MSCI SECOND QUARTER 2017

Earnings Presentation

August 3, 2017



FORWARD – LOOKING STATEMENTS

Forward-Looking Statements – Safe Harbor Statements

- This earnings presentation contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including without limitation, our full-year 2017 guidance. These forward-looking statements relate to future events or to future financial performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by the use of words such as "may," "could," "expect," "intend," "plan," "seek," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "potential" or "continue," or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements because they involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that are, in some cases, beyond our control and that could materially affect our actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements.
- Other factors that could materially affect actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements can be found in MSCI's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") on February 24, 2017 and in quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K filed or furnished with the SEC. If any of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or if our underlying assumptions prove to be incorrect, actual results may vary significantly from what MSCI projected. Any forward-looking statement in this earnings presentation reflects MSCI's current views with respect to future events and is subject to these and other risks, uncertainties and assumptions relating to MSCI's operations, results of operations, growth strategy and liquidity. MSCI assumes no obligation to publicly update or revise these forward-looking statements for any reason, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise, except as required by law.



OTHER INFORMATION

- Percentage changes and totals in this earnings presentation may not sum due to rounding.
- Percentage changes refer to the comparable period in 2016, unless otherwise noted.
- Gross sales include both recurring subscription and non-recurring sales as reported in Table 6: Sales and Aggregate Retention Rate by Segment (unaudited) of the press release reporting MSCI's financial results for second quarter 2017.
- Foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations are calculated to be the difference between the current period results as reported compared to the current period results recalculated using the foreign currency exchange rates in effect for the comparable prior period. We do not provide the impact of foreign currency fluctuations on our asset-based fees tied to average AUM, of which approximately two-thirds are invested in securities denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar, and accordingly, the impact of any such is excluded from the disclosed foreign currency adjusted variances.
- On August 1, 2016, MSCI closed the sale of its Real Estate occupiers benchmarking business. Unless indicated otherwise, reported financial results and operating metrics have not been updated to exclude the results of this business.
- Based on accounting guidance, all stock-based compensation excess tax benefits and tax shortfalls are recognized in the provision for income taxes in the statement of income as discrete items, beginning in first quarter 2017 on a prospective basis. Previously, these discrete amounts were recorded in additional paid in capital on the statement of financial condition.
- Beginning in first quarter 2017, adjusted EPS includes amortization expense associated with capitalized software development costs. For periods prior to first quarter 2017, the amortization associated with capitalized software development was not included as an adjustment to adjusted net income and adjusted EPS as it was not material.



Q2'17 – CONTINUED STRONG EXECUTION¹

REVENUE GROWTH

Growth in Operating Revenues

+8.8%

OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

Increase in Operating Expenses / Adj. EBITDA Expenses +3.2% / +3.6%

Growth in Operating Income / Adj. EBITDA +16.1% / +13.8%

Operating Margin / Adj. EBITDA Margin Improvement +290 bps / +230 bps

Lower Effective Tax Rate (260 bps)

CAPITAL OPTIMIZATION

Lower Diluted Share Count

(5.3%)

Increased Leverage²

+0.5x

Growth in Diluted EPS / Adj. EPS

+29.0% / +23.4%



Building Shareholder Value

¹Percentage and other changes refer to second guarter 2016 unless otherwise noted.

² Leverage = Total Debt / Trailing Twelve Months Adjusted EBITDA.

DRIVERS OF GROWTH / PROFITABILITY

Revenue Drivers

Passive Products Linked to MSCI Indexes (ETFs and Non-ETFs)

Market Cap Index Subscriptions

Equity Factor Indexes and Risk Models

ESG Ratings and Indexes

Index Derivatives (Futures, Options and Structured Products)

Profitability Drivers

Increase in Efficiency of Technology Platform

Prioritization and Execution of Key Initiatives and Investments



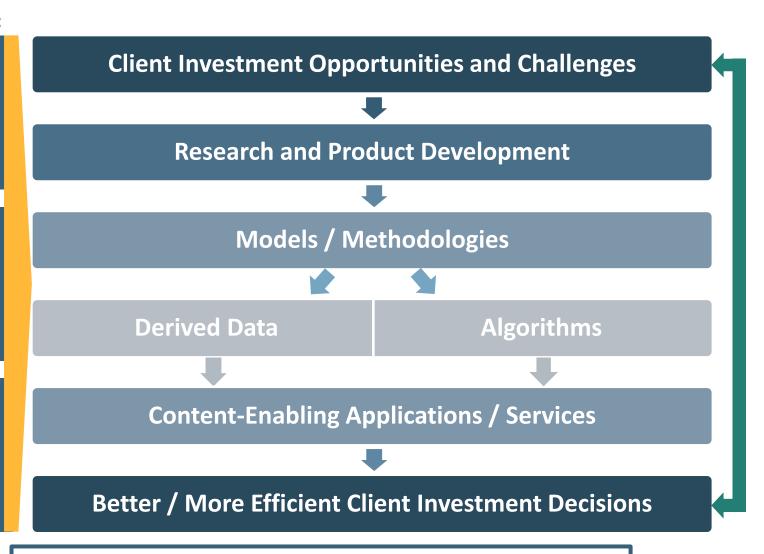
POWER OF THE INTEGRATED FRANCHISE

Integration Within:

Clients

Content

Applications & Services



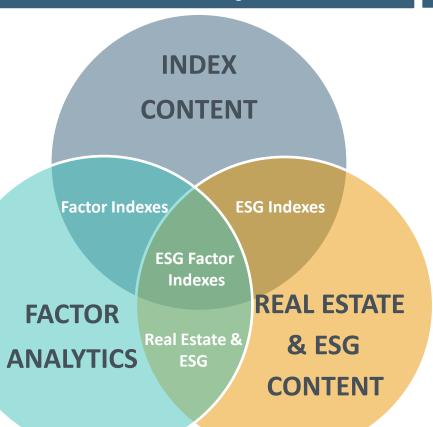


INTEGRATED FRANCHISE – CONTENT, APPLICATIONS & SERVICES

(US\$ in millions)

Incremental Run Rate From Integration >\$55 million

Integration of Indexes, Factors, Real Estate and ESG Across MSCI



- Creation of Factor, ESG and Combined
 ESG / Factor Indexes:
 - Combining Factor and ESG exposures
- Real Estate and ESG Content in Analytics:
 - Real Estate Risk Models in Analytics
 - ESG offerings in Analytics
- Factor Models, Index and ESG Content Across Applications:
 - Unified approach to factors



INTEGRATED FRANCHISE – BENEFIT TO CLIENTS

ASSET OWNERS



ACTIVE MANAGERS

- Transparency show how manager adds value (Factors)
- Reduce costs through work flow improvements (Analytics Tools)
- Better risk management multi-asset risk solutions (BarraOne)
- More sustainable and integrated approach to investing (ESG)
- Better asset allocation
- Helps meet fiduciary obligations



Better Beta

PASSIVE MANAGERS

- More product options for Asset Owners (Factors)
- Cost efficient environment for capturing premia
- Reduce costs of trading (Equity Models)
- Better risk management in beta generation
- More sustainable and integrated approach to investing (ESG)
- Helps meet fiduciary obligations

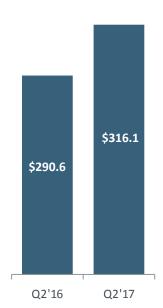


Q2'17 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

(US\$ in millions, except for EPS)

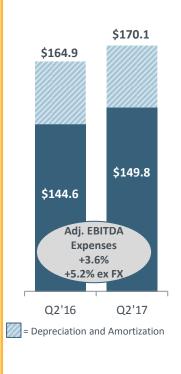
Operating Revenue

+8.8% +9.4% ex FX¹



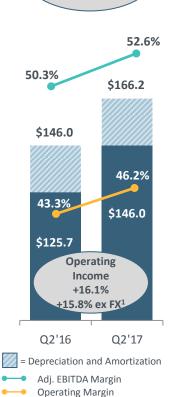
Operating Expenses

Operating
Expenses
+3.2%
+4.6% ex FX



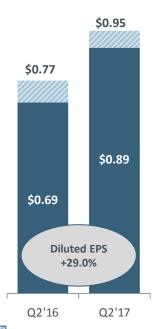
Operating Income

Adj. EBITDA +13.8% +13.6% ex FX¹



Earnings Per Share

Adj. EPS +23.4%



= Diluted EPS, plus the after-tax impact of amortization of acquired intangible assets

Cash Generation

Cash from Operations +3.5%

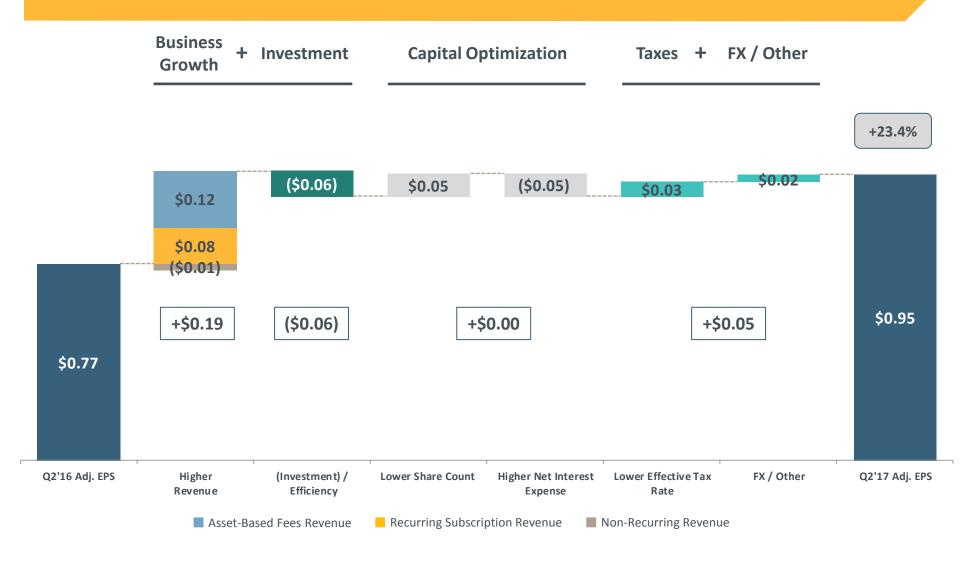






Strong Financial Performance Across Key Metrics

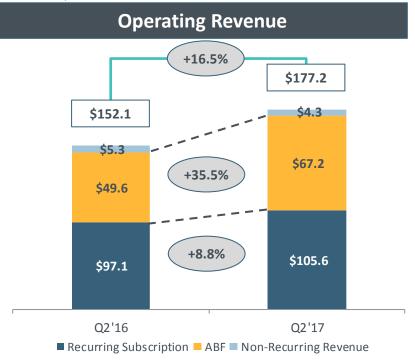
Q2'17 VS. Q2'16 ADJUSTED EPS BRIDGE





INDEX SEGMENT

(US\$ in millions)



- Asset-based fees (ABF) revenue growth across all products:
 - 32.2% increase in ETF related revenue
 - 40.9% increase in non-ETF passive products revenue
 - 54.0% increase in exchange-traded products revenue
- Solid growth in recurring subscription revenue driven by core products, factor, thematic and custom index products and usage fees



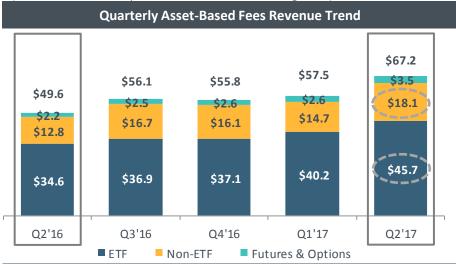


- Increase in margin driven by strong asset-based fees revenue growth
- Continue to invest and innovate to enhance existing products

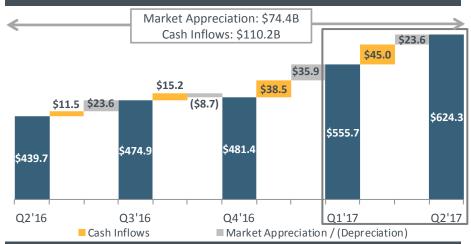


INDEX SEGMENT — ASSET-BASED FEES DETAIL

(US\$ in millions, except AUM in billions and Average BPS)



Quarter-End AUM & Market Movement of ETFs Linked to MSCI Indexes



Quarter-End AUM by Market Exposure¹ of ETFs Linked to MSCI Indexes



Quarterly Avg. AUM and Avg. BPS² of ETFs Linked to MSCI Indexes



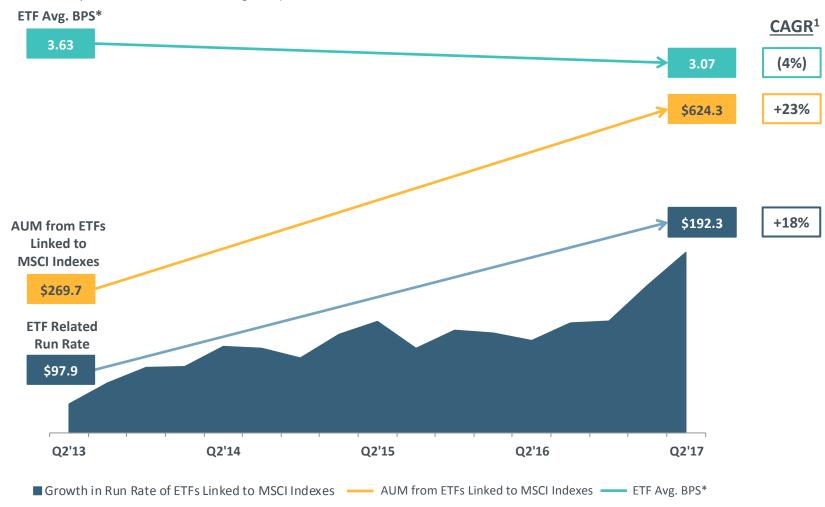




¹Note: US = ETFs linked to MSCI indexes the majority of whose weight is comprised of securities in MSCI Developed Market (DM) countries, primarily or exclusively in the US. DM ex US = ETFs linked to MSCI indexes the majority of whose weight is comprised of securities in MSCI DM countries other than the US. EM = ETFs linked to MSCI indexes the majority of whose weight is comprised of securities that are not in MSCI DM countries. Prior periods have been reclassified to conform to the current period classification.

MSCI INDEX-LINKED ETFS – ATTRACTIVE PRICE VS. VOLUME TRADE-OFF

(US\$ in millions, except AUM in billions and Average BPS)



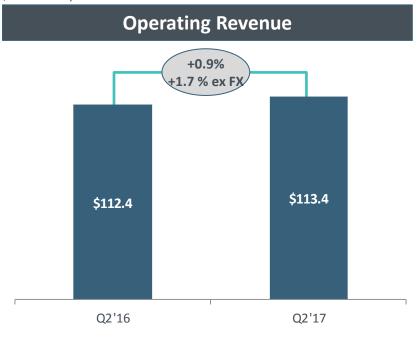


Successfully Maximizing Run Rate

 $^{^*}$ Average ETF BPS based on Run Rate and period—end AUM from ETFs linked to MSCI Indexes. 1 CAGR for the period Q2'13 to Q2'17.

ANALYTICS SEGMENT

(US\$ in millions)



- Slower revenue growth in second quarter principally driven by two factors:
 - Impact of elevated cancels in the prior year
 - Timing of client implementations
- Continued strength in equity models

Adj. EBITDA & Adj. EBITDA Margin (%)

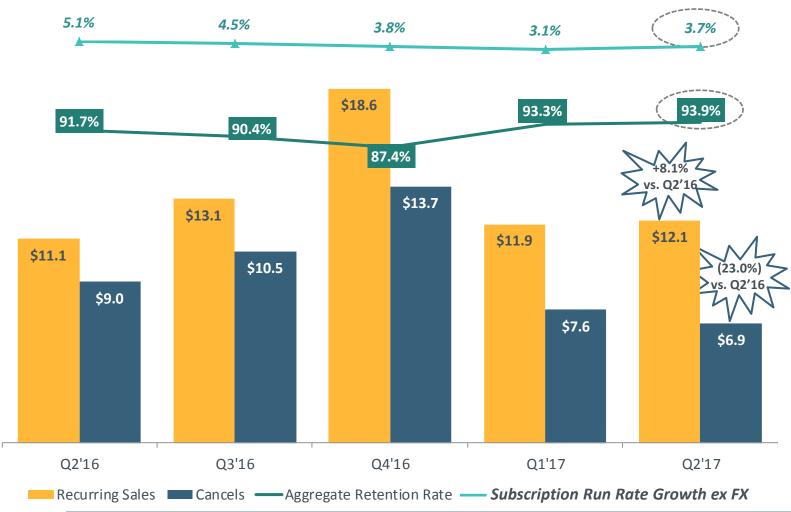


- Negative operating leverage in H1'17 driven by slower revenue growth and higher investment spend
- Improved profitability from strong pipeline and timing of client implementations expected to benefit H2'17



ANALYTICS RECURRING SALES AND CANCELS

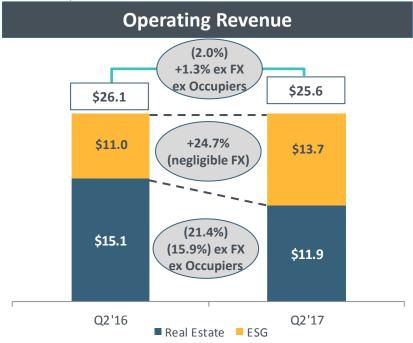
(US\$ in millions)





ALL OTHER SEGMENT

(US\$ in millions)



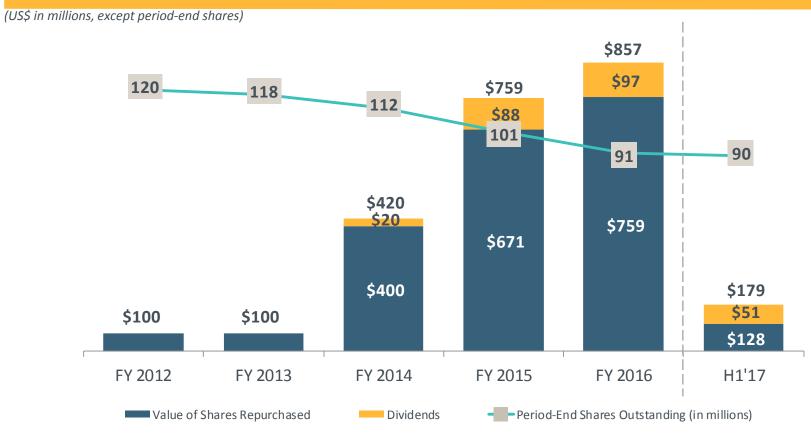
- Strong growth driven by ESG Ratings revenue; record total net new subscription sales
- Real Estate revenue lower due to higher cancels principally from a discontinued index, the timing of report deliveries and FX

Adj. EBITDA & Adj. EBITDA Margin (%)



- Continued investment in ESG product line to drive growth and establish MSCI ESG as market standard
- Restructuring of Real Estate product line continues

STRONG TRACK RECORD OF RETURNING CAPITAL



- Total capital returned since 2012: \$2.4B
- In second quarter 2017 and through July 28, 2017, a total of 0.5m shares were repurchased at an average price of \$100.63 per share for a total value of \$46.4m
- \$0.7B remains on outstanding share repurchase authorization as of 07/28/17
- Board approves 35.7% increase in dividend to \$0.38 per share; \$1.52 on an annualized basis



BALANCE SHEET AND LIQUIDITY

(US\$ in millions)	As of June 30, 2017				
Cash & Cash Equivalents		\$750.6			
Cash & Cash Equivalents in the US ¹	\$385.6				
Cash & Cash Equivalents held outside of the US	\$365.0				
Total Debt ²		\$2,100.0			
5.25% \$800m senior unsecured notes due 11/2024	\$800.0				
5.75% \$800m senior unsecured notes due 8/2025	\$800.0				
4.75% \$500m senior unsecured notes due 8/2026	\$500.0				
\$220m unsecured revolving credit facility terminating 8/2021	\$0.0				
Net Debt		\$1,349.4			
Total Debt / Adj. EBITDA		3.5x			
Net Debt / Adj. EBITDA		2.2x			
Credit Ratings (S&P / Moody's)*		BB+ / Ba2			

^{*}Note: A securities rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to revision or withdrawal at any time.

- No change to approach to capital return; focus continues to be on opportunistic repurchases on market pull backs
- Commitment to deploy capital quickly in the most efficient method to achieve the highest return for shareholders

Strong Balance Sheet



FY 2017 GUIDANCE

(US\$ in millions)

	FY 2017 Guidance					
Metric	<u>Previous</u>	<u>Current</u>				
Operating expenses	\$690 - \$705	\$690 - \$700				
Adjusted EBITDA expenses	\$605 - \$620	\$605 - \$615				
Effective tax rate	31.5% - 32.5%	30.0% - 31.0%				
Interest expense	\$116	No Change				
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$360 - \$410	No Change				
Capex	<u>(\$50 - \$40)</u>	No Change				
Free cash flow	\$310 - \$370	No Change				
Dividend payout	30% - 40%	No Change				

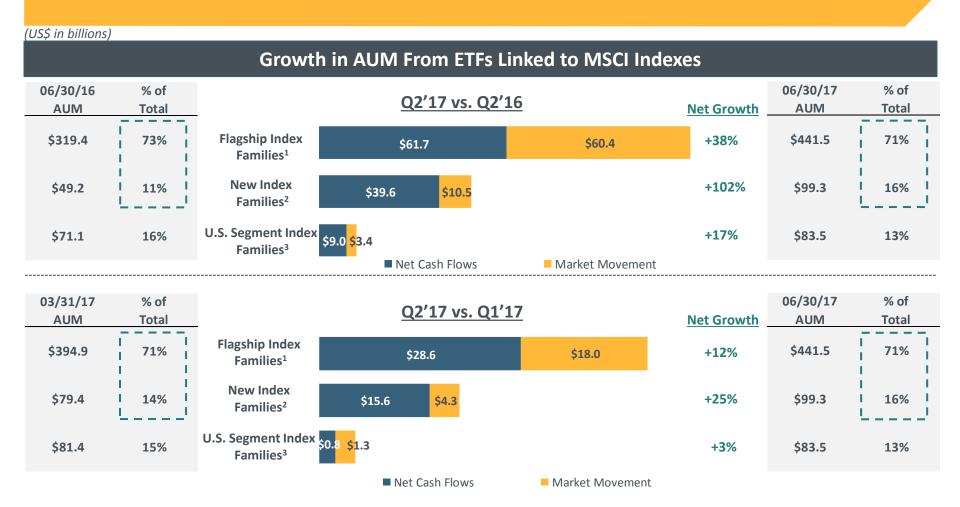


APPENDIX

Supplemental Disclosures & Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Measures to GAAP Measures



ETFS LINKED TO MSCI INDEXES – DIFFERENTIATED LICENSING



Strong Cash Inflows and Market Appreciation Driving YTD / Q2 Growth



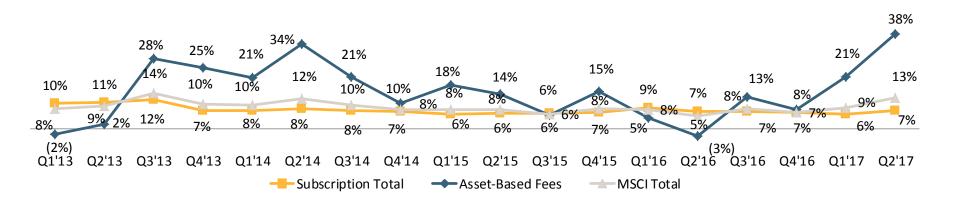
¹ Flagship Index Families, e.g., ACWI, EM, EAFE, Japan etc.

² New Index Families, e.g., Developed Market IMI (all market cap sizes), US Minimum Volatility etc.

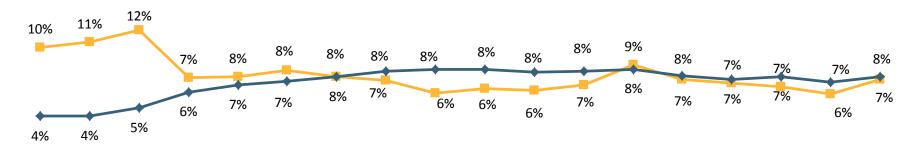
³ U.S. Segment Index Families, e.g., US REIT, US Sectors etc.

Q1'13 – Q2'17 YoY RUN RATE GROWTH TREND

YoY Run Rate Growth as Reported



YoY Subscription Run Rate Growth as Reported vs. Organic Growth (excluding FX Impact and Acquisitions/Divestitures)



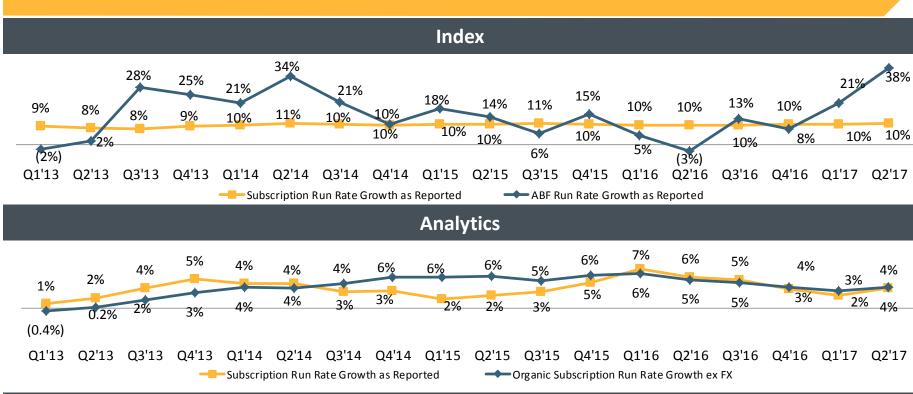
Q1'13 Q2'13 Q3'13 Q4'13 Q1'14 Q2'14 Q3'14 Q4'14 Q1'15 Q2'15 Q3'15 Q4'15 Q1'16 Q2'16 Q3'16 Q4'16 Q1'17 Q2'17

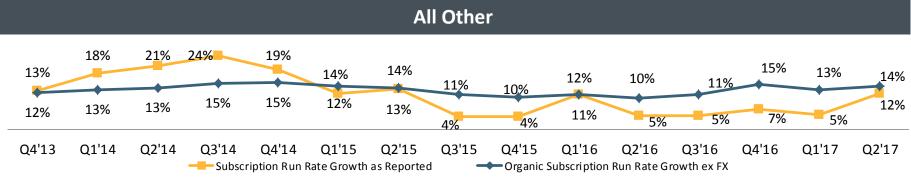
——Subscription Run Rate Growth as Reported

——Organic Subscription Run Rate Growth ex FX



Q1'13 – Q2'17 YoY SEGMENT RUN RATE GROWTH TREND







RECONCILIATION OF ADJUSTED EBITDA TO NET INCOME

	Three Months Ended							Six Months Ended			
		June 30,	June 30,		Mar. 31,		June 30,		June 30,		
In thousands		2017		2016		2017		2017	2016		
Index adjusted EBITDA	\$	129,476	\$	106,518	\$	115,637	\$	245,113	\$	206,567	
Analytics adjusted EBITDA		31,741		33,302		29,536		61,277		63,662	
All Other adjusted EBITDA		5,032		6,207		5,518		10,550		8,947	
Consolidated adjusted EBITDA		166,249		146,027		150,691		316,940		279,176	
Amortization of intangible assets		11,122		11,943		11,251		22,373		23,783	
Depreciation and amortization of property,											
equipment and leasehold improvements		9,159		8,393		8,838		17,997		16,561	
Operating income		145,968		125,691		130,602		276,570		238,832	
Other expense (income), net		28,457		25,147		28,977		57,434		47,511	
Provision for income taxes		36,245		33,587		28,674		64,919		63,997	
Net income	\$	81,266	\$	66,957	\$	72,951	\$	154,217	\$	127,324	



RECONCILIATION OF ADJUSTED NET INCOME AND ADJUSTED EPS TO NET INCOME AND EPS

	Three Months Ended							Six Months Ended				
	J	une 30,	June 30,		Mar. 31,		June 30,			lune 30,		
In thousands, except per share data	2017			2016		2017	2017			2016		
Net income	\$	81,266	\$	66,957	\$	72,951	\$	154,217	\$	127,324		
Plus: Amortization of acquired intangible assets		10,119		11,943		10,530		20,649		23,783		
Less: Gain on sale of investment		(771)		_		_		(771)		_		
Less: Income tax effect		(3,146)		(4,001)		(2,972)		(6,118)		(7,967)		
Adjusted net income	\$	87,468	\$	74,899	\$	80,509	\$	167,977	\$	143,140		
Diluted EPS	\$	0.89	\$	0.69	\$	0.80	\$	1.68	\$	1.29		
Plus: Amortization of acquired intangible assets		0.11		0.12		0.11		0.23		0.24		
Less: Gain on sale of investment		(0.01)		_		_		(0.01)		_		
Less: Income tax effect		(0.04)		(0.04)		(0.03)		(0.07)		(0.08)		
Adjusted EPS	\$	0.95	\$	0.77	\$	0.88	\$	1.83	\$	1.45		



RECONCILIATION OF ADJUSTED EBITDA EXPENSES TO OPERATING EXPENSES

		1	hree	Months Ende	d			Six Mon	ths End	Full-Year	
In thousands		June 30, 2017		June 30, 2016		Mar. 31, 2017		June 30, 2017		June 30,	2017
										2016	Outlook(1)
Index adjusted EBITDA expenses	\$	47,680	\$	45,599	\$	47,798	\$	95,478	\$	90,163	
Analytics adjusted EBITDA expenses		81,626		79,091		82,884		164,510		158,994	
All Other adjusted EBITDA expenses		20,534		19,879		19,834		40,368		41,091	
Consolidated adjusted EBITDA expenses		149,840		144,569		150,516		300,356		290,248	\$605,000 - \$615,000
Amortization of intangible assets		11,122		11,943		11,251		22,373		23,783	
Depreciation and amortization of property,											85,000
equipment and leasehold improvements		9,159		8,393		8,838		17,997		16,561	
Total operating expenses	\$	170,121	\$	164,905	\$	170,605	\$	340,726	\$	330,592	\$690,000 - \$700,000



RECONCILIATION OF FREE CASH FLOW TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES

		Т	hree	Months Ende	d		Six Months Ended				Full-Year	
		June 30,		June 30,		Mar. 31,		June 30,		une 30,	2017	
In thousands		2017		2016		2017		2017		2016	Outlook(1)	
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	122,217	\$	118,096	\$	37,015	\$	159,232	\$	154,983	\$360,000 - \$410,000	
Capital expenditures		(3,729)		(10,142)		(7,322)		(11,051)		(13,277)		
Capitalized software development costs		(3,306)		(2,763)		(2,307)		(5,613)		(5,088)		
Capex		(7,035)		(12,905)		(9,629)		(16,664)		(18,365)	(50,000 - 40,000)	
Free cash flow	\$	115,182	\$	105,191	\$	27,386	\$	142,568	\$	136,618	\$310,000 - \$370,000	



USE OF NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES

- MSCI has presented supplemental non-GAAP financial measures as part of this earnings presentation. Reconciliations are provided in slides 24-27 that reconcile
 each non-GAAP financial measure with the most comparable GAAP measure. The non-GAAP financial measures presented in this earnings presentation should not
 be considered as alternative measures for the most directly comparable GAAP financial measures. The non-GAAP financial measures presented in this earnings
 presentation are used by management to monitor the financial performance of the business, inform business decision-making and forecast future results.
- "Adjusted EBITDA" is defined as net income before provision for income taxes, other expense (income), net, depreciation and amortization of property, equipment and leasehold improvements, amortization of intangible assets and, at times, certain other transactions or adjustments.
- "Adjusted EBITDA expenses" is defined as operating expenses less depreciation and amortization of property, equipment and leasehold improvements and amortization of intangible assets.
- "Adjusted net income" and "adjusted EPS" are defined as net income and diluted EPS, respectively, before the after-tax impact of the amortization of acquired intangible assets and, at times, certain other transactions or adjustments. For periods prior to first quarter 2017, the amortization associated with capitalized software development costs was included as an adjustment to adjusted net income and adjusted EPS as it was not material.
- "Capex" is defined as capital expenditures plus capitalized software development costs.
- "Free cash flow" is defined as net cash provided by operating activities, less Capex.
- We believe adjusted EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA expenses are meaningful measures of the operating performance of MSCI because they adjust for significant one-time, unusual or non-recurring items as well as eliminate the accounting effects of capital spending and acquisitions that do not directly affect what management considers to be our core operating performance in the period.
- We believe adjusted net income and adjusted EPS are meaningful measures of the performance of MSCI because they adjust for the after-tax impact of significant one-time, unusual or non-recurring items as well as eliminate the accounting effects of acquisitions that do not directly affect what management considers to be our core performance in the period.
- We believe that free cash flow is useful to investors because it relates the operating cash flow of MSCI to the capital that is spent to continue and improve business operations, such as investment in MSCI's existing products. Further, free cash flow indicates our ability to strengthen MSCI's balance sheet, repay our debt obligations, pay cash dividends and repurchase shares of our common stock.
- We believe that the non-GAAP financial measures presented in this earnings presentation facilitate meaningful period-to-period comparisons and provide a baseline for the evaluation of future results.
- Adjusted EBITDA expenses, adjusted EBITDA, adjusted net income, adjusted EPS and free cash flow are not defined in the same manner by all companies and may not be comparable to similarly-titled non-GAAP financial measures of other companies.



USE OF OPERATING METRICS

- MSCI has presented supplemental key operating metrics as part of this earnings presentation, including Run Rate, subscription sales and cancellations, non-recurring sales and Aggregate Retention Rate.
- The Run Rate estimates at a particular point in time the annualized value of the recurring revenues under our client license agreements ("Client Contracts") for the next 12 months, assuming all Client Contracts that come up for renewal are renewed and assuming then-current currency exchange rates, subject to the adjustments and exclusions described below. For any Client Contract where fees are linked to an investment product's assets or trading volume, the Run Rate calculation reflects, for ETFs, the market value on the last trading day of the period, for futures and options, the most recent quarterly volumes, and for other non-ETF products, the most recent client reported assets. Run Rate does not include fees associated with "one-time" and other non-recurring transactions. In addition, we add to Run Rate the annualized fee value of recurring new sales, whether to existing or new clients, when we execute Client Contracts, even though the license start date may not be effective until a later date. We remove from Run Rate the annualized fee value associated with products or services under any Client Contract with respect to which we have received a notice of termination or non-renewal during the period and determined that such notice evidences the client's final decision to terminate or not renew the applicable products or services, even though such notice is not effective until a later date.
- Organic subscription Run Rate or revenue growth ex FX is defined as the period over period Run Rate or revenue growth, excluding the impact of changes in foreign currency and the first year impact of any acquisitions. It is also adjusted for divestitures. Changes in foreign currency are calculated by applying the end of period currency exchange rate from the comparable prior period to current period foreign currency denominated Run Rate or revenue. This metric also excludes the impact on the growth in subscription Run Rate or revenue of the acquisitions of IPD, InvestorForce, and GMI for their respective first year of operations as part of MSCI, as well as the divestiture of MSCI's Real Estate occupiers benchmarking business which closed on August 1, 2016.
- The Aggregate Retention Rate for a period is calculated by annualizing the cancellations for which we have received a notice of termination or for which we believe there is an intention not to renew during the period, and we believe that such notice or intention evidences the client's final decision to terminate or not renew the applicable agreement, even though such notice is not effective until a later date. This annualized cancellation figure is then divided by the subscription Run Rate at the beginning of the year to calculate a cancellation rate. This cancellation rate is then subtracted from 100% to derive the annualized Aggregate Retention Rate for the period. The Aggregate Retention Rate is computed on a product-by-product basis. Therefore, if a client reduces the number of products to which it subscribes or switches between our products, we treat it as a cancellation. In addition, we treat any reduction in fees resulting from renegotiated contracts as a cancellation in the calculation to the extent of the reduction.



MSCI ***