



Webinar Announcement

Argus Research will host a webinar for clients at 11 a.m. ET on Wednesday, March 6, 2024. The webinar is entitled ***Semiconductors: Powering Digital Transformation***. The webinar will be hosted by Argus Director of Research Jim Kelleher, CFA, who will also present the main industry topic. Jim will be joined by Argus President John Eade.

Due to accelerating demand for digital solutions and the pervasiveness of high tech in our daily lives, the Technology sector has grown to nearly one-third of S&P 500 market weight. Including the social media and fintech stocks that were moved to other sectors in recent years, the “old” Technology sector would represent more than 40% of S&P 500 market weight. Going forward, the monthly all-client webinar will, from time to time, address segments of this vast sector rather than the Technology sector overall.

From a market formerly dominated by personal computers (PCs) and cell phones, semiconductor demand has broadened to include a wide range of applications spanning cloud data centers, industrial automation & Internet of Things (IoT), electric power train and autonomous driving applications, robotics, and artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning. This has made the semiconductor industry much larger than in the past. Semiconductor demand has become less cyclical, and downturns have become shorter and shallower. Semiconductors experienced a demand downturn in 2023, but appear poised for a solid rebound in 2024.

The proliferation of the fabless semiconductor model enables a large number of players to participate in the market without the expense of operating semiconductor fabrication facilities, while devoting full resources to design, R&D, and engineering. In the U.S., fabless has proven to be a double-edged sword, as it has encouraged the off-shoring of semiconductor physical production. The CHIPS & Science Act is meant to reverse this trend. Similar measures in countries around the world will drive additional foundry construction and semiconductor production in coming years.

Billions of people worldwide are emerging from subsistence living and moving into the global middle class, creating another demand driver for semiconductors. In short, a range of factors – cyclical, secular, demographic, and now national strategic priority – are driving semiconductor demand now and for the long term.

Jim will discuss the outlook for semiconductor stocks while presenting best ideas within a range of end markets. John will discuss how technology and semiconductors are transforming key companies in the Industrial sector. Listeners are encouraged to submit questions that will be addressed in a Q&A session at the conclusion of formal remarks.

Please note that the CFP Board has accepted Argus’ Monthly Webinar for one (1) hour of continuing education (CE) credit.

To register for the event, please see the instructions on the first page of the PDF version of any Market Digest or Market Update report dated March 4, 2024, or later. If you have any problems, contact us at clientservices@argusresearch.com or (212) 425-7500.