# The Communications REIT

Bank of America Merrill Lynch 2016 Media, Communications & Entertainment Conference

September 14, 2016

#### Safe Harbor

Certain statements in this presentation may constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, as amended from time to time. Those forward-looking statements include all statements that are not historical statements of fact and those regarding our business strategies, growth prospects, industry trends, Tower Cloud and Uniti Fiber sales opportunities, and operating and financial performance.

Words such as "anticipate(s)," "expect(s)," "intend(s)," "estimate(s)," "foresee(s)," "plan(s)," "believe(s)," "may," "will," "would," "could," "should," "seek(s)" and similar expressions. or the negative of these terms, are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. These statements are based on management's current expectations and beliefs and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could lead to actual results differing materially from those projected, forecasted or expected. Although we believe that the assumptions underlying the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we can give no assurance that our expectations will be attained. Factors which could materially alter our expectations include, but are not limited to the ability and willingness of Windstream and future customers to meet and/or perform their obligations under any contractual arrangements entered into with us, including master lease arrangements, and any of their obligations to indemnify, defend and hold us harmless from and against various claims, litigation and liabilities; the ability of Windstream and future customers to comply with laws. rules and regulations in the operation of the assets we lease to them; the ability and willingness of Windstream and our future customers to renew their leases with us upon their expiration, and the ability to reposition our properties on the same or better terms in the event of nonrenewal or in the event we replace an existing tenant; our ability to renew, extend or obtain our contracts with significant customers (including customers of the businesses we acquire); the availability of and our ability to identify suitable acquisition opportunities and our ability to acquire and lease the respective properties on favorable terms or operate and integrate the acquired business; our ability to generate sufficient cash flows to service our outstanding indebtedness; our ability to access debt and equity capital markets; credit rating downgrades; fluctuating interest rates; our ability to retain our key management personnel; our ability to gualify or maintain our status as a real estate investment trust ("REIT"); changes in the U.S. tax law and other state, federal or local laws, whether or not specific to REITs; covenants in our debt agreements that may limit our operational flexibility; other risks inherent in the communications industry and in the ownership of communications distribution systems, including potential liability relating to environmental matters and illiquidity of real estate investments; the risk that we fail to fully realize the potential benefits of acquisitions or have difficulty integrating PEG and/or Tower Cloud; and additional factors discussed in the risk factors section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, as well as those described from time to time in our reports filed with the SEC. CS&L expressly disclaims any obligation to release publicly any updates or revisions to any of the forward-looking statements set forth in this presentation to reflect any change in its expectations or any change in events. conditions or circumstances on which any statement is based.

First quarter 2016 unaudited results for PEG and Tower Cloud are subject to audit and purchase accounting adjustments. Actual results for the period could differ materially. Investors should not place undue reliance on such numbers. PEG and Tower Cloud operating metrics have been provided by PEG and Tower Cloud without verification and investors should not place undue reliance on those operating metrics.

This presentation contains certain supplemental measures of performance that are not required by, or presented in accordance with, U.S. GAAP. Such measures should not be considered as alternatives to GAAP. Further information with respect to and reconciliations of such measures to the nearest GAAP measure can be found in the appendix hereto.



## CS&L Vision and Strategy

- Building Unique REIT Investment Platform Across Communication Infrastructure Assets
- Taking Advantage of Favorable Industry Dynamics Driving Capital Investments
- Exponential Network Traffic Growth Accelerating Architecture & Technology Changes
- Communication Infrastructure Converging Around Fiber-Centric Data Transport Ecosystem
- Fiber is Becoming the Focal Point in the New Ecosystem
- Uniti Fiber Accelerates CS&L's Growth and Diversification Strategy

Leading Strategic Capital Partner to the Communications Industry



## CS&L Facts – Pro Forma

Spinoff Formation April 2015	Contractual Net Lease Revenues <sup>(1)</sup>	Uniti Fiber	S&P 400 Mid-Cap Company	
NASDAQ: "CSAL"	> \$9B	> \$500M	≈ \$9B	
	Revenues Under Contract	Revenues Under Contract	Enterprise Value	
Annual Revenue	Net Leverage <sup>(2)</sup>	Net Secured Leverage <sup>(2)</sup>	Near Term Debt Maturities	
> \$800M	<b>5.6x</b>	<b>4.1x</b>	0%	
> \$800M Fiber Strand Miles <sup>(3)</sup>	5.6x Leasing Segment EBITDA Margin	<b>4.1x</b> YTD Investments	0% Annual Maintenance Capex	
	Leasing Segment		Annual Maintenance	

#### First Diversified Communication Infrastructure REIT



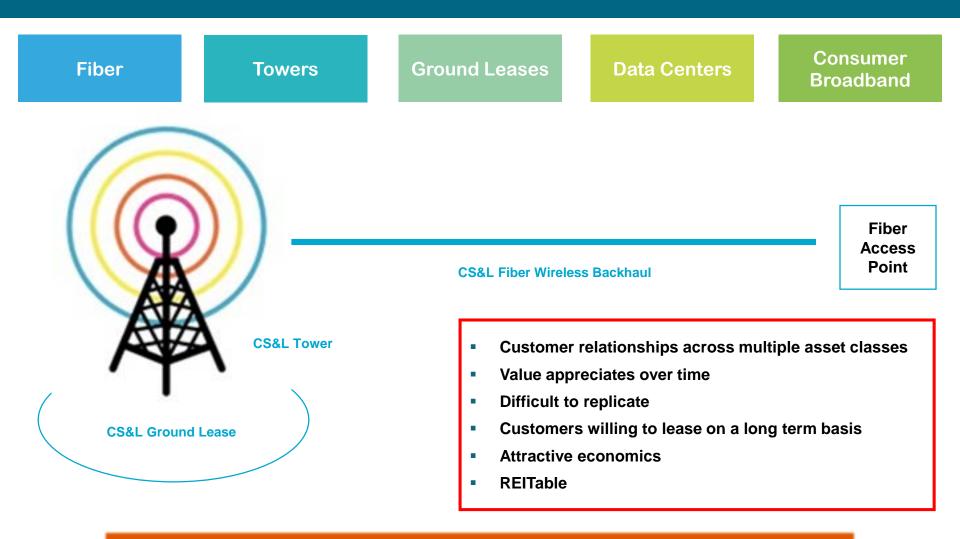
Note: All information is as of June 30, 2016 and is pro forma for the acquisition of Tower Cloud.

(1) Lease payments under the Master Lease with Windstream to be received over the remaining initial term of 15 years. (2)

Net Debt or Net Secured Debt, as applicable, to Annualized Adjusted EBITDA (based on last quarter annualized) pro forma for the acquisition of PEG and Tower Cloud (Annualized Adjusted EBITDA

includes approximately \$2 million of synergies expected to be realized within 12 months of the acquisition close date). Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect costs that will be incurred to achieve synergies. (3) Fiber strand miles include 184,000 awarded for deployment.

## CS&L Business Strategy



**Carriers Continue To Divest Critical Communication Real Estate** 



## CS&L Is Building a Unique REIT Investment Platform

	Ground Leases	Macro Towers	Small Cells	Dark Fiber	Lit Fiber	Consumer Broadband
Key Customers	MERICAN	T •• verizon√			nazon Google	windstream
	SBA 🕖		CROWN	f		<b>US</b> Cellular
REITable?	~	✓	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	(A)	$\checkmark$
Initial Yields	6% – 8%	5% – 10%+	5% – 7%	5% – 7%	10% – 20%	8% - 12%
Multi Tenant Leased Up "Shared Economics"		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Initial Term (Years)	50 – 99	5 – 10	10 – 20	10 – 20	5 – 10	15 – 20
Escalators	1% – 4%	1% – 3%	0% – 3%	0% – 3%	N/A	1% – 3%
Characteristics		Infrastr	ucture			Infrastructure
Characteristics				Services Com	oonent	

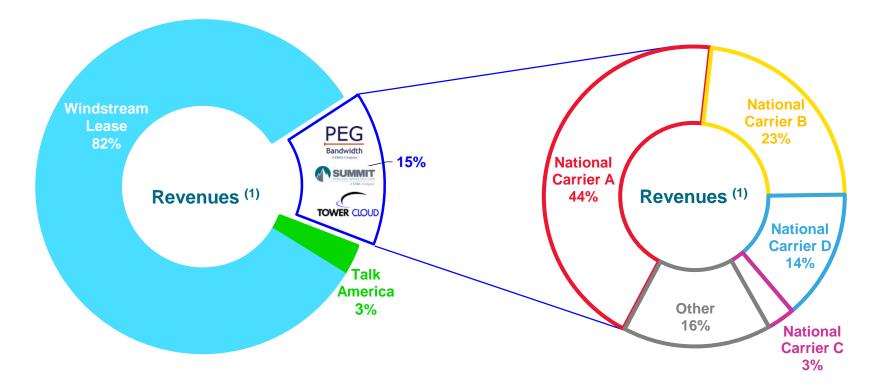
#### **Attractive Return Profiles Across all Asset Classes**

(A) I

The Communications REI

Lit fiber is generally not "REITable"; however, TRS structure and tax attributes for PEG and Tower Cloud expected to provide substantial tax benefits. Future conversions of lit fiber to dark fiber may result in assets becoming REIT eligible.

#### CS&L Pro Forma Revenue Diversification

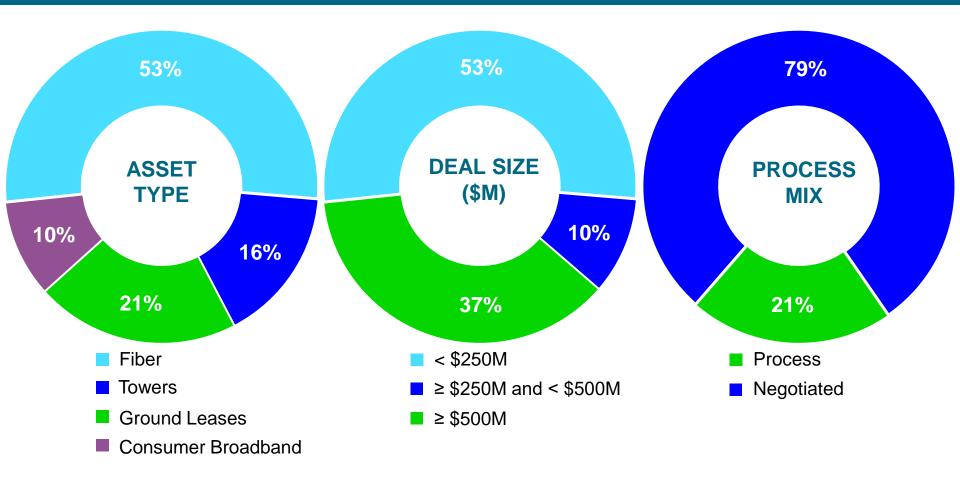


#### Achieving Diversification with High Quality Tenants



Note: Data based on 1Q16 results. (1) First quarter results for PEG and Tower Cloud are unaudited. Actual results could differ materially. Investors should not place undue reliance on such numbers.

## CS&L M&A Pipeline <sup>(1)</sup>

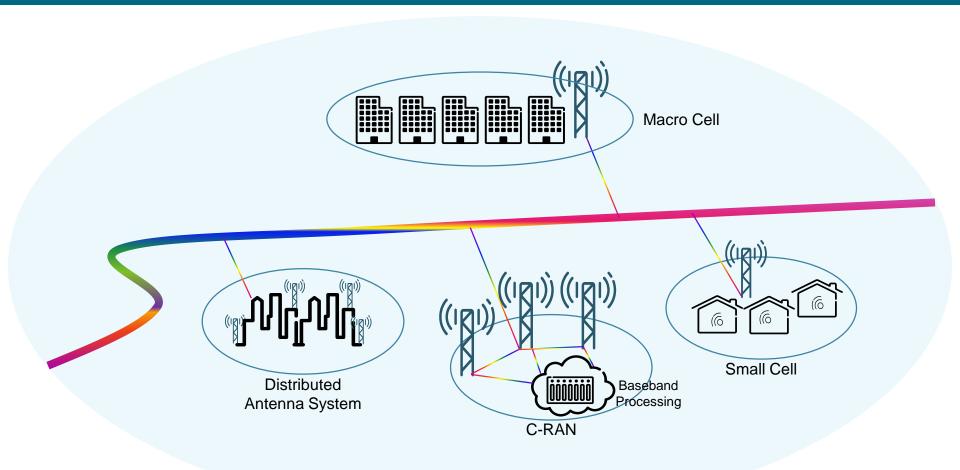


#### **Pipeline Well Diversified and Privately Sourced**



(1) This is a summary of the transactions we are actively pursuing as of August 5, 2016. We have not signed a purchase agreement and are not otherwise committed to consummating any of these transactions and there can be no assurances that any of these transactions will be completed.

#### Fiber is Critical to All Network Infrastructure

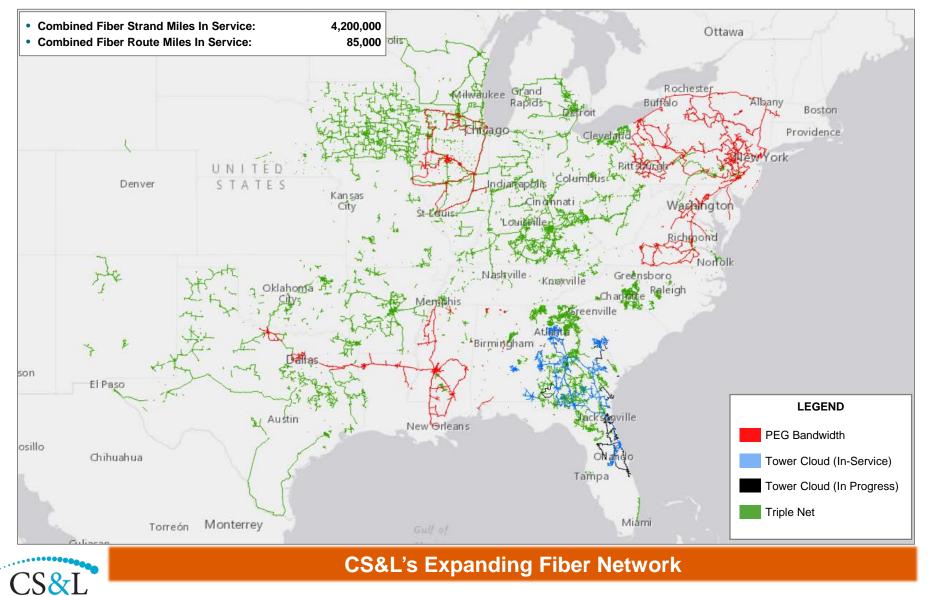


Fiber is the Unifying CORE Infrastructure Underpinning Carrier Networks

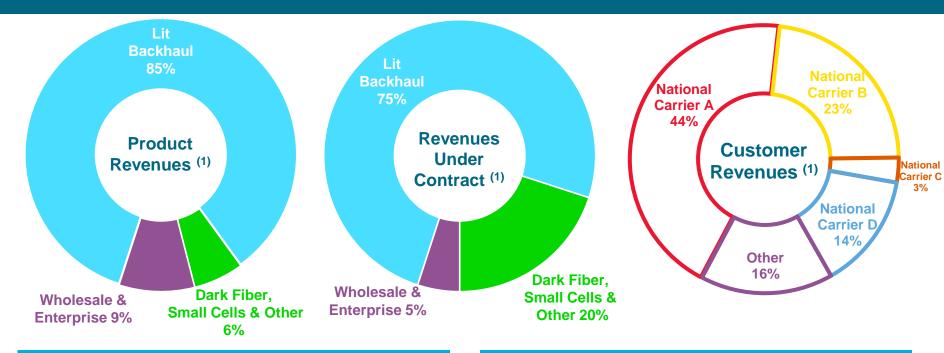


## CS&L Combined Network Footprint

The Communications REI



## Pro Forma Uniti Fiber At A Glance



#### Financial Data <sup>(1)</sup>

\$ in Millions	1Q16 LQA
LQA Revenue	\$121
LQA Adjusted EBITDA <sup>(2)</sup>	\$50
Maintenance Capex to Revenues	< 5%
Monthly Revenue <sup>(3)</sup> – MRR and MAR	\$10

#### **Operating Metrics**<sup>(1)</sup>

Lit Backhaul Connections (4)	5,100
Revenue Under Contract <sup>(5)</sup>	> \$530M
Average Remaining Contract Term <sup>(6)</sup>	~57 months
Employees	~250

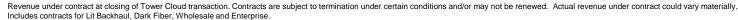
#### **High Growth Fiber Infrastructure Provider**

Data reflects combined PEG and Tower Cloud results. First quarter results for PEG and Tower Cloud are unaudited. Actual results could differ materially. Investors should not place undue reliance on such numbers. Operating metrics have been provided by PEG and Tower Cloud without verification and investors should not place undue reliance on those operating metrics. Amounts do not include any anticipated synergies or related costs.
 Adjusted EBITDA defined as EBITDA less stock-based compensation expense and the impact, which may be recurring in nature, of acquisition and transaction related expenses, the write off of unamortized deferred financing costs, costs incurred as a result of the early repayment of debt, changes in the fair value of contingent consideration and financial instruments, and other similar items.
 Monthly Recurring Revenue (MRR) and Monthly Amortized Revenue (MAR) at closing of Tower Cloud transaction.

Includes 770 microwave connections.

The Communications REIT (5)

(6)



## **Uniti Fiber Investment Thesis**

- Capitalizes on the Rising Demand by Carriers and Enterprises for Dark Fiber
- Establishes CS&L as a Proven Small Cell Systems Provider
- Grows Relationships with National Wireless Carriers
- Advances Diversification with High Quality Long Term Contractual Revenues
- Capitalizes on Wholesale and Enterprise Opportunities
- Veteran Leadership Team with Deep Operational Experience
- Attractive Valuation with Significant Synergies

**Drives Scale and Growth within Uniti Fiber** 



## Strong Sales Momentum with Attractive Returns

#### **Dark Fiber**

- Recent North Florida and Augusta, GA Dark Fiber Awards From National Wireless Carrier
  - \$175 million Total Contract Value
  - 20 Year Term
  - Carrier Contributing Upfront NRC
- Contracts Signed Late 2015
  - North Florida Build Expected to Be Completed in 2020
  - Augusta Expected to Be Completed in 2017
- Building Additional Fiber Capacity to Leverage Carrier-Anchored Fiber
  - Follow-on Sales Opportunities have High Incremental Economics
- Strong Multi-Market Sales Funnel for Both C-RAN and Traditional Dark Fiber

#### **Small Cells**

- Completed First Small Cell Network in 2015 for Major Wireless Carrier
- Recent Small Cell Awards
  - First "Turn-Key" Small Cell Deployments
  - ODAS Fronthaul and Backhaul
  - Second Tenant on Existing System Achieves Enhanced Yield through "Shared Economics"
- Small Cell Product Suite Increases Addressable Market
  - Fiber Backhaul and Fronthaul
  - Space and Power
  - Maintenance
- Sales Funnel has Significant Small Cell Opportunities Across Multiple Markets and Carriers

#### **Attractive Anchor Tenant Yields with High Incremental Margins**



# Significant Synergy Opportunities

Revenue Synergies	<ul> <li>Access to 19 States Across the Eastern and Midwestern U.S.</li> <li>Tower Cloud Expanded Network Reach by Nearly 30,000 Near-Net Connection Opportunities</li> <li>Ability to Serve Multi-location Wholesale &amp; Enterprise Customers with Larger Geographic Reach</li> <li>Pool Shared Relationships to Better Engage Strategic Customers</li> </ul>
Operational Synergies	<ul> <li>Implement Best Practices in Service Delivery, Service Assurance, and Back Office to Drive Efficiencies in Uniti Fiber</li> <li>Enhanced Efficiencies throughout Network Operations</li> </ul>
SG&A Synergies	<ul> <li>Integrate Sales Organizations and Marketing Coverage</li> <li>Automation of Manual Processes and Consolidation of Duplicative Administrative Processes</li> <li>Best Practice Approach to OSS/BSS Systems</li> </ul>

#### Expected Annual Run Rate Cost Synergies of \$6 million within 3 Years



## **Current & Pro Forma Capitalization**

#### \$ in Millions

	6/30/2016 As Reported	Tower Cloud Transaction Adjustments	Pro Forma as Adjusted for Tower Cloud Transaction
Cash	\$ 49	\$	\$ 49
Revolver	42	185 <sup>(1)</sup>	227
Term Loan B	2,119		2,119
Secured Notes	550		550
Unsecured Notes	1,110		1,110
Capital Leases <sup>(2)</sup>	49	7	56
Total Debt	\$ 3,870	\$ 192	\$ 4,062
Convertible Preferred at Fair Value	79		79
LQA Adjusted EBITDA <sup>(3)</sup>	698	16 <sup>(4)</sup>	714
Net Debt	\$ 3,821		\$ 4,013
Net Debt / LQA Adjusted EBITDA	5.5x		5.6x



Note: Presented in accordance with Debt Agreements and not GAAP accounting standards. Amounts may not foot due to rounding. Amounts not adjusted for unamortized discount and debt issuance costs.

Cash portion of Tower Cloud consideration expected to be funded on revolver. Includes estimated transaction fees and expenses of \$5 million.

(2) Capital leases are related to IRUs.

(1)

(3) LQA Adjusted EBITDA is calculated as the pro forma Adjusted EBITDA for the most recently reported three month period multiplied by 4. For the three months ended 6/30/16, PEG contributed \$5.5 million of Adjusted EBITDA, which represents results from the May 2, 2016 acquisition date through June 30, 2016. The LQA Adjusted EBITDA for the three months ended 6/30/16 includes the pro forma effects of PEG assuming the acquisition closed on April 1, 2016.

(4) Based on 1Q16 results and includes approximately \$2 million of synergies expected to be realized within 12 months of the acquisition close date.

## Q&A



#### Appendix

## Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Historical Financials

#### Unaudited, \$ in Millions

CS&L	
	2Q16
Net Loss	\$ (1.5)
Depreciation & amortization	92.4
Interest expense	68.0
Income tax expense	0.3
EBITDA	\$ 159.2
Stock-based compensation	1.2
Transaction related costs	11.2
Adjusted EBITDA	171.6
Annualized Adjusted EBITDA <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	\$ 697.6



Note: Subtotals may not foot due to rounding.

(1) Annualized Adjusted EBITDA is calculated as Adjusted EBITDA multiplied by 4.

(2) For the three months ended 6/30/16 PEG contributed \$5.5 million of Adjusted EBITDA, which represents results from the May 2, 2016 acquisition date through June 30, 2016. The Annualized Adjusted EBITDA for 2Q16 includes the pro forma effects of PEG assuming the acquisition closed on April 1, 2016.

## **Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Historical Financials**

#### Unaudited, \$ in Millions

PEG Bandwidth		Tower Cloud			Uniti Fiber <sup>(2)</sup>		
	10	Q16 <sup>(1)</sup>		10	Q16 <sup>(1)</sup>		1
Net Income	\$	(5.4)	Net Income	\$	(2.3)	Net Income	\$
Depreciation & amortization		8.2	Depreciation & amortization		4.7	Depreciation & amortization	
Interest expense		6.1	Interest expense		1.1	Interest expense	
Income tax expense		-	Income tax expense		-	Income tax expense	
EBITDA	\$	8.9	EBITDA	\$	3.4	EBITDA	\$
Stock-based compensation		0.2	Stock-based compensation		0.1	Stock-based compensation	
Transaction related costs		-	Transaction related costs		-	Transaction related costs	
Adjusted EBITDA		9.1	Adjusted EBITDA		3.5	Adjusted EBITDA	
Annualized Adjusted EBITDA	(3) \$	36.3	Annualized Adjusted EBITDA	(3) \$	13.7	Annualized Adjusted EBITDA	(3) \$



Note: Subtotals may not foot due to rounding.

(1) First quarter results for PEG and Tower Cloud are unaudited. Actual results could differ materially. Investors should not place undue reliance on such numbers.

(2) Represents pro forma Uniti Fiber based on 1Q16 results for PEG and Tower Cloud. Amounts do not includes any anticipated synergies or related costs to achieve those synergies.

(3) Annualized Adjusted EBITDA is calculated as Adjusted EBITDA multiplied by 4. 1Q16

(7.7)

12.9

7.2

12.3

0.3

12.5

50.1

## **Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

We refer to EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA, Funds From Operations ("FFO") as defined by the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts ("NAREIT"), Normalized Funds from Operations ("NFFO") and Adjusted Funds from Operations ("AFFO") in our analysis of our results of operations, which are not required by, or presented in accordance with, accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("GAAP"). While we believe that net income, as defined by GAAP, is the most appropriate earnings measure, we also believe that EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA, FFO, NFFO and AFFO are important non-GAAP supplemental measures of operating performance for a real estate investment trust ("REIT").

We define EBITDA as net income, as defined by GAAP, before interest expense, provision for income taxes and depreciation and amortization. We define Adjusted EBITDA as EBITDA less stock-based compensation expense and the impact, which may be recurring in nature, of transaction related costs, the write off of unamortized deferred financing costs, costs incurred as a result of the early repayment of debt, changes in the fair value of contingent consideration and financial instruments, and other similar items. We believe EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are important supplemental measures to net income because they provide additional information to evaluate our operating performance on an unleveraged basis. In addition, Adjusted EBITDA is calculated similar to defined terms in our material debt agreements used to determine compliance with specific financial covenants. Since EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are not measures calculated in accordance with GAAP, they should not be considered as an alternative to net income determined in accordance with GAAP.



## **Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

Because the historical cost accounting convention used for real estate assets requires the recognition of depreciation expense except on land, such accounting presentation implies that the value of the real estate assets diminishes predictably over time. However, since real estate values have historically risen or fallen with market and other conditions, presentations of operating results for a REIT that uses historical cost accounting for depreciation could be less informative. Thus, NAREIT created FFO, as a supplemental measure of operating performance for REITs that excludes historical cost depreciation and amortization, among other items, from net income, as defined by GAAP. FFO is defined by NAREIT as net income applicable to common shareholders computed in accordance with GAAP, excluding gains or losses from real estate dispositions, plus real estate depreciation and amortization and impairment charges. We compute FFO in accordance with NAREIT's definition.

The Company defines NFFO, as FFO excluding the impact, which may be recurring in nature, of transaction related costs. The Company defines AFFO, as NFFO excluding (i) non-cash revenues and expenses such as stock-based compensation expense, amortization of debt and equity discounts, amortization of deferred financing costs, depreciation and amortization of non-real estate assets, straight line rental revenues, revenue associated with the amortization of tenant capital improvements and (ii) the impact, which may be recurring in nature, of maintenance capital expenditures, the write-off of unamortized deferred financing fees, additional costs incurred as a result of early repayment of debt, changes in the fair value of contingent consideration and financial instruments and similar items. We believe that the use of FFO, NFFO and AFFO, combined with the required GAAP presentations, improves the understanding of operating results of REITs among investors and analysts, and makes comparisons of operating performance. In particular, we believe AFFO, by excluding certain revenue and expense items, can help investors compare our operating performance between periods and to other REITs on a consistent basis without having to account for differences caused by unanticipated items and events, such as transaction related costs. The Company uses FFO, NFFO and AFFO, and their respective per share amounts, only as performance measures, and FFO, NFFO and AFFO do not purport to be indicative of cash available to fund future cash requirements. While FFO, NFFO an AFFO are relevant and widely used measures of operating performance of REITs, they do not represent cash flows from operations or net income as defined by GAAP and should not be considered and alternative to those measures in evaluating our liquidity or operating performance.

Further, our computations of EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA, FFO, NFFO and AFFO may not be comparable to that reported by other REITs or companies that do not define FFO in accordance with the current NAREIT definition or that interpret the current NAREIT definition or define EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA, NFFO and AFFO differently than we do.

Annualized Adjusted EBITDA is calculated by multiplying Adjusted EBITDA for the most recently completed three month period by four. Our computation of Adjusted EBITDA and Annualized Adjusted EBITDA may differ from the methodology used by other REITs to calculate these measures, and, therefore, may not be comparable to such other REITs. Annualized Adjusted EBITDA has not been prepared on a pro forma basis in accordance with Article 11 of Regulation S-X.



## **Other Reporting Definitions**

- Adjusted EBITDA Margin: Adjusted EBITDA divided by consolidated revenue. Adjusted EBITDA margin is a supplemental
  measure of our operating margin that should be considered along with, but not as an alternative to our operating margins
- **Contract Value:** MRR and MAR under contract multiplied by the remaining contract term in months
- Contractual Annual Revenue: MRR and MAR under contract multiplied by 12 months
- Enterprise Value: Net Debt plus market value of outstanding common stock
- Monthly Amortized Revenue (MAR): Revenue related to the amortized portion of upfront charges and IRU's
- Monthly Recurring Revenue (MRR): Revenues for ongoing service from both contractual and month-to-month customer arrangements
- Net Debt: Carrying amount of debt outstanding, net of discounts, less unrestricted cash and cash equivalents
- Net Secured Debt: Carrying amount of secured debt outstanding, net of discounts, less unrestricted cash and cash equivalents
- Net Leverage Ratio: Net debt divided by Annualized Adjusted EBITDA
- Net Secured Leverage Ratio: Net secured debt divided by Annualized Adjusted EBITDA
- Revenue Under Contract: Total revenue contract value entitled to be received pursuant to existing contracts, some of which may be past their expiration date and currently on a month to month basis. A portion of these contracts is subject to renewal each year, and there can be no assurances that the contracts will be renewed at all or, if they are renewed, that the renewal will not provide for lower rates. Accordingly, our presentation of contractual revenue is not a guarantee of future revenues and should not be viewed as a predictor of future annual revenues