

## 1) Recommendation & Upside

- As of 2026-01-29, market price, upside, and a formal recommendation are not provided in the dataset. We do not assign a rating or price-based upside without valuation inputs.
- High-level take: The 2024 profile shows resilient top line and best-in-class gross margins, strong ROE, and a net cash position. Offsetting this, operating margin compressed, operating cash flow declined materially, and dividends exceeded free cash flow. Without a market price, risk/reward cannot be assessed.

## 2) Valuation Summary

- Valuation status: NOT PROVIDED.
- Key per-share anchors (derived from 2024 data):
- EPS (NI/Diluted): ~\$2.46
- FCF/share: ~\$1.10 (FCF\_Simple of \$4.74B on 4.32B diluted shares)
- Dividends/share: ~\$1.93 (Total dividends \$8.36B)
- Buybacks/share: ~\$0.42 (Repurchases \$1.80B)
- Payout context:
- Dividends  $\approx$  79% of net income;  $\approx$  176% of FCF.
- Total capital return (dividends + buybacks)  $\approx$  \$10.15B, > FCF.
- Balance sheet/leverage:
- Net Debt (Est.): -\$10.83B (net cash).
- Interest coverage: 6.03x.
- Note: 2024 "TotalDebt\_Est" shows 0.0 while interest expense is \$1.66B; treat debt metrics as indicative and subject to confirmation.

## 3) Latest Financial Snapshot (FY2024, year-end 2024-12-31)

- Revenue \$47.06B; Gross Profit \$28.74B; Operating Income \$9.99B; Net Income \$10.63B.
- Margins: Gross 61.06%; Operating 21.23%; Net 22.59%.
- Cash flows: CFO \$6.81B; Capex \$2.06B; FCF\_Simple \$4.74B. CFI +\$2.52B; CFF -\$6.91B.
- Capital returns: Dividends \$8.36B; Share repurchase \$1.80B.
- Shares: Diluted 4.32B.
- Balance sheet: Cash & equivalents \$10.83B; Current assets \$26.00B; Current liabilities \$25.25B; Total assets \$100.55B; Equity \$24.86B; Net Debt (Est.) -\$10.83B.
- Select ratios and trends:
- Revenue YoY +2.86%; Net income YoY -0.77%; CFO YoY -41.33%.
- ROA 10.72%; ROE 41.86%; Asset turnover 0.475; Equity multiplier 3.903.
- Current ratio  $\approx$  1.03.

## 4) Interpretation

- Profitability mix: Gross margin expanded to 61.1% (up ~150 bps YoY), but operating margin fell to 21.2% (down ~350 bps), implying higher operating costs offset gross efficiency. Net margin eased modestly to 22.6%.
- Earnings vs cash conversion: Net income was essentially flat YoY (-0.8%), but CFO fell sharply (-41%), driving FCF to \$4.74B and FCF margin ~10%. FCF coverage of the dividend was weak (dividends at ~176% of FCF), with total capital returns exceeding FCF and CFO.

- Balance sheet and solvency: Dataset indicates a net cash position and 6.0x interest coverage, supportive for ongoing obligations. However, the zero debt estimate alongside material interest expense signals a data caveat; leverage should be verified.
- Returns: ROE remains very strong (~42%) with a stable asset turnover and high equity multiplier. Sustaining this profile will require stabilizing operating cash flow and arresting operating margin compression.

## 5) Risks & Next Steps

- Key risks from the data:
- Cash flow pressure: CFO down 41% YoY; dividends and total capital return exceeded FCF and CFO in 2024.
- Margin compression: Operating margin declined ~350 bps despite higher gross margin.
- Liquidity tightness: Current ratio ~1.03; reliance on non-operating cash sources (CFI positive) is notable.
- Data integrity on leverage: "TotalDebt\_Est" at 0.0 conflicts with recorded interest expense; true leverage and maturities need confirmation.
- Next steps to enable a rating:
- Obtain current market price and consensus to compute P/E, FCF yield, and dividend yield; estimate upside.
- Reconcile debt and cash balances with primary filings; build a detailed capital structure schedule.
- Analyze drivers of CFO decline and positive CFI in 2024; assess sustainability of dividend and buybacks under normalized CFO.
- Refresh operating model scenarios (2025–2027) around revenue growth, opex, and capex to test margin recovery back to 2023 levels vs 2024 run-rate.
- Complete DCF and relative valuation; set thresholds for a prospective Buy contingent on cash flow stabilization and dividend coverage improvement.