

# **Portfolio Scoop**

Insights into the Trends and their performance

#### MAY 2024

- In May, developed markets rebounded after a few lackluster months with investors renewing hopes for looser monetary policy by year end.
- The best performers during the month were the U.S. NASDAQ Index and the U.S. Russell 2000 Index, which were up +6.88% and +4.87% (local prices) respectively.
- The worst and only negative performer was the Shanghai Composite Index, down -0.58% (local price).
- The +2.71% rise of the AUD against the USD, negatively impacted the AUD returns for the Trends and indices.
- The monthly performances across our Trends were +1.96%, -0.48% and +6.78% for the Big Data, Online Shopping Spree, and Clean Disruption Trends respectively (versus MSCI World ex Australia Index of +2.02%).

#### **Dear Members**

Welcome to our latest Portfolio Scoop from AtlasTrend, which provides insights into our Trends and their performance.

#### What happened to the markets in May?

In May, developed markets rebounded after a few lackluster months with investors renewing hopes for looser monetary policy by year end.

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The monthly performances across our Trends were +1.96%, -0.48% and +6.78% for the Big Data, Online Shopping Spree, and Clean Disruption Trends, respectively. The MSCI World Daily Net Total Return ex Australia Index (this MSCI Index measures the equity market performance of shares listed on the exchanges of 23 of the world's major developed economies ex Australia factoring in reinvested net dividends) ended the month +2.02% in AUD terms.

#### U.S. markets perform strongly off corporate earnings

U.S. markets performed strongly in May as a result of strong corporate earnings especially in the technology sector and those focused on AI-related technologies as well as hopes of interest rate cuts by year end.

However, inflation remains at levels above the Federal Reserve's 2% target. Nonetheless, the Federal Reserve appears to have ruled out more rises, taking a more patient approach to curbing inflation. The consumer price index had fallen to 3.4% in April from 3.5% in March. There were other positive signs of recovery in the U.S. economy with 175,000 jobs added in April.

#### European economy looking to recover

European equities rose as investors looked ahead to the European Central Bank meeting in June where an interest rate cut is expected. Data showed that the European consumer price index, increased to 2.6% in May from 2.4% in April.

Other economic date looked positive with the European purchasing managers' index for May reaching a 12-month high of 52.3. Countries also showed strong wage growth.

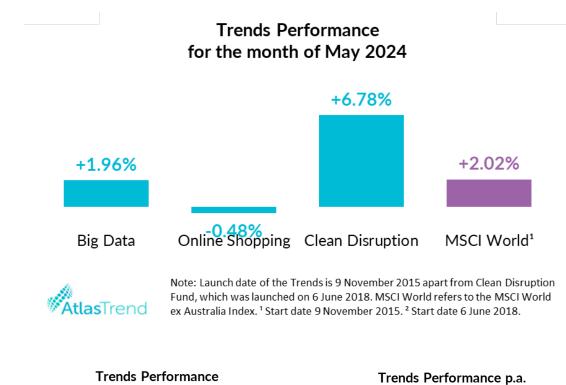
There were also signs of recovery in the U.K. after suffering a mild recession in 2H 2023. In 1Q 2024, GDP growth was 0.6% whilst inflation came in at 2.3%, still higher than what the Bank of England would like to start cutting interest rates.

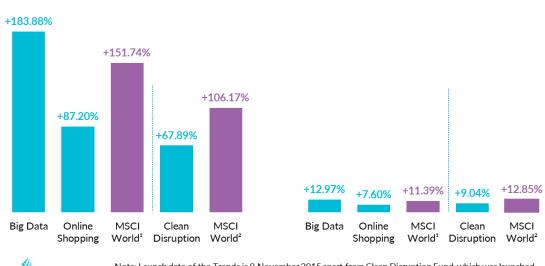
#### Japan and China continue their positive momentum

Japanese corporate earnings were stronger than expected driven by sales growth, pricing power, and cost measures. The Japanese market is also experiencing a record-high amount of share buybacks. Although there are no visible signs of a recovery in wage growth or consumer sentiment, the labour market remains strong with some wage increases expected in the coming months. Tourism from overseas as also supported the economic recovery in Japan.

Equities in China and Hong Kong continued their recent rebound as higher-than-expected 1Q 2023 economic growth bolstered investor sentiment. There was also some optimism about government support for the housing sector.

# **Trend Round Up**





Note: Launch date of the Trends is 9 November 2015 apart from Clean Disruption Fund, which was launched on 6 June 2018. MSCI World refers to the MSCI World ex Australia Index.<sup>1</sup> Start date 9 November 2015.<sup>2</sup>

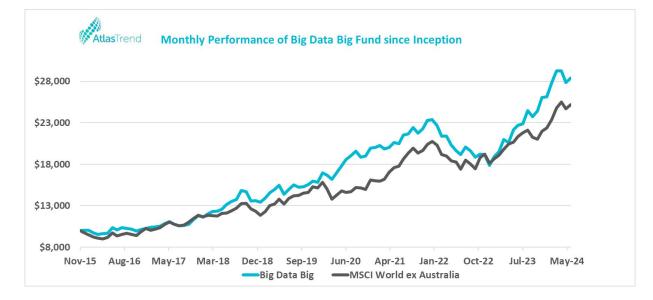
In the last 12 months, we have delivered performances of +28.23%, +7.20% and +4.78% for the Big Data, Online Shopping Spree, and Clean Disruption Trends respectively (versus MSCI World ex Australia Index of +21.70%).

In the last 6 months, we have delivered performances of +8.92%, +2.69% and +17.35% for the Big Data, Online Shopping Spree, and Clean Disruption Trends respectively (versus MSCI World ex Australia Index of +14.62%).

In the last 3 months, we have delivered performances of -2.91%, -3.37% and +7.89% for the Big Data, Online Shopping Spree, and Clean Disruption Trends respectively (versus MSCI World ex Australia Index of +1.67%).

#### **Big Data Big Fund**

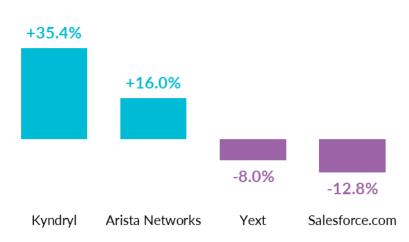
The Trend return for the month was +1.96% and since launch (9 November 2015) is +183.88%.



This Trend has delivered a +12.97% return per annum since inception.

This Trend performed positively led by Kyndryl, Arista Networks, Apple, Seagate and Alphabet. The negative performers were Salesfore.com, Yext and Alarm.com.

As of the end of March 2024, this Trend consisted of 14 companies. The position produced a +42.0% return for the Trend.



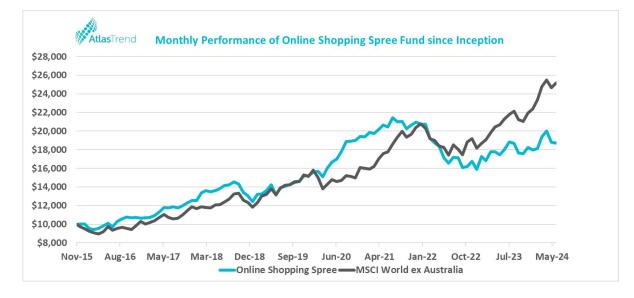
#### Top & bottom performers for May 2024 Big Data Big Fund

Note: % share price return in local currency, excluding any dividends received during the month

## **Online Shopping Spree Fund**

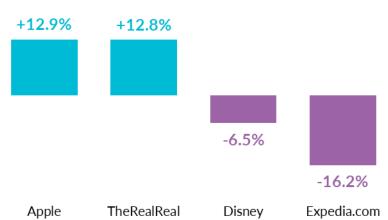
The Trend return for the month was -0.48% and since launch (9 November 2015) is +87.20%.

This Trend has delivered a +7.60% return per annum.



This Trend underperformed with Expedia.com, Disney, Netease, FedEx and Target. The positive performers were led by Apple, TheRealReal, eBay, Walmart and Prologis.

As of the end of May 2024, this Trend consisted of 14 companies.



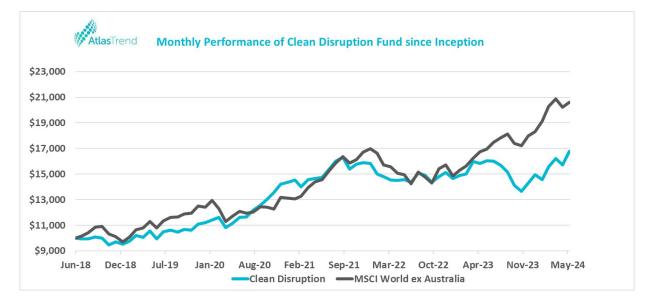
### Top & bottom performers for May 2024 **Online Shopping Spree Fund**

Note: % share price return in local currency, excluding any dividends received during the month

#### **Clean Disruption Fund**

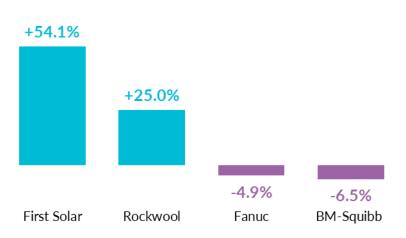
The Trend return for the month was 6.78% and since launch (6 June 2018) is +67.89%.

This Trend has delivered a +9.04% return per annum since inception.



This Trend had a very strong performance primarily due to First Solar being up 54.15% for the month. This was due to its increasing market positioning in a growing U.S. market and a strong order backlog. The other strong performers were Rockwool, Varta, Northland Power, KLA and Orsted. The only negative performers were Bristol-Myers-Squibb and Fanuc.

As of the end of May 2024, this Trend consisted of 18 companies.



#### Top & bottom performers for May 2024 **Clean Disruption Fund**

Note: % share price return in local currency, excluding any dividends received during the month

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