

Who we are

3,800

People

29

Manufacturing sites

110+

Countries served

6,000+

Customers

5

Innovation centres
of excellence

We are a leading supplier of high-performance, highly specialised polymers and ingredients that play vital roles in key sectors such as coatings, construction, adhesives, and health and protection – growing markets that serve billions of end users worldwide.

From our innovation centres of excellence and manufacturing sites across Europe and the Middle East, The Americas and Asia, we innovate together with our customers to develop new products and enhance existing ones tailored to their needs, with an increasing range of sustainability benefits. And through our focus on making our business more efficient, more global and even more specialised, we are positioned to lead the way as a speciality business whose products enhance people's homes and cities, lifestyles, transportation and healthcare.

Our business is built around three divisions, serving customers in attractive end markets where demand is driven by global megatrends including urbanisation, demographic change, climate change and sustainability, and shifting economic power.

Coatings & Construction Solutions

Our specialist polymers enhance the sustainability and performance of a wide range of coatings and construction products. We serve customers in applications including architectural and masonry coatings, mortar modification, waterproofing and flooring, fibre bonding, and energy solutions.

Adhesive Solutions

Our products help our customers bond, modify and compatibilise surfaces and components for applications including tapes and labels, packaging, hygiene, tyres and plastic modification, improving permeability, strength, elasticity, damping, dispersion and grip.

Health & Protection and Performance Materials

We are a world-leading supplier of water-based polymers for medical gloves, and a major European manufacturer of high-performance binders, foams and other products serving customers in a range of end markets.

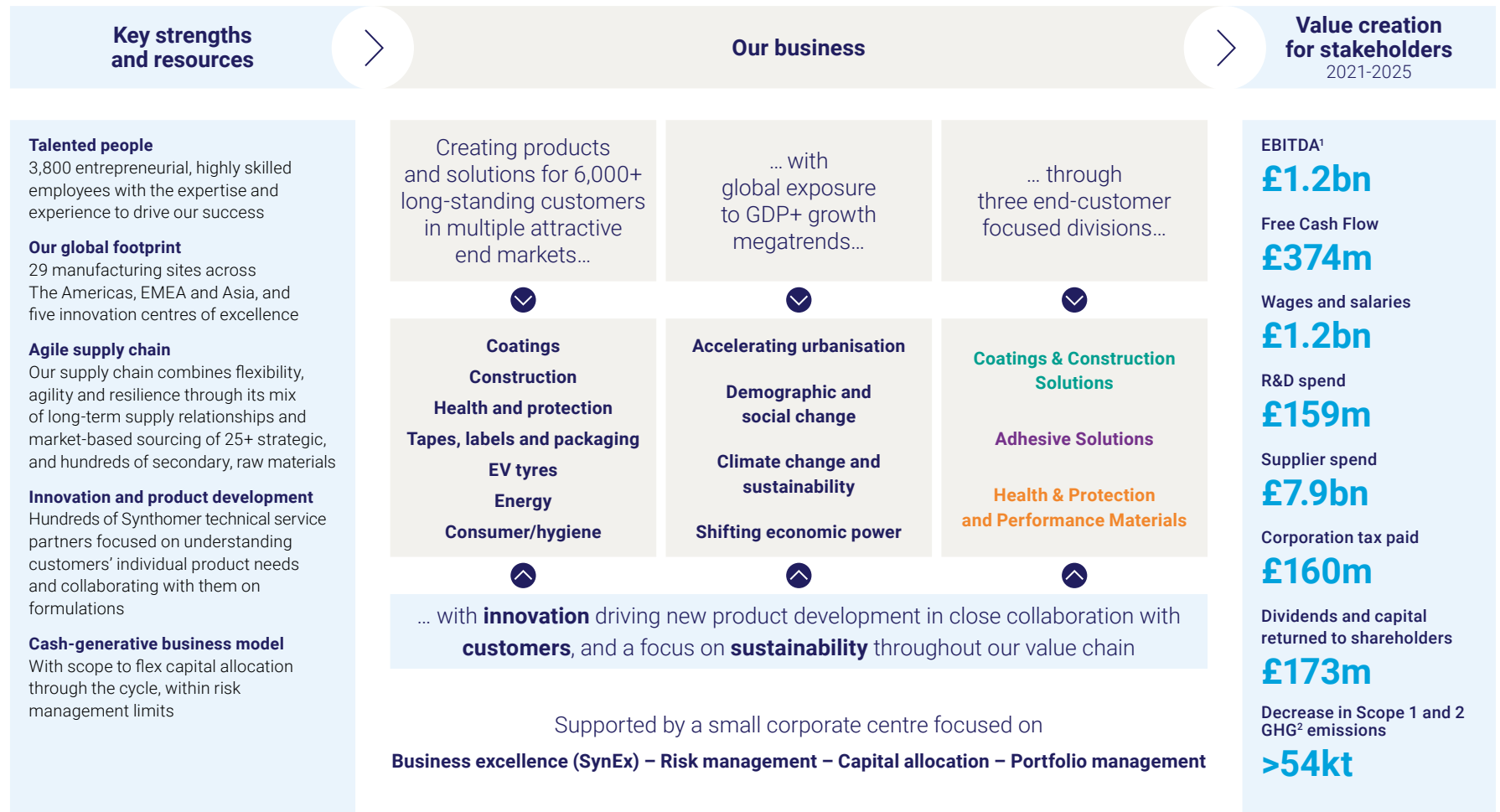


Visit our website to find out
more about our divisions

Who we are and what we do

Our business model

We are a business-to-business speciality chemicals producer. We create value for all our stakeholders by applying our expertise and innovation capabilities to provide high-performance water-based polymers and ingredients to a wide range of blue-chip customers in multiple attractive end markets.



¹ EBITDA is calculated as operating profit before depreciation, amortisation and Special Items.

² GHG emissions definition as GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard.

Who we are and what we do

Our strategy

Since 2022, Synthomer has been delivering on our transformational strategy to become a more focused, stronger speciality chemicals business and fulfil **our purpose: creating innovative and sustainable solutions for the benefit of customers and society.**

The five pillars of our strategy...

... are each underpinned by three critical principles...

... in pursuit of our long-term ambition.

- 

Organic growth in attractive end markets
- 

Rigorous and consistent portfolio management to build focused, leading positions
- 

Operational and commercial excellence in how we run our business
- 

Differentiated steering in how we allocate capital and talent
- 

Diversity, equity and inclusion and holistic people development

End-market orientation
in everything we do
[See pages 20-25](#)

Sustainability
as a value driver and a principle for how we run our business
[See pages 26-33](#)

Innovation
as a critical enabler
[See pages 34-35](#)



A speciality chemicals company focused on selected attractive end markets

Increasing our specialisation, global reach and simplicity

Greater speciality weighting (by revenue)

Speciality %	Base %	Year
50	50	In 2022
55	45	In 2025
70	30	Future

More balanced geographic distribution (by revenue)

USA/Asia %	EMEA %	Year
45	55	In 2022
50	50	In 2025
60	40	Future

Less complexity

Manufacturing sites	Year
43	In 2022
29	In 2025
<25	Future

Who we are and what we do

The story of our year

We continued to make progress on the strategic transformation of our business...

£30m in self-help delivered including further cost savings programme implemented in 2025

Site footprint reduced by two through divestments and site rationalisations

William Blythe divestment completed, with four further processes under way

New customer partnerships signed

Bank facilities refinanced to 2029 with revised covenants

Continued investment in building a high-performance culture, including a new leadership development programme

... and strong operational execution helped us navigate weak demand¹...

£1,739.2m revenue
-9.9% in constant currency vs 2024

£136.5m EBITDA
-4.5% in constant currency vs 2024

7.8% EBITDA margin
+40bps vs 7.4% in 2024

£23.2m Total Group underlying loss before tax
vs £7.2m loss in 2024

£56.6m Free Cash Flow
vs £(54.7)m in 2024

... while continuing to position Synthomer for future value creation.

55% of revenues now from speciality businesses

50% of revenues from the USA and Asia

23% of volume from new and protected products (NPP) in 2025

32% reduction in absolute Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions vs 2019

84% of new products with enhanced sustainability benefits, up from 69% in 2024

¹ Continuing Group unless otherwise stated.

Who we are and what we do

Chair's statement



“The current volatility in the chemicals industry only serves to reinforce the importance of our strategy. Future value creation will be unlocked by making our business less complex and pursuing commercial and operational excellence and clear-eyed capital allocation.”

Peter Hill, CBE
Chair

Recent years have been a difficult period for the chemicals sector, but despite this Synthomer has made real progress with self-help measures to reduce costs and de-risk its balance sheet – while retaining a clear focus on the opportunities it can realise through its strategic transformation into a speciality products business serving attractive end markets.

Staying focused on growth, while navigating challenges

Throughout my first year as Chair, it has been clear to me that everyone at Synthomer is resolutely focused on delivering its transformational strategy to become a speciality solutions platform serving customers in attractive growth markets, and on driving the Company's innovation and sustainability agendas. The Board and leadership team agree that the current volatility in the chemicals industry only serves to reinforce the importance of our strategy, and that future value creation will be unlocked by making our business less complex, harnessing our expertise, and pursuing commercial and operational excellence and clear-eyed capital allocation.

Synthomer continued to make real progress on this transformation in 2025. Innovation, manufacturing excellence and expert service have strengthened our relationships with our high-quality customers. Divestment and plant rationalisation have further simplified our structure. Disciplined capital allocation is seeing resources channeled judiciously to the parts of the business which have the most potential for growth. Our CEO, Michael Willome, describes this progress on pages 7 to 9.

Self-help measures to reduce costs and protect margins

While it is right to look forward at the opportunities ahead, we also need to focus on the business in the here and now. Synthomer, like our competitors, is navigating a prolonged downturn in demand in many markets. 2025 saw further volatility, as customers serving a range of end markets dealt with uncertainty over trade tariffs and geopolitics. While our global manufacturing footprint meant we felt relatively few direct effects of tariffs, their impact came through in customer caution. This compounded other demand and supply trends. Our volumes, and revenues, were down year-on-year.

In this challenging environment, the Board entirely supported the focus on 'controlling the controllables'. Synthomer expanded its range of self-help measures over the year, further tightening operational execution, enhancing procurement and driving cost savings. As part of this, the Board supported the difficult but necessary decision to reduce headcount by 250 roles. On top of the c.£30m in annual self-help and strategy benefits delivered in 2025, Synthomer has outlined a further £20-25m in cost reductions extending into 2026.

The market environment remains complex, but despite the lower revenue in 2025, the Group achieved a further improvement in gross and EBITDA margins, and delivered positive Free Cash Flow, which is testament to the focus and determination to deliver the strategy across the business. This consistency has also proven to be beneficial in responding to the changed operating environment in the sector since the beginning of the Iran conflict.

Remaining focused on our balance sheet

Reducing leverage towards our 1 to 2x medium-term net debt:EBITDA target range remains a priority for the business and the Board. Our plans envisage delivering this through a combination of ongoing efficiencies and strategic progress, the divestment programme and expected end-market volume growth. The steps taken in 2026 to refinance our bank debt described in the Financial review are intended to provide the appropriate near and medium-term liquidity and financial covenant headroom alongside a covenant package to deliver the Group's plans.

The Board is confident that Synthomer will emerge stronger from this period of exceptional turbulence. We have the strategy, expert teams and market positions to outperform, and I look forward to Synthomer creating significant value for shareholders and other stakeholders in the years ahead.

Engaging with our stakeholders

As a Board, we have continued to actively engage with our stakeholders, including customers, suppliers, employees and shareholders and other capital markets participants, whose support is so essential particularly in tough trading times. On a personal note, it has been a pleasure to meet Synthomer's expert and dedicated teams in my visits to sites in each of our core regions. On behalf of the Board I would like to thank all Synthomer's people for their hard work and commitment.

Welcoming progress on innovation and other ESG issues

The Board oversees strategy and delivery on environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues. Innovation and sustainability benefits in particular are important differentiators for our customers, so we see ESG performance as a potential competitive advantage, as well as a regulatory and governance issue. Several Board colleagues are closely involved in Synthomer's Innovation Taskforce, a collaboration with senior leaders and expert teams to help drive the pace of customer-centric innovation across the Group.

Over the year, the Board has been pleased to see a number of product developments and partnerships with customers that add value through innovation and sustainability benefits. The Adhesive Solutions division is delivering lower-carbon and circular economy adhesive products for customers, including through an exciting partnership with Henkel, described on page 32. Coatings & Construction Solutions (CCS) has launched several new products aimed at the construction sector, and Health & Protection and Performance Materials (HPPM) continues to leverage its technology and market-leading expertise to develop a bio-based nitrile latex offering for customers, amongst other commercial partnerships.

The Board treats ESG as a reserved matter, and health and safety is always the first item at every Board discussion. The Board also monitors progress on gender diversity, and I was pleased to see that women now represent more than a third of senior management, passing Synthomer's 2025 milestone target and up from 15% in 2020. Synthomer's performance in these areas is described in detail in our Vision 2030 progress on, pages 41 to 43.

The Board

Synthomer's Board has continued to evolve over the past year, with a clear focus from the Nomination Committee on ensuring that we have the skills and experience to support and challenge the leadership team and oversee the Group's transformation. We welcomed Jonathan Silver and Janet Ashdown to the Board as Independent Non-Executive Directors in July 2025, both of whom bring considerable expertise to Synthomer. On behalf of the whole business, I would like to thank the Hon. Alexander Catto, who stepped down from the Board at our Annual General Meeting in May 2025, and Ian Tyler and Roberto Gualdoni, who both stepped down in December 2025. Between them they have given Synthomer many years of dedicated support, for which the Group will always be grateful.

Peter Hill, CBE

Chair

30 April 2026

Who we are and what we do

Chief Executive Officer's review



“ In the face of volatile market conditions across the sector, we have rigorously prioritised what is within our control, delivering robust cash, earnings and margin performance while continuing to focus, simplify and strengthen our business.”

Michael Willome
Chief Executive Officer

Strong operational execution and a resolute focus on ‘self-help’ cost reduction programmes helped us mitigate weak demand and deliver margin improvement and positive Free Cash Flow in 2025. The changing competitive dynamics in our sector have reinforced our commitment to a strategy of focusing on differentiated, speciality products for selected attractive end markets.

Controlling the controllables while driving further specialisation

Further specialisation is at the heart of our strategy, because speciality products with defined end-market benefits will be the greatest drivers of our growth over time. Improving our operating leverage in the most specialised areas of our portfolio – and anticipating the demands of customers in terms of service, innovation and sustainability – is the clear roadmap to achieving our medium-term growth, margin and returns ambitions.

Market conditions in 2025 and the start of 2026 have reinforced the urgency of the strategic transformation towards specialisation that we began in October 2022. The chemicals sector was already in a prolonged period of suppressed demand long before global tariff changes fed further volatility – and while we have limited direct exposure to tariffs, partly thanks

to our ‘in region for region’ manufacturing footprint, adjusting to tariffs had a clear impact on customers, some of whom decided to ‘wait and see’. Underlying structural shifts in the industry are also changing the competitive landscape, in base chemicals in particular. All these factors spur us on to make our business even more agile and adaptable, so that we can anticipate and respond to the needs of our high-quality customers in their fundamentally attractive end markets.

At the same time, we have to safeguard our financial position so that we can continue to compete and grow. In the face of the volatile market conditions across the sector, we have rigorously prioritised what is within our control, delivering robust cash, earnings and margin performance while continuing to focus, simplify and strengthen our business in accordance with our strategy set out in 2022. Since then, gross margin has increased by c.500bps, a substantial improvement in our operating leverage to activity levels, and over the same period we have reduced net debt from £1,024.9m to £575.0m, in part through three non-core divestments. As described in more detail in the Financial review on page 19, we have worked constructively with our lenders to maintain a stable financial platform for delivery of the Group’s plans.

Positive cash and margin performance in 2025

Our 2025 revenue of £1,739.2m (2024: £1,933.1m) and EBITDA of £136.5m for the continuing Group (2024: £143.1m) were in line with expectations. They reflect a 7.2% reduction in volumes as a result of the soft demand environment, offset by further improved gross and EBITDA margin performance. This was underpinned by the expansion of our multi-year cost-saving and reliability improvement programmes and the ongoing strategic re-allocation of capital and other resources towards the higher margin, more resilient speciality solutions in our portfolio.

The Group delivered positive Free Cash Flow for the year, with a cash inflow in the second half as expected. Year-end net debt of £575.0m (H1 2025: £638.3m, FY 2024: £597.0m) reflects our rigorous focus on profit and cash management, supported in part by the £50m receivables purchasing arrangement with Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad Group ("KLK") put in place in December 2025. The Group's covenant net debt:EBITDA as at 31 December 2025 was 4.7x, well within the requirement of less than 5.25x.

Divisionally, **Adhesive Solutions (AS)** continued to regain share and enhance margins, through successful delivery of its reliability and performance improvement programme. The division is increasingly focused on growth supported by our speciality product capacity investment in Texas and sustainability partnerships with key customers, such as Henkel.

End-market demand across the **Coatings & Construction Solutions (CCS)** division varied throughout the year, particularly following the global tariff changes announced at the start of Q2. A slightly improved trend in coatings towards the end of the year was offset by a weaker period for construction and consumer sub-segments. Weak demand for energy solutions continued through the year, reflecting low levels of oil and gas drilling activity.

Health & Protection volumes for the medical glove market from both new and existing customers was disappointing for the year as a whole, although encouragingly, activity levels began to improve in Q4. Margins in this business remain substantially below pre-pandemic levels. The remaining businesses in the **Health & Protection and Performance Materials (HPPM)** division also had a mixed year, with a relatively strong contribution from Speciality Vinyl Polymers and in paper end markets, offset by continued challenges in the acrylate monomers business.

Focus on self-help cost savings – and continued investment in people

Given the market environment, we are continuously reviewing our operating and capital expenditures and working capital balances, to identify additional cash savings opportunities within our control. This included a thorough review of our headcount in the second half of 2025, which resulted in the difficult decision to remove around 250 roles from the organisation. We have also continued to deliver against our existing multi-year cost savings programmes, including the Group-wide procurement optimisation programme. Taken together, our operating cost reduction programmes are expected to deliver c.£20-25m in incremental gross benefits in 2026. This builds on the £30m we delivered through our self-help plans in 2025.

The decision to reduce headcount does not change the fact that our entrepreneurial teams are essential to Synthomer's future success in serving customers and delivering outstanding products. We continue to invest in building teams and a high-performance culture that is inclusive, collaborative and growth-orientated. We have sustained our commitment to our graduate programme, and to our Leadership Academy, which this year launched a new senior leadership programme 'Aspire'. I would like to thank all our people for their resilience and commitment this year.

Continuing progress on our specialisation strategy

Over the past three years, we have materially improved the profile of our portfolio, with speciality products now representing 55% of revenues and substantially more in EBITDA, whilst also growing our exposure to markets in the US and Asia, which now make up more than half of our revenues. In 2025 we continued to streamline our manufacturing footprint, passing the milestone of operating less than 30 sites, down from 43 sites in 2022. This included the divestment of William Blythe in May, alongside further plant rationalisation. These actions simplify the business, reduce capital intensity and release resources to enhance our focus on customers and products where we have the greatest opportunities. Our new target is to operate 25 sites or fewer.

In August 2025 we announced our intention to broaden the divestment programme in order to accelerate deleveraging and focus the business portfolio further. We currently have four divestment processes underway and will always keep the rest of the business portfolio under review.

Who we are and what we do / Chief Executive Officer's review continued

We also continue to enhance our commercial opportunities through partnerships. Following the formation of our technology partnership for the US medical glove market in 2024, during the year we secured an agreement with Lummus to license technology in our acrylate monomers business, a partnership to expand Speciality Vinyl Polymers' reach in China, and a partnership with Neste and PCS to manufacture bio-based nitrile latexes.

Customer-driven innovation and sustainability

Innovation and sustainability are important differentiators for many of our customers, and therefore key to value creation for us. Our customers' ambitions increasingly demand innovative products with demonstrable sustainability benefits, so embedding a mindset which prioritises them helps drive both our commercial success and our purpose of creating specialist polymer solutions for the benefit of customers and society.

In 2025 we sustained our consistent record of ensuring that new and protected products (NPP) make up at least 20% of our sales volume. In response to customer demand, we continue to build our innovation pipeline, with 43 new products launched this year with defined sustainability benefits (see page 41). Our Innovation Taskforce, set up with Board involvement last year, helps drive the pace of change. To give a clearer measure of the commercial impact of our innovation work, we are changing our innovation KPI away from reporting NPP at the revenue level to focus solely on new products at the gross margin (GM) level. In 2025 we delivered 8.2% GM vitality (2024: 7.5%).

There were a number of commercial highlights across the year. In May 2025, AS announced a new strategic partnership and supply agreement with Henkel, helping to commercialise our new CLIMA-branded products, which help customers substantially reduce their carbon emissions. We have now achieved ISCC+ accreditation for 11 sites, enabling us to offer customers our BIO and CIRCLE products using a mass balance approach. We also retained our silver EcoVadis rating, are now in the top 2% of rated companies for sustainable procurement, and continue to make progress on our Vision 2030 sustainability roadmap (see pages 41 to 43).

Staying focused on process safety

We achieved a recordable injury case rate of 0.15, outperforming our target for the third consecutive year and remain in the top quartile for our industry. We continue to focus on improving our process safety metrics, which increased slightly despite improvements in several key sites and a reduction in incidents with the highest potential consequences in the year.

Current trading and outlook

Overall trading in the first quarter of 2026 was in line with our expectations and ahead of prior year, with much-improved CCS and stable AS performances offsetting a slower start in parts of the HPPM division. All businesses had improving momentum through the quarter.

Since the start of the Iran conflict we have experienced substantial changes in our operating and commercial environment both up- and downstream. Our focus on speed and agility, in region for region manufacturing footprint and strong procurement sourcing capabilities mean we are well-positioned to respond to these changes. Significant increases in raw material and to a lesser degree energy costs since the start of the conflict are being passed through in substantial pricing adjustments, while shipping volumes in several base chemical product areas are increasing due to disruption to the global distribution networks of competitors, particularly those based in Asia. To-date our global supply chains have remained robust and our joint venture manufacturing operation and sales office in the Middle East are both currently operating as normal. As a result, we are expecting robustly positive period-on-period volume and margin developments in the second quarter of the year and potentially thereafter, based on our latest trading data, and subject to developments in the Iran conflict situation.

Clearly the geopolitical and market context is highly volatile and end-market demand uncertain. We therefore make no changes to our 2026 outlook at this stage: overall we expect to make year-on-year progress driven primarily by self-help actions. Specifically, we anticipate that full year contributions from our cost reduction programmes and product investments made in AS during 2025, ongoing margin progress in our speciality businesses and Health & Protection volume and margin improvement will be partially offset by wage inflation and normalisation of bonus accrual in the year. At the same time, the longer the trading conditions experienced in Q2 persist, the greater the upside risks for the year.

In the medium term, we remain committed to our ambition to more than double Synthomer's earnings, through continued reliability and cost actions, end-market volume recovery and strategic delivery.

Michael Willome

Chief Executive Officer

30 April 2026






Who we are and what we do

Our key performance indicators (KPIs)

Measuring the delivery of our strategy

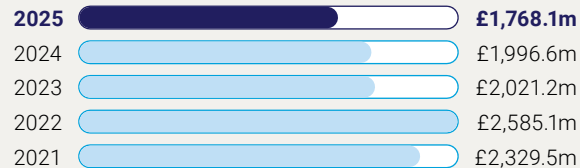
We measure our progress in delivering our strategy against a range of financial and non-financial KPIs, which we keep under review. All financial performance KPIs are shown for the Total Group as operated in the year, while the non-financial KPIs reflect the continuing Group. We set out our performance against all our Vision 2030 sustainability targets on pages 41 to 43.

Link to strategy

-  Organic growth in attractive end markets
-  Rigorous and consistent portfolio management to build focused, leading positions
-  Operational and commercial excellence in how we run our business
-  Differentiated steering in how we allocate capital and talent
-  Diversity, equity and inclusion, and holistic people development

Financial (Total Group)

Revenue



Strategy

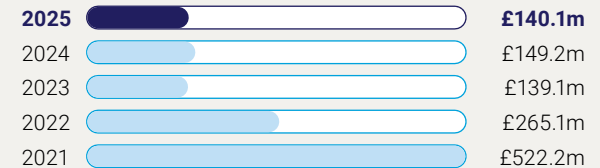
Definition

Revenue is recognised at the point when control of our products is transferred to customers.

Comment

Lower revenue principally reflects volume reductions due to softer end-market demand and ongoing global competition in base chemicals businesses, as well as pass-through of lower raw material input prices in 2025.

EBITDA



Strategy

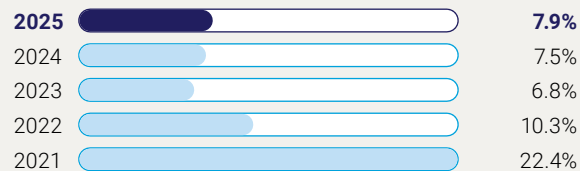
Definition

Operating profit before depreciation, amortisation and Special Items.

Comment

EBITDA decreased, reflecting lower volumes partially offset by expanded self-help cost actions and strategic reorientation to higher-margin speciality businesses.

EBITDA %



Strategy

Definition

EBITDA as a percentage of revenue.

Comment

EBITDA margin increased due to the self-help actions and strategic reorientation noted above.

Underlying EPS



Strategy

Definition

Basic underlying earnings per share before Special Items.

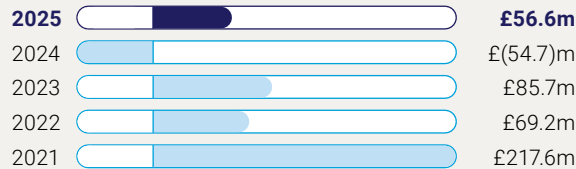
Comment

Underlying earnings per share reduced reflecting lower EBITDA and higher finance and tax costs.

Who we are and what we do / Our KPIs continued

Financial KPIs continued

Free Cash Flow



Strategy

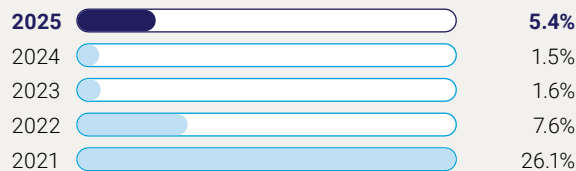
Definition

Movement in net debt before financing activities, foreign exchange and the cash impact of Special Items, asset disposals and business combinations.

Comment

The Group delivered positive Free Cash Flow for the year, with a cash inflow in the second half as expected.

ROIC



Strategy

Definition

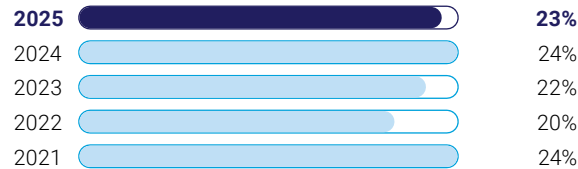
Underlying operating profit after tax divided by average invested capital at start and end of year (comprising equity, net debt, post-retirement benefit obligations and lease liabilities).

Comment

The reduction in 2025 underlying operating profit and higher effective tax rate was partially offset by a reduction in invested capital.

Non-financial

% New and protected products (NPP)



Strategy

Definition

Percentage of sales volume in the year that can be attributed to patented products and products launched in the past five years.

Comment

We continue to exceed our NPP target of 20%. From 2026, we are changing our innovation KPI away from reporting NPP at the revenue level to focus solely on new products, reported as gross margin (GM) vitality. Tracking gross margin rather than volume is a clearer way of measuring and targeting innovation in line with our strategy to become a more speciality-focused chemicals business.

Recordable injury case rate (RCR)



Strategy

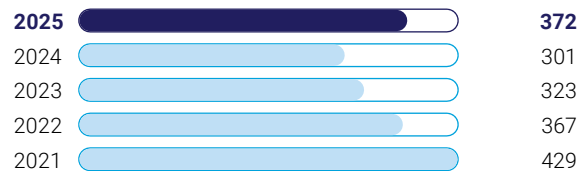
Definition

Recordable injury case rate for accidents involving more than first-aid treatment, expressed as accidents per 100,000 hours worked by employees and all contractors.

Comment

We outperformed our RCR target of 0.20 and remain in the top quartile for our industry for a third consecutive year; safety remains a priority for all our teams.

Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions (kt CO₂e)



Strategy

Definition

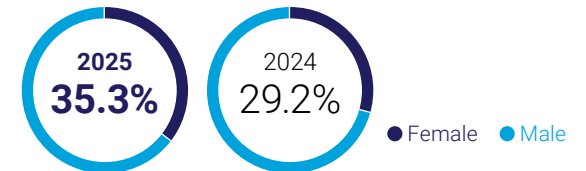
Scope 1 – direct GHG emissions from the activities of Synthomer or under its control.

Scope 2 – indirect GHG emissions from the generation of purchased energy consumed by Synthomer.

Comment

Our absolute Scope 1 and 2 emissions rose in 2025 versus 2024, principally reflecting our decision to pause the purchase of renewable energy attribution certificates in the year. Despite this we successfully met our 2025 objective and remain on track to achieve our 2030 Scope 1 and 2 science-based target.

Gender diversity in senior management



Strategy

Definition

Proportion of females in the senior management population (members of the executive team and their direct reports).

Comment

We achieved our near-term objective of having women represent 33% of senior managers by the end of 2025. Our next milestone is to reach 40% by 2030.