## **INVESTOR PRESENTATION**

First Quarter 2012



**NASDAQ: HEES** 

## **Management Presenters**

John M. Engquist
President,
Chief Executive Officer

John M. Engquist has served as President, Chief Executive Officer and Director of the Company since its formation in September 2005. He served as President, Chief Executive Officer and Director of H&E LLC from its formation in 2002 until its merger with and into the Company in February 2006. He served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Head & Engquist Equipment, LLC ("Head and Engquist") from 1990 and Director of Gulf Wide Industries, LLC ("Gulf Wide") from 1995, both predecessor companies of H&E LLC. From 1975 to 1990, he held various operational positions at Head & Engquist, starting as a mechanic's helper. Mr. Engquist serves on the Leadership Council of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee; as well as on the Board of Directors for Business First Bancshares, Inc. in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Mr. Engquist owns 50% of the membership interest in Old Towne Development Group, L.L.C., for which Mr. Engquist serves as the Chairman of the Board of Managers. Mr. Engquist is a past board member of Baton Rouge Business Bank and Cajun Constructors, Inc.

Leslie S. Magee
Chief Financial Officer
and Secretary

Leslie S. Magee has served as Chief Financial Officer and Secretary of the Company since its formation in September 2005. Ms. Magee served as Acting Chief Financial Officer of H&E LLC from December 2004 through August 2005, at which time she was appointed Chief Financial Officer and Secretary. She continued as Chief Financial Officer and Secretary until H&E LLC's merger with and into the Company. Previously, Ms. Magee served as Corporate Controller for H&E LLC and Head & Engquist. Prior to joining Head & Engquist in 1995, Ms. Magee spent five years working for Hawthorn, Waymouth & Carroll, L.L.P, an accounting firm based in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Ms. Magee is a Certified Public Accountant and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Louisiana Society of Certified Public Accountants.



## Legal Disclaimers

#### FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This presentation contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the federal securities laws. Statements that are not historical facts, including statements about our beliefs and expectations, are forward-looking statements. Statements containing the words "may", "could", "would", "should", "believe", "expect", "anticipate", "plan", "estimate", "target", "project", "intend", "foresee" and similar expressions constitute forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement. Such factors include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) general economic conditions and construction and industrial activity in the markets where we operate in North America, as well as the depth and duration of the macroeconomic downturn related to decreases in construction and industrial activity, and the impact of conditions of the global credit markets and their effect on construction spending activity and the economy in general; (2) relationships with new equipment suppliers; (3) increased maintenance and repair costs as we age our fleet, and decreases in our equipment's residual value; (4) our indebtedness; (5) the risks associated with the expansion of our business; (6) our possible inability to effectively integrate any businesses we acquire; (7) competitive pressures; (8) compliance with laws and regulations, including those relating to environmental matters and corporate governance matters; and (9) other factors discussed in our public filings, including the risk factors included in the Company's most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K. Investors, potential investors and other readers are urged to consider these factors carefully in evaluating the forward-looking statements and are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. Except as required by applicable law, including the securities laws of the United States and the rules and regulations of the SEC, we are under no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements after the date of this presentation.

#### **NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES**

This presentation contains certain Non-GAAP measures (EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA and free cash flow). Please refer to Appendix A of this presentation for a description of our use of these measures. These Non-GAAP measures, as calculated by the Company, are not necessarily comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies. Additionally, these Non-GAAP measures are not a measurement of financial performance or liquidity under GAAP and should not be considered an alternative to the Company's other financial information determined under GAAP. See Appendix A for a reconciliation of these Non-GAAP measures.



# COMPANY OVERVIEW



## Investment Highlights

### Integrated Business Model

By providing equipment rental, sales, and on-site parts, repair and maintenance functions under one roof, the Company is a one-stop provider for its customers' varied equipment needs.

#### **Geographic Diversity**

▶ 65 full-service locations in 22 U.S. States.

Significant presence in Gulf Coast and Intermountain Regions; also serve Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Southwest and West Coast.

### Specialized Fleet Focus

- Focus on non-residential heavy construction and industrial equipment.
- Significant exposure to petrochemical, oil patch, mining industries.

### Well Maintained Young Fleet

- Fleet age at March 31, 2012 was 42.8 months; industry average near 51 months.
- Fleet is well maintained to maximize equipment life.

# Strong Balance Sheet with Flexible Capital Structure

- ► Leverage was 1.7x at March 31, 2012 (on net debt and adjusted EBITDA¹).
- \$22.4 million in outstanding borrowings; \$291 million of borrowing availability, net of \$6.5 million of outstanding letters of credit, under \$320 million credit facility.

### Cash Flow Profile

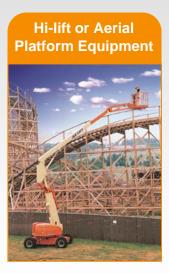
- Counter cyclical free cash flow generation.
- Generated > \$200 million of free cash flow¹ from 2008 2009.
- Depending on point in cycle, only minimal negative free cash flow during reinvestment periods.

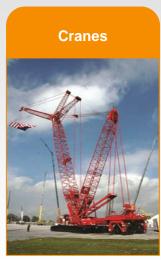


See Appendix A for a reconciliation of Non-GAAP measures.

## **H&E Equipment Services - Snapshot**

- Leading integrated equipment services company with \$759.3 million of revenue through LTM 03/31/12.
- ► Formed in 2002 through the merger of H&E and ICM 51 years of operating history.
- Focused on heavy construction and industrial equipment and rents, sells and provides parts and service support for four core categories of specialized equipment:









- Integrated, full-service approach provides the Company with multiple points of customer contact, enabling it to maintain a high quality rental fleet, as well as an effective distribution channel for fleet disposal and provides cross-selling opportunities among its new and used equipment sales, rental, parts sales and service operations.
- \$745.7 million of rental fleet (original acquisition cost at March 31, 2012).
- Well diversified customer base.
- Highly experienced management team; more than 1,600 employees.

## A Winning Business Model

Traditional Distribution Model

- New Equipment Sales
- Used Equipment Sales
- Parts & Service

Traditional Rental Model

Rental Equipment

H&E Integrated Equipment Services Model

- New Equipment Sales
- Used Equipment Sales
- Parts & Service
- Rental Equipment

#### **Key Advantages:**

- Mix of business activities enables effective operation through economic cycles.
- Cross-selling opportunities among our rental, new and used equipment sales, parts sales and services operations.
- High-margin parts and service operations.
- Multiple points of contact with the customer.
- Difficult to replicate infrastructure and improved purchasing power.



## **Business Strategy**

### Leverage Integrated Business Model

Provide our customers with a "one-stop" solution to our customers' varied equipment needs and cross-sell our services to expand and deepen our customer relationships.

#### Manage Rental Equipment Life Cycle

Actively manage the size, quality, age and composition of our rental fleet employing a "cradle through the grave" approach which allows us to purchase our rental equipment at competitive prices, optimally utilize our fleet, cost-effectively maintain our equipment quality and maximize equipment value.

## **Grow Parts and Service Operations**

- Our parts and service operations are keystones of our integrated equipment services platform and provide a relatively stable high-margin revenue source.
- This business helps us develop strong, on-going customer relationships, attract new customers and maintain a high-quality rental fleet.

#### Enter Carefully Selected New Markets

Intend to continue our strategy of selectively expanding our network to solidify our presence in attractive regions where we operate.

## Make Selective Acquisitions

- Equipment industry is fragmented and includes a large number of relatively small, independent businesses serving discrete local markets.
- Intend to continue to evaluate and pursue acquisitions on an opportunistic basis.



## **Footprint Provides Geographic Diversity**

- Geographic diversity and focus on industrial and commercial construction benefits Company.
  - Demand remains stronger in Gulf Coast markets due to strong ties to petrochemical and oil and gas industries;
     region accounts for over half of our LTM revenue and gross profit.
  - Intermountain region benefitting from increased mining and oil patch activity due to solid commodity prices.
  - Customers in remaining regions are less industrial, more non-residential construction focused.





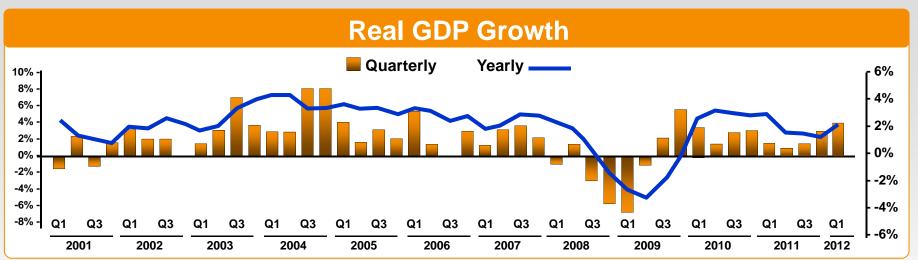
## **Current Market Conditions**

### Market Conditions Showing Continued Strength

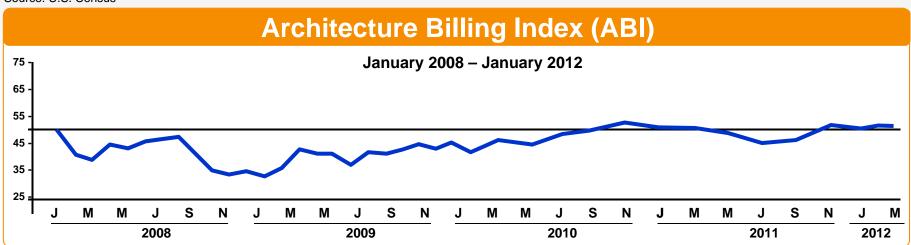
- Continued improvement in the non-residential construction environment (March ABI remained above 50 for fifth consecutive month).
- Elevated construction activity in all regions.
- Energy-related activity in Gulf Coast and Intermountain regions very strong.
- Strong demand for rental equipment continues to drive rental rates upward.
- Demand levels support fleet growth.



## Market Indicators Are Improving







Source: The American Institute of Architects

Latest market indicators are positive.



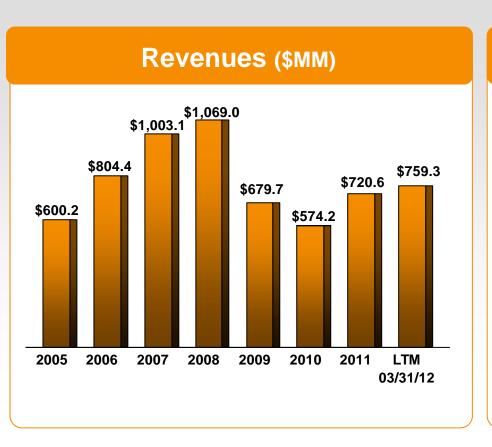
### 2012 Outlook

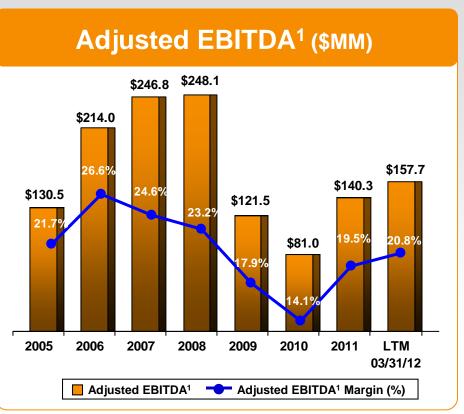
- Outlook remains positive based on current trends and conditions.
  - Expect strength in rental business and rental rates to increase.
  - Expect energy sector to remain robust.
  - Distribution business has shown solid improvement.
- Planned fleet growth in 2012.
  - Heavy demand calls for a significant increase in cap-ex spending.
  - Nearing historical peak fleet levels (based on original equipment cost).
- Strong balance sheet provides flexibility to take advantage of improved market conditions and opportunities.
- Remain focused on solid execution, operating leverage and cost control.

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



## Demonstrated Financial Performance



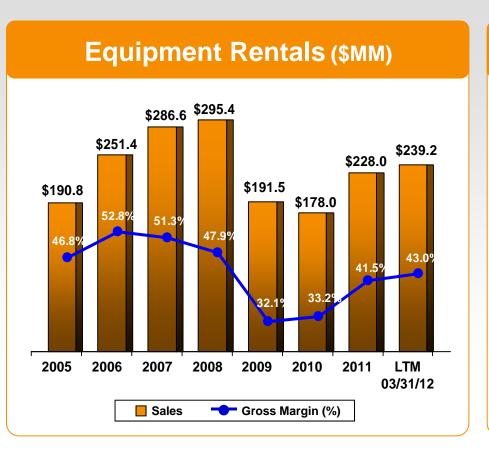


Results include operating results of acquisitions from the effective date of the acquisitions made in February 2006 and September 2007.



See reconciliations of non-GAAP measures and adjustments in Appendix A. Adjusted EBITDA calculated as EBITDA adjusted for non-recurring items in years 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 as described in Appendix A.

## Summary Financial Performance by Segment







## Summary Financial Performance by Segment

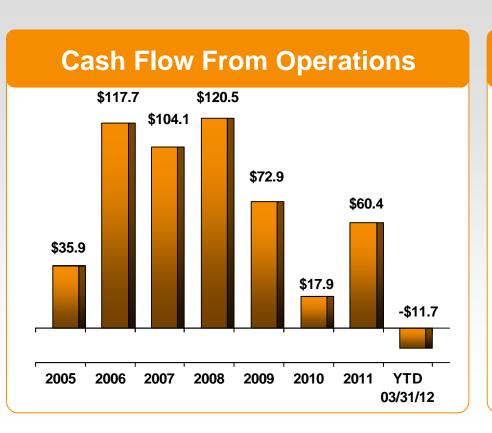


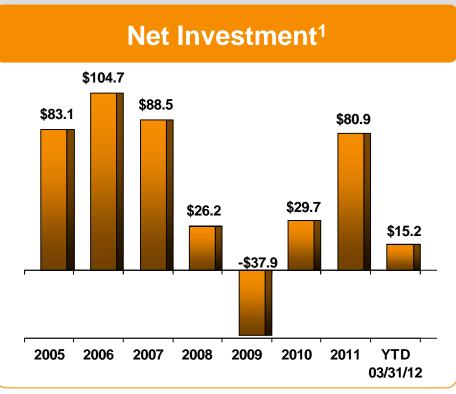




Shows Parts and Service segments combined.

## Free Cash Flow Profile

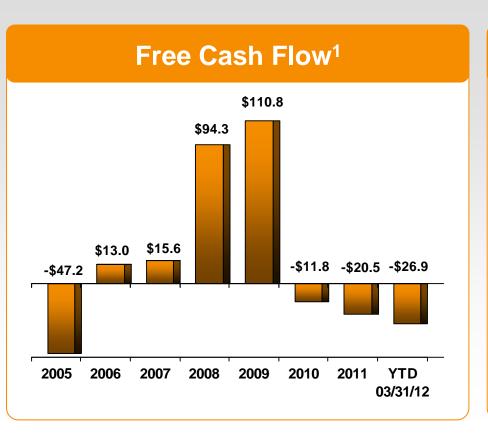


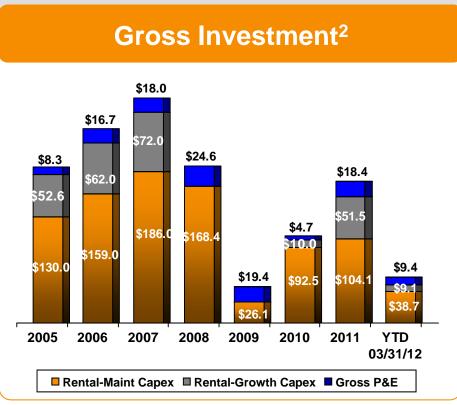


Net investment is defined as purchases of rental equipment and property and equipment less the proceeds from sale of rental equipment and property and equipment. Net investment does not include non-cash transfers of inventory to the rental fleet. These amounts are included in cash flow from operating activities consistent with statement of cash flows. Does not include cash used in business acquisition related investments of \$57.0 million in 2006, \$100.2 million in 2007 and \$10.5 million in 2008. Also excludes \$30.3 million in purchases of equipment in 2006 previously held under operating lease and purchased with use of IPO proceeds.



## Free Cash Flow Profile

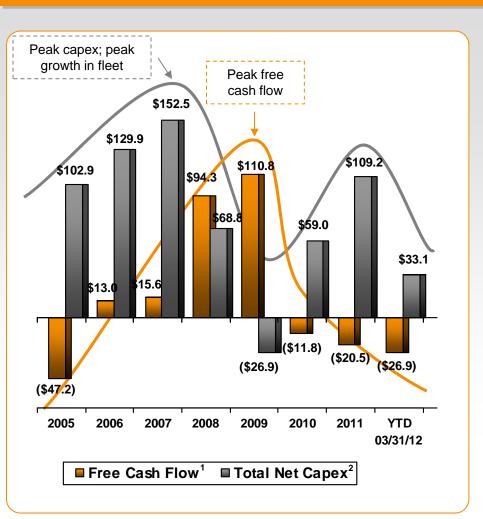




- Free cash flow defined as net cash provided by operations less net investment as in footnote 1 on slide 17. See Appendix A for non-GAAP measures and reconciliations.
- Gross investment defined as gross purchases of rental equipment (includes non-cash transfers from inventory) and property and equipment. Rental maintenance capex is defined as investment required to replace the original equipment cost of rental equipment sold during the period. Rental growth capex is defined as investment in growth of the original equipment cost of rental equipment during the period. Amounts exclude \$30.3 million in purchases of equipment in 2006 previously held under operating leases and purchased with use of IPO proceeds.



## Cash Flow Generation - Counter Cyclical



### **Managing Cash Through The Cycle**

- Reinvesting in our rental fleet with increased demand.
  - Increased fleet \$51.5 million in 2011.
  - Increased fleet \$10.0 million in 2010.
  - Negative rental capex in 2009.
  - No growth capex in 2008 and 2009.
  - Young fleet particularly when considering fleet mix and industry average.

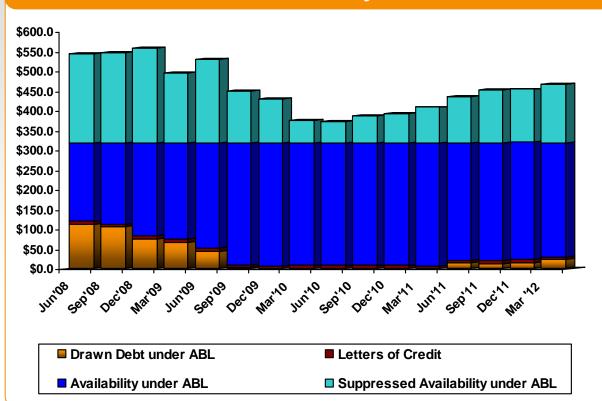
Total Net Capex is defined as gross investment (see Slide 18; footnote 2) less proceeds from the sale of rental equipment and property and equipment.



Free cash flow defined as net cash provided by operations less net investment as in footnote 1 on slide 17. See Appendix A for non-GAAP measures and reconciliations.

## Abundant Liquidity/Extended Maturity of ABL

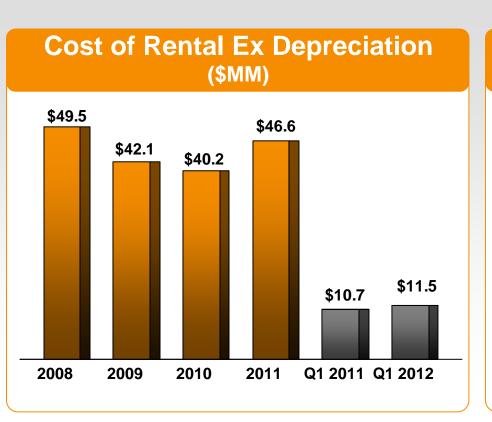
# Components of Asset-Backed Loan (ABL) Credit Facility

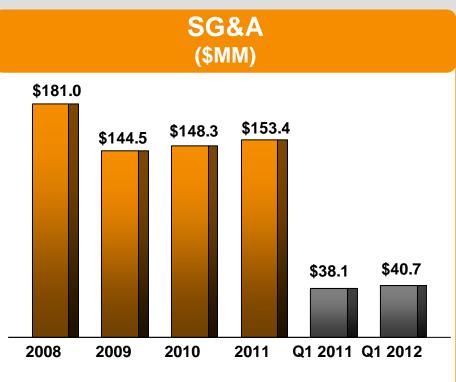


### **ABL Credit Facility:**

- Ample liquidity under ABL facility.
  - \$22.4 million drawn under ABL at March 31, 2012.
  - Suppressed availability (supporting asset value in excess of facility size) under ABL borrowing base certificate was \$147.7 million at March 31, 2012.
- Maturity has been extended to January 2016. Maturity would be further extended to February 2017 if the senior notes are extended or refinanced to a maturity date of August 2017 or later.

## **Cost Structure**





- ► Cost of rental (ex depreciation) was 19.4% of rental revenues in Q1 2012 compared to 22.1% in Q1 2011.
- ► SG&A decreased to 23.4% of total revenues in Q1 2012 compared to 28.2% in Q1 2011.



## Q1 2012 Summary

# First Quarter Highlights

- 28.7% year-over-year revenue growth; improvements in all segments.
- Continued momentum in rental results and strength in distribution business.
- Results reflect significant operating leverage in business model.

#### Revenue

- Revenue increased 28.7% to \$173.7 million vs. Q1 2011.
- Revenue increased year-over-year in all segments: rentals (23.0%), new equipment (40.5%), used equipment (72.0%) and parts and service (7.2%).

#### **EBITDA**

- EBITDA increased 82.0% to \$38.7 million (22.3% margin) vs. Q1 2011 EBITDA of \$21.3 million (15.8% margin).
- **EBITDA up \$17.4 million from Q1 2011.**

#### **Net Income**

- Significant bottom line improvement.
- ▶ Net income increased to \$4.0 million vs. a net loss of \$6.5 million in Q1 2011.
- Net income per share was \$0.11 versus (\$0.19) a year ago.

## Improved Fleet Utilization

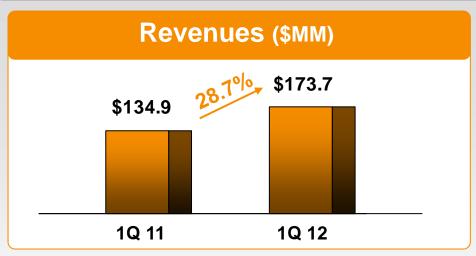
- ► Time utilization (based on OEC) was 69.5% versus 64.9% in Q1 2011.
- ► Time utilization (based on units) was 65.8% versus 61.0% in Q1 2011.

## Strong Rental Business

- 23.0% rental revenue growth vs. Q1 2011.
- Rental gross margins grew to 42.4% vs. 35.4% in Q1 2011.
- Rental rates improved 10.1% over Q1 2011 rates.
- Dollar utilization grew to 32.3% vs. 27.9% a year ago.



### Q1 2012 Revenues and Gross Profit





- Revenues increased 28.7%.
- Driven by strong demand across all business segments.
  - Rentals increased 23.0%.
    - Higher time utilization, a larger fleet and improved rates.
  - Used equipment sales increased 72.0%.
    - Due to higher earthmoving/crane sales.
  - New equipment sales increased 40.5%.
    - Due to higher crane sales.
  - Parts and service increased 7.2% on a combined basis.
- Gross profit increased 49.9%.
  - Gross margin increased to 30.3% vs. 26.0%.
  - Gross margin expansion in all operating segments.
    - Significant margin expansion in rental segment (42.4% vs. 35.4%) due primarily to:
      - Time utilization (units) increased 480 bps.
      - Average rates on new contracts up 10.1%.
      - Lower depreciation expense and maintenance and repair costs relative to comparative revenues.



## Q1 2012 Income From Operations



- Income from operations was \$12.3 million compared to a loss of \$2.9 million a year ago.
  - Strong operating leverage continues to result in significant margin expansion.
  - Gross margin expansion of 430 basis points driven by improvements in all operating segments.
  - 7.1% margin versus -2.1% margin.
    - 1Q 12 vs. 1Q 11:
      - · Revenues increased 28.7%.
      - Gross profit increased 49.9%.
      - SG&A as a percentage of sales was 23.4% compared to 28.2%.



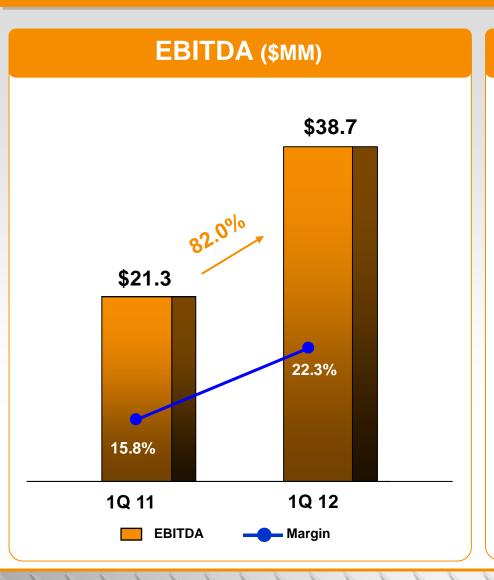
## Q1 2012 Net Income (Loss)



- Net income of \$4.0 million vs. net loss of \$6.5 million in 1Q 11.
  - Effective tax rate was 31.3% in 1Q 12 vs. 33.7% in 1Q 11.
- ➤ Diluted net income per share was \$0.11 vs. a net loss per share of \$(0.19) a year ago.
  - Diluted weighted average share count of 34.9 million vs. 34.7 million a year ago.



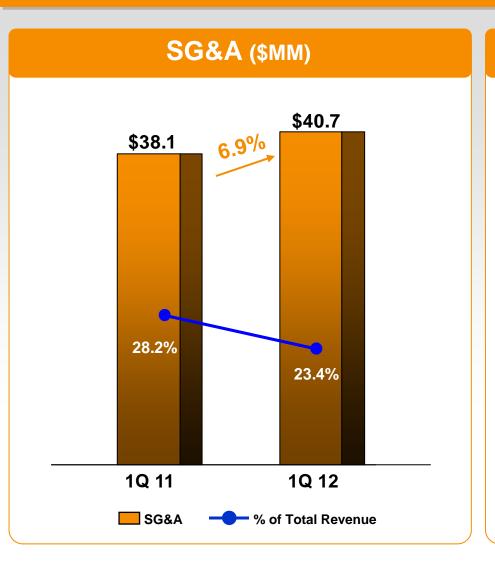
## **Q1 2012 EBITDA**



- ► EBITDA grew 82.0% on revenue growth of 28.7%.
  - Results were \$38.7 million compared to EBITDA of \$21.3 million a year ago.
  - Results demonstrate significant operating leverage.
- ► EBITDA margin was 22.3% compared to 15.8%, an increase of 6.5%.
  - Higher gross margins.
    - See slide 23 for discussion on gross margins.
  - Lower SG&A relative to comparative revenues.
    - See slide 27 for discussion on SG&A.



## Q1 2012 SG&A Expense

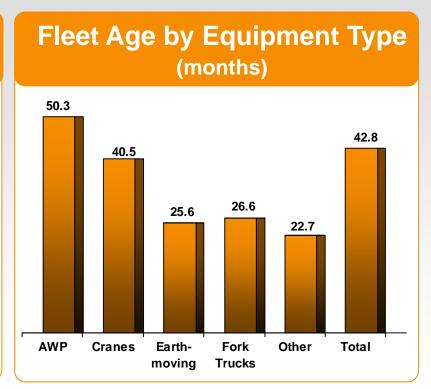


- \$2.6 million, or 6.9%, increase.
  - SG&A declined as a percentage of revenue to 23.4% compared to 28.2% in 1Q 11 as a result of higher revenues.



## 2012 Fleet Update

Rental Cap-Ex Summary (\$MM)								
	2008	2009	2010	2011	YTD 2012			
Gross Rental CapEx¹	\$ 168.4	\$ 26.1	\$ 102.5	\$ 155.6	\$ 47.9			
Sale of Rental Equipment	\$(123.1)	\$ (71.0)	\$ (47.6)	\$ (63.4)	\$ (23.7)			
Net Rental CapEx	\$ 45.3	\$ (44.9)	\$ 54.9	\$ 92.2	\$ 24.2			

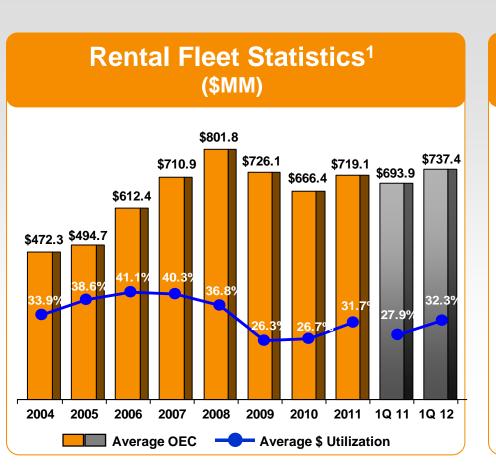


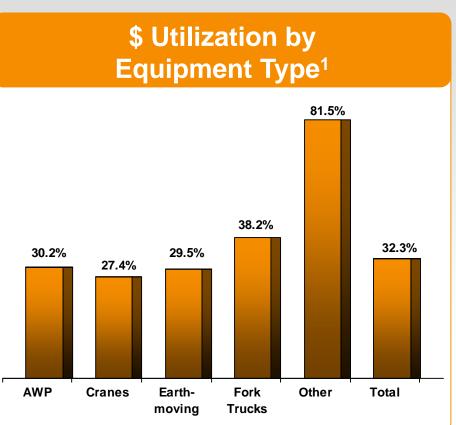
Note: Fleet statistics as of March 31, 2012.



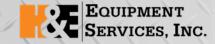
Gross rental cap-ex includes amounts transferred from new and used inventory.

## 2012 Fleet Update





Note: Fleet statistics as of March 31, 2012.



Represents rental revenues annualized divided by the average original equipment cost.

# **Current Capital Structure**

# Current Capital Structure (\$MM)

03/31/12				
Cash	\$ 2.9			
Debt:				
Sr. Sec'd Credit Facility (ABL)	22.4			
8.375% Senior Unsecured Notes	250.0			
Capital Leases Payable	2.6			
Capital Leases Payable  Total Debt	2.6 \$ 275.0			
_ <del></del>				
Total Debt	\$ 275.0			

### **Credit Statistics**

	12/31/09	12/31/10	12/31/11	LTM 03/31/12
Adj. EBITDA <sup>1</sup> / Total Interest Exp		2.8x	4.9x	5.6x
Total Net Debt <sup>2</sup> / Adj. EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	1.7x	2.8x	1.7x	1.7x
Debt / Total Capitalization	47.7%	50.0%	50.4%	50.6%



Excludes the impact of the fourth quarter 2009 non-cash asset impairment charge of \$9.0 million. See Appendix A for a reconciliation of Non-GAAP measures.

Net debt is defined as total debt less cash on hand.

# Appendix A-Unaudited Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures



### Unaudited Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

We define EBITDA as net income (loss) before interest expense, income taxes, depreciation and amortization. We define Adjusted EBITDA for the periods presented as EBITDA adjusted for: (1) the \$9.0 million goodwill impairment charge recorded in 2009; (2) the \$22.7 million impairment of goodwill and intangible assets recorded in 2008; (3) the \$0.3 million loss and \$40.8 million loss on the early extinguishment of debt in connection with our refinancing recorded in 2007 and 2006, respectively; and (4) the \$8.0 million fee paid for the termination of a management services agreement in connection with our Initial Public Offering in 2006.

We use EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA in our business operations to, among other things, evaluate the performance of our business, develop budgets and measure our performance against those budgets. We also believe that analysts and investors use EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA as supplemental measures to evaluate a company's overall operating performance. However, EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA have material limitations as analytical tools and you should not consider them in isolation, or as substitutes for analysis of our results as reported under GAAP. We consider them useful tools to assist us in evaluating performance because they eliminate items related to capital structure, taxes and non-cash charges. The items that we have eliminated in determining EBITDA are interest expense, income taxes, depreciation of fixed assets (which includes rental equipment and property and equipment) and amortization of intangible assets and, in the case of Adjusted EBITDA, any goodwill and intangible asset impairment charges and the other items described above applicable to the particular period. However, some of these eliminated items are significant to our business. For example, (i) interest expense is a necessary element of our costs and ability to generate revenue because we incur a significant amount of interest expense related to our outstanding indebtedness; (ii) payment of income taxes is a necessary element of our costs; and (iii) depreciation is a necessary element of our costs and ability to generate revenue because rental equipment is the single largest component of our total assets and we recognize a significant amount of depreciation expense over the estimated useful life of this equipment. Any measure that eliminates components of our capital structure and costs associated with carrying significant amounts of fixed assets on our balance sheet has material limitations as a performance measure. In light of the foregoing limitations, we do not rely solely on EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA as performance measures and also consider our GAAP results. EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are not measurements of our financial performance under GAAP and should not be considered alternatives to net income, operating income or any other measures derived in accordance with GAAP. Because EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are not calculated in the same manner by all companies, they may not be comparable to other similarly titled measures used by other companies.

We define "free cash flow" as net cash provided by/used in operating activities less purchases of rental equipment and property and equipment plus proceeds from the sales of rental equipment and property and equipment.

We believe free cash flow provides useful additional information concerning cash flow available to meet future debt service obligations and working capital requirements. However, free cash flow is not a measure of financial performance or liquidity under GAAP. Accordingly, free cash flow should not be considered an alternative to net income or cash flow from operating activities as indicators of operating performance or liquidity. Because free cash flow may not be calculated in the same manner by all companies, free cash flow may not be comparable to other similarly titled measures used by other companies.



## EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA GAAP Reconciliation

(\$ in thousands)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	LTM 03/31/2012	1Q11	1Q12
Net income (loss)	\$ 28,160	\$ 32,714	\$ 64,626	\$ 43,296	\$ (11,943)	\$ (25,460)	\$ 8,926		\$ (6,473)	\$ 3,955
Interest expense	41,822	37,684	36,771	38,255	31,339	29,076	28,727	28,390	7,207	6,870
Provision (benefit) for	41,022	07,004	00,771	00,200	01,000	23,010	20,727	20,000	1,201	0,010
income taxes	673	9,694	40,789	26,101	(6,178)	(14,920)	3,215	8,309	(3,291)	1,803
Depreciation	59,765	85,077	103,221	115,454	98,702	91,707	99,036	101,377	23,695	26,036
Amortization of intangibles	94	46	1,060	2,223	591	559	362	263	124	25
EBITDA	\$130,514	\$165,215	\$246,467	\$225,329	\$112,511	\$ 80,962	\$ 140,266	\$157,693	\$ 21,262	\$ 38,689
Loss on early										
extinguishment of debt <sup>1</sup> Management services	_	40,771	320	_	_	_	_		_	_
agreement termination fee <sup>2</sup>		8,000	-	_	_	_	_		_	_
Impairment of goodwill and intangible asset <sup>3</sup>	_	_	_	22,721	8,972	_	_		-	_
Adjusted EBITDA	\$130,514	\$213,986	\$246,787	\$248,050	\$121,483	\$ 80,962	\$ 140,266	\$157,693	\$ 21,262	\$ 38,689

Adjustments relate to non-cash goodwill and intangible asset impairment charges of \$22.7 million in 2008 and non-cash goodwill impairment charges of \$9.0 million in 2009.



Adjustments relate to a loss on early extinguishment of the Company's Senior Secured and Senior Subordinated Notes.

Adjustment relates to \$8.0 million of fees paid in connection with the termination of a management services agreement.

# Free Cash Flow GAAP Reconciliation

(\$ in thousands)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	YTD 03/31/12
Cash flows from operating activities	\$ 35.9	\$ 117.7	\$ 104.1	\$ 120.5	\$ 72.9	\$ 17.9	\$ 60.4	\$ (11.7)
Net Investment (per cash flows from investing activities)								
Purchases of property and equipment	(8.3)	(16.7)	(18.0)	(24.6)	(19.4)	(4.7)	(18.4)	(9.4)
Purchases of rental equipment Proceeds from sales of property	(162.8)	(195.7)	(194.1)	(125.9)	(15.1)	(73.2)	(127.2)	(29.9)
and equipment	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.2	1.4	0.6	1.4	0.4
Proceeds from sales of rental equipment	87.0	105.7	122.6	123.1	71.0	47.6	63.3	23.7
Free cash flow	\$ (47.2)	\$ 13.0	\$ 15.6	\$ 94.3	\$ 110.8	\$ (11.8)	\$ (20.5)	\$ (26.9)

## **INVESTOR PRESENTATION**

First Quarter 2012



**NASDAQ: HEES**