

## Asia Tech

Navigating The Noise

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## January 2025: Sales +14% YoY (+4% Ex AI)

12 February 2025

**Strongest January since '21** when COVID drove the mother of all upcycles.

**AI DROVE the market** fueled by suppliers across CoWoS | Switch | ODM's | Semi's

**January and February data is tricky:** early pull ins due to Chinese New Year or tariffs distort the trends. March will provide a more accurate reflection of underlying demand.

**BUT.....YoY growth peaked in Dec '24** and is decelerating

**Standouts:** Mitac on AI Switches, Foxconn Tech on Game console casings & AsRock on AI Server

**Laggards:** Egalax Empia on Touch, Advanced Wireless on RF Foundry & Dynapack on Li-Ion Battery

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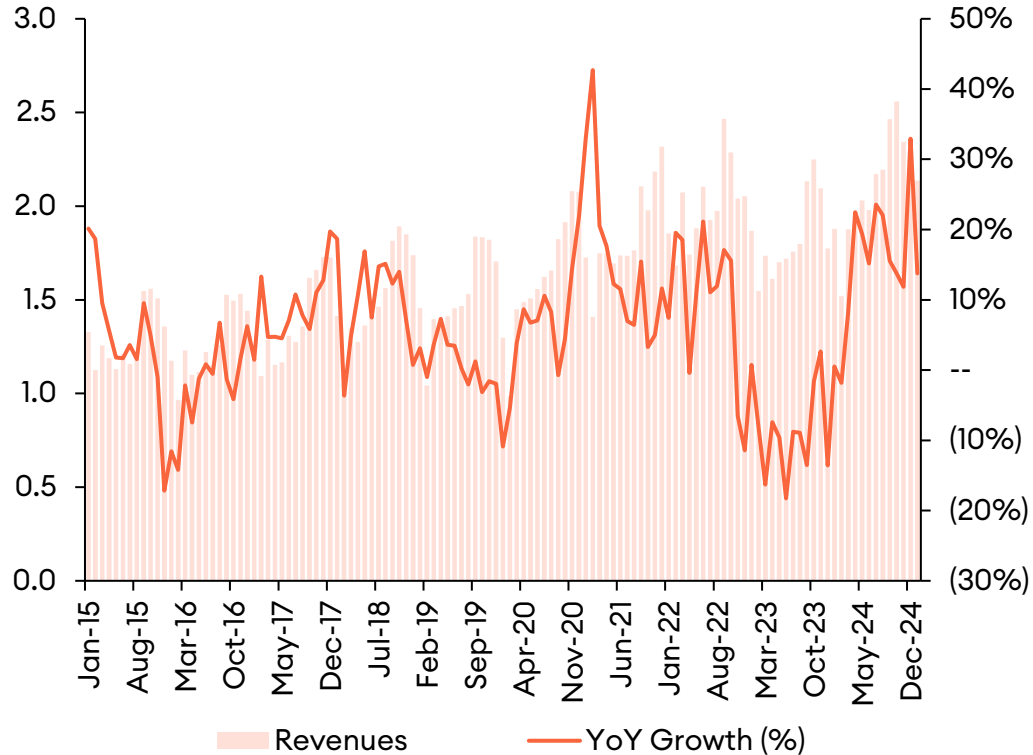
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# Taiwan monthly sales DECELERATE in January after peaking in Dec

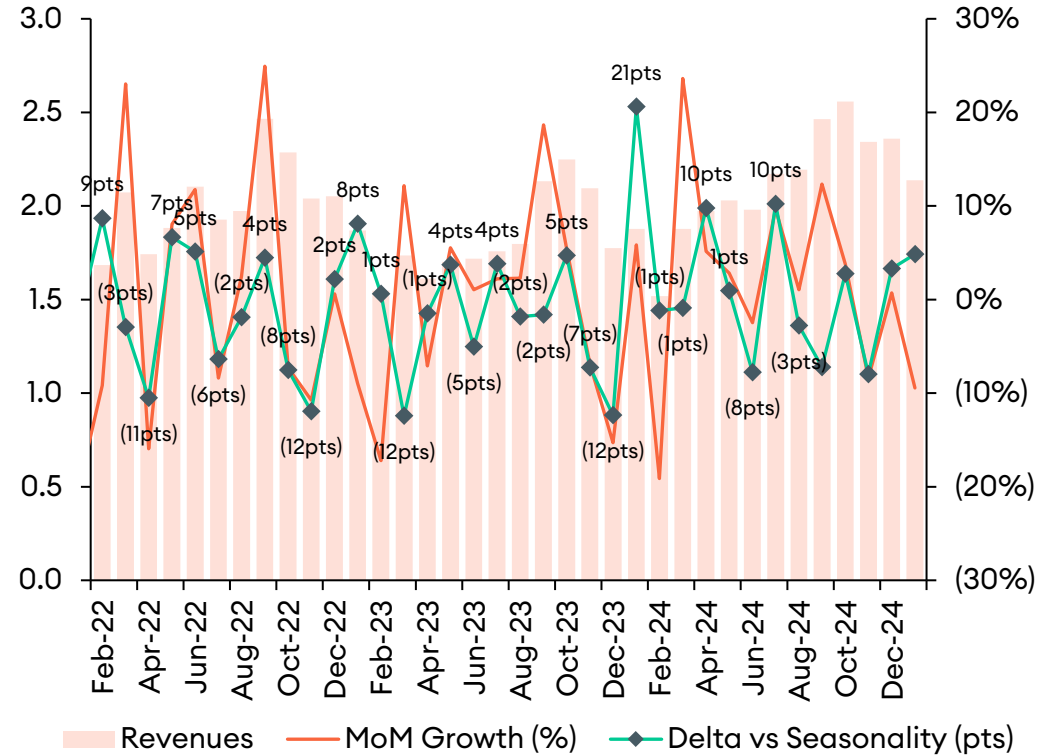
Sales up 14% year-on-year

Taiwan Monthly Sales (TWDtn) & YoY growth (%)



Month-on-month growth 5pts Above seasonality

Taiwan Monthly Sales (TWDtn) & MoM growth (%)

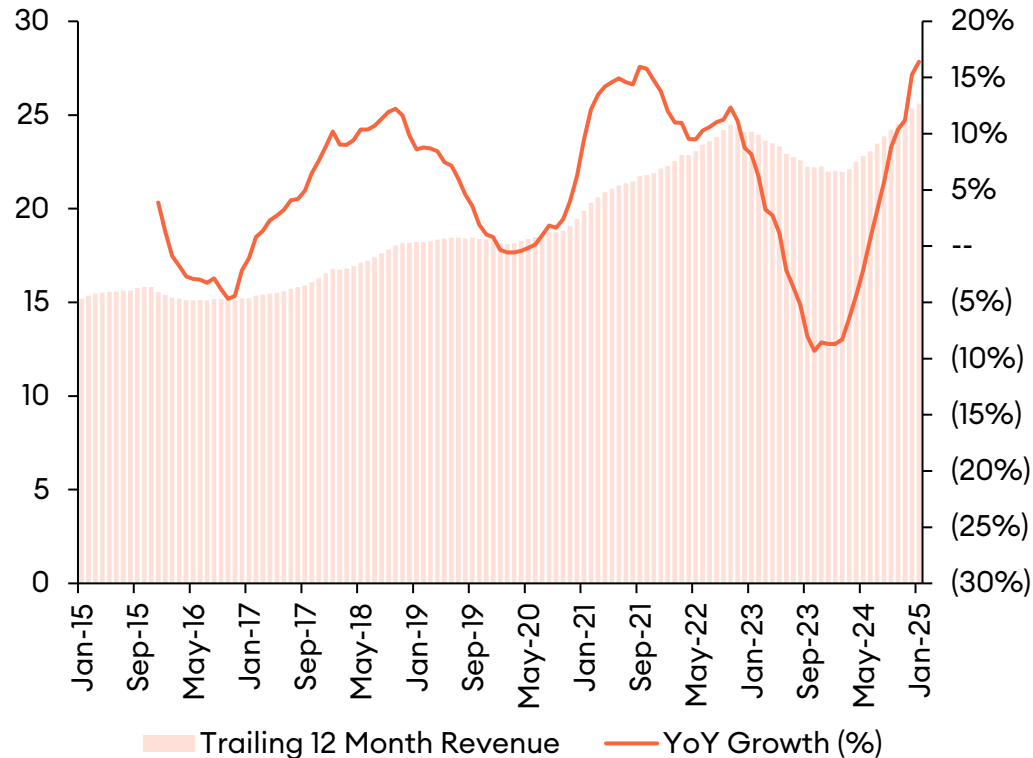


Source: Bloomberg and NSR analysis.

# LTM sales likely eclipse prior cycle highs, Trailing 3-Month sales plateauing

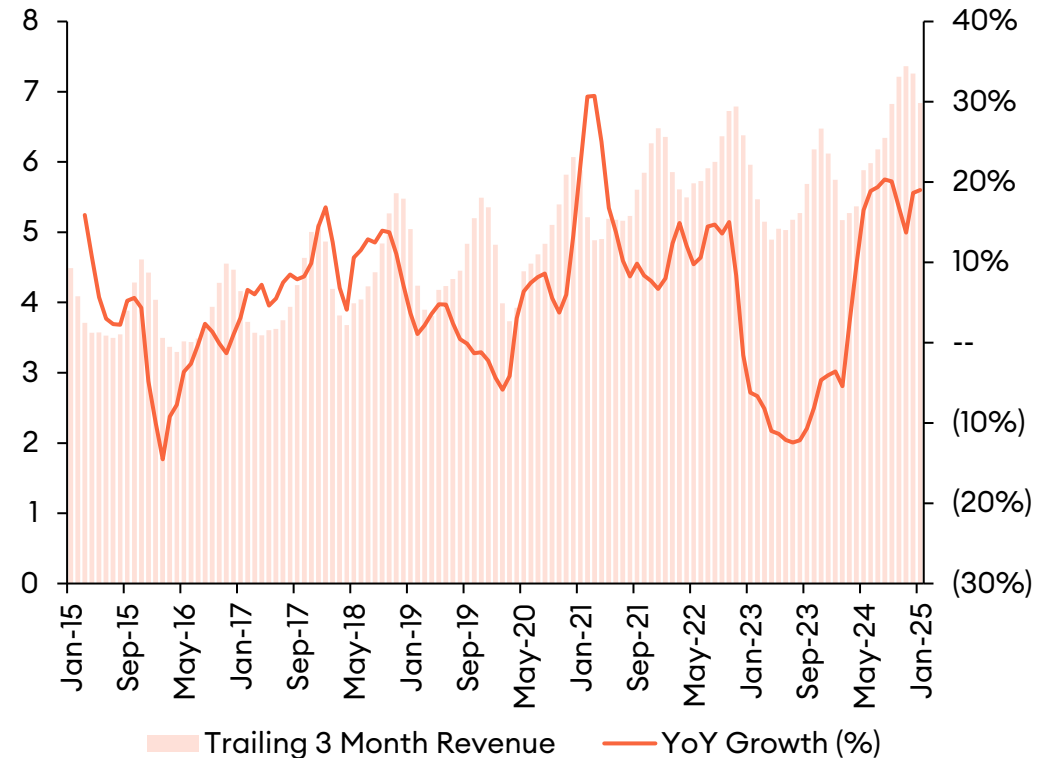
## Trailing 12-month sales up 16% YoY

Taiwan TTM Monthly Sales (TWDtn) & YoY growth (%)



## Trailing 3-month sales up 19% YoY

Taiwan Monthly Sales (TWDtn) & MoM growth (%)



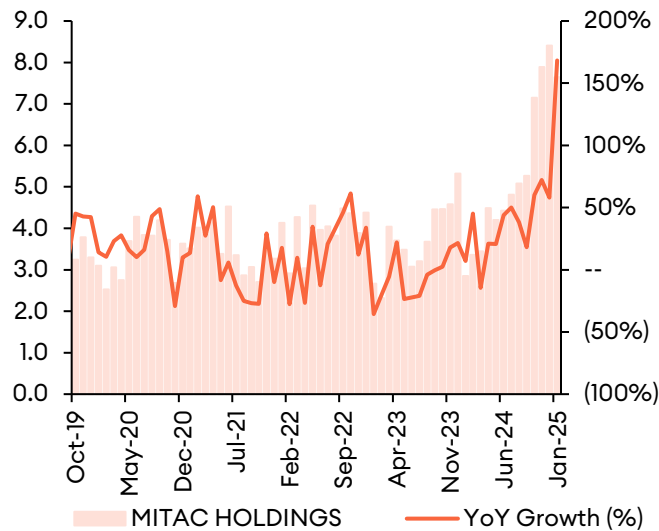
Source: Bloomberg and NSR analysis.

# Top 3 performers: Mitac, Foxconn Tech & Asrock

## Mitac up 168% YoY

Monthly Sales (TWDtn)

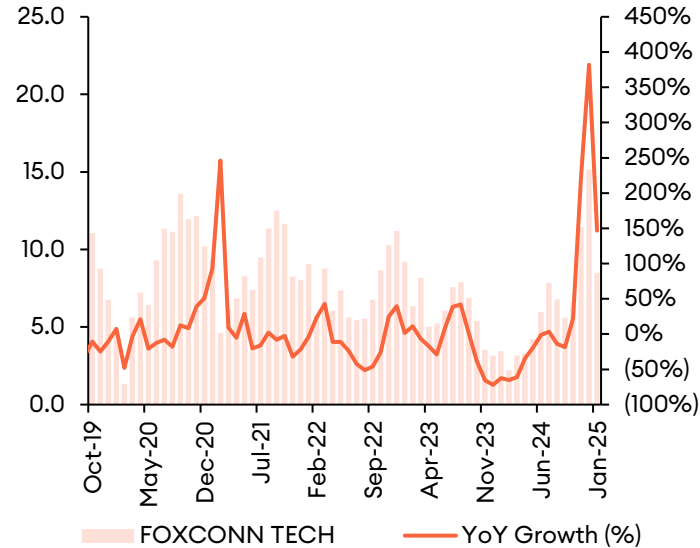
Switch ODM for ORCL



## Foxconn Tech up 147% YoY

Monthly Sales (TWDtn)

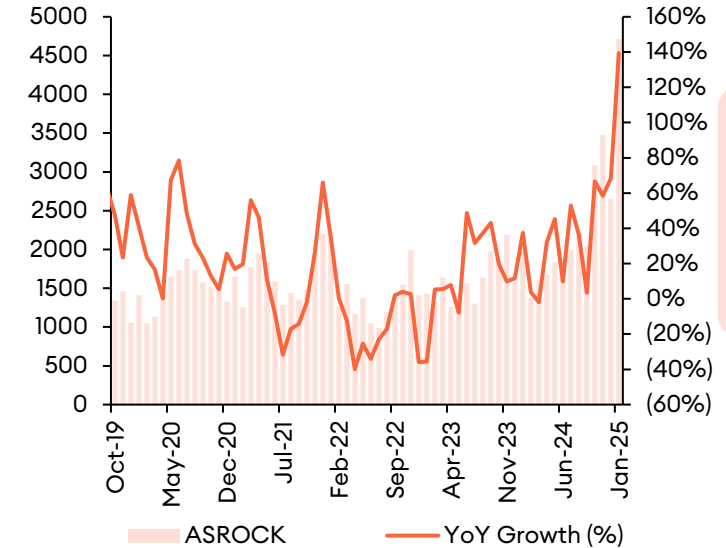
Game Console Casings



## Asrock up 139%

Monthly Sales (TWDtn)

AI, HPC, Cloud Servers



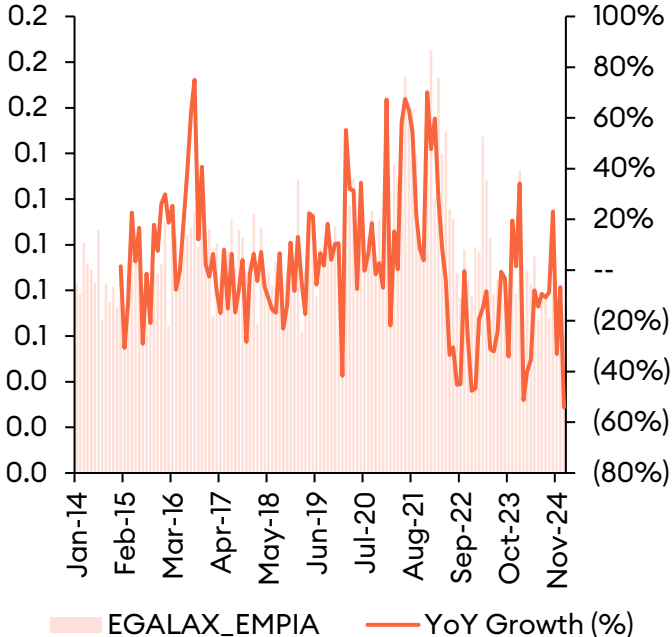
Source: Bloomberg and NSR analysis.

# Bottom 3 performers: Egalax Empia, Advanced Wireless, Dynapack

## Egalax Empia down 54% YoY

Monthly Sales (TWDtn)

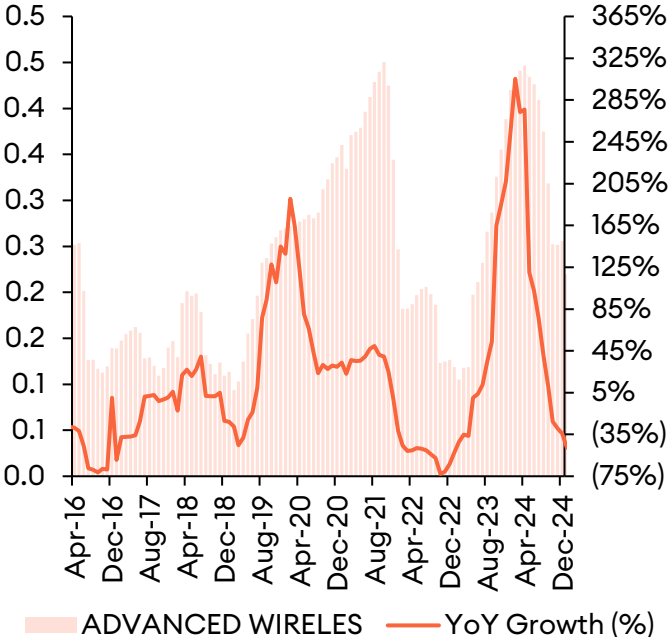
Touch Panel



## Advanced Wireless down 48% YoY

Monthly Sales (TWDtn)

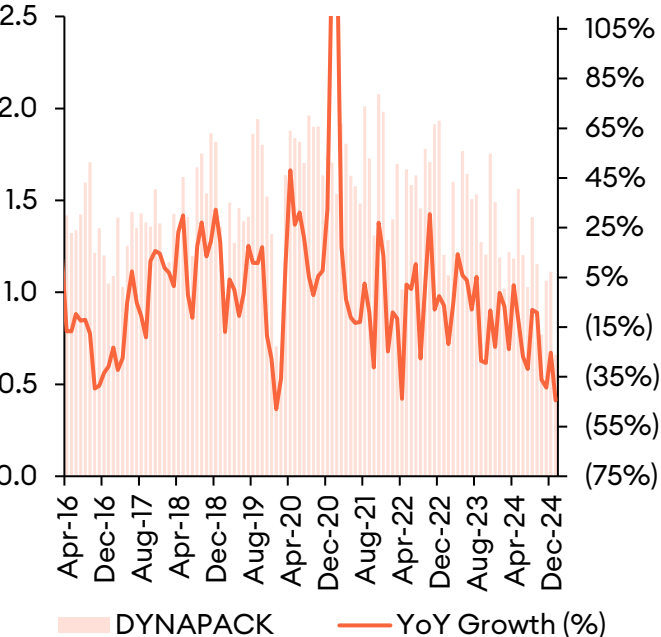
RF Foundry for Smartphone



## Dynapack down 45% YoY

Monthly Sales (TWDtn)

Li-Ion Batteries for NB, Smartphones & E-Bikes

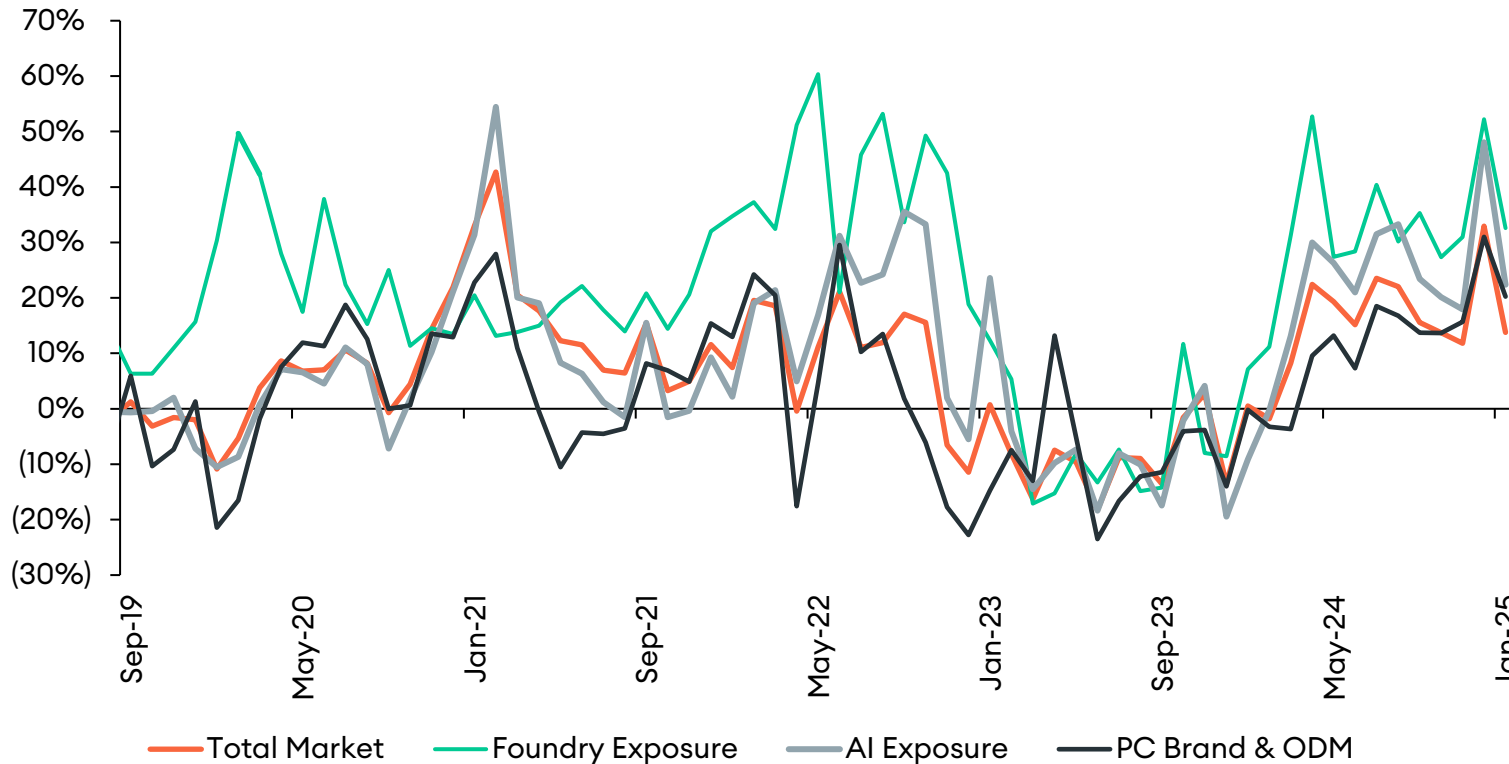


Source: Bloomberg and NSR analysis.

# Top 3 segments: Foundry +33%, AI +22%, PC Brands & ODM's +20%

Foundry & AI, outperformed the broader market; AI exposed ODM's drove the PC Brand & ODM sector

Taiwan Monthly Sales YoY growth, by segment (%)



**Foundry** paced by TSM + 36% YoY / RF foundries continue to roll over after the 2H 23 'replacement cycle' for Smartphones

**AI** paced by BOTH upstream and downstream suppliers

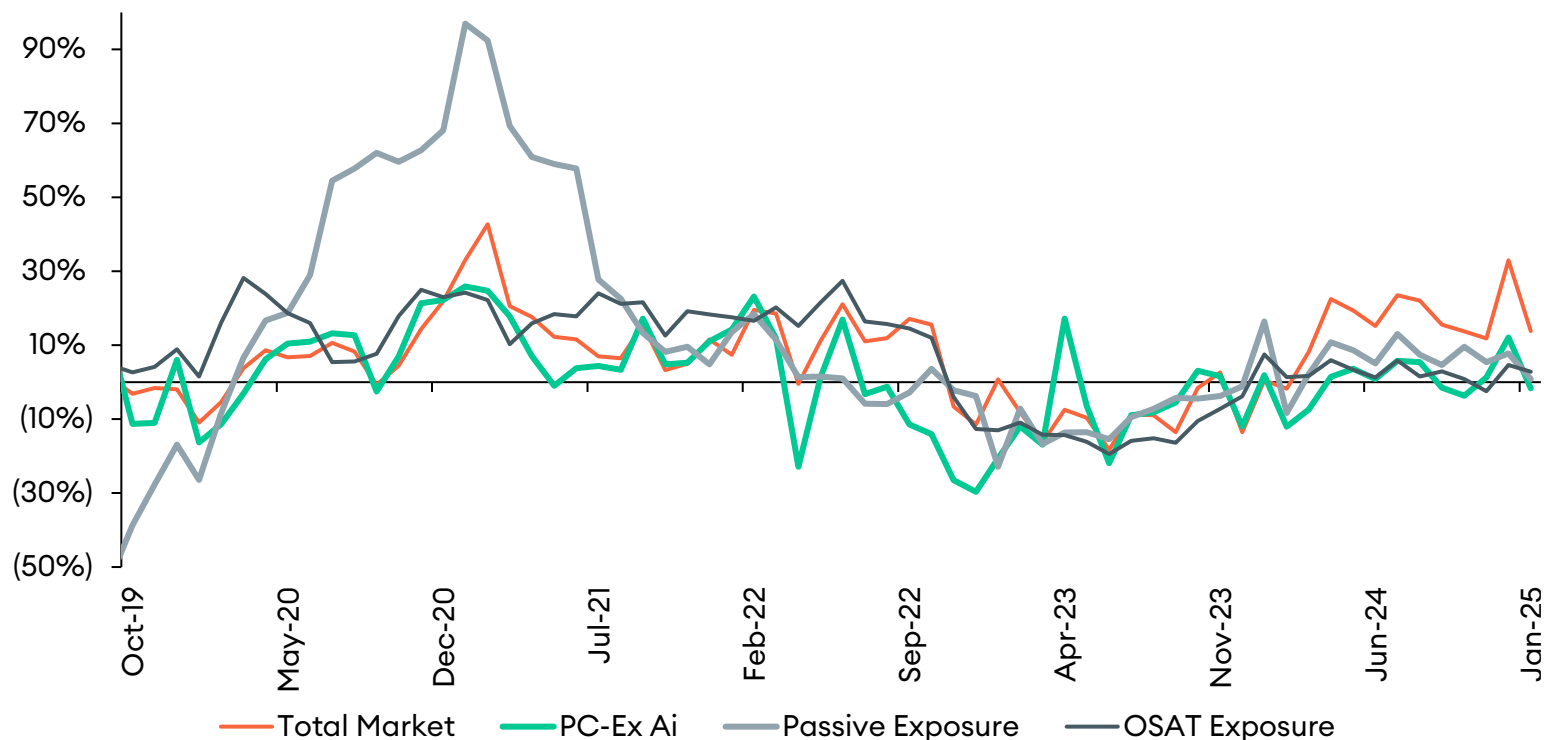
**PC Brands & ODM** strength is driven by Quanta and Wistron tied to AI while PC centric suppliers were all weak.

Source: Bloomberg and NSR analysis.

## Bottom 3 segments: PC Ex AI -2%, Passives +1%, OSAT +3%

### Passives, Gaming & PC Ex AI underperformed the broader market

Taiwan Monthly Sales YoY growth, by segment (%)



**PC Ex AI** weak across the board following a stronger than expected December. Early CNY and Tariff fears likely pulled forward builds.

**Passives** Yageo accounts for 58% of the segment and growth has been decelerating since July.

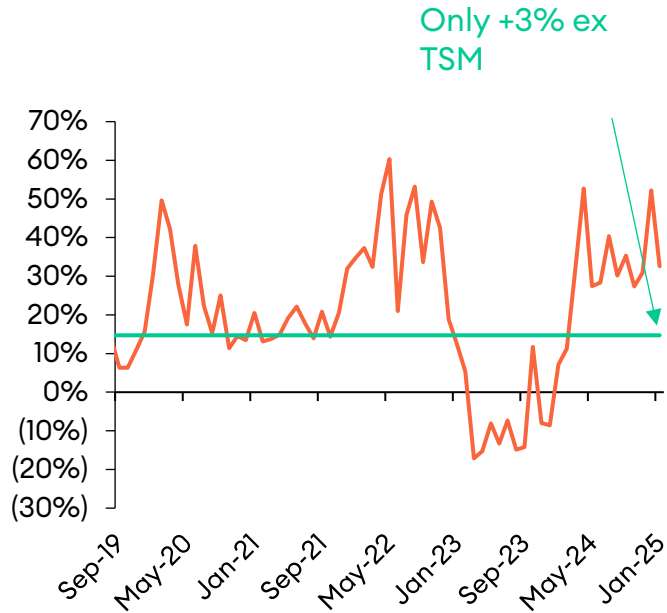
**OSAT** Powertech (memory packaging) and King Yuan (IC Test) paced the sector lower. ASE continues to bounce along the bottom, weighed down by excess inventory

Source: Bloomberg and NSR analysis.

# Foundry & AI reverse post unusually strong Dec & ASIC Design continues to decelerate

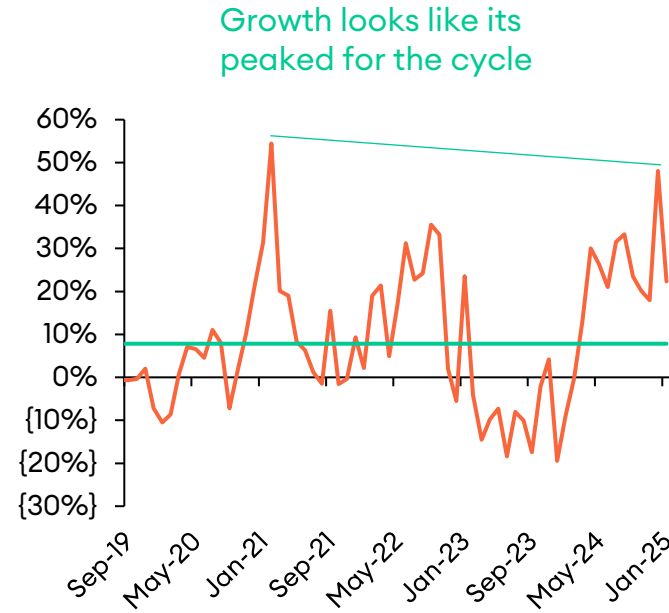
## Foundry up 33% YoY

Growth YoY (%)



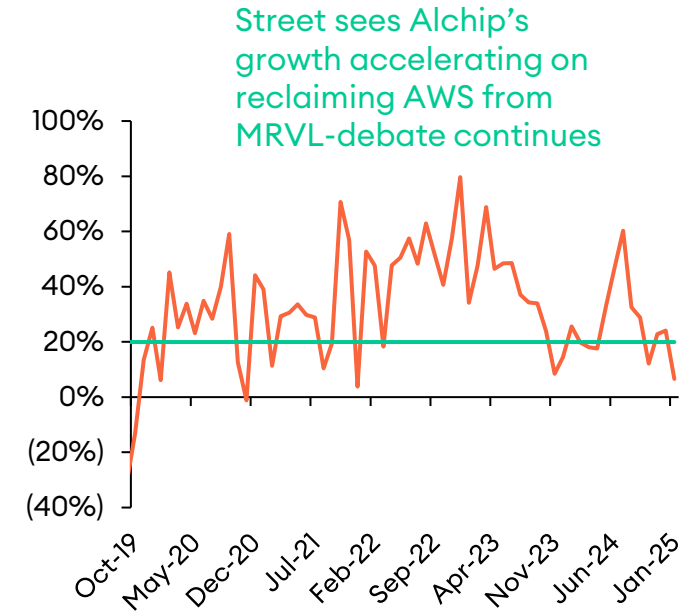
## AI up 22% YoY

Growth YoY (%)



## ASIC Design up 7% YoY

Growth YoY (%)



— YoY Growth (%)    — Underlying YoY Growth (%)

**Alchip revenue decline due to end of 5 nm ASIC cycle; Asia analysts betting they win 3 nm from MRVL**

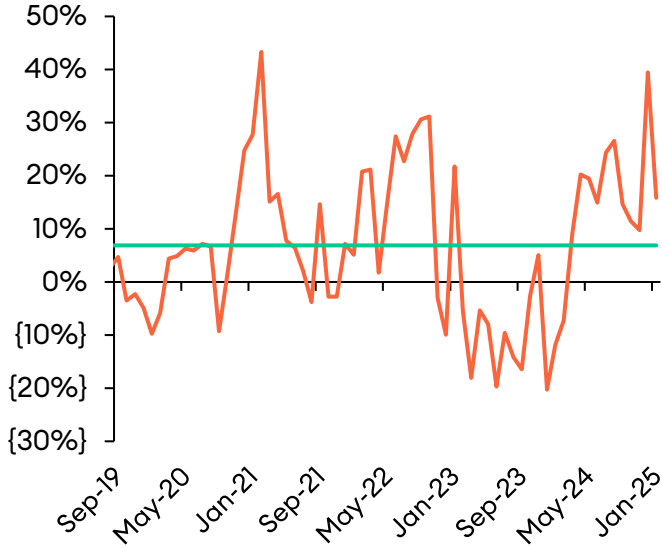
Source: Bloomberg and NSR analysis.



# AAPL Suppliers Growth inflated by TSM & Quanta where AI is the driver, Not iPhone

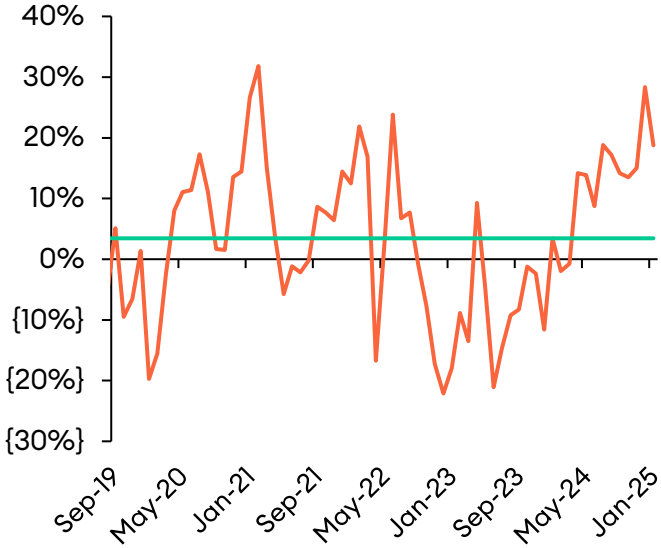
## Apple up 16% YoY

Growth YoY (%)



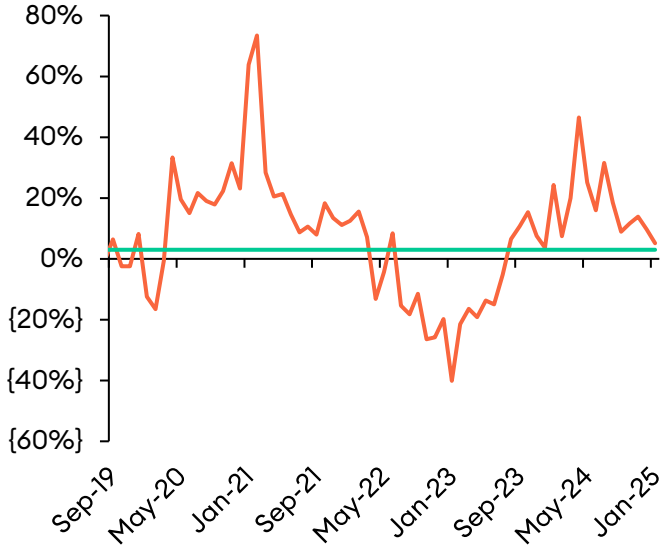
## PCs up 19% YoY

Growth YoY (%)



## Gaming +5 YoY

Growth YoY (%)



— YoY Growth (%)      — Underlying YoY Growth (%)

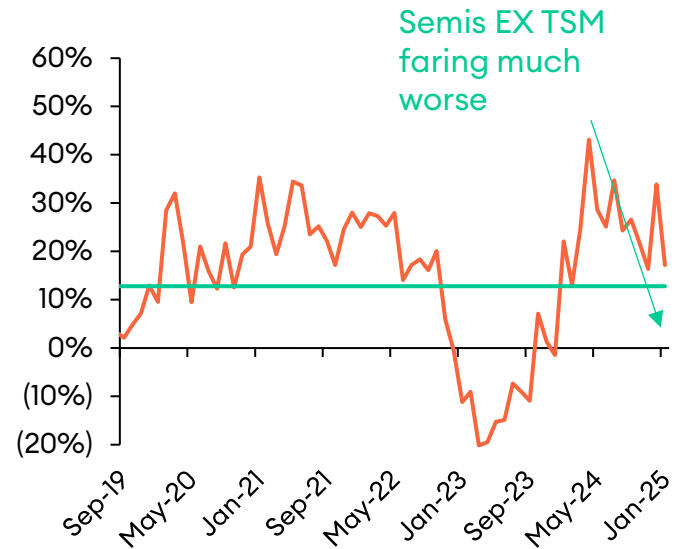
**PC Sector is driven by the ODM's with AI exposure; PCs remain quite weak**

Source: Bloomberg and NSR analysis.

# Semis Decelerate sharply; RF & Passives continue to bounce along the bottom

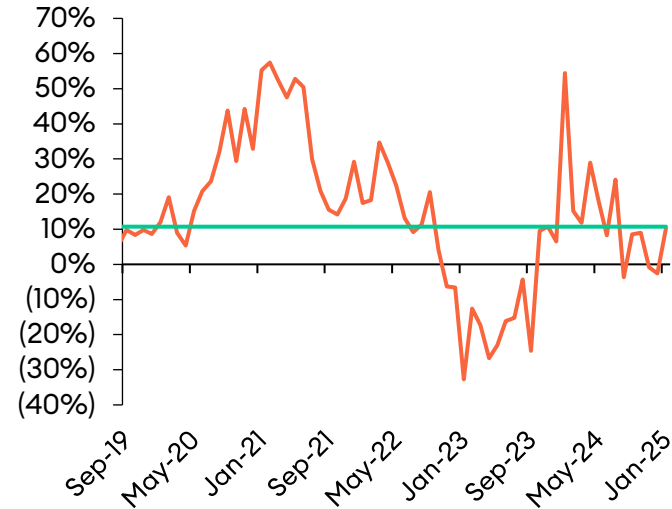
## Semis up 17% YoY

Growth YoY (%)



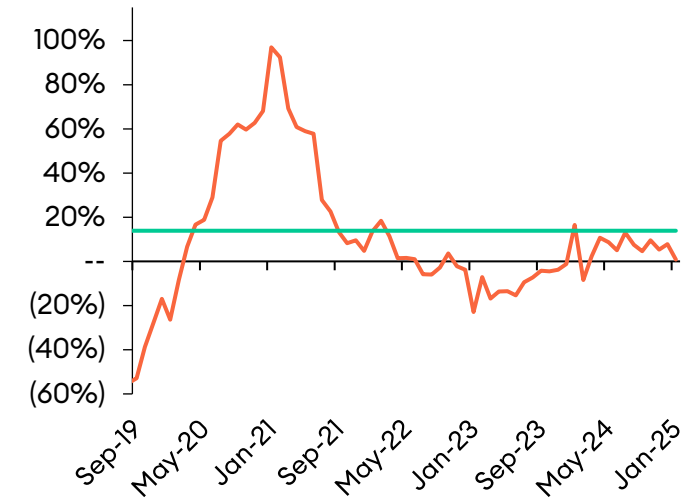
## RF +10% YoY

Growth YoY (%)



## Passives up 1% YoY

Growth YoY (%)



— YoY Growth (%) — Underlying YoY Growth (%)

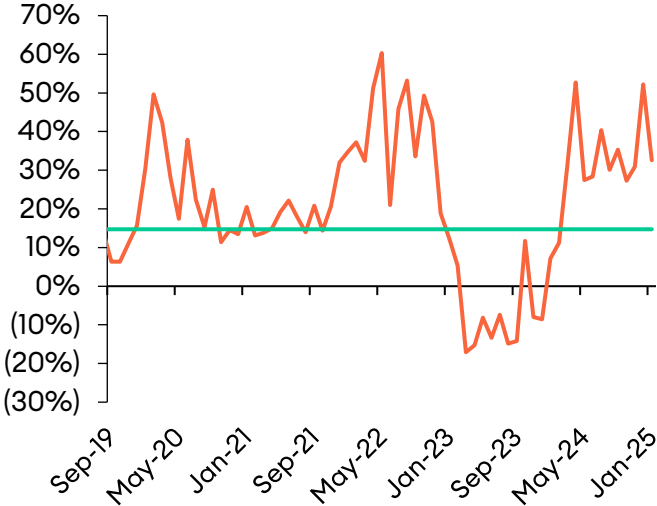
**TSM accounts for 11 points of Semi's Growth. EX TSM semi's growing below trend**

Source: Bloomberg and NSR analysis.

# Foundry/Manufacturing Sector: AI driving growth / Legacy tech (PC & OSAT) weak

## Foundry up 33% YoY

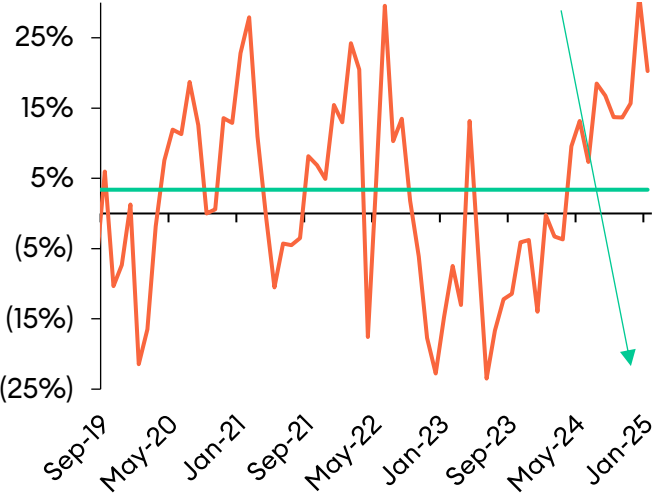
Growth YoY (%)



## PC Brand & ODM +20% YoY

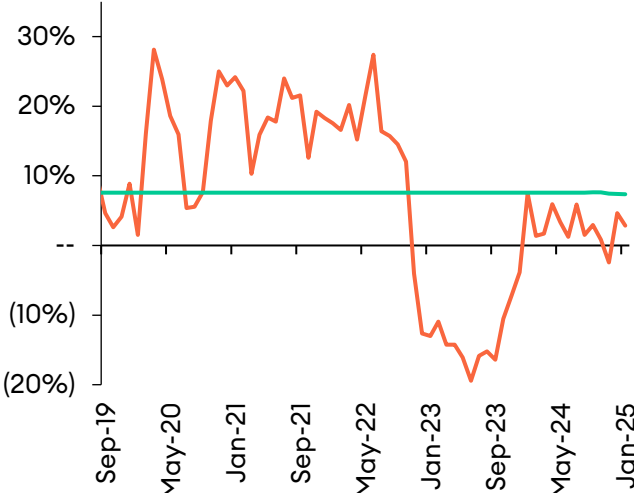
Growth YoY (%)

Core PC's down 30% LTM. Quanta & Wistron AI boost the sector



## OSAT +3% YoY

Growth YoY (%)



— YoY Growth (%)    — Underlying YoY Growth (%)

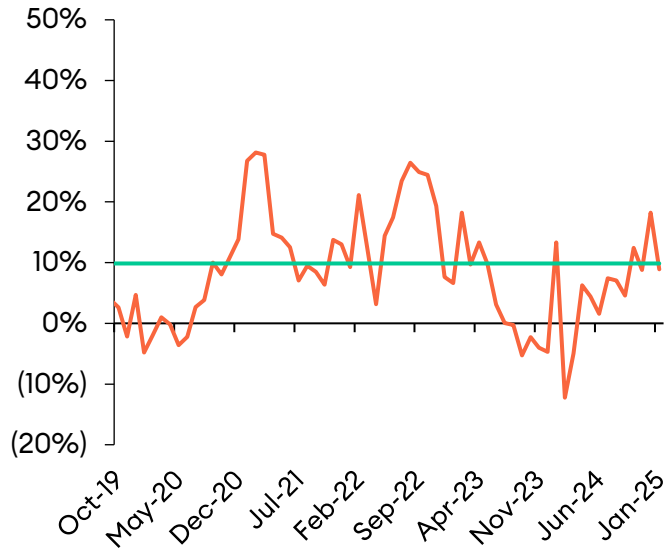
**TSM has been outgrowing the overall foundry sector for 2.5 years**

Source: Bloomberg and NSR analysis.

# Autos/Automation/Display Sector: Accelerating off the bottom

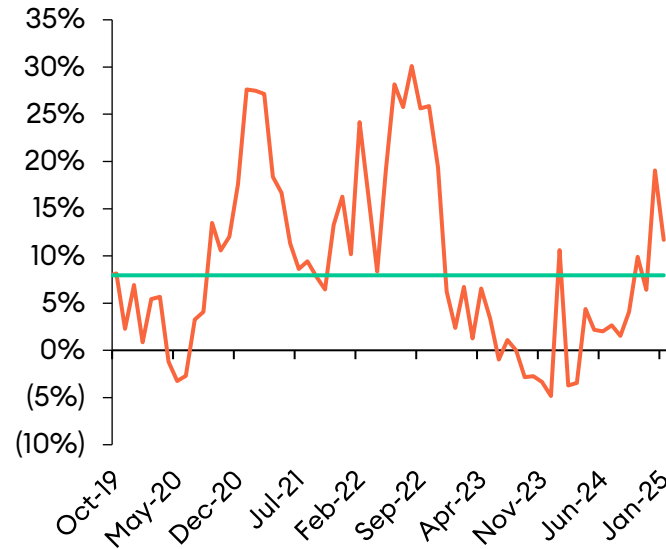
## Automation up 9% YoY

Growth YoY (%)



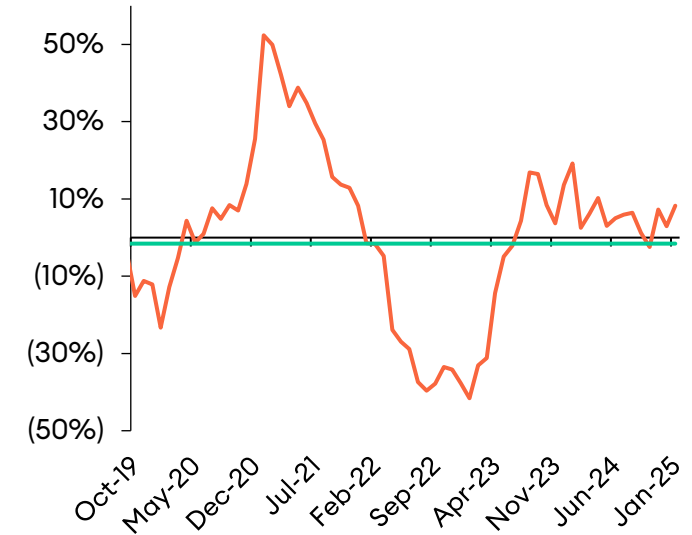
## Autos up 12% YoY

Growth YoY (%)



## Display up 8% YoY

Growth YoY (%)



— YoY Growth (%)    — Underlying YoY Growth (%)

## Auto & Automation bounce off the bottom is fizzling out

Source: Bloomberg and NSR analysis.

# Relevant Further Research

- Taiwan Dec Sales +33% YoY, driven by AI (12 January 2025) - [Link](#)
- Taiwan Nov Sales +12% YoY, driven by Semis, Thermal & ODM's. (11 December 2024) - [Link](#)
- Inventec (2317 TT) Conf. Call wrap up - (15 November 2024) - [Link](#)
- Vanguard (5347 TT) Conf. Call wrap up - (13 November 2024) - [Link](#)
- Taiwan Oct Sales +14% YoY (AI +21% & EX AI +5%) - (12 November 2024) - [Link](#)
- Kinsus (3189 TT) Conf. Call wrap up - (6 November 2024) - [Link](#)
- King Slide (2059 TT) Conf. Call wrap up - (31 October 2024) - [Link](#)
- Gigabyte (2376 TT) Conf. Call wrap up - (25 October 2024) - [Link](#)
- Global Mixed-Mode (8081 TT) Conf. Call Wrap Up - (22 October 2024) - [Link](#)
- Taiwan Sep Sales: +16% YoY (50% lower ex AI) - (14 October 2024) - [Link](#)
- Asia Tech Tour Takeaways: AI great; Legacy Tech Weak - (23 September 2024) - [Link](#)
- Taiwan Monthly Sales Recap: August 2024: Sales + 22% YoY - (16 September 2024) - [Link](#)

# Disclosures

12 month historical recommendation changes are available on request

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