

# QSC AG

## Company Presentation

### Results Q3 2014

Cologne, November 10, 2014

# AGENDA

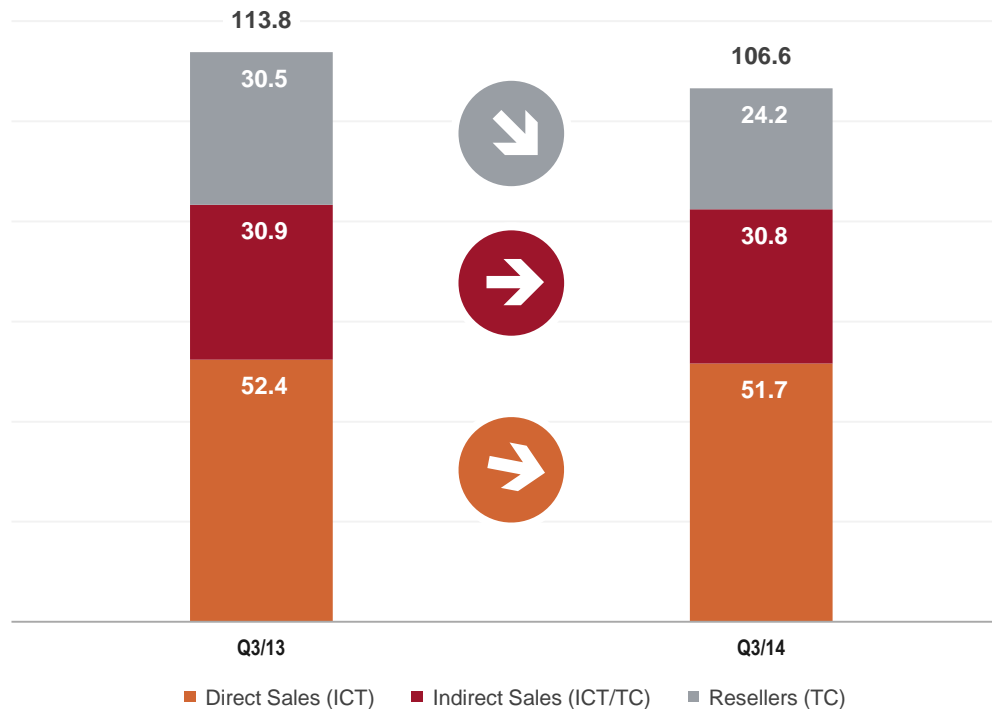
- 1. Financial Analysis**
2. Strategic Outlook
3. Questions & Answers

# Q3 2014 HAS NOT MET EXPECTATIONS

| In € million                              | Q3 2013      | Q3 2014      |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| • Revenues                                | 113.8        | 106.6        |
| • Cost of revenues <sup>(1)</sup>         | 75.9         | 80.5         |
| • <i>Gross profit</i>                     | <b>+37.9</b> | <b>+26.1</b> |
| • Other operating expenses <sup>(1)</sup> | 18.5         | 17.3         |
| • <i>EBITDA profit</i>                    | <b>+19.4</b> | <b>+8.8</b>  |
| • Depreciation                            | 13.8         | 12.7         |
| • <i>EBIT profit</i>                      | <b>+5.5</b>  | <b>-3.9</b>  |
| • Financial results                       | -0.9         | -1.7         |
| • Income taxes                            | +0.1         | -0.6         |
| • <i>Net profit</i>                       | <b>+4.7</b>  | <b>-6.2</b>  |

# REASON 1: REVENUES WERE TOO LOW

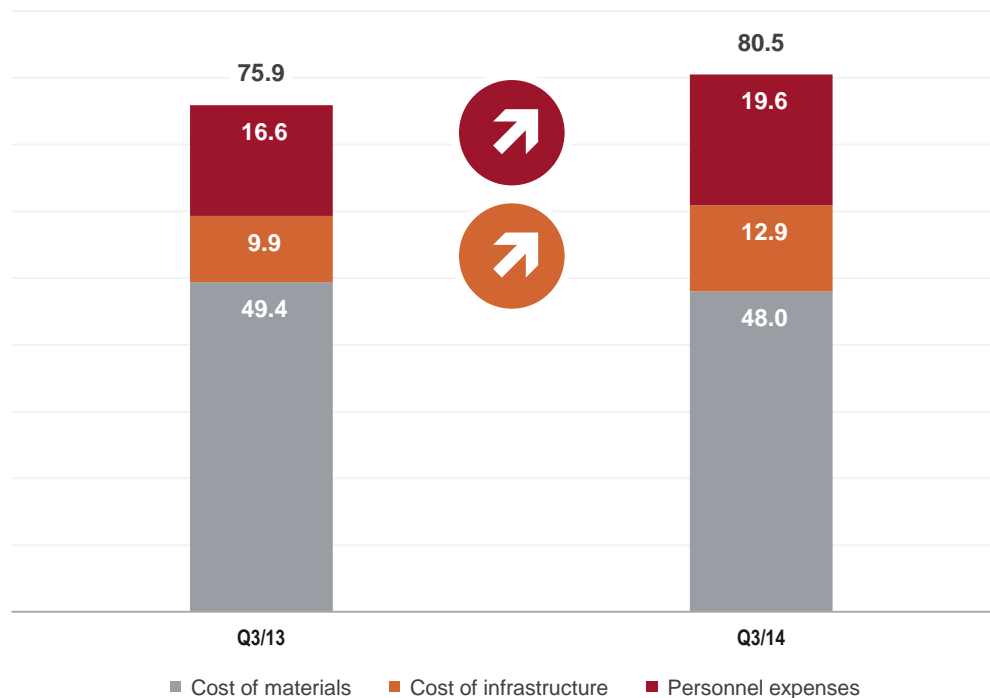
## REVENUE MIX (in € million)



- ↘ Sharpest decline in **Resellers** since Q1 2013
- ➔ Steady development in **Indirect Sales**, but only small impact of new ICT products
- ➔ **Direct Sales** did not profit from large orders and revenue mix was unfavorable (higher percentage of low-margin hardware sales)

# REASON 2: COST OF REVENUES DO NOT REFLECT REVENUE DEVELOPMENT

## COST OF REVENUES (in € million)



➤ **Direct Sales** in particular has invested in growth and **added ICT experts** in 2013/2014

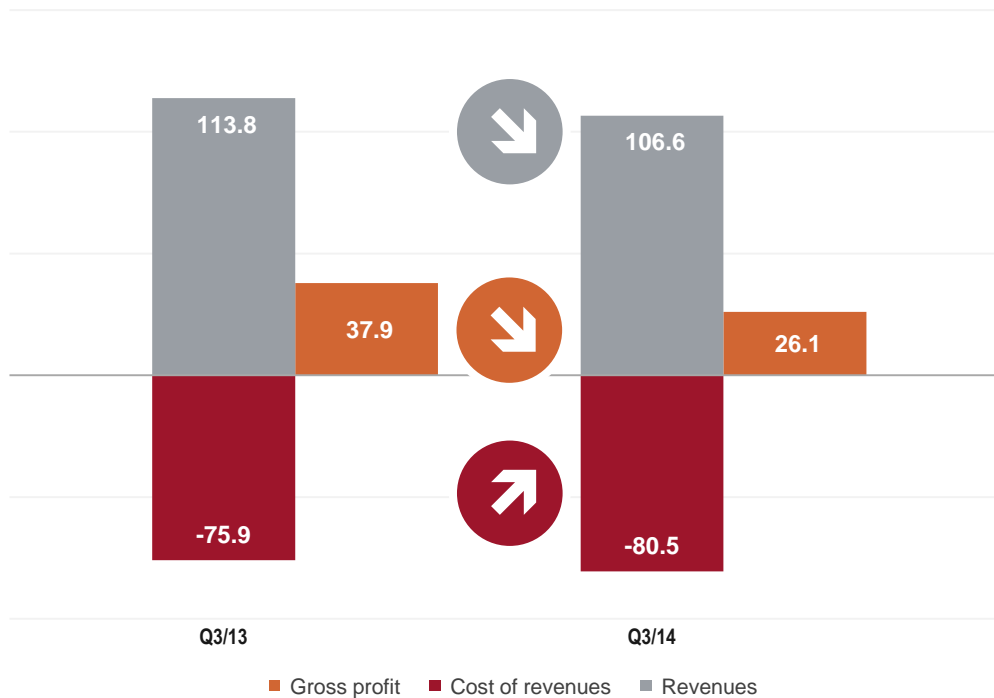
=> rise of personnel expenses

➤ QSC does not benefit anymore from the **deferred cost effect**

=> rise of costs of infrastructure

# THE RESULT: A HUGE DECLINE IN GROSS PROFIT

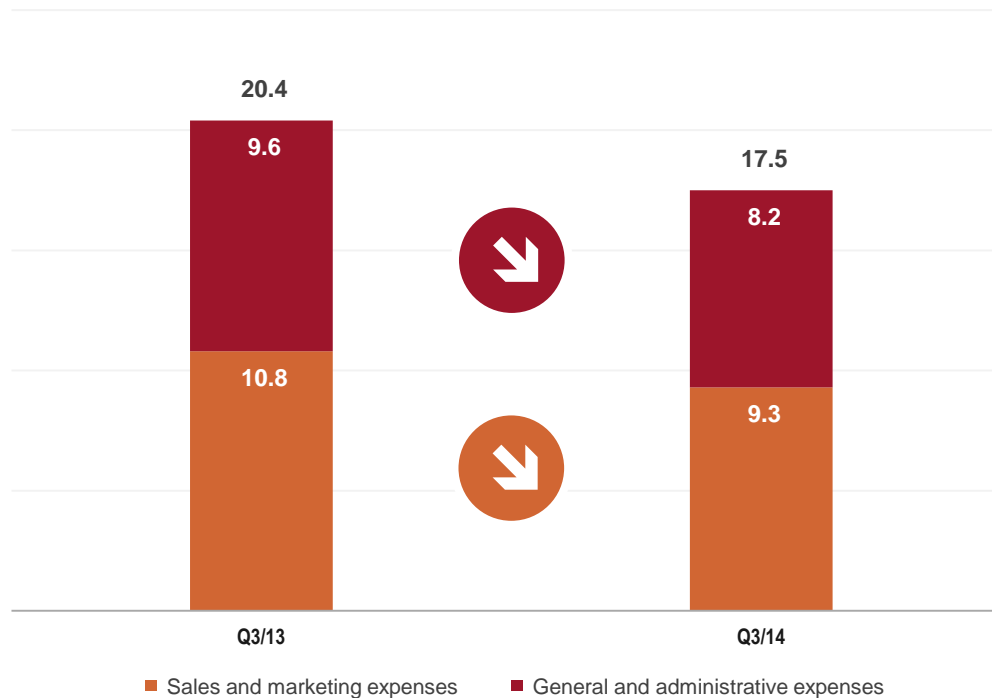
## GROSS PROFIT (in € million)



- ↘ **Revenues** declined y-o-y by € 7.2 million
- ↗ **Cost of revenues** rose at the same time by € 4.6 million
- ↘ **Gross profit** decreased by € 11.8 million

# LOWER GROSS PROFIT WAS PARTLY COMPENSATED BY LOWER SG&A COSTS

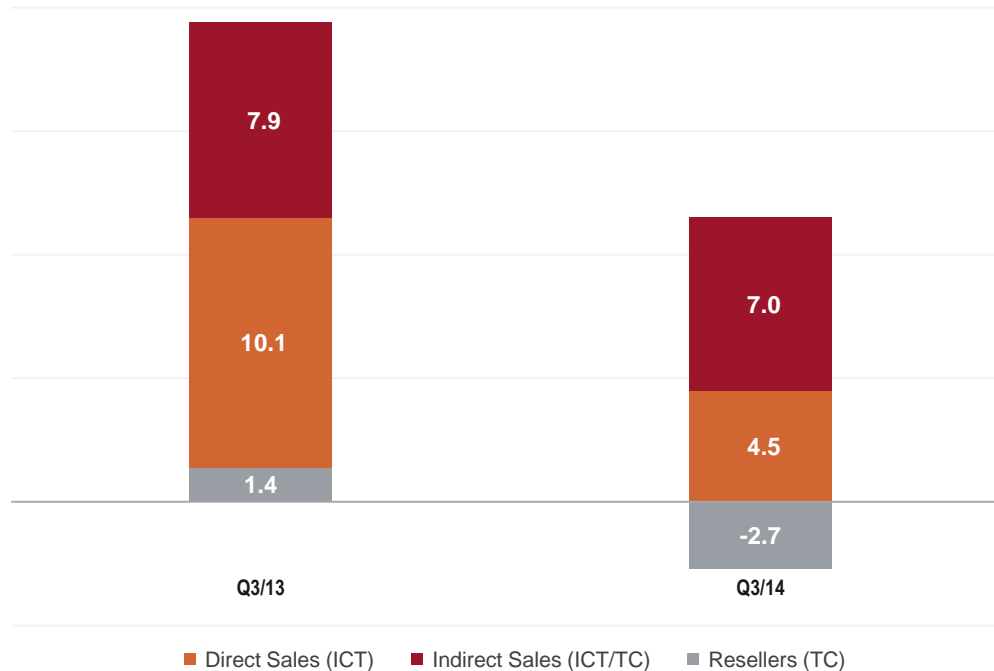
SG&A (in € million)



- ↓ **Sales and marketing expenses:**  
lower commissions for sales partners
- ↓ **General and administrative expenses:**  
positive effect of INFO AG merger

# HIGHER COST OF REVENUES STRAINED DIRECT SALES, IN PARTICULAR

EBITDA MIX (in € million)



- ➔ **Indirect Sales**  
(EBITDA margin: 23%)  
benefited from high-margin business with IP-based voice and data products
- ➔ **Direct Sales**  
(EBITDA margin: 9%)  
suffered mainly from 3 developments:
  - higher personnel expenses
  - large amount of low-margin hardware revenues
  - margin squeeze in IT Outsourcing
- ➔ **Resellers**  
(EBITDA margin: -11%)  
still cover 39% of QSC's overall network costs



# CONCLUSION: QSC HAS TO GENERATE HIGHER REVENUES TO JUSTIFY EXISTING COST BASE

- In Q2 and Q3 2014, revenues were below expectations
  - In 2013, QSC invested in future growth and especially in additional manpower to cope with the planned revenue growth
  - After a weak Q2 2014, QSC took the first measures:
    - Hiring freeze
    - Rebalancing the workload between internal and external experts
    - Sales push in Direct Sales
- ⇒ QSC will now step up its efforts to regain customary profitability

# AFTER TWO QUARTERS BELOW EXPECTATIONS, QSC HAS TO ADJUST GUIDANCE FOR 2014

QSC now anticipates:

- Revenues of at least € 430 million
- EBITDA of at least € 40 million
- Free cash flow of at least € 6 million or, including a one-off working capital effect, of not more than € -12 million
- Dividend guidance confirmed: at least € 0.10 per share

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# AT A GLANCE: MAIN CHALLENGES IN 2014 SO FAR

- **Progress in marketing innovations is too slow**
  - **Revenues are too low**, especially in two areas
    - New ICT products
    - Direct Sales
  - **Margin pressure in several areas**
    - Legacy TC business
    - IT Outsourcing
- ⇒ These challenges prevented QSC from reaching its ambitious goals

# HOW QSC AIMS TO MASTER THE CHALLENGES: 5 KEY TOPICS

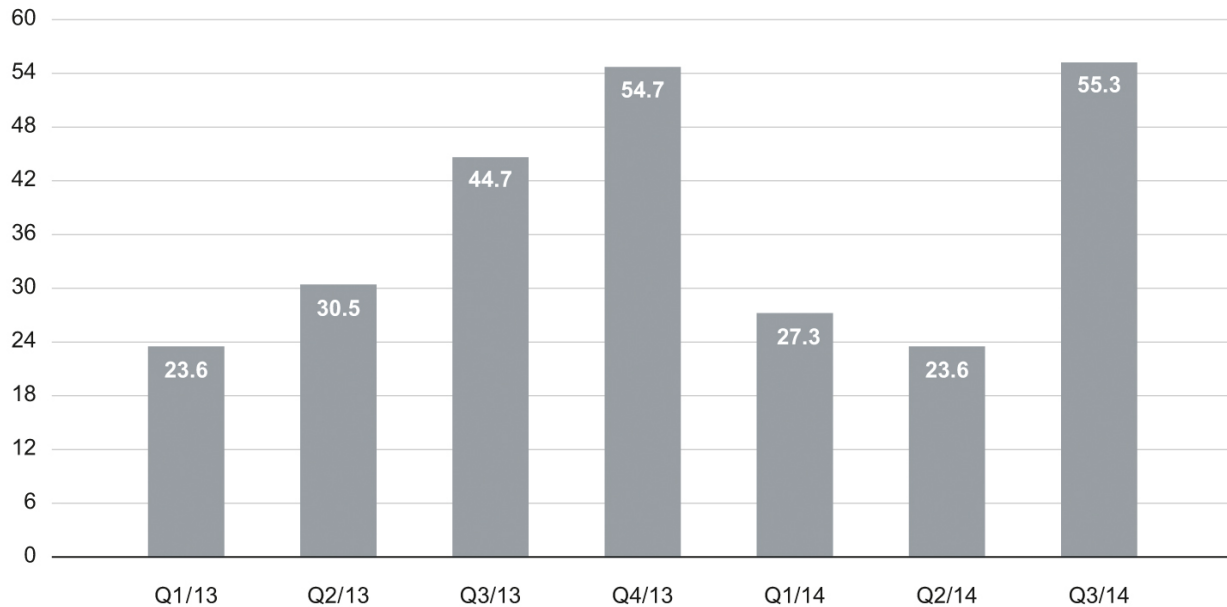


# A SALES PUSH FOR NEW ICT PRODUCTS

- **3 challenges hinder marketing of new ICT products**
  - Traditional sales channels do not meet expectations
  - Addressing SOHOs and Resellers with regard to Cloud products
  - Mid-size companies hesitant about entering the Cloud era
- **1<sup>st</sup> response:** establishment of dedicated sales capacities for new ICT products
  - Direct Sales reps
  - Telesales
- **2<sup>nd</sup> response:** enhancement of Online marketing and cooperations with large resellers
- **3<sup>rd</sup> response:** onboarding teams for the Cloud era

# SALES PUSH IN DIRECT SALES HAS ALREADY LED TO AN UPSWING IN TCV

TOTAL CONTRACT VALUE (in € million)



- **Upswing is driven by existing customers** such as BEB Erdgas and Errol: early extension of framework agreement for a further 48 months
- **New biz: Dussmann Group** has contracted QSC to introduce SAP HCM human resources solution

# STREAMLINING THE ORGANIZATION: THE “CLARITY” PROJECT

- In summer 2014, QSC started a program to raise efficiency
- Main topics
  - Rebalancing the workload between internal and external experts
  - Optimizing the pool of suppliers and the purchasing processes (supplier management)
  - Raising the efficiency of internal processes and structures
- QSC will now extend this program and expects visible progress during the course of 2015



# NEXT STEP: AN ACTION PLAN TO REGAIN PROFITABILITY

- November/December 2014: comprehensive status quo analysis
  - All cost positions are being scrutinized
  - Mid-term program to industrialize IT operations
  - Analysis of outsourcing opportunities to improve cost structure
- End of January 2015: integration into guidance and presentation

# ACQUISITIONS: TWO FOCUS AREAS

- QSC is well financed to acquire 1-2 further companies to
  - strengthen core business and to realize economies of scale
  - support innovation progress
- Opportunities in core business
  - High margins in Indirect Sales underline potential of IP-based TC business
  - Strengthening of Consulting business to be competitive for larger projects and to staff these projects with internal capacities
- Opportunities in new business
  - QSC is positioned as a full-service ICT provider for the Cloud era
  - Start-ups and established players can help to extend the portfolio

# SUMMARY: IN THE COMING MONTHS, QSC IS SETTING THE COURSE TO REGAIN ITS STRENGTH

- Course of business in 2014 has been disappointing so far
- QSC made mistakes and learned its lessons
- Comprehensive action taken in the areas of growth and efficiency
- Acquisitions can support and accelerate the change
- There is no doubt concerning the growth opportunities of the Cloud market and of QSC

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