The 720: Macau Gaming, Biren, ACMR, Innoscience, Recruit, Food & Life, China Durables, China Spirits, Energy, Communacopia takeaways

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In Focus | Macau Gaming

Macau Gaming – More stable competitive environment and margin inflection. We hosted an investor tour across Macau and observed a healthy daily GGR recovery to MOP710-720mn post the World Cup, with player reinvestment rates stabilizing across the industry. Operators with more spare room capacity, specifically Galaxy and Sands China, gained 1-2pts of GGR market share during the summer at the expense of peers. Assuming current run rates sustain, we expect a turnaround in industry revenue and EBITDA growth to +3% and +5% year-over-year respectively in 4Q26E as the base becomes more favorable. We reiterate our Buy ratings on Galaxy, Sands China, Wynn Macau, MGM China, and MLCO. *Simon Cheung*

Global Energy | Ongoing disruptions

Oil – Ongoing Disruptions, More Adaptation. We raise our Brent/WTI price forecasts by $5 to $85/80 for Dec2026 and to $80/75 for 2027, reflecting our new assumption that Mideast shipping disruptions will continue into 2027. This price upgrade remains modest because OECD commercial land inventories have barely drawn since the war began, driven by a smaller-than-expected deficit and concentrated draws in SPR, on-water, and Chinese storage. We assume Mideast supply adaptation continues with production gradually recovering by the second half of 2027 as dark flows increase and new pipeline capacity comes online. While price risks remain significantly tilted to the upside, we continue to recommend hedging geopolitical risk through deferred Mar27-Dec27 European diesel timespreads. *Daan Struyven*

GS Event | China AI tour

Biren – GPU ramping up with 1H26 in line – Buy. We report 1H26 revenue grew 27% HoH to Rmb1.2bn, in line with guidance, though gross margin of 42.7% missed estimates due to rising computing board component costs. The company successfully delivered AI chip computing clusters and superpods, enhancing training and inferencing efficiency to capture rising computing power demand in China. We lower our 2026E gross margin to 44.3% to reflect component costs but revise down our opex ratio given improving operational efficiency as shipments ramp up. We maintain our Buy rating and 12m TP of HK$80.5. *Allen Chang*

ACM Research – Innovative SPE design to capture AI expansion – Buy. We hosted the Chairman and remain constructive on the company's mix upgrade toward advanced

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tools and product expansion across cleaning, plating, and advanced packaging, which drives its serviceable addressable market up to US$22bn. Management sees generative AI bringing new requirements for semiconductor production equipment, driving cleaning tool specification upgrades and higher cleaning frequencies that support better ASPs. The order outlook remains positive with 2H26 orders on hand expected to grow faster year-over-year, supported by strong China wafer fab equipment spending and ongoing localization. We maintain our Buy rating and 12m TP of US$166. *Allen Chang*

AMEC – Advanced deposition tools and etchers launched – Buy. We hosted management and note strong order growth from memory and advanced node clients, expecting sequential growth in the quarters ahead. The company recently released four new deposition tools covering 3D memory and advanced logic demand, alongside launching a new high aspect ratio etcher for high-end memory. We are positive on the rising generative AI trend driving local client demand for advanced nodes, which benefits the company as a leading local equipment supplier with expanding advanced product offerings. We maintain our Buy rating and 12m TP of Rmb577. *Allen Chang*

InnoScience – GaN to ride on data center and automotive adoption – Buy. We hosted management, who noted the company has accelerated its gallium nitride (GaN) capacity expansion, targeting 70k wafers per month to capture rising demand from automotive and data center applications. For the final stage of 800 VDC rack power architectures, the company has developed 15V DrGaN products for the power supply of AI GPUs and completed customer sampling, enabling higher conversion efficiency. We remain positive on the company as an early entrant with comprehensive product offerings to capture growth as new architectures ramp up. We maintain our Buy rating and 12m TP of HK$114. *Allen Chang*

Themes in Play | Recruit Holdings, Food & Life, China Durables, Toyo Suisan

Recruit Holdings – Raising TP on sustainable unit price growth and valuation update – Buy. We raise our 12m TP to ¥19,400 from ¥14,900, driven by a shift in valuation methodology to EV/NOPAT. Addressing investor concerns following the recent share price rally, we see significant room for US ARPJ to rise, as Indeed's revenue per hire and take rates remain well below industry peers. With Premium retention rates tracking 20% higher than Standard and AI tools driving faster candidate matching, we believe the platform can sustain high monetization growth without material customer churn. Our FY3/27-FY3/29 operating profit estimates are 7%/18%/26% above Bloomberg consensus. *Minami Munakata*

Food & Life – Strengthening HR and expanding in China/US – Buy. We hosted a meeting with the CEO, who expressed confidence in strengthening head office functions and human resources to support store openings. In mainland China, management expects to maintain same-store sales with substantial room for expansion in Tier 1 cities, while the first NY Sushiro store is scheduled to open this autumn. Furthermore, careful pricing responses to ingredient cost fluctuations are proving successful in Japan, securing increased customer traffic even after July price hikes. We maintain our Buy rating and 12m TP of ¥6,300. *Sho Kawano*

China Consumer Durables – 2Q26 Wrap: Overseas remain the key growth driver. We see muted 2Q26 sector demand dragged by domestic weakness, while consumer hardware companies with meaningful overseas exposure delivered earnings beats. Looking into

3Q26, we expect mild sequential domestic improvements on an easing base and moderating cost inflation, with overseas expansion remaining the critical growth driver. We highlight Buy-rated Midea, Roborock, and Anker as preferred names driven by global market share gains and product innovation, while revising our 2026–28E EPS across our coverage by -48% to +129% and 12m TPs by -15% to +12%. Specifically, we lower our earnings estimates and 12m TPs for Oppein and Man Wah on weak domestic demand, and raise our estimates and 12m TP for XGimi following higher-margin overseas growth. *Nicolas Yi*

Toyo Suisan Kaisha – US visit preview and capacity expansion – Buy. Ahead of our October US site visit, we review the overseas instant noodles business, which we expect to see a year-over-year profit decline in FY3/27 due to higher raw material costs and start-up expenses for the new California plant. However, we anticipate the plant's ramp-up will expand total overseas supply capacity by roughly 20%, alleviating historical constraints and enabling stronger sales promotions and volume growth. With a dominant volume share of nearly 60% in the US base product category, the company faces limited direct competition from premium brands, and we forecast continued ASP increases to offset cost inflation, underpinning our 12m TP of ¥14,300. *Takashi Miyazaki*

Connections | China Spirits

China Spirits Tracker – Super Premium Wholesale Price Recovers Amid Cautious Festival Outlook. We observe a recovery in wholesale prices for leading super-premium brands alongside sequentially better supply and demand dynamics in July and August, with Feitian Moutai rising to Rmb1,720-1,730 per bottle. Moutai also raised prices for five products across its self-operating stores and shifted six vintage Feitian products to daily releases on i-Moutai. Despite this, we maintain a cautious outlook for overall retail demand during the upcoming Mid-Autumn Festival, as large-scale channel stocking has yet to begin and overall prepayments still lag spirits companies' expectations. We expect a moderate recovery for selected leading brands with lean channel inventory. *Leaf Liu*

Australia Macro | New rate forecasts

Australia – RBA's Hauser & Hunter: Hawkish. We now expect the RBA to raise the policy rate by 25bp to 4.60% in September, pulling forward our forecast from November following incrementally hawkish remarks from Deputy Governor Hauser and Chief Economist Hunter. They noted that recent growth and inflation outcomes have exceeded expectations, pointing to materializing upside risks from higher oil prices, the data-centre boom, and weak productivity growth. We expect the Board to adopt a pre-emptive tightening to avoid falling behind the curve, with a follow-up hike in November remaining a material risk. Our base case assumes the RBA holds the policy rate at 4.60% until a gradual easing cycle begins in the second half of 2027. *Andrew Boak*

Expert Session | China Property

China Property – Expert expects resilient 4Q volume and Shanghai to continue to lead price recovery. The expert expects secondary housing transaction volumes to remain resilient in 4Q26, though prices could weaken at the margin alongside rising new listing supply. Looking into 2027, the expert anticipates Shanghai will lead a broad-based price recovery starting in the spring, potentially driving prices up 6% to 12% by year-end, with sentiment-driven Shenzhen closely following. While the recent 828 policy mandating completed-property sales shows limited near-term impact, the expert believes it will

support the market in 2027-2028 by reducing future new supply, as stabilization signs also emerge in select lower-tier and core cities like Suzhou and Hefei. *Yi Wang*

Around the world | Banks, Communicopia

Americas Banks & IBanks – The Next Phase of Capital Markets Growth. We expect structural expansion in the pool of tradable assets and related financing to drive further long-term capital markets revenue growth, following an 11% industry fee pool CAGR since 2019. In the near term, AI infrastructure activity has been a critical catalyst, accounting for an estimated 50-55% of year-to-date investment banking fee growth and roughly 40% of first-half equities revenue growth. US firms have been disproportionate beneficiaries, increasing market share by 23 percentage points to 72% since 2010, though we believe independent investment bank share gains could slow given rising talent competition and the financing-heavy nature of AI transactions. We highlight Buy-rated BAC and JPM among bulge brackets, and EVR, LCLN, PIPR, and PJT among independent advisors as top beneficiaries. *Richard Ramsden*

Broadcom – Reaffirming AI Revenue Targets Amid Supply Constraints – Buy. Management reaffirmed FY27 and FY28 AI revenue targets of $115bn and $230bn, respectively, grounded in clear customer visibility. While datacenter land and power remain primary deployment bottlenecks, the recently announced $35bn XPV financing partnership is designed to accelerate infrastructure buildouts and support over 20GW of compute capacity. We expect the majority of long-term AI value to accrue to leading frontier model developers rather than open-weight ecosystems, and maintain our 12m TP of $540. *James Schneider*

Vertiv – Strong AI Demand and 800V DC Transition – Buy. We highlight strong demand and a robust pipeline driven by the AI datacenter market, alongside the company's transition to 800V DC power architectures expected to accelerate in the second half of 2027. Management noted they are working through supply chain challenges related to converged infrastructure products, expecting resolution by the second half of 2026. The company reiterated its 2030 adjusted operating margin target of over 27% and highlighted the proposed UIG acquisition to enhance its power solutions portfolio. We maintain our 12m TP of $301. *Mark Delaney*

Alphabet – Cloud Momentum and Vertically Integrated AI Stack – Buy. Following our conversation with Google Cloud CEO Thomas Kurian, we see continued momentum across the AI and cloud businesses, supported by a diversified portfolio of 17 product lines generating over $1bn in revenue. The company benefits from a differentiated, vertically integrated AI infrastructure stack spanning silicon, models, security, and applications, with Gemini Enterprise now used by approximately 90% of Fortune 100 companies. We believe multiple monetization pathways for AI and TPUs, including subscription and hardware models, will support long-term customer relationships and attractive economics. We maintain our 12m TP of $435. *Eric Sheridan*

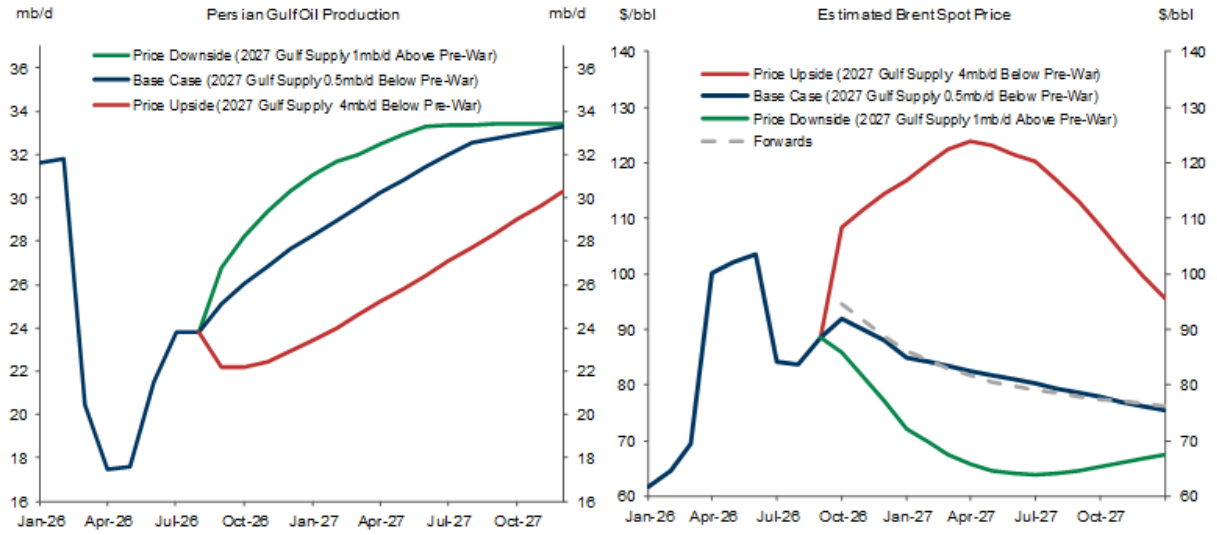
SAP – Incrementally Positive on AI and Cloud Migration – Buy. We come away incrementally positive following our fireside chat with management, as AI adoption dominates client conversations and geopolitical concerns fade. We see a healthy cloud migration cycle with 60% of the installed base yet to move, providing significant runway ahead. The upcoming autumn launch of Joule Work will serve as the primary agent platform, supported by a durable data moat and a business model shifting toward AI

consumption with healthy gross margins. We maintain our 12m TP of €215. *Mohammed Moawalla*

Visa – Resilient Macro Trends and AI-Driven Efficiencies – Buy. We believe Visa is successfully executing a rewired operating model supported by resilient macro trends, including stable 9% US volume growth and cross-border flows accelerating to 14% quarter-to-date. Management is driving massive internal development efficiencies through aggressive generative AI adoption, allowing the company to optimize its workforce and redirect capital into high-ROI initiatives like European infrastructure and cybersecurity. With Value-Added Services scaling rapidly at a 34% year-over-year growth rate, we view the long-term expansion strategy as highly visible and insulated from macro volatility, underpinning our 12m TP of $438. *Will Nance*

Graphic language | Global Energy

Downside Risk to Gulf Supply Means Significant Net Upside Risk to Our $80 Brent 2027 Average Forecast



Source: Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

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