

# H1 FY25 results

28 August 2025

**Appen**



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**All amounts are in US\$M unless stated otherwise.**

**Some amounts may not add due to rounding.**

Underlying results referenced in these materials are a non-IFRS measures used by management to assess the performance of the business and are calculated from statutory measures. Non-IFRS measures are not subject to audit.

# Agenda

- 01** Results Overview
- 02** H1 FY25 performance
- 03** Strategy & operational update
- 04** FY25 outlook & guidance

# H1 2025 Results Overview

Ryan Kolln

**Appen**



# H1 FY25 highlights

## **\$102.1 million revenue in H1 FY25**

- 2% growth on H1 FY24 (ex Google)
- 24% of group revenue from generative AI-related projects<sup>1</sup> in H1 FY25

## **China breakout growth ongoing**

- Strong revenue growth continued, up 67% on H1 FY24
- Exited the half with an annualised run-rate for June exceeding \$100 million

## **Core business turnaround continues**

- Deepening customer relationships, including breaking into target accounts
- Strong strategy execution
- Recent wins, including a project with \$10m+ annual revenue potential

## **Technology strategy delivering benefits**

- ~\$10m annualised cost efficiencies identified in non-China business
- ~70% to be executed by end of Q3 FY25, remainder by end of Q4 FY25

## **Strong market tailwinds for Appen's differentiation**

- Growing demand for data types where Appen excels, including multi-lingual and model evaluation
- Strong demand from China clients expanding internationally

## **Strong cash balance remains**

- Cash on hand as at 30 June 2025 of \$60.9 million (AUD 92.9 million<sup>2</sup>)

1. H1 FY24 excludes Google

2. Converted at 30 June 2025 exchange rate of 0.655

# Financial performance

Justin Miles

**Appen**



# H1 FY25 snapshot

|                                                | H1<br>FY25   | H1<br>FY24 | Change  |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|---------|
| <b>Revenue (excluding Google<sup>1</sup>)</b>  | <b>102.1</b> | 100.0      | 2%      |
| New Markets revenue                            | <b>59.6</b>  | 49.8       | 20%     |
| Global Services revenue                        | <b>42.4</b>  | 63.6       | (33%)   |
| Revenue                                        | <b>102.1</b> | 113.4      | (10%)   |
| Gross Margin <sup>2</sup> %                    | <b>37.0%</b> | 37.7%      | -0.7 pp |
| <b>Underlying EBITDA<sup>3</sup> before FX</b> | <b>(2.2)</b> | (2.3)      | nm      |

## Commentary

- Revenue increased 2% to \$102.1m (excluding the impact of Google<sup>1</sup>). Including Google, revenue decreased 10%
- New Markets revenue increased 20% to \$59.6m and reflects strong growth in the China business of 67% vs pcp
- The remainder of the New Markets segment was impacted by short-term volatility due to the dynamic nature of the US AI market
- Global Services was also impacted by short-term volatility due to the dynamic nature of the US AI market as well as the termination of the Google contract in H1 FY24
- Decrease in gross margin % reflects a change in customer and project mix. China margins traditionally lower versus rest of Group
- EBITDA improvement despite lower gross margin due to prudent cost management

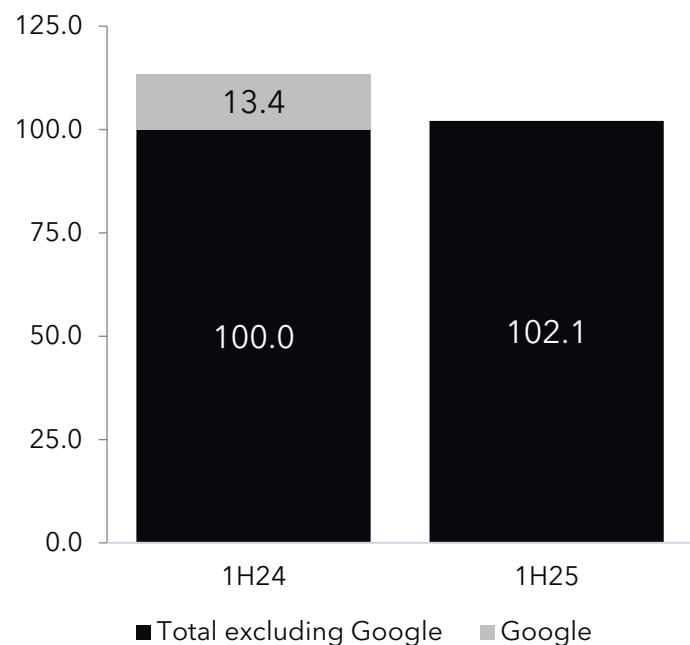
<sup>1</sup>. Google terminated its global services agreement effective March 2024. Google revenue excluded from pcp analysis to provide a like-for-like comparison.

<sup>2</sup>. Gross margin refers to revenue less crowd expenses.

<sup>3</sup>. Underlying EBITDA excludes restructure costs, transaction costs, and acquisition-related and one-time share-based payment expense.

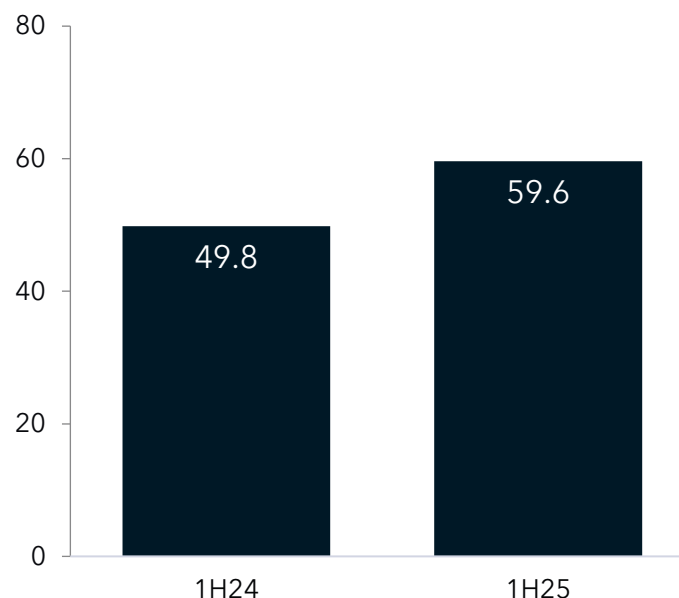
# Revenue

## Group



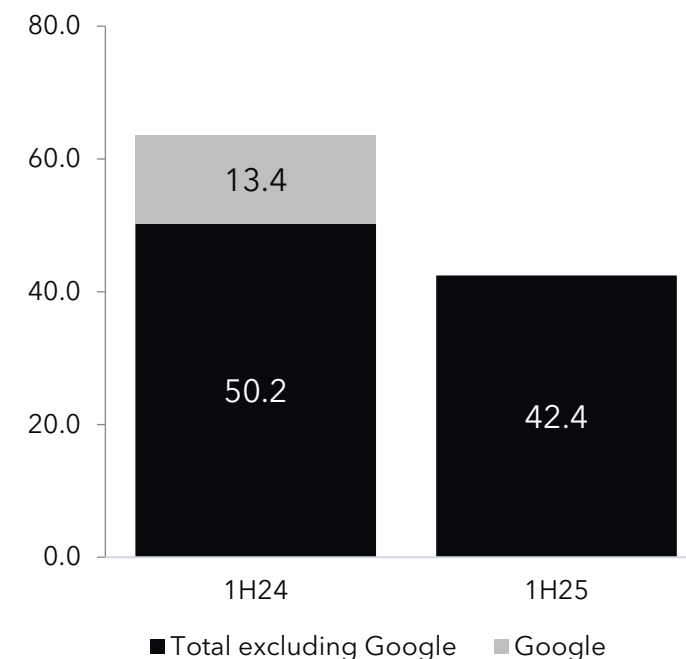
- Excluding Google, revenue up 2%. Including Google, revenue down 10% on H1 FY24
- Strong China growth offset by remainder of business impacted short-term volatility
- Historical impact of termination of Google contract in Q1 FY24

## New markets



- Revenue up 20% on H1 FY24
- Strong China growth of 67% vs pcg
- Remainder of segment impacted by short-term volatility due to the dynamic nature of the US AI market

## Global services



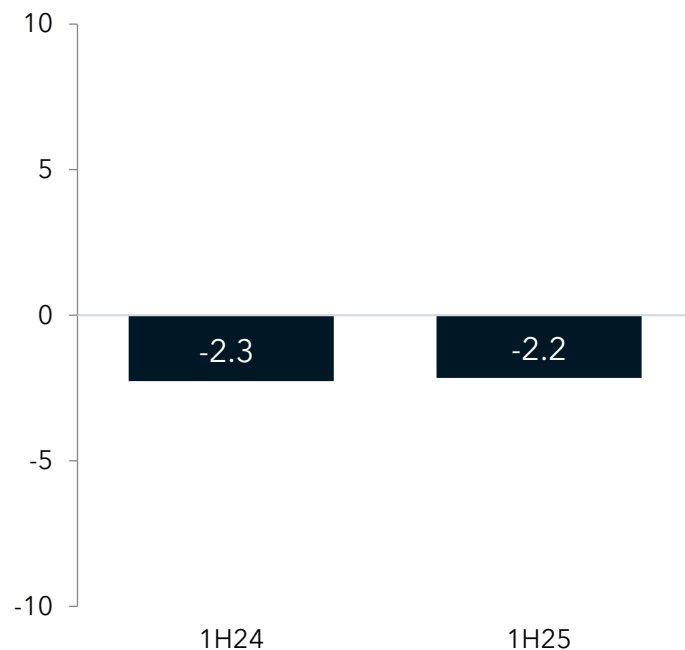
- Excluding Google, decrease of 15%. Including Google, revenue down 33% on H1 FY24
- Revenue impacted by short-term volatility due to dynamic nature of the US AI market
- Historical impact of termination of Google contract in Q1 FY24

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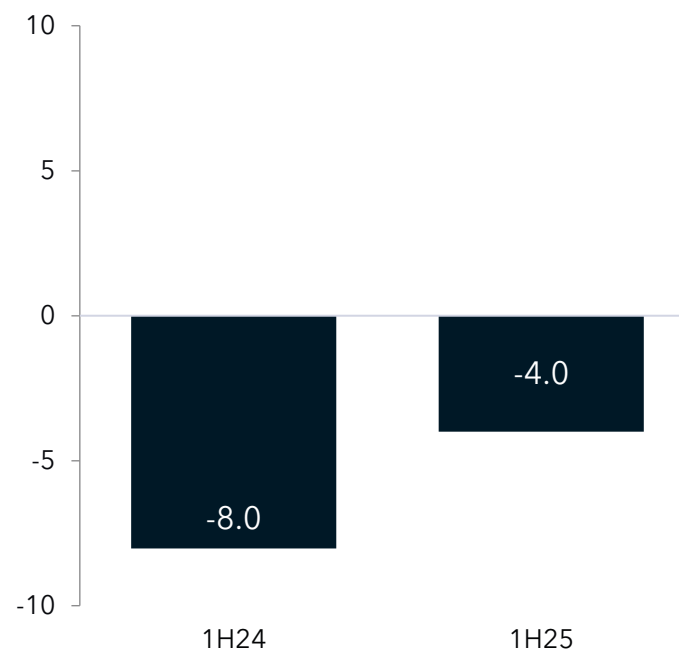
# Underlying EBITDA<sup>1</sup> (before FX)

## Group



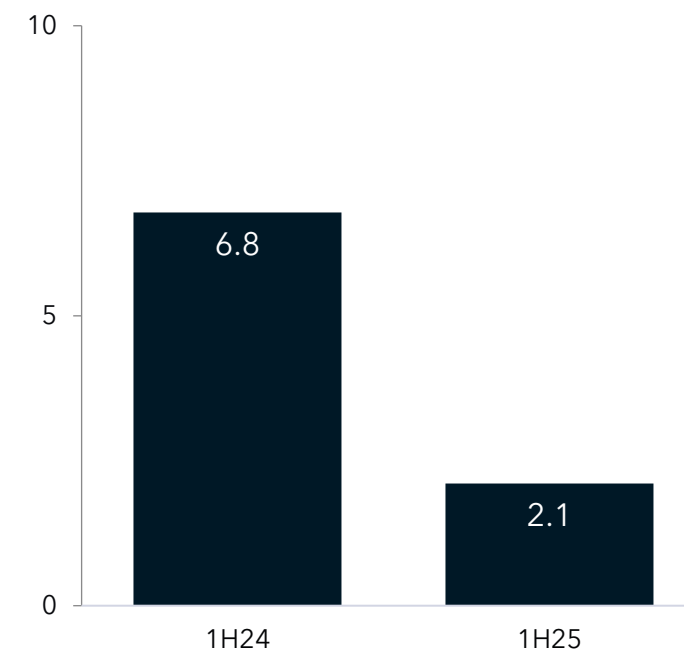
- \$0.1m improvement on H1 FY24
- Notwithstanding lower revenue and gross margin, slight improvement due to prudent cost management

## New markets



- \$4.0m improvement on H1 FY24
- Improvement reflects a positive EBITDA contribution from the China business

## Global services

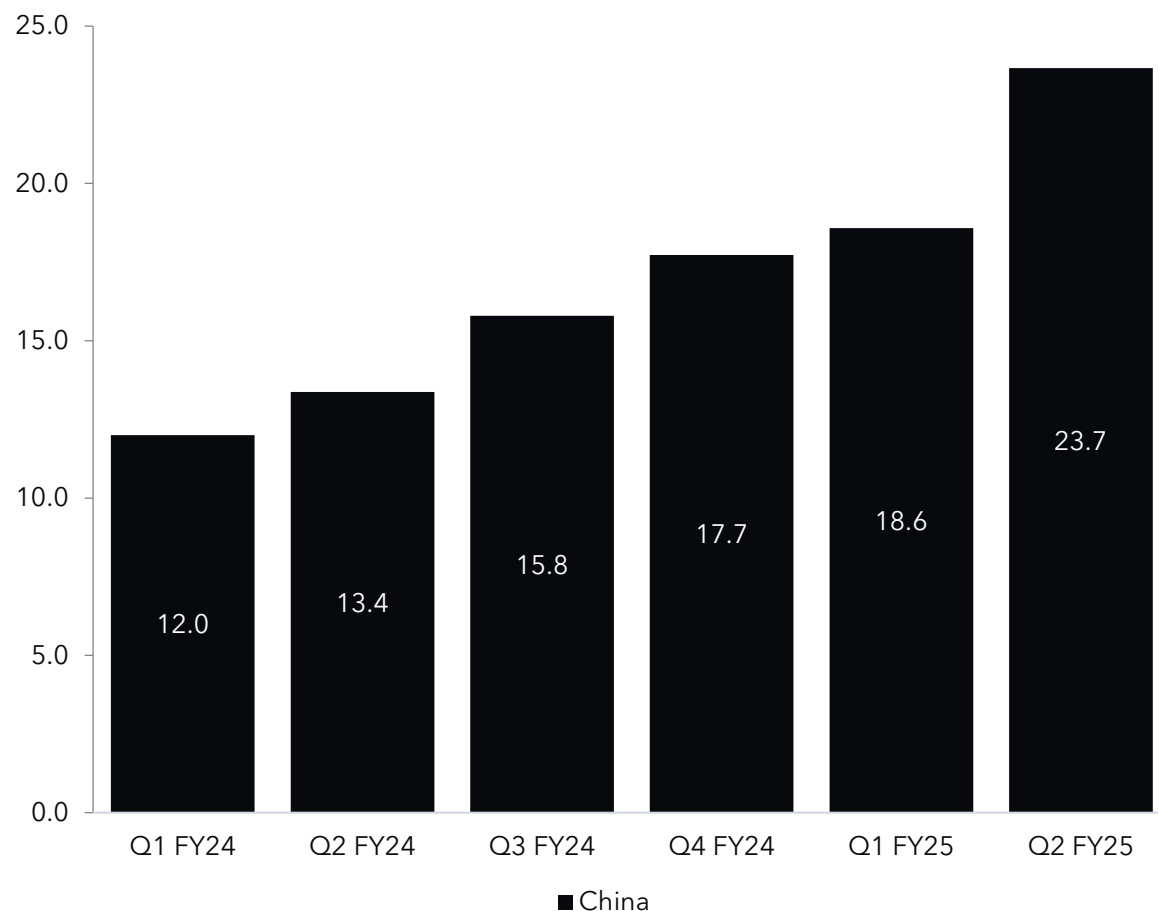


- \$4.7m decrease on H1 FY24
- Decrease driven by lower revenue and gross margin with short-term volatility due to the dynamic nature of the US AI market

<sup>1</sup> Underlying EBITDA excludes restructure costs, transaction costs, and acquisition-related and one-time share-based payment expense.

# Strong China revenue growth continues

## China revenue

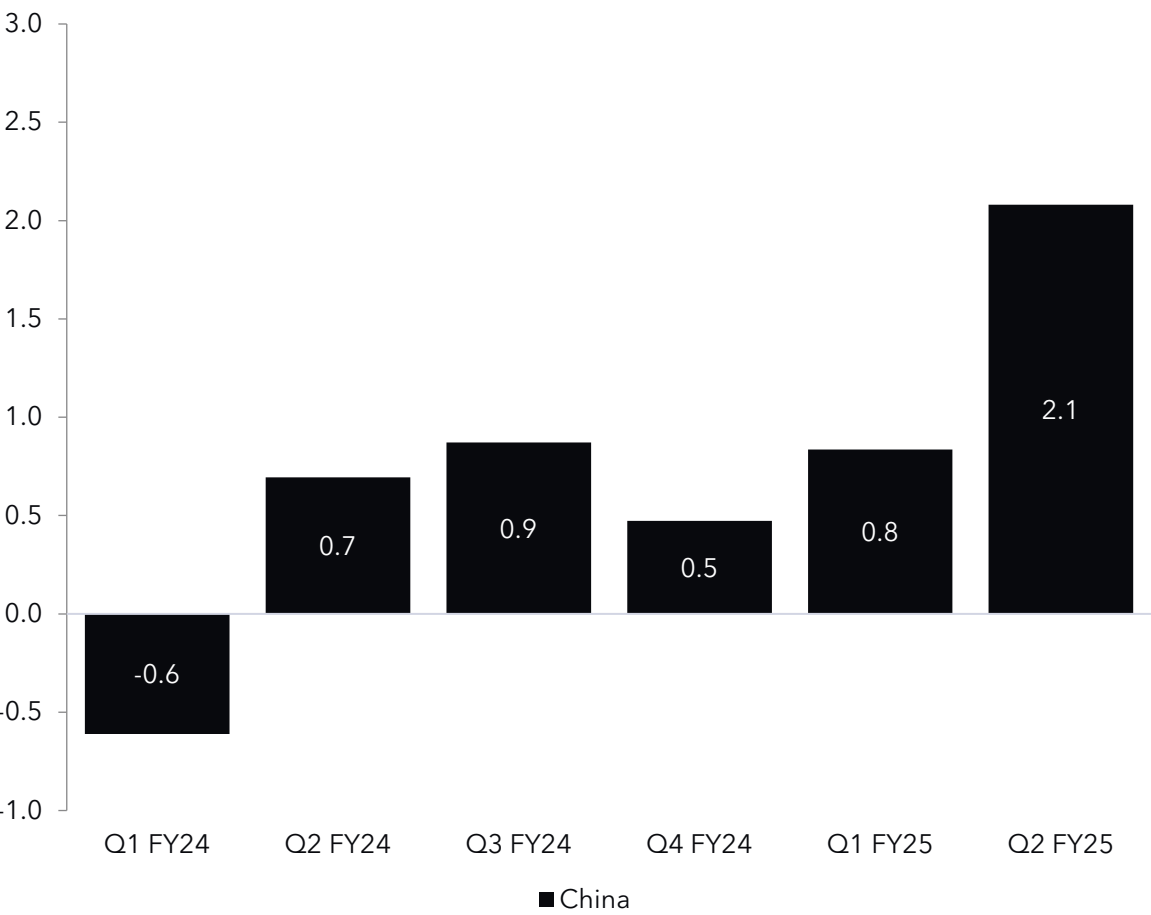


## Commentary

- Strong revenue growth continued during the half, up 67% on H1 FY24
- Exited the half with an annualised run-rate for June exceeding \$100 million
- China business has a more predictable revenue profile compared to the remainder of the business due to the engagement and delivery model
- China customers include leading LLM model builders, along with leading technology and auto customers
- Revenue opportunities in both China domestically as well as China customers expanding internationally

# Positive contribution to EBITDA from China

## China underlying EBITDA

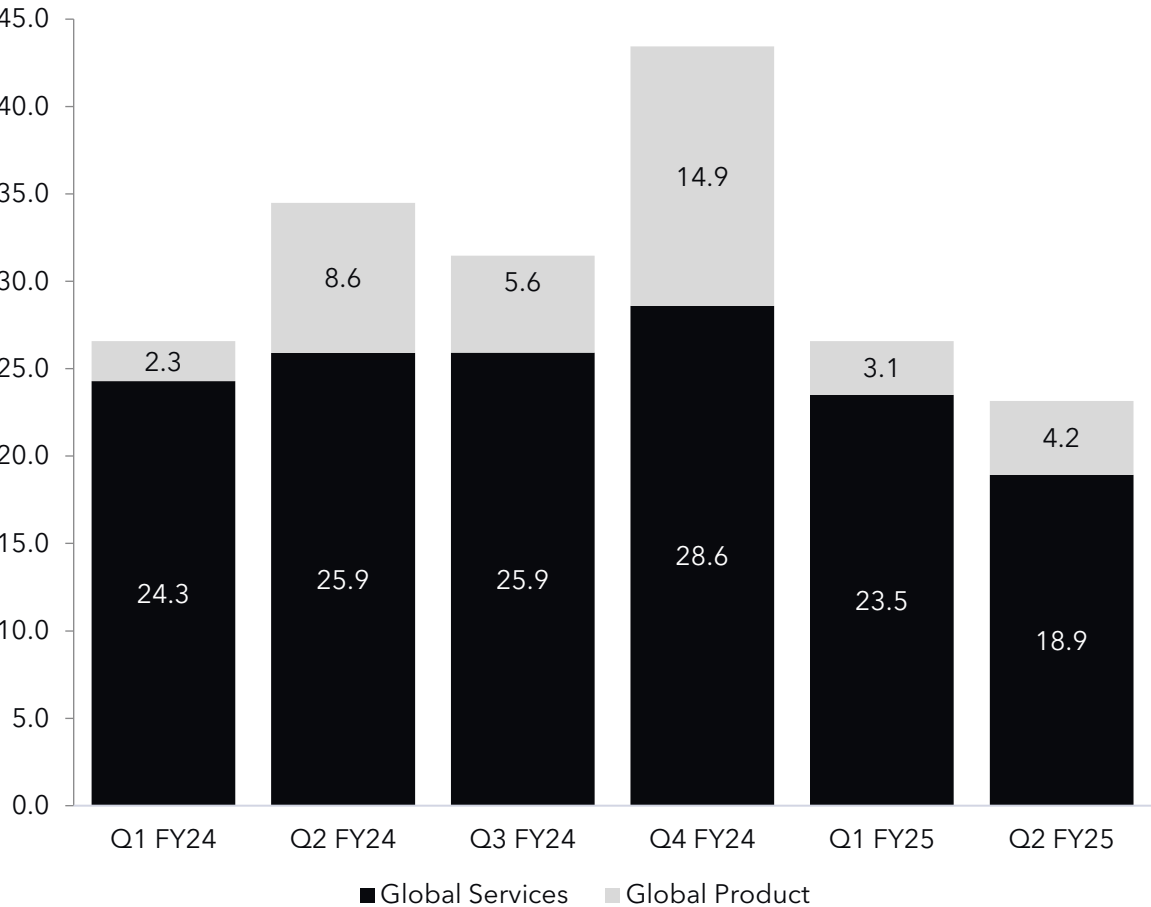


## Commentary

- China contributed \$2.9m underlying EBITDA to H1 FY25, a \$2.8m improvement compared to H1 FY24
- Q2 FY25 was the fifth consecutive quarter of China EBITDA profitability
- Margin improvement plan in place with a focus on higher gross margin revenue opportunities and scalable operations

# Global revenue impacted by short-term volatility

## Global revenue excluding Google

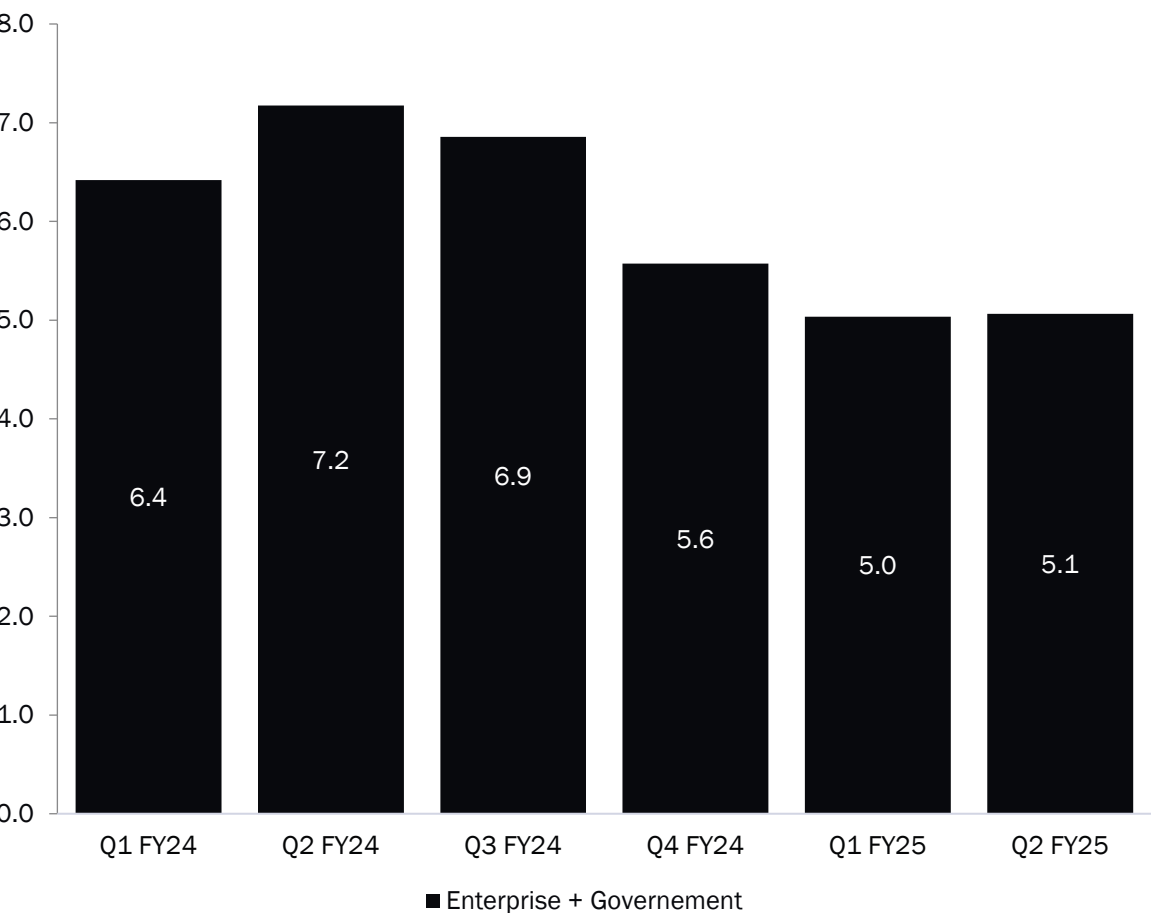


## Commentary

- Global revenue impacted by short-term volatility due to the dynamic nature of the US AI market
- Customer relationships and conviction in revenue opportunity remains strong going into H2 FY25. However, timing uncertain in relation to the resumption of large volume LLM projects
- Customer LLM teams are planning and going through multiple reorgansiations, leading to timing delays in project awards
- Quality metrics with largest customer at all time highs, positioning Appen well to capture future work
- Continue to win new projects, albeit volume of data currently lower versus H1 FY24
- Recent wins, including a project with \$10m+ annual revenue potential

# Conviction in revenue opportunity remains for Enterprise

## Enterprise, Government revenue



## Commentary

- Decrease in revenue driven by lower volumes within existing large Enterprise projects, including some projects coming to an end
- Healthy Enterprise pipeline and conviction remains in the revenue opportunity, although timing of revenue conversion remains unclear
- US policy uncertainty has meant generating meaningful short-term revenue opportunities within the US Government division is challenging
- In light of this, decision made to wind back divisional investment, commencing H2 FY25. Annualised opex saving of ~\$4m with majority of cost-out executed by end of Q3 FY25, balance by the end of Q4 FY25
- The reduction in Government investment does not have a material impact on existing revenue

# Profit and loss summary

|                                           | H1<br>FY25 | H1<br>FY24 | Change  |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|------------|---------|
| Revenue                                   | 102.1      | 113.4      | (10%)   |
| Gross Margin <sup>1</sup> %               | 37.0%      | 37.7%      | -0.7 pp |
| Employee expenses <sup>2</sup>            | 25.5       | 28.2       | (9%)    |
| Share-based payments expense <sup>3</sup> | 0.3        | 1.0        | (75%)   |
| Other expenses <sup>4</sup>               | 14.2       | 15.8       | (11%)   |
| Underlying EBITDA <sup>5</sup>            | (2.8)      | (2.6)      | nm      |
| Underlying EBITDA <sup>5</sup> before FX  | (2.2)      | (2.3)      | nm      |
| Underlying NPAT <sup>6</sup>              | (12.2)     | (11.8)     | nm      |
| Statutory NPAT                            | (19.3)     | (17.8)     | nm      |

## Commentary

- Revenue decreased 10% to \$102.1m, reflecting termination of Google contract in Q1 FY24
- Decrease in gross margin % reflects a change in customer and project mix, noting China margins traditionally lower than the rest of Group
- 11% decrease in expenses predominately due to prudent cost management
- Slight underlying EBITDA (before FX) improvement despite lower gross margin due to prudent cost management
- Statutory NPAT includes accelerated amortisation charge of \$3.3m due to a reduction in the useful life of acquired platform

<sup>1</sup> Gross margin refers to revenue less crowd expenses.

<sup>2</sup> Employee expenses excludes direct project workers included in gross margin calculation (i.e. crowd expenses).

<sup>3</sup> Non-cash expense. Excludes acquisition-related and one-time share-based payment expense.

<sup>4</sup> All other expenses included in underlying EBITDA before FX.

<sup>5</sup> Underlying EBITDA excludes restructure costs, transaction costs, and acquisition-related and one-time share-based payment expense.

<sup>6</sup> Underlying NPAT excludes after tax impact of restructure costs, transaction costs, acquisition-related and one-time share-based payment expense, and amortisation of acquisition related intangibles

# Cash flow summary

|                                                          | H1 FY25     | H1 FY24     |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Receipts                                                 | 122.1       | 123.3       |
| Payments and other                                       | (109.2)     | (112.7)     |
| <b>Cash flow from operations before interest and tax</b> | <b>12.9</b> | <b>10.6</b> |
| Net interest                                             | 0.4         | 0.2         |
| Taxes                                                    | (0.1)       | 0.6         |
| <b>Net cash from operating activities</b>                | <b>13.2</b> | <b>11.4</b> |
| Cash flows – investing activities                        | (7.3)       | (6.5)       |
| Cash flows – financing activities                        | (2.4)       | (2.1)       |
| <b>Net cash flow for the period</b>                      | <b>3.5</b>  | <b>2.8</b>  |
| Opening cash balance                                     | 54.8        | 32.1        |
| FX impact                                                | 2.6         | (0.2)       |
| <b>Closing cash balance</b>                              | <b>60.9</b> | <b>34.7</b> |

## Cash flow reconciliation

|                                                   |             |             |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Underlying EBITDA                                 | (2.8)       | (2.6)       |
| Net working capital                               | 15.7        | 13.2        |
| Cash flow from operations before interest and tax | <b>12.9</b> | <b>10.6</b> |
| Underlying EBITDA cash conversion                 | nm%         | nm%         |

## Commentary

- Cash balance of \$60.9m (AUD 92.9m<sup>1</sup>), up \$6.1m from December 2024
- Cash flow from operations of \$12.9m, positively impacted by the receipt of a payment from a major customer in the first week of January 2025 versus December 2024 as scheduled
- Cash used in investing activities \$0.8m higher compared to H1 FY24, due to higher investment in product development and new facilities for the China division
- Cash used in financing activities \$0.3m higher compared to H1 FY24 due to lease payments for new facilities for the China division
- Cash used to fund operations and capex

<sup>1</sup> Converted at 30 June 2025 exchange rate of 0.655

# Strategy & operational update

Ryan Kolln

**Appen**





# Appen sees three critical areas for long-term success



## Expert-led approach to sales and marketing

- Appen customers are at the forefront of AI model development
- Building deep relationships with customers requires a highly technical approach to sales and marketing
- Appen is enhancing the technical expertise of our go-to-market team



## Evolved data offerings

- The data needs of customers is evolving rapidly as AI advances
- Appen continues to refine data offerings to meet customer needs
- Appen's highly flexible underlying technology infrastructure is critical for success



## Technology enabled efficiencies

- Creating high quality data increasingly relies on a highly automated workflow
- AI enabled workforce management is proving to deliver improved quality
- Appen continues to invest in its platform development as a key differentiator

## Scalable and flexible technology underpins Appen's operations

Proprietary technology platforms that enable high quality data at scale

## Appen AI data consultants

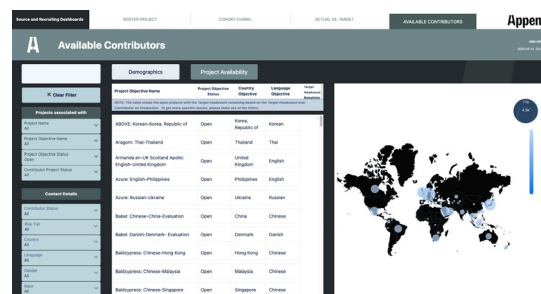
Team of experts to manage  
AI data projects

Highly consultative  
engagement with clients

Leverages 20+ years of  
expertise

## Mercury

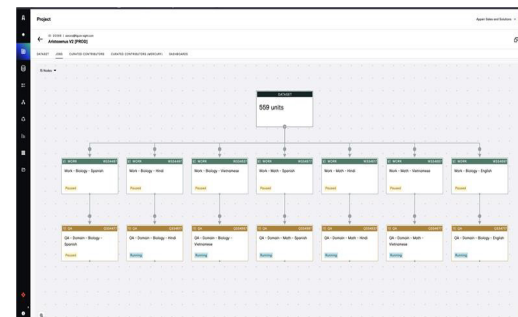
Crowd and project management platform



- Setup and management of workforce assignment to projects
- AI based automations for contributor project assignment and management

## ADAP + MatrixGo<sup>1</sup>

### Data annotation platform

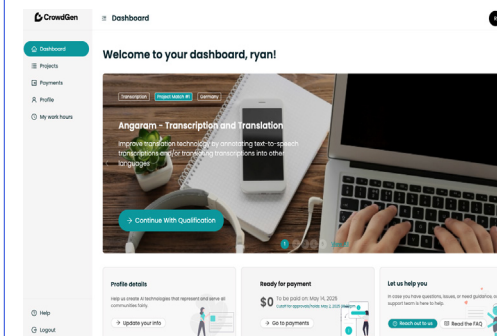


- Configuration of annotation tasks
- Interface for contributors to complete tasks
- Built-in AI quality assurance

Offered as a SaaS platform and is used for Appen managed projects

**CrowdGen**

### Crowd onboarding and interface



- Primary interface for Appen contributors
- Highly automated approach to assess applicants

# Near-term strategy execution

Phase 1 of Appen's 12-month strategy focusses on delivering improved data quality and speed (unit economics), further bolstering Appen's core business and greater revenue diversification



## Enhanced focus on LLM growth

- More technical expertise in GTM team ✓
- Marketing strategy focussed on technical thought leadership ✓



## Operational efficiency & automation

- Next phase of automations in our platforms ✓
- LLM agents in support operations ✓



## Accelerate technology innovation

- LLMs utilised throughout software development lifecycle ✓
- Rapid innovation prototyping ✓



## Grow our team

- Increased technical expertise in project delivery teams ✓
- Expansion of technical and operations resources in India and Philippines ✓



## Evolve data workforce

- LLM interviewer to assess new contributor quality ✓
- Enhanced AI matching of crowd to tasks ✓

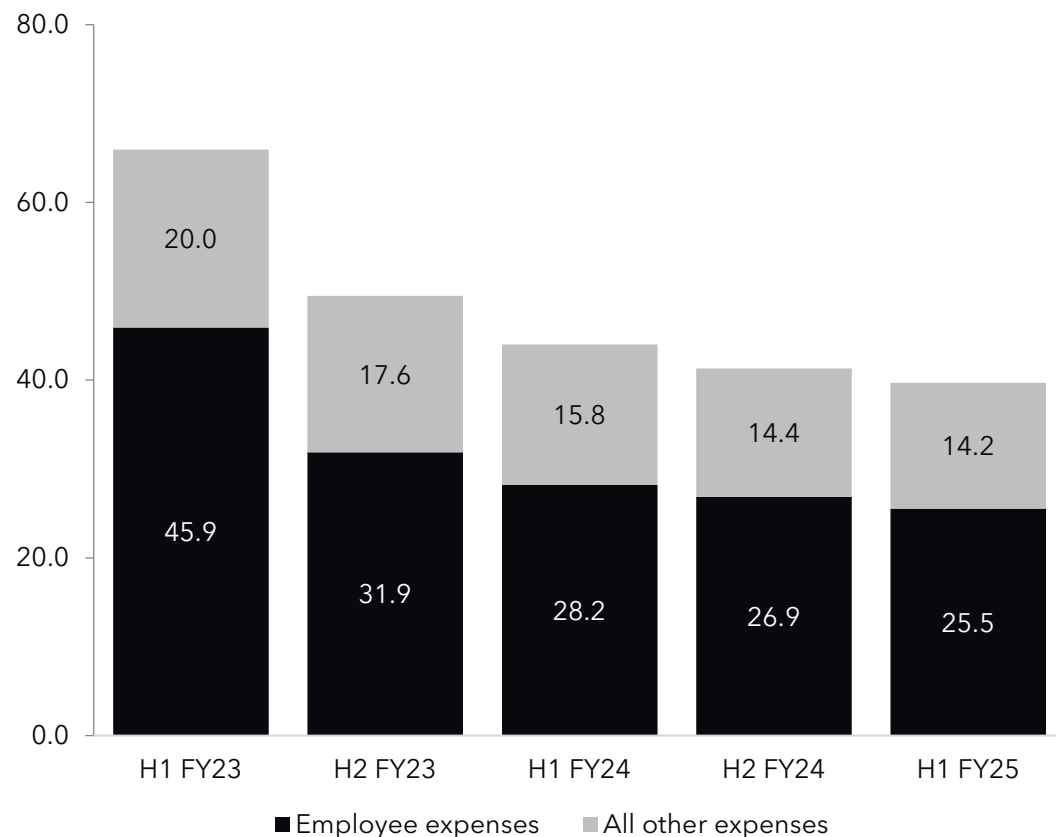


## Prudent cost management

- Productivity benefit captured through automations ✓
- Leveraging AI to maintain cost base while scaling ✓

# Focused technology roadmap is driving cost efficiency

## Opex<sup>1,2</sup>



## Commentary

- Our technology roadmap continues to deliver operational efficiencies in the business
- Approximately \$10 million in incremental annualised cost efficiencies identified and will be executed over the remainder of FY25
- ~70% planned by the end of Q3 FY25 and the balance by the end of Q4 FY25
- Importantly, these efficiencies are net of talent upgrades required to increase technical expertise
- There has been no operational impact of cost out executed to date
- In addition to the above \$10 million, a wind back of investment in the US Government division will result in further annualised opex savings of ~\$4m. The majority will be executed by the end of Q3 FY25, with balance by the end of Q4 FY25

<sup>1</sup> Excludes share-based payment expense and direct project workers included in gross margin calculation (i.e. crowd expenses).

<sup>2</sup> All other expenses included in underlying EBITDA before FX.

# FY25 outlook & guidance

Ryan Kolln

**Appen**



# FY25 outlook & guidance

Appen remains confident in its long-term revenue opportunity, including previously provided longer-term targets.

As it relates to the balance of FY25, there is limited visibility relating to specific timing for the resumption of large LLM projects. In addition, recent US policy uncertainty has reduced the likelihood of generating meaningful short-term Government revenue, resulting in reduced divisional investment.

**Considering this, Appen reaffirms its current FY25 guidance of:**  
**Revenue towards the low end of the \$235 million to \$260 million range<sup>1</sup>; and**  
**Positive full year underlying EBITDA<sup>2</sup>.**

1. As provided at the Company's Annual General Meeting in May 2025, updated at the Company's Q2 FY25 results in July 2025.

2. Underlying EBITDA excludes FX gains/losses, restructure costs, transaction costs, and acquisition-related and one-time share-based payment expense.

**Appendix**

**Appen**



# Appen reporting structure

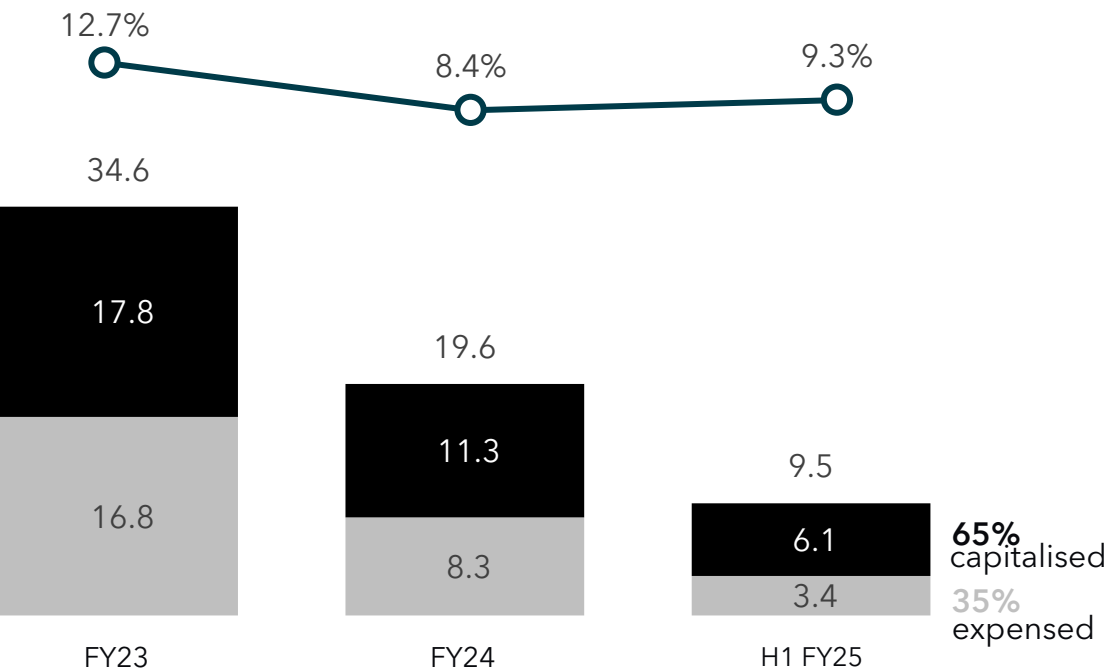
| Global Services                                                         | New Markets                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                  |                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Services provided to leading US tech companies utilising their platform | New Markets reflects progress against our product led strategy<br><br>Includes Global Product (Global customer revenue through Appen products), Enterprise, China, and Government.<br><br>All project types and data modalities |                  |                        |
| Global                                                                  | Enterprise                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Government       | China                  |
| Leading US tech companies, including Amazon and Microsoft               | Covering North America, EMEA and SEA                                                                                                                                                                                            | Federal agencies | China, Japan and Korea |



# Investment in product development

## Investment in product development<sup>1</sup>

Product development (exc. amortisation) as a % of revenue



## Commentary

- \$9.5m investment in product development during H1 FY25
- ~65% of spend capitalised, up on FY24 due to increased effort on development vs. maintenance during the period. 9.3% of revenue reinvested in product development
- Full year investment in product development expected to be contained within existing product and engineering spend
- While the quantum of product development is now lower than historical levels, Appen remains committed to the development of industry-leading products and tools to deliver high quality data for our customers, including supporting generative AI

<sup>1</sup>Product development relates to investment in engineering to ensure our AI data platform and tools support our clients and their use cases, drive efficiencies and scale. These amounts exclude amortization expense.

# Reconciliation between statutory and underlying results

|                                                                    | Half-year ended<br>30-Jun-25<br>\$000 | Half-year ended<br>30-Jun-24<br>\$000 | Change<br>nm% |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Underlying net loss after tax (NPAT)<sup>1</sup></b>            | (12,240)                              | (11,815)                              | nm%           |
| <i>Less underlying adjustments (net of tax)</i>                    |                                       |                                       |               |
| Amortisation of acquisition-related identifiable intangible assets | (6,266)                               | (3,072)                               |               |
| Restructure costs                                                  | (705)                                 | (1,991)                               |               |
| Transaction costs                                                  | (45)                                  | (137)                                 |               |
| Acquisition-related and one-time <sup>2</sup> share-based payments | (6)                                   | (738)                                 |               |
| <b>Statutory NPAT</b>                                              | (19,263)                              | (17,753)                              | nm%           |
| <i>Add/(less): tax expense/benefit</i>                             | (21)                                  | 15                                    |               |
| <i>Add: net interest expense</i>                                   | (33)                                  | 228                                   |               |
| <b>EBIT<sup>3</sup></b>                                            | (19,317)                              | (17,510)                              | nm%           |
| <i>Add: depreciation and amortisation</i>                          | 15,511                                | 11,293                                |               |
| <b>Statutory EBITDA<sup>4</sup></b>                                | (3,806)                               | (6,217)                               | nm%           |
| <i>Add: underlying adjustments</i>                                 |                                       |                                       |               |
| Restructure costs                                                  | 903                                   | 2,673                                 |               |
| Transaction costs                                                  | 66                                    | 193                                   |               |
| Acquisition-related and one-time <sup>3</sup> share-based payments | 6                                     | 738                                   |               |
| <b>Underlying EBITDA<sup>1</sup></b>                               | (2,831)                               | (2,613)                               | nm%           |
| Statutory diluted earnings per share (cents)                       | (7.31)                                | (8.06)                                |               |
| Underlying diluted earnings per share (cents)                      | (4.65)                                | (5.37)                                |               |
| % Statutory EBITDA/sales revenue                                   | (3.7%)                                | (5.5%)                                |               |
| % Underlying EBITDA/sales revenue                                  | (2.7%)                                | (2.3%)                                |               |

1. Underlying results are a non-IFRS measure used by management to assess the performance of the business and have been calculated from statutory measures. Non-IFRS measures have not been subject to audit. Underlying EBITDA excludes restructure costs, transaction costs, and acquisition-related and one-time share-based payments expense.
2. Former CEO one-off sign-on bonus, in receipt of bonuses forgone and was intended to replace a portion of the bonus payments that the former CEO would have received from his previous employer had he not ceased employment.
3. EBIT is defined as earnings before interest and tax.
4. EBITDA is EBIT before depreciation and amortisation.

# Balance sheet

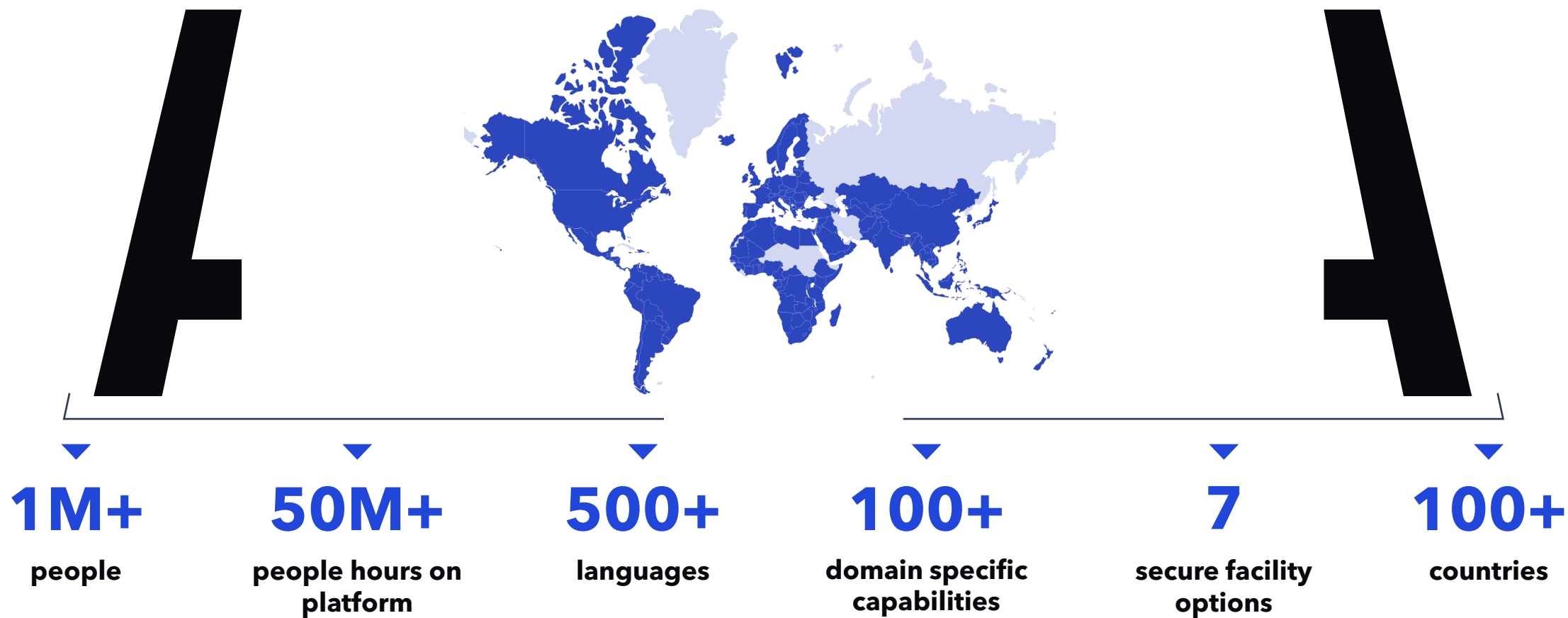
|                          | Jun 2025     | Dec 2024     |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Cash                     | 60.9         | 54.8         |
| Receivables              | 34.1         | 46.7         |
| Contract assets          | 15.6         | 19.7         |
| Other current assets     | 6.8          | 8.0          |
| Non-current assets       | 33.3         | 41.4         |
| <b>Total assets</b>      | <b>150.7</b> | <b>170.6</b> |
| Current liabilities      | 42.3         | 43.9         |
| Non-current liabilities  | 11.5         | 12.4         |
| <b>Total liabilities</b> | <b>53.8</b>  | <b>56.3</b>  |
| <b>Net Assets</b>        | <b>96.9</b>  | <b>114.3</b> |
| <b>Total equity</b>      | <b>96.9</b>  | <b>114.3</b> |

## Commentary

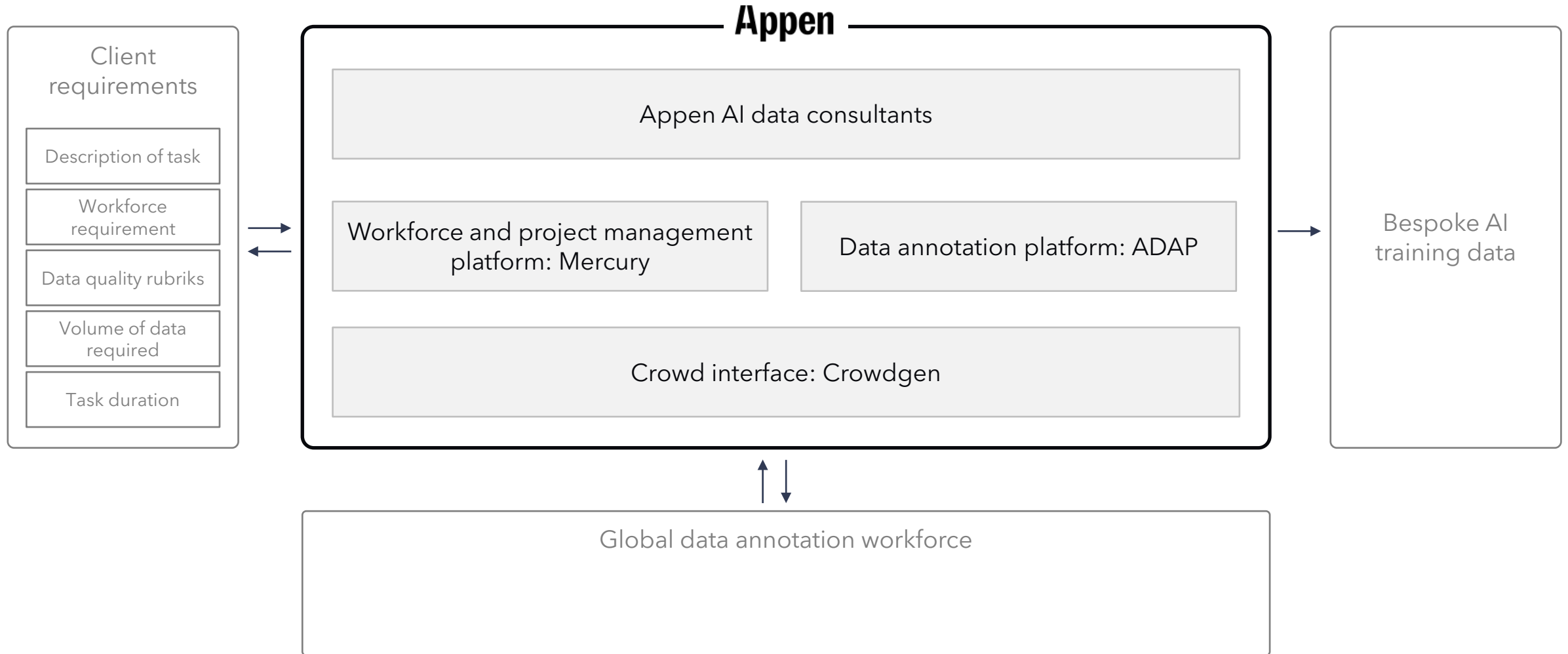
- Cash balance of \$60.9m (AUD 92.9m<sup>1</sup>) , up \$6.1m from December 2024. Balance positively impacted by receipt of a \$10m payment from a major customer in the first week of January 2025 versus December 2024 as scheduled
- Receivables and contract assets combined decreased \$16.7m due to \$10m noted above as well as lower revenue Q2 FY25 compared to Q4 FY24
- Non-current assets decreased primarily due to amortisation of platform at higher rate than new investment in product development, and \$3.3m accelerated amortisation in relation to acquired platform
- Current liabilities \$1.6m lower due to decrease in payables offset by an increase in contract liabilities
- Non-current liabilities \$0.9m lower due to a decrease in lease liabilities

<sup>1</sup> Converted at 30 June 2025 exchange rate of 0.655

# Appen **global** workforce



# Appen creates bespoke AI training data for leading model builders



# Examples of how Appen supports its customers

## **Social media**

- Ad evaluations
- Misinformation categorization
- AR/VR & wearable device data

## **Foundation model builders**

- Evaluation of LLM responses
- Domain specific model reasoning
- Agentic AI training data

## **AI first companies**

- Image annotation
- Embodied AI agents (robotics)
- Multimodal data annotation

## **Ecommerce**

- Product classification
- Customer support chatbot data
- Multi-modal data analysis

## **Enterprise SaaS**

- Evaluation of LLM responses
- Multimodal data annotation
- Audio data for speech recognition

## **Automotive**

- 3D Lidar annotation
- In-cabin image data collection
- Data for speech recognition



Thank you