

## **Under Armour Rebuild**

**Strategic Management Case Study** 



## Agenda

- Current State
- MVPP
- Analyze
- Formulate
- Implement
  - Product
  - Sales
  - Marketing
  - Finance
  - Supply Chain
- Conclusion

## **Current State of Under Armour**







## MISSION Make Athletes Better

### VISION

To win the heart of all athletes with performance solutions you (never knew you needed and) can't imagine living without.

## **PURPOSE**

To empower the voices of our underrepresented athletes, teammates, and communities in our ongoing effort to stand for equality.

## **POSITION**

For *the driven athlete*, Under Armour is the *sports product accelerator* that delivers *trustworthy* and *innovative* product so they can be the best athlete they can be.

## **PESTEL - Under Armour**



### **Political**

- Manufacture 68% of product in four countries (Jordan, China, Vietnam, Malaysia)
- 600 employee layoffs in March of 2020
- Founder made controversial statements about Donald Trump, causing uproar from Under Armour athletes and consumers

### **Technological**

- UA Rush™ provides energy return to athletes
- UA Smartfoam adapts and molds to the body of the athlete
- UA Iso Chill cool to touch fabric
- UA Tribase™ Outsole Tech
- UA Hovr™
- UA Slip Speed™

### **Economical**

- Under Armour is a \$6 billion revenue company- approx 2/3 of this is from North America
- 60% of sales are through wholesalers
- Growth slower than competitors FY
   23
- 75% of all product sales comprise of men's footwear and apparel

### **Environmental**

- 'Stand for Equality' and 'Act Sustainably' are two values of Under Armour.
- Reduced physical samples by 43% from 2019 to 2021
- UA's Annual report claims the usage of chemicals and petroleum-based raw materials for their products.

### Social

- Revamp of "Protect This House" campaign in 2023- revisit from original 2005 campaign
- Heavy investment in NIL- approx 58% of all athlete endorsements
- Notre Dame and Auburn University endorsements are set to expire by the end of the year

### Legal

- 793 patents filed (2022)
- High investment into patented UA Slip Speed shoe
- New CLO: Mehri Shadman in Oct. '22
- Disclosure failures from SEC in May
   '21- \$9m settlement

## **VRIO**

VRIO Scorecard	
Valuable?	YES
Rare?	YES
Costly to imitate?	YES
Exploit by the Org	NO
Advantage Type	Unexploited competitive advantage

### **VRIO Summary**

- Created a product that became synonymous with a base layer- first mover value
- They are rare because they have a recognizable aesthetic and brand with a loyal consumer base.
- The amount of sportswear brands is rapidly increasing, but to compete with scale of UA's business it comes at a high cost.
- Organizationally they are not industry leaders across multiple product types

## **Porter's 5 Forces**

Threat of New entrants	<ul><li>Approx 800 Patents</li><li>27 years in industry</li><li>Highly competitive market</li></ul>	L
Power of	<ul><li>28 Tier 1 Suppliers</li><li>Overseas sourced materials</li></ul>	
Suppliers	O constituent or a second the state of the second	M
Power of Buyers	<ul> <li>Highly Saturated market</li> <li>DTC Convenience</li> </ul>	
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Threat Of	·	
Substitutes •		М
Rivalry	<ul><li>Nike &amp; Adidas are pioneers</li><li>Constant need to improve</li></ul>	
	Product Quality & Price	Н

Overall Strategy

# ALIGN NORTH AMERICA BEFORE EXPANSION, COMPETE FOR HER DOLLAR, STREAMLINE OMNI- CHANNEL.

## HORIZON 1: "Reload" May 2023-June 2024

## Objectives:

- 1. Improve Operational Efficiency
- 2. Adopt consumer-centric methods to sharpen product offering in the women's categories
- 3. Build brand consistency in the North American business

### KPIs:

- 1. Decrease inventory storage by 30%
- 2. Increase click rate on ads in North America by 20%

Increase influencer reach across social channels by 25%

## HORIZON 2: "Release" June 2024-June 2026

### Objectives:

- 1. Omnichannel platforms
- 2. Launch reinvented womens categories business in NA

### KPIs:

- 1. Increase average order value (DTC) by 15% from Q4 '23
- 2. Increase return on advertising spend in North America by 20%
- Improve inventory turnover rate in women's product by 15%
- 4. Increase women customer retention rate by 30%
- 5. Increase digital conversion rate in women's categories by 4% and overall retail conversion to 35%

## HORIZON 3: "Repeat" June 2026 Beyond

### Objectives:

- 1. Improve return on sale on women's performance products
- Adapt product strategy across new regions (APAC+EMEA+LA)

### KPIs:

- Become a top 5 women's sports apparel brand relative market share (NA+APAC+EMEA+LA)
- 2. Enhance nearshoring strategy for the NA market increasing CA/LA manufacturing partners to 25% (up 10% from 2023)



## **Product**

Providing our athletes with everything they need to be equipped for success on and off the field

## Reload

## **Build for HER**

Release

## **Launch New Product for HER**

Repeat

**International Expansion** 

## **Horizon 1** Objectives: **Prioritize footwear SKUs** offered for women **Conduct more sport-specific** research on women consumers Ensure fit preferences are met 3 in women's athleisure apparel KPIs: - Decrease women's SKUs Basketball (25%, 31 SKUs) Running (30%, 96 SKUs) **Training (20%, 15 SKUs)** - Increase # of women research participants within each category: Basketball (2000) **Running (5000)** Training (5000) - Modify fit of women's athleisure apparel Shirts: > 30% SKUs Outerwear: > 15% SKUs

**Bottoms: > 40% SKUs** 

## Objectives: Launch and innovate performance shoes based on women's last **Ensure desired product qualities** are met in the athleisure product line KPIs: - ≥ 1 signature athlete shoe, ≥ 2 inline shoes made on women's last) - ≥ 1 marathon racing shoe made on women's last, ≥ 2 racing spikes on women's last, ≥ 2 daily running shoes on women's last) - Increase number of athleisure apparel products with women's modified fit: Shirts: ≥90% SKUs Outerwear: ≥85% SKUs Bottoms: ≥100% SKUs

**Horizon 2** 

Objectives: **Ensure desired product** qualities and fit are met in footwear and apparel product lines globally KPIs: - Identify key countries in each region to create catered products ≥ 3 Kev Countries in **APAC Region** ≥ 5 Key Countries in **EMEA Region** ≥ 2 Key Countries in **Latin America** 

Horizon 3



## Sales

Utilize promotions and discounts to reduce inventory to focus growth in revenue of key product categories.

## Reload

## Increase sales turnover to enhance financial health.

Release

Increase women's retention rates.

Repeat

Cater to her globally.

## **HORIZON 1**

## **HORIZON 2**

## HORIZON 3

## Objectives:

KPIs:

- Use promotions to sell out
  existing stock to consolidate
  SKUs within DTC Channels. 43%
  Sold DTC.
- 2 186 SKUs of footwear offerings of products that are available. 57% of available stock will be sold wholesale

## KPIs:

- DTC responsible for reducing inventory storage by 13%
- Wholesale responsible for reducing inventory storage by 17%

## Objectives:

- 1 Launch of woman athlete exclusive flagship store
- Supply a new line of athleisure products to UA flagship stores and brand stores. Trickle down into factory stores- increase to 30%

- Increase 1.4% of conversion rate from flagship experience to sales at
- DTC
   Increase 20% sales growth on
- athleisure category
- Increase digital conversion rate in women's categories by 4% and overall
- retail conversion to 35%
   Increase average order value by 15%

## Objectives:

Open woman-specific stores worldwide to expand women's sales.

## KPIs:

- The percentage of man/woman sales from the usual Under Armour's 80/20 to 60/40
- Become a top 5 women's sports apparel brand relative market share (NA+APAC+EMEA+LA)



## Marketing

Authentic approach through storytelling that advocates for sports and social issues.

## Reload

## Engage consumers through the power of sports.

Release

# Commitment to authentic storytelling highlighting the Power of She in sports.

Repeat

Reach and meet women in all sports globally.

Marketing Strategy Mission:

Authentic approach through storytelling advocating for sports and social issues, lack of focus and cohesion to consumers.

## **HORIZON 1**

## **HORIZON 2**

**Enhance emotional value** 

Challenge the status quo of "shrink it and pink it"

through brand lines and

## Become partner/sponsor for

**HORIZON 3** 

major women's tournaments

Objectives:

Sports as a platform

Emphasizing sportswear category

around women athletes

**Develop strong campaigns centered** 

- KPIs:
- Sign 10 new women professional/NIL athletes
- Host 3 social issue speaker events
- Increase influencer reach across social
- channels by 25%
- Have a 1.5% conversion rate on
- influencer-targeted ads
- Host 3 off-season activation events/year across the country in major cities

-Increase click rate on NA ads by 20%

KPIs:

Obiectives:

collections

- Create \$2B (20%) revenue through female

lines - Increase women customer retention rate

bv 30%

- Run 5 educational campaigns for female

sports cities

15% from Q4 '23

- Increase women's coverage on social media post to 50%

- Sponsor at least 30% of top athletes in main women's sports

- Increase average order value (DTC) by

Women's World Cup, Women's LPGA match.

sports events ie. Women's March Madness,

KPIs.

Objectives:

- Sponsor and partner with 3 major female



## **Finance**

Allocate funds and expenditures to realize returns by focusing on growth of the UA brand.

### Reload

# Allocate funds to reignite North American business and stabilize brand reputation

Release

# Investment in expanding female market through research and specialized products

Repeat

**Investment into DTC and Digital to drive sales** 

### Horizon 1

## Objectives:

- Improve operational efficiency: elimination of excess inventory
- Invest in brand expansion initiatives
- Invest in consumer research within Women's categories

### KPIs:

- Reduce the value of inventory on balance sheet by 30%
- Increase in marketing spending for online ads by 10%
- Increase in R&D spending by 12%
- Provide an investment into new distribution center

## Horizon 2

## Objectives:

- Increase return on sales
- Grow OMNI-Channel sales and business

### KPIs:

- Improve inventory by 15%
- Decrease COGS by 15%
- Increase DTC Sales by 20%
- Increase online sales by 20%
- -10% investment into advertising

## Horizon 3

## Objectives:

- Improve return on sale on women's performance products
- Seek revenue growth in emerging regions
- Increase nearshoring production of simple products

### KPIs:

- Increase women's category revenue by 50% from 2023
   Continual 10+% annual revenue growth in EMEA and APAC
- Improve LA's growth rate from a negative to a positive value8% Return on sales from athlete endorsements



## **Supply Chain**

Smart operational design to support efficient pathways for athletes to get their UA gear in hand.

### Reload

Reset Inventory, Add RFIDs, Invest in Automation, Reset Domestic Distribution

Release

Shift to regional omni channels, grow CA/LA Manufacturing, Launch "Made for Her" by Her

Repeat

Full Nearshore Capabilities, Reset
OMNI-Channel in APAC, EMEA and LA,
Empower Women Globally



## **HORIZON 1**

## HOHIZON

1 Heavy Inventory Reset

Objectives:

- Add RFID All DTC product to receive real time RFID tracking.
- 3 Transition manufacturing partnerships from Asia to Central America
- 4 Partner with factories to invest in future tech and automations.

### KPIs:

- 5 Inventory turns per location
- 100% of product traceable
- Expand sample room capabilities with Mexican partners by 30%

## **HORIZON 2**

## Objectives:

- 1 Invest into Mexico footwear manufacturing
- 2 Texas Distribution Center
- 3 Made by Her for Her

### KPIs:

- 100% of new women's footwear SKUs to Mexico
- DC receives under 20% of wholesale orders to send
- 70% of received product moved to regional centers in under 30 days
- Increase online to in-store pick up by 50%
- 70% of partners globally to offer programming for her

## HORIZON 3

## Objectives:

- Increase focus on "Global Her", encourage more international women as major stakeholders in our supply chain
- 2 Grow manufacturing in Central and Latin America
- Invest in communities where manufacturing partners and distribution centers are located.

### KPIs:

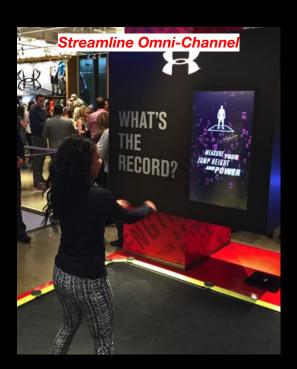
- Grow manufacturing in CA/LA to 25%
- Impact 5K women through community outreach
- 80% of APAC, EMEA, LA using omni channel capabilities

# **Change Begins Here**

Align North America Before Expansion









Q&A