

### **HALF YEAR REPORT**

### **31 December 2024**

THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 30 JUNE 2024 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMPANY LODGED ON ASX ON 15 OCTOBER 2024



**ASX Code: QUE** 

Queste Communications Ltd A.B.N. 58 081 688 164

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#### **STOCK EXCHANGE**

Australian Securities Exchange Perth, Western Australia

#### **ASX CODE**

QUE

#### **SHARE REGISTRY**

Automic

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### APPENDIX 4D HALF YEAR REPORT

This Half Year Report is provided to the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) under ASX Listing Rule 4.2A.3.

Current Reporting Period: 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2024 Previous Corresponding Period: 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023

Balance Date: 31 December 2024

Queste Communications Ltd (QUE or the Company) Company:

The Company and controlled entities (Queste), being Orion Equities Limited Consolidated Entity:

(ASX:OEQ) (OEQ) and controlled entities of OEQ (Orion).

#### RESULTS FOR ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE MARKET

	Dec 2024	Dec 2023	Change	Up/
COMPANY	\$	\$	%	Down
Total revenues	264	153	73%	Up
Net gain/(loss) on financial assets	281,029	(37,470)	850%	Down
Share of Associate entity's net loss	-	-	N/A	N/A
Other Expenses	(58,913)	(63,453)	7%	Down
Profit/(Loss) before tax	222,380	(100,770)	321%	Down
Income tax expense		-	N/A	N/A
Profit/(Loss) for the half year	222,380	(100,770)	321%	Down

CONSOLIDATED ENTITY	Dec 2024 \$	Dec 2023 \$	Change %	Up/ Down
Total revenues	110,541	24,034	360%	Up
Net gain/(loss) on financial assets	(100,000)	(70,000)	43%	Up
Share of Associate entity's net loss	-	-	N/A	N/A
Other Expenses	(239,315)	(115,414)	107%	Up
Loss before tax	(228,774)	(161,380)	42%	Up
Income tax benefit	1,411,526	-	N/A	N/A
Profit/(Loss) for the half year	1,182,752	(161,380)	833%	Down
Net Loss/(Profit) attributable to non-controlling interest	(498,228)	39,370	1,366%	Down
Profit/(Loss) after tax attributable to owners of the Company	684,524	(122,010)	661%	Down
Basic and diluted loss per share (cents)	2.53	(0.45)	661%	Down

			Change	Up/
CONSOLIDATED ENTITY	Dec 2024	Jun 2024	%	Down
Pre-tax NTA backing per share (cents) (Parent interest)	12.06	12.65	5%	Down
Post-tax NTA backing per share (cents) (Parent interest)	12.06	7.44	62%	Up

#### **BRIEF EXPLANATION OF RESULTS**

The Consolidated Entity's results incorporate the results of controlled entity, ASX-listed investment company, Orion Equities Limited (**OEQ**) and controlled entities of OEQ (**Orion**).

The Consolidated Entity's overall loss before tax relate principally to Orion's investment portfolio performance, principally attributable to \$0.1 million unrealised net loss in its investment in Strike Resources Limited (ASX:SRK) (Strike or SRK), which declined in price from 4 to 3 cents per share during the half year.

The Consolidated Entity accounts for Bentley Capital Limited (ASX:BEL) (Bentley or BEL) as an Associate entity, which means that the Consolidated Entity is required to recognise a share of BEL's net profit or loss in respect of the financial period based on Queste's (28.556% as at 31 December 2024) direct and indirect shareholding interest in BEL (this is known as the equity method of accounting for an associate entity).

### APPENDIX 4D HALF YEAR REPORT

As a result, the Consolidated Entity's carrying value of its investment in BEL has been reduced from cost to nil – as a consequence of the Consolidated Entity's accumulated recognition of BEL's net losses. This compares with Bentley's last closing price on ASX of \$0.01 per share (valuing Queste's investment at \$0.012 million and Orion's investment at \$0.205 million) and Bentley's after-tax NTA value of 0.65 cent per share as at 31 December 2024 (valuing Queste's investment at \$0.008m and Orion's investment at \$0.13 million based on Bentley's NTA backing).

The Consolidated Entity is not required to carry the BEL investment at a negative value (ie. below Nil) and if BEL should generate net profits in the future, the Consolidated Entity will recognise a share of BEL's net profits under the equity method, which will permit the Consolidated Entity to recognise a positive carrying value for BEL.

The Consolidated Entity's financial performance is primarily dependent on the share price performance of Strike (in which Orion has 10 million shares and Bentley has 56.7 million shares).

The SRK share price has traded within a range of 2.5 cents (on 17 December 2024) to 3.8 cents (on 15 October 2024) since 1 July 2024, with a bid price of 3 cents (as at 31 December 2024) and a current price of 2.7 cents (as at 26 February 2025).

Further information about Orion's operations, financial position and performance for the financial half year ended 31 December 2024 are outlined in Orion's 31 December 2024 Half Year Report.

Further information about Bentley's operations, financial position and performance for the financial half year ended 31 December 2024 are outlined in Bentley's 31 December 2024 Half Year Report.

Please refer to the attached Directors' Report and Financial Report for further information on a review of Queste's operations and the financial position and performance of Queste for the financial half year ended 31 December 2024.

Notwithstanding the accounting value of the investments of the Company as outlined herein, it is noted that the market value of the share investments are as follows:

		ASX Marke	et Value <sup>1</sup>
Investment	Shareholding	31 December 2024	30 June 2024
Orion Equities Limited (ASX:OEQ)	9,367,653	\$1,498,824	\$1,217,795
Bentley Capital Limited (ASX:BEL)	1,225,752	\$12,258	\$24,515
	Total _	\$1,511,082	\$1,242,310

#### **DIVIDENDS**

The Directors have not declared a dividend in respect of the financial half year ended 31 December 2024.

#### ASSOCIATE ENTITY

Orion has accounted for the following share investment at the Balance Date as an investment in an Associate entity (on an equity accounting basis):

26.946% interest (20,513,783 shares) in Bentley Capital Limited (ASX:BEL) (30 June 2024: 26.946%; 20,513,783 shares).

The Company also has a 1.61% (1,225,752 shares) direct interest in BEL as at Balance Date (30 June 2024: 1.61%; 1,252,752 shares).

Accordingly, the Consolidated Entity has equity accounted for a 28.556% total interest in BEL (30 June 2024: 28.556%).

<sup>1</sup> Based on closing bid price on ASX

## **APPENDIX 4D HALF YEAR REPORT**

#### **CONTROLLED ENTITIES**

The Company did not gain or lose control over any entities during the financial half year.

For and on behalf of the Directors,

Victor Ho

**Executive Director and Company Secretary** 

Telephone: (08) 9214 9777

Date: 27 February 2025

Email: cosec@queste.com.au

The Directors present their report on Queste Communications Ltd ABN 58 081 688 164 (ASX:QUE) (Company or QUE) and its controlled entities (Queste or the Consolidated Entity) for the financial half year ended 31 December 2024 (Balance Date).

Queste is a public company limited by shares that is incorporated and domiciled in Western Australia and has been listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) since November 1998 (ASX Code: QUE).

Queste's results incorporates the results of controlled entity, ASX listed investment company (LIC), Orion Equities Limited ABN 77 000 742 843 (ASX:OEQ) (**Orion** or **OEQ**). The Company has a 59.86% (9,367,653 shares) shareholding interest in Orion (30 June 2024: 59.86% (9,367,653 shares)).

#### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

COMPANY	Dec 2024 \$	Jun 2024 \$
Cash and cash equivalents	9,337	4,636
Current investments - equities	2	2
Investment in controlled entity (OEQ)	1,498,824	1,217,795
Investment in Associate entity (BEL)	-	-
Receivables	1,372	-
Other assets	710	1,158
Total Assets	1,510,245	1,223,591
Loan from controlled entity	(274,548)	(236,583)
Other payables and liabilities	(361,727)	(335,587)
Net Assets	873,970	651,421
Issued capital	6,239,370	6,239,370
Reserves	4,480,557	4,480,557
Accumulated losses	(9,845,957)	(10,068,506)
Total Equity	873,970	651,421

Notwithstanding the accounting value of the investments of the Company as outlined herein, it is noted that the market value of the share investments as at Balance Date are as follows are as follows:

		ASX Marke	et Value <sup>2</sup>
Investment	Shareholding	31 December 2024	30 June 2024
Orion Equities Limited (ASX:OEQ)	9,367,653	\$1,498,824	\$1,217,795
Bentley Capital Limited (ASX:BEL)	1,225,752	\$12,258	\$24,515
	Total _	\$1,511,082	\$1,242,310

#### **OPERATING RESULTS**

	Dec 2024	Dec 2023
COMPANY	\$	\$
Total revenues	264	153
Net gain/(loss) on financial assets	281,029	(37,470)
Share of Associate entity's net loss	-	-
Other Expenses	(58,913)	(63,453)
Profit/(Loss) before tax	222,380	(100,770)
Income tax expense		-
Profit/(Loss) for the half year	222,380	(100,770)

#### **EARNINGS PER SHARE**

CONSOLIDATED ENTITY	Dec 2024	Dec 2023
Basic and diluted loss per share (cents)	2.53	(0.45)
Weighted average number of fully paid ordinary shares in the Company outstanding during the half year used in the calculation of basic loss per share	27,072,332	27,072,332

#### CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The Consolidated Entity's results incorporate the results of controlled entity, ASX-listed investment company, Orion Equities Limited (OEQ) and controlled entities of OEQ (Orion).

The Consolidated Entity's overall loss before tax relate principally to Orion's investment portfolio performance, principally attributable to \$0.1 million unrealised net loss in its investment in Strike Resources Limited (ASX:SRK) (Strike or SRK), which declined in price from 4 to 3 cents per share during the half year.

The Consolidated Entity accounts for Bentley Capital Limited (ASX:BEL) (Bentley or BEL)as an Associate entity, which means that the Consolidated Entity is required to recognise a share of BEL's net profit or loss in respect of the financial period based on Queste's (28.556% as at 31 December 2024) direct and indirect shareholding interest in BEL (this is known as the equity method of accounting for an associate entity).

As a result the Consolidated Entity's carrying value of its investment in BEL has been reduced from cost to nil – as a consequence of the Consolidated Entity's accumulated recognition of BEL's net losses. This compares with Bentley's last closing price on ASX of \$0.01 per share (valuing Queste's investment at \$0.012 million and Orion's investment at \$0.205 million) and Bentley's after-tax NTA value of 0.65 cent per share as at 31 December 2024 (valuing Oueste's investment at \$0.008m and Orion's investment at \$0.13 million based on Bentley's NTA backing).

The Consolidated Entity is not required to carry the BEL investment at a negative value (ie. below Nil) and if BEL should generate net profits in the future, the Consolidated Entity will recognise a share of BEL's net profits under the equity method, which will permit the Consolidated Entity to recognise a positive carrying value for BEL.

The Consolidated Entity's financial performance is primarily dependent on the share price performance of Strike (in which Orion has 10 million shares and Bentley has 56.7 million shares).

The SRK share price has traded within a range of 2.5 cents (on 17 December 2024) to 3.8 cents (on 15 October 2024) since 1 July 2024, with a bid price of 3 cents (as at 31 December 2024) and a current price of 2.7 cents (as at 26 February 2025).

#### **DIVIDENDS**

The Directors have not declared a dividend in respect of the financial half year ended 31 December 2024.

#### **SECURITIES ON ISSUE**

As at Balance Date (and currently), the Company has 27,072,332 listed fully paid ordinary shares (30 June 2024: 27,072,332 fully paid ordinary shares) on issue.

All such shares are listed on ASX. The Company does not have other securities on issue.

#### **REVIEW OF OPERATIONS**

#### 1. **Orion Equities Limited (ASX:OEQ)**

#### 1.1. Current Status of Investment in Orion

Orion is a listed investment company.

The Company holds 9,367,653 shares in Orion, being 59.86% of its issued ordinary share capital (30 June 2024: 9,367,653 shares (59.86%)). Orion has been recognised as a controlled entity and included as part of the Queste Consolidated Entity's results since 1 July 2002.

Queste shareholders are advised to refer to the 31 December 2024 Half Year Report, 2024 Annual Report and monthly NTA disclosures lodged by Orion for further information about the status and affairs of the company.

Information concerning Orion may be viewed from its website: www.orionequities.com.au.

Orion's market announcements may also be viewed from the ASX website (www.asx.com.au) under ASX code "OEQ".

Sections 1.2 to 1.3 below contain information extracted from Orion's public statements.

#### 1.2. Orion's Portfolio Details as at 31 December 2024

#### **Asset Weighting**

		Assets
Consolidated Entity	Dec 2024	Jun 2024
Australian equities	5%	8%
Property held for development and resale	28%	35%
Net tax liabilities (current year and deferred tax assets/liabilities)	-	(27%)
Net cash/other assets and provisions	67%	84%
TOTAL	100%	100%

#### **Major Holdings in Securities Portfolio**

Security	Fair Value \$'m	% of Net Assets	ASX Code	Industry Sector Exposures
Bentley Capital Limited	\$0.21 <sup>3</sup>	3%	BEL	Diversified Financials
Strike Resources Limited	\$0.30 <sup>4</sup>	5%	SRK	Materials
TOTAL	\$0.51	8%		

#### 1.3. Orion's Assets

#### **Bentley Capital Limited (ASX:BEL)**

As at 31 December 2024 and currently, Queste holds 1,225,752 Bentley shares (1,61%) and Orion holds 20,513,783 Bentley shares (26.95%) (30 June 2024: Queste held 1,225,752 shares (1.61%) and Orion held 20,513,783 shares (26.95%)).

Bentley Capital Limited is a listed investment company (LIC) with a current exposure to Australian equities.

Shareholders are advised to refer to the 31 December 2024 Half Year Report, 2024 Annual Report and monthly NTA disclosures lodged by Bentley for further information about the status and affairs of the company.

Information concerning Bentley may be viewed from its website: www.bel.com.au.

Bentley's market announcements may also be viewed from the ASX website (www.asx.com.au) under ASX code "BEL".

#### Strike Resources Limited (ASX:SRK)

As at 31 December 2024 and currently, Orion holds 10,000,000 Strike shares (3.52%) (30 June 2024: 10,000,000 shares; 3.52%) while Orion's Associate entity, Bentley, holds 56,739,857 Strike shares (19.996%) (30 June 2024: 56,739,857 shares; 19.996%). Therefore, Queste/Orion has a deemed relevant interest in 66,739,857 Strike shares (23.52%).

The SRK share price has traded within a range of 2.5 cents (on 17 December 2024) to 3.8 cents (on 15 October 2024) since 1 July 2024, with a bid price of 3 cents (as at 31 December 2024) and a current price of 2.7 cents (as at 26 February 2025).

Strike is an ASX listed resource company which owns the high-grade Apurimac Iron Ore Project in Peru where it has exported "Apurimac Premium Lump" DSO product of ~65% Fe<sup>3</sup>. Strike also has a 27.7% (31.01 million shares) interest in Lithium Energy Limited (ASX:LEL), which was spun-out of Strike under a \$9 Million IPO in May 2021. Strike has advised that it continues to advance critical initiatives related to the Apurimac Project.4

Further information about Strike's resource projects and activities are contained in the company's ASX releases, including as follows:

- 31 January 2025: Quarterly Reports 31 December 2024;
- 31 October 2024: Quarterly Reports 30 September 2024; and
- 24 October 2024: Annual Report 2024.

Information concerning Strike may be viewed from its website: www.strikeresources.com.au. Strike's market announcements may also be viewed from the ASX website (www.asx.com.au) under ASX: "SRK".

#### **Lithium Energy Limited (ASX: LEL)** (c)

As at 31 December 2024 and currently:

- Bentley has a 134,843 shareholding (0.13%) in LEL (30 June 2024: 520,000 shares; 0.51%). (i)
- Strike is the largest shareholder of LEL with 31,010,000 shares (27.7%) (30 June 2024: 31,010,000 (ii) shares; 27.7%).

The LEL share price has traded within a range of \$0.305 (on 18 September 2024) to \$0.42 (on 15 October 2024) since 1 July 2024. LEL shares were suspended from trading on ASX on 25 October 2024 and its closing price on 4 October 2024 was \$0.37, which is the carrying value as at 31 December 2024 balance date.

<sup>3</sup> Refer SRK ASX Announcements dated 19 August 2021: Maiden Iron Ore Shipment from Peru and 29 October 2021: Second Iron Ore Shipment from Peru Completed

Based on SRK ASX announcement dated 31 January 2025: Quarterly Reports - 31 December 2024

Lithium Energy Limited is an ASX listed battery minerals company which is developing its flagship Solaroz Lithium Brine Project in Argentina and the Burke and Corella Graphite Projects in Queensland. The Solaroz Lithium Project (LEL:90%) comprises 12,000 hectares of highly prospective lithium mineral concessions (where a JORC Indicated and Inferred Mineral Resource of lithium has been delineated<sup>5</sup>) located strategically within the Salar de Olaroz Basin in South America's "Lithium Triangle" in north-west Argentina. Lithium Energy shares the lithium rights in the Olaroz Salar basin with lithium carbonate producers Arcadium Lithium plc (ASX:LTM)<sup>6</sup> and Lithium Argentina Corporation (TSX:LAAC). Prior to the announced sale of the Solaroz Project (settlement pending), Lithium Energy had completed a Scoping Study on Solaroz and had been investigating the development of a lithium carbonate equivalent (LCE) production facility using conventional evaporation ponds; Lithium Energy has also been evaluating direct-lithium extraction (DLE) technologies. The Burke and Corella Graphite Projects (LEL:100%) in Queensland, Australia, contains high grade JORC Indicated and Inferred Mineral Resources of graphite<sup>7</sup>.8

On 3 April 2024, Lithium Energy and NOVONIX Limited (ASX:NVX) announced the merger of their adjoining Burke and Mt Dromedary Queensland Natural Graphite Deposits into Lithium Energy subsidiary, Axon Graphite Limited (Proposed ASX Code: AXG) (Axon Graphite), which will undertake a \$15M to \$25M initial public offering (IPO) and seek admission to ASX as a dedicated vertically-integrated mine to Battery Anode Material (BAM) product manufacturing company. Lithium Energy's spin-out of Axon Graphite was approved by shareholders at a general meeting held on 7 February 20259.

On 30 April 2024<sup>10</sup>, Lithium Energy announced the sale of its interest in the Solaroz Project to a subsidiary of CNGR Advanced Materials Co Ltd (Shenzhen Stock Exchange Code: 300919) (CNGR) for US\$63 Million (~A\$97 Million<sup>11</sup>) cash. On 6 December 2024<sup>12</sup>, Lithium Energy announced amended Soloraz sale terms (with completion in two tranches (April 2025 and January 2026) and with no change to the total cash consideration). Lithium Energy shareholders approved the proposed sale of Solaroz at a general meeting held on 8 August 2024 (in respect of the original sale agreement) and on 15 January 2025 (in respect of the amended sale agreement). The sale of Lithium Energy's interest in the Solaroz Project to CNGR now unconditional13.

On 25 October 2024<sup>14</sup>, ASX determined that Lithium Energy did not have a sufficient level of operations to warrant the continued quotation of its securities in the context of the agreement to dispose of its main undertaking (being the Solaroz Project) and suspended Lithium Energy's securities from trading on ASX15. Lithium Energy has advised that it expects that the suspension will remain in place until it has satisfied ASX that it has a sufficient level of operations to justify the reinstatement of quotation of its shares on ASX and or is otherwise compliant with the Listing Rules of the ASX.8

Pending the completion of the sale of Solaroz, Lithium Energy has advised that it will:8

- continue to advance operations at Solaroz, with funding to be provided by CNGR (under the terms of the amended sale agreement);
- (b) advance the Axon Graphite IPO; and
- investigate and potentially undertake (where appropriate) investment opportunities principally in the battery mineral projects sector in Australia and overseas, subject to compliance with the Listing Rules of the ASX.

Refer LEL ASX Announcement dated 26 October 2023: Significant Solaroz Milestone Achieved with Upgrade to 2.4Mt LCE JORC Indicated Resource

On 9 October 2024, Rio Tinto (ASX/LSR:RIO) announced that it will acquire Arcadium in an all cash transaction valuing Arcadium at US\$6.7 Billion, which will be implemented via a scheme of arrangement' refer RIO ASX/LSE Announcements dated 9 October 2024: Rio Tinto to acquire Arcadium Lithium and 9 October 2024: Presentation on acquisition of Arcadium Lithium

Refer LEL ASX Announcements dated 16 June 2023: Maiden Corella Graphite Mineral Resource Delivers Doubling of Graphite Inventory and 5 April 2023: Burke Graphite Mineral Resource Upgrade Delivers Significant Increases in Size and Confidence

Based on LEL ASX announcement released on 31 January 2025: Quarterly Activities and Cash Flow Reports - 31 December 2024

Refer to LEL ASX Announcement dated 7 February 2025: Results of General Meeting and LEL's Notice of General Meeting, Explanatory Statement and Proxy Form dated and released on ASX on 8 January 2025

<sup>10</sup> Refer to LEL ASX Announcement dated 30 April 2024: Sale of Solaroz Lithium Project for A\$97 Million

<sup>11</sup> Based on an exchange rate of A\$1.00: US\$0.65

<sup>12</sup> Refer to LEL ASX Announcement dated 6 December 2024: Amended Terms of A\$97 Million Sale of Solaroz Lithium Project

<sup>13</sup> Refer to LEL ASX Announcement dated 20 January 2025: US\$6 Million Received as Second Deposit for Solaroz Sale

<sup>14</sup> Refer to LEL Announcement dated 25 October 2024: ASX Decision to Suspend Trading in LEL Securities

<sup>15</sup> Refer also LEL ASX Announcement dated 25 October 2024: Suspension from Quotation

Further information about Lithium Energy's resource projects and activities are contained in their ASX releases, including as follows:

- 31 January 2025: Quarterly Activities and Cash Flow Reports 31 December 2024;
- 31 October 2024: Quarterly Activities and Cash Flow Reports 30 Sept 2024; and
- 31 October 2024: Annual Report 2024.

Information concerning Lithium Energy may be viewed from its website: www.lithiumenergy.com.au. Lithium Energy's market announcements may also be viewed from the ASX website (www.asx.com.au) under ASX code "LEL"

#### **Receipt from Termination of Iron Ore Royalty Entitlement** (d)

During the last financial year ended 30 June 2024, Orion booked a \$5 million (gross) income on the termination of the Orion Royalty<sup>16</sup> in relation to Strike's Paulsens East Iron Ore Project.<sup>17</sup> Orion initially received \$2 million in January 202418, with an additional \$3 million deferred until 30 June 2024, which was received on 4 July 2024.19.

#### (e) **Other Assets**

Orion also owns a property held for redevelopment or sale (currently rented out) located in Mandurah, Western Australia.

#### 2. **Queste's Other Assets**

In addition to the investment in controlled entity, Orion, Queste has a direct share investment in Associate entity, Bentley, being 1,225,752 shares (1.61%) (30 June 2024: 1,225,752 shares and 1.61%).

The Company notes that it lodges Monthly and Quarterly Cash Flow Reports on ASX, which may be viewed and downloaded from the Company's website: www.queste.com.au or the ASX website (www.asx.com.au) under ASX Code: "QUE".

#### 3. **Material Business Risks**

Risks facing the Company can be divided into the broad categories of operations, market and compliance risks.

Operations risk refers to risks arising from day-to-day operational activities which may result in direct or indirect loss from inadequate or failed internal processes, people or systems or external events. The Company has clear accounting and internal control systems to manage risks to the accuracy of financial information and other financial risks. The Executive Chairman/Managing Director and Executive Director (also the Company Secretary) have delegated responsibility from the Board for identification of operations risks generally, for putting processes in place to mitigate them and monitoring compliance with those processes.

Market risk encompasses risks to the Company's performance from changes in equity prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates, capital markets and economic conditions generally. Management represents the first line in managing this risk, under the supervision of the Board. The Board retains final responsibility to assess the Company's exposure to these risks and set the strategic direction for managing them.

<sup>16</sup> Refer to the following ASX announcements: Orion's announcement dated 23 September 2005: CXL Retains a 25% Free Carried Interest in NT Uranium Tenements, Strike's announcement dated 20 September 2005: Acquisition of Uranium Tenements and Strike's announcement dated 11 August 2008: Acquisition of Outstanding Interests in Berau Coal and Paulsens East Iron Ore Projects.

<sup>17</sup> Refer OEQ ASX Announcement dated 3 January 2024: \$5 Million Receivable on Termination of Iron Ore Royalty Entitlement

<sup>18</sup> Refer OEQ ASX Announcement dated 8 March 2024: \$2 Million Received on Termination of Iron Ore Royalty Entitlement

<sup>19</sup> Refer OEQ ASX Announcement dated 4 July 2024: \$3 Million Deferred Payment Received on Termination of Iron Ore Royalty Entitlement

Compliance risk is the risk of failure to comply with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements and industry standards and the corresponding impact on the Company's business, reputation and financial condition. The Company's compliance risk management strategy ensures compliance with key legislation affecting the Company's activities. The Company Secretary has oversight responsibility for managing the Company's compliance risk. The Company Secretary take external legal and other professional advice as necessary. Comprehensive advice is taken from appropriate external professionals when establishing an operation in a new country and standing relationships are maintained with relevant external advisers, whose brief includes alerting the Company to material changes in law and government policy.

The Company also has policies on responsible business practices and ethical behaviour including a Statement of Values, Board Charter, Code of Conduct, Continuous Disclosure Policy, Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Policy, Whistleblower Policy, Share Trading Policy and its Corporate Governance Statement (which is updated and released on ASX annually) to maintain confidence in the Company's integrity and ensure legal compliance.

The Company's approach to risk management is not stationary; it evolves constantly in response to developments in operations and changing market conditions.

#### **FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

The Consolidated Entity intends to continue its investment activities in future years. The results of these investment activities depend upon the performance of the underlying companies and securities in which the Consolidated Entity invests. The investments' performances depend on many economic factors and also industry and company specific issues. In the opinion of the Directors, it is not possible or appropriate to make a prediction on the future course of markets, the performance of the Consolidated Entity's investments or the forecast of the likely results of the Consolidated Entity's activities.

#### **DIRECTORS**

Information concerning Directors in office during or since the half year:

Farooq Khan	Executive Chairman and Managing Director
Appointed	10 March 1998
Qualifications	BJuris, LLB ( Western Australia)
Experience	Farooq Khan is a qualified lawyer having previously practised principally in the field of corporate law. Mr Khan has extensive experience in the securities industry, capital markets and the executive management of ASX-listed companies. In particular, Mr Khan has guided the establishment and growth of a number of public listed companies in the investment, mining and financial services sector. He has considerable experience in the fields of capital raisings, mergers and acquisitions and investments.
Relevant interest in shares	5,344,872 shares <sup>20</sup>
Other current directorships in listed entities	<ol> <li>Executive Chairman of Bentley Capital Limited (ASX:BEL) (since 2 December 2003)</li> <li>Executive Chairman of Orion Equities Limited (ASX:OEQ) (since 23 October 2006)</li> <li>Chairman (appointed 18 December 2015) of Strike Resources Limited (ASX:SRK) (Director since 1 October 2015)</li> <li>Executive Director of Lithium Energy Limited (ASX:LEL) (since 14 January 2021)</li> </ol>
Former directorships in other listed entities in past 3 years	None

Yaqoob Khan	Non-Executive Director
Appointed	10 March 1998
Qualifications	BCom (Western Australia), MBA (Carnegie Mellon)
Experience	After working for several years in the Australian Taxation Office, Yaqoob Khan completed his postgraduate Master's degree and commenced work as a senior executive responsible for product marketing, costing systems and production management. Mr Khan has been an integral member of the team responsible for the pre-IPO structuring and IPO promotion of a number of ASX floats and has been involved in the management of such companies. Mr Khan brings considerable international experience in key aspects of corporate finance and the strategic analysis of listed investments.
Relevant interest in shares	5,387,394 shares <sup>21</sup>
Other current directorships in listed entities	Non-Executive Director of Orion Equities Limited (ASX:OEQ) (since 5 November 1999).
Former directorships in other listed entities in past 3 years	None

Victor P. H. Ho	Executive Director and Company Secretary
Appointed	Executive Director since 3 April 2013; Company Secretary since 30 August 2000
Qualifications	BCom, LLB ( Western Australia), CTA
Experience	Victor Ho has been in Executive roles with a number of ASX-listed companies across the investments, resources and technology sectors over the past 25+ years. Mr Ho is a Chartered Tax Adviser (CTA) and previously had 9 years' experience in the taxation profession with the Australian Tax Office (ATO) and in a specialist tax law firm. Mr Ho has been actively involved in the investment management of listed investment companies (as an Executive Director and/or a member of the Investment Committee), the structuring and execution of a number of corporate, M&A and international joint venture (in South America (Peru, Chile and Argentina), Indonesia and the Middle East (Saudi Arabia and Oman)) transactions, capital raisings, resources project (debt) financing, spin-outs/demergers and IPO's/re-listings on ASX and capital management initiatives and has extensive experience in public company administration, corporations' law, ASIC/ASX compliance and investor/shareholder relations.
Relevant interest in shares	17,500 shares <sup>22</sup>
Other current positions held in listed entities	(1) Executive Director and Company Secretary of Orion Equities Limited (ASX:OEQ) (Secretary since 2 August 2000 and Director since 4 July 2003)
	(2) Director and Company Secretary of Strike Resources Limited (ASX:SRK) (Director since 24 January 2014 and Company Secretary since 1 October 2015)
	(3) Company Secretary of Bentley Capital Limited (ASX:BEL) (since 5 February 2004)
	(4) Company Secretary of Lithium Energy Limited (ASX:LEL) (since 14 January 2021)
Former positions in other listed entities in past 3 years	-

#### **AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION**

A copy of the Auditor's Independence Declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 forms part of this Directors Report and is set out on page 14. This relates to the Auditor's Independent Review Report, where the Auditor states that they have issued an independence declaration.

<sup>21</sup> Refer Yaqoob Khan's Change of Director's Interest Notice dated 31 March 2022

<sup>22</sup> Refer Victor Ho's Initial Director's Interest Notice dated 3 April 2013

Signed for and on behalf of the Directors in accordance with a resolution of the Board.

Farooq Khan Executive Chairman and Managing Director

27 February 2025

**Executive Director and Company Secretary** 





## AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001

To the directors of Queste Communications Limited:

As lead auditor of the review of Queste Communications Limited for the half-year ended 31 December 2024, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the review; and
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.

This declaration is in respect of Queste Communications Limited and the entities it controlled during the half-year.

In.Corp Audit & Assurance Pty Ltd ABN 14 129 769 151

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#### In.Corp Audit & Assurance Pty Ltd

Volha Romanchik Director

27 February 2025

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT** OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

## for the half year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	31 Dec 24	31 Dec 23
Revenue	2	<b>\$</b> 110,541	<b>\$</b> 24,034
Total revenue	2	110,541	24,034
Total revenue		110,541	2-1,05-1
Expenses	3		
Net loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		(100,000)	(70,000)
Land operation expenses		(10,022)	(8,869)
Personnel expenses		(149,566)	(33,091)
Occupancy expenses		(2,307)	(333)
Corporate expenses		(52,738)	(40,375)
Finance expenses		(84)	(86)
Administration expenses		(24,598)	(32,660)
Loss before tax		(228,774)	(161,380)
Income tax benefit	5	1,411,526	_
Profit/(Loss) after income tax		1,182,752	(161,380)
Other comprehensive income			
Other comprehensive income, after tax		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the half year		1,182,752	(161,380)
Profit/(Loss) attributable to:			
Owners of Queste Communications Ltd		684,524	(122,010)
Non-controlling interest		498,228	(39,370)
Non-condoming interest		1,182,752	(161,380)
		1,102,732	(101/300)
Total comprehensive income for the half year is attributable	e to:		
Owners of Queste Communications Ltd		684,524	(122,010)
Non-controlling interest		498,228	(39,370)
<b>5</b>		1,182,752	(161,380)
Basic and diluted earnings/(loss) per share (cents)			
attributable to the ordinary equity holders	•	2.52	(0.45)
of the Company	6	2.53	(0.45)

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT** OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 31 December 20	24
----------------------	----

	Note	31 Dec 24	30 Jun 24
Current assets		\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	7	4,225,057	1,462,979
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	8	300,002	400,002
Receivables		4,193	3,000,000
Total current assets		4,529,252	4,862,981
Non-current assets			
Property held for development or resale	10	1,850,000	1,850,000
Investment in Associate entity	13	-	-
Property, plant and equipment		1,212	2,016
Total non-current assets		1,851,212	1,852,016
Total assets		6,380,464	6,714,997
Common Parking			
Current liabilities	4.4	141 115	220 624
Payables	11	141,115	320,634
Provisions	12	275,987	1,613,753
Total current liabilities		417,102	1,934,387
Non-Current liabilities			
Payables	12	91,636	91,636
Total liabilities		508,738	2,026,023
Net assets		5,871,726	4,688,974
Facility			
Equity Issued capital		6,239,370	6,239,370
Reserves		0,239,370	0,239,370
Profits reserve		13,022,859	13,011,391
Option premium reserve		2,138,012	2,138,012
Other reserve		884,748	318,164
Accumulated losses		(19,020,979)	(19,694,035)
Parent interest		3,264,010	2,012,902
		-, -,	,,
Non-controlling interest		2,607,716	2,676,072
Total equity		5,871,726	4,688,974
• •			, , -

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY** for the half year ended 31 December 2024

	Issued capital \$	Reserves \$	Accumulated losses \$	Non- controlling interest \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 Jul 2023	6,239,370	12,437,198	(17,779,179)	903,636	1,801,025
Loss for the half year Profits reserve transfer Other comprehensive income	- - -	- 3,596,953 -	(122,010) (3,596,953)	(39,370) - -	(161,380) - -
Total comprehensive income for the half year	-	3,596,953	(3,718,963)	(39,370)	(161,380)
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners: Transactions with non-controlling interest	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 31 Dec 2023	6,239,370	16,034,151	(21,498,142)	864,266	1,639,645
Balance at 1 July 2024	6,239,370	15,467,567	(19,694,035)	2,676,072	4,688,974
Profit for the half year Profits reserve transfer Other comprehensive income	- - -	- 11,468 -	684,524 (11,468)	498,228 - -	1,182,752 - -
Total comprehensive income for the half year	-	11,468	673,056	498,228	1,182,752
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners: Transactions with non-controlling interest	<b>.</b>	566,584	-	(566,584)	-
Balance at 31 Dec 2024	6,239,370	16,045,619	(19,020,979)	2,607,716	5,871,726

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

## for the half year ended 31 December 2024

		31 Dec 24	31 Dec 23
	Note	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers		21,992	9,425
Iron ore royalty entitlement termination payment		3,000,000	-
Interest received		88,549	2,042
Payments to suppliers and employees		(348,463)	(71,583)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		2,762,078	(60,116)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		2,762,078	(60,116)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial half year		1,462,979	148,180
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial half year	7	4,225,057	88,064

#### MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION

#### **Statement of Compliance**

The half year financial statements are a general purpose financial report prepared in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and AASB 134 'Interim Financial Reporting'. Compliance with AASB 134 ensures compliance with International Financial Reporting Standard IAS 34 'Interim Financial Reporting'. These half year financial statements do not include notes of the type normally included in the annual financial statements and should be read in conjunction with the most recent annual financial statements and the Company's ASX announcements released from 1 July 2024 to the date of this report.

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The financial report has been prepared on a going concern and accrual basis and is based on historical costs modified by the revaluation of financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied. The Directors are not aware of any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt upon the Consolidated Entity's ability to continue as a going concern.

All amounts are presented in Australian dollars, unless otherwise noted.

The accounting policies and methods of computation adopted in the preparation of the half year financial statements are consistent with those adopted and disclosed in the Consolidated Entity's financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

#### New, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

The Consolidated Entity has adopted all of the new, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the AASB that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new, revised or amending Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not mandatory have not been early adopted. These are not expected to have a material impact on the Consolidated Entity's financial statements.

#### **REVENUE** 2.

Interest revenue

The Consolidated Entity's operating loss before income tax includes the

following items of revenue:	
Revenue	
Rental revenue	

31 Dec 24	31 Dec 23
\$	\$
21,992	21,992
88,549	2,042
110,541	24,034

# **NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

## for the half year ended 31 December 2024

#### 3. EXPENSES

The Consolidated Entity's operating loss before income tax includes the	31 Dec 24	31 Dec 23
following items of expenses:	\$	\$
Net loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	100,000	70,000
Land operations	10,022	8,869
Personnel expenses		
Salaries, fees and employee benefits	126,422	17,829
Superannuation	23,144	15,262
Occupancy expenses	2,307	333
Finance expenses	84	86
Corporate expenses		
ASX and CHESS fees	34,223	32, <del>4</del> 82
ASIC fees	2,134	2,060
Share registry	14,176	3,750
Other corporate expenses	2,205	2,083
Administration expenses		
Tenement royalties	-	18,787
Audit fees	8,820	8,400
Depreciation	131	364
Other administration expenses	15,647	5,109
	339,315	185,414

#### 4. SEGMENT INFORMATION

31 Dec 24 Segment revenues	Investments \$	Corporate \$	Total \$
Revenue	21,992	88,549	110,541
Total segment revenues	21,992	88,549	110,541
Personnel expenses	-	149,566	149,566
Finance expenses	-	84	84
Administration expenses	-	24,467	24,467
Depreciation expenses	-	131	131
Other expenses	110,022	55,0 <del>4</del> 5	165,067
Total segment loss	(88,030)	(140,744)	(228,774)
Segment assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	-	4,225,057	4,225,057
Financial assets	300,002	-	300,002
Receivables	4,193	-	4,193
Property held for development or resale	1,850,000	-	1,850,000
Property, plant and equipment	-	1,212	1,212
Total segment assets	2,154,195	4,226,269	6,380,464

#### 4. SEGMENT INFORMATION (continued)

Segment revenues         \$         \$           Revenue         21,992         2,042         24,034           Total segment revenues         21,992         2,042         24,034           Personnel expenses         -         33,091         33,091           Finance expenses         -         86         86           Administration expenses         -         13,510         13,510           Depreciation expenses         -         364         364           Other expenses         97,656         40,707         138,363           Total segment loss         (75,664)         (85,716)         (161,380)           Segment assets         -         1,462,979         1,462,979           Financial assets         400,002         -         400,002           Receivables         3,000,000         -         3,000,000           Property, held for development or resale         1,850,000         -         1,850,000           Property, plant and equipment         -         2,016         2,016           Total segment assets         5,250,002         1,464,995         6,714,997	31 Dec 23	Investments	Corporate	Total
Total segment revenues         21,992         2,042         24,034           Personnel expenses         -         33,091         33,091           Finance expenses         -         86         86           Administration expenses         -         13,510         13,510           Depreciation expenses         -         364         364           Other expenses         97,656         40,707         138,363           Total segment loss         (75,664)         (85,716)         (161,380)           30 Jun 24         Segment assets         -         1,462,979         1,462,979           Financial assets         400,002         -         400,002           Receivables         3,000,000         -         3,000,000           Property held for development or resale         1,850,000         -         1,850,000           Property, plant and equipment         -         2,016         2,016	Segment revenues	\$	\$	\$
Personnel expenses         -         33,091         33,091           Finance expenses         -         86         86           Administration expenses         -         13,510         13,510           Depreciation expenses         -         364         364           Other expenses         97,656         40,707         138,363           Total segment loss         (75,664)         (85,716)         (161,380)           30 Jun 24         Segment assets         -         1,462,979         1,462,979           Financial assets         -         1,462,979         1,462,979           Financial assets         400,002         -         400,002           Receivables         3,000,000         -         3,000,000           Property held for development or resale         1,850,000         -         1,850,000           Property, plant and equipment         -         2,016         2,016	Revenue	21,992	2,042	24,034
Finance expenses         -         86         86           Administration expenses         -         13,510         13,510           Depreciation expenses         -         364         364           Other expenses         97,656         40,707         138,363           Total segment loss         (75,664)         (85,716)         (161,380)           30 Jun 24           Segment assets           Cash and cash equivalents         -         1,462,979         1,462,979           Financial assets         400,002         -         400,002           Receivables         3,000,000         -         3,000,000           Property held for development or resale         1,850,000         -         1,850,000           Property, plant and equipment         -         2,016         2,016	Total segment revenues	21,992	2,042	24,034
Administration expenses         -         13,510         13,510           Depreciation expenses         -         364         364           Other expenses         97,656         40,707         138,363           Total segment loss         (75,664)         (85,716)         (161,380)           30 Jun 24         Segment assets           Cash and cash equivalents         -         1,462,979         1,462,979           Financial assets         400,002         -         400,002           Receivables         3,000,000         -         3,000,000           Property held for development or resale         1,850,000         -         1,850,000           Property, plant and equipment         -         2,016         2,016	Personnel expenses	-	33,091	33,091
Depreciation expenses         -         364         364           Other expenses         97,656         40,707         138,363           Total segment loss         (75,664)         (85,716)         (161,380)           30 Jun 24           Segment assets         Segment assets         1,462,979         1,462,979           Cash and cash equivalents         -         1,462,979         1,462,979           Financial assets         400,002         -         400,002           Receivables         3,000,000         -         3,000,000           Property held for development or resale         1,850,000         -         1,850,000           Property, plant and equipment         -         2,016         2,016	Finance expenses	-	86	86
Other expenses         97,656         40,707         138,363           Total segment loss         (75,664)         (85,716)         (161,380)           30 Jun 24           Segment assets         Segment assets         1,462,979         1,462,979           Cash and cash equivalents         -         1,462,979         1,462,979           Financial assets         400,002         -         400,002           Receivables         3,000,000         -         3,000,000           Property held for development or resale         1,850,000         -         1,850,000           Property, plant and equipment         -         2,016         2,016	Administration expenses	-	13,510	13,510
Total segment loss         (75,664)         (85,716)         (161,380)           30 Jun 24         Segment assets           Cash and cash equivalents         -         1,462,979         1,462,979           Financial assets         400,002         -         400,002           Receivables         3,000,000         -         3,000,000           Property held for development or resale         1,850,000         -         1,850,000           Property, plant and equipment         -         2,016         2,016	Depreciation expenses	-	364	364
30 Jun 24         Segment assets       - 1,462,979 1,462,979         Cash and cash equivalents       - 1,462,979 1,462,979         Financial assets       400,002 - 400,002         Receivables       3,000,000 - 3,000,000         Property held for development or resale       1,850,000 - 1,850,000         Property, plant and equipment       - 2,016 2,016	Other expenses	97,656	40,707	138,363
Segment assets           Cash and cash equivalents         -         1,462,979         1,462,979           Financial assets         400,002         -         400,002           Receivables         3,000,000         -         3,000,000           Property held for development or resale         1,850,000         -         1,850,000           Property, plant and equipment         -         2,016         2,016	Total segment loss	(75,664)	(85,716)	(161,380)
Cash and cash equivalents       -       1,462,979       1,462,979         Financial assets       400,002       -       400,002         Receivables       3,000,000       -       3,000,000         Property held for development or resale       1,850,000       -       1,850,000         Property, plant and equipment       -       2,016       2,016	30 Jun 24			
Financial assets       400,002       -       400,002         Receivables       3,000,000       -       3,000,000         Property held for development or resale       1,850,000       -       1,850,000         Property, plant and equipment       -       2,016       2,016	Segment assets			
Receivables       3,000,000       -       3,000,000         Property held for development or resale       1,850,000       -       1,850,000         Property, plant and equipment       -       2,016       2,016	Cash and cash equivalents	-	1,462,979	1,462,979
Property held for development or resale 1,850,000 - 1,850,000 Property, plant and equipment - 2,016 2,016	Financial assets	400,002	-	400,002
Property, plant and equipment - 2,016 2,016	Receivables	3,000,000	-	3,000,000
	Property held for development or resale	1,850,000	-	1,850,000
Total segment assets 5,250,002 1,464,995 6,714,997	Property, plant and equipment		2,016	2,016
	Total segment assets	5,250,002	1,464,995	6,714,997

#### 5. TAX

The components of tax expense comprise:	31 Dec 24 \$	30 Jun 24 \$
Current tax Deferred tax	(1,411,526)	1,411,526 -
	(1,411,526)	1,411,526
(a) The prima facie tax on operating profit/(loss) before income tax is reconciled to the income tax as follows:		
Prima facie tax payable on operating profit/(loss) before income tax at 30% (30 Jun 2024: 30%)	(68,632)	1,289,842
Adjust tax effect of:	110.064	146 502
Non-deductible expenses  Current year tax losses not brought to account	118,864	146,582
Prior-year tax losses utilised	(50,232) (1,411,526)	(24,898)
Income tax attributable to entity	(1,411,526)	1,411,526
Unrecognised deferred tax balances		
Unrecognised deferred tax asset - revenue losses	4,764,069	4,723,149
Unrecognised deferred tax asset - capital losses	77,890	77,890
Unrecognised deferred tax asset - timing differences	1,441,270	1,449,575
<u> </u>	6,283,229	6,250,614

#### 5. TAX (continued)

#### Critical accounting judgement and estimate

The above deferred tax assets have not been recognised in respect of the above items because it is not probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the Consolidated Entity can utilise the benefits. Revenue and capital tax losses are subject to relevant statutory tests.

The Consolidated Entity has recognised an income tax benefit of \$1.41 million from the reversal of a provision for income tax expense of \$1.41 million previously recognised as at 30 June 2024 in respect of the \$5 million total gross consideration received by the Consolidated Entity on the termination (in 8 March 2024) of a royalty in relation to the Paulsens East Iron Ore Project. Subsequent to 30 June 2024, the Consolidated Entity has determined that it does not have an income tax liability due to the utilisation of available carried forward prior year tax losses of \$12 million in respect of the Consolidated Entity's Income tax return for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

#### **EARNINGS/(LOSS) PER SHARE**

31 Dec 24

Basic and diluted earnings/(loss) per share (cents)

2.53 (0.45)

31 Dec 23

The following represents the profit/(loss) and weighted average number of shares used in the loss per share calculations:

Profit/(Loss) after income tax attributable to Owners of Queste (\$)

684,524 (122,010)

Weighted average number of ordinary shares

**Number of shares** 27,072,332 27,072,332

**CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS** 

31 Dec 24 30 Jun 24

Cash at bank

4,225,057 1,462,979

FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

31 Dec 24 30 Jun 24

Listed securities at fair value

300,002 400,002

#### **FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

#### Fair value hierarchy

AASB 13 (Fair Value Measurement) requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level of the following fair value measurement hierarchy:

- (i) Level 1: quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- (ii) Level 2: inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices); and
- (iii) Level 3: inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:

	LEAG! I	LEVEI Z	Level 3	i Utai
Listed securities at fair value	\$	\$	\$	\$
31 Dec 2024	300,002	-	-	300,002
30 Jun 2024	400,002	-	-	400,002

#### FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

There have been no transfers between the levels of the fair value hierarchy during the financial half year.

#### (a) Valuation techniques

The fair value of the listed securities traded in active markets is based on closing bid prices at the end of the reporting period. These investments are included in Level 1.

The fair value of any assets that are not traded in an active market are determined using certain valuation techniques. The valuation techniques maximise the use of observable market data where it is available, or independent valuation and rely as little as possible on entity specific estimates. If all significant inputs required to fair value an instrument are observable, the instrument is included in Level 2. If one or more of the significant inputs is not based on observable market data, the instrument is included in Level 3.

(b) Fair values of other financial assets and liabilities		31 Dec 24	30 Jun 2024	
	Notes	\$	\$	
Cash and cash equivalents	7	4,225,057	1,462,979	
Receivables		4,193	3,000,000	
		4,229,250	4,462,979	
Payables		(141,115)	(320,634)	
·	•	4,088,135	4,142,345	

Due to their short-term nature, the carrying amounts of cash, current receivables and current payables is assumed to approximate their fair value.

10. PROPERTY HELD FOR RESALE	31 Dec 24	30 Jun 2024
	\$	\$
Property held for development or resale	3,797,339	3,797,339
Revaluation of property	(1,947,339)	(1,947,339)
	1,850,000	1,850,000

#### Critical accounting judgement and estimate

The carrying value of Property held for resale is based on the Directors' judgement, having regard to the most recent independent valuation report dated 30 June 2023 and an assessment of current pertinent real estate market conditions. The Directors are of the view that the property is not impaired as at balance date.

#### 11. PAYABLES

	31 Dec 24	30 Jun 2024
Current	\$	\$
Trade payables	42,823	18,891
Dividend payable	6,592	6,592
GST payable	15,545	14,410
Other payables and accrued expenses	76,155	280,741
	141,115	320,634
Non-current		
Accrued Directors' fees and entitlements	91,636	91,636

#### 12. PROVISIONS

	31 Dec 24	30 Jun 2024
Current	\$	\$
Employee benefits - annual leave	114,282	69,552
Employee benefits - long service leave	161,705	132,675
Provision for income tax		1,411,526
	275,987	1,613,753

#### (a) Amounts not expected to be settled within 12 months

The provision for annual leave and long service leave is presented as current since the Consolidated Entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for any of these employee benefits. Long service leave covers all unconditional entitlements where employees have completed the required period of service and also where employees are entitled to pro-rata payments in certain circumstances.

Based on past experience, the employees have never taken the full amount of long service leave or require payment within the next 12 months. The following amounts reflect leave that is not expected to be taken or paid within the next 12 months:

	31 Dec 24	30 Jun 2024
	\$	\$
Leave obligations expected to be settled after 12 months	161,705	132,675

#### (b) Provision for income tax

The provision for income tax in respect for the year ended 30 June 2024 relates to a provision for income tax expense of \$1.4 million in respect of the total gross consideration received (\$2 million) and receivable (\$3 million- received on 3 July 2024) by CXM Pty Ltd (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Orion Equities Limited) on the termination of a royalty in relation to the Paulsens East Iron Ore Project (refer also Note 5).

13.	INVESTMENT IN ASSOCIATE ENTITY			Carrying A	Amount
		Ownersh	ip Interest	31 Dec 24	30 Jun 2024
	Bentley Capital Limited (ASX:BEL)	<b>31 Dec 24</b> 28.56%	30 Jun 2024 28.56%	\$ 	\$ 
	Movements in carrying amounts				
	Opening balance			-	-
	Share of net profit/(loss) after tax			-	
	Closing balance			-	-
	Fair value (at market price on ASX) of i	nvestment in A	Associate entity	217,395	434,791
	Net asset backing value of investment i	in Associate er	ntity	141,122	391,470
	Summarised statement of profit or loss	and other con	nprehensive incom	ne	
	Revenue			2,269	4,898
	Expenses			(878,944)	(2,043,468)
	Loss before income tax			(876,675)	(2,038,570)
	Income tax expense			-	-
	Loss after income tax			(876,675)	(2,038,570)
	Other comprehensive income			-	-
	Total comprehensive income			(876,675)	(2,038,570)

13.	INVESTMENT IN ASSOCIATE ENTITY (continued)	31 Dec 24 \$	30 Jun 2024 \$
	Summarised statement of financial position		
	Current assets	1,793,567	2,5 <del>4</del> 2,887
	Non-current assets	508	745
	Total assets	1,794,075	2,543,632
	Current liabilities	1,299,893	1,172,775
	Total liabilities	1,299,893	1,172,775
	Net assets	494,182	1,370,857

#### 14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

#### (a) Loan from Controlled Entity

The Company is deemed to have control of Orion Equities Limited (ASX:OEQ) (OEQ) as it holds 59.86% (9,367,653 shares) of Orion's issued capital (30 Jun 2024: 59.86% and 9,367,653 shares).

OEQ and the Company have entered into a Loan Agreement for the Company to borrow up to \$400,000 from OEQ (Loan). The Loan is unsecured and currently matures on 31 December 2025 (unless extended by agreement of the parties) and accrues interest at 10% pa. During the financial period, the OEQ advanced \$30,000 to the Company and the Company repaid \$5,342 to OEQ and incurred interest expenses of \$13,307 under the Loan. The balance of the Loan is \$274,548 as at balance date.

#### (b) Transactions with key management personnel

At Balance Date, the Company owes its Directors an aggregate \$110,040 in unpaid salaries (net of PAYG withholding tax remitted to the ATO) (30 Jun 2024: \$110,040 respectively).

During the financial half year, the Consolidated Entity generated \$21,992 rental income from a family member of Queste and Orion Director, Faroog Khan, pursuant to a standard form residential tenancy agreement in respect of Property Held for Resale (held by Orion subsidiary, Silver Sands Developments Pty Ltd) (31 Dec 2023: \$21,992).

#### (c) Transactions with Related Parties

During the financial half year there were transactions between the Company, Orion and Associate Entity, Bentley Capital Limited (ASX:BEL), pursuant to shared office and administration expense arrangements. There were no outstanding amounts at the Balance date.

#### 15. CONTINGENCIES

#### **Directors' Deeds**

The Company has entered into Deeds of Indemnity with each of its Directors indemnifying them against liability incurred in discharging their duties as Directors/Officers of the Consolidated Entity. At the end of the financial period, no claims have been made under any such indemnities and accordingly, it is not possible to quantify the potential financial obligation of the Consolidated Entity under these indemnities.

#### 16. EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

No matter or circumstance has arisen since the end of the financial half year that significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Consolidated Entity, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Consolidated Entity in future financial years.

### **DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Queste Communications Ltd made pursuant to sub-section 303(5) of the Corporations Act 2001, we state that:

In the opinion of the Directors:

- (1) The financial statements and notes of the Consolidated Entity are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:
  - giving a true and fair view of the Consolidated Entity's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and of its performance for the financial half year ended on that date; and
  - complying with Accounting Standards AASB 134 "Interim Financial Reporting", Corporations (b) Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
- (2) There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Consolidated Entity will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the Board,

Farooq Khan Executive Chairman and Managing Director

27 February 2025

Victor Ho

**Executive Director and Company Secretary** 





# QUESTE COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT

To the Members of Queste Communications Limited

#### Conclusion

We have reviewed the half-year financial report of Queste Communications Limited ("the Company"), and its controlled entities ("the Group"), which comprises the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024, the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity and the consolidated statement of cash flows for the half-year ended on that date, notes to the financial statements including a summary of material accounting policy information, other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the half-year financial report of the Group is not in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

#### **Basis for Conclusion**

We conducted our review in accordance with ASRE 2410 Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity. Our responsibilities are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Review of the Financial Report section of our report.

We are independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including independence standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical requirements in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the directors of Queste Communications Limited, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's review report.

#### In.Corp Audit & Assurance Pty Ltd ABN 14 129 769 151

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# QUESTE COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT (continued)

#### Responsibility of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Group are responsible for the preparation of the half-year financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the half-year financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Review of the Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the half-year financial report based on our review. ASRE 2410 requires us to conclude whether we have become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the half year financial report is not in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* including giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and its performance for the half year ended on that date, and complying with AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

A review of a half-year financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

In.Corp Audit & Assurance Pty Ltd

Volha Romanchik

Director

27 February 2025

## **SECURITIES INFORMATION** as at 31 December 2024

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF LISTED ORDINARY FULLY PAID SHARES**

Spread	of	Holdings	Number of Holders	Number of Units	% of Total Issue Capital
1	-	1,000	20	8,823	0.03%
1,001	-	5,000	43	115,596	0.43%
5,001	-	10,000	55	496,315	1.83%
10,001	-	100,000	80	2,245,227	8.29%
100,001	-	and over	22	24,206,371	89.41%
Total			220	27,072,332	100%

#### **UNMARKETABLE PARCELS**

Spread	of	Holdings	Number of Holders	Number of Shares	% of Total Issued Capital
1	-	11,111	125	696,017	2.57%
11,112	-	over	95	26,376,315	97.43%
TOTAL			220	27,072,332	100.00%

An unmarketable parcel is considered, for the purposes of the above table, to be a shareholding of 11,111 shares or less, being a value of \$500 or less in total, based upon the Company's last sale price on ASX as at 31 December 2024 of \$0.045 per share.

#### SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS

Substantial Shareholders	Registered Shareholder	Shareholding	Total Shares	%Voting Power <sup>6</sup>
Geoff Wilson and Associates	Dynasty Peak Pty Ltd	5,391,9	975	19.92
Yaqoob Khan and Associate	Mr Yaqoob Khan	5,334,069	5,387,394	19.90
	KYA Pty Ltd	53,325		
Farooq Khan and Associate	Mr Farooq Khan & Ms Rosanna De Campo	4,921,295	5,344,872	19.74
	Island Australia Pty Ltd	423,577		
Renmuir Holdings Limited	Renmuir Holdings Ltd	3,003,688		11.10

## **SECURITIES INFORMATION** as at 31 December 2024

#### **TOP 20 ORDINARY FULLY PAID SHAREHOLDERS**

Rank	Shareholder	Shares Held	Total Shares	% Issued Capital
1	DYNASTY PEAK PTY LTD		5,391,975	19.92
2	YAQOOB KHAN KYA CORPORATION PTY LTD	5,334,069 53,325		
		Sub-total	5,387,394	19.90
3	MR FAROOQ KHAN + MS ROSANNA DE CAMPO ISLAND AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	4,921,295 423,577		
		Sub-total	5,344,872	19.74
4	RENMUIR HOLDINGS LTD		3,003,688	11.10
5	MR BOBBY VINCENT LI		1,324,919	4.89
6	GA & AM LEAVER INVESTMENTS PTY LTD		1,039,029	3.84
7	GIBSON KILLER PTY LTD		420,000	1.55
8	GLENVIEW SERVICES PTY LTD		380,000	1.40
9	MS ROSANNA DE CAMPO		268,100	0.99
10	NELLE RETT 1D PTY LTD		231,348	0.85
11	MR SANTOSA GUZZETTA		221,300	0.82
12	THE ESTATE OF MR AYUB KHAN		215,000	0.79
13	MRS AFIA KHAN		215,000	0.79
14	MISS ALICE JANE LI		204,052	0.75
15	MR PAUL GERARD GRAFEN		200,000	0.74
16	MR SIMON KENNETH CATO + MRS KAYE LOUISE HOPKINS ROSEMONT ASSET PTY LTD	118,000 75,000		
		Sub-total	193,000	0.71
17	TOMATO 2 PTY LTD		185,019	0.68
18	MR EUGENE RODRIGUEZ		110,000	0.41
19	MRS MARY THERESE CAMILLERI		100,000	0.37
20	MRS LINDA ANN OATES		100,000	0.37
Total		2	24,534,696	90.63%

## **SECURITIES INFORMATION** as at 31 December 2024

#### **TOP 20 ORDINARY FULLY PAID SHAREHOLDERS**

Rank	Shareholder	Shares Held	Total Shares	% Issued Capital
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Total			24,534,696	90.63%