



**Analyst presentation 29th March, 2010** 











# Overcome crisis with growing results

- Hera achieved positive growth despite economic slown down through actions on both internal and external growth drivers.
- Liberalised market expansion strategy achieved good results taking advantage from favorable energy procurement prices and market opportunities.
- Regulated businesses results benefit from tariff increases and favorable climate conditions fully offsetting demand slow down (Energy distribution and Water mgmt services).
- Group structure was streamlined transforming LOC into organizational units and Herambiente (spin off Waste mgmt

- assets and know how) was established to better exploit further market and M&A growth potentials (e.g. WTE infrastructural Gap in Italy).
- Debt maturity extended through a 500 m€ bond issued last November.
- The capex plan still leaves WTE in Rimini to be completed in 2010, whilst the peak load energy plant in Ortona will be completed by year end.
- M&A progressed with the acquisition of Gas and Distr. Heat. networks (funded with capital increase) and of the first 25% stake in Aimag multi-utility active in strategic contiguous territories.

# Positive and growing bottom line (excl. "Moratoria")









#### **Profit and Loss**

M€	2008	2009	Ch.%
Revenues	3,792.0	4,285.1	+13.0%
Ebitda	528.3	567.3	+7.4%
D&A	(247.6)	(276.0)	+11.5%
Ebit	280.7	291.3	+3.8%
Net fin. int. and other	(87.7)	(87.8)	+0.2%
IAS interest*	(4.2)	(13.2)	-
Interest on Fiscal Morat.	0.0	(12.3)	_
Fiscal Moratoria	0.0	(15.3)	_
Pre tax Profit	188.9	162.6	(13.9%)
Tax	(78.6)	(77.6)	(1.3%)
Tax rate	-41.6%	-47.7%	
<b>Group Net Profit</b>	110.3	85.0	(22.9%)
Minorities	(15.5)	(13.9)	(10.2%)
Net Profit	94.8	71.1	(25.1%)
Net profit adj.	94.8	95.3	+0.5%

Market expansion and tariff increases offset slow down of demand and prices.

Benefitting from both reg. and liberalised businesses, with Gas posting most relevant growth.

Capex and new plant started up increased D&A.

Lower interest rates underpin net fin. int. on debt and affected non-cash IAS interests (accrued in provisions).

"One off" Fiscal Moratoria accounts for 27.6 m€.

Tax rate affected by Fiscal Moratoria (not deductible for 15.3 m€) and increased Robin Tax.

		2008	2009
Pretax reported		188.9	162.6
Fiscal Moratoria		-	27.6
Pretax adj.		188.9	190.2
Tax adj.	-	78.6	- 81.0
minorities	-	15.5	- 13.9
Net profit adj.		94.8	95.3

Positive results even though economic slow down affected all businesses

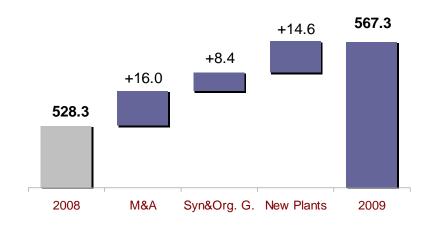
HERA

<sup>\*</sup> IAS figurative interests ("no cash out") related to provisions

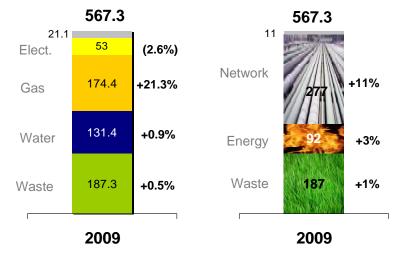
# Ebitda growth leveraging upon all growth drivers



#### **Ebitda Growth Drivers (M€)**



### Ebitda by business and by strategic area



#### Consistent strategy underpin constant growth

 M&A: relates to the acquisition of Gas and D.H. networks (16 m€ contribution relates to provision release).

Hera acquired also a first 25% stake of **Aimag** (contribution to results not booked).

- Organic Growth offsets crisis effect on demand:
  - Market expans.Favourable climate
  - Tariff increasesNetwork expansion
- **New plants** further contributed to growth:
  - Forlì WTE
- Cogen. Imola
- Modena WTE
- L.o.c. transformation into organisational units accomplished at year end.



## Waste mkt trend turned positive

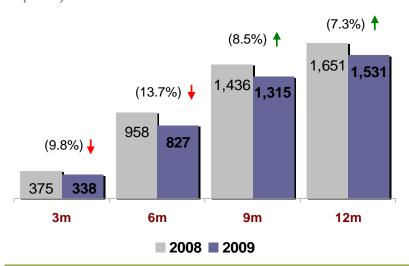


#### **Profit and Loss**

M€	2008	2009	Ch. %
Revenues	632.1	642.4	+1.6%
Operat. costs	(328.0)	(327.3)	(0.2%)
Personnel	(142.1)	(142.4)	+0.2%
Capitaliz.	24.2	14.5	(40.0%)
Ebitda	186.3	187.3	+0.5%

- New WTE plants run at full regime (+18% production) reducing by 12% treatments in landfill.
- WTE/biogas Electricity production up by +19% (up to 0.49 TWh).

# **2009 Special Waste cum. Volume** (Kton)



- Regulated tariffs (+2.7%) and Urban W.
   volumes (+1.8% physiological growth) contributed to growth.
- Total Waste volumes treated were almost stable (5.11 vs 5.16 mton).
- Special Waste market affected by -17.5% drop in '09 Italian manufacturing production. '09 volumes of Special Waste reached -7.3% compared to -13.7% of H1 thanks to positive trend in last 2 quarters.



### **Tariff increase offset crisis**









#### **Profit and Loss**

M €	2008	2009	Ch. %
Revenues	459.0	471.4	+2.7%
Operat. costs	(359.0)	(264.5)	(26.3%)
Personnel	(100.8)	(104.7)	+3.9%
Capitaliz.	131.0	29.3	(77.6%)
Ebitda	130.2	131.4	+0.9%

 Tariff increase (+3.1%) as agreed with Authorities and slightly lower volumes (-0.2%) underpin positive performance.

### **Operating data**

Data	2008	2009	Ch.%
Aqueduct (mm <sup>3</sup> )	257.0	256.6	(0.2%)
Sewerage (mm <sup>3</sup> )	224.4	225.7	+0.6%
Purification (mm <sup>3</sup> )	224.3	226.2	+0.8%

Slow down of real estate industry (lower new connections and other unregulated services for about 2m€) fully offset by tariff increase.



# **Enhancement in regulated and liberalised activities**









#### **Profit and Loss**

M €	2008	2009	Ch. %
Revenues	1,216.4	1,259.5	+3.5%
Operat. costs	(1,083.8)	(1,040.2)	(4.0%)
Personnel	(54.6)	(63.5)	+16.3%
Capitaliz.	65.9	18.7	(71.7%)
Ebitda	143.8	174.4	+21.3%

- Volumes sold +12.4% and enhanced profitability of Trading
   Sales to retail benefit from cold winter
  - Sales to retail benefit from cold winter (customer mix based on retail)
  - Wholesales doubled thanks to more liquid procurement market and favorable conditions on spot
  - Business client demand decrease offsets
- '09 Distrib. Revenues benefit from new tariff scheme
  - RAB valuation 800 m€ (+6.5% vs '08)
  - Cost base reduced by 2 m€
  - Std volumes recognized above '08
- Acquisition of networks, pursued in Q4, strengthened competitive Hera position for upcoming bids.
- District Heating benefits from climate conditions and operations of new Imola Cogeneration plant (2.6 m€).

### **Operating data**

Data	2008	2009	Ch.%
Volumes distrib. (mm <sup>3</sup> )	2,370.3	2,334.4	(1.5%)
Volumes sold (mm <sup>3</sup> ) of which trading (mm <sup>3</sup> )	2,493.1 <i>294.8</i>	2,802.7 <i>627.9</i>	+12.4% +113.0%
District Heating (GWht)	422.6	476.4	+12.7%



# Boost in sales partially offset crisis effect









#### **Profit and Loss**

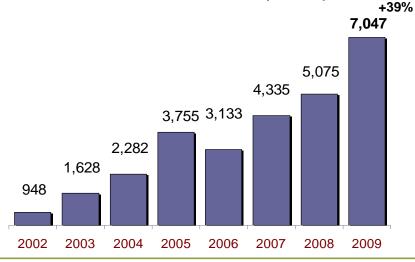
M €	2008	2009	Ch. %
Revenues	1,557.3	2,027.7	+30.2%
Operat. costs	(1,505.8)	(1,965.0)	+30.5%
Personnel	(22.2)	(24.1)	+8.6%
Capitaliz.	25.1	14.4	(42.7%)
Ebitda	54.4	53.0	(2.6%)

- Proactive marketing approach and strong presence on reference market yield outstanding results (vs -5% market trend):
  - +48K clients market expansion
  - +39% volumes (7TWh)
  - successful cross selling activities.
- Enhanced Trading activities benefit from favourable market conditions, whilst production units exposed to pool market suffered from price/margin decrease (Cogen Imola).

### Change in fair value of derivatives impacted by -4.5 m€

 Regulated Distribution signed -6.4% in volumes due to slow down on customer demand only partially offset by tariff increases.

#### Volume sold since 2002 (GWH)



### Other activities



#### **Profit and Loss**

M €	2008	2009	Ch. %
Revenues	75.7	108.3	+43.1%
Operat. costs	(53.0)	(73.0)	+37.7%
Personnel	(11.5)	(17.4)	+51.4%
Capitaliz.	2.4	3.1	+29.3%
Ebitda	13.5	21.1	+56.1%

 Sales increase underpinned by good performance of Public Lighting and of TLC infrastructure management business.

### **Operating data**

Data	2008	2009	Ch.%
Public Lighting (K unit)	326.8	331.5	+1.4%

 Group company rationalisation process continues and currently almost all Group companies highlight positive results and mainly focus on Hera core businesses.



### **Financial Statement**



#### **Balance Sheet**

M €	31/12/'08	31/12/'09
Fixed Assets	3,594.5	3,985.8
Working Capital	(22.9)	26.8
Stock	60.7	47.1
Receivables	1,183.0	1,157.0
Payables	(1,203.6)	(1,128.4)
Other current asset/liab.	(63.0)	(48.8)
(Provisions)	(421.0)	(420.0)
Net invested capital	3,150.6	3,592.5

#### **Financial Debts**

Net Debts	31/12/08	31/12/09
As of Dec. 31	(1,571.5)	(1,891.8)
Q4 change As of 30 September '09		+5.1 <b>(1,896.9)</b>
of which: Short term Debt Long term Debt		251.9 (2,143.7)

### Capex and Investments

- Future growth sustained by 391.5 m€ capital expenditure executed as budgeted (~40% development capex).
- Investments (36.8 m€) relates mainly to acquisition of 25% stake in Aimag.
- •Strengthening of Gas and D.H. network adding about 145 m€ RAB funded by share capital increase (82m shares).
- **Working Capital** (bettered in Q4 from 88 to 26.7 m€) mainly affected by lower payables.
- •Net Financial Debts slightly bettered in Q4.

Hera issued a 500m€ Eurobond at the end of November, 150 m€ loan (in Yen) and renegotiated 200m€ loan taking advantage from favorable market conditions.

# **Closing remarks**



- Solid and comfortable results offsetting economic slow down.
- Main strategic achievements of business plan fulfilled (LOC rationalisation, network acquisition from municipalities, largest new plant construction).
- Approval of Gas Distribution tariff for 2010 will provide a further enhancement in current year.
- Comfortable operating data currently highlight a slight recovery in consumptions of all main services.
- Despite "Fiscal Moratoria" one-off extraordinary charges, DPS confirmed at 8€c implying 94% Adj. pay out ratio (125% pay out on reported net profit).

'09 DPS confirmed at 8€c



# **Q&A Session**



Hera commercial campaign 2010

