

# Universal Store

## UNIVERSAL STORE MACQUARIE CONFERENCE & TRADING UPDATE

**Brisbane, 15 June 2022**

Universal Store Holdings Limited ('Universal Store', ASX: UNI), will today present to institutional investors at the Macquarie Annual Emerging Leaders Conference.

During the conference Universal Store's Chief Executive Officer, Alice Barbery and Chief Financial Officer, Renee Jones will be presenting the attached presentation.

Slide 9 in the attached presentation provides a trading update and guidance in relation to FY22 sales and EBIT.

Authorised for release by the Board of Directors of Universal Store Holdings Limited.

For more information, please contact:

investorrelations@universalstore.com.au  
Alice Barbery  
Chief Executive Officer  
+617 3368 6503

### **ABOUT UNIVERSAL STORE**

Universal Store is a specialty retailer of youth casual apparel that operates 78 physical stores across Australia and fast-growing online stores.

The Company's strategy is to deliver a frequently changing and carefully curated selection of on-trend apparel products to a target 16-35 year old fashion focused customer. Universal Store seeks to provide a high level of customer service, consistent price proposition and a welcoming and engaging store environment. It offers a diversity of brands and styles in order to cater to the constantly evolving and widely varied tastes and trends observed in the youth apparel market.

For personal use only

# Universal Store

## PRESENTATION AT MACQUARIE EMERGING LEADERS CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY, 15 JUNE



Personal use only

ersonal use only



**Universal Store**

SECTION

1

PRESENTATION

# Universal Store

## CONTENTS

---

- Business Overview
- FY22 Priority Update
- FY22 Trading & Guidance Update
- Appendices

## PRESENTERS

---

**Alice Barbery**  
CEO

- 12 years at Universal Store
- 30+ years' industry experience

**Renee Jones**  
CFO

- 3 years at Universal Store
- 20+ years' experience across retail and service industries

A LEADING AUSTRALIAN YOUTH-FOCUSED APPAREL RETAILER WITH CUSTOMER SERVICE AT ITS CORE

## WHO IS UNIVERSAL STORE?

Omni-channel retailer
Casual youth fashion apparel
78 stores around Australia (excluding online)
Curated domestic, international and private brand collections
High service, friendly experience

## WHO IS OUR QUINTESSENTIAL CUSTOMER?

Millennials and Gen Z (16-35 year old)	Fashion focused (and buy now preference)
~54% women, ~38% men, ~9% unisex <sup>1</sup>	Late education or early adult phase of life
Digital natives	Socially active
Sub-culture 'fluid'	Occasion and event driven

## SOME IMPLICATIONS ABOUT OUR CUSTOMERS...

Relatively few financial commitments or long-term savings goals
High proportion of income is "disposable"
Shop across multiple brands seeking what's new
Buy now pay later products and parents support spending capacity
Most active customers seek outfits to fit in or stand out

use only

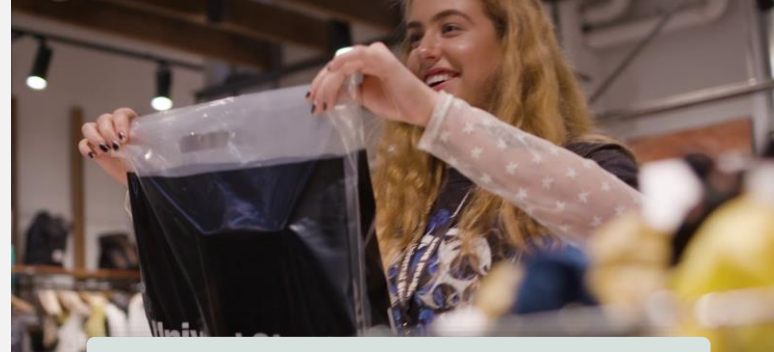


1. Based on FY22 to date revenue only, excluding ticket sales and other adjustments.



### CUSTOMERS

- H1 significantly disrupted by government mandated store closures – during the half, closures in NSW, VIC and the ACT resulted in 3,192 lost trading days (~25% potential trading days)
- H2 performance continues to improve as foot traffic returns as COVID 19 restrictions ease and occasions for wear grow (events, festivals, travel)
- Our youthful customer-base are typically more resilient to higher energy prices and interest rates
- Despite lower relative disposable income levels, our customers place greater emphasis and value on social occasions and appearance



### TEAM

- During H1 mandated store closures, we supported our full-time team and continue to manage COVID 19 impacts which are now increasingly 'normal' part of day-to-day-life
- Resumption in travel invigorating support office teams to return to stores
- Labour market remains tight, particularly for more skilled positions (e.g. digital, finance, product, retail operations managers)



### SUPPLY CHAIN

- Thoughtfully managing inventory build. Currently comfortable, healthy position and anticipate no major impact by end of June
- Experiencing some delayed delivery of 3rd Party brands, although continue to manage. Minimal impact to vertical brands
- Implementing our new Warehouse Management System in June ahead of moving into our new DC in September

WE CONTINUE TO EXECUTE ON OUR STRATEGY AND PLEASED WITH CURRENT PROGRESS

## NEW STORE ROLLOUT



- **13 new stores opened since IPO (78 stores by June FY22)**
- Standalone Perfect Stranger concept progressing well – 3 locations currently with a further 5 secured pre-Christmas
- “Full Potential” target is 100+ Universal Stores across Australia/ New Zealand (excl PS rollout)

## OPTIMISE PRODUCT MIX



- **FY22 product gross margin (excl. delivery costs) risen to 61% (from ~58% at IPO)**
- Ongoing brand and range curation, injecting fresh new product and brands into our offering
- Maintain our customer-led and complimentary private brand strategy, **progressing direct sourcing where possible**

## STORE MATURATION



- **Our average LFL store growth over the last 3 years is ~12%.<sup>1</sup>**
- We continue to grow market share through superior customer service, inspirational stores and strongly curated brands

## ONLINE GROWTH



- **17.7% Online sales as a percentage of total, up from 8.8% at IPO.<sup>2</sup>**
- Continue to scale our digital and eCommerce capacity and services, **doubling investment into digital marketing**
- Improved speed and delivery options
- Launched standalone Perfect Stranger website, further enhancements and customer acquisition strategy in plan

## SUSTAINABILITY



- Rolled out our Supplier code of conduct to all Private label suppliers (100%) and 89% of our 3rd party suppliers have signed our code or have equivalent or superior policies in place
- 38 of 39 factories have had a valid audit during FY22, with the remaining factory scheduled in June
- In the process of setting up Sedex supply chain transparency platform

## PRODUCTIVITY



- Continued care for team, ensuring COVID-safe workplaces
- **Warehouse Management System launched early June, in current DC**
- Relocation into new, purpose-built DC and Office on track for H1 FY23
- Ongoing progress on IT roadmap

1. LFL is calculated on 4/4/5 weekly basis and excludes closed stores. FY22 YTD is up to week ending 12<sup>th</sup> June 22  
2. Online sales as % Total is at YTD May 31<sup>st</sup> FY22.

PLEASING PERFORMANCE OF STORES. ON TRACK TO DELIVER PHASE 3 OF TRIAL AS WE REFINE OUR PRODUCT AND SERVICE OFFERING

Phase  
DEC 20 – NOV 21

1 >>>

- Successful trial of Chermside pop-up, which was relocated to a permanent site in Nov 21



Phase  
NOV 21 – DEC 21

2 >>>

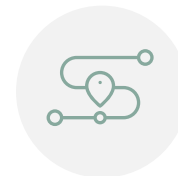
- Opened 2 stores in QLD (Chermside & Sunshine Plaza) and one pop-up (Garden City)
- Launched the standalone website in Dec 21



Phase  
JAN 22 – JAN 23

3 >>>

- Refine store model based on lessons
- Targeted rollout of further 5-8 stores (in next 12mo), predominantly QLD and NSW



Post completion of phase 3, we aim to have proof of its broad appeal, scalability and 'box economics'






## DEVELOPMENT & IMPLEMENTATION OF KEY SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS


### PRODUCT EXCELLENCE

#### TREAD LIGHTLY


Reduce our impact. Preserve our resources. Restore the planet


##### ELIMINATE WASTE

 Targeting zero waste to landfill from DC operations by 2030

 100% of bags and online mailers are reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025

##### RESPONSIBLE PROCUREMENT

 Procure at least 50% of all cotton from certified sources by 2025


 Procure at least 50% of polyester from certified recycled sources by 2025.

### SUPPLIER PARTNERSHIPS


#### EXPECT TRANSPARENCY

Put an end to poor working conditions and improve lives of workers


##### POLICIES & PROCEDURES

 100% of our manufacturing and key 3rd party brands endorse our Supplier Code of Conduct by 2022

##### SOCIAL AUDITS

 100% of Tier 1 and 2 factories are audited by 2022

##### ENERGY & WATER EFFICIENCY


 Manufacturing from facilities applying best practice water, waste and chemical management practices by 2025


### COMMUNITY IMPACT


#### CLIMATE ACTION

Reverse climate change and take action to end the climate crisis

##### REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS

 100% stores equipped with energy efficient LED lights by 2022


 Develop a climate action plan by 2023 and reduce emissions by 30% by 2030

 100% of electricity for our support office and DC from renewable sources by 2025

#### AMPLIFY OUR ACTIONS

Work together as a team with our community, suppliers, and customers to deliver impact

##### CHARTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL ATTRIBUTES

 1M customer education touchpoints on responsible use and care of garments by 2025

## TRADING UPDATE

Solid H2 FY22 sales to date, delivering:

- Total sales growth of +6.9% on H2 FY21 (pcp)
- Online sales growth of +27.3% on H2 FY21 (pcp) (+119.3% vs. H2 FY20)
- Despite ~25% of trading days being lost in H1 FY22 (Jul-Nov 2021), resulting in H1 sales being down 8.2% vs pcp, our FY22 YTD sales are now down just 2.3% on FY21, aided by growth in H2 sales and successful new store openings
- LFL sales are currently a less insightful measure as the year progresses and we again cycle periods of material store closures in prior year(s). YTD FY22 LFL sales (incl. online) are down 2.8% vs pcp (and +28.7% vs FY20)
- We are pleased with the sales momentum we are delivering in H2, including in our most recent trading results as interest rate increases and other increases in costs of living have become more apparent in the market
- As previously flagged, we have continued to invest in our people, new office and distribution centre projects, as well as improved technology – all necessary investments for scale and continued growth
- We are mindful of the 'cost of doing business' challenges across supply and service chains impacting retail sector

## FY22 GUIDANCE

- We anticipate FY22 sales to be between \$205m and \$207m (\$210.8m in FY21) and underlying EBIT to be between \$30m and \$31m (\$44.0m in FY21)
- We expect to finish FY22 with inventory in line with plan with aged inventory at historical levels
- We expect 'net cash' in excess of \$20m

1. LFL is calculated on 4/4/5 weekly basis and excludes closed stores. FY22 YTD is up to week ending 12<sup>th</sup> June 22 and results are un-audited.



**Universal Store**

SECTION

2

QUESTIONS

ers  
use only

ersonal use only



**Universal Store**

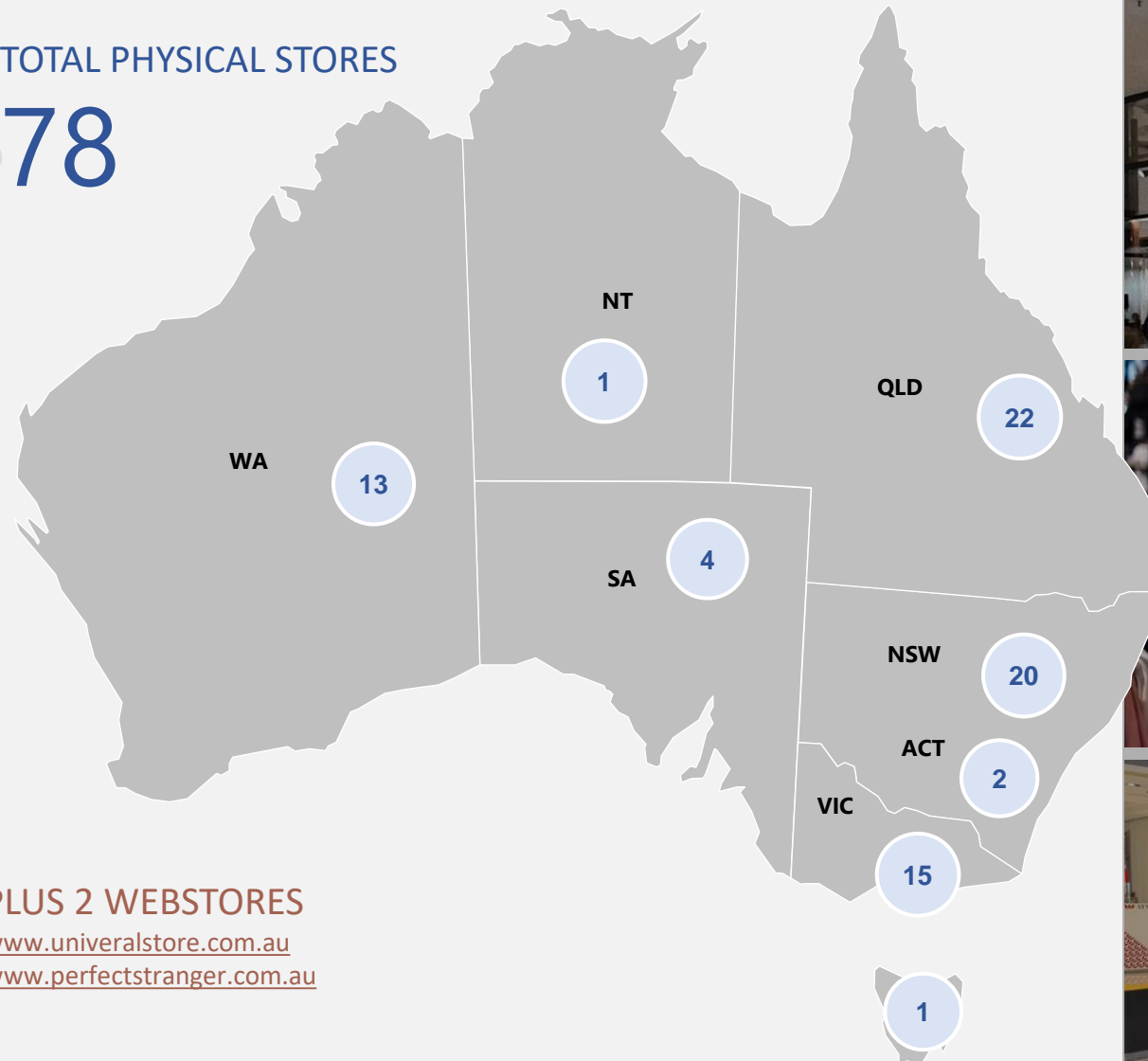
SECTION

3

APPENDIX

TOTAL PHYSICAL STORES

# 78



PLUS 2 WEBSTORES

[www.universalstore.com.au](http://www.universalstore.com.au)

[www.perfectstranger.com.au](http://www.perfectstranger.com.au)



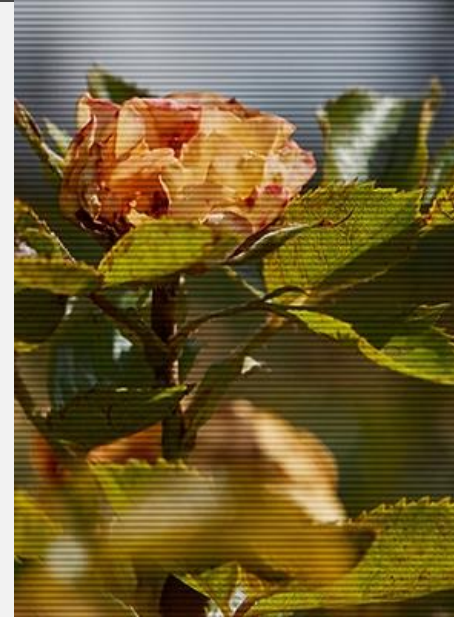
ersonal use only

The material contained in this presentation has been prepared by Universal Store Holdings Limited ABN 94 628 836 484 (Universal Store) and is general background information about the businesses, operations and activities of Universal Store and its subsidiaries, current as at the date of this presentation. The information is provided in summary form only and does not purport to be complete or comprehensive. The information in this presentation should not be considered as advice or a recommendation for investment purposes, as it does not take into account your particular investment objectives, financial position or needs. These factors should be considered, with or without independent professional advice, when deciding if an investment is appropriate.

This presentation may contain forward-looking statements with respect to the operations and businesses of the Universal Store. The assumptions underlying these forward-looking statements involve circumstances and events that have not yet taken place and which are subject to uncertainty and contingencies outside Universal Store's control. Readers are cautioned not to

place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. Universal Store does not undertake any obligation to publicly release the result of any revisions to forward-looking statements in this presentation or to otherwise update forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise, after the date of this presentation. Past performance is not a reliable indication of future performance.

To the extent permitted by law, no responsibility for any loss arising in any way (including by way of negligence) from anyone acting or refraining from acting as a result of the material contained in this presentation is accepted by Universal Store.



ersonal use only

Universal Store

## Universal Spirit

The unique ability to create memorable and positive experiences for all. Creating an experience that is fun, open and based on kindness. The environment that enables a person to be their best.

**Universal Store**