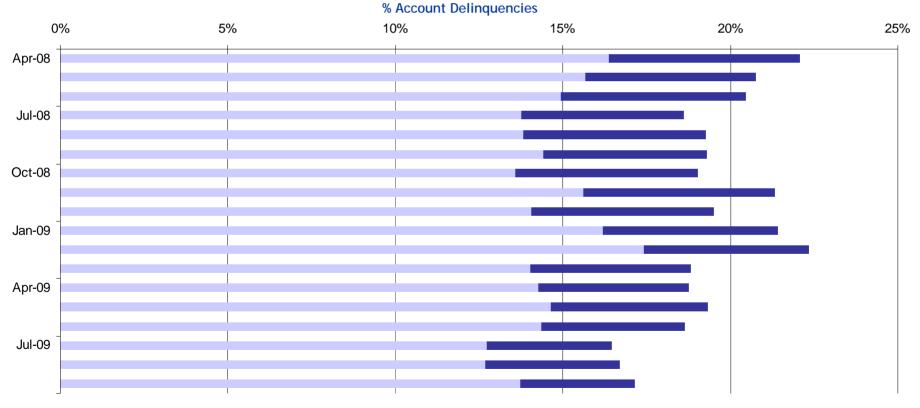
## Customer Growth: 7.6%

- Marketing
  - Strong continued presence of TV advertising
  - 37% increase in web hits
  - Consistent level of telephone enquiries
  - Rent Try Buy® and \$1 buyout are key drivers
- Store network
  - 2 new stores opened SA in August pleasing performance to-date
  - Continuation of store upgrade program
    - > 8 stores relocated in new lifestyle format
    - > 4 stores 'refreshed' at current locations
    - > 1<sup>st</sup> One Person Branch (OPB) due to open December in Batemans Bay & other locations being assessed



## **Account Delinquencies**

- Delinquencies have been maintained at low levels
- Evidence of "operational excellence" meeting customer needs without exceeding their ability to pay



■ < 30 Days > 30 Days



#### **Opportunities for Growth**

- 8.9% growth of rental base due to strong installation increases
- Disconnections remain in line with historical run rates & forecast
- Continued strong demand for FPD TVs & PCs
- Expansion and acceptance of the 'rental market'
- Opportunity to increase market penetration in metro areas
- Geographic expansion
  - Additional stores in SA
  - Potential for more 'One Person Branches' in regional markets
- Trial of internet broadband offering



#### **Performance - Cashfirst**



- Loan book of circa \$3m at end of period
- Some 2,600 accounts
- New marketing program launched in September strong response
- Projected \$4m+ loan book at end of March
- Account delinquencies and write-offs within budget



#### Performance – BigBrownBox.com.au

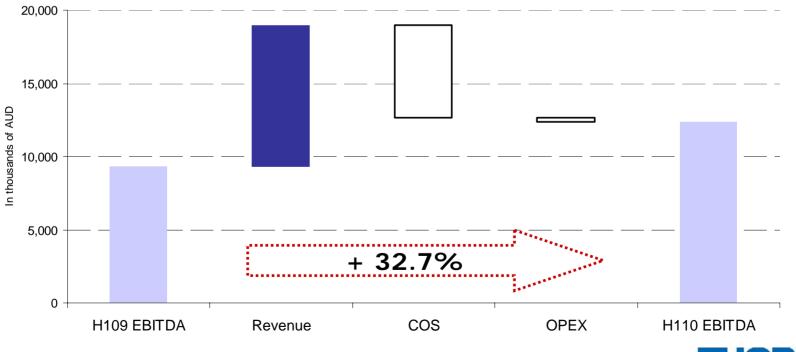


- Site functionality upgraded
- Growing brand awareness
- 100,000+ visitors per month
- 10,000 registered users
- Affiliate marketing programs launched
- Improved site ranking within major search engines
- Gaining momentum



## **EBITDA**

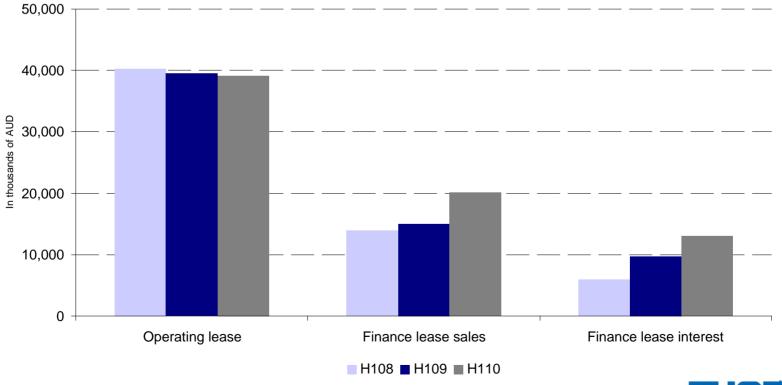
- Revenue increase of 15.3% main driver
- COS increases in line with revenue
- Gross margin percent reduced to 57.8%; impacted by changes to the revenue mix
- OPEX remains tightly held





#### **Revenue: 15.3% better than prior year**

- Like for like revenue growth 12.8%
- Finance lease sales revenue +33.4%
- Finance lease interest revenue +33.6%
- Operating lease revenue in line with base movements





## **OPEX**

- Fixed cost base further leveraged
- Opex declines to 40.8% of revenue versus 46.7% in H109
- Headcount increases limited; effective use of casual and part-time staff limiting overtime in the rental business
- Cost savings in IT & Telco garnered from the transition to a new Telco

| In thousands of AUD | H108   | H109   | H110   | Movement |
|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|----------|
| Personnel           | 13,653 | 13,922 | 14,246 | +2%      |
| Marketing           | 4,244  | 4,658  | 4,847  | +4%      |
| IT & Telco          | 1,267  | 1,298  | 1,127  | (13%)    |
| Occupancy           | 2,809  | 2,965  | 3,048  | +3%      |
| Transport           | 2,325  | 2,735  | 2,612  | (5%)     |
| Other               | 3,829  | 3,932  | 3,891  | (1%)     |
| OPEX                | 28,127 | 29,510 | 29,771 | +1%      |
| Movement            |        | +5%    | +1%    |          |
|                     | •      | •      | •      | THORN    |

## **Balance sheet**

- Net asset growth of 10.2%
- Total tangibles assets \$97m, an 11.5% increase
- Debt to equity ratio remains conservative at 9%

| Key asset<br>movements | <b>30 Sep</b><br>\$'000s | H1 Movement<br>\$'000s |                           |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Cash                   | 816                      | (1,751)                | - Better than prior year  |
| Finance lease          | 49,412                   | 8,270                  | - 20% book growth         |
| Cash loans             | 3,025                    | 200                    | - Stabilised & growing    |
| Operating lease        | 955                      | (35)                   | - Remain steady           |
| Inventory              | 1,902                    | 595                    | - Growth in Big Brown Box |
| Rental assets          | 35,884                   | 1,993                  |                           |

\$84m due on finance lease book - including interest of \$35m



## Cashflow: \$9m increase in cash generated

| In thousands of AUD       | H109    | H110    |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|
| EBITDA                    | 9,341   | 12,391  |
| Non cash movements:       |         |         |
| Share based payments      | 110     | 36      |
| Disposal rental assets    | 10,513  | 14,780  |
| Rental asset depreciation | 9,724   | 10,035  |
| Working capital:          |         |         |
| Inventory                 | -       | (595)   |
| Receivables               | (6,724) | (8,253) |
| Payables                  | (1,203) | 2,579   |
| Provisions                | 343     | 374     |
| Cash generated from Ops   | 22,104  | 31,347  |

Cash generated from operations increased 41.8%

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- Strong recurring cashflows have allowed for investment in:
  - Rental assets
  - Loan book growth
  - Retail inventory
  - Store upgrades



## **Cashflow: Op cash invested in rental assets**

| In thousands of AUD          | H109     | H110     |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Cash generated from Ops      | 22,104   | 31,346   |
| Net interest paid            | (194)    | (204)    |
| Tax paid                     | (2,866)  | (2,339)  |
| Net Cash from Operations     | 19,044   | 28,804   |
|                              |          |          |
| Acquisition of rental assets | (20,978) | (27,408) |
| Other investing cashflows    | (726)    | (259)    |
|                              |          |          |
| Dividend paid                | (3,174)  | (3,743)  |
| Other financing cashflows    | 1,000    | 855      |
|                              |          |          |
| Net cash movement            | (4,834)  | (1,751)  |

- Net cash from operations increased 51.2% after investment in Cashfirst Ioan book and Big Brown Box
- Rental asset investment up 31%
- Dividends up 18%

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## **Opportunities for Growth**

## **THORN** Business Services

- Expansion into SME market
  - Broader offering of financial products and services
  - Wider product range
  - Additional sales resources



- Increased market penetration to current customer type
- Modified product offering with appeal to broader customer profile



#### **Opportunities for Growth**



- Demand continues for flat panel display (FPD) TVs and computers
- Underserviced market
- Building the brand and awareness
- Marketing re-launch in October
- Internet search enhancements
- Leveraging relationships
- Introduce financing options
- Continual refinement/refreshing of site



## **Company Strengths**

- Demand continues for flat panel display (FPD) TVs and computers
- Solid 'base' business
- Strong cashflows
- Sound strategic initiatives for growth
- Very low gearing
- May benefit from economic downturn
- Capacity to leverage 'core competencies'



#### **Company Outlook**

- Projected PAT of \$17.3m to \$17.8m for FY ending 31 March 2010
- Normalised PAT of \$14.3m to \$14.8m
  - -Circa 18% increase on prior year
- 'One-off' Investment Allowance of circa \$3.0m

