

Taiwan Technology: Marketing feedback: TSMC capex upcycle in focus; focus shifts to value stocks with high value creation

We met with over 50 investors during our marketing trip in Hong Kong last week. Overall, we continue to observe investor optimism towards AI demand, but we feel that investor flows are starting to rotate back into large-cap value stocks with high value creation such as MediaTek, TSMC, etc, after a strong rally in small/mid cap stocks YTD. Furthermore, we view TSMC's US\$200bn capex upcycle into 2028 as a key anchor for the entire semiconductor ecosystem. Given TSMC's 30% of revenue growth CAGR into 2028, as per our estimates, we expect TSMC's supply chain — particularly Taiwan-based equipment players — to deliver an even stronger growth outlook, supported by rising dollar content, increasing technology complexity and market share gain. We therefore remain positive on these names and continue to advocate exposure to the theme.

Our top stock highlights include: **TSMC** (Buy on CL), **MediaTek** (Buy; AI ASIC TAM expansion), **Aspeed** (Buy; server demand strength), **GPTC/All Ring** (Buy; beneficiaries of advanced packaging upcycle), **Hon Precision** (Buy; testing beneficiary). Below, we summarize the key takeaways from our meetings.

TSMC capex upcycle as a core theme, with strong implications for supply chain

TSMC's capex trajectory remains a central topic among investors, with expectations for a continued upcycle driven by AI demand. We highlight that total capex could reach US\$200bn over 2026–28E, with significant implications for the broader semiconductor equipment and materials ecosystem. Specifically, we note that TSMC is speeding up its expansion for N3 due to stronger AI/HPC demand outlook from customers, and that this would also speed up the expansion for its advanced packaging capacity i.e. CoWoS, which would benefit its related supply chain especially for equipment vendors. In particular, All Ring and GPTC are viewed as key beneficiaries of the TSMC and OSAT capex upcycle.

Advanced packaging roadmap gaining traction, with SoIC underappreciated

Investors continue to focus on the long term evolution of advanced packaging technologies. While CoWoS remains the near term driver, we are seeing growing interest and importance of SoIC (system on integrated chips) demand, driven by next-generation AI applications including AI GPUs, optical engines (OE), and future high-performance computing architectures. However, we note that the SoIC theme remains underappreciated by investors, despite its increasing importance within Taiwan's supply chain, particularly for companies such as GPTC (3131.TWO) and

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Scientech (3583.TW). Over time, we expect SoIC to become a key enabler of continued performance scaling.

MediaTek: under-owned name with asymmetric upside from ASIC

MediaTek is one of the key stock ideas we are pushing this time round, with investors questions centered around CoWoS allocation for 2027, competitive positioning versus Broadcom. Overall, we feel that the stock remains an under-owned name among investors, particularly among long-only funds. While near-term concerns remain around smartphone weakness, we believe this is largely reflected in the price.

As we highlighted in our note: Looking beyond smartphone weakness, we expect a faster AI ASIC revenue ramp in 2027; reiterate Buy with TP up to NT\$2,454 (16 April 2026), we see stronger earnings upside potential coming from its AI ASIC business into 2027E, and we are modeling AI ASIC revenue of US\$2.0bn/US\$12.3bn in 2026E/27E, with revenue contribution reaching 10%/39%. In addition, we highlighted that the development of next-generation TPU projects would represent a key long-term driver for MediaTek. While current timelines suggest tape-out around end-2027 and commercialization in end-2028, the size and complexity of these chips could further drive significant ASP expansion, creating substantial earnings upside into 2028 and beyond.

Aspeed: strong conviction with strong earnings upside driven by agentic AI

Aspeed is also one of the key ideas we are currently recommending. We like its BMC market competition landscape with basically only two players in the market and Aspeed as the largest player with 70%+ of market share (per GSe). Investors are increasingly focused on the evolving balance between CPU and AI accelerators demand.

We also highlighted to have started to see a favorable setup for Aspeed and we expect it to enter an earnings beat-and-raise upcycle going forward with stronger momentum coming from server CPUs, AI ASICs customers, faster penetration of its new AST2700 and likelihood for another round of price hikes. We acknowledged that around 70% of Aspeed's customers are CSPs (cloud service provider), with potential another strong year of demand for CPU into 2027 driven by agentic AI workloads. While some concerns remain centered on its high valuation, however, we highlighted that Aspeed has been trading at an average of 40x in the past 10 years, we believe that as long as the competitive landscape and the BMC TAM growth outlook remains favourable to Aspeed, Aspeed would continue to trade at this high valuation.

See also: Aspeed (5274.TWO): Favorable setup in place - poised for an earnings upgrade cycle: reiterate Buy with TP up to NT\$20,000 (21 April 2026)

Mature foundry: limited upside amid structural constraints

There were also many discussions about mature foundry among investors, most of the investors were querying whether we reached an inflection point to turn long for Taiwanese mature foundry i.e. UMC and Vanguard. Our view is that we do not see the segment as compelling relative to AI-driven opportunities. While the Taiwanese second tier foundry may benefit from overflow demand from TSMC and incremental content gains in areas such as AI PMICs in the longer run, we see limited structural demand change in the near future, with a still high exposure to the weaker consumer demand. A potential price hike (likely only low to mid single digits) might only limit to the

incremental demand outside of LTA (long term agreement), and should be largely to reflect the cost hike from raw materials, etc, which we believe would only have limited upside support to their GM profile.

Investment Thesis, Price Target Risks and Methodology

Investment Thesis - TSMC (2330.TW/TSM)

TSMC is a leading global foundry company specializing in cutting-edge nodes. Its leading technology stance enables it to enjoy more than 60% of revenue share in the global foundry market. We like TSMC as we believe its solid technology leadership and execution better position it vs. peers to capture the industry's long-term structural growth opportunities, particularly in areas such as AI/5G/HPC/EV. In addition, valuation looks attractive in our view, with the shares trading at the mid-range of their 10-year trading history (P/E: 10-29x). Furthermore, we view TSMC as the key AI enabler among our Taiwan Semis coverage, thanks to its leadership stance in leading edge nodes and advanced packaging technology - CoWoS (chip on wafer on substrate). We believe TSMC will achieve its 25% revenue CAGR target for the next several years, driven primarily by increasing silicon content growth and AI/HPC demand, with LT GM to remain at 56%+. We are Buy rated.

Price Target Risks and Methodology - TSMC (2330.TW/TSM)

Valuation methodology: We have a 12m TP of NT\$2,750, which is derived by applying a target P/E multiple of 22x to our 2027E EPS. Our 22x target P/E is benchmarked against 1.0stdv above its 5-year trading average. For the ADR (TSM), we have a 12m TP of US\$550, based on a USD/TWD rate of 30.0 and an ADR premium of 20%.

Key downside risks to our views: (1) further deterioration in end-demand recovery impacting capacity utilization; (2) slower customer node migrations; (3) slowdown in AI investment resulting in lower long-term semiconductor content growth; (4) poor yields/execution resulting in worse-than-expected profitability; (5) stronger competition resulting in ASP/profitability erosion; and (6) unfavorable FX trend or higher-than-expected cost increase weighing on the margin outlook.

Investment Thesis - Mediatek

MediaTek is a leading global IC design house specializing in smartphone AP (application processor). We have a positive stance on MediaTek, viewing it as well-positioned to transition from a traditional smartphone application provider to an AI-focused vendor, beginning with AI smartphones and extending to enterprise ASICs and smart automotive solutions (in partnership with NVIDIA) in 2025 and beyond. We expect MediaTek to achieve solid multi-year growth, with revenue and earnings expected to increase by 44%/85% CAGR, respectively, in 2026-28E. This growth will be primarily driven by: 1) market share gains, particularly in the premium segment (specifically high-end 5G flagship SoCs), 2) strong ramp in AI ASIC business, and 3) new TAM in automotive/computing sectors.

Price Target Risks and Methodology - MediaTek (2454.TW)

Valuation: We have a 12m TP of NT\$2,454. Our TP is based on a target P/E multiple of 20x (1stdv above its 5-year trading average) applied to our FY27E EPS.

Key risks to our views: (1) Weaker-than-expected end demand especially with smartphones, (2) Higher foundry cost to impact its margin outlook, (3) Intensifying competition would result in change in profitability as competition would normally lead

to change in pricing dynamics, and (4) Slower ramp in ASIC would result in changes in operating leverage

Investment Thesis - Aspeed (5274.TWO)

Aspeed is a leading Taiwan-based IC (integrated circuit) design company specializing in BMC (baseboard management controller) SoC, which is used to remotely monitor the physical state of servers. The company is the largest BMC supplier, with c.70% of the global BMC market share, and 85% of its total revenue comes from the BMC segment.

We like Aspeed as we expect its revenue/earnings CAGRs to further accelerate to 66%/72% in 2025-2028E (vs. 5.9%/4.9% during 2019-2023), driven mostly by AI server demand, especially started from 2025. Furthermore, we also expect server architecture changes will bring more business opportunities to Aspeed to drive up its TAM expansion within the server market. With more TAM expansion and more dollar content growth within the AI theme, we continue to see upside potential for its revenue and earnings growth. We have a Buy rating on the name.

Price Target Risks and Methodology - Aspeed (5274.TWO)

Valuation: Our 12-month TP of NT\$20,000 is based on a target P/E of 40x (in line with its 10-year historical trading average) applied to our 2028E EPS, and discounted back to 2027E at 13.6% CoE. Our key assumptions for CoE include: (1) 1.5x beta (sourcing Bloomberg), (2) a 4.25% risk-free rate, and (3) a market risk premium at 6.25% (in line with GS house view).

Key downside risks to our view and TP: 1) A softer-than-expected server market demand recovery, 2) slower-than-expected BMC penetration within AI servers, 3) intensifying market competition.

Investment Thesis - All Ring (6187.TWO)

All Ring is one of the key suppliers of semiconductor equipment in Taiwan, primarily utilized in back-end advanced packaging processes. The company manufactures underfill dispenser, TIM heat sink attach equipment, and automated optical inspection equipment which are widely adopted within the CoWoS process. All Ring currently has nearly 100% of market share in WoS underfill dispenser and TIM heatsink attach equipment, and its main customers include leading foundries and OSATs in Taiwan.

We like All Ring as we expect its revenue/earnings CAGR to further accelerate to 54%/60% in 2025-28E, driven by 1) continued advanced packaging capacity expansion, and 2) rapid growth of its CPO business. With All Ring's unique position in CPO coupling equipment and new packaging opportunity such as PLP, we see upside potential in its revenue and earnings growth and have a Buy rating on the name.

Price Target Risks and Methodology - All Ring (6187.TWO)

Valuation: We are Buy rated on All Ring. Our 12m TP of NT\$1,800 is based on a target P/E multiple of 35x (derived from growth-adjusted historical valuation) applied to our FY27E EPS.

Key risks to our views: 1) slower advanced packaging expansion, 2) delay in adoption of new packaging technologies, and 3) intensifying competition.

Investment Thesis - GPTC (3131.TWO)

GPTC is one of the premier suppliers of semiconductor wet processing equipment, primarily utilized in back-end advanced packaging processes. The company manufactures semiconductor wet processing equipment, including metal etching equipment and single-wafer cleaning equipment, as well as providing engineering and installation services to semiconductor manufacturers. GPTC is the main CoWoS wet clean equipment provider and has 50% of market share at TSMC and near 100% of market share at ASE/SPIR. GPTC is also the sole provider for SoIC wet clean equipment at TSMC given its leading technology versus local peers.

We favor GPTC as we expect its revenue/earnings CAGR to further accelerate to 31%/49% in 2025-28E, driven by 1) continued advanced packaging capacity expansion, and 2) equipment ASP increase amid rising advanced packaging (e.g. SoIC, CPO, FOPLP) technology complexity. The company is now trading below its AI cycle (2023-2025) average forward P/E of 29x; however, with proliferation of advanced packaging into non-AI application and increasing ASP thanks to rising technology complexity, we continue to see upside potential to its revenue and earnings growth and maintain a Buy rating on the name.

Price Target Risks and Methodology - GPTC (3131.TWO)

Valuation: We are Buy rated on GPTC. Our 12m TP of NT\$4,500 is based on a target P/E multiple of 35x (based on avg. fwd P/E during the CoWoS ramp-up in mid-2024 to 2025) applied to our FY27E EPS.

Key risks to our views: 1) softer AI/HPC demand, 2) slower adoption of new advanced packaging technologies, and 3) intensifying competition.

Investment Thesis - Hon Precision (7769.TW)

Hon Precision is a leading Taiwan-based semiconductor testing equipment provider specializing in test handler and Active Thermal Control (ATC) system, which are widely adopted in Final Test (FT) and System-Level Test (SLT). Hon Precision enjoys >90% of market share in the FT handler market for AI/HPC applications, enabling it to fully capture growth in both AI GPU and AI ASICs.

We like Hon Precision as we expect its revenue/earnings to accelerate in coming years driven by 1) growth in AI GPU/ASIC volume, 2) larger chip package size, 3) longer testing time, 4) higher power and thermal requirements, 5) rising adoption of SLT among AI ASICs, and 6) shorter chip upgrade cadence. Hon Precision shares are trading at a much lower valuation than its Taiwan/global peers in terms of forward P/E. We view the company as one of the most attractive names within our TW Advanced Semi Testing coverage, with meaningful re-rating potential as the market begins to reflect its strong earnings growth outlook.

Price Target Risks and Methodology - Hon Precision (7769.TW)

Valuation: We are Buy rated on Hon Precision with a 12m TP of NT\$5,700, which is derived by applying a target P/E multiple of 32x (based on close peer correlation analysis) to our 2027E EPS.

Key downside risks to our views: (1) softer AI/HPC demand, (2) slower adoption of SLT among AI ASICs, and (3) intensifying competition.

Disclosure Appendix

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Disclosures

Rating and pricing information

All Ring Tech Co. (Buy, NT\$1,115.00), Aspeed (Buy, NT\$16,095.00), Grand Plastic Technology Corp. (Buy, NT\$2,870.00), Hon Precision (Buy, NT\$5,100.00), MediaTek (Buy, NT\$2,615.00), TSMC (Buy, NT\$2,215.00), TSMC (ADR) (Buy, \$404.98), United Microelectronics Corp. (Sell, NT\$75.10) and Vanguard International Corp. (Sell, NT\$146.00)

The rating(s) for All Ring Tech Co., Aspeed, Grand Plastic Technology Corp., Hon Precision, MediaTek, TSMC and TSMC (ADR) is/are relative to the other companies in its/their coverage universe: ASE Technology Holding, ASE Technology Holding (ADR), All Ring Tech Co., Aspeed, GlobalWafers Co., Grand Plastic Technology Corp., Hon Precision, King Yuan Electronics Co., MPI Corp., MediaTek, Novatek Microelectronics, Parade Technologies Ltd., Realtek Semiconductor Corp., Silergy Corp., TSMC, TSMC (ADR), United Microelectronics Corp., United Microelectronics Corp. (ADR), Vanguard International Corp., Winway Technology Co., uPI

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	Buy	Hold	Sell	Buy	Hold	Sell
Global	50%	34%	16%	65%	60%	45%

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Price target and rating history chart(s)

Compendium report: please see disclosures at <https://www.gs.com/research/hedge.html>. Disclosures applicable to the companies included in this compendium can be found in the latest relevant published research

Target price history table(s)

TSMC (2330.TW)

Date of report	Target price (NT\$)	Closing price (NT\$)
07-Apr-26	2,750.00	1,860.00
15-Jan-26	2,600.00	1,690.00
04-Jan-26	2,330.00	1,585.00
16-Oct-25	1,720.00	1,485.00
30-Sep-25	1,600.00	1,305.00
17-Jul-25	1,370.00	1,130.00
25-Jun-25	1,210.00	1,070.00
22-May-25	1,145.00	982.00
17-Apr-25	1,190.00	847.00
06-Apr-25	1,200.00	942.00
16-Jan-25	1,400.00	1,105.00
03-Jan-25	1,355.00	1,075.00
17-Oct-24	1,320.00	1,035.00
30-Sep-24	1,270.00	957.00
18-Jul-24	1,230.00	1,005.00
18-Jun-24	1,160.00	943.00
21-Mar-24	975.00	784.00
18-Jan-24	760.00	588.00
02-Jan-24	758.00	593.00
19-Oct-23	725.00	546.00
28-Sep-23	685.00	523.00
14-Sep-23	668.00	550.00
09-Jul-23	700.00	565.00
22-May-23	615.00	531.00

All Ring Tech Co. (6187.TWO)

Date of report	Target price (NT\$)	Closing price (NT\$)
20-Apr-26	1,800.00	1,225.00
10-Mar-26	800.00	533.00
10-Feb-26	365.00	383.00
12-Nov-25	320.00	335.50
07-Aug-25	475.00	368.00
25-Jun-25	550.00	416.00

Aspeed (5274.TWO)

Date of report	Target price (NT\$)	Closing price (NT\$)
21-Apr-26	20,000.00	15,245.00
17-Mar-26	15,000.00	11,320.00
30-Jan-26	12,000.00	8,880.00
24-Nov-25	7,300.00	6,405.00
30-Sep-25	6,000.00	5,050.00
05-Aug-25	5,700.00	4,800.00
16-Jul-25	5,850.00	4,860.00
25-Jun-25	6,000.00	4,705.00
05-May-25	4,380.00	3,230.00
27-Feb-25	4,700.00	3,590.00
20-Dec-24	5,300.00	3,825.00
04-Nov-24	5,500.00	4,350.00
04-Oct-24	5,800.00	4,260.00
22-Aug-24	6,100.00	4,900.00
05-Aug-24	4,600.00	3,645.00
26-May-24	4,200.00	3,695.00
06-May-24	3,880.00	3,280.00
17-Mar-24	3,800.00	2,770.00

MediaTek (2454.TW)

Date of report	Target price (NT\$)	Closing price (NT\$)
16-Apr-26	2,454.00	1,895.00
04-Feb-26	2,200.00	1,800.00
31-Oct-25	1,400.00	1,310.00
30-Jul-25	1,620.00	1,380.00
30-Apr-25	1,800.00	1,350.00
10-Mar-25	1,780.00	1,395.00
07-Feb-25	1,700.00	1,525.00
30-Oct-24	1,490.00	1,290.00
24-Sep-24	1,480.00	1,195.00
31-Jul-24	1,460.00	1,220.00
26-Apr-24	1,300.00	1,005.00
21-Mar-24	1,350.00	1,140.00
31-Jan-24	1,115.00	966.00
27-Oct-23	915.00	801.00
30-Jul-23	770.00	658.00
28-Apr-23	605.00	-

TSMC (ADR) (TSM)

Date of report	Target price (\$)	Closing price (\$)
07-Apr-26	550.00	345.32
15-Jan-26	520.00	341.64
04-Jan-26	466.00	319.61
16-Oct-25	344.00	299.84
30-Sep-25	320.00	279.29
17-Jul-25	274.00	245.60

Grand Plastic Technology Corp. (3131.TWO)

Date of report	Target price (NT\$)	Closing price (NT\$)
20-Apr-26	4,500.00	3,210.00
24-Mar-26	3,500.00	2,420.00
12-Mar-26	2,400.00	1,940.00
03-Mar-26	2,200.00	1,690.00
04-Nov-25	1,800.00	1,480.00
05-Aug-25	1,900.00	1,390.00

TSMC (ADR) (TSM)

Date of report	Target price (\$)	Closing price (\$)
25-Jun-25	242.00	222.74
22-May-25	229.00	196.19
17-Apr-25	219.00	151.74
06-Apr-25	222.00	146.80
16-Jan-25	259.00	214.79
03-Jan-25	254.00	208.61
17-Oct-24	248.00	205.84
30-Sep-24	234.00	173.67
18-Jul-24	227.00	171.87
18-Jun-24	218.00	179.69
18-Apr-24	183.00	132.27
21-Mar-24	188.00	139.45
18-Jan-24	123.00	113.03
02-Jan-24	122.00	101.53
19-Oct-23	115.00	92.91
28-Sep-23	110.00	86.41
14-Sep-23	109.00	91.47
20-Jul-23	114.00	97.86
09-Jul-23	115.00	100.23
22-May-23	101.00	91.72

Grand Plastic Technology Corp. (3131.TWO)

Date of report	Target price (NT\$)	Closing price (NT\$)
25-Jun-25	2,000.00	1,750.00

Hon Precision (7769.TW)

Date of report	Target price (NT\$)	Closing price (NT\$)
12-Mar-26	5,700.00	4,325.00
29-Jan-26	5,000.00	3,750.00
23-Nov-25	4,000.00	2,475.00

Price targets shown in table(s) are unadjusted for corporate actions.

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