A new look for resale

A rising trend to resell clothes comes amid growing environmental and cost concerns in the pandemic...

THE RESALE OF CLOTHES IS EXPECTED TO OVERTAKE THE **TRADITIONAL THRIFT AND DONATION SEGMENT BY 2024.**¹







...with the total second hand clothes market set to grow to almost twice the size of fast fashion by 2029...

TOTAL SECOND HAND CLOTHES MARKET PROJECTED GROWTH IN US DOLLARS.²



...with generation Z driving the resale revolution.

PERCENTAGE OF EACH AGE GROUP THAT BOUGHT SECOND HAND APPAREL, FOOTWEAR OR ACCESSORIES IN 2016/2019.³



3 thredUp. 2020 Resale Report/GlobalData Consumer Survey: The consumer data in this chart is derived from a consumer survey of 3,500 women. The survey asked them a number of questions about their attitudes towards apparel, secondhand products, and resale products. The sample was designed to be representative of age and income and was also geographically representative. Surveying was undertaken by GlobalData between December 12, 2019 and January 6, 2020.



US\$ 5000bn+ is lost annually due to clothing underutilization and lack of recycling.4



The amount the second-hand clothes market is set to hit in the next five years.⁵



of customers are seeing a greater need for fashion to address climate change than ever before.⁶

4 Ellen Macarthur Foundation. A new textiles economy: Redesigning fashion's future. November 28, 2017. 5 thredUp. 2020 Resale Report.

6 Ibid.





We believe the Covid-19 pandemic will have a lasting impact on consumer habits, specifically how consumers view their relationship with apparel and luxury. As they rethink their impact on the environment, we could see a rapid adoption of resale. If consumer habits do not change, the fashion industry will use up a quarter of the world's carbon budget by 2050.¹

We therefore believe resale is in the early stages of a long-term secular growth trend which will have significant positive impacts on the sustainability of fashion and luxury at the industry and company level.

We expect that the resale market will continue to grow as consumer spending shifts and resale becomes a key focus for apparel and luxury companies. The firms that embrace this trend should deliver stronger future growth, as well as leave a smaller environmental footprint, leading to continued improvements in the circular economy.

Leigh Todd, senior portfolio manager, Brian Blongastainer, senior research analyst, and Katherine Kelly, research analyst, Mellon