PIERRE NANTERME: Hello. I am Pierre Nanterme, the CEO of Accenture. I'm delighted to welcome you to Sustainability 24, a unique virtual conversation about our sustainable practices can help organizations drive growth. So sustainability is a topic that is relevant to leaders in every industry and every country because it has become a business imperative and will continue to be for decades to come.

Today, the notion of doing good business means more than being profitable. It includes a strategic focus on sustainability and responsibility. The recent Accenture United Nation Global Compact, the study of 800 CEOs and business leaders made this very clear. Ninety-three percent of the CEOs said sustainability issues will be critical to the future success of their businesses and 96 percent said sustainability should be fully integrated into their company's strategy and operations.

Our conversation today is all about reflecting on the importance of sustainability in a fast changing and converging world, a world that will need to support a population of 9 billion by the year 2050. Business leaders have an extremely important role to play. And that's exactly why we have established this forum. Our objective is to help you improve traditional practices and to challenge you to make breakthrough innovations and to scale current sustainability solutions for long term success.

As leaders, we share an obligation to run our organizations more effectively for the future of our planet and for the future of generations to come. We hope that the perspectives and ideas you hear will be useful in your journey. With that, thank you for taking the time to be part of this important dialogue. I wish you all the best.

About Accenture

Accenture is a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company, with 257,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries. Combining unparalleled experience, comprehensive capabilities across all industries and business functions, and extensive research on the world’s most successful companies, Accenture collaborates with clients to help them become high-performance businesses and governments. The company generated net revenues of US$27.9 billion for the fiscal year ended Aug. 31, 2012.