

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 2nd and 3rd 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
 - > 1st 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%	
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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 movements	30 Sep \$'000s	H1 Movement \$'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

