### **ASX** Announcement



Field Solutions Holdings Limited (ASX: FSG) ASX Limited Company Announcements Office

17 January 2025

### FY24 - AGM - Address by the CEO , Andrew Roberts

Attached is a copy of the address to be given by the CEO at Field Solutions Holdings Limited's Annual General Meeting today.

This announcement has been authorized for release by the Board of FSG.

#### About FSG

FSG provides, builds, and operates "true broadband networks" specifically for rural, regional and remote Australia. FSG is a licensed Australian telecommunications carrier, providing services via its own telecommunications network (trading under the brands 'JustISP' and "Ant Communications) and a NBNco Retail Service Provider.

**FSG Contact Details** 

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# FY24 AGM Update

January 25



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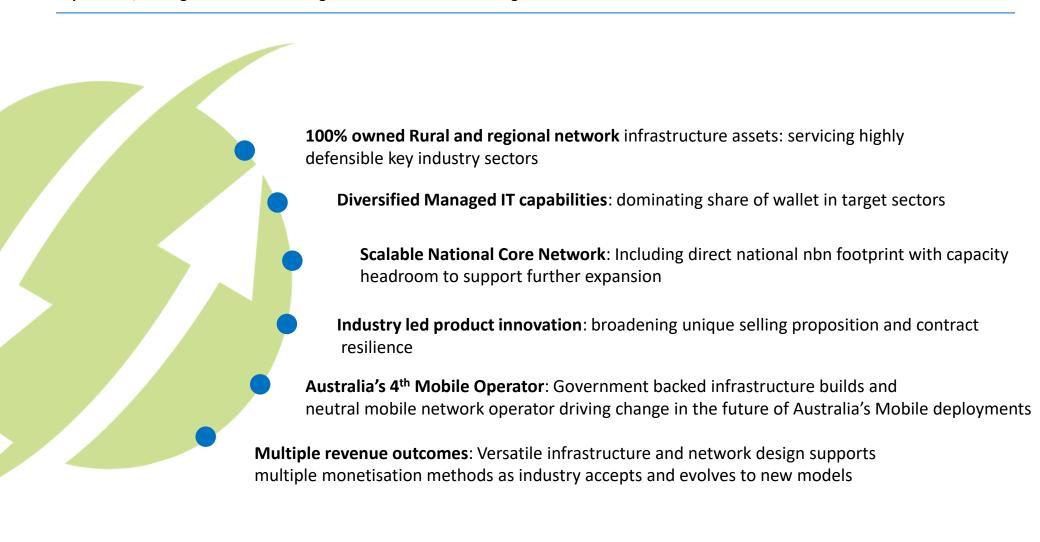
Australia's Leading Telecommunications Carrier for rural, regional and remote Australia

We connect and service regional, rural and remote Australian industries bridge the digital divide between metro and rural Australia, digitally enabling key industries such as agriculture, agribusiness, resources and mining.

# **Key Highlights**



Australian Telecommunications challenger with scalable national network, enterprise grade Managed IT, government certified cloud capabilities, and significant rural and regional infrastructure including Australia's 4<sup>th</sup> mobile network.



### What we do



### FSG is a full-service telecommunications and IT service provider operating two distinct business units

#### Core

### Digital Enablement for Business, Enterprise and Government









Rural & Regional

Mining & Resources

Wholesale

**Public Sector** 

- National Core network
- Delivers ISP (Internet/connectivity) and MSP, IT managed services targeted at key industries
- Products include:
  - managed private network
  - security, access control and asset monitoring
  - voice solutions
  - large campus connectivity and entertainment solutions, and
  - whole of business IT support

96% of revenue\*

#### Infrastructure

Builds and Develops Telecommunications Infrastructure



- Build and operate Telecommunications infrastructure
- Government Grant supported
- Delivers internet broadband, IoT and Mobile services (4G/5G) from a single asset
- Changing the way mobile assets and services are delivered and monetised

4% of revenue\*

\*Based on FY24 results

# **FY24 Financial Highlights**



7 year-on-year growth in Revenue and EBITDA. NPAT affected by amortisation of contracts post Tasmanet acquisition



Growth in key sectors driving sustained top line growth

Govt Grant Income

\$4.8m

Levelling EBITDA reinvestment in operations and business expansion

Adjusted NPAT (Post-acquisition accounting treatment of the TasmaNet customer contracts + one-off costs).



# FSG Core

Digital Enablement for Business, Enterprise and Government



### **FSG Core Business**



**Key Indicators** 

\$60.6M

40-43%

Recurring Revenue\*

79%

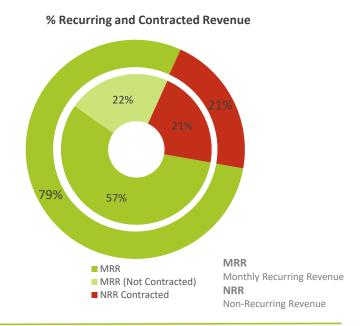
78%

Contracted\*

Revenue\*

Gross margin\*

% of Revenue & Gross margin by **Business Unit** 26% 28% 15% 25% Rural & Regional Rural & Regional ■ Mining & Resources Mining & Resources Wholesale Wholesale ■ Public Sector Public Sector Consumer Consumer





Diversified revenues with focus on key enterprise and government industry sectors



Shift to higher margin products and services



Focus on operational efficiencies and reduction in opex

Contract Length vary by business unit.

Typical Managed Services Contracts are 36-60 months. High customer retention , > 98% contract renewal rates

### **Notable Customers**

### Core Business unit FY24 Revenue by key customer sectors



















# Infrastructure

Building Australia's 4<sup>th</sup> Mobile Operator driving the adoption of active infrastructure sharing



# Regional Australia Network



FSG's RAN is designed to be Australia's **Neutral Mobile Network**, creating **real net-new coverage** and providing a comprehensive solution for **active sharing** and a commercially attractive framework.

This enables Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) to increase their coverage and reach new subscribers in a cost-effective manner and avoid duplicate capital investments.

At the same time, it aligns with the government's goal and commitment of ensuring **equal access to high-quality mobile services** for all Australians.



Electronics





4<sup>th</sup> Mobile network



Active sharing



Net new coverage



4G/5G



Sustainable Power Options

Australia's 4<sup>th</sup> Mobile Network, designed as a **neutral** network, delivering:

- Comprehensive Active and Passive Sharing Options:
  - MOCN
  - MORAN
  - Roaming
  - Co-Location
- Technical
  - 4G / 5G Ready
  - Ability to be grid connected or Solar Powered
  - Fibre / Microwave / LEO Backhaul options

- Commercial
  - Primary Customers
    - Mobile Network Operators (MNOs)
    - Australia Federal Government PSMB
    - Australia State Governments Emergency Services
  - Primary Coverage Outcomes
    - Deliver net new coverage
    - Enhanced MNO coverage and competition
  - Primary Commercial Outcomes
    - · Government assisted capital
    - Long term usage-based contracts



### The birth of Australia's 4th mobile network



FSG's RAN is Australia's only in place mobile network, creating new coverage in rural and remote areas

**Build & Deployment Milestones** 



**Q2 FY22** 

### **Commercial Milestones**

FSG awarded over \$24M of government backing towards the construction of telecommunications sites under Regional Connectivity project.



### Q4 FY22 – Mobile Blackspot 5 & 5A

FSG becomes the first "non-MNO" to be granted an award under the Mobile Blackspot Program to build, trial and prove active sharing in Australia



### **Q4 FY23**

High level design of RAN Mobile core and Radio design Completed



First in-field domestic roaming call achieved between FSG RAN and Optus Engineering network



### **Q2 FY22 – Passive Sharing Agreement**

Passive Sharing 20-year agreement with National MNO for co-location on FSG Towers



98% site acquisition and 59% build completion on government build programs



### We are here

**Commercial Agreement:** Active Sharing with National MNO

**Mobile Blackspot 8 :** Participation and award under next round of Government funding programs proving the FSG Active Sharing Model

Monetisation: "Active" Carrier Revenues commence



Estimated completion of all currently contracted government builds





# Infrastructure Capital Investments

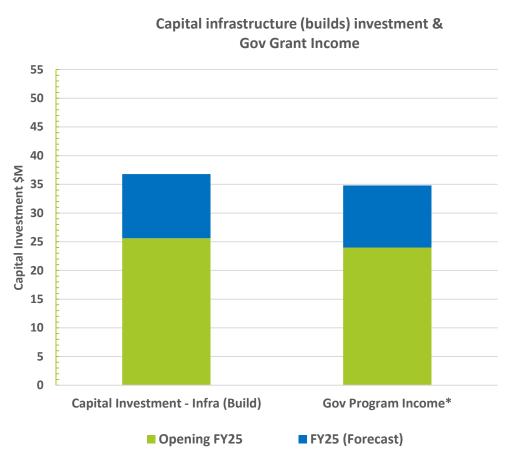


Capital investment in infrastructure, core networks and completion of currently contracted Government backed tower builds targeting FY25 completion



By State	Built	Remaining	Total
NSW	18	17	35
QLD	28	15	43
WA	18	10	28
Total	64	42	106

<sup>\*</sup>Forecast site completions in early Q4-25. Income line shows expected invoice time based on completions. Cash receipts may be delayed by up to 120 days.

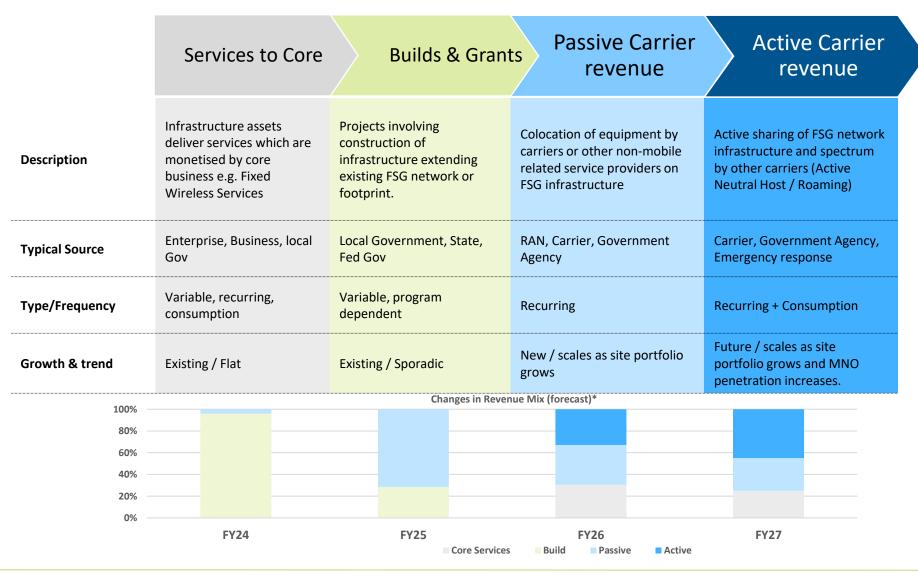




### Infrastructure Monetisation



FSG infrastructure revenue is evolving as new networks and revenue sources are added. Based on current contracted programs, FY25-27 will see an increased revenue contribution from the monetisation of build assets and in the introduction of active carrier revenues

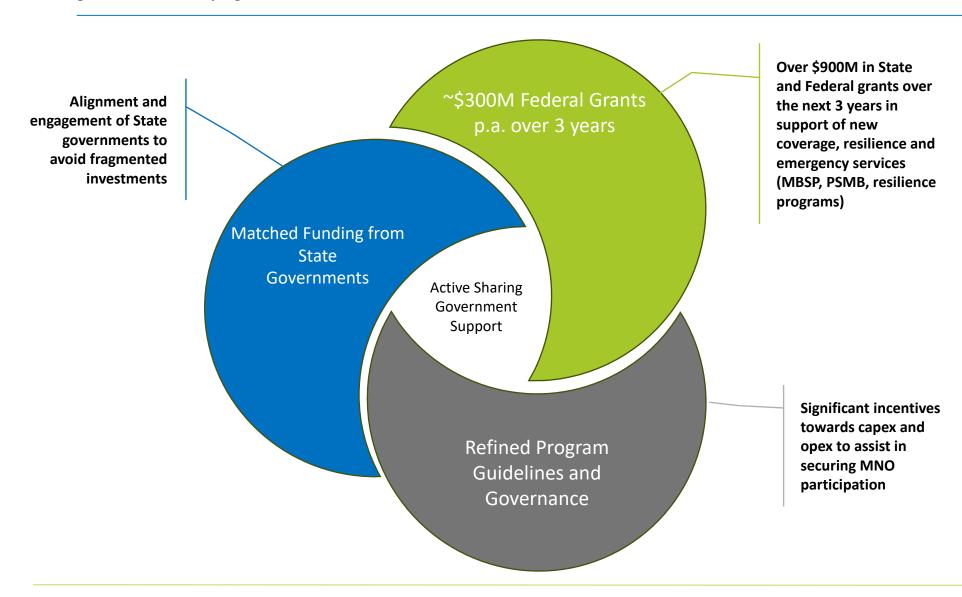




# **Government Support**



The Australian Government is actively incentivising the adoption of Active Sharing solutions through increased funding and refined guidelines to future programs





### Near-term focus - scaling Infrastructure



Post trials revenue growth from infrastructure will be based on scaling of the site portfolio and diversification of revenue streams

### Add locations to portfolio

- Utilise existing unused infrastructure in "TowerCos" and utility companies' infrastructure
- Greenfield Development
- 100% funded by government
- Opex funding opportunity
- New program guidelines
- Acquisition of underperforming regional assets

#### **Diversify revenue streams**

- Multiple MNOs
- Other (non-MNO) Access seekers such as Public Safety networks

### **Technology renewal cycles**

• Take advantage of technology renewal cycles and equipment deprecation to convert MNOs to active sharing model

# **Capital Investments**



### Half of capital investments (Infrastructure build) is fully funded by Government Grants

Capital investment in core business network, platforms and RAN mobile platform

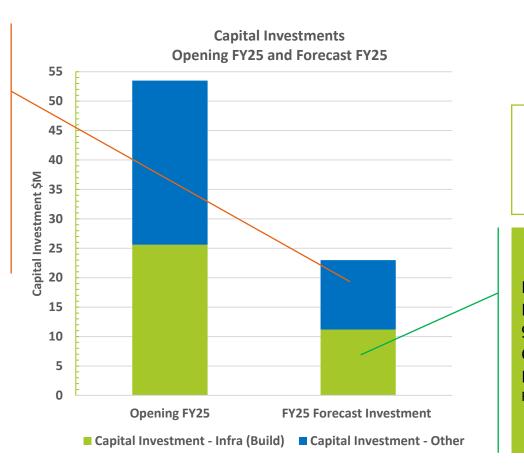
Forecast FY25: \$11.8M

### <u>Capital Investment – Other</u> Capital Investment (RAN Platform)

Mobile network infrastructure e.g. Mobile Core

### **Capital Investment (Core)**

Core Network, POI network, IaaS and other Capital spend



### Capital Investment (Infra Build)

Gov Backed programs / sites construction

Infrastructure Build
Investments
98% Contribution from
Government
Income/Grants
Forecast FY25: \$11.2M



# Strategic Review and Outlook

# Strategic Review of Operations



Management conducted a strategic review of each business operation with to identify causes and opportunities for recovery

- Results of the review identified:
  - High revenue concentration across a small number of customers in mining and wholesale groups creating exposure risk to market and customer changes
  - Wholesale group
    - relies on high capex and opex network costs
    - margins continue a downward trend driven by market dynamics
    - organic growth of uncontracted recurring revenue driving overall gross margin percentages down
  - Mining group
    - revenues highly sensitive to volatile project works and typically unfavourable commercial terms (e.g. payment terms).
    - slow decision and contracting timelines.
    - risk around changes in industry and upcoming renewals

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# **FY25 Core Group Changes**



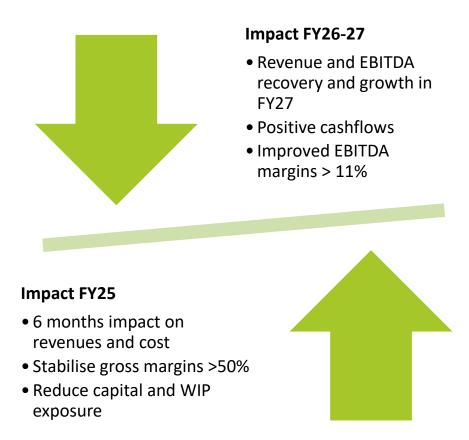
Restructure of operations aims to streamline operations, reduce risk, and allocate resources to areas with greater growth potential and long-term growth and stability.

### **Operations Restructure**

- Exit nbn tails wholesale
- Divest high capex / unfavourable terms customer projects – negotiating non-binding offer
- Implement Opex reductions (partly complete)
- Complete Government supported Infrastructure Build
- Minimise non-government funded capital investments
- Operational management augmentation

### **Finance and Governance**

- Recapitalise and restructure debt
- Board refresh



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### **Core Growth Outlook**



Forecast FY25-FY27. Focus on operating efficiencies and high margin product mix to support higher EBITDA margins

### Focus on key markets

- Business, Enterprise and Government
- Captive markets
- Review of low margin nbn tails segment

### **Product Innovation**

- Industry solutions
- High margin, contracted (typically 3-5 year), specialised managed networks, security and whole of business solutions

### **Unique Selling Proposition**

- Agile solution design
- Rural & Regional knowledge and staffing
- Local service

# **FSG Corporate Update**



Implementation of strategic review

- The Company is now actively implementing the initiatives of the strategic review.
- nbn® Wholesale business
  - nbn® Wholesale Operations have ceased;
  - Related operating costs reductions have begun and will come into full effect by May 2025;
  - On going negotiations on termination of related contracts;
- Mining Business Unit
  - A non-binding offer for the sale of the Mining Business has been executed with an interested party currently conducting due diligence.
  - Further information will be provided once the transaction becomes binding.

# **FSG Corporate Update**



Capital Raise

- Proposed capital raise as announced to the ASX on 16 December 2024 is ongoing albeit hampered by the Christmas holiday period.
- Good support and validation of the strategic review provided by institutional shareholders.
- Funds raised will be used to support the growth of the post strategic review core and infrastructure businesses as well as deal with the legacy costs arising from the businesses exited from the strategic review.
- Once institutional support is confirmed, it is expected all shareholders will have an ability to participate in the capital raising.
- The Company is diligently pursuing institutional commitments following the end of the Christmas holiday period and expects to be able to make further announcements shortly.

# **Trading Update**



Capital constraints, timing differences and product mix affecting revenue and margins in first 6 months

- Q1-FY25
  - Lower than expected non-recurring Revenue and Margins predominantly in non-recurring projects revenue
    - lower sales and
    - delayed deliveries
  - Growth in non-recurring low margin wholesale revenue pushing average gross margins down
  - COGS timing differences
    - costs incurred ahead or after revenue creating margin percentage volatility Expectations for full year FY25
  - Management expects continuing challenging conditions for the remainder of FY25 as the Company:
    - Completes the Strategic Review
    - Completes the capital raising
  - Following the implementation of those initiatives through the course of FY25 an expected return to modest EBITDA with stronger EBITDA growth in the medium term.

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