

Consumer Internet	
AAPL - NSQ	April 17, 2024
Closing Price 4/16/24	\$169.38
Rating:	Hold
12-Month Target Price:	\$178.00
52-Week Range:	\$162.80 -
J2-Week Range.	\$199.62
Market Cap (M):	\$2,615,545.8
Shares O/S (M):	15,441.9
Float:	99.9%
Avg. Daily Volume (000):	62,146.0
Debt (M):	\$108,292.0
Dividend:	\$0.96
Dividend Yield:	0.6%
Risk Profile:	Low
Fiscal Year End:	September

Tota	al Net Sales (\$	M)	
	2023A	2024E	2025E
1Q	117,154	119,575A	123,737
2Q	94,836	89,836	93,356
3Q	81,797	85,079	88,480
4Q	89,498	92,984	96,615

387,474

402,188

Adjusted EBITDA (\$M)

383,285

-			
	2023A	2024E	2025E
1Q	41,837	46,218A	48,260
2Q	33,902	32,423	34,094
3Q	28,667	30,358	31,983
4Q	32,247	34,085	35,864
FY	136,653	143,085	150,200

GAAP EPS

	2023A	2024E	2025E
1Q	1.88	2.18A	2.33
2Q	1.52	1.41	1.53
3Q	1.26	1.32	1.40
4Q	1.46	1.57	1.65
FY	6.13	6.47	6.89



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Apple Inc.

Hold

Dead Money? Initiating Coverage with a Hold Rating and \$178 Price Target

Summary

- We are initiating coverage of Apple (AAPL) with a Hold rating and \$178 12-month price target based on applying the average forward P/E multiple of 25.9 from a comparable list of big-tech companies to our FY25 EPS estimate of \$6.89.
- Our Hold rating is based on our belief the current valuation share price reflects an appropriate amount of credit for its ability to exploit the following trends discussed in our industry report published coinciding with this initiation — Consumer Internet: 24 Trends for 2024 (LINK) including: a) Augmented Reality (AR)/Virtual Reality (VR), b) Mobile, c) Over-the-Top (OTT) Video, and d) Payments.
- Furthermore, at over 25x forward EPS vs. an estimated FY23-FY26 sales CAGR of 1.6% seems expensive.

Details

Overview. Challenges that limit upside, in our view are: 1) Apple is too dependent on China, from a sales (18.9% in FY23) and supply-chain standpoint; 2) it is overweight a single product, the iPhone, when it comes to its near-term operating results (52.3% in FY23); 3) we are monitoring a list of items that could also contribute to a prolonged dead-money period for the stock, including antitrust/regulation, a demand imbalance for consumer electronics, and competition.

Financial Forecasts: Sales and Margins

- We project sales to increase at a CAGR of 0.4% from FY23 (Sep)-FY26, compared to 10.7% in the prior three-year period. We estimate a CAGR of 1.6% from FY23-FY33.
- We forecast gross margin expansion of 249bps to 46.6% from FY23-FY26, and 381bps to 47.9% from FY23-FY33.
- We project adjusted EBITDA margin expansion of 197bps to 37.6% from FY23-FY26, and 292bps to 38.6% from FY23-FY33.

Estimates vs. Consensus and Guidance

- **2QFY24** Guidance includes net sales of \$89.8B, down 5.3%, and gross margin of 46%-47%. Given the challenging environment for consumer electronics and weak China economy, our sales forecast is in-line with guidance while below consensus (\$90.5B). Our GAAP EPS projection of \$1.41 is below consensus of \$1.51.
- **FY24** (guidance not provided) Our full-year net sales projection of \$387.5B up 1.1% y/y is slightly higher than consensus of \$387.2B. Our GAAP EPS projection of \$6.47 is below consensus of \$6.55.

Relative Valuation

Based on our FY25 estimates, shares currently trade at a discount on EV/EBITDA (17.9x vs. 24.6x), P/E (25.6x vs. 25.9x), and EV/sales (6.7x vs. 8.7x), and a premium based on FCF yield (4.4% vs. 5.5%) vs. the big-tech peer average.

Catalysts

- 1. The development of Vision Pro, potentially the most significant new hardware product of Mr. Cook's 13-year tenure as CEO, launched in January.
- 2. Expansion of artificial intelligence (including generative AI).
- A rebound in demand for consumer electronics items (such as laptops and tablets) following a pull-forward from COVID-19.

Challenges

- 1. China dependence, 18.9% of sales in FY23.
- 2. iPhone overweight, 52.3% of FY23 sales.
- 3. Total sales down 4 of past 5 quarters and projected down in F2Q24, and product sales down MSD 4 of past 5 quarters and projected down DDs in F2Q24.



COMPANY PROFILE

Apple Inc. One Apple Park Way Cupertino, CA 95014 www.apple.com

Investment Risks:

Antitrust/RegulatoryChina Dependence

iPhones Overweight

Ownership:

Institutional Ownership: 56.7% Insider Ownership: 5.9% Short Interest: 0.7% Days to cover: 1.6

Balance Sheet Summary: (as of December, 30, 2023)

Cash: \$172,575M Debt: \$95,088M

Shareholders' equity: \$74,100M Total assets: \$353,514 M

Analysts Covering the Co.: 41

of Buys: 26 # of Holds: 13 # of Sells: 2

(Excluding Maxim Group)

Source: LSEG and Maxim Group LLC

Investor Relations: suhasini@apple.com



Figure 1: Apple Vision Pro

Source: Apple and Maxim Group LLC

Company Description

Apple is a global conglomerate spanning a growing list of industries, including consumer electronics, retail, and technology. On a by-category basis, it generates sales from: 1) iPads, 2) iPhones, 3) Macs, 4) Services, and 5) Wearables, Home & Accessories. It went public in 1980. As of September 2023, its headcount was 161K. Its headquarters is in Cupertino, California.

Figure 2. Apple Chairman, CEO, and CFO

Name	Title	Started in Role	Joined Company
Arthur Levinson	Chair	2011	2000
Tim Cook	CEO and Director	2011	1998
Luca Maestri	SVP, CFO	2014	2013

Source: Company reports, LinkedIn, and Maxim Group LLC

We hold Mr. Cook in the highest regard. We consider him to be the poster child for what success looks like when a company transitions the CEO role from its founder. Historically, we believe he has done a great job managing relations with the Chinese and U.S. governments. So much so that we consider him to be both CEO and diplomat. Today, this is increasingly important given the elevated tension between the two nations. With the Department of Justice (DOJ) antitrust lawsuit and regulatory challenges in the EU, we think his skills will be put to the test.

Additional management and board details can be found on the Apple website and in SEC filings.



OVERVIEW: THE DEATH OF AAPL?

Since we began covering internet companies in 1996, we have published multiple white papers on factors that could slow shares of Amazon (AMZN - Buy). For Apple (AAPL - Hold), we are applying the same methodology. We are monitoring the following factors that could result in the death of AAPL (a prolonged period of weakness in shares):

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) We are skeptical about Apple's ability to drive near-term sales and profits for companies beyond NVIDIA and hyperscale cloud computing companies. We believe Apple was caught flat footed when it came to identifying the trend in artificial intelligence early and exploiting it. Apple lacks a narrative for its ability to, at least, market advanced functionality in its devices, which, historically, has been one of its core competencies. At the maximum, Apple may not be able to address this shortfall via mergers and acquisitions, due to increased government scrutiny on deals.
- Antitrust/Regulation Governments across the globe understand that Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google have too much influence on consumers' lives. Increasingly, they are taking action, including, notably, suing all four companies for antitrust in the U.S. and enacting legislation in Europe. To date, this has had minimal impact on the stocks; for example, AMZN and GOOGL have outperformed the NASDAQ since both companies were sued. For Apple, we see the best-case scenario as a multi-year period of distraction (perhaps even lasting more than a decade). So long as Tim Cook (CEO and Director) remains at the helm, we are confident in his ability to manage the company through the distraction. At worst, we see the company being compelled to lower its take rate, which could be a double whammy for shares by reducing sales and profits from its services business, which we believe had been the primary contributor of its multiple expansion.
- China dependence Apple is over reliant on China from a sales (18.9% in FY23) and supply-chain standpoint. The good news is that the Chinese economy is the world's largest and improving macroeconomic trends could resurrect AAPL. The bad news is that the Chinese and U.S. governments are "frenemies." At a time when partisan politics is peaking, the Democratic and Republican parties are aligned on two matters: 1) the aforementioned excess influence of Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google, and 2) that measures need to be taken to hold China in check (as best exemplified by tariffs and, potentially, forcing the sale of TikTok or banning it from U.S. app stores).
- Competition Huawei and other companies with headquarters in China are proving to be a formidable threat to Apple in one of Apple's most important strategic markets. Domestically, Meta Platforms has, at least, a first-mover advantage when it comes to augmented reality (AR)/virtual reality (VR) hardware, which it sells at more attainable price points.
- **Demand imbalance** The early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a pull forward in demand for consumer electronics. While these trends may have peaked, consumers pivoted their discretionary spending to travel and live events, which has had a prolonged dampening effect on Apple's sales; especially for desktops/laptops (Macs were 7.7% of FY23 sales) and tablets (iPads were 7.4%). It is not clear to us when demand trends will normalize, which limits investors' visibility and may weigh on AAPL's P/E multiple (25.6x versus 25.9x for its big-tech peers).
- **iPhones overweight** While we are impressed by the staying power of the smartphone as the primary means with which consumers engage with the internet, Apple generates too much of its sales from this one product (52.3% in FY23), and, like everything else in technology, it too has a finite life cycle. Apple started selling iPhones in 2007 (17 years ago). According to *CNBC*, the global smartphone market experienced an extended decline, which lasted 27 months prior to a rebound in October 2023.
- **iRobot?** According to published reports, Apple may be considering making a robot, as part of its future product lineup. At the end of this section, we discuss the company's decision not to pursue the electronic vehicle (EV) market. We would be more bullish on Amazon developing a robot if it intended to mirror Tesla's strategy, with the robots intended to be used for industrial uses too, such as to manufacture Apple's products. Otherwise, we are surprised it would consider making a robot but not an EV.
- The Oracle Some of our conviction in our cautious near-term view of AAPL's shares comes from the fact that, even the oracle Warren Buffett, has sold some of his shares. *Yahoo! Finance* reported that Berkshire Hathaway sold \$2B of Apple's stock in 4Q23. Prior, it had sold shares in 2018, 2019, and 2020. According to Refinitiv, Berkshire Hathaway is the second largest holder, behind Vanguard, with 5.9% of shares outstanding.
- Succession Mr. Cook is the poster child for what success looks like when a company transitions the CEO role from its founder. As of the company's last proxy filing (January 2024) he was 63 years old. While we normally would not focus on his successor much, at this point, given the potential for a long antitrust case, we believe it is important for investors to at least start thinking about his future replacement. An inability to find an above-average successor was, recently, best illustrated by Disney, with the return of Bob Iger. We look forward to learning about Apple's succession plans when the time is right, but are concerned Mr. Cook's successor might not be able to run the company nearly as well.
- Vision Pro We do not expect Apple to achieve mass adoption of its Vision Pro AR/VR headset, launched in January. We believe this for several reasons, including its high price point (\$3,499), relatively limited amount of content for the platform, short battery life, and the fact that many consumers get motion sickness when using AR/VR headsets.
- What if...? Taking inspiration from the Marvel show on Disney+ where we watch alternative timelines, what if Apple never entered the smartphone market and ceded it to Blackberry? It would certainly not be the company it is today and its stock's performance would have been much worse. We see its decision to cede the electronic vehicles (EV) market to Tesla as akin to that scenario. As Tesla owners, based on our own anecdotal observations, we see the car as the ultimate combination of hardware, software, and services. We believe Apple could make a car that was, at least, as striking as any vehicle in Tesla's lineup and potentially even improve upon Tesla's build quality. At a minimum, Apple's efforts could help drive EV adoption. Conversely, an optimal outcome could be that Apple would be able to address pain points more effectively than Tesla, such as charging times, financing, and supply chain.



INDUSTRY FORECASTS



Figure 3. Industry Forecast: PC's

Source: Apple and Maxim Group LLC

Figure 4. Industry Forecast: PC's 2020-2033E

(\$B)						CAGR	
					2020	2023E	2023E
	2020	2023E	2026E	2033E	2023E	2026E	2033E
PC's	269	239	264	326	(4.0%)	3.5%	3.2%

Source: Company reports, IDC, and Maxim Group LLC

As previously noted, demand for consumer electronics (including for PCs, smartphones, and tablets) softened after a pull forward in demand during the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is unclear to us when demand trends will normalize. We project global PC sales to increase at a 3.5% CAGR from 2023 to 2026 (our near-term forecast) and at a 3.2% CAGR from 2023 to 2033 (our long-term forecast). This compares against a negative (4.0%) CAGR from 2020 to 2023.



Our projections are based on data through 2023 from IDC and our own estimates thereafter.

Figure 5. Industry Forecast: Smartphones

Source: Apple and Maxim Group LLC

Figure 6. Industry Forecast: Smartphones 2020–2033E

(\$B)						CAGR	
					2020	2023E	2023E
	2020	2023E	2026E	2033E	2023E	2026E	2033E
Smartphones	487	493	582	852	0.5%	5.7%	5.6%



We project global smartphone sales to increase at a 5.7% CAGR from 2023 to 2026 (our near-term forecast) and at a 5.6% CAGR from 2023 to 2033 (our long-term forecast). This compares against a 0.5% CAGR for the three-year period from 2020 to 2023. Our projections are based on data through 2027 from IDC and our own estimates thereafter.



Figure 7: Industry Forecasts: Tablets

Source: Apple and Maxim Group LLC

Figure 8. Industry Forecast: Tablets 2020-2033E

(\$B)						CAGR	
					2020	2023E	2023E
	2020	2023E	2026E	2033E	2023E	2026E	2033E
Tablets	59	51	60	85	(5.1%)	5.9%	5.3%

Source: Company reports, IDC, and Maxim Group LLC

We project global tablets sales to increase at a 5.9% CAGR from 2023 to 2026 (our near-term forecast) and at a 5.3% CAGR from 2023 to 2033 (our long-term forecast). This compares against a negative (5.1%) CAGR for the three-year period from 2020 to 2023. Our projections are based on data through 2023 from IDC and our own estimates thereafter.

COMPANY FORECASTS

Figure 9. Sales FY20-FY33E

							CAGR	
					Γ	FY20-	FY23E-	FY23E-
(\$M)	FY20	FY23E	FY26E	FY33E		FY23E	FY26E	FY33E
iPhone	137,781	200,583	214,317	263,583		13.3%	2.2%	2.8%
Mac	28,622	29,357	24,441	20,155	Г	0.8%	(5.9%)	(3.7%)
iPad	23,724	28,300	22,945	18,539	Г	6.1%	(6.8%)	(4.1%)
Wearables, etc.	30,620	39,845	41,583	51,142	Г	9.2%	1.4%	2.5%
Services	53,768	85,200	112,757	158,660	П	16.6%	9.8%	6.4%
					Г			
Total Sales	190,127	258,240	261,703	302,277		10.7%	0.4%	1.6%

Source: Company reports and Maxim Group LLC

We project sales to increase at a 0.4% CAGR from FY23 to FY26 (our near-term forecast) and at a 1.6% CAGR from FY23 to FY33 (our long-term forecast). This compares against a 10.7% CAGR for the three-year period from FY20 to FY23.

We forecast iPhone revenues to increase at a 2.2% CAGR near term, versus 13.3% for the prior three-year period, and 2.8% long term.

We project Mac sales to decrease at an 5.9% CAGR near term, versus a 0.8% increase, and negative 3.7% long term.



We forecast iPad sales to decrease at a 6.8% CAGR near term, versus a 6.1% increase, and negative 4.1% long term.

We project Wearables, Home & Accessories sales to increase at a 1.4% CAGR near term, versus 9.2%, and 2.5% long term.

We project Services sales to increase at a 9.8% CAGR near term, versus 16.6%, and 6.4% long term.

Figure 10. Margins FY20-FY33E

						Change in BP's					
					FY20-	FY23E-					
(\$M)	FY20	FY23E	FY26E	FY33E	FY23E	FY26E	FY33E				
Gross	38.2%	44.1%	46.6%	47.9%	590	249	381				
Adj. EBITDA	30.7%	35.7%	37.6%	38.6%	499	197	292				

Source: Company reports and Maxim Group LLC

We forecast Apple's gross margin to expand by 249 basis points to 46.6% between FY23 and FY26 (our near-term forecast) and by 381 basis points to 47.9% from FY23 to FY33 (our long-term forecast). The improvement is mainly a reflection of its higher-margin services sales growing faster than hardware sales.

We project its adj. EBITDA margin to expand by 197 basis points to 37.6% between FY23 and FY26 (our near-term forecast) and by 292 basis points to 38.6% from FY23 to FY33 (our long-term forecast).

RISKS

Three risks to our Hold rating on AAPL are:

- Antitrust/Regulatory We believe governments across the globe understand that a small number of mega-cap technology companies (including Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google) have outsized influence on the lives of consumers. To the extent governments implement existing laws or pass new legislation to address the situation, there could be a meaningfully negative impact on Apple's operating results. Further, the Department of Justice (DOJ) and 16 state attorneys general sued Apple for antitrust in March 2024, which we believe, among other things, could result in the company having to lower its take rate for its App Store.
- China dependence Apple is overly reliant on China from a sales (18.9% in FY23) and supply-chain standpoint. The good news is that China is the world's largest economy and improving macroeconomic trends could resurrect AAPL. The bad news is that the Chinese and U.S. governments are "frenemies." At a time when partisan politics is peaking, the Democratic and Republican parties are aligned on two matters: 1) the aforementioned outsized influence of Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google, and 2) that measures need to be taken to hold China in check (as best exemplified by tariffs and, potentially, forcing the sale of TikTok or banning it from U.S. app stores).
- **iPhones overweight** While impressed by the staying power of the smartphone as the primary means with which consumers engage with the internet, Apple is heavily dependent on sales from this one product (52.3% in FY23) and, like everything else in technology, it too has a finite life cycle. Apple started selling iPhones in 2007 (17 years ago). According to *CNBC*, the global smartphone market experienced an extended decline, which lasted 27 months, prior to a rebound in October 2023.



CAPITAL ACTIVITY

Figure 11. Apple Capital Activity FY19-FY23E

(\$M)	Stock	Stock		Debt	Debt
Period	Issuance	Repurchases	Dividends	Issuance	Redemption
FY23	0	(77,550)	(15,025)	5,228	(15,529)
FY22	0	(89,402)	(14,841)	9,420	(9,543)
FY21	1,105	(85,971)	(14,467)	21,415	(8,750)
FY20	880	(72,358)	(14,081)	16,091	(13,592)
FY19	781	(66,897)	(14,119)	6,963	(14,782)
Total	2,766	(392,178)	(72,533)	59,117	(62,196)

Source: Company reports and Maxim Group LLC

One of the most impressive things about Apple's business model is its ability to generate significant free cash flow. It has used the free cash flow to repurchase nearly \$400B of its stock over the last five-year period and pay more than \$70B in dividends. The consistent amount of repurchases is also impressive, having exceeded \$66B in each of the past five fiscal years. During that timeframe, it also issued a little more debt than it redeemed (\$62B versus \$59B).



VALUATION AND COMPS

Valuation

As shown in the Comps section, the average forward P/E multiple for comparable big-tech companies is 25.9x. When applying that multiple to our FY25 EPS projection for AAPL of \$6.89, we derive our 12-month price target of \$178.

Comps

Figure 12. Comps (Priced as of April 15, 2024)

(\$B)				T					Adj							FCF/	
						Sales		Adj.	EBITDA				EPS		FCF/	Share	
			Market	Ent	Sales	Growth	EV/	EBITDA	Growth	EV/	ROE	EPS	Growth		Share	Growth	FCF
Company	Ticker	Price	Cap	Value	FY2	FY2	Sales	FY2	FY2	EBITDA	FY2	FY2	FY2	P/E	FY2	FY2	Yield
Alibaba	BABA	71.29	173	939	140	7.9%	6.7	27	1.2%	34.7	11.3%	8.43	(2.4%)	8.5	10.64	3.4%	14.9%
Alphabet	GOOGL	157.73	1,969	1,873	378	10.5%	5.0	156	12.9%	12.0	26.4%	7.85	15.1%	20.1	7.73	17.4%	4.9%
Amazon	AMZN	186.13	1,975	1,960	662	6.0%	3.0	131	7.8%	15.0	15.2%	4.13	15.4%	45.1	6.75	6.5%	3.6%
Dell	Dell	117.81	84	103	99	6.2%	1.0	12	12.5%	8.5	NA	8.53	13.0%	13.8	13.18	14.0%	11.2%
Meta Platforms	META	511.90	1,305	1,259	178	12.7%	7.1	106	15.5%	11.9	27.4%	23.19	15.7%	22.1	19.91	19.2%	3.9%
Microsoft	MSFT	421.90	3,135	3,148	279	14.3%	11.3	148	15.3%	21.3	32.1%	13.36	14.7%	31.6	10.85	20.3%	2.6%
Netflix	NFLX	622.83	270	277	43	12.0%	6.4	12	20.8%	22.7	34.5%	21.28	23.6%	29.3	19.13	27.8%	3.1%
NVIDIA	NVDA	881.86	2,205	2,188	138	24.6%	15.9	86	19.8%	25.3	60.8%	30.64	25.1%	28.8	26.67	18.5%	3.0%
Tencent	700.HK	42.06	2,924	2,712	102	10.0%	26.7	40	11.9%	68.2	18.8%	3.04	14.9%	13.8	2.44	18.2%	5.8%
Tesla	TSLA	171.05	545	522	121	17.1%	4.3	20	23.4%	26.7	12.4%	3.71	36.7%	46.1	2.85	(23.9%)	1.7%
Average						12.1%	8.7		14.1%	24.6	26.5%		17.2%	25.9		12.1%	5.5%
Median						11.2%	6.5		14.1%	22.0	26.4%		15.3%	25.4		17.8%	3.8%
Apple	AAPL	176.55	2,750	2,686	402	3.8%	6.7	150	5.0%	17.9	57.4%	6.89	6.4%	25.6	7.75	6.7%	4.4%



TIMELINE

In the following section, we highlight a number of important developments for Apple (AAPL):

1976 — Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak founded the company

1980 — The company went public

1984 — Launched Macintosh personal computer (PC)

2007 — Launched iPhone

2008 — Opened the App Store

2010 — Launched iPad

2011 — Current CEO and Director, Tim Cook succeeded Mr. Jobs as CEO

2024 — Launched Vision Pro

2024 — The Department of Justice (DOJ) sued Apple for antitrust



PERFORMANCE AGAINST GUIDANCE

Figure 13. Performance Against Guidance: 2Q24E

Period (\$M) 2Q2 Sales 89,8 Low 89,8 High 89,8 Our Estimate 89,8 Consensus 90,7 Actual NA FX Impact (BPs) -200 Gross Margin Low 46.0 High 47.0 Our Estimate 46.0	336 336 336
Low 89,8 High 89,8 Our Estimate 89,8 Consensus 90,7 Actual NA FX Impact (BPs) -200 Gross Margin Low 46.0 High 47.0	336 336
High 89,8 Our Estimate 89,8 Consensus 90,7 Actual NA FX Impact (BPs) -200 Gross Margin Low 46.0 High 47.0	336 336
Our Estimate 89,8 Consensus 90,7 Actual NA FX Impact (BPs) -200 Gross Margin Low 46.0 High 47.0	336
Consensus 90,7 Actual NA FX Impact (BPs) -200 Gross Margin Low 46.0 High 47.0	
Actual NA FX Impact (BPs) -200 Gross Margin Low 46.0 High 47.0	790
FX Impact (BPs) -200 Gross Margin Low 46.0 High 47.0	
Gross Margin Low 46.0 High 47.0	
Gross Margin Low 46.0 High 47.0	
Low 46.0 High 47.0)
High 47.0	
)%
Our Estimate 46.0)%
)%
Actual NA	
Operating Expenses	
Low 14,3	300
High 14,5	500
Our Estimate 14,5	500
Actual NA	
Other Inc (Exp)	
Low 50	
High 50	
Our Estimate 50	
Actual NA	
Tax Rate	
Low 16.0)%
High 16.0	
Our Estimate 16.0	
Actual NA)%



Balance Sheet (\$M)																				
Period	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23	FY23	1Q24	2Q24E	3Q24E	4Q24E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E	FY29E	FY30E	FY31E	FY32E	FY33E	FY34E
Cash	20,535	24,687	28,408	29,965	29,965	40,760	63,947	90,976	106,857	106,857	215,519	329,130	446,646	568,299	694,341	824,989	960,464	1,101,000	1,246,842	1,398,241
Marketable Securities	30,820	31,185	34,074	31,590	31,590	32,340	32,340	32,340	32,340	32,340	32,340	32,340	32,340	32,340	32,340	32,340	32,340	32,340	32,340	32,340
Accounts Receivable	23,752	17,936	19,549	29,508	29,508	23,194	16,990	20,333	30,657	30,657	31,855	32,974	33,961	34,952	35,989	37,075	38,211	39,400	40,643	41,943
Vendor Receivables	30,428	17,963	19,637	31,477	31,477	26,908	17,016	20,425	32,703	32,703	33,980	35,174	36,228	37,284	38,390	39,549	40,761	42,029	43,355	44,742
Inventory	6,820	7,482	7,351	6,331	6,331	6,511	7,088	7,646	6,578	6,578	6,834	7,075	7,286	7,499	7,721	7,954	8,198	8,453	8,720	8,999
Prepaid Exp. & Other	16,422	13,660	13,640	14,695	14,695	13,979	12,940	14,187	15,267	15,267	15,864	16,421	16,913	17,406	17,922	18,463	19,029	19,621	20,240	20,888
Current Assets	128,777	112,913	122,659	143,566	143,566	143,692	150,320	185,908	224,403	224,403	336,391	453,113	573,374	697,779	826,704	960,370	1,099,004	1,242,844	1,392,141	1,547,152
Marketable Securities	114,095	110,461	104,061	100,544	100,544	99,475	99,475	99,475	99,475	99,475	99,475	99,475	99,475	99,475	99,475	99,475	99,475	99,475	99,475	99,475
PPE	42,951	43,398	43,550	43,715	43,715	43,666	43,743	42,816	42,364	42,364	40,784	39,390	38,189	37,190	36,402	35,832	35,490	35,385	35,526	35,925
Other	60,924	65,388	64,768	64,758	64,758	66,681	61,940	67,367	67,280	67,280	69,908	72,364	74,531	76,705	78,981	81,364	83,858	86,467	89,195	92,048
Total Assets	346,747	332,160	335,038	352,583	352,583	353,514	355,478	395,566	433,522	433,522	546,559	664,342	785,570	911,149	1,041,562	1,177,040	1,317,826	1,464,171	1,616,337	1,774,599
Debt	11,483	12,574	11,209	15,807	15,807	12,952	12,952	12,952	12,952	12,952	12,952	12,952	12,952	12,952	12,952	12,952	12,952	12,952	12,952	12,952
Accounts Payable	57,918	42,945	46,699	62,611	62,611	58,146	40,681	48,573	65,050	65,050	67,590	69,965	72,060	74,161	76,362	78,666	81,078	83,600	86,238	88,996
Deferred Revenue	7,992	8,131	8,158	8,061	8,061	8,264	7,702	8,485	8,375	8,375	8,702	9,008	9,278	9,548	9,831	10,128	10,439	10,763	11,103	11,458
Other	59,893	56,425	58,897	58,829	58,829	54,611	53,450	61,260	61,120	61,120	63,507	65,738	67,708	69,682	71,750	73,915	76,180	78,550	81,029	83,620
Current Liabilities	137,286	120,075	124,963	145,308	145,308	133,973	114,785	131,271	147,497	147,497	152,751	157,663	161,998	166,343	170,895	175,661	180,648	185,866	191,322	197,026
Debt	99,627	97,041	98,071	95,281	95,281	95,088	95,088	95,088	95,088	95,088	95,088	95,088	95,088	95,088	95,088	95,088	95,088	95,088	95,088	95,088
Other	53,107	52,886	51,730	49,848	49,848	50,353	50,098	53,806	51,790	51,790	53,812	55,703	57,371	59,044	60,796	62,631	64,550	66,559	68,659	70,854
Shareholder Equity	56,727	62,158	60,274	62,146	62,146	74,100	95,507	115,401	139,147	139,147	244,907	355,889	471,113	590,674	714,783	843,661	977,539	1,116,658	1,261,268	1,411,631
Total Liab. & SE	346,747	332,160	335,038	352,583	352,583	353,514	355,478	395,566	433,522	433,522	546,559	664,342	785,570	911,149	1,041,562	1,177,040	1,317,826	1,464,171	1,616,337	1,774,599
Net Cash	54,340	56,718	57,263	51,011	51,011	64,535	87,722	114,751	130,632	130,632	239,294	352,905	470,421	592,074	718,116	848,764	984,239	1,124,775	1,270,617	1,422,016
Net Cash (Per Share)	\$3.41	\$3.58	\$3.63	\$3.25	\$3.23	\$4.14	\$5.48	\$7.20	\$8.25	\$8.25	\$14.96	\$21.85	\$28.83	\$35.93	\$43.15	\$50.49	\$57.97	\$65.59	\$73.36	\$81.29



Income Statement (\$M)	T	T			T	T		Т		T		T	Т		T	T		T		
Period	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23	FY23	1Q24	2Q24E	3Q24E	4Q24E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E	FY29E	FY30E	FY31E	FY32E	FY33E	FY34E
Sales	117,154	94,836	81,797	89,498	383,285	119,575	89,836	85,079	92,984	387,474	402,188	416,043	428,425	440,858	453,867	467,471	481,692	496,554	512,079	528,293
(YOY Growth)	(5.5%)	(2.5%)	(1.4%)	(0.7%)	(2.8%)	2.1%	(5.3%)	4.0%	3.9%	1.1%	3.8%	3.4%	3.0%	2.9%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%	3.2%
(QOQ Growth)	30.0%	(19.1%)	(13.7%)	9.4%		33.6%	(24.9%)	(5.3%)	9.3%	316.7%	316.3%	316.0%	315.9%	315.9%	315.8%	315.7%	315.6%	315.5%	315.4%	315.3%
(% of Annual Sales)	30.6%	24.7%	21.3%	23.4%		30.9%	23.2%	22.0%	24.0%											
Sales - Consensus							90,040	83,256	93,149	386,460	411,502									
Total COGS Non-GAAP	66,822	52,860	45,384	49,071	214,137	64,720	48,526	46,572	50,323	210,141	216,105	222,098	227,929	233,695	239,721	246,013	252,581	259,434	266,579	274,027
Total COGS SBC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total COGS GAAP	66,822	52,860	45,384	49,071	214,137	64,720	48,526	46,572	50,323	210,141	216,105	222,098	227,929	233,695	239,721	246,013	252,581	259,434	266,579	274,027
Total GP Non-GAAP	50.332	41.976	36,413	40,427	169,148	54,855	41,310	38,507	42,661	177,333	186,083	193,944	200,496	207,163	214,146	221,458	229,111	237,120	245,500	254,266
Total GP Non-GAAP Mgn	43.0%	44 3%	44 5%	45 2%	44.1%	45.9%	46.0%	45 3%	45 9%	45.8%	46.3%	46.6%	46.8%	47 0%	47.2%	47.4%	47.6%	47.8%	47 9%	48.1%
Change (BPs)	(80)	51	126	291	82	291	172	74	71	164	50	35	18	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Total GP GAAP	50,332	41 976	36.413	40 427	169 148	54.855	41,310	38 507	42.661	177 333	186 083	193 944	200 496	207,163	214 146	221 458	229 111	237 120	245,500	254,266
R&D Non-GAAP	1.000	11,77.0	7.442	7,307	100,1110	- 1,000			7,592		100,000		200,170				38,335			
	7,709	7,457		. ,	29,915	7,696	7,783	7,741	.,	30,811	31,989	33,097	34,085	35,077	36,114	37,200	,	39,521	40,760	42,054
R&D NG (% of Sales)	6.6%	7.9%	9.1%	8.2%	7.8%	6.4%	8.7%	9.1%	8.2%	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%
Change (BPs)	149	130	90	66	115	(14)	80	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
R&D SBC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
R&D GAAP	7,709	7,457	7,442	7,307	29,915	7,696	7,783	7,741	7,592	30,811	31,989	33,097	34,085	35,077	36,114	37,200	38,335	39,521	40,760	42,054
SG&A Non-GAAP	3,702	3,515	3,356	3,526	14,099	3,789	4,031	3,491	3,663	14,974	15,547	16,085	16,565	17,047	17,551	18,078	18,630	19,206	19,808	20,437
SG&A NG (% of Sales)	3.2%	3.7%	4.1%	3.9%	3.7%	3.2%	4.5%	4.1%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%
Change (BPs)	(22)	(34)	(44)	(68)	(39)	1	78	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SG&A SBC	2,905	2,686	2,617	2,625	10,833	2,997	2,686	2,617	2,625	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925
SG&A GAAP	6,607	6,201	5,973	6,151	24,932	6,786	6,717	6,108	6,288	25,899	26,472	27,010	27,490	27,972	28,476	29,003	29,555	30,131	30,733	31,362
Total SBC	2,905	2,686	2,617	2,625	10,833	2,997	2,686	2,617	2,625	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925
Op Ex Non-GAAP	11,411	10,972	10,798	10,833	44,014	11,485	11,814	11,231	11,255	45,785	47,536	49,182	50,650	52,123	53,665	55,278	56,964	58,727	60,568	62,491
Op Ex GAAP	14,316	13,658	13,415	13,458	54,847	14,482	14,500	13,848	13,880	56,710	58,461	60,107	61,575	63,048	64,590	66,203	67,889	69,652	71,493	73,416
Op Inc Non-GAAP	38,921	31,004	25,615	29,594	125,134	43,370	29,496	27,276	31,406	131,548	138,547	144,762	149,846	155,040	160,481	166,180	172,147	178,394	184,932	191,775
Op Inc Non-GAAP Mgn	33.2%	32.7%	31.3%	33.1%	32.6%	36.3%	32.8%	32.1%	33.8%	34.0%	34.4%	34.8%	35.0%	35.2%	35.4%	35.5%	35.7%	35.9%	36.1%	36.3%
Change (BPs)	(208)	(44)	80	292	7	305	14	74	71	130	50	35	18	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Op Inc GAAP	36,016	28,318	22,998	26,969	114,301	40,373	26.810	24.659	28,781	120,623	127,622	133,837	138,921	144,115	149,556	155,255	161,222	167,469	174,007	180,850
D&A	2.916	2.898	3.052	2,653	11.519	2.848	2.927	3.083	2.680	11.537	11.652	11.769	11.887	12.005	12,126	12.247	12,369	12.493	12.618	12,744
Adj. EBITDA	41,837	33,902	28,667	32,247	136,653	46,218	32,423	30,358	34,085	143,085	150,200	156,531	161,733	167,045	172,606	178,426	184,516	190,887	197,550	204,519
Adj. EBITDA Margin	35.7%	35.7%	35.0%	36.0%	35.7%	38.7%	36.1%	35.7%	36.7%	36.9%	37.3%	37.6%	37.8%	37.9%	38.0%	38.2%	38.3%	38.4%	38.6%	38.7%
Change (BPs)	(177)	(20)	115	271	26	294	34	64	63	127	42	28	13	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Adj. EBITDA - Consensus	(177)	(20)	113	2/1	20	254	30,690	26,758	30,627	131,358	138,984	20	15	14	14	14	14	14	14	17
EBITDA	38 932	31,216	26.050	29 622	125 820	43.221	29,737	27 741	31,460	132,160	139 275	145,606	150 808	156,120	161,681	167,501	173 591	179 962	186 625	193,594
	0.000	64		29,622	120,020		50		29		107,270		10.0,000				-10,000	117,7702	100,020	
Other Inc (Exp) Pre Tax Non-GAAP	(393)	31,068	(265)	29,623	(565)	(50)	29,546	(265)	31,435	(236)	(236)	(236)	(236) 149,610	(236)	(236)	(236) 165,944	(236) 171,911	(236) 178,158	(236) 184,696	(236) 191,539
		28 382		26,623		43,320	29,546	27,011	28 810								171,911			191,539
Pre Tax GAAP	35,623	,	22,733		113,736	10,020		- 1,000	-0,010	120,387	127,386	133,601	138,685	143,879	149,320	155,019		167,233	173,771	
Taxes Non-GAAP	5,625	4,222	2,852	4,042	16,741	6,407	4,727	3,646	4,244	19,025	18,672	19,511	20,197	20,899	21,633	22,402	23,208	24,051	24,934	25,858
Effective Tax Rate NG	14.6%	13.6%	11.3%	13.6%	13.4%	14.8%	16.0%	13.5%	13.5%	14.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%
Taxes GAAP	5,625	4,222	2,852	4,042	16,741	6,407	4,298	3,293	3,889	17,887	17,197	18,036	18,723	19,424	20,158	20,928	21,733	22,576	23,459	24,383
Eff Tax Rate GAAP	15.8%	14.9%	12.5%	15.0%	14.7%	15.9%	16.0%	13.5%	13.5%	14.9%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%
NI - Non-GAAP	32,903	26,846	22,498	25,581	107,828	36,913	24,819	23,364	27,191	112,287	119,639	125,015	129,413	133,905	138,612	143,541	148,703	154,106	159,762	165,681
NI GAAP	29,998	24,160	19,881	22,956	96,995	33,916	22,563	21,100	24,920	102,500	110,189	115,565	119,963	124,455	129,162	134,091	139,253	144,656	150,312	156,231
Min Int & Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NI for Share - Non-GAAP	32,903	26,846	22,498	25,581	107,828	36,913	24,819	23,364	27,191	112,287	119,639	125,015	129,413	133,905	138,612	143,541	148,703	154,106	159,762	165,681
NI for Share - GAAP	29,998	24,160	19,881	22,956	96,995	33,916	22,563	21,100	24,920	102,500	110,189	115,565	119,963	124,455	129,162	134,091	139,253	144,656	150,312	156,231
EPS - Non-GAAP	\$2.06	\$1.69	\$1.43	\$1.63	\$6.82	\$2.37	\$1.55	\$1.47	\$1.72	\$7.09	\$7.48	\$7.74	\$7.93	\$8.13	\$8.33	\$8.54	\$8.76	\$8.99	\$9.22	\$9.47
EPS - GAAP	\$1.88	\$1.52	\$1.26	\$1.46	\$6.13	\$2.18	\$1.41	\$1.32	\$1.57	\$6.47	\$6.89	\$7.15	\$7.35	\$7.55	\$7.76	\$7.98	\$8.20	\$8.44	\$8.68	\$8.93
EPS - GAAP - Consensus						1	\$1.50	\$1.31	\$1.54	\$6.54	\$7.14					_		1	1	+
Shares Out GAAP	15,956	15,847	15,775	15,672	15,813	15,577	16,006	15,933	15,829	15,836	15,994	16,154	16,316	16,479	16,644	16,810	16,978	17,148	17,320	17,493
Shares Out Non-GAAP	15,956	15,847	15,775	15,672	15,813	15,577	16,006	15,933	15,829	15,836	15,994	16,154	16,316	16,479	16,644	16,810	16,978	17,148	17,320	17,493
	-0-0	-,	-,		7,000	-,	.,	.,	,	-,	.,,,,	.,,	.,	7,	.,	0,010	.,,,,,,,	.,	.,,	1,,,,,,



Cash Flow Stmt (\$M)																				Π
Period	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23	FY23	1Q24	2Q24E	3Q24E	4Q24E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E	FY29E	FY30E	FY31E	FY32E	FY33E	FY34E
NI GAAP	29,998	24,160	19,881	22,956	96,995	33,916	22,563	21,100	24,920	102,500	110,189	115,565	119,963	124,455	129,162	134,091	139,253	144,656	150,312	156,231
D&A	2,916	2,898	3,052	2,653	11,519	2,848	2,927	3,083	2,680	11,537	11,652	11,769	11,887	12,005	12,126	12,247	12,369	12,493	12,618	12,744
SBC	2,905	2,686	2,617	2,625	10,833	2,997	2,686	2,617	2,625	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925	10,925
Deferred Taxes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	(317)	(1,415)	81	(576)	(2,227)	(989)	0	0	0	(989)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accounts Rec	4,275	5,321	(1,987)	(9,297)	(1,688)	6,555	6,204	(3,343)	(10,324)	(908)	(1,197)	(1,119)	(988)	(990)	(1,037)	(1,086)	(1,136)	(1,189)	(1,243)	(1,300)
Inventories	(1,807)	(741)	(22)	952	(1,618)	(137)	(577)	(558)	1,068	(204)	(257)	(240)	(212)	(212)	(223)	(233)	(244)	(255)	(267)	(279)
Vendor Receivables	2,320	12,465	(1,674)	(11,840)	1,271	4,569	9,892	(3,409)	(12,278)	(1,226)	(1,277)	(1,194)	(1,054)	(1,056)	(1,106)	(1,158)	(1,212)	(1,268)	(1,326)	(1,386)
Prepaid Exp & Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,039	(1,248)	(1,080)	(1,288)	(596)	(557)	(492)	(493)	(517)	(541)	(566)	(592)	(619)	(647)
Other Assets	(4,099)	7	(771)	(821)	(5,684)	(1,457)	4,741	(5,427)	87	(2,056)	(2,627)	(2,456)	(2,168)	(2,173)	(2,276)	(2,383)	(2,494)	(2,609)	(2,728)	(2,852)
Accounts Payable	(6,075)	(14,689)	3,974	14,901	(1,889)	(4,542)	(17,465)	7,892	16,477	2,362	2,540	2,375	2,096	2,101	2,201	2,304	2,411	2,523	2,638	2,758
Deferred Revenue	131	(131)	0	0	0	0	(562)	783	(110)	111	327	306	270	271	283	297	310	325	340	355
Other Liab	3,758	(2,001)	1,229	45	3,031	(3,865)	(1,416)	11,519	(2,156)	4,081	4,409	4,122	3,638	3,647	3,820	3,999	4,185	4,378	4,579	4,787
Operating CF	34,005	28,560	26,380	21,598	110,543	39,895	30,031	33,009	21,908	124,844	134,088	139,495	143,865	148,479	153,357	158,462	163,802	169,387	175,228	181,335
Cap Ex	(3,787)	(2,916)	(2,093)	(2,163)	(10,959)	(2,392)	(3,003)	(2,156)	(2,228)	(9,779)	(10,073)	(10,375)	(10,686)	(11,007)	(11,337)	(11,677)	(12,027)	(12,388)	(12,760)	(13,142)
Free Cash Flow	30,218	25,644	24,287	19,435	99,584	37,503	27,028	30,853	19,680	115,064	124,016	129,120	133,179	137,473	142,021	146,785	151,774	156,999	162,468	168,193
FCF/Share	\$1.89	\$1.62	\$1.54	\$1.24	\$6.30	\$2.41	\$1.69	\$1.94	\$1.24	\$7.27	\$7.75	\$7.99	\$8.16	\$8.34	\$8.53	\$8.73	\$8.94	\$9.16	\$9.38	\$9.61
Acquisitions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Equities	2,483	5,341	3,036	5,141	16,001	4,603	0	0	0	4,603	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	(141)	(106)	(506)	(584)	(1,337)	(284)	0	0	0	(284)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Investing CF	(1,445)	2,319	437	2,394	3,705	1,927	(3,003)	(2,156)	(2,228)	(5,460)	(10,073)	(10,375)	(10,686)	(11,007)	(11,337)	(11,677)	(12,027)	(12,388)	(12,760)	(13,142)
Stock Issuance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stock Repurchases	(19,475)	(19,594)	(17,478)	(21,003)	(77,550)	(20,139)	0	0	0	(20,139)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SBC Taxes	(2,316)	(418)	(2,385)	(312)	(5,431)	(2,591)	0	0	0	(2,591)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dividends	(3,768)	(3,650)	(3,849)	(3,758)	(15,025)	(3,825)	(3,841)	(3,824)	(3,799)	(15,289)	(15,355)	(15,508)	(15,663)	(15,820)	(15,978)	(16,138)	(16,299)	(16,462)	(16,627)	(16,793)
Debt	(9,615)	(1,996)	(283)	1,993	(9,901)	(3,984)	0	0	0	(3,984)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	(389)	(66)	(53)	(73)	(581)	(46)	0	0	0	(46)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Financing CF	(35,563)	(25,724)	(24,048)	(23,153)	(108,488)	(30,585)	(3,841)	(3,824)	(3,799)	(42,049)	(15,355)	(15,508)	(15,663)	(15,820)	(15,978)	(16,138)	(16,299)	(16,462)	(16,627)	(16,793)
Change in Cash	(3,003)	5,155	2,769	839	5,760	11,237	23,187	27,029	15,881	77,334	108,661	113,612	117,516	121,653	126,043	130,647	135,475	140,537	145,841	151,399
Cash - Beginning	24,977	21,974	27,129	29,898	24,977	30,737	40,760	63,947	90,976	30,737	106,857	215,519	329,130	446,646	568,299	694,341	824,989	960,464	1,101,000	1,246,842
Cash - End	21,974	27,129	29,898	30,737	30,737	40,760	63,947	90,976	106,857	106,857	215,519	329,130	446,646		694,341	824,989	960,464	1,101,000	1,246,842	1,398,241
FCF/Sales	25.8%	27.0%	29.7%	21.7%	26.0%	31.4%	30.1%	36.3%	21.2%	29.7%	30.8%	31.0%	31.1%	31.2%	31.3%	31.4%	31.5%	31.6%	31.7%	31.8%



DISCLOSURES



Maxim	Group LLC Ratings Distribution		As of: 04/16/24
		% of Coverage Universe with Rating	Provided Banking Services in
Buy	Fundamental metrics and/or identifiable catalysts exist such that we expect the stock to outperform its relevant index over the next 12 months.	83%	51%
Hold	Fundamental metrics are currently at, or approaching, industry averages. Therefore, we expect this stock to neither outperform nor underperform its relevant index over the next 12 months.	17%	55%
Sell	Fundamental metrics and/or identifiable catalysts exist such that we expect the stock to underperform its relevant index over the next 12 months.	0%	0%
	*See valuation section for company specific relevant indices		

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Maxim Group makes a market in Apple Inc.

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AAPL: We use the S&P 500 as the relevant index for Apple Inc.

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