Between January 2023 and January 2024, NVIDIA significantly bolstered its position in the AI and semiconductor sectors through substantial investments in research and development (R&D) and strategic acquisitions.

**Research and Development Initiatives**

* **Financial Commitment**: In the fiscal year 2024, NVIDIA allocated approximately $8.68 billion to R&D, marking an increase from $7.34 billion in the previous year.
* **Human Resources**: By the end of fiscal year 2024, NVIDIA's workforce comprised approximately 29,600 employees across 36 countries, with about 22,200 dedicated to R&D activities.
* **Technological Advancements**: NVIDIA introduced the Blackwell architecture in March 2024, featuring the B100 and B200 datacenter accelerators. This architecture aims to enhance performance for generative AI applications.

**Strategic Acquisitions**

* **Increased Activity**: In 2024, NVIDIA completed six acquisitions, a notable rise from its average of fewer than two per year between 2021 and 2023.
* **Focus on AI Startups**: Notable acquisitions include Israeli startups Run: Ai and Deci, reflecting NVIDIA's strategy to integrate advanced AI technologies and expand its capabilities in AI infrastructure management.
* **Investment Portfolio Expansion**: Beyond acquisitions, NVIDIA invested approximately $1 billion in 50 startup funding rounds and corporate deals in 2024, emphasizing support for AI companies with substantial computing infrastructure needs.

These strategic investments in R&D and targeted acquisitions underscore NVIDIA's commitment to advancing its technological leadership and addressing the growing demands of the AI and semiconductor industries.