

# PERFORMANCE PRESENTATION

31 March First Quarter 2023



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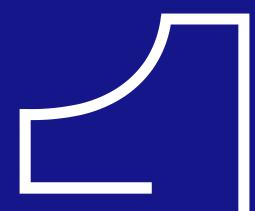
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- 01. Progroup Highlights 31/3 | Q1 2023
- 02. Progroup Financial Performance
- 03. Progroup Summary & Outlook



# PROGROUP HIGHLIGHTS 31/3 | Q1 2023

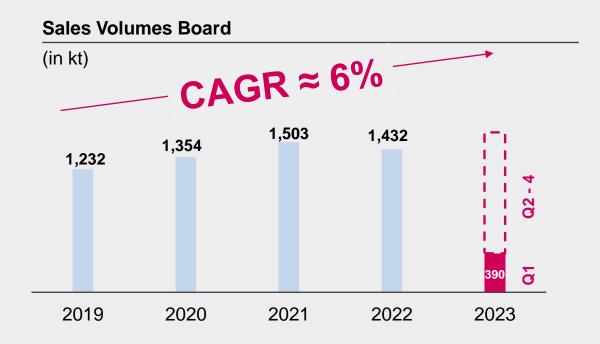


#### 31 March / First Quarter 2023

### **ROBUST FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

- In Q1 2023, Progroup beat the trend and performed very well in a weak market environment. Sales volume of corrugated board slightly down (-0.9%).
- Containerboard sales volume decreases (-5.0%) in Q1 2023 due to lower external demand, timing effects at year end and a lower basis weight in our portfolio.
- Sales fell by 15.7% to €391.3 mn in Q1 2023 due to lower price levels.
- EBITDA normalized to €74.4 mn in Q1 2023 (-36.1% vs. exceptional €116.5 mn in Q1 2022).
- EBITDA margin at 19.0% in Q1 2023
- Strong **free cash flow of €40.5 mn** (+113% vs. Q1 2022).
- Net financial debt decreased further to €619.9 mn (31 December 2022: €655.1 mn).
- Net leverage of 1.7x LTM EBITDA again well below maximum target figure.

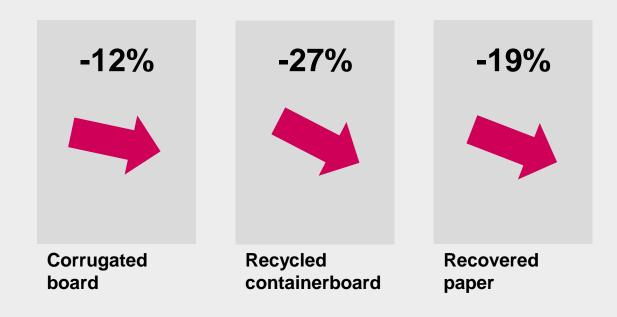




# 31 March / First Quarter 2023 **MARKET DEVELOPMENT**

- Average recovered paper prices decreased again in Q1 2023. The price decrease was driven by a significant drop in demand due to industry-wide containerboard production cuts.
- Energy prices declined from the high level of the previous year. Due to our moderate hedging levels for 2023 we could benefit from the lower spot market prices.
- Prices for recycled containerboard decreased further in Q1 2023, driven by the weak general market environment but also lower raw material and energy costs.
- Corrugated board followed the price development of containerboard with a very short time lag.

#### Price development Q1 2023 compared to Q4 2022



## PROGROUP FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



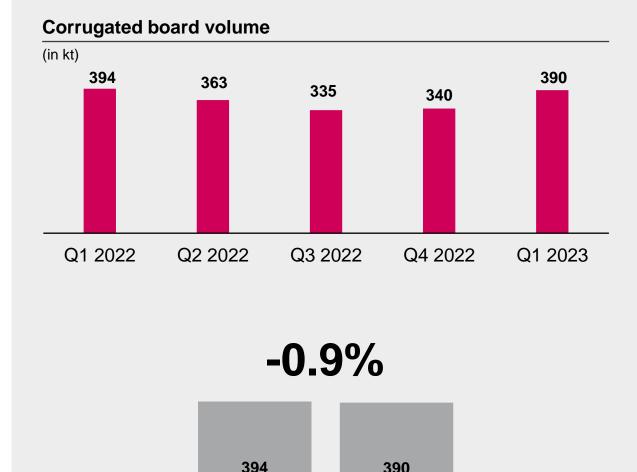
### CORRUGATED BOARD VOLUME DEVELOPMENT

#### Development

Corrugated board sales volume outperformed the market development with a marginal decrease of 0.9% in Q1 2023 compared to Q1 2022.

Despite the weak market environment, we could stabilize our sales volume on the comparably high volume level of the first quarter of 2022.

Sales volume in Q1 2023 was **15 - 16% above** quarterly sales volume in H2 2022.



Q1 2022 Q1 2023

### PAPER VOLUME DEVELOPMENT

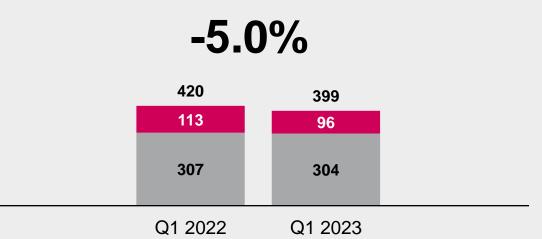
#### **Development**

#### Sales volume decreased by 5.0% in Q1 2023

compared with Q1 2022. Main reasons were the weaker external demand, a shift towards a higher share of super light-weight containerboard grades and timing effects at year-end 2022 which reduced the internal containerboard sales volumes.

The level of integration between our containerboard business, including swap agreements, remains the same at 87% in Q1 2023 compared to Q4 2022.

#### **Containerboard volume** (in kt) 73/85% 74/84% 75/85% 78/87% 76/87% 420 404 399 376 368 113 106 96 94 82 304 307 298 283 286 Q1 2023 Q1 2022 Q2 2022 Q3 2022 Q4 2022 Internal volume External volume Integration without/with swap agreements (%)

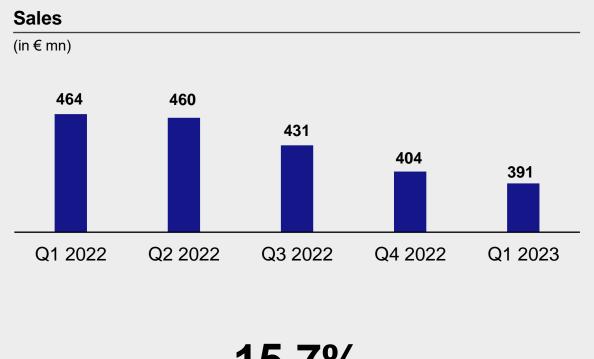


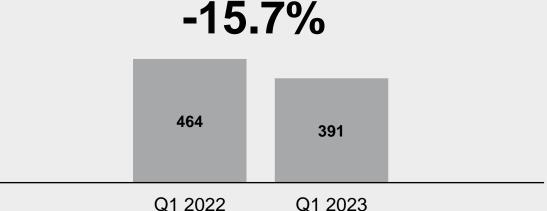
### SALES DEVELOPMENT

Sales decreased compared to Q1 2022

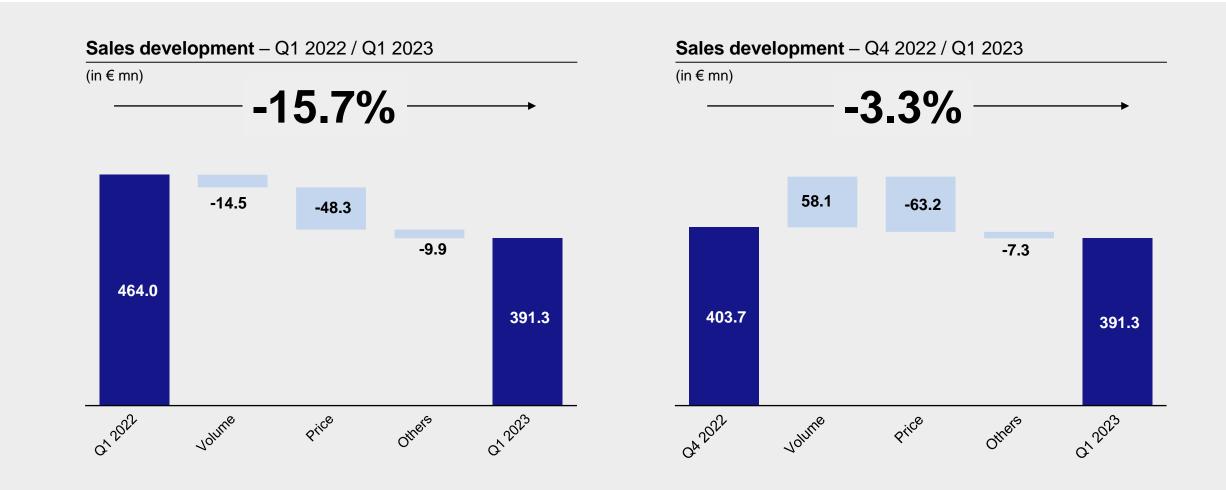
Decreased price levels led to sales decline of **15.7%** in Q1 2023 compared to Q1 2022.

Compared to Q4 2022, sales were slightly lower by 3.3%.









### DEVELOPMENT OF EBITDA/EBITDA MARGIN

#### EBITDA in Q1 2023 normalized to 74.4mn

(- 36.1%) compared to the same quarter of the previous year. EBITDA in the first quarter of 2022 was exceptionally strong due to very high contribution margins and positive effects from our energy hedges.

**EBITDA margin** decreased in Q1 2023 to **19.0%** compared to 25.1% in Q1 2022.

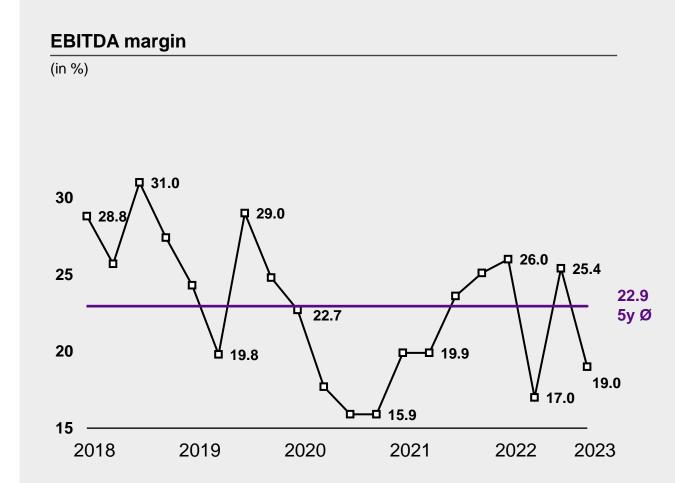


### EBITDA MARGIN LONG-TERM AVERAGE

EBITDA margin in Q1 2023 below 5-year average.

Q4 2022 margin was supported by strong recovered paper price declines and special effects from energy refunds.

In Q1 2023, the declining sales prices could no longer be compensated for by falling raw material and energy costs.



### DEVELOPMENT OF FREE CASHFLOW

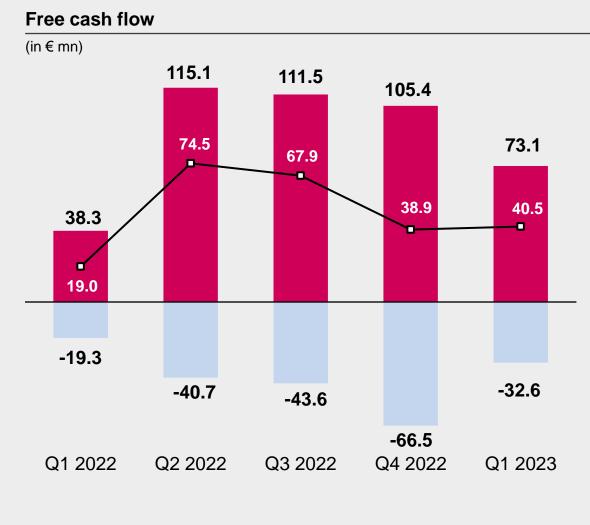
#### **Positive free cash flow development**

Free cash flow more than doubled in Q1 2023 compared to Q1 2022.

Operating cash flow **increased notably** in Q1 2023 compared to Q1 2022, mainly due to the strong EBITDA and rather neutral working capital effects.

#### **Cash flow from investing activities**

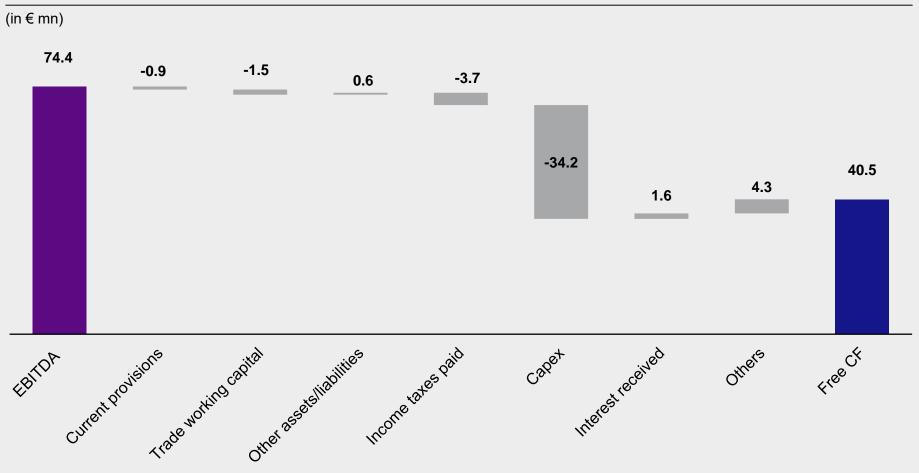
amounted to €-32.6 mn in Q1 2023. CAPEX is mainly related to the progress in our value accretive expansion projects.



### 31 March 2023 EBITDA TO FREE CASH FLOW



#### **EBITDA to free cash flow**



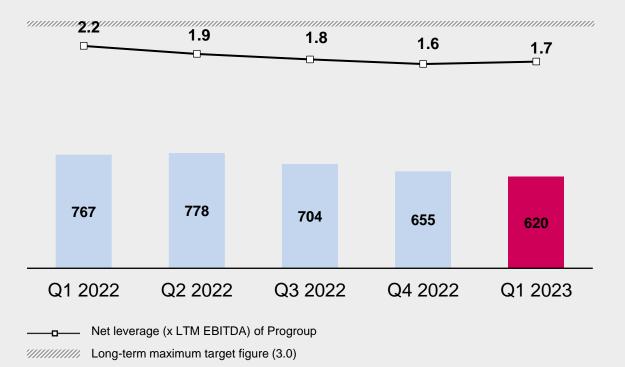
### DEVELOPMENT OF NET FINANCIAL DEBT AND NET LEVERAGE

**Net leverage** again at a very low level **(1.7).** Lower LTM EBITDA was almost compensated for by lower net financial debt.

Net leverage is therefore well below the longterm maximum target figure of 3.0. In addition to scheduled repayments of existing loans, we made an unscheduled repayment of the GBP loan due to the very comfortable liquidity position.

#### Net financial debt

(in € mn)

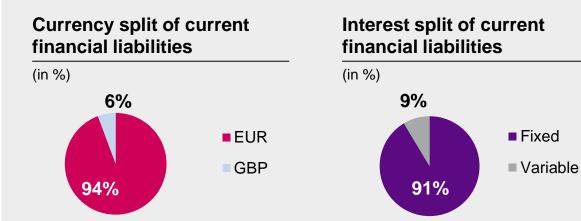


#### 31 December / Fourth Quarter 2022

### FINANCIAL DEBT AND FINANCE COSTS

Net financial debt as at 31 March 2023 was below year end 2022 due to scheduled repayments. In addition, we made an unscheduled repayment of the existing GBP loan due to the very comfortable liquidity position.

Average interest rate of 3.2% is slightly higher than in Q1 2022.



#### Financial debt and finance costs

(in € mn)		
	31/12/2022	31/03/2023
Bonds	600	600
Committed bank facilities	291	249
thereof undrawn	50	50
Financial liabilities	818	771
Cash in hand, bank balances	163	151
Net financial debt	655	620
	Q1 2022	Q1 2023
Interest expenses*	6.3	6.3
Average interest rate	2.9%	3.2%

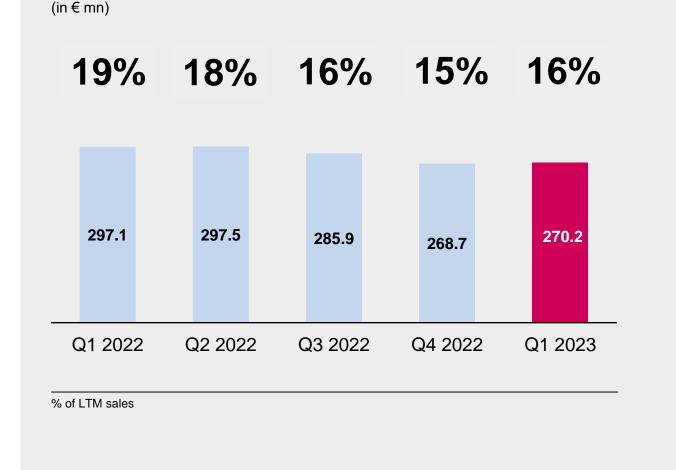
\*excluding amortisation of lump sum fee payments

### DEVELOPMENT OF WORKING CAPITAL

Slight increase in working capital in Q1 2023 compared to Q4 2022.

Working capital decreased in Q1 2023 compared to Q1 2022, due to lower trade receivables.

Working capital as percentage of sales increased slightly to 16%.



\*Working capital (not a German GAAP measure) is calculated as inventories plus trade receivables minus trade payables

Working capital\*

# PROGROUP SUMMARY & OUTLOOK

### **SUMMARY & OUTLOOK**

#### **Expectations**

- We expect the market to pick up in Q2 2023 and prices to stabilise from the middle of the quarter. As a result, we expect sales volumes to grow.
- Average containerboard and corrugated board prices in Q2 2023 will be well below Q1 2023.
- Prices for recovered paper expected to stabilise in Q2.
- Lower sales price levels will lead to lower EBITDA margins in Q2 2023.
- PW14: positive ramp-up as expected.
- PW15: test operation in the first half of 2024.
- PW16: Start of construction in June 2023.
- PPO2: Earthworks started, commissioning possibly earlier than planned (mid-2025).
- Positive rating actions in Q2 2023.







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