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# **Singapore Exchange (SGX) SGX Market and Trading Overview**

**Geoff Howie** SGX Market Strategist Singapore Exchange

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# SGX Market Outlook & Macro View

Geoff Howie 12 March 2024

Singapore Exchange

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## **STI Outpaced APAC Ex-JP Amid Recent Global Challenges**

An independent benchmark, the STI has close to doubled the returns of regional APAC Ex Japan benchmarks since 2019, on the back of the significant Bank weightage.



Index	STI Daily Correla	STI Daily Correlation (R-squared)					
	2013-2023	2019-2023	weekly!				
FTSE ASEAN AS*	0.60	0.64	0.72				
FTSE APAC*	0.43	0.44	0.57				
APAC Banks*	<mark>0.36</mark>	<mark>0.44</mark>	<mark>0.56</mark>				
FTSE Thailand	0.27	0.35	0.42				
Hang Seng	0.35	0.29	0.35				
Global Banks	<mark>0.28</mark>	<mark>0.29</mark>	<mark>0.58</mark>				
APAC Industrials*	0.26	0.27	0.37				
Global Industrials	0.26	0.26	0.54				
ASX 200	0.25	0.27					
FTSE Malaysia	0.25	0.25					
FTSE All World*	0.19	0.19					
FTSE Indonesia	0.16	0.17					
CSI 300	0.12	0.15					
FTSE China A50	0.09	0.15					

Geopolitical concerns have been a constant, and Gold in turn has doubled the STI gains.



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\*Note SG Banks comprise 26% weight in FTSE ASEAN AS, 7% weight in APAC Banks, 2% in FTSE APAC, 0.4% in APAC Industrials, and 0.3% in FTSE All World. Measures below 0.4 represent low correlation, whereas measures above 0.7 show a high level of correlation. All Data as of 8 March 2024.

#### STI Banks to pay S\$11.5B in Dividends for FY23

STI Banks	FY23 Total Divs. S\$	31 Dec 2023 Share Price S\$	Indicative Yield for FY23 based on 31 Dec Share Px.	Indicative Amount in Total Divs. for FY23 S\$B
DBS	1.92	33.41	5.7%	4.95
ОСВС	0.82	13.00	6.3%	3.69
UOB	1.70	28.45	6.0%	2.84

- DBS, OCBC and UOB have averaged 45% total returns since the end of 2019, bringing their average 10-year annualised total returns to 9%.
- In addition to being STI heavyweights, the trio also maintain a combined 15% weightage in the FTSE ASEAN Index. This combined weightage notches up to 18% for the FTSE ASEAN Target Dividend Index, which is designed to achieve 100% dividend yield increase compared to the FTSE ASEAN Index.
- For FY23, the combined total income of the trio increased to S\$48 billion, with the trio averaging Return on Equity (ROE) of 15.3%.



**Combined Quarterly NII S\$B** 



S\$14.7B of Comibed NOII in FY23 2022 ■ 2023



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All Data as of 8 March 2024 and sourced by Refinitiv Eikon Datastream

#### **There are Diverse Sector Performances every Quarter!**

• Over the past three years, the combined strongest sectors of the quarter generated 81% total returns, while the laggard sectors of the month declined 50%.

- Telecommunications were the most defensive sector in 1Q20 and 2Q22.
- Travel & Hospitality underperformed in 1Q20 to 3Q20 and outperformed in 4Q22 to 2Q23 and 4Q23.

1Q19	2Q19	3Q19	4Q19	1Q20	2Q20	3Q20	4Q20	1Q21	2Q21	3Q21	4Q21	1Q22	2Q22	3Q22	4Q22	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23
S-REITs	Telcos	S-REITs	Telcos	Telcos	Manu	Manu	Trav/Hos	Banks	Banks	Telcos	Banks	Banks	Telcos	Banks	Trav/Hos	Trav/Hos	Trav/Hos	Banks	Trav/Hos
12.4	11.3	2.6	10.3	-11.7	31.4	18.5	22.9	15.4	3.1	5.1	4.0	12.4	-1.3	7.3	8.4	5.6	4.0	6.9	9.7
Manu	S-REITs	Banks	Manu	S-REITs	S-REITs	S-REITs	Banks	Trav/Hos	S-REITs	Banks	Telcos	STI	Manu	Trav/Hos	Banks	S-REITs	Telcos	Telcos	S-REITs
11.8	8.3	-1.6	9.5	-21.0	14.8	4.2	21.6	13.4	1.7	1.1	3.6	9.6	-3.2	2.5	7.7	4.0	2.2	2.5	8.8
Trav/Hos	Banks	Trav/Hos	STI	STI	Banks	STI	STI	STI	Manu	S-REITs	STI	Trav/Hos	S-REITs	STI	STI	STI	STI	STI	Telcos
9.6	6.0	-3.3	3.9	-22.6	10.4	-3.5	15.9	11.8	0.2	-0.1	1.8	7.3	-5.3	2.4	4.4	0.8	0.4	2.1	2.5
STI	STI	STI	Banks	Manu	STI	Banks	Telcos	Manu	STI	STI	S-REITs	Manu	STI	Telcos	Manu	Telcos	Banks	Trav/Hos	STI
5.1	5.2	-4.7	2.9	-23.4	6.2	-4.1	7.3	11.2	0.1	-0.2	1.5	3.6	-7.5	-2.8	3.0	-0.2	-0.5	0.0	1.4
Banks	Manu	Telcos	S-REITs	Banks	Telcos	Telcos	Manu	S-REITs	Telcos	Trav/Hos	Trav/Hos	Telcos	Trav/Hos	S-REITs	S-REITs	Manu	Manu	Manu	Banks
2.4	3.0	-7.6	1.3	-25.3	2.0	-5.7	6.1	2.0	-1.9	-5.6	-0.1	2.0	-7.5	-7.6	-1.3	-0.5	-1.1	-0.5	0.7
Telcos	Trav/Hos	Manu	Trav/Hos	Trav/Hos	Trav/Hos	Trav/Hos	S-REITs	Telcos	Trav/Hos	Manu	Manu	S-REITs	Banks	Manu	Telcos	Banks	S-REITs	S-REITs	Manu
-1.1	-2.6	-9.2	1.2	-32.5	1.6	-7.2	3.2	0.4	-8.0	-6.2	-2.2	1.1	-12.5	-9.7	-3.9	-1.4	-2.3	-4.5	-0.8

Note STI, S-REIT Index, iEdge SG Adv Manufacturing, Banks. Telcos, Travel & Hospitality are based on Total Returns

Banks represent averaged total returns of DBS, OCBC & UOB;

Telcos represent averaged total returns of Singtel, NetLink NBN Trust & StarHub.

Travel & Hospitality represent averaged total returns of Singapore Airlines, Genting Singapore and ComfortDelGro Corp



All Data as of 31 Dec 2023 and sourced by Refinitiv Eikon Datastream

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#### The Manufacturing Sector is Diverse & Dynamic



40 NODX June 2021 30 Oct 23 and Nov 23 have indicated electronics and 20 10 0 Sep 2022 -10 -20

IP contracted from Oct 22 to Sep 23. Previous two months semiconductor recovery has

Singapore Industrial Production & NODX YoY % Expansions & Contractions

Jan 14 Oct 14 Jul 15 Apr 16 Jan 17 Oct 17 Jul 18 Apr 19 Jan 20 Oct 20 Jul 21 Apr 22 Jan 23 Oct 23

The iEdge SG ADV Manufacturing Index accounts for ~20% of ADT with comparable valuations

**Index % Sector Weights** Utilities 0.0 **Consumer Cyclicals** Technology 8.3 13.7 **Materials & Resources Consumer Non-Cyclicals** 5.5 26.6 Energy/Oil & Gas Industrials 0.6 37.9 Healthcare 7.4

- The iEdge SG ADV Manufacturing Index accounts for ~20% of ADT.
- This shows the significant role that the sector plays in the stock market, paralleling economic impact
- The iEdge SG Advanced Manufacturing Index sectors parallel the six clusters of Singapore's Industrial Production.
- Of the ~110 stocks, 27 reported more than a third of revenue to China, and 24 report more than one-third revenue to **ASEAN Ex-Singapore.**

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### **Index Heavyweights & Manufacturing Macro Drivers**

10 Biggest Index Weights of stocks relevant to Manufacturing	Code	Index Weight %	19-Jan Px	RCETP \$	P/B (x)	5-year P/B (x)
Singapore Technologies Eng	S63	11.1	3.83	4.25	4.88	5.17
Yangzijiang Shipbuilding	BS6	9.9	1.64	1.90	<mark>1.92</mark>	<mark>0.75</mark>
Wilmar International	F34	9.7	3.36	4.16	0.81	1.05
Seatrium	S51	8.3	0.112	0.176	<mark>0.94</mark>	<mark>0.82</mark>
Thai Beverage PCL	Y92	7.9	0.52	0.73	1.72	2.84
Venture Corp	V03	7.7	13.64	14.87	1.41	1.91
SATS	<b>S58</b>	6.1	2.85	3.19	1.82	2.64
NIO Inc USD	NIO	6.0	6.26	10.98	4.72	5.82
Keppel Infrastructure Trust	A7RU	4.7	0.51	0.57	<mark>1.65</mark>	<mark>1.55</mark>
Emperador Inc	EMI	3.2	0.50	0.47	3.59	2.96



Consumer Sectors subject to upstream/downstream drivers (pressure from El Nino normalised?), lifting of gov taxes (Thai Bev), consumer growth (Emperador, Wilmar), new consumer trends (NIO), in addition to strategic iniatives to improve productivity (SATS).

Some of the most traded index stocks, such as Yangzijiang Shipbuilding, Dyna-Mac and Food Empire, have high P/B ratios compared to their historical averages, indicating strong market valuation.

Meanwhile others, such as Top Glove, Medtecs Int and AEM, currently have low P/B ratios relative to their performance over the past 5 years.

Key Drivers for 2024 for IP/NODX include:



- Low base for growth from 2023
- Semiconductor upcycle & Al trends
- WTO merchandise trade volume forecast of 3.3% in 2024
- Tight financial conditions through to 2H24
- China Property Sector dampening sentiment
- Geopolitical developments impacting supply chains.

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Companies also have the means to address operational efficiencies, should the economic inflections like rate cuts come later rather than earlier, i.e., SATS 1HFY24 (ended 30 Sep) operating margin improving by 8.4% over 1HFY23.



All Data as of 19 Jan 2024

### **Broker Research Continues to Impact Trading Activity**

- Frencken Group is global integrated technology solutions company providing complete and integrated one-stop solutions
- The Group serves customers in Europe, Asia, and the US through a global network of operating subsidiaries.



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All Data as of 11 March 2024

### **Pivots to Renewable Energy & More Sustainable Solutions**

IEA: The world's capacity to generate renewable electricity is expanding faster than at any time in the last three decades, giving it a real chance of achieving the goal of tripling global capacity by 2030 that governments set at the COP28 climate change conference in Dec 2023.



Between 10% and 15% of 2023 ADT was directed to businesses pursuing pivots to sustainable solutions.

- Keppel's infrastructure division makes up two-thirds of its revenue, and consists of an integrated power business, as well as a decarbonisation and a sustainability solutions business.
- Sembcorp's global gross renewables capacity is 13GW, including 473MW of acquisitions pending completion. Its major markets are China, India, Southeast Asia, and the UK. By 2028, the company is targeting to triple its gross installed renewables capacity to 25GWs.



In other heavier industries such as ship building, companies may increase the clean energy options across their product range, to pivot their revenue base away from carbon intensive products.

10 Biggest Index Weights	Code	19 Jan Px	RCETP	P/B (x)	5-year P/B (x)
Seatrium	S51	0.11	0.18	0.94	0.82
Yangzijiang Shipbuilding	BS6	1.64	1.90	1.92	0.75
<mark>Keppel</mark>	<mark>BN4</mark>	<mark>6.87</mark>	<mark>7.71</mark>	<mark>1.08</mark>	<mark>0.68</mark>
Sembcorp Industries	<mark>U96</mark>	<mark>5.39</mark>	<mark>6.70</mark>	<mark>2.14</mark>	<mark>0.99</mark>
NIO Inc USD	NIO	6.26	10.98	4.72	5.82
Keppel Infrastructure Trust	A7RU	0.51	0.57	1.65	1.55





Photo Credits: Keppel, Mitsubishi Power. Keppel and Sembcorp are separately working with Mitsubishi Power and Jurong Engineering are developing hydrogen ready Cogen plants. The 600MWs Plants are expected to be completed in 2026. Singapore aims to be able to meet up to 50% of its domestic electricity demand through hydrogen power generation by 2050 g and is moving forward with the introduction of low-carbon hydrogen and infrastructure development.

### **Status Quo vs Potential Turning Points**

- Singapore's GDP growth rate is expected to double up in 2024.
- The outlook for <u>less tight financial conditions</u> have also seen the MAS Survey of professional forecasters revise expectations higher for Singapore corporate profitability.
- However, the global status quo remains an outlook of uneven & slowing global growth on the back of tight financial conditions, challenges in China real estate, and geopolitical concerns.



#### Potential turning points include:

- APAC Commercial Real Estate in mid-2024 (CBRE)
- US Commercial Real Estate (JLL) & US REITs (Evercore)
- Global merchandise trade tripling 2023 levels
- 2024 rebound in the global semiconductor cycle
- Structural reforms to China housing market (IMF 5point roadmap)
- Global political tensions & elections











### **Digitalisation & AI**

- ASEAN to become a US\$1 trillion internet economy by 2030, propelled by a fastgrowing base of digital consumers and merchants, acceleration in e-commerce, and food delivery.
- According to the WTO Singapore ranks as the 8th largest exporter of digitally delivered services across the globe (US\$150M in 2022 vs \$106M in 2019)\*
- According to company reports, Digitalisation has played a key role in service delivery of Singapore's most traded stocks.
  - Majority of DBS, UOB & OCBC customers are digitally enabled.
  - Singtel growth engines NCS, data centre and digital banking businesses growing in scale





SEMI maintain the 2024 rebound in the global semiconductor cycle is expected to continue through 2026, with wafer shipments setting new highs as silicon demand increases to support AI, high-performance computing, 5G, automotive and industrial applications.





- There are ~30 revenue streams relevant to AI adoption have been across three industries:- Hardware solutions, Software/Algorithmic AI solutions and Industrial Applications of AI.
- Stocks have varied exposure. For instance, GVT reported 45% of revenue to Monitoring and Control Sensor/Instrument Products & StarHub report 13% revenue to network security software.
- Silverlake Axis maintains AI/ML is being widely used in the banking sector to automate routine tasks and improve customer experiences, which Silverlake Axis is addressing this with its new "CloudLink" solution.

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\*Digital delivery includes services traded cross-border through computer networks and increasingly through digital intermediation platforms, including computer services, financial services, intellectual property related, insurance & telecommunication services