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each industry and that not only manage use sustainability to position.' He also held manager's mantra that and said the portfolio companies with a perceived

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those that sympathise roach, the xplain how this e is reflected in it approach; or in the d - for example, would icant stake in the arms ainable? Possibly not.

e convergence of SRI ng is often significant. n will, over time, rs how their 'principled ribes it, links with the on which negative have been built over all both groups are

building their holdings in very similar types of companies and it's a road well-travelled by other sustainable investment specialists that have embraced the retail marketplace.

In US\$ terms Generation has now achieved a return of 20.48 percent pa since its inception in early 2005. The fund is well ahead of its benchmark and has garnered over US\$1 billion in assets under management on the way to its stated goal of about US\$3 billion in three years.

In the end, Gore joked with the obvious wordplay between the founder's surnames saying that he wanted the firm to be named 'Blood and Gore: it's got the classic ring of an old English marmalade company.'

Don't think you are alone. About 25% of Australian adults 'look to buy products and services that support lifestyles of health and sustainability' and in toto spend about 12 billion dollars doing so. And this amount of spending is predicted to double in the next five years.

Australia's first research report into LOHAS (lifestyles of health and sustainability) has just been released by Melbourne's Mobium Group. Authors Andrew Baker and Nick Bez spent two years researching the spending habits of 'values-driven, conscious consumers.'

Baker and Bez say that their research shows the demand for LOHAS products 'is set to explode' and predict 20 percent growth per annum.

According to the report LOHAS consumers support like-minded companies and organisations for a wide range of products and services - including grey water systems, organic food, green energy, natural cleaning products, complementary healthcare and socially responsible investments and finance.

The results of the report (quantitative) were based on a sample size of 1233 covering ages 18-69, all states, regional and metropolitan - during the period May to June 2007 - and supplemented by reportedly 'hundreds' of face to face interviews.

Categories of products included: food and nutrition, mind and body, home life, transport and leisure buildings and energy. The choices of LOHAS consumers were influenced by 'personal, community and planetary health concerns', while decisions about how and where they shopped reflected 'their desire for healthier and more sustainable lives.'

The barriers to further spending were simple - price and mainstream availability,

indicating that further spending would be possible given greater access and ease of purchase.

Baker and Bez report that global studies of the same ilk have 'identified hundreds of millions of LOHAS consumers globally, spending over \$500 billion per annum.'

UNDER AUSTRALIA'S FIRST CONFIDENTIAL WORKING PROSPECTS WANT TO

While employers and policymakers develop incentives to keep us working past age 65, a survey released last month by Citigroup has found a lack of confidence in this prospect by those who will soon be joining that age group.

The Citibank Retirement Index found that an alarming 67 percent of over 55's believe you are no longer capable of working after age 69.

Not surprisingly, the report's authors say the findings could have significant implications for Australia's economy. 'With our ageing population, current projections indicate that in just 14 years, the over 65s could account for one in five of our population, so an older workforce will be critical to maintain industry and economic prosperity.'

However, for some this concern is being contradicted by their actions. The report also found a groundswell of movement for retirees intending to return to the workforce: 30% of retirees are keen to work part-time - compared to 26% in our last survey; 18% are considering freelance work, while 15% are thinking about self-employment. Men are especially keen on working for themselves: 22% plan freelance work, with a further 20% considering self-employment - up from 13% six months ago; and 23% of retirees would consider paid charity work - a 5% increase since November 2006.

Research for the study was conducted by Newspoll amongst a representative sample of 400 'self-described' semi and fully retired Australian adults 55 years of age or older.

The annual review of the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) has meant a changing of the guard with ANZ (ASX: ANZ) taking Westpac's (ASX: WBC) place as the banking sector leader globally.

ANZ says it achieved a score of 86 percent in the DJSI which is up 10 percentage points from its score in 2006. ANZ is also the only



(L-R) Brookes McTavish, Managing Australian company to be sector leader in the DJSI.

Local Research Manager Francis Gray, says it is not discuss individual companies he did say that the change evidence that competition within the banking sector

Since 1999, the DJSI has 10 per cent of the largest in the Dow Jones World economic, environmental

As part of the review companies were admitted ASX Ltd (ASX: ASX), Blue BSL), Stockland (ASX: SG Petroleum (ASX: WPL).

Four of the finalists in Pitchfest had a business sustainability.

The Sydney event featured business ideas competing pitch their plan to an audience and brokers. Immediately number of ideas that had environmental angles.

The ideas are at different development - one of the Shout Pty Ltd, is a "Web 2.0 Facebook or MySpace) for company has already secured first tranche of capital for its development.

Crikey Creek Development company planning an environmentally sustainable mid-size residential at Qurindi, near Tamworth Then there are the sc