on 19-Oct-2026

BERNSTEIN
SOCIETE GENERALE GROUP

19 October 2026

Global Semiconductors and Semiconductor Capital Equipment

Global Semis and Semicap: Notes from the road - Takeaways from meetings at SEMICON West



Stacy A. Rasgon, Ph.D.
+1 213 559 5917
stacy.rasgon@bernsteinsg.com



Aleksander Peterc
+33 1 57 29 45 25
aleksander.peterc@bernsteinsg.com



Alrick Shaw
+1 917 344 8454
alrick.shaw@bernsteinsg.com



Arpad von Nemes
+1 917 344 8461
arpad.vonnemes@bernsteinsg.com



Eva Zhang
+1 212 845 7839
eva.zhang@bernsteinsg.com

Last week at SEMICON West in San Francisco we met with a number of industry company management teams both in and out of our formal coverage.

We met with the following companies:

Applied Materials (AMAT - Outperform, PT $700), President of Semiconductor Products Group Dr. Prabu Raja, VP IR Mike Sullivan, and IR Marty Parker

Lam Research (LRCX - Outperform, PT $385), EVP and CFO Doug Bettinger

PDF Solutions (PDFS - Outperform, PT $65), CEO John Kibarian, CFO Adnan Raza, and VP Products & Solutions Kimon Michaels

Soitec SA (Outperform - PT 215 EUR), CFO Albin Jacquemont and Head of IR, Financing & Treasury Alex Petovari

Nova Limited (NVMI - Not covered), CEO Gaby Waisman and CFO Guy Kizner

FormFactor (FORM - Not covered) - CEO Mike Slessor, CFO Aric McKinnis and VP IR Stan Finkelstein

Advanced Energy Industries Inc (AEIS - Not covered), President and CEO Steve Kelley; CFO Paul Oldham; VP, Strategic Marketing Edwin Mok; Andrew Huang, Director, IR

on 19-Oct-2026

BERNSTEIN TICKER TABLE

			16 Oct 2026		TTM	Adjusted EPS				Adjusted P/E (x)	
Ticker	Rating	Cur	Closing Price	Price Target	Rel. Perf.	Cur	2025A	2026E	2027E	2025A	2026E	2027E
AMAT (Applied Materials)	O	USD	409.29	700.00	64.2%	USD	9.42	12.76	18.30	43.5	32.1	22.4
LRCX (Lam Research)	O	USD	263.94	385.00	69.8%	USD	5.82	9.22	10.97	45.4	28.6	24.1
PDFS (PDF Solutions)	O	USD	39.22	65.00	25.4%	USD	0.94	1.35	1.75	41.6	29.1	22.4
SOI.FP (Soitec)	O	EUR	128.55	215.00	214.6%	EUR	(6.17)	0.01	3.92	(20.8)	N/M	32.8
SPX			7,659.44									
EDME			1,598.09									

O - Outperform, M - Market-Perform, U - Underperform, NR - Not Rated, CS - Coverage Suspended

LRCX, SOI.FP base year is 2026;

Source: Bloomberg, Bernstein estimates and analysis.

INVESTMENT IMPLICATIONS

AMAT (Outperform, $700.00): Exposure to key inflections is strong & valuation vs peers is attractive.

LRCX (Outperform, $385.00): The company is benefiting from key inflections (GAA, packaging, HBM, NAND upgrades) and CY26/27 commentary seems supportive.

PDFS (**Outperform**, **$65.00**): A transition to analytics provides for growth and margin expansion amid numerous structural drivers, with eProbe tools representing a new meaningful business opportunity.

SOI FP (Outperform, €215.00 PT): Soitec's core narrative is shifting to Photonics-SOI as the next primary source of growth, now clearly offsetting continuing destocking-led declines in smartphone-related RF-SOI.

on 19-Oct-2026

DETAILS

Applied Materials (AMAT - Outperform, PT $700), President of Semiconductor Products Group Dr. Prabu Raja, VP IR Mike Sullivan, and IR Marty Parker

AMAT's SEMICON technology breakfast this year included new long-term financial targets as well as their broader outlook for WFE growth. Management continues to see unprecedented demand from the AI infrastructure buildout, with leading-edge foundry-logic, DRAM and advanced packaging seeing the most growth, the areas where they are most well-positioned. The company expects WFE spending through 2030 to grow faster than it did in the past decade, and they expect to gain >2ppts of WFE share from 2025 to 2030. The company also introduced some new financial targets, with 2030 gross margin and operating margin expectations of ~54% and ~40% respectively.

Management seems to view the ~54% gross margin target as somewhat conservative, noting that although they are confident in the levers they can pull (product portfolio, mix shift, pricing, etc.), the targets are ultimately a promise to investors and hence they must be achievable.

AMAT made the shift to value-based pricing in 2023, and they continue to add more valuable products into the mix and continue to price appropriately. There is still more room for further adoption, but they refuse to pursue predatory pricing as they value long-term customer relationships. Management noted that customers are increasingly focused on tool availability, yield and output rather than equipment cost, which has created a favorable pricing environment for them. The company has also been doing like-for-like price increases, something they've grown more comfortable with in this environment versus years prior.

Constraints on WFE growth include datacenter power, cleanroom capacity, and supply chain. Cleanroom availability remains a big gap, and when asked if a $300B WFE in 2028 would be possible if cleanrooms were unconstrained they suggested the answer was probably yes though as typical they declined to provide an actual WFE forecast; nevertheless it does seem clear that demand remains well in excess of available space. AMAT feels confident in their ability to procure supply, but noted that they must work very closely with both customers and suppliers to align expectations.

AMAT sees etch and deposition taking share from lithography going forward, as leading edge products these days aren't adding tons of EUV layers as seen over the past several years. The company instead sees a meaningful inflection in materials processing leading to high etch and deposition intensity as more wiring layers are being implemented for technologies like backside power, advanced packaging, etc., a trend that AMAT is uniquely positioned to capitalize on. Though they believe lithography intensity will decline, they expect overall need for lithography tools will continue to increase given the increase in reticle limited chips and the need for more vertical packaging.

AMAT unveiled the EPIC Center earlier in the week, and they believe the facility represents a critical evolution from them selling individual tools to delivering deeply integrated process solutions. When developing future roadmaps, customers are increasingly approaching AMAT with challenges at the device level rather than equipment requirements, and the facility allows them to optimize simultaneously across their broad portfolio to deliver the solutions that customers need, which becomes increasingly important as process steps become more interconnected. The EPIC Center marks a key area of differentiation from their peers, as AMAT is able to combine tool expertise, process expertise, and customer collaboration all under one roof, and thus deepening customer engagement and their integration in future roadmaps.

AMAT will continue to compete in China where they can, but they see the majority of AI-driven industry growth coming from areas they can legally serve. Though export restrictions limit their ability to compete in China, they can serve ~30% of the market, and intend to compete there. The company also noted that if you normalize for export restrictions, they've actually gained WFE share over the years. AI-driven industry growth going forward will be driven by customers they can serve, and thus the company intends to continue to gain share going forward and benefit from the inflection in the industry.

Other tidbits:

- **Panel-level packaging represents a future opportunity and the company has gained expertise through their display business as well as some strategic acquisitions.** Development is underway, but AMAT doesn't see panel-level packaging necessarily replacing wafer-level packaging, but rather both progressing in parallel going forward. Nonetheless, they are positioned to benefit from both.

on 19-Oct-2026

- **The widespread adoption of 3D DRAM appears to be inevitable but not necessarily imminent** yet as management was hesitant to mark it as a 2030 event, as customers are progressing at different speeds.
- **AMAT will be delivering photonic products (not tools)** as they sell wave guides and lenses to address eyepieces and glasses, and sees a multi-billion dollar TAM by 2030 (they have built a fab in Singapore for this). The company noted an agreement with Google in this area.

on 19-Oct-2026

Lam Research (LRCX - Outperform, PT $385), EVP and CFO Doug Bettinger

Lam reiterated their confidence in their mid-50s long-term gross margin target. Increased profitability continues to be driven by continued innovation with new product releases, supply chain optimization, and continued close customer engagement.

We will probably get some color from the company as to CY2027 WFE on their earnings call this week. The company suggested that 2027 WFE will be strong, and is debating whether to provide an actual number or else give qualitative commentary on the call (but they will likely say something).

Beyond this, the demand environment remains robust with very strong visibility several quarters out as Lam works with customers to align product roadmaps with their supply chain amid this tight environment. Although management acknowledges that they aren't supply constrained, they do recognize that things are getting tighter given extending leadtimes and the increasing use of expedite fees. They already have a loose sense for demand out through 2029 but can't say with high confidence. The company remains disciplined with their capacity expansion plans noting that they will continue to extract more value out of their facilities by squeezing more out of the square footage available today, though also noted that they could expand capacity further if need be for longer-term demand growth.

Management believes that the current operating environment is similar though different from the COVID supply-chain disruption, as there is currently better supply chain resilience with the main challenge being customer cleanroom space rather than the "golden screw" component shortages seen during COVID.

Other tidbits:

- **The WFE ecosystem remains highly interconnected**, as bottlenecks at any supplier could potentially impact wafer starts and disrupt demand for others. Hence, Lam acknowledges that their success is highly dependent on the success of their peers.
- **Foundry capacity tightening at TSMC creates the opportunity for fabless customers to increasingly evaluate Samsung and Intel**, potentially creating opportunities for them.

on 19-Oct-2026

PDF Solutions (PDFS - Outperform, PT $65), CEO John Kibarian, CFO Adnan Raza, and VP Products & Solutions Kimon Michaels

The PDF Solutions business model has shifted from almost exclusively serving foundries to vertically serving analytics across the semiconductor industry. The company has expanded their exposure to now include foundries, IDMs, fabless players, equipment vendors, and OSATs. The shift away from foundry has been meaningful, with fabless players now accounting for ~35% of the business and equipment vendors accounting for ~20%, versus the ~85% foundry exposure seen before. Management has stressed that they want a business with the recurring software characteristics of the EDA players but also some select hardware exposure akin to that of the WFE players. They continue to diversify and innovate to avoid the customer concentration and cyclicality issues that have impacted parts of the semiconductor industry historically.

The eProbe opportunity continues to represent a large growth opportunity for the company and the remain committed to shipping ~6 tools this year, and continued deployments next year. Management noted that ~6 tools per year is right at the edge of their current capability, but suppliers would be able to double capacity if need be, hence supply isn't much of a bottleneck at this point. However, PDF remains committed to responsibly ramping this business so that customer support and field resources also scale with deployments, while being mindful of capex spend growth as well. Management sized the e-beam inspection tool market at ~70 tools per year based on their own analysis, and also indicated that given their tools are coupled with a unique software analytics platform their offering is quite differentiated from that of peers. Interestingly, though most customer deployments are under subscription, management indicated that all customers are presented with the direct sale option as well (still with favorable economics for PDF), but almost all have chosen the subscription model, particularly given the rapid rate of innovation within e-beam and PDF's ability service and upgrade these tools while under contract at no additional cost to the customer.

Management continues to view their relationship with Intel as strategic and expanding, and while it hasn't always been frictionless, PDF is now providing solutions for both Intel's foundry group and product group. Intel's engagement continues to grow as they have standardized Exensio around some of their internal workflows, signed significant contracts with PDF, use their CV test chips and continues to deploy eProbe tools across their fabs. Although there remains some resistance from some engineers where legacy workflows exist, Intel's leadership team remains supportive of PDF's platform. Management noted that the original large contract signed with Intel ~4 years ago is coming up for renewal late this year/early next year, and they appear positive on the prospect for renewal.

Exensio Aurora is a significant evolution of the platform, enabling real-time agentic AI analytics tailored for uniquely large and wide semiconductor datasets, and addressing the need for low-latency analysis. Aurora is designed to parallelize analysis workloads, enable natural-language interaction, and significantly reduce the time required to extract insights from production data. The company expects Aurora not only to improve customer productivity but also to increase Exensio usage and deployments, and deliver higher-value contract renewals.

PDF's memory exposure is minimal today, but the company appears poised to expand their presence here over time. The company strategically decided to limit their exposure to memory years ago, as the market was highly cyclical and concentrated. However, the market is now seeing more product differentiation and application-specific solutions, and likely requires more analytics overall, presenting new opportunities for PDF. Management noted the shipment of a demo eProbe tool to a memory customer.

Management noted that their engagement with TSMC remains limited by the company's desire to protect their IP, but believes there could be an opportunity to expand. TSMC is currently a PDF customer, as every 300mm tool or advanced packaging tool at their facilities are connected to PDF's platform, resulting in ~$1M-$10M in annual revenue. However, TSMC remains very protective of their IP and thus limits their usage of PDF's platform. Nonetheless, PDF prioritizes data security broadly and customers are able to completely limit PDF's visibility into their data where necessary, hence they see a potential pathway to increasing their engagement with TSMC.

on 19-Oct-2026

Soitec SA (Outperform - PT 215 EUR), CFO Albin Jacquemont and Head of IR, Financing & Treasury Alex Petovari

Soitec continues to bolster its AI infrastructure and photonics business, with photonics now being the primary growth driver as management remains confident in achieving ~2.5x-3x growth from this segment. Management expressed that photonics SOI demand remains strong, with visibility improved versus prior cycles as the company has long-term agreements in place giving them confidence in the sustainability of demand over the next two years. The current long-term agreements differ from those from the prior cycle as the company now requires cash deposits and visibility into their customers' inventory. Despite the strong demand environment and tight supply predicament, the company's pricing strategy remains disciplined with no interest in predatory pricing and continued confidence the margin trajectory as it stands.

Capacity appears to be the main constraint to growing their photonics SOI business, though management highlighted their multi-year capacity expansion plan to support demand. Growth remains dependent on the qualification of products in their Singapore fab and their ability to improve manufacturing efficiency. The company is also repurposing silicon carbide capacity and assessing their ability to add an extension to their Singapore fab. They believe the plan would require a substantial capex investment of €750M of capex over two years but should result in the ability to support substantial incremental revenues.

Soitec sees five distinct drivers of photonics SOI demand going forward, larger GPU clusters requiring more layers of optical, increasing networking complexity with the shift from pluggable optics to NPO, CPO and optical interposers, the increased volume of data requiring more bandwidth, growth in scale-up networking, and the disaggregation of memory with agentic AI and peripheral memory.

Management believes that scale-up networking is a larger opportunity for them as high-bandwidth data transfer becomes increasingly important within AI clusters. They believe photonics plus individual laser will take share from copper, and though they recognize competition within the space, they remain poised to take share from those players with their very low power architecture.

Beyond silicon photonics, Soitec highlighted opportunities in thin-film lithium niobate (TFLN) and indium phosphide-on-insulator, as the overall photonics opportunity extends well beyond silicon-on-insulator. While TFLN is mostly produced in China currently, management believes this as mostly at the prototype level and highlighted that they have the facility to ramp the product into high-volume production. They also believe that TFLN will be complimentary to SOI, with the ability to integrate TFLN on top of SOI.

The company believes the RF SOI market nearing a cyclical bottom, with revenues declining this year but returning to growth next year. Channel inventories are sitting at over a year currently, still above the typical ~6-9 month pre-COVID levels. Although memory supply constraints are impacting the mobile market, the company believes that the market has to balance at some point and believes it unlikely that RF SOI will decline next year for them. Overall RF SOI utilization was ~50% last year, management guided this year to ~60% in May but now stated that it should land closer to ~70%.

The adoption of SOI for memory remains an optionality for Soitec, two Korean memory players are evaluating SOI for $6F^2$ DRAM and following the $4F^2$ DRAM announcement from a Chinese memory maker, this could present an opportunity for them, should they adopt SOI.

on 19-Oct-2026

Nova Limited (NVMI - Not covered), CEO Gaby Waisman and CFO Guy Kizner

Company overview: Nova Ltd is one of the leading providers of process control systems for semiconductor manufacturing, specifically metrology equipment. The company's main segments include, dimensional metrology (~40-50% of equipment revenues), materials metrology (~20-30% of equipment revenues), chemicals metrology (~10-20% of equipment revenues) and services. Currently, their revenue mix is ~75% Foundry/Logic and ~25% Memory, though the long-term model is ~60/40 and management expects memory as a mix to increase going forward. The company's manufacturing footprint is strategically distributed across several specialized technology centers: Materials metrology equipment in the U.S., Dimensional metrology equipment in Israel, and Chemicals metrology equipment in Germany. Each facility is operated with autonomy around product development, while all customer-facing functions are centralized.

Metrology competition is largely product line specific, with Nova seeing competition within dimensional metrology from KLA and ONTO, competition within chemicals metrology from KLA and no competition in materials metrology where there strategy has been to bring lab tech into production-line systems.

Management sees China competition mostly proliferating at the lagging edge, hence having limited impact to Nova's operations. The company remains confident in their market position in leading edge metrology, and while China competition is active, it is mostly at the lagging edge. Their China revenue mix sits at ~30%, and the company expects this to trend to ~25% over the longer-term as revenue opportunities outside of China grow faster.

Nova continues to use a value-based pricing strategy with increases in tool ASPs driven by the addition of new capabilities, software functionality, etc. Beyond that, it is difficult to extend pricing further as customers continuously focus on cost of ownership. Nonetheless, Nova's margins are among the best in the space (~high 50s).

Nova continues to invest meaningfully in R&D to drive growth and further differentiation from peers, with R&D spending at ~15% of revenue. The company noted that lengthy co-development cycles are required to support advanced semiconductor technologies, with customer engagement beginning up to 10 years before product shipment. They continue to work on new technologies for future process nodes, particularly for Logic and DRAM. Nova continues to leverage AI to improve the performance of their own tools, but they remain cautious on the model side as the cost of implementation can be significant.

on 19-Oct-2026

FormFactor (FORM - Not covered) - CEO Mike Slessor, CFO Aric McKinnis and VP IR Stan Finkelstein

Company overview: Form Factor is a leading provider of probe cards, probing stations and other measurement and test equipment for the semiconductor industry. Probe cards comprise ~80% of their business, and are highly customized cards that serve as the connector between a tester system and the die on the wafer. Since each mask set has its own unique probe card, these cards allow for the reuse of tester systems on various different chips. Their probing stations/tools segment makes up ~20% of their revenues, with the company providing system solutions earlier in their customers' development processes. Management noted that this is their highest gross margin business.

FormFactor is increasingly focused on taking SAM share going forward to achieve their long-term target of $1.6B in revenue by 2030. The company is currently the overall market leader in probe cards as they are the only supplier with exposure to both leading logic and memory, but are the #2 player in both markets (Technoprobe is the #1 player in Logic and MJC is the #1 player in Memory). FormFactor is starting to regain share in leading logic after missing prior technology transitions, with overall market growth seen from increased GPU and ASIC output. GPU customers in particular are starting to prioritize dual sourcing to diversify their supply chain, creating opportunities for FormFactor.

CPO and silicon photonics is seen adding systems demand for probe cards with the need for wafer-level optical probing. The company has established themselves as the optical probing expert, and sees opportunities to expand within their current customer base, and sees an optical SAM of ~$400M by 2030. The largest opportunity remains at the earliest insertion point, because if they can get the technology right for the first insertion it can be used for any other insertion. Downstream integration become increasingly expensive and complicated as complexity increases. While there are concerns about testing becoming a bottleneck, the company doesn't believe it's a bottleneck at this point but rather a pain point, as the technology works. They see a compelling roadmap ahead, but we are early in the adoption of the technology.

Management doesn't view capacity as a constraint to achieving their financial targets. The company highlighted its expanded Farmers Branch facility, which effectively provides capacity comparable to its California operations while allowing production to scale in phases as demand develops. Management stressed that existing facilities can support its current target model and that future growth is more dependent on end-market demand than manufacturing capacity.

Other tidbits:

- **Management continues to emphasize cycle times and yields to drive gross margin expansion.**
- **FormFactor makes probe heads and space transformers internally, but buy PCBs externally. The company noted that PCBs are constrained.**
- **The probe card industry has become increasingly consolidated, with the top three suppliers controlling roughly 80% of the market.**
- **The company expects HBM demand to remain first-half weighted.**

on 19-Oct-2026

Advanced Energy Industries Inc (AEIS - Not covered), President and CEO Steve Kelley; CFO Paul Oldham; VP, Strategic Marketing Edwin Mok; Andrew Huang, Director, IR

Company overview: Advanced Energy Industries (AEIS) was founded by two AMAT engineers focused on developing plasma power systems for processes like plasma etch and deposition. Once they recognized the emerging demand for highly controlled plasma power in the semiconductor industry, they founded AEIS to design and manufacture specialized power boxes for these applications, and it has since become a key supplier of precision power equipment. Over time, AEIS expanded its expertise in power conversion to serve broader markets, including data centers, industrial and medical applications, telecommunications and networking, leveraging its core strength in precision power to support high-performance, mission-critical systems.

Advanced Energy's pillars of growth include new semiconductor product portfolio, improved platforms in industrial and medical, and further expansion of their datacenter business. The semiconductor business remains a large area of focus and management sees opportunities to be designed into sub-2nm nodes, which should drive more customers and revenue growth. They continue to innovate within their industrial and medical business, where they have a large footprint, and that should drive further growth. Within Datacenter, the company remains focused on delivering differentiated power density and efficiency solutions to grow the business and lift segment margins.

Advanced Energy's positioning in the semiconductor industry remains strong, with continued leadership in plasma power and growing exposure to leading-edge nodes. Management noted its market leading position with ~1/3 share in plasma power for over a decade, relationships with all major WFE vendors and larger relationships with AMAT and Lam in particular. AEIS is increasingly getting designed into sub-2nm nodes, and they recognize etch as their largest opportunity given the rising power intensity requirements. They don't currently see supply constraints in plasma power, and they continue to work diligently to stay ahead of shortages.

Datacenter has increasingly become an important growth driver for the company, as Advanced Energy has strategically shifted away from the low-end/commodity part of the market and focused on power solutions for hyperscalers. The company supplies power shelves and power converters for four large hyperscaler customers, with more than half of their datacenter revenues coming from one customer. This business saw ~100% growth in 2025, and the company expects it to grow >50% this year, followed by strong growth next year. Current growth is being driven by 48V power deployments, while 800V architectures remain further out in development. Management believes 800V will be additive to existing growth opportunities and could open additional applications beyond today's hyperscaler deployments. The company expects datacenter margins to grow closer to corporate average as Advanced Energy continues to provide higher value solutions for their customers.

Advanced Energy sees a second wave of AI infrastructure customers driving further growth starting in 2027 as they anticipate additional adoption from hyperscalers, OEMs, AI labs, neoclouds, etc. These customers can leverage Advanced Energy's existing portfolio in their infrastructure buildout. The company believes the second wave opportunity can be as large as the current hyperscaler business, and result in ~$300-$400M in revenues exiting 2028 or 2029.

Management sees opportunities for margin expansion going forward, noting that semiconductor products remain the highest margin portion of their portfolio, and while datacenter margins have grown from the historical ~teens levels, there is room for further expansion. They expect new platform ramps, product mix improvement, and manufacturing efficiencies to drive margin expansion. The company expects new platforms to drive ~200bps of margin improvement, with probably over100 bps left on gains from further efficiency improvements. Further scale should help as well, with every ~$50M in quarterly revenue growth resulting in ~40-50 bps of margin improvement.

on 19-Oct-2026

I. REQUIRED DISCLOSURES

References to "Bernstein" or the “Firm” in these disclosures relate to the following entities: Bernstein Institutional Services LLC (April 1, 2024 onwards), Sanford C. Bernstein & Co., LLC (pre April 1, 2024), Bernstein Autonomous LLP, BSG France S.A. (April 1, 2024 onwards), Sanford C. Bernstein (Hong Kong) Limited 盛博香港有限公司, Sanford C. Bernstein (Canada) Limited, Sanford C. Bernstein (India) Private Limited (SEBI registration no. INH000006378), Sanford C. Bernstein (Singapore) Private Limited, Sanford C. Bernstein Japan KK（サンフォード・C・バーンスタイン株式会社）and analysts employed by Société Générale Africa Technologies & Services to produce Bernstein research under a Global Services Agreement in place between Bernstein and Société Générale.

Bernstein is part of a joint venture between Société Générale (SG) and AllianceBernstein, L.P. (AB). Unless specifically noted otherwise, for purposes of these disclosures, references to Bernstein’s “affiliates” relate to both SG and AB and their respective affiliates.

VALUATION METHODOLOGY

Applied Materials Inc

For AMAT, we apply ~33x multiple to our avg. FY2027/28 non-GAAP EPS estimate of $20.98 equating to a $700 price target.

Lam Research Corp

For LRCX, we apply a ~35x multiple to the average our FY2028 non-GAAP EPS estimate of $10.97 equating to a $385 price target.

PDF Solutions, Inc.

We apply a 33x multiple to the average of our FY27/28 EPS ($2.02) and set our price target at $65.

SOITEC

Our €215/share price target is based on a discounted cash flow model using a WACC of 9.2% and terminal growth of 3% with a long-term EBITDA margin of 40.0%.

RISKS

Applied Materials Inc

Downside risks to our price target on AMAT include the potential for an industry downturn, detrimental end market mix, share losses, and geopolitical risks.

Lam Research Corp

Downside risks to our price target include the potential for a longer or deeper industry downturn, detrimental end market mix, further NAND spending weakness, share losses, and geopolitical risks.

PDF Solutions, Inc.

Downside risks to our price target include deterioration in semiconductor industry fundamentals or the AI buildout trajectory, eProbe tools shipments and revenue recognition at a slower pace than we model, or failure to achieve margin targets.

SOITEC

Downside: Slower adoption of Soitec's technologies in its currently served or targeted markets, particularly in FD-SOI (Automotive, smartphones), in POI (filters in mobile devices) and in Photonics-SOI (in AI datacenter clusters) could pose a material risk to Soitec's growth prospects. Soitec's sales are highly dependent on smartphone (52%), Cloud/Edge AI (36%) and automotive/industrial (12% of FY26 sales) end-markets, and the group is therefore likely to be affected by any slowdown or inventory adjustment in these markets. Soitec's sales by customer show a high degree of concentration, with its top 5 clients (STM, GFS, UMC, Tower Semi, TSMC) collectively representing 61% of group sales. This concentration makes Soitec vulnerable to clients' potentially adverse

on 19-Oct-2026

technological choices that may result in share losses of Soitec-based technologies.

RATINGS DEFINITIONS, BENCHMARKS AND DISTRIBUTION

EQUITY RATINGS DEFINITIONS

Bernstein brand

The Bernstein brand rates stocks based on forecasts of relative performance for the next 12 months versus the S&P 500 for stocks listed on the U.S. and Canadian exchanges, versus the Bloomberg Europe Developed Markets Large and Mid Cap Price Return Index EUR (EDME) for stocks listed on the European exchanges and emerging markets exchanges outside of the Asia Pacific region, versus the Bloomberg Japan Large and Mid Cap Price Return Index USD (JPL) for stocks listed on the Japanese exchanges, and versus the Bloomberg Asia ex-Japan Large and Mid Cap Price Return Index (ASIAX) for stocks listed on the Asian (ex-Japan) exchanges -unless otherwise specified.

The Bernstein brand has three categories of ratings:

- Outperform: Stock will outpace the market index by more than 15 pp
- Market-Perform: Stock will perform in line with the market index to within +/-15 pp
- Underperform: Stock will trail the performance of the market index by more than 15 pp

Coverage Suspended: Coverage of a company under the Bernstein research brand has been suspended. Ratings and price targets are suspended temporarily, are no longer current, and should therefore not be relied upon.

Not Rated: A rating assigned when the stock cannot be accurately valued, or the performance of the company accurately predicted, at the present time. The covering analyst may continue to publish research reports on the company to update investors on events and developments.

Not Covered (NC) denotes companies that are not under coverage.

Bernstein brand stock ratings are based on a 12-month time horizon.

Autonomous brand – common stocks

The Autonomous brand rates common stocks as indicated below. As our benchmarks we use the Bloomberg Europe 600 Financials Price Return Index (E600BK) and Bloomberg Europe Dev Mkt Financials Large and Mid Cap Price Ret Index EUR (EDMFI) index for developed European banks and Payments, the Bloomberg Europe 600 Insurance Price Return Index (E600IN) for European insurers, the S&P 500 and S&P Financials for US banks and Payments coverage, S5LIFE for US Insurance, the S&P Insurance Select Industry (SPSIINS) for US Non-Life Insurers coverage, the Bloomberg Emerging Markets Financials Large, Mid and Small Cap Price Return Index (EMLSF) for emerging market banks and insurers and Payments, and the Bloomberg Japan Financials Large & Mid Cap Price Return Index (JPFILM) for Japanese Financials. Ratings are stated relative to the sector (not the market).

The Autonomous brand has three categories of common stock ratings:

- Outperform (OP): Stock will outpace the relevant index by more than 10 pp
- Neutral (N): Stock will perform in line with the market index to within +/-10 pp
- Underperform (UP): Stock will trail the performance of the relevant index by more than 10 pp

Coverage Suspended: Coverage of a company under the Autonomous research brand has been suspended. Ratings and price targets are suspended temporarily, are no longer current, and should therefore not be relied upon.

Not Rated: A rating assigned when the stock cannot be accurately valued, or the performance of the company accurately predicted, at the present time. The covering analyst may continue to publish research reports on the company to update investors on events and developments.

Those denoted as 'Feature' (e.g., Feature Outperform FOP, Feature Under Outperform FUP) are our core ideas.

on 19-Oct-2026

Not Covered (NC) denotes companies that are not under coverage.

Autonomous brand common stock ratings are based on a 12-month time horizon.

Autonomous brand – preferred stocks

The Autonomous brand has three categories of preferred stock ratings:

- Outperform (OP): The total return of the preferred instrument is expected to outperform preferred securities of other issuers operating in similar sectors or rating categories over the next six months.
- Neutral (N): The total return of the preferred instrument is expected to perform in line with preferred securities of other issuers operating in similar sectors or rating categories over the next six months.
- Underperform (UP): The total return of the preferred instrument is expected to underperform preferred securities of other issuers operating in similar sectors or rating categories over the next six months.

Autonomous preferred stock ratings are based on a 6-month time horizon.

AUTONOMOUS CREDIT RESEARCH

Where this report contains investment recommendations for credit instruments, as defined in article 3(1)(35) of the Market Abuse Regulation, the information below is presented to comply with its disclosure requirements.

The report may also include reference(s) to published opinions by other Autonomous or Bernstein analysts covering the equity securities of the issuer(s) referenced herein. Please note an investment recommendation for credit instruments published by the author(s) of this report may differ from the published view of the analyst covering equity securities for the issuer(s) contained in this report and vice versa.

CREDIT RATINGS DEFINITIONS

The Autonomous brand has three categories of credit ratings:

- Credit Outperform (C-OP): The total return of the Reference Credit Instrument is expected to outperform the credit spread of bonds of other issuers operating in similar sectors or rating categories over the next six months.
- Credit Neutral (C-N): The total return of the Reference Credit Instrument is expected to perform in line with the credit spread of bonds of other issuers operating in similar sectors or rating categories over the next six months.
- Credit Underperform (C-UP): The total return of the Reference Credit Instrument is expected to underperform the credit spread of bonds of other issuers operating in similar sectors or rating categories over the next six months.

Autonomous credit ratings are based on a 6-month time horizon.

A list of all investment recommendations produced by the author(s) of this report alongside credit ratings history are available upon request.

It is at the sole discretion of the Firm as to when to initiate, update and cease research coverage. The Firm has established, maintains and relies on information barriers to control the flow of information contained in one or more areas (i.e. the private side) within the Firm, and into other areas, units, groups or affiliates (i.e. public side) of the Firm



on 19-Oct-2026

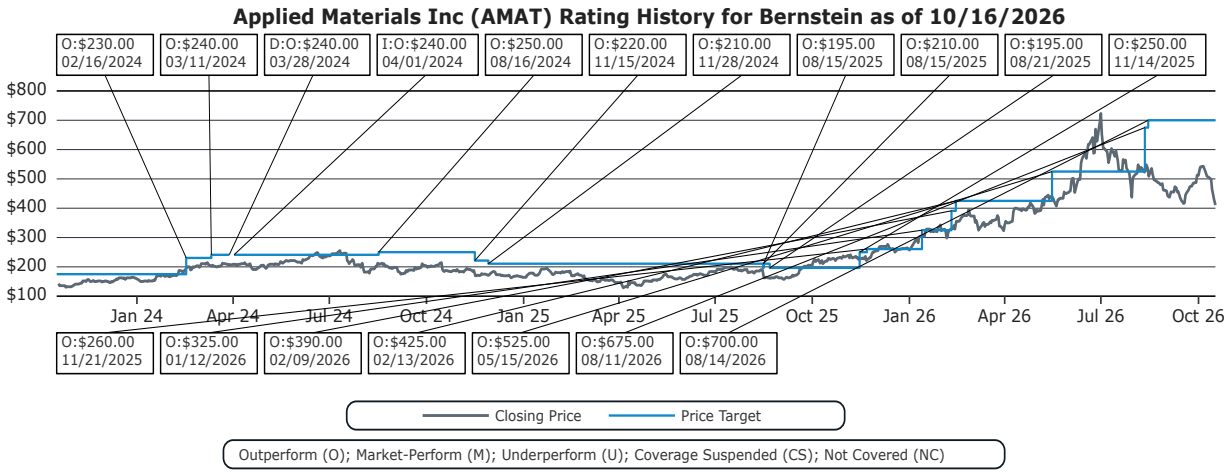
DISTRIBUTION OF EQUITY RATINGS/INVESTMENT BANKING SERVICES

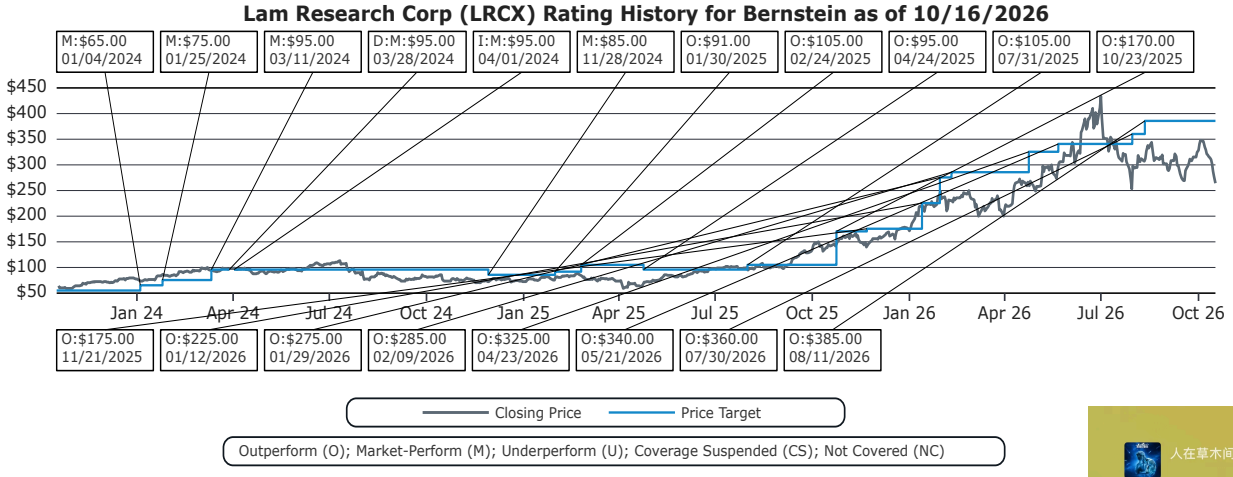
Equity Rating	Market Abuse Regulation (MAR) and FINRA Rating Category	Global Rating Distribution	Investment Banking Relationships*
Outperform	BUY	52.3%	14.2%
Market-Perform (Bernstein Brand) Neutral (Autonomous Brand)	HOLD	35.6%	16.1%
Underperform	SELL	12.1%	13.6%

* These figures represent the percentage of companies within each equity rating category for which affiliates of Bernstein have provided investment banking services within the previous 12 months.
As of September 30, 2026. All figures are updated quarterly.

PRICE CHARTS / RATINGS AND PRICE TARGET HISTORY

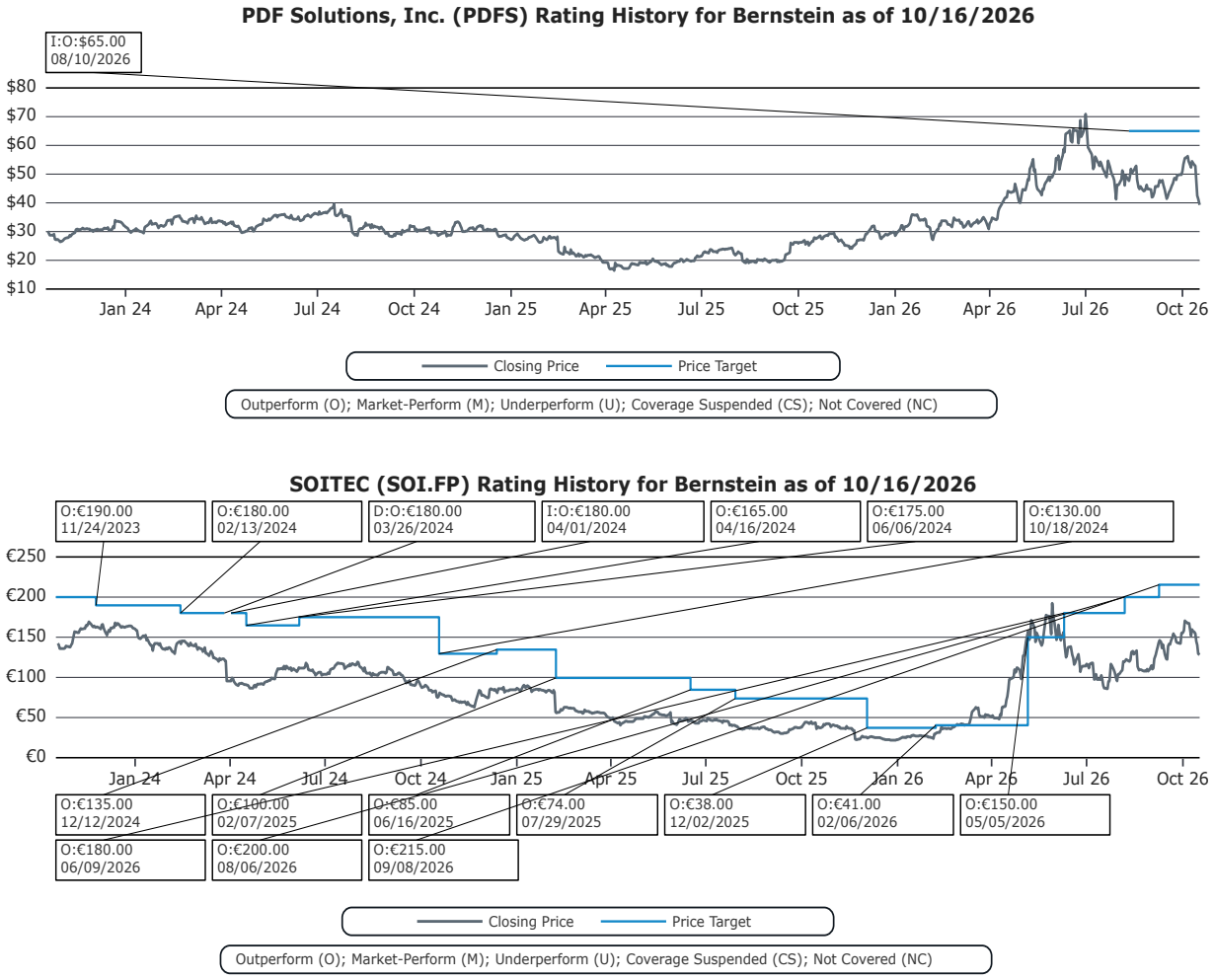
Prior to April 1, 2024, Sanford C. Bernstein & Co., LLC. issued the ratings and price target information in the graph(s) below for the following companies: Applied Materials Inc and Lam Research Corp.





人在草木间

on 19-Oct-2026



All price target and closing price data in the chart(s) above are denominated in the currency noted in the Ticker Table of this report.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All statements in this report attributable to Gartner represent Bernstein's interpretation of data, research opinion or viewpoints published as part of a syndicated subscription service by Gartner, Inc., and have not been reviewed by Gartner. Each Gartner publication speaks as of its original publication date (and not as of the date of this report). The opinions expressed in Gartner publications are not representations of fact, and are subject to change without notice.

Stacy A. Rasgon maintains long positions in various crypto currencies.

Bernstein Autonomous LLP or BSG France SA, beneficially, has either a net long or short position of 0.5% or more of the total issued share capital of a class of common equity securities of the following MiFID eligible securities: Applied Materials Inc.

SG and/or its affiliates beneficially own 1% or more of a class of common equity securities of the following company: SOITEC.

SG and/or its affiliates beneficially own 0.5% or more of [the total issued share capital/any class of common equity securities] with a net [long/short] position of: SOITEC.

Bernstein and/or affiliates have received compensation for investment banking services in the past twelve months from PDF Solutions, Inc. and SOITEC.

on 19-Oct-2026

Bernstein and/or affiliates have received compensation for non-investment banking securities-related products or services in the previous twelve months from the following clients: SOITEC.

Bernstein and/or affiliates expect to receive or intend to seek compensation for investment banking services in the next three months from SOITEC.

Certain affiliates of Bernstein act as market maker or liquidity provider in the equities securities of: Applied Materials Inc, Lam Research Corp, PDF Solutions, Inc. and SOITEC.

Certain affiliates of Bernstein act as market maker or liquidity provider in the debt securities of: Applied Materials Inc.

Affiliates of Bernstein managed or co-managed in the past twelve months a public offering of securities of PDF Solutions, Inc. and SOITEC.

Bernstein and/or affiliates had an investment banking client relationship during the past twelve months with PDF Solutions, Inc. and SOITEC.

OTHER MATTERS

The legal entity(ies) employing the analyst(s) listed in this report, and their location, can be determined by the country code of their phone number, as follows:

+1 Bernstein Institutional Services LLC; New York, New York, USA

+44 Bernstein Autonomous LLP; London UK

+212 Société Générale Global Solution Center Morocco, Casablanca, Morocco

+33 BSG France S.A.; Paris, France

+34 BSG France S.A.; Madrid, Spain

+41 Bernstein Autonomous LLP; Geneva, Switzerland

+49 BSG France S.A.; Frankfurt, Germany

+91 Sanford C. Bernstein (India) Private Limited; Mumbai, India

+852 Sanford C. Bernstein (Hong Kong) Limited 盛博香港有限公司; Hong Kong, China

+65 Sanford C. Bernstein (Singapore) Private Limited; Singapore

+81 Sanford C. Bernstein Japan KK; Tokyo, Japan

Where this report has been prepared by research analyst(s) employed by a non-US affiliate, such analyst(s), is/are (unless otherwise expressly noted below) not registered as associated persons of Bernstein Institutional Services LLC or any other SEC-registered broker-dealer and are not licensed or qualified as research analysts with FINRA. Accordingly, such analyst(s) may not be subject to FINRA's restrictions regarding (among other things) communications by research analysts with a subject company, interactions between research analysts and investment banking personnel, participation by research analysts in solicitation and marketing activities relating to investment banking transactions, public appearances by research analysts, and trading securities held by a research analyst account.

Where this report has been prepared by research analyst(s) employed by Société Générale Africa Technologies & Services (part of the Société Générale group of companies), it has been prepared on behalf of a Bernstein company under a Global Services Agreement in place between Bernstein and Société Générale.

CERTIFICATION

Each research analyst listed in this report, who is primarily responsible for the preparation of the content of this report, certifies that all of the views expressed in this publication accurately reflect that analyst's personal views about any and all of the subject securities or issuers and that no part of that analyst's compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or views in this publication.

on 19-Oct-2026

II. ADDITIONAL GLOBAL CONFLICT DISCLOSURES

It is at the sole discretion of the Firm as to when to initiate, update and cease research coverage. The Firm has established, maintains and relies on information barriers to control the flow of information contained in one or more areas (i.e., the private side) within the Firm, and into other areas, units, groups or affiliates (i.e., public side) of the Firm.

III. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DISCLOSURES

Separate branding is maintained for “Bernstein” and “Autonomous” research products.

- Bernstein produces a number of different types of research products including, among others, fundamental analysis and quantitative analysis under both the “Autonomous” and “Bernstein” brands. Recommendations contained within one type of research product may differ from recommendations contained within other types of research products, whether as a result of differing time horizons, methodologies or otherwise. Furthermore, views or recommendations within a research product issued under one brand may differ from views or recommendations under the same type of research product issued under the other brand. The Research Ratings System for the two brands and other information related to those Rating Systems are included in the previous section.

- Autonomous operates as a separate business unit within the following entities: Bernstein Institutional Services LLC, Bernstein Autonomous LLP, Sanford C. Bernstein (Hong Kong) Limited 盛博香港有限公司 and Sanford C. Bernstein (India) Private Limited. For information relating to “Autonomous” branded products (including certain Sales materials) please visit: www.autonomous.com. For information relating to Bernstein branded products please visit: www.bernsteinresearch.com.

Analysts are compensated based on aggregate contributions to the research franchise as measured by account penetration, productivity and proactivity of investment ideas. No analysts are compensated based on performance in, or contributions to, generating investment banking revenues.

This report has been produced by an independent analyst as defined in Article 3 (1)(34)(i) of EU 596/2014 Market Abuse Regulation (“MAR”) and the same article of MAR as it forms part of United Kingdom domestic law by virtue of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

To our readers in the United States: Bernstein Institutional Services LLC, a broker-dealer registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) and a member of the U.S. Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (“FINRA”) is distributing this publication in the United States and accepts responsibility for its contents. Where this material contains an analysis of debt product(s), such material is intended only for institutional investors and is not subject to the US independence and disclosure standards applicable to debt research prepared for retail investors.

Bernstein Institutional Services LLC may act as principal for its own account or as agent for another person (including an affiliate) in sales or purchases of any security which is a subject of this report. This report does not purport to meet the objectives or needs of any specific individuals, entities or accounts.

To our readers in Canada: If this publication pertains to a Canadian domiciled company, it is being distributed in Canada by Sanford C. Bernstein (Canada) Limited, which is licensed and regulated by the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization. If the publication pertains to a non-Canadian domiciled company, it is being distributed by Bernstein Institutional Services LLC, which is licensed and regulated by both the SEC and FINRA, into Canada under the International Dealers Exemption.

This document may not be passed onto any person in Canada unless that person qualifies as "permitted client" as defined in Section 1.1 of NI 31-103.

To our readers in Brazil: This report has been prepared by Bernstein Institutional Services LLC, and Banco BTG Pactual S.A. ("BTG") is responsible for the distribution of this report in Brazil.

To readers in the United Kingdom: This publication has been issued or approved for issue in the United Kingdom by Bernstein Autonomous LLP, authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and located at 60 London Wall, London EC2M 5SH, +44 (0)20-7170-5000. Registered in England & Wales No OC343985.

This document is for distribution only to persons who (i) have professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (as amended, the “Financial Promotion Order”), (ii) are persons falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) (“high net worth companies, unincorporated associations, etc.”) of the Financial Promotion Order, (iii) are outside the United Kingdom, or (iv) are persons to whom an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of section 21 of the FSMA) in connection with the issue or sale of any securities may otherwise lawfully be communicated or caused to be communicated (all such persons together being referred to as “relevant

on 19-Oct-2026

persons"). This document is directed only at relevant persons and must not be acted on or relied on by persons who are not relevant persons. Any investment or investment activity to which this document relates is available only to relevant persons and will be engaged in only with relevant persons.

To our readers in the member states of the EEA: This publication is being distributed by BSG France SA, which is authorised and regulated by the Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution (ACPR) and Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF).

To our readers in Hong Kong: This publication is being distributed in Hong Kong by Sanford C. Bernstein (Hong Kong) Limited 盛博香港有限公司, which is licensed and regulated by the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission (Central Entity No. AXC846) to carry out Type 4 (Advising on Securities) regulated activities and subject to the licensing conditions mentioned in the SFC Public Register (https://www.sfc.hk/publicregWeb/corp/AXC846/details)). This publication is solely for professional investors, as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571). The purpose of this report is solely to provide an analysis of the issuers referred to in this report and is not intended for any purpose contrary to the laws of Hong Kong.

To our readers in Singapore: This publication is being distributed in Singapore by Sanford C. Bernstein (Singapore) Private Limited, only to accredited investors or institutional investors, as defined in the Securities and Futures Act 2001 of Singapore ("SFA"). Recipients in Singapore should contact Sanford C. Bernstein (Singapore) Private Limited in respect of matters arising from, or in connection with, this publication. Sanford C. Bernstein (Singapore) Private Limited is regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore and licensed under the SFA as a capital markets services licence holder for dealing in capital markets products that are securities and collective investment schemes and an exempt financial adviser for advising on, issuing and promulgating analyses and reports on securities. Sanford C. Bernstein (Singapore) Private Limited is registered in Singapore with Company Registration No. 20213710W and located at 8 Marina Boulevard, #12-01, Marina Bay Financial Centre, Singapore 018981, +65-6326-7000.

To our readers in the People's Republic of China: The securities referred to in this document are not being offered or sold and may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in the People's Republic of China (for such purposes, not including the Hong Kong and Macau Special Administrative Regions or Taiwan, the "PRC") in contravention of any applicable laws of the PRC.

This document does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in the PRC to any person to whom it is unlawful to make the offer or solicitation in the PRC.

We do not represent that this document may be lawfully distributed, or that any securities may be lawfully offered, in compliance with any applicable registration or other requirements in the PRC, or pursuant to an exemption available thereunder, or assume any responsibility for facilitating any such distribution or offering. In particular, no action has been taken by us which would permit a public offering of any securities or distribution of this document in the PRC. Accordingly, the securities are not being offered or sold within the PRC by means of this document or any other document. Neither this document nor any advertisement or other offering material may be distributed or published in the PRC, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with any applicable laws and regulations.

To our readers in Japan: This publication is being distributed in Japan by Sanford C. Bernstein Japan KK (サンフォード・C・バーンスタイン株式会社), which is registered in Japan as a Financial Instruments Business Operator with the Kanto Local Finance Bureau (registration number: The Director-General of Kanto Local Finance Bureau (FIBO) No.3387) and regulated by the Financial Services Agency. It is also a member of Investment Management Association of Japan. This publication is solely for qualified institutional investors in Japan only, as defined in Article 2, paragraph (3), items (i) of the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act.

For the institutional client readers in Japan who have been granted access to the Bernstein website by Daiwa Securities Group Inc. ("Daiwa"), your access to this document should not be construed as meaning that Bernstein is providing you with investment advice for any purposes. Whilst Bernstein has prepared this document, your relationship is, and will remain with, Daiwa, and Bernstein has neither any contractual relationship with you nor any obligations towards you.

To our readers in Australia: Sanford C. Bernstein (Hong Kong) Limited 盛博香港有限公司 is responsible for distributing research in Australia. It is regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission under U.S. laws, by the Financial Conduct Authority under U.K. laws, which differs from Australian laws. Sanford C. Bernstein (Hong Kong) Limited 盛博香港有限公司 is exempt from the requirement to hold an Australian financial services license under the Corporations Act 2001 in respect of the provision of the following financial services to wholesale clients:

- providing financial product advice;
- dealing in a financial product;
- making a market for a financial product; and

on 19-Oct-2026

- providing a custodial or depository service.

To our readers in India: This publication is being distributed in India by Sanford C. Bernstein (India) Private Limited (SCB India) which is licensed and regulated by Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI") as a research analyst entity under the SEBI (Research Analyst) Regulations, 2014, having registration no. INH000006378 and as a stock broker having registration no. INZ000213537. SCB India is currently engaged in the business of providing research and stock broking services. Please refer to www.bernsteinresearch.in for more information.

- SCB India is a Private limited company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013, on April 12, 2017 bearing corporate identification number U65999MH2017FTC293762, and registered office at Level 3A, 4th Floor, First International Financial Centre, Plot Nos C-54 and C-55, G Block, Near CBI Office, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai 400098, Maharashtra, India (Phone No: +91-22-68421401).

- For details of Associates (i.e., affiliates/group companies) of SCB India, kindly email MUM-BERNSTEIN-InCompliance@bernsteinsg.com / scbincompliance@bernsteinsg.com.

- SCB India does not have any disciplinary history as on the date of this report.

- Except as noted above, SCB India and/or its Associates (i.e., affiliates/group companies), the Research Analysts authoring this report, and their relatives

  - do not have any financial interest in the subject company

  - do not have actual/beneficial ownership of one percent or more in securities of the subject company;

  - is not engaged in any investment banking activities for Indian companies, as such;

  - have not managed or co-managed a public offering in the past twelve months for any Indian companies;

  - have not received any compensation for investment banking services or merchant banking services from the subject company in the past 12 months;

  - have not received compensation for brokerage services from the subject company in the past twelve months;

  - have not received any compensation or other benefits from the subject company or third party related to the specific recommendations or views in this report; and

  - do not currently, but may in the future, act as a market maker in the financial instruments of the companies covered in the report.

  - do not have any conflict of interest in the subject company as of the date of this report.

- Except as noted above, the subject company has not been a client of SCB India during twelve months preceding the date of distribution of this research report. Neither SCB India nor its Associates (i.e., affiliates/group companies) have received compensation for products or services other than investment banking, merchant banking or brokerage services from the subject company in the past twelve months.

- The principal research analyst(s) who prepared this report, members of the analysts' team, and members of their households are not an officer, director, employee or advisory board member of the companies covered in the report.

- Our Compliance officer / Grievance officer is Ms. Rupal Talati, who can be reached at +91-22-68421451, or MUM-BERNSTEIN-InCompliance@bernsteinsg.com / Scbin-investorgrievance@bernsteinsg.com / scbincompliance@bernsteinsg.com.

- Kindly refer to the Research investor charter and Research Most Important Terms & Conditions (MITC) available at (https://bernsteinresearch.in/)

- Disclaimer: Registration granted by SEBI, and certification from NISM, is in no way a guarantee of performance of the intermediary or provide any assurance of returns to investors. Investments in securities market are subject to market risks. Read

on 19-Oct-2026

all the related documents carefully before investing.

To our readers in Switzerland: This document is provided in Switzerland by or through Bernstein Autonomous LLP, and is provided only to qualified investors as defined in article 10 of the Swiss Collective Investment Scheme Act ("CISA") and related provisions of the Collective Investment Scheme Ordinance and in strict compliance with applicable Swiss law and regulations. The products mentioned in this document may not be suitable for all types of investors. This document is based on the Directives on the Independence of Financial Research issued by the Swiss Bankers Association (SBA) in January 2008.

To our readers in the Middle East: Bernstein Autonomous LLP, DIFC branch has its principal office at Gate Village 06, DIFC, Dubai, UAE. Bernstein Autonomous LLP, DIFC branch is regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA) with the registration number CL10040 and is provisioned for Arranging Deals in Investments and Advising on Financial Products. All communications and services are directed at Professional Clients and Market Counterparties only (as defined in the DFSA rulebook). Persons other than Professional Clients and Market Counterparties, such as Retail Clients, are not the intended recipients of our communications or services.

LEGAL

All research publications are disseminated to our clients through posting on the firm's password protected websites, bernsteinresearch.com and autonomous.com. Certain, but not all, research publications are also made available to clients through third-party vendors or redistributed to clients through alternate electronic means as a convenience.

This publication has been published and distributed in accordance with the Firm's policy for management of conflicts of interest in investment research, a copy of which is available from Bernstein Institutional Services LLC, Director of Compliance, 245 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10167. Additional disclosures and information regarding Bernstein's business are available on our website www.bernsteinresearch.com.

The securities described herein may not be eligible for sale in all jurisdictions or to certain categories of investors where that permission profile is not consistent with the licenses held by the entities noted herein. This document is for distribution only as may be permitted by law. This publication is not directed to, or intended for distribution to or use by, any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of, or located in any locality, state, country or other jurisdiction where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law or regulation or which would subject any of the entities referenced herein or any of their subsidiaries or affiliates to any registration or licensing requirement within such jurisdiction. This publication is based upon public sources we believe to be reliable, but no representation is made by us that the publication is accurate or complete. We do not undertake to advise you of any change in the reported information or in the opinions herein. This publication was prepared and issued by entity referred to herein for distribution to eligible counterparties or professional clients. This publication is not an offer to buy or sell any security, and it does not constitute investment, legal or tax advice. The investments referred to herein may not be suitable for you. Investors must make their own investment decisions in consultation with their professional advisors in light of their specific circumstances. The value of investments may fluctuate, and investments that are denominated in foreign currencies may fluctuate in value as a result of exposure to exchange rate movements. Information about past performance of an investment is not necessarily a guide to, indicator of, or assurance of, future performance.

This report is directed to and intended only for our clients who are "eligible counterparties", "professional clients", "institutional investors" and/or "professional investors" as defined by the aforementioned regulators, and must not be redistributed to retail clients as defined by the aforementioned regulators. Retail clients who receive this report should note that the services of the entities noted herein are not available to them and should not rely on the material herein to make an investment decision. The result of such act will not hold the entities noted herein liable for any loss thus incurred as the entities noted herein are not registered/ authorised/ licensed to deal with retail clients and will not enter into any contractual agreement/arrangement with retail clients. This report is provided subject to the terms and conditions of any agreement that the clients may have entered into with the entities noted herein. All research reports are disseminated on a simultaneous basis to eligible clients through electronic publication to our client portal.

The information in this report was prepared by Bernstein solely for the internal business use of our clients. Clients may store, display, analyze, reformat and print the information in this report for this limited use only. Clients may not copy, alter, create derivative works, resell, reverse engineer, commercially exploit, share or distribute any part of the information contained herein for any purpose without Bernstein's express written consent. These restrictions include extracting data or using the content to develop indices or other products. Further, you may not use this report, or any portion of this report, to train or finetune any third-party machine learning or artificial intelligence system, or as a prompt or input into any such system. You also may not, without Bernstein's express written consent, do any of the foregoing in connection with your own internal machine learning or artificial intelligence system.

Bernstein may use artificial intelligence tools in the preparation of its materials. Any such materials are reviewed by Bernstein's research analysts prior to publication.

on 19-Oct-2026

This report has been prepared for information purposes only and is based on current public information that we consider reliable, but the entities noted herein do not warrant or represent (express or implied) as to the sources of information or data contained herein are accurate, complete, not misleading or as to its fitness for the purpose intended even though the entities noted herein rely on reputable or trustworthy data providers, it should not be relied upon as such. Opinions expressed are the author(s)' current opinions as of the date appearing on the material only and we do not undertake to advise you of any change in the reported information or in the opinions herein.

Any references to Societe Generale herein are purely factual, based upon publicly available information, and included for comparative purposes only. They do not constitute an opinion or recommendation with respect to the securities of Societe Generale.

This publication was prepared and issued by the entity referred to herein for distribution to eligible counterparties or professional clients. The information in this report is intended for general circulation and does not constitute an offer to buy or sell any security, investment, legal or tax advice nor a personal recommendation, as defined by any of the aforementioned regulators. It does not take into account the particular investment objectives, financial situations, or needs of individual investors. The report has not been reviewed by any of the aforementioned regulators and does not represent any official recommendation from the aforementioned regulators. The investments referred to herein may not be suitable for you. Investors must make their own investment decisions in consultation with advice sought from a financial adviser regarding the suitability of the investment product, taking into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any recipient of the recommendation, before the recipient makes a commitment to purchase the investment product.

The analysis contained herein is based on numerous assumptions. Different assumptions could result in materially different results. The information in this report does not constitute, or form part of, any offer to sell or issue, or any offer to purchase or subscribe for shares, or to induce engagement in any other investment activity. The value of any securities or financial instruments mentioned in this report may fluctuate subject to market conditions. Information about past performance of an investment is not necessarily a guide to, indicative of, or assurance of future performance. Estimates of future performance mentioned by the research analyst in this report are based on assumptions that may not be realized due to unforeseen factors like market volatility/fluctuation. In relation to securities or financial instruments denominated in a foreign currency other than the clients' home currency, movements in exchange rates will have an effect on the value, either favorable or unfavorable. Before acting on any recommendations in this report, recipients should consider the appropriateness of investing in the subject securities or financial instruments mentioned in this report and, if necessary, seek independent professional advice.

The securities described herein may not be eligible for sale in all jurisdictions or to certain categories of investors where that permission profile is not consistent with the licenses held by the entities noted herein. This document is for distribution only as may be permitted by law. It is not directed to, or intended for distribution to or use by, any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any locality, state, country or other jurisdiction where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law or regulation or would subject the entities noted herein to any regulation or licensing requirement within such jurisdiction.

Source: Bloomberg Index Services Limited. BLOOMBERG® is a trademark and service mark of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates (collectively "Bloomberg"). Bloomberg or Bloomberg's licensors own all proprietary rights in the Bloomberg Indices. Neither Bloomberg nor Bloomberg's licensors approves or endorses this material, or guarantees the accuracy or completeness of any information herein, or makes any warranty, express or implied, as to the results to be obtained therefrom and, to the maximum extent allowed by law, neither shall have any liability or responsibility for injury or damages arising in connection therewith.

No part of this material may be reproduced, distributed or transmitted or otherwise made available without prior consent of the entities noted herein. Copyright Bernstein Institutional Services LLC Bernstein Autonomous LLP, BSG France S.A., Sanford C. Bernstein (Hong Kong) Limited 盛博香港有限公司, Sanford C. Bernstein (Canada) Limited, Sanford C. Bernstein (India) Private Limited (SEBI registration no. INH000006378), Sanford C. Bernstein (Singapore) Private Limited and Sanford C. Bernstein Japan KK (サンフォード・C・バーンスタイン株式会社). All rights reserved. The trademarks and service marks contained herein are the property of their respective owners. Any unauthorized use or disclosure is strictly prohibited. The entities noted herein may pursue legal action if the unauthorized use results in any defamation and/or reputational risk to the entities noted herein and research published under the Bernstein and Autonomous brands.