Machinery, E&C and Waste

Used equipment values in February: ag the weak link, construction more mixed

Industry Overview

Keeping an eye on the used equipment market in 2024

Slowing inflation is a general theme for 2024. Where is this observed in Machinery? Used equipment. 2021-22 was defined by "tightness" (constrained supply + strong demand) - resulting in rising used values (leading to strong new equipment price increases in '22-23). A consistent concern cited for Machinery is that used values (leading indicator) are rolling over yet we think the data is more nuanced. Yesterday we hosted Sandhills (tracks retail & auction listings) to discuss trends in trucks, ag equipment, & construction - please reach out for slides and see details on page 3. Key takeaways: farm equipment observing biggest rate of change - highest level of concern.

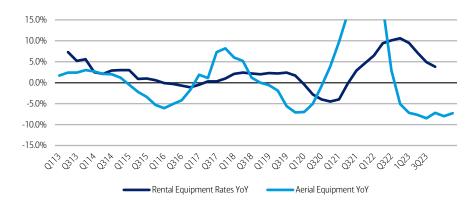
February: Used values negative but somewhat holding

RB Global released its monthly used equipment trends for February. Key highlights: i) auction values on a YoY basis remain in negative territory across almost all categories in the US - aerials, construction, transportation. ii) YoY declines widened in aerials (see below), incremental moderate pressure in construction (medium earthmoving), iii) Some areas where the YoY change is stabilizing (large earthmoving, vocational trucks) and on a 2-year stack basis. Simply put, used values are moderating yet not 'breaking lower' yet.

- Truck tractors: -21% YoY (vs -21% January, -21% December, -21% Nov).
- Aerials: -10% YoY (vs -8% January, -7% December, -8% Nov).
- Large earthmoving: -7% YoY (vs -7% January, -6% December, -6% Nov).

Exhibit 1: Equipment Rental Rates vs Used equipment values (aerials)

Used values moderated through most of 2023



Source: H&E filings, Copyright© 2023 RB Global

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Exhibit 2: Earthmoving used values vs CAT Dealer Retail Sales

Used values moderated through 2023 – not seeing that impact on retail

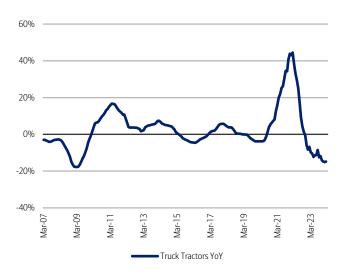


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Exhibit 4: Trucks: Tractor used values YoY

Moderated over the last 12 months

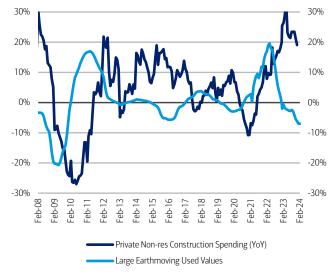


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Exhibit 3: Private non-res spending vs used values YoY

Used values for earthmoving moderating through 2023

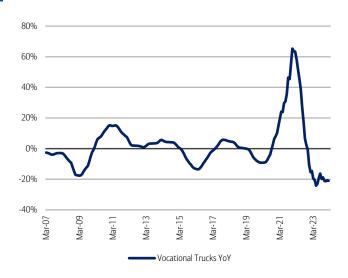


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Exhibit 5: Trucks: Vocational used values YoY

Moderated over the last 12 months



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Sandhills used equipment call takeaways

Farm Equipment: biggest area of concern

Sandhills expects ag auction prices will drop further as dealers struggle to sell used equipment in an environment with \$4/bu corn, high interest rates, and elevated inventory levels. Used ag equipment inventory levels increased 39% YoY in February and +5% MoM. Auction values declined 1.7% MoM yet still up YoY (+1.5%). Over the last few months, large farm equipment inventories have been climbing rapidly – driven by more late model equipment. This has resulted in higher carrying costs for dealers, which is becoming an increasing problem as more new equipment comes into the market (pushing prices down further). Used combine prices were the first to crack in 3Q23 when inventory levels increased, and now we are seeing that with tractors and planters.



Planters inventory levels are rising, which is a concern as they are much more expensive vs 5 years ago, due to better precision tech and accuracy. This is resulting in more equipment types (combines, tractors, and planters) on dealers' lots that incur higher carrying costs (bad for dealers).

Transportation: truck inventories in a holding pattern

For used HD trucks, inventory levels increased 12% YoY in February but dropped slightly MoM (-0.85%). Auction values dropped 4% MoM, continuing a downward trend that has lasted for over 20 months, and -24% lower YoY. To put inventories in context of the cycle, used inventory listings peaked at 40k units in mid-2020 (i.e., recession), bottomed at 7-10k units in early 2022 (i.e., peak supply tightness), and are closer to 20k units today. In terms of pricing, a Freightliner 2020 Cascadia 126 is now worth \$46k at auction vs \$145k at peak tightness in April 2022. A somewhat encouraging trend is that inventories are starting to be in a holding pattern after building through 2023, yet we may not be fully out of the woods yet as new models are coming into the system.

Construction: weakness in small equipment vs heavy

Inventory levels of used HD construction equipment increased 6% MoM and 15% YoY in February. Although individual machines are depreciating YoY, the overall value indexes have increased due to growing availability of 'newer' late model inventory. Lower HP excavators have shown the most significant changes. For example, medium-duty inventory levels increased 60% YoY and 5% MoM. The inventory and value trends have especially impacted the track skid steer and mini excavator categories, which have seen the largest changes. The gap between asking and auction prices is the widest it has ever been. Sandhills notes that there is still strong demand in the market due to a shift from rental to more people buying – now that we are past peak tightness. The larger, heavy equipment items in construction appear to observe more demand and value vs small items.



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