

Vontier

Seeing the value in Vontier; upgrade to Buy

Rating Change: BUY | PO: 40.00 USD | Price: 33.56 USD

Upgrade to Buy with \$40 Price Objective

In 2023 VNT shares rose +79% (vs +24% for S&P 500 index). We see more room to run in 2024. As US fuel dispenser headwinds fade, we forecast all-in organic revenue growth and margin expansion in 2024E. We forecast net debt to EBITDA of 2.8x at YE23, alleviating leverage concerns. We raise our Price Objective by \$3 to \$40, based on 9.5x (previously 9.0x) our 2025E EBITDA. Our target multiple compares to VNT's current 9.0x on 2024E EV/EBITDA and 14x (13x prior) peer average, and represents ~20% prospective upside potential.

Growth markets now 3x the size of US fuel dispensers

We think investors' perception on Vontier is anchored on US fuel dispensers, but these are just ~10% of revenue. The Mobility Technologies segment (32% of revenue) offers exposure to cloud payments software (Invenco), cloud fleet monitoring solutions (Teletrac Navman), alternative fuels (ANGI), and EV charging software (Driivz). Vontier has a ~40% market share in retail fuel dispensers, but only a ~10% market share in gas station payments/software. In 2023, Invenco's iNFX platform had announced contract wins covering 20,000 gas stations, or ~19% of US gas stations.

Raising our '24E/'25E adj. EPS to \$3.14/\$3.51

We forecast 4% organic revenue CAGR and 170bp of cumulative adj. operating margin expansion to drive a 10% adj. EPS CAGR (2023E-26E). This compares to medium-term guidance of 4-6% organic revenue growth, >150bp margin expansion, and >10% adj. EPS target. Our 2024 estimates now exclude the completed Coats divestiture (closed 1/8). Despite this, our 2024E adj. EPS is now \$0.08 higher at \$3.14 (and above \$3.09 consensus). Our 2025E adj. EPS is \$0.16 higher at \$3.51 (+12% y/y).

Catalysts: 2024 guidance, iNFX wins, capital deployment

We expect initial 2024 adj. EPS guidance to bracket \$3.09 consensus. In 2023, management walked up midpoint of guidance from \$2.73 (excluding divested Global Traffic Technologies contribution) to \$2.85 currently. Contract wins for the iNFX payments platform would add to multi-year visibility. Organic FCF generation (BofA 2024E \$468mn) should be boosted by proceeds from the Coats divestiture. We see capital deployment (i.e., buybacks, M&A) as another potential upside catalyst.

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2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
2.88	3.08	2.86	3.14	3.51
2.43	2.49	2.41	2.74	3.12
16.6%	6.9%	-7.1%	9.8%	11.8%
		2.86	3.09	3.44
0.08	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
11.7x	10.9x	11.7x	10.7x	9.6x
13.8x	13.5x	13.9x	12.2x	10.8x
0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
10.1x	9.8x	10.4x	9.9x	9.4x
8.4%	5.0%	7.5%	9.1%	9.9%
	2.88 2.43 16.6% 0.08 11.7x 13.8x 0.2% 10.1x	2.88 3.08 2.43 2.49 16.6% 6.9% 0.08 0.10 11.7x 10.9x 13.8x 13.5x 0.2% 0.3% 10.1x 9.8x	2.88 3.08 2.86 2.43 2.49 2.41 16.6% 6.9% -7.1% 2.86 0.08 0.10 0.10 11.7x 10.9x 11.7x 13.8x 13.5x 13.9x 0.2% 0.3% 0.3% 10.1x 9.8x 10.4x	2.88 3.08 2.86 3.14 2.43 2.49 2.41 2.74 16.6% 6.9% -7.1% 9.8% 2.86 3.09 0.08 0.10 0.10 0.10 11.7x 10.9x 11.7x 10.7x 13.8x 13.5x 13.9x 12.2x 0.2% 0.3% 0.3% 0.3% 10.1x 9.8x 10.4x 9.9x

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Refer to important disclosures on page 9 to 11. Analyst Certification on page 7. Price Objective Basis/Risk on page 7.

Timestamp: 11 January 2024 06:00AM EST

11 January 2024

Equity

Key Changes		
(US\$)	Previous	Current
Inv. Opinion	B-2-7	B-1-7
Inv. Rating	NEUTRAL	BUY
Price Obj.	37.00	40.00
2024E Rev (m)	3,185.5	3,107.8
2025E Rev (m)	3,291.2	3,239.5
2024E EPS	3.06	3.14
2025E EPS	3.35	3.51

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Stock Data

Price	33.56 USD
Price Objective	40.00 USD
Date Established	11-Jan-2024
Investment Opinion	B-1-7
52-Week Range	20.98 USD - 35.39 USD
Mrkt Val (mn) / Shares Out	5,179 USD / 154.3
(mn)	
Free Float	99.3%
Average Daily Value (mn)	27.50 USD
BofA Ticker / Exchange	VNT / NYS
Bloomberg / Reuters	VNT US / VNT.N
ROE (2023E)	61.9%
Net Dbt to Eqty (Dec-2022A)	410.9%
ESGMeter™	High

ESGMeter is not indicative of a company's future stock price performance and is not an investment recommendation or rating. ESGMeter is independent of BofA Global Research's equity investment rating, volatility risk rating, income rating, and price objective for that company. For full details, refer to "BofA ESGMeter Methodology".

iQprofile[™] Vontier

iQmethod [™] – Bus Performance*					
(US\$ Millions)	2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
Return on Capital Employed	17.6%	14.4%	13.3%	14.3%	16.0%
Return on Equity	129.3%	86.5%	61.9%	47.0%	40.4%
Operating Margin	21.5%	20.0%	19.1%	20.1%	20.8%
Free Cash Flow	433	261	389	471	514
iQmethod [™] – Quality of Earnings*					
(US\$ Millions)	2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
Cash Realization Ratio	1.0x	0.6x	1.0x	1.1x	1.1x
Asset Replacement Ratio	0.5x	0.5x	0.5x	0.5x	0.5x
Tax Rate	22.7%	23.1%	22.5%	22.5%	23.0%
Net Debt-to-Equity Ratio	350.6%	410.9%	229.9%	139.9%	94.4%
Interest Cover	13.5x	9.2x	6.2x	7.5x	9.6x
Income Statement Data (Dec)					
(US\$ Millions)	2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
Sales	2,991	3,184	3,085	3,108	3,240
% Change	10.6%	6.5%	-3.1%	0.7%	4.2%
Gross Profit	1,648	1,754	1,664	1,670	1,735
% Change	8.7%	6.4%	-5.1%	0.4%	3.9%
EBITDA	734	755	712	748	792
% Change	10.4%	2.9%	-5.7%	5.1%	5.8%
Net Interest & Other Income	(51)	(72)	(96)	(84)	(70)
Net Income (Adjusted)	490	496	446	481	522
% Change	17.2%	1.2%	-10.1%	7.9%	8.5%
Free Cash Flow Data (Dec)					
(US\$ Millions)	2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)	457	436	382	420	465
Depreciation & Amortization	88	119	123	121	116
Change in Working Capital	(46)	(223)	(77)	(42)	(40)
Deferred Taxation Charge	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other Adjustments, Net	(18)	(10)	22	32	36
Capital Expenditure	(48)	(60)	(62)	(61)	(63)
Free Cash Flow	433	261	389	471	514
% Change	-33.9%	-39.7%	48.9%	21.1%	9.1%
Share / Issue Repurchase	8	3	8	8	8
Cost of Dividends Paid	(13)	(16)	(16)	(15)	(15)
Change in Debt	774	0	(225)	(465)	(200)
Balance Sheet Data (Dec)					
(US\$ Millions)	2021A	2022A	2023E	2024E	2025E
Cash & Equivalents	573	205	372	243	275
Trade Receivables	481	515	533	536	559
Other Current Assets	424	666	519	516	523
Property, Plant & Equipment	101	92	112	130	150
Other Non-Current Assets Total Assets	2,771 4,350	2,866 4,343	2,818 4,353	2,758 4,183	2,702 4,210
Short-Term Debt	4,330	4,343	4,333	4,103	4,210
Other Current Liabilities	933	930	882	880	1,008
Long-Term Debt	2,584	2,586	2,365	1,900	1,600
Other Non-Current Liabilities	2,364	2,360	2,303	218	1,000
Total Liabilities	3,776	3,764	3,486	2,998	2,806
Total Equity	574	580	3,466 867	1,185	1,404
Total Equity & Liabilities	4,350	4,343	4,353	4,183	4,210
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Company Sector

Industrials/Multi-Industry

Company Description

Vontier is an industrial technology company with software & hardware solutions for retail fueling (45%), auto repair (22%), convenience retail (15% of revenue), car washes (8%), telematics (6%), and alternative fuels (4%). Vontier's installed base includes over 260,000 retail fueling sites, over 150,000 auto repair shops, and over 500,000 monitored vehicles. Vontier generated \$3.2bn in revenue in 2022.

Investment Rationale

Our Buy rating reflects Vontier's below-peer valuation, above-peer EPS growth trajectory and steady FCF profile.

Stock Data

Average Daily Volume

824,265

Quarterly Earnings Estimates

	2022	2023
Q1	0.70A	0.68A
Q2	0.72A	0.67A
Q3	0.86A	0.73A
Q4	0.81A	0.78E



* For full definitions of \emph{iQ} method $^{\text{SM}}$ measures, see page 8.

Raising our 2024/2025 estimates

We have raised our core revenue growth rate in 2024/2025 to reflect the momentum in new contract wins within the Mobility Technologies segment. Our adjusted operating margin assumption reflects the completed divestiture of the lower-margin Coats business (~9% EBITDA margin on ~\$110mn in revenue) and better leverage. We assume Coats proceeds are directed towards share repurchase and debt reduction, in line with management commentary. These assumptions drive our 2024E adjusted EPS up \$0.08 to \$3.14 and our 2025E up \$0.16 to \$3.51.

Exhibit 1: How our estimates have changed

Raising our 2024E adj. EPS by \$0.08 to \$3.14 and 2025E by \$0.16 to \$3.51

	BofA 2	2024E	BofA 2	2025E
	New	Prior	New	Prior
Core revenue	4.3%	4.0%	4.2%	3.3%
Adj. operating margin	22.7%	22.0%	23.1%	22.2%
Adj. EPS	\$3.14	\$3.06	\$3.51	\$3.35
Adj. FCF conversion	98%	98%	99%	98%
Tax rate	23%	23%	23%	23%
Share count	153	154	149	151

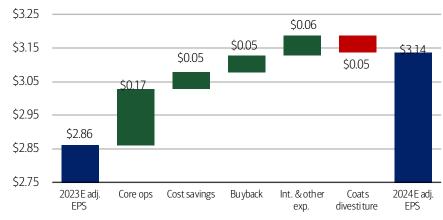
Source: BofA Global Research

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2024 adjusted EPS growth will benefit from ~\$10mn in carryover benefit from restructuring actions in 2023, or \$0.05 benefit. We assume \$200mn of share repurchase, driving \$0.05 benefit. Vontier has repaid \$240mn of debt through 3Q23. We forecast lower interest expense to drive \$0.06 benefit. The Coats divestiture is a \$0.05 drag to 2024E adjusted EPS.

Exhibit 2: 2024 adj. EPS bridge

Coats divestiture a modest drag, with core ops and cost savings driving majority of adj. EPS growth



Source: BofA Global Research

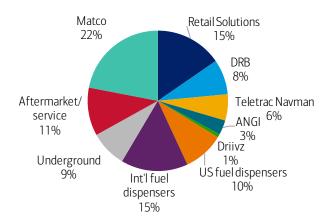
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Understanding VNT's growth engine

Exhibit 3: Vontier's 2023E revenue by business unit

Retail Solutions poised for faster growth



Source: BofA Global Research

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Retail Solutions: faster growth in payments with iNFX

Vontier's Retail Solutions business unit offers point-of-sale, payments, and automation software & hardware solutions for convenience retail stores. Vontier has a ~40% market share in retail fuel dispensers and point-of-sale software, but only a ~10% market share in gas station payments. We argue the Invenco acquisition has been a catalyst for market share gains.

Invenco deal brought the iNFX SaaS payments platform

Vontier acquired Invenco in October 2022 for \$83mn. Invenco had built iNFX, a SaaS-based platform for payments, point-of-sale, and loyalty. iNFX lowers IT costs by avoiding upgrade costs. Year-to-date, iNFX has won contracts covering 20,000 gas stations, or ~19% of US gas stations.

As a sub-\$100mn revenue New Zealand-based company, Invenco struggled to gain traction in the US market. Vontier's existing relationships are helping drive share gains, even in a historically "sticky" market. Invenco's payment terminal hardware can be upgraded over-the-air. Vontier is integrating these terminals into its fuel dispensers as well.

After strong 2023, DRB poised for further growth in '24

DRB Systems offers payments hardware and software to the car wash industry. Approximately 40% of revenue is recurring, with 60% tied to new builds and competitive wins. DRB is on track to grow revenue at a low double-digit pace in 2023.

Higher interest rates are likely to cool the pace of new location construction in 2024. However, DRB Systems offering include software to improve productivity, marketing, and analytics. We see the company's new SaaS offering (Pantheon) as aiding growth in 2024. Upgrades drive a one-time hardware sale and an increase in ongoing recurring revenue.

Teletrac Navman poised to be a margin tailwind in '24

Teletrac Navman (fleet telematics software/hardware solution) struggled with elevated churn. Management improved customer service issues and, in 3Q20, launched a next generation platform (TN360). The business is on track for high single-digit annual recurring revenue (ARR) growth with mid-single digit operating margins for 2023.

Teletrac Navman operates as a subscription model, with leased telematics hardware and term license software subscriptions. This enables above-average incremental margins.

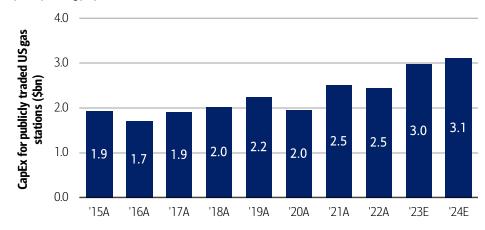
With ARR growing well in 2023, this bodes well for margin expansion in 2024, in our view.

Capex backdrop appears positive for 2024

Consensus capex forecasts for US publicly traded gas stations suggest 2024 will be up y/y. Circle-K's parent company has approximately 1,000 locations in the pipeline, for example.

Exhibit 4: Capex for publicly traded gas stations

Capital spending projects set to continue in 2024



Source: BofA Global Research, Bloomberg consensus

Note: total of Alimentation Couche-Tard (Circle K), Murphy USA, Casey's General Stores, and Sunoco LP.

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Risks: US fuel dispensers, EV transition

A brief history of the US fuel dispenser upgrade cycle

In mid-2012, the major US card networks (e.g., MasterCard, Visa) announced a fraud liability shift from banks to retailers. Card issuers (e.g., banks) had committed to upgrade to EMV (i.e., chip and pin) cards to reduce fraud. The liability shift was designed to drive adoption of EMV card readers by retailers.

The EMV transition created a multi-year tailwind for US fuel dispenser upgrades, which peaked in 2020. After declines in 2021 and 2022, management has guided for a ~\$300mn y/y decline for 2023. We see 2024 as the first year without a significant headwind from US fuel dispenser declines.

Exhibit 5: Vontier's organic revenue growth excluding US fuel dispenser sales

We forecast US fuel dispenser revenue to stabilize in 2024E

(\$mn) Vontier	2020 2.705	2021 2.991	2022 3.184	2023E 3.085	2024E 3.108
Volitiei	2,703	2,331	<i>3</i> , 104	3,003	3, 100
Organic growth	-1%	7%	3%	-2%	4%
Less: US fuel dispenser revenue	<u>740</u>	<u>640</u>	<u>550</u>	<u>250</u>	250
Vontier Ex-US fuel dispensers	1,965	2,351	2,634	2,835	2,858
Organic growth ex-US fuel dispensers	-4%	16%	9%	8%	4%

Source: BofA Global Research

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US fuel dispenser sales represented 27% of revenue in 2020, but only 10% in 2023 by our estimate (pro forma for the divested Coats revenue). Relative to our 2024 forecast of flat revenue, a 10% decline in US fuel dispenser sales would represent a 1% drag on revenue and 2% drag on adjusted EPS.

EV transition risks appear overstated

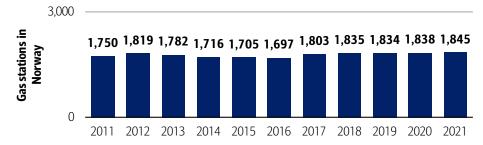
The risk from rising electric vehicle (EV) adoption appears overstated, in our view. Revenue not tied to internal combustion engines is already approaching 50% of total. We also note international comparisons suggest a long multi-fuel transition period.



Norway has the highest percentage of EVs on the road globally at 28%. Yet the number of gas stations has increased over 2011-21 (latest data). Similarly in California, where EV penetration has reached 4% of vehicles in use, the number of gas stations continues to rise.

Exhibit 6: Number of gas stations in Norway, 2011-21

Rising number of gas stations despite electric vehicles reaching >25% of car parc

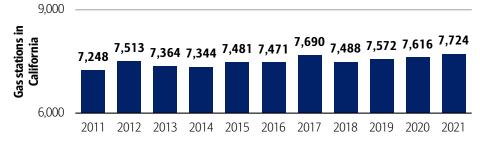


Source: Drivkraft Norge, BofA Global Research

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Exhibit 7: Number of gas stations in California, 2011-21

Rising number of gas stations despite electric vehicles reaching ~4% of car parc



Source: US Census, BofA Global Research

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Valuation

We base our \$40 price objective on 9.5x our 2024E EBITDA estimate. Relative to peers, Vontier has higher EBITDA margins and faster EPS growth. Our target multiple is a discount to the peer average of 13.7x on 2023 estimates to reflect above-peer leverage.

Exhibit 5: Selected valuation metrics for comparable companies

VNT trades at a substantial discount to peer average on P/E, EV/EBITDA, and P/FCF

		Stock Price	P	Æ	EV/E	BITDA	P/F	CF	EBITDA	Margin	EPS G	rowth	Net Deb	t/EBITDA
Company	Ticker	1/10/2024	2024E	2025E	2024E	2025E	2024E	2025E	2024E	2025E	2024E	2025E	2024E	2025E
Donaldson Company	DCI	\$62.81	18.9 x	17.1 x	12.4 x	11.5 x	19.4 x	18.3 x	18.0%	18.4%	7%	11%	0.6 x	0.5 x
Dover	DOV	\$147.17	16.3 x	14.7 x	11.8 x	10.4 x	16.0 x	14.5 x	21.6%	22.1%	3%	11%	0.8 x	0.3 x
Franklin Electric	FELE	\$93.00	21.3 x	20.1 x	13.1 x	12.5 x	19.4 x	18.8 x	15.3%	15.0%	6%	6%	-0.2 x	-0.6 x
Snap-On Tools	SNA	\$282.49	15.1 x	14.6 x	13.2 x	12.9 x	14.7 x	13.9 x	23.4%	23.2%	1%	4%	0.0 x	0.0 x
Rockwell	ROK	\$302.07	21.9 x	18.7 x	17.8 x	15.2 x	20.9 x	20.2 x	23.4%	22.8%	17%	17%	<u>1.5 x</u>	<u>0.9 x</u>
Peer average			18.7 x	17.0 x	13.7 x	12.5 x	18.1 x	17.1 x	20.3%	20.3%	7%	10%	0.6 x	0.2 x
Vontier	VNT	\$33.56	10.7 x	9.6 x	9.0 x	8.2 x	10.9 x	9.7 x	24.1%	24.4%	10%	12%	2.2 x	1.7 x
Vontier at PO	VNT	\$40.00	12.8 x	11.4 x	10.4 x	9.5 x	13.0 x	11.6 x	24.1%	24.4%	10%	12%	2.2 x	1.7 x

Source: BofA Global Research, Bloomberg

Note: DCI and FELE estimates are Bloomberg consensus. SNA (Elizabeth Suzuki), DOV and ROK (Andrew Obin) are BofA Global Research estimates

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Price objective basis & risk

Vontier (VNT)

We base our \$40 price objective on 9.5x our 2025E EBITDA estimate. This is a discount to the peer average of 14x on 2024 estimates to reflect above-peer leverage.

Downside risks to our price objective are 1) greater-than-expected decline in US fuel dispenser revenue, 2) acquisition timing, selection, and integration risks, 3) greater adoption of electric vehicles hurting demand for retail fueling infrastructure.

Analyst Certification

I, Andrew Obin, hereby certify that the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject securities and issuers. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or view expressed in this research report.

US - Multi-Industrials/Engineering and Construction Coverage Cluster

### API Group	Investment rating	Company	Bof A Ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
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Qmethod [™] Measures Definitions

Business Performance	Numerator	Denominator
Return On Capital Employed	NOPAT = (EBIT + Interest Income) \times (1 - Tax Rate) + Goodwill Amortization	Total Assets — Current Liabilities +ST Debt + Accumulated Goodwill Amortization
Return On Equity	Net Income	Shareholders' Equity
Operating Margin	Operating Profit	Sales
Earnings Growth	Expected 5 Year CAGR From Latest Actual	N/A
Free Cash Flow	Cash Flow From Operations — Total Capex	N/A
FIEE Casii Flow	Casi Flow Floir Operations — Total Capex	IV/A
Quality of Earnings	Numerator	Denominator
Cash Realization Ratio	Cash Flow From Operations	Net Income
Asset Replacement Ratio	Capex	Depreciation
Tax Rate	Tax Charge	Pre-Tax Income
Net Debt-To-Equity Ratio	Net Debt = Total Debt - Cash & Equivalents	Total Equity
Interest Cover	EBIT	Interest Expense
Valuation Toolkit	Numerator	Denominator
Price / Earnings Ratio	Current Share Price	Diluted Earnings Per Share (Basis As Specified)
Price / Book Value	Current Share Price	Shareholders' Equity / Current Basic Shares
Dividend Yield	Annualised Declared Cash Dividend	Current Share Price
Free Cash Flow Yield	Cash Flow From Operations – Total Capex	Market Cap = Current Share Price × Current Basic Shares
Enterprise Value / Sales	EV = Current Share Price × Current Shares + Minority Equity + Net Debt +	Sales

EV/EBITDA Enterprise Value Basic EBIT + Depreciation + Amortization

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Disclosures

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Vontier (VNT) Price Chart



B: Buy, N: Neutral, U: Underperform, PO: Price Objective, NA: No longer valid, NR: No Rating

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Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Industrials/Multi-Industry Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships R1	Count	Percent
Buy	45	50.56%	Buy	25	55.56%
Hold	26	29.21%	Hold	13	50.00%
Sell	18	20.22%	Sell	7	38.89%

Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Global Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships ^{R1}	Count	Percent
Buy	1895	53.62%	Buy	1083	57.15%
Hold	832	23.54%	Hold	454	54.57%
Sell	807	22.84%	Sell	383	47.46%

RI Issuers that were investment banking dients of BofA Securities or one of its affiliates within the past 12 months. For purposes of this Investment Rating Distribution, the coverage universe includes only stocks. A stock rated Neutral is included as a Hold, and a stock rated Underperform is included as a Sell.

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Investment rating	Total return expectation (within 12-month period of date of initial rating)	Ratings dispersion guidelines for coverage cluster ^{R2}
Buy	≥ 10%	≤ 70%
Neutral	≥ 0%	≤ 30%
Underperform	N/A	≥ 20%

Ratings dispersions may vary from time to time where BofA Global Research believes it better reflects the investment prospects of stocks in a Coverage Cluster.

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