



Automotive Tier One Q3 2019

Industry Report

December, 2019

Applied Value

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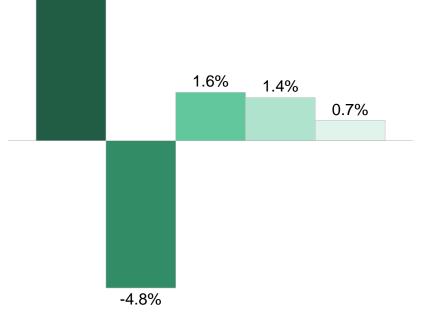
www.appliedvaluegroup.com

Q4 2018

OEM financials indicate that revenue growth has managed to stay out of negative territory in LTM and EBIT margins have recovered from Q1 2019.

Auto OEM Average Industry Revenue Growth Quarterly & LTM, year over year comparison

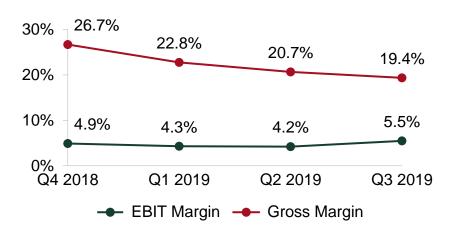




Q1 2019

Auto OEM Margins





- Following the dramatic Q1 decline in revenue for OEMs, growth rebounded to 1.6% in Q2 and has remained positive in Q3 to bring in the average growth for LTM to 0.7%
- OEM Gross Margins have declined overall, and most notably with Daimler where COGS have continued to increase throughout the year
- EBIT recovery for OEMs driven in large part by General Motors, although the impact of the labor strikes is expected to change this picture



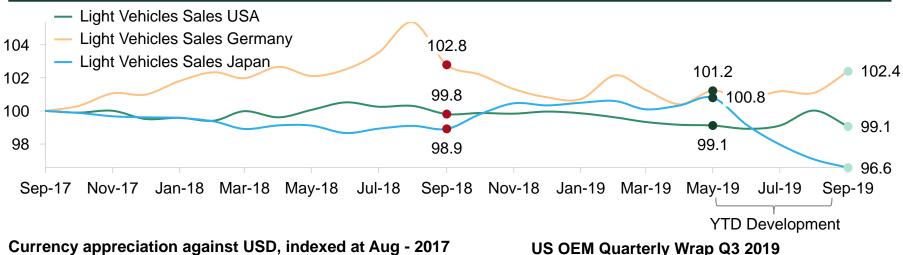
Q2 2019

Q3 2019

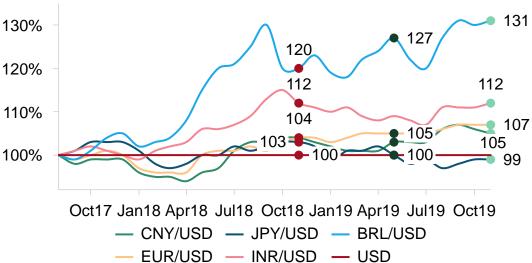
LTM

Light vehicle sales in the US remain below 2017/18 levels despite a small bump in August numbers, while sales in Germany have ticked up strongly.





Currency appreciation against USD, indexed at Aug - 2017

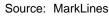


- US Light vehicle sales showed signs of life in August before promptly returning to levels that would indicate decline relative to 2017/18
- Strong sales over the summer in Germany helped push figures into growth territory by September, although this is expected to be temporary
- Japan's LV demand took a 4.2% hit as the government has planned on increasing the consumption tax from 8% to 10%
- Most currencies appreciated against the dollar YTD, although the Japanese Yen did end below levels from May

Last Year

May Data

Most recent data





Auto Tier One Financial Performance

Auto Tier One Investment & Innovation Trends

Market Trends & Cost Curves

About Applied Value



AV's methodology breaks out Tier One Auto Companies into key Sub Segments.



Chassis

Axles, exhaust, suspension, steering wheels, brakes, bearings, 4WD components, fuel tanks, bearings



Exterior/Body

Class A stamping, non-/structural stampings, frame/subframe components, body hardware glass, paint, body molding, fascias, wiper systems, door handles, seals



Powertrain

Drive controls, engines, transmissions, 5C components, pistons, heads, engine cooling and air management, injectors, turbochargers, tubes and hoses, antivibration systems



Interior

Seats, seat belts, interior products, instrument panels (IPs), trim, carpet, headlines, HVAC, mirrors, climate control



Electronics

& Infotainment/ Connectivity

Airbag/controller, antilock braking system, harnesses, headlights, entertainment, control modules, regulators as well as Infotainment including entertainment, info, navigation services



Conglomerates

Suppliers a composite of the above categories with no distinct specialization



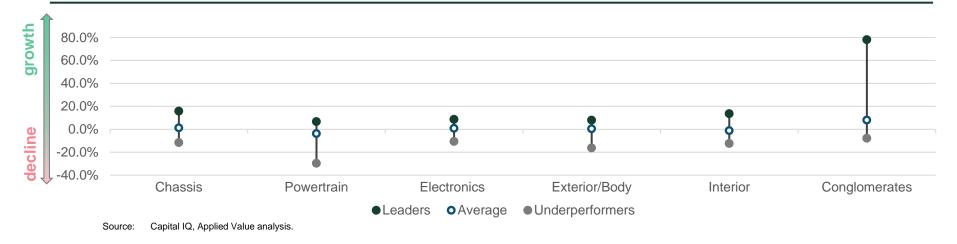
Applied Value has assessed 81 publicly traded Auto Tier 1 companies across 6 different operational segments.



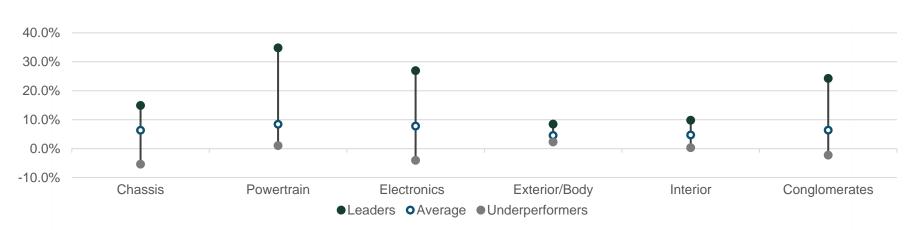


Companies that make up the Powertrain and Electronics segments had the widest variability on EBIT Margin performance in LTM.

Revenue Growth by Tier One Industry Segment LTM



EBIT Margin by Tier One Industry Segment LTM



Source: Capital IQ, Applied Value analysis.



Applied Value has analyzed 16 companies in the Chassis segment.



Chassis

Axles, exhaust, suspension, steering wheels, brakes, bearings, 4WD components, fuel tanks, bearings





























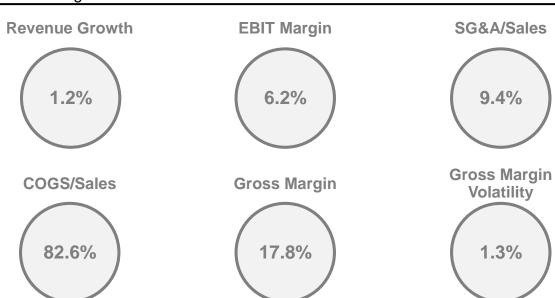


PRESS KOGYO

Executive Summary:

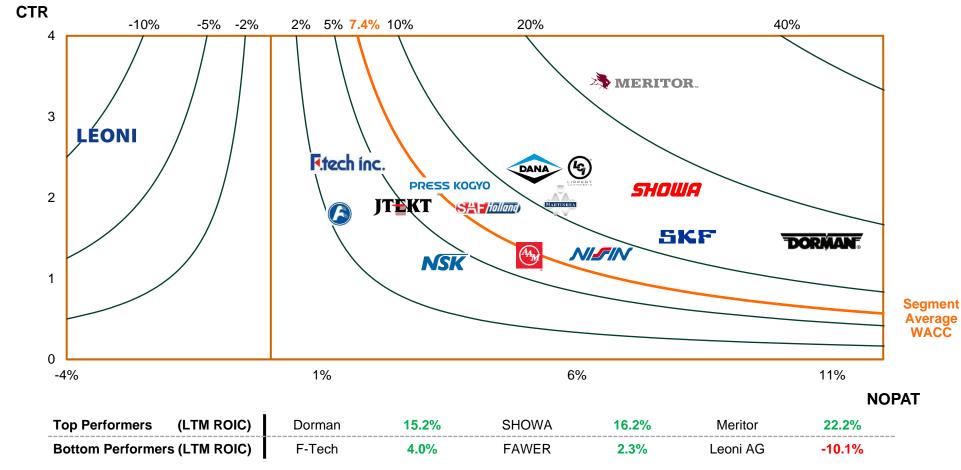
- Chassis EBIT margins have declined over LTM, characterized by increases in both SG&A and COGS amid a slow-down in revenue growth that has persisted throughout the year.
- The decline in Gross Margin for companies in the Chassis segment has also contributed to increased margin volatility.

Chassis Segment Financial Performance Highlights: LTM Average





ROIC snapshot for Chassis segment. Peer Group ROIC LTM



ROIC = Return on Invested Capital (actual return that the company has generated after tax)

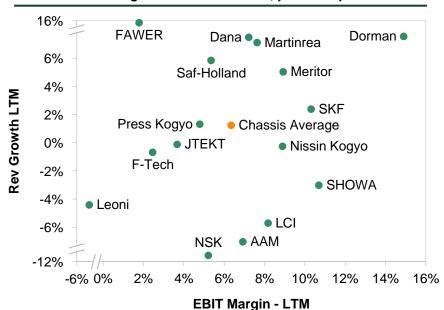
WACC = Weighted Average Cost of Capital (the required return that the company must generate in order create value, i.e. a ROIC>WACC creates shareholder value)





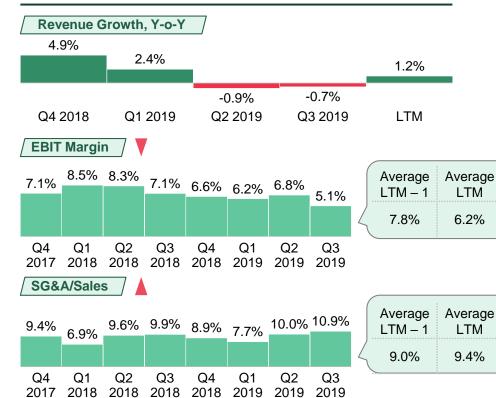
Chassis EBIT margins have declined over LTM, driven by rising SG&A and COGS since Q1 2019.

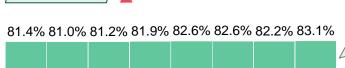
Chassis' EBIT Margin x Revenue Growth, year-over-year



- The segment's LTM revenue growth of 1.2% reflects a significant slow-down in growth that has persisted throughout the calendar year, while rising SG&A and COGS have toppled EBIT from 7.8% down to 6.2%
- Despite sales erosion, Lippert (LCI) has surpassed consensus EPS estimates three times over the last four quarters and improved EBIT 90bps from Q3 2018 to 8.2%, placing it above the segment average
- F-Tech performance ranked at the bottom of the segment due to a decrease in net sales and operating profit in their Asia segment of 14.3% and 39.1%, respectively
- Leoni was of the segment's worst performer, abandoning 2019 profit targets and unveiling plans for job cuts and divestments

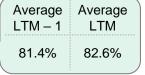
Chassis' Quarterly Development





COGS/Sales

Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
2017	2018	2018	2018	2018	2019	2019	2019

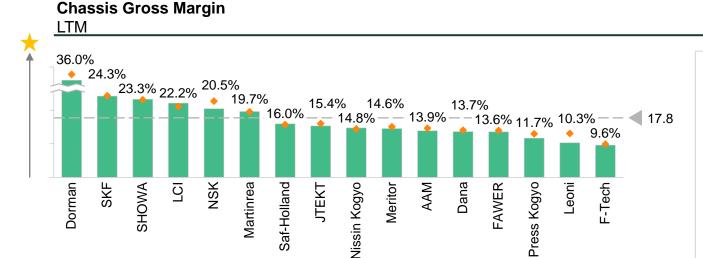




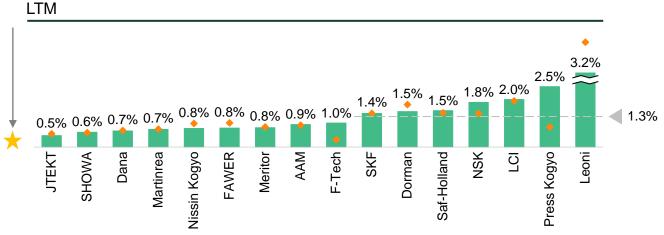


Q2 Benchmarks

Gross Margins have declined for most companies in the Chassis segment, contributing to increased margin volatility as well.



Chassis Gross Margin Volatility



- JTEKT's gross margin decreased from 16.0% in Q2 to 15.4% in Q3 driven by weak sales in both China and Japan
- Dana, a top performer in revenue growth, has also managed to maintain a stable gross margin in Q3 relative to Q2
 - The company is actively collaborating with Valeo to develop 48-volt EV systems, scheduled to launch early 2020 with major EU automakers
- American Axle's gross margin slipped in LTM to 13.9% following a September announcement that the company would be selling its Castings business unit
 - The company said it has sold the BU for \$245M to a NY-based PE firm, Gamut Capital





Applied Value has analyzed 17 companies in the Powertrain segment.



Powertrain

Drive controls, engines, transmissions, 5C components, pistons, heads, cooling and air management, injectors, turbochargers, tubes and hoses, antivibration systems































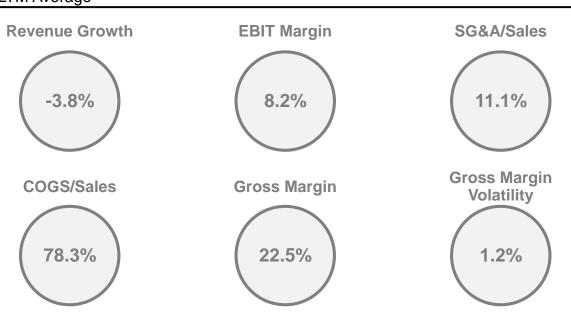




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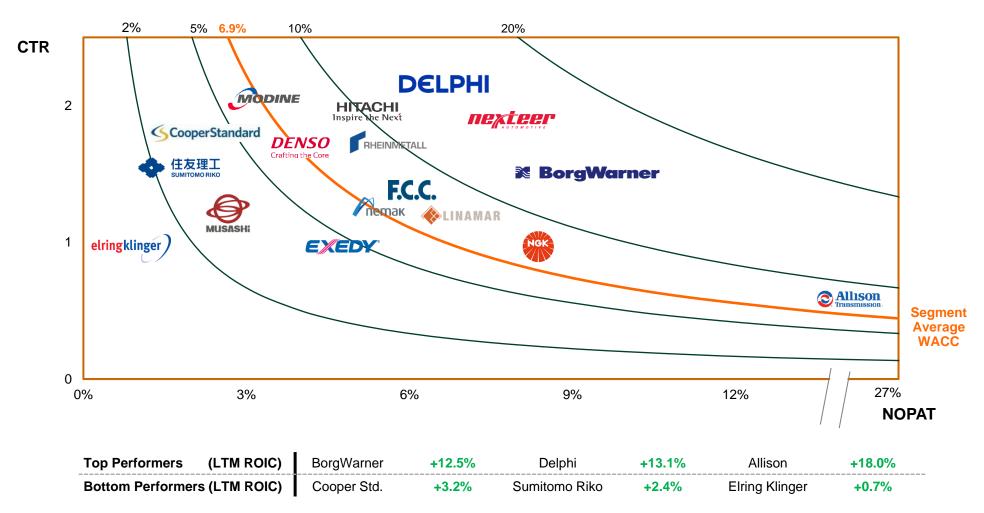
- The Powertrain segment has experienced the highest decline in revenue vs. other segments in LTM.
- Volatility in the segment's gross margins have increased drastically, driven by Linamar and Cooper-Standard.

Powertrain Segment Financial Performance Highlights: LTM Average





ROIC snapshot for Powertrains segment Peer Group ROIC LTM



ROIC = Return on Invested Capital (actual return that the company has generated after tax)

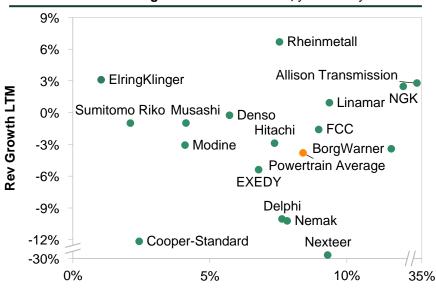
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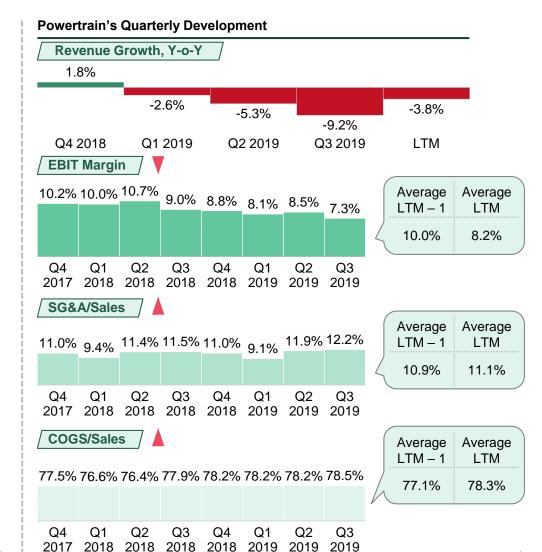
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EBIT Margin - LTM

- Revenues in the powertrain segment have been in negative growth territory since Q1 2019 and declined in LTM at 3.8% YoY
- > Rheinmetall's Chinese joint venture with Hasco achieved significant revenue growth of 6.7% to €722M and making it one of the few Powertrain companies to achieve growth overall YoY
- Nexteer automotive showcased the greatest decline in revenue at 30% primarily attributed to a decline in China OEM light vehicle production
 - However, Nexteer also opened its 27th plant (July'19) and first in Africa, a 110K Sqft., along with a facility in Morocco to manufacture electric power steering systems for FCA, PSA, Renault, Nissan and Mitsubishi







Volatility in the segment's gross margins have increased drastically, driven by Linamar and Cooper-Standard.

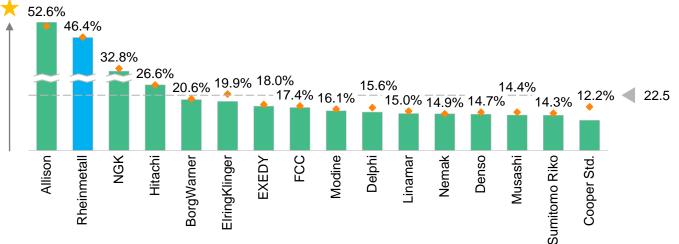
Accounting by Nature

Accounting by Function

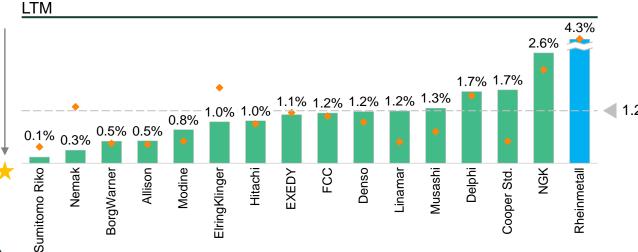
Q2 Benchmarks



LTM



Powertrain Gross Margin Volatility



- Cooper-Standard's production levels in North America and Asia have remained well below expectations, reporting a net loss of \$5.2M in Q3
- Musashi's gross margin fell from 15.5% to 14.4% in Q3 and the company forecasts additional gm erosion of 7.1% on lower sales
 - Musashi partnered with Aquarius Engines (Nov'19) aiming to provide electric supply solutions
- Denso's slip in performance is attributed to its European segment with a decline in both sales and operating profit of 11.3% and 33.9%, respectively
- BorgWarner sold its Morse TEC subsidiary (Oct'19) which housed asbestos liabilities and resulted in a \$40M after-tax loss



Note 1: Allison's high gross margin is attributed to it's focus on automatic transmissions

Note 2: Automotive is only 10% of Hitachi's Revenue

Note 3: Rheinmetall does accounting by nature, which only considers raw materials instead of al

Source: Interim & Annual Reports, Capital IQ, Applied Value analysis

Applied Value has analyzed 13 companies in the Electronics & Infotainment segment.



& Infotainment/ Connectivity

Airbag/controller, antilock braking system, harnesses, headlights, entertainment, control modules, regulators as well as Infotainment including entertainment, info, navigation services



























Executive Summary:

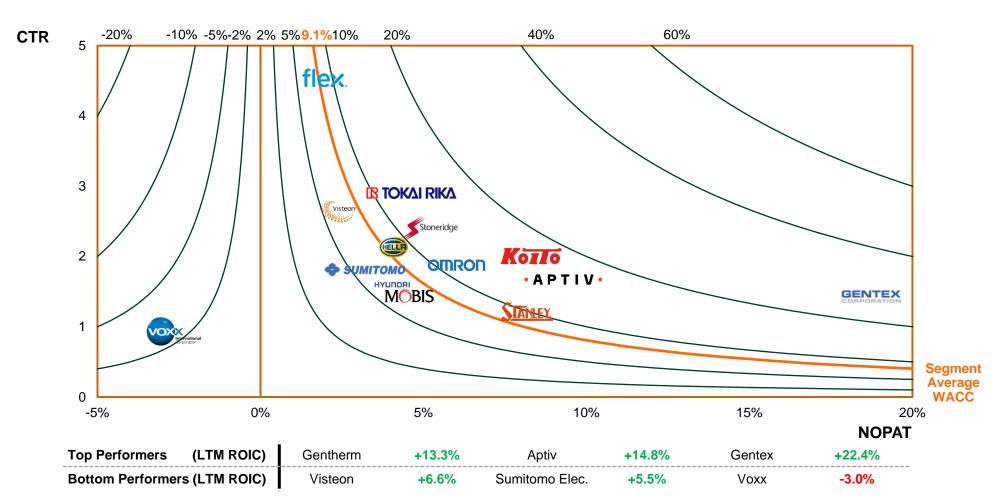
- Revenues in the electronic segment declined for the third straight quarter, pushing EBIT Margins down to 7.6% in LTM.
- An increase in COGS 0.7% pushed the segment's Gross margins down to an overall average of 21.7% in LTM.

Electronics & Infotainment Segment Financial Performance Highlights: LTM Average





ROIC snapshot for Electronics & Infotainment segment. Peer Group ROIC LTM



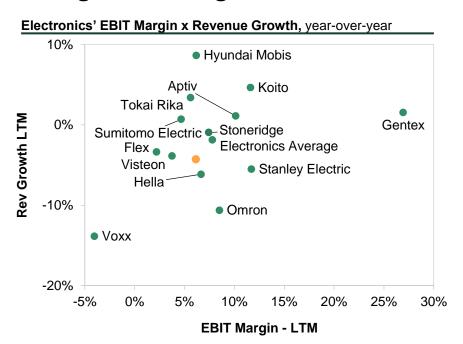
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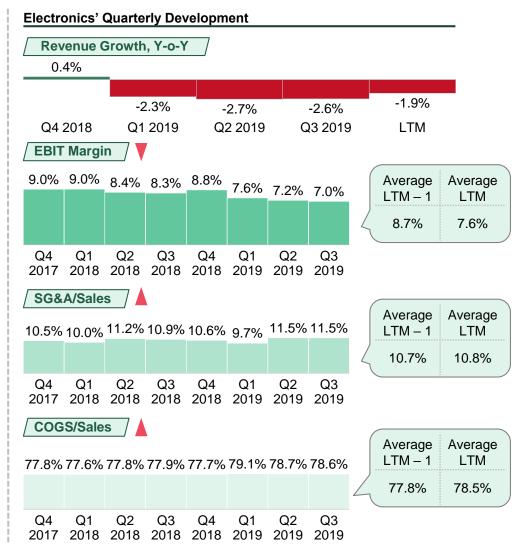




Revenues in the electronic segment declined for the third straight quarter, pushing EBIT Margins down to 7.6% in LTM.



- Although revenue is down in LTM, stringent regulatory frameworks in North America and Europe related to vehicle safety are expected to create growth opportunities in the segment going forward
- The segment's EBIT margin average dropped from 8.7% to 7.6% driven by Voxx and Flex
- Voxx realized a \$13.2 M decline in revenue due to launch delays for certain vehicle models as well as reduced sales of aftermarket satellite radio and headrest products
- Hyundai Mobis managed to realize a sales boost by ramping production at its North America Ohio facility, which had been shut down early in 2019
 - Aptiv and Hyundai have an active Joint Venture focused on Autonomous Driving technology



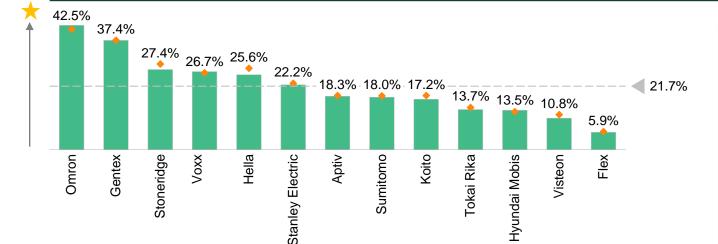




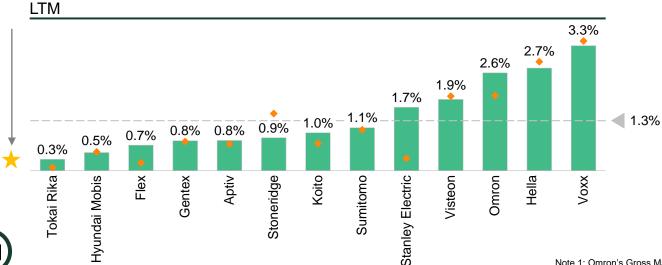
LTM

An increase in COGS as a percent of sales of 0.7% pushed the segment's Gross margins down to an overall average of 21.7% in LTM.

Electronics & Infotainment Gross Margin



Electronics & Infotainment Gross Margin Volatility



Q2 Benchmarks

- > Flex, at 5.9% gross margin is the weakest performer while Omron led the group and attributed their success to the cost-effective industrial automation business
- Amongst all the American firms, Gentex had the highest gross margin at 37.4%
 - Gentex also led the segment with EBIT margin of 26.9%
- Stoneridge reported lost revenue due to the General Motors strike and ramp-down of the shift-bywire transmission systems, contributing also to a decline in Gross Margins
- Hella gross margin declined from 27.8% in Q2 to 25.6% in Q3 amid reports of weak sales in Asia and exit from the wholesale distribution business





Applied Value has analyzed 8 companies in the Exterior/Body segment.



Exterior/Body

Class A stamping, non-/structural stampings, frame/subframe components, body hardware glass, paint, body molding, fascias, wiper systems, door handles, seals













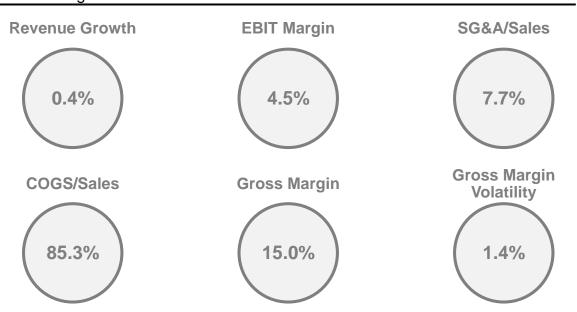




Executive Summary:

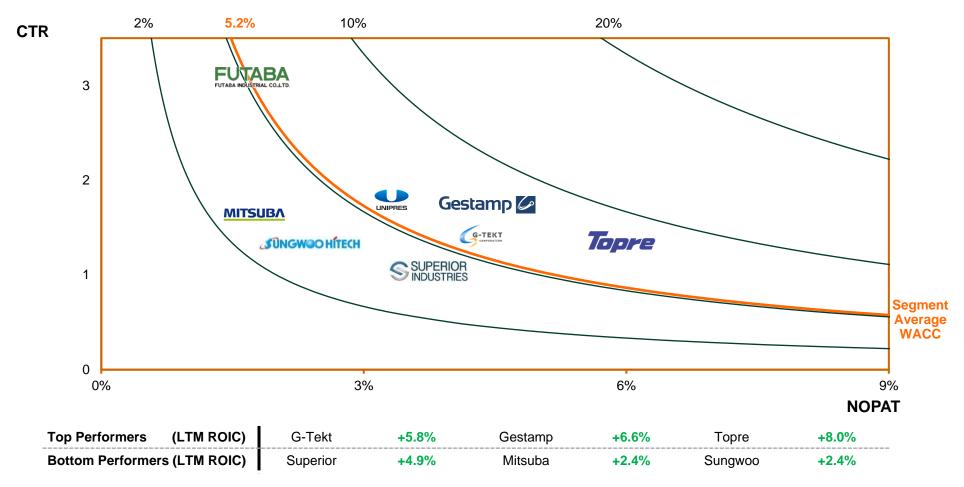
- The Exterior/Body segment recorded a slight positive recovery in revenue in Q3, although EBIT margins have fallen to 4.5% in LTM.
- > The segment's Gross Margins fell further than expected driven by lower than expected production among several companies.

Exterior/Body Segment Financial Performance Highlights: LTM Average





ROIC snapshot for Exterior/Body segment Peer Group ROIC LTM



ROIC = Return on Invested Capital (actual return that the company has generated after tax)

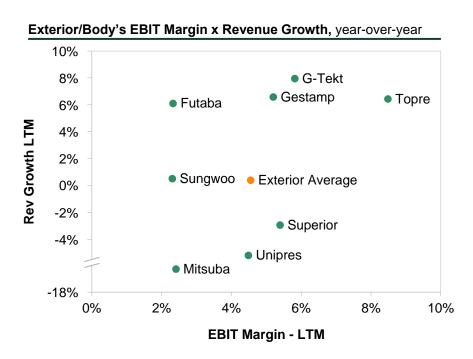
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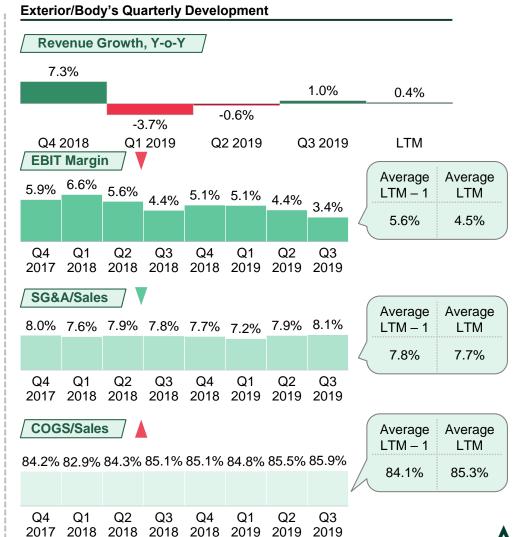
Source:



The Exterior/Body segment recorded a slight positive recovery in revenue in Q3, although EBIT margins have fallen to 4.5% in LTM.



- Despite a decline in revenue in Q1 and Q2 2019, the exterior/body segment posted overall growth in LTM of 0.4% driven primarily by G-Tekt and Gestamp
- > Exterior EBIT dropped by 1.1 ppt over LTM due to the segment low margin performance by Futaba and Sungwoo, both at 2.3%
- Topre was one of the best EBIT performers 8.5% in LTM along with 6.4% revenue in growth in LTM
 - Topre also announced (Nov'19) 51 advanced manufacturing jobs in their auto stamping operation near the Nissan manufacturing plant. This is part of a 5year \$63 M capital investment for Topre



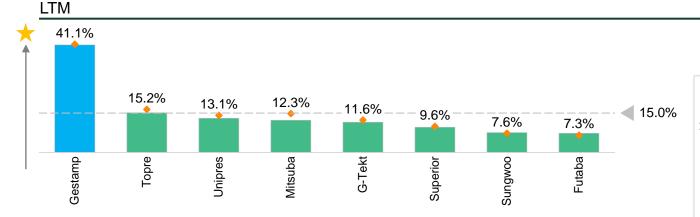


The segment's Gross Margins fell further than expected driven by lower than expected production among several companies.

Exterior/Body Gross Margin

Accounting by Nature

Q2 Benchmarks



Unipres, which performs slightly below the segment average, is expected to see a 35% decrease in operating profit due to production cutbacks by their major customers and transfer pricing taxation

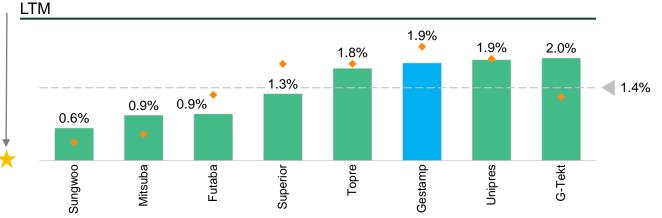
Despite the uncertain auto market, Gestamp grew LTM revenue by 6.6% due to starting production in their new facility in Michigan

Futaba's 6.1% overall revenue increase was largely driven by their Asian operating segment with an 18% increase vs. 12% in their European segment

Superior Industries saw 2.9% decline in overall revenue particularly driven by an 8.8% decline in United States

This decline was partially driven by the UAW labor strike

Exterior/Body Gross Margin Volatility







Applied Value has analyzed 11 companies in the Interior segment.



Interior

Seats, seat belts, interior products, instrument panels (IPs), trim, carpet, headlines, HVAC, mirrors, climate control



















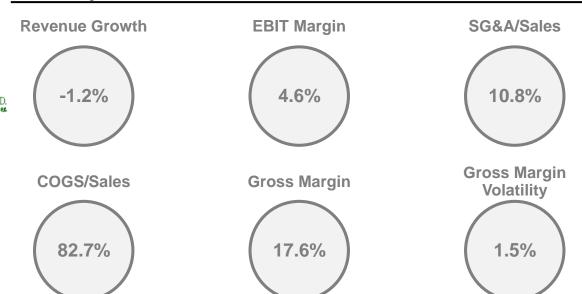




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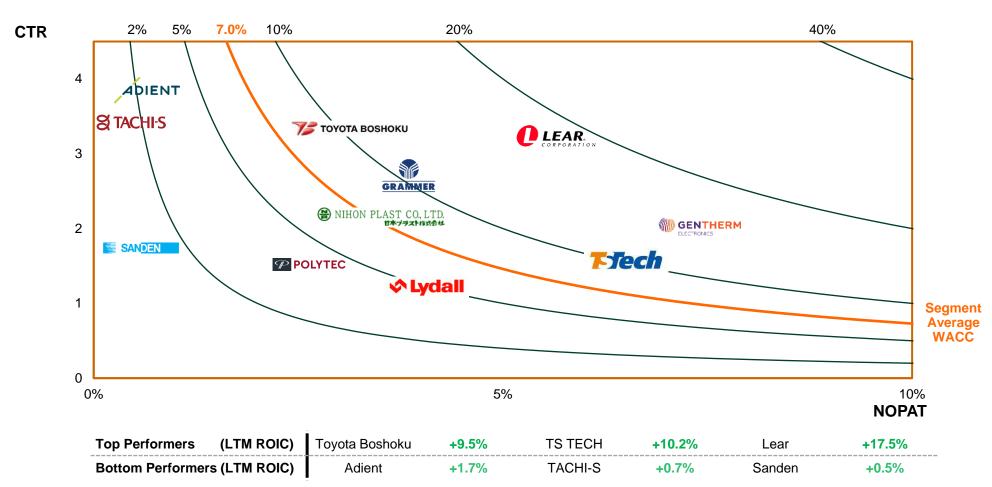
- The interior segment posted a third straight quarter of revenue decline in Q3, pushing LTM growth down to -1.2%.
- Only two firms in the interior segment managed to increase their Gross margin from the previous quarter.

Interior Segment Financial Performance Highlights: LTM Average





ROIC snapshot for Interior segment Peer Group ROIC LTM



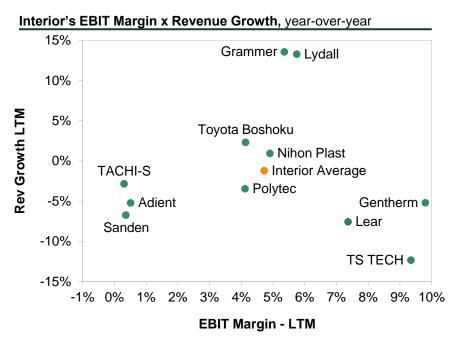
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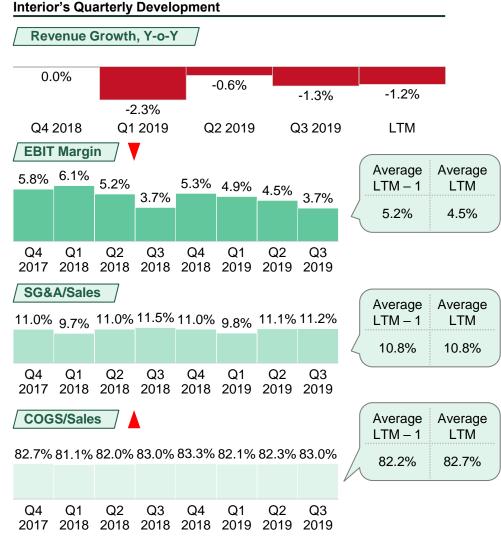




The interior segment posted a third straight quarter of revenue decline in Q3, pushing LTM growth down to -1.2%.



- The segment's revenue development over LTM was impaired by the worst performers in the peer group, Lear and TS Tech
- Lear and TS-Tech, experienced the sales decline (7.6% and 12.4%) due to labor strikes by their largest customers Honda and GM
- Grammer led the group in revenue growth YoY with growth of 13.6%
- Lydall Q3 sales growth, although positive, was hindered by trade tensions and uncertainty in key markets
 - Sales were negatively impacted by a drop in demand in China, and global weakness in sealing product markets and lower volume due to the strike at General Motors







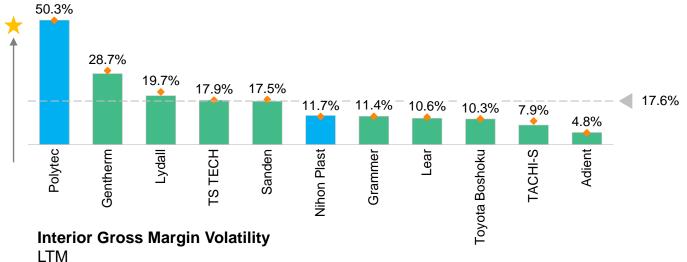
Only two firms in the interior segment managed to increase their Gross margin from the previous quarter: Polytec and Nihon Plast.

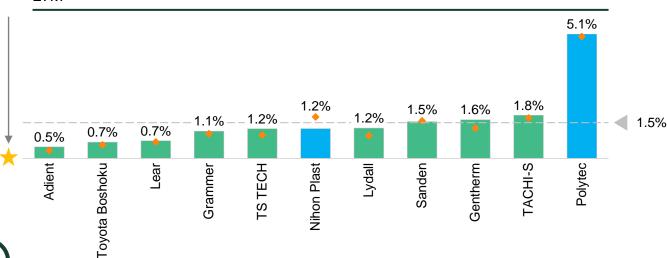


LTM

Accounting by Function

Q2 Benchmarks





- Gross Margin of the interior segment averaged LTM at 17.6% led by Gentherm and Lydall (accounting by function)
- Nihon Plast announced (Sept '19)
 a \$15M expansion of their Ohio
 facility, reportedly to meet
 growing customer demand from
 Honda, Nissan, and Toyota
 - Nihon Plast saw a decrease in sales of 9% in the resin segment, offsetting growth in the rest of the business
- Tachi-s saw revenue growth in all regions except North America which declined 2.8% in Q3
 - Its NA performance contributed to higher volatility in gross margins overall, at 1.8% in LTM





Applied Value has analyzed 16 companies in the Conglomerates segment.



Conglomerates

Suppliers a composite of the above categories with no distinct specialization

Executive Summary:

- The Conglomerate segment's LTM revenue growth of 8.0%, highest among all other segments, came with a 1.4% reduction in EBIT margins.
- Though margins were below previous quarters levels, volatility overall has fallen due to margin stabilization at Horizon and Toyoda Gosei.

Conglomerates Segment Financial Performance Highlights: LTM Average





































COGS/Sales



EBIT Margin



Gross Margin



SG&A/Sales

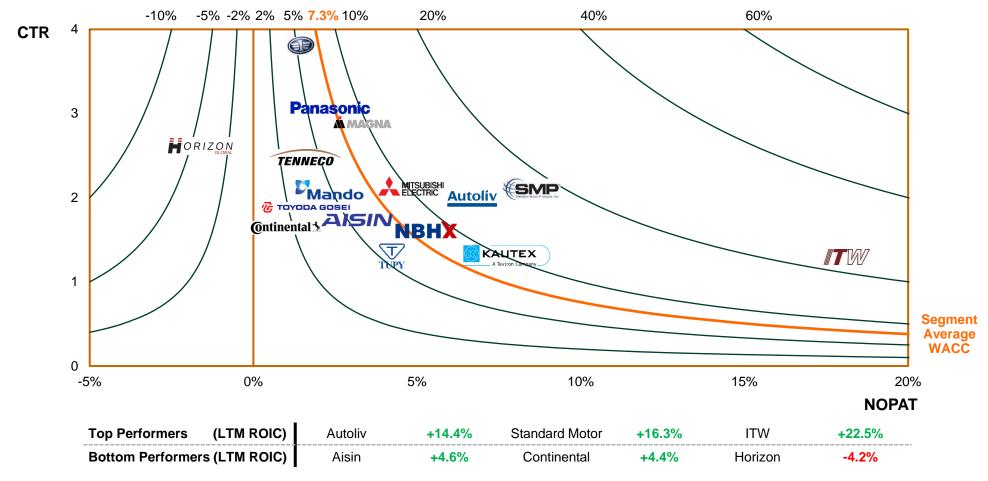


Gross Margin Volatility





ROIC snapshot for Conglomerates segment Peer Group ROIC LTM



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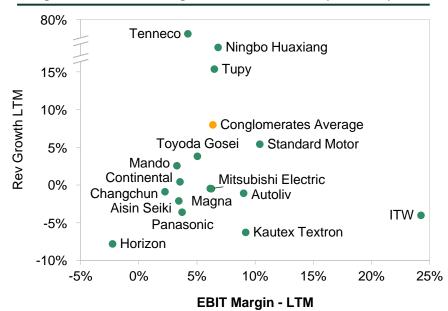
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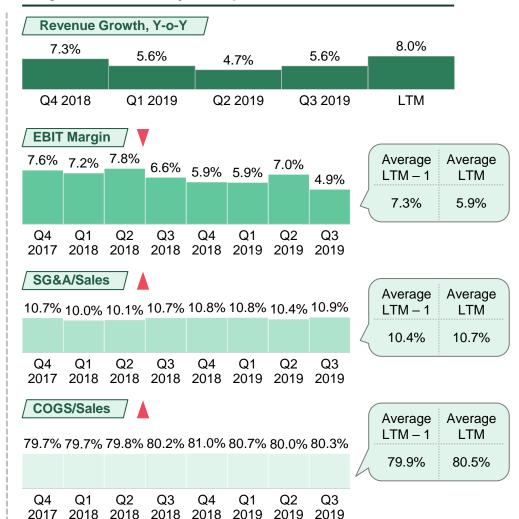
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Conglomerate's EBIT Margin x Revenue Growth, year-over-year



- Conglomerates had a strong LTM revenue growth performance, averaging 8.0%, the highest among all segments
- Decrease in LTM EBIT from 7.3% to 5.9% of the segment was driven by Horizon with an EBIT decline of 2.25% YoY
- Magna acquired Wipac Czech (Nov'19) to strengthen technical competencies for premium customers in the European lighting market
- ITW and Standard Motor are the strongest performers in EBIT Margin
 - ITW reports that adherence to their enterprise strategy set in 2012 has driven growth in their operating margins from 15.9% to 24.4%

Conglomerate's Quarterly Development





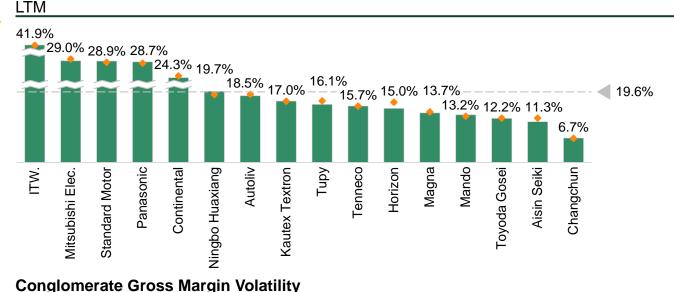


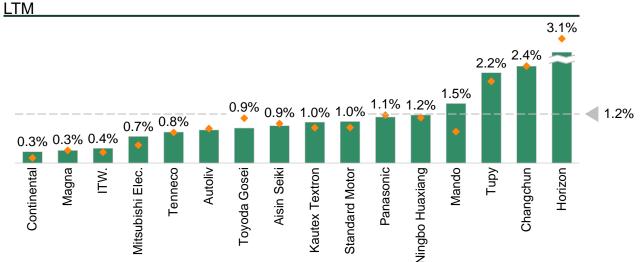
Conglomerate Gross Margin

Q2 Benchmarks

Though margins were below previous quarters levels, volatility overall has fallen due to margin stabilization at Horizon and Toyoda Gosei.







- Horizon's gross margin volatility sits well above its peers at 3.1% in Q3, but this still represents an improvement vs last quarter when LTM volatility was measured at 6.2%
- Mitsubishi's gross margins dipped 9% since Q3 2018, prompted by the close of their Memphis plant
- Standard Motor improved margins by increasing production in low cost plants in China and closing facilities in Grapevine and Orlando, which were of high cost
- Changchun and Hella have partnered (Sept '19) to become the main supplier of FAW premium brand 'Hongqi' in lighting technology





Auto Tier One Financial Performance

Auto Tier One Investment & Innovation Trends

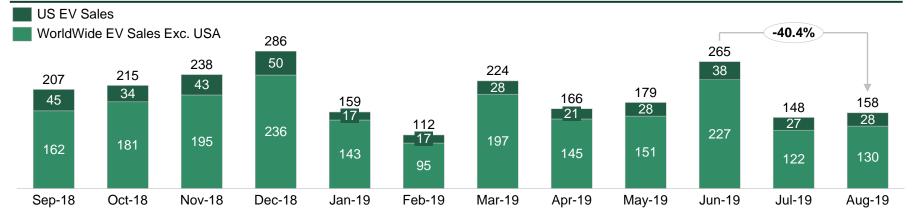
Market Trends & Cost Curves

About Applied Value



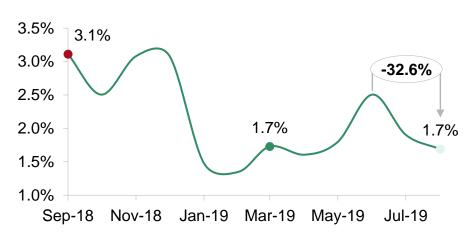
Worldwide EV sales declined 40.4% between June and August, while the portion of EV sales to total LV sales in US remains around 1.7%.

EV Sales by month 2018, (thousand units)



Sources: Applied Value analysis, Inside EV's Monthly

US EV Sales as a % of US Total Light Vehicle Sales



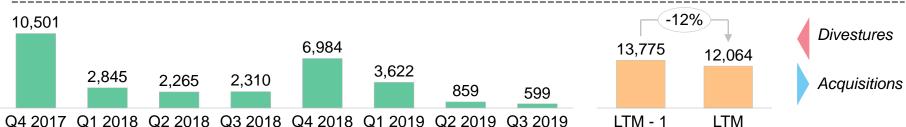
Sources: Applied Value analysis, BEA, Inside EV's Monthly

- The EV market is negatively affected by reduction in EV subsidies and cooling economy
 - Tesla led the race with about 112k sales YTD
- Worldwide and USA EV sales have decreased since June 2019. US EV sales as a portion of total sales decreased by 32.6% in the same time period. US EV sales has fluctuated between 1.4% and 2.5% of total car sales in 2019
- Total EV sales sky-rocketed to a 2019 record high of 265k in June 2019 and stabilized back down to the level it started 2019 at ~159k in sales



The acquisition of Tower international by a prominent private equity firm Autokiniton led the activity this quarter M&A activity is down 12% in LTM.

Top 5 Most Recent M&A Activity Close Date Value, USD Company **Target Target Description** Autokiniton Global Group, pursues investments in the global 900M 09/30/2019 automotive supply industry and acquired Tower International. American Axle sold its Castings business unit to a private G A M U T 245M 09/18/2019 equity firm that is based in New York City, Gamut Capital. Horizon sold its Asia-Pacific Business segment to pacific ORIZON 230M 07/16/2019 equity partners, a firm focused on LBOs and growth capital. AxleTech is a leading manufacturer and supplier of drivetrain 175M AXLETECH systems for on and off highway heavy-duty vehicles. Nordresa is engineering expert for development of electric N/A 08/26/2019 powertrains for commercial vehicles. Terms not disclosed. nordresa Total M&A transaction amount previous 2 years, MUSD*





Auto Tier One Financial Performance

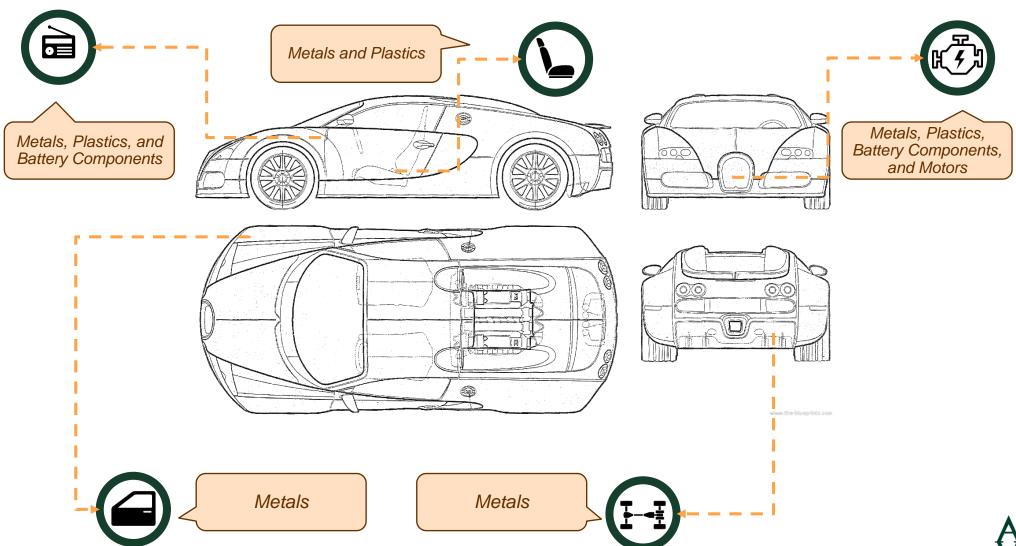
Auto Tier One Investment & Innovation Trends

Market Trends & Cost Curves

About Applied Value



Applied Value has highlighted the main raw materials across for Auto Tier 1s.





Market Trends Summary.

Key Takeaways

Metals

• Steel prices in Europe, United States, and China reached their lowest in the last 2 years, Aluminum following along with the same trend.

Plastics

 Plastic, rubber and soda ash prices decreased across the board; Rubber prices have rebounded, reaching levels it started 2019.

Battery & Electrical

 Battery component costs have a mixed storyline, as Lithium and Graphite prices have dropped, and Cobalt and Nickel prices rose.

Motors

 Neodymium, Copper, and Silicon all trended downward at an average of ~5%, with Neodymium recovering from their previous spike.

Indirect Costs

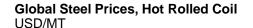
Natural gas costs have decreased in both US and Germany, at 10.9% and 16.0%, respectively.

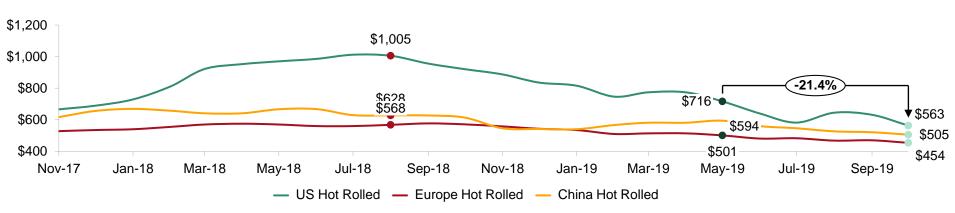
Trade & Employment

 Auto Tier 1 manufacturing wages are rising most rapidly in the US, as the average hourly rate averaged \$21.8/hr in August 2019.



Steel prices in Europe, United States, and China reached their lowest in the last 2 years, with aluminum following along with the same trend.





Zinc

Source: CRU

Source: LME

Aluminum

USD/MT





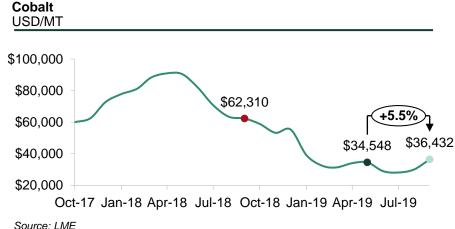
Source: Capital IQ

Last Year

May Data

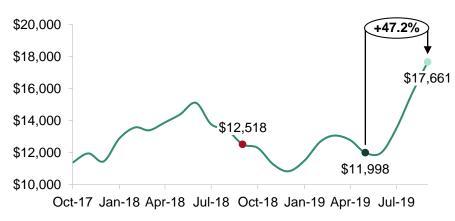


Battery component costs have a mixed storyline, as Lithium and Graphite prices have dropped, and Cobalt and Nickel prices rose.



Oddrec. Livil

Nickel USD/MT



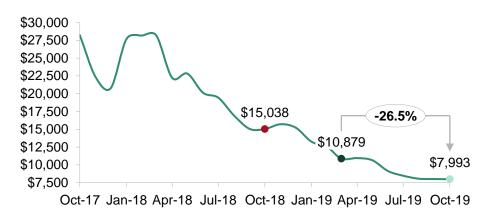
Last Year

Source: LME

China 99.5% Lithium Carbonate spot price USD/MT



Graphite USD/MT

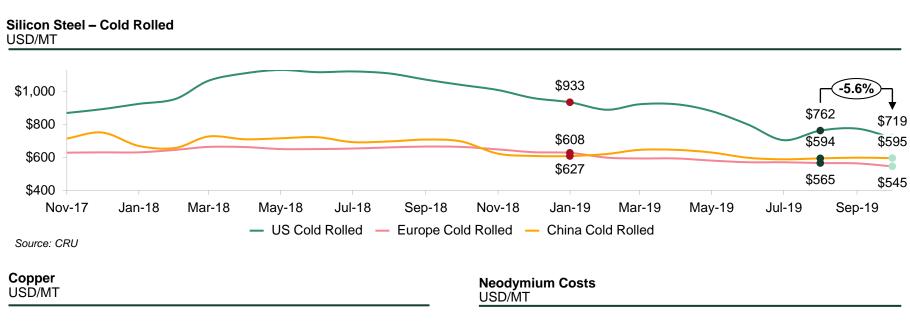


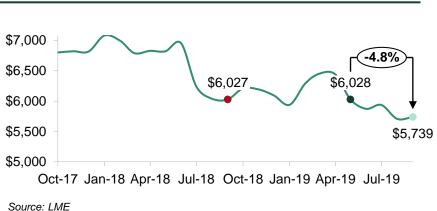
Source: Metal News CN

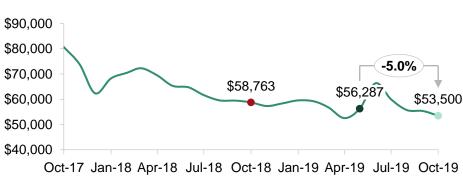
May Data



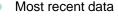
Neodymium, Copper, and Silicon all trended downward at an average of ~5%, with Neodymium recovering from its previous spike.



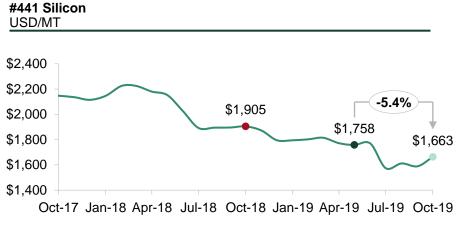




Source: SMM



Display and Sensor input costs continued the same downward trend, which began in early 2018.



Source: www.100ppi.com

Stannic Oxide USD/MT



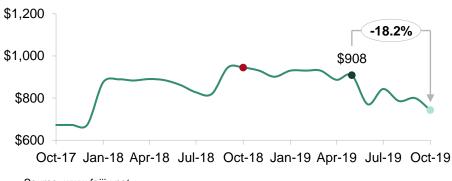
Source: www.100ppi.com

Gallium USD/MT



Source: www.cngold.org

Hebei PET Clear Sheet USD/MT

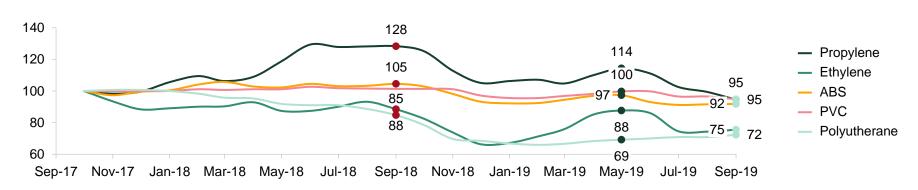


Source: www.feijiu.net



Plastic, rubber and soda ash prices decreased across the board; Rubber prices have rebounded, reaching levels where it started 2019.





Source: Capital IQ







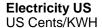
Source: Soda.100ppi.com

Last Year

May Data



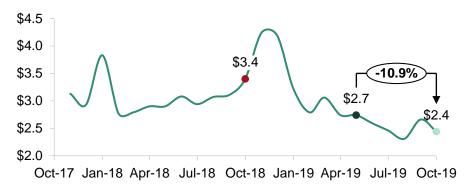
Natural gas costs have decreased in both US and Germany, at 10.9% and 16.0%, respectively.





Source: US Energy Information Administration (Industry retail price)

Natural Gas US USD/mmBtu



Source: EIA (Natural Gas spot price at the Henry Hub terminal in Louisiana)

Electricity Europe EUR/KWH



Source: EEX (KWK-Index Germany), Nordpool

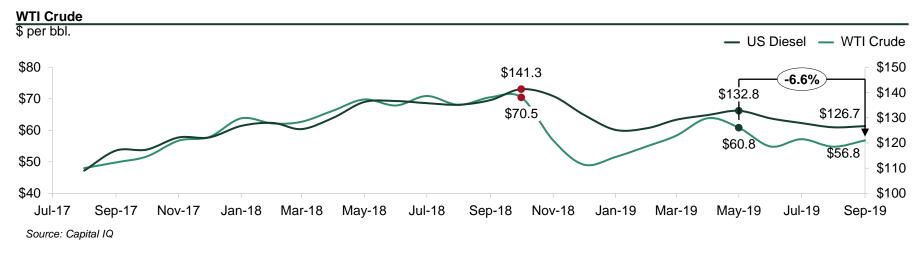
Natural Gas Germany EUR/MWH



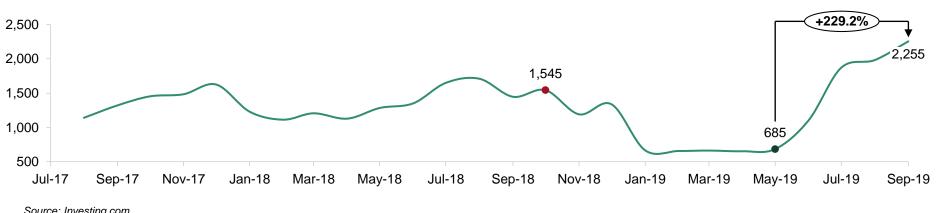
Source: EEX (EGIX Germany)



Although WTI Crude decreased by 6.6%, transportation costs increased in 2019, with BDI's significant rebound of 229.2%.



BDI - Shipping



Source: Investing.com

Last Year

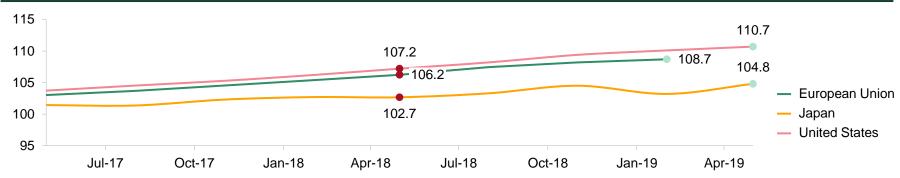
May Data



Auto Tier 1 manufacturing wages are rising most rapidly in the US, as the average hourly rate averaged \$21.8/hr in August 2019.

MEI Manufacturing Pay Index

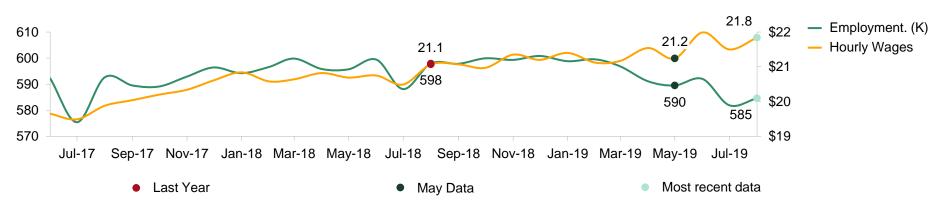
Index 2015 pay rates = 100



Source: OECD.stat

USA Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing – Tier One

Employment # in (K) & wages in USD/Hour





Source: Bureau of Labor & Statistics

Auto Tier One Financial Performance

Auto Tier One Investment & Innovation Trends

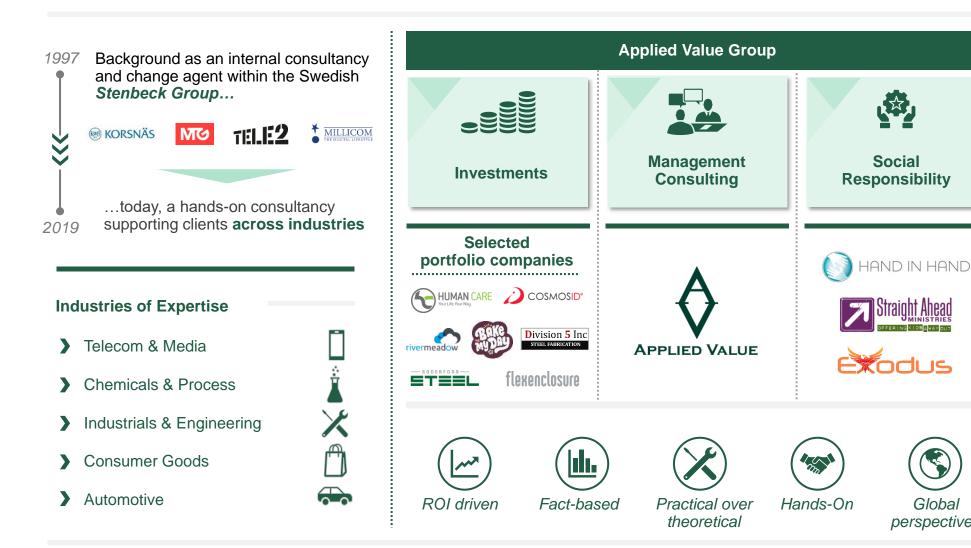
Market Trends & Cost Curves

About Applied Value



Social

Applied Value is a management consulting & investment firm founded on the principles of lean growth and entrepreneurship.

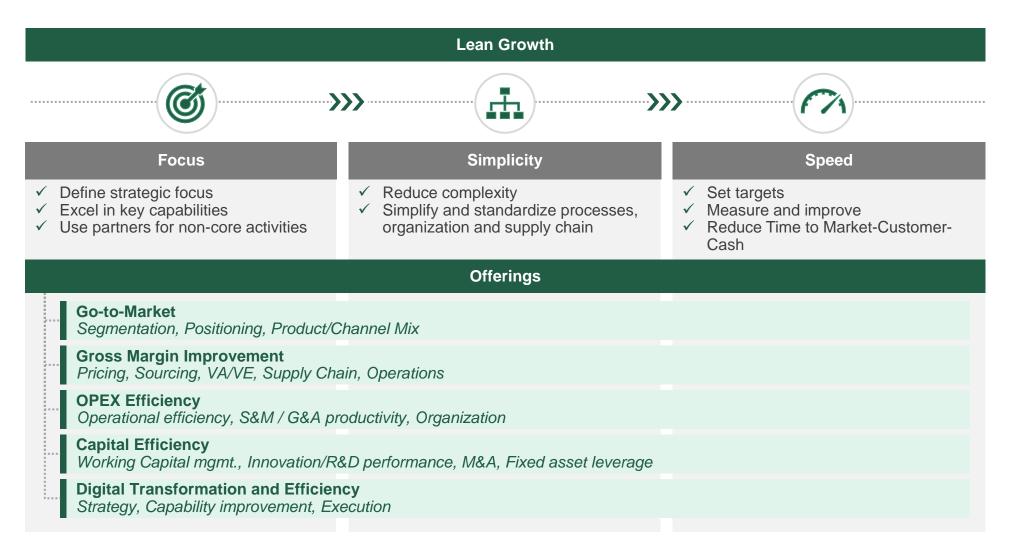




Global

perspectives

Our Lean Growth framework is based on Focus, Simplicity, Speed – guiding principles to raise client performance





Applied Value challenges and supports repeat global clients across industries from three offices.







