



**Houlihan
Lokey**

Testing, Inspection, Certification, and Compliance Market Update

Summer 2025

About Our Firm

Houlihan Lokey, Inc. (NYSE:HLI) is a leading global investment bank with expertise in mergers and acquisitions, capital solutions, financial restructuring, and financial and valuation advisory.

Our firm is the trusted advisor to more top decision-makers than any other independent global investment bank.

CORPORATE FINANCE

2024 M&A Advisory Rankings
All Global Transactions

	Advisor	Deals
1	Houlihan Lokey	415
2	Rothschild & Co	406
3	Goldman Sachs & Co	371
4	JP Morgan	342
5	Morgan Stanley	309

Source: LSEG (formerly Refinitiv).
Excludes accounting firms and brokers.

No. 1
Global M&A Advisor

Leading
Capital Solutions Group

FINANCIAL RESTRUCTURING

2024 Global Distressed Debt &
Bankruptcy Restructuring Rankings

	Advisor	Deals
1	Houlihan Lokey	88
2	PJT Partners Inc	59
3	Rothschild & Co	48
4	Lazard	44
5	Perella Weinberg Partners LP	40

Source: LSEG (formerly Refinitiv).

No. 1
Global Restructuring Advisor

1,800+
Transactions Completed Valued at
More Than \$3.8 Trillion Collectively

FINANCIAL AND VALUATION ADVISORY

2000–2024 Global M&A
Fairness Advisory Rankings

	Advisor	Deals
1	Houlihan Lokey	1,243
2	Duff & Phelps, A Kroll Business	1,045
3	JP Morgan	1,020
4	UBS	792
5	Morgan Stanley	698

Source: LSEG (formerly Refinitiv).
Announced or completed transactions.

No. 1
Global M&A Fairness Opinion
Advisor Over the Past 25 Years

2,000+
Annual Valuation Engagements



Learn more about how
our advisors can serve
your needs:

Corporate Finance →

Financial Restructuring →

Financial and
Valuation Advisory →

Our Industry Coverage →



Our clients benefit from our local presence and global reach.

34

Locations
Worldwide

AMERICAS

Atlanta	Los Angeles
Baltimore	Miami
Boston	Minneapolis
Charlotte	New York
Chicago	San Francisco
Dallas	São Paulo
Houston	Washington, D.C.

~2,000

Total Financial
Professionals

347

Managing
Directors⁽¹⁾

EUROPE AND MIDDLE EAST

Amsterdam	Milan
Antwerp	Munich
Dubai	Paris
Frankfurt	Stockholm
London	Zurich
Madrid	
Manchester	

2,000+

Clients Served
Annually

\$13.41B

Market
Cap⁽²⁾

ASIA- PACIFIC

Beijing	Shanghai
Gurugram	Singapore
Hong Kong SAR	Sydney
Mumbai	Tokyo

\$2.5B

Annual
Revenue⁽³⁾

Fully Integrated Financial Sponsor Coverage

26

Senior officers dedicated to the sponsor community in the Americas and Europe.

1,900+

Sponsors covered, providing market insights and knowledge of buyer behavior.

850+

Companies sold to financial sponsors over the past five years.



(1) As of June 30, 2025.

(2) As of July 31, 2025.

(3) LTM ended June 30, 2025.



About Our Business Services Industry Group

Houlihan Lokey's Business Services Group combines extensive industry relationships with substantial experience to offer a broad array of M&A, corporate finance, restructuring, and financial and valuation advisory services to the business services industry.

2024 M&A Advisory Rankings
All Global Business Services Transactions

Advisor	Deals
1 Houlihan Lokey	86
2 Rothschild & Co	62
3 Goldman Sachs & Co	54
4 Benchmark International	49
5 JP Morgan	46

Source: LSEG (formerly Refinitiv).
Excludes accounting firms and brokers.

Based on number of transactions and according to data provided by LSEG (formerly Refinitiv), Houlihan Lokey was ranked the

No. 1

investment bank for all global business services M&A transactions.

 Business Services Industry Coverage

Featured Business Services Industry Transactions



Startek, Inc. has been acquired by funds managed by CSP Management Limited

Financial Advisor



Gannett Fleming has received a strategic investment from OceanSound Partners

Financial Advisor



Shamrock Environmental Corp., a portfolio company of CenterOak Partners, has been acquired by Republic Services

Sellside Advisor



Relam, a portfolio company of Payscale Equity Partners

Exclusive Placement Agent



Mariani Premier Group, a portfolio company of CI Capital Partners

Exclusive Placement Agent



Kelly has acquired Motion Recruitment, a portfolio company of Littlejohn & Co.

Buy-side Advisor



CompassMSP, LLC has been acquired by Agellus Capital, LLC

Sellside Advisor



Huge, a subsidiary of The Interpublic Group of Companies, has strategically combined with Hero Digital, a portfolio company of AEA Investors

Sellside Advisor



Cooper Parry, a portfolio company of Waterlane Private Equity, has been acquired by Lee Equity Partners

Sellside Advisor



Applied Technical Services, a portfolio company of Odyssey Investment Partners, has agreed to be acquired by SGS

Lead Sellside Advisor



Challenger Optimization Inc., a portfolio company of Marlin Equity Partners, has been acquired by Richardson Sales Performance, a portfolio company of TrueLink Capital

Sellside Advisor



Dependable Highway Express's LTL division has been acquired by Knight Transportation and Swift Transportation

Sellside Advisor

Tombstones included herein represent transactions closed from 2022 forward.

Industry Sector Coverage

We cover a broad array of sectors, with financial professionals dedicated to each of our primary coverage areas.



BPO Services



Education Technology and Services



Engineering and Infrastructure



Environmental Services



Equipment-as-a-Service



Facility and Residential Services



HCM Services



IT Services



Marketing Services



Pharma Commercialization



Specialty Consulting and Risk Services



Testing, Inspection, Certification, and Compliance



Transportation and Logistics

Key Facts and Figures

~170

Dedicated Business Services Financial Professionals

86

Completed Business Services M&A/Private Placement Transactions in CY24

About Our Global Testing, Inspection, Certification, and Compliance Team

Houlihan Lokey is pleased to present its latest testing, inspection, certification, and compliance (TICC) global industry update. Our dedicated TICC practice operates within Houlihan Lokey’s Business Services Group and has earned a global reputation for providing superior service and achieving outstanding results in M&A advisory, capital-raising, and financial and valuation advisory services.

Our clients have included early-stage, midsize, and large private, PE-backed, and publicly owned businesses, and we understand that an industry driven by continuous innovation and evolution requires the sophistication of an advisor who thinks ahead of the market and utilizes solid industry relationships to advance its clients’ vision. We optimize client outcomes by running well-executed, competitive processes, focusing on deep domain knowledge to position for synergy and scarcity value, and leveraging our world-class strategic and private equity access to bring the right senior decision-makers to the negotiation table.

Featured Houlihan Lokey TICC Team Transactions

Transaction Pending  Applied Technical Services, a portfolio company of Odyssey Investment Partners, has agreed to be acquired by SGS Lead Sellside Advisor	Transaction Pending  NMI, an affiliated portfolio company of Levine Leichtman Capital Partners, has agreed to be acquired by Bridgepoint Lead Sellside Advisor	 SANSIDOR, a portfolio company of HC Partners, has been acquired by IK Partners Sellside Advisor	 MARLOWE Inflexion has acquired the Governance, Risk & Compliance software and services assets ("GRC") of Marlowe Buy-side & Financing Advisor	 GALLANT CAPITAL The Payments Testing Business of UL Solutions has been acquired by an affiliate of Gallant Capital Sellside Advisor	 KOHLEBERG & COMPANY NEUBERGER BERMAN ENTRUST Solutions Group, a portfolio company of Kohlberg & Company, has sold a minority stake to Neuberger Berman Group, LLC Sellside Advisor	 TRANS DIGM GROUP INC. Calspan Corporation has been acquired by TransDigm Group, Inc. Sellside Advisor
 AURORA CAPITAL PARTNERS element National Technical Systems, a portfolio company of Aurora Capital Partners, has been acquired by The Element Materials Technology Group Sellside Advisor	 inflexion Oakley Capital Phenna Group, a portfolio company of Inflexion, has received secondary investment from Oakley Capital Limited Sellside Advisor	 Alcumus inflexion Apax Partners LLP has acquired Alcumus Holdings Limited, a portfolio company of Inflexion Private Equity Limited Buy-side Advisor	 Tentamus BC Partners has invested in Tentamus Buy-side Advisor	 WIND POINT PARTNERS LINDSAY GOLDBERG Kleinfelder Group, Inc., a portfolio company of Wind Point Partners, has been acquired by affiliates of Lindsay Goldberg, LLC and Kleinfelder Management Sellside Advisor	 Stephens Group Astro Pak Corporation has been acquired by The Stephens Group, LLC Sellside Advisor	 Spire Capital STERLING INVESTMENT PARTNERS PROtect, a portfolio company of Spire Capital, has been acquired by Sterling Investment Partners Sellside Advisor

Tombstones included herein represent transactions closed from 2022 forward.

Subsector Coverage



Calibration,
Weighing, and
Metrology



Certification



Inspection and
Integrity
Management



Laboratory/
Product Testing



Nondestructive
Testing and
Inspection



Quality
Assurance/Control



Regulatory
Compliance/GRC



Tech-Enabled
Solutions



Traceability/
Supply Chain
Compliance



Utility
Services

Leadership



Ranon Kent
Managing Director,
Global Head of
Business Services
RKent@HL.com
+1 310.712.6523



Kevin Rogstad
Director
KRogstad@HL.com
+44 20 7907 4284



Alex Heikali
Senior Vice President
AHeikali@HL.com
+1 310.788.5294



Alex Cohen
Vice President
ACohen@HL.com
+1 310.788.5226



Alexander van Aubel
Vice President
AvanAubel@HL.com
+44 20 7747 7591

Contact Us

 Request a Meeting

 Learn More About Us





Table of Contents

07

TICC Market
Update

08

Featured
Sector News

10

Featured
Transactions
Executed by
Houlihan
Lokey's TICC
Team

11

New Platforms
Have Been
Created in the
Sector...

12

Driving M&A
Transaction
Multiples to
Above the
Long-Term
Trend

13

Public
Company
Valuations

14

Public
Comparables

15

Disclaimer

TICC Market Update

The pace of M&A in the TICC sector remained steady in Q2 and into early Q3 compared to Q1, driven by new platform acquisitions and add-on transactions.

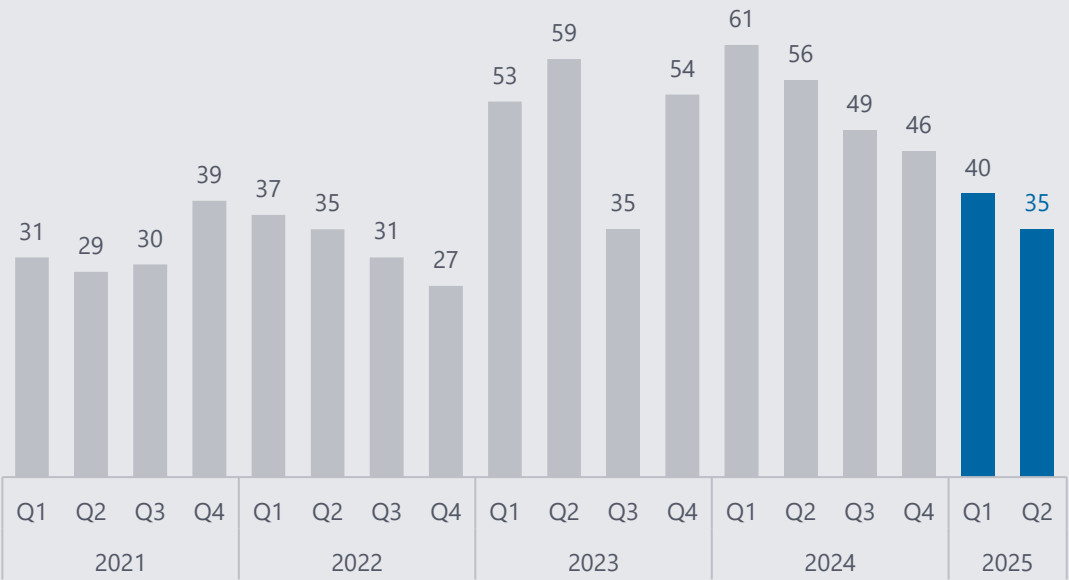
Q2 2025 and early Q3 2025 have seen several significant add-on and new platform transactions. Examples include the acquisition of Applied Technical Services by SGS, Bridgepoint’s acquisition of NMI Group, FlexXray’s acquisition of a food safety inspection business in France, and the acquisition of PLANTON by Eurofins, among others.

Increases in government, corporate, and consumer standards continue to drive growth in the sector. Tech-enablement/digitalization and innovative software solutions are driving efficiency and advancements in service delivery and client value.

TICC M&A Transaction Volume⁽¹⁾

75

Transactions
1H 2025



Source: S&P Capital IQ. Data as of June 30, 2025.
(1) The Houlihan Lokey TICC Index consists of a diversified set of companies across the TICC sector. See page 14 for a complete list.



Featured Sector News

TICC sector platforms were highly acquisitive in Q2 2025 and early Q3 2025, seeking to expand their product offerings and global reach.

Date	Company	Description	Article Link
7/9/2025		FlexRay announced its global expansion with its first European acquisition in France and plans for a new facility in Canada. This move strengthens its position as a leader in foreign material inspection, offering advanced X-ray and CT technologies to support food manufacturers worldwide.	Read More
7/2/2025	 	SGS has agreed to acquire Applied Technical Services, a leading U.S. testing, inspection, calibration, and forensics solutions provider. This \$1.325 billion acquisition strengthens SGS's North American presence, adding 85 facilities and 2,100 professionals. This transaction exemplifies one of SGS's Strategy 2027 objectives of growth through accretive and synergetic acquisitions.	Read More
6/30/2025		TÜV SÜD Product Service GmbH has announced leadership changes effective July 1, 2025. Wolfgang Hübl will become CEO, focusing on innovation and international collaboration, while Karl Meier takes on the new role of COO, overseeing operations, marketing, and product development.	Read More
6/27/2025		Phenna Group has acquired Construction Testing Services, a Northern Ireland-based provider of construction materials testing. This acquisition strengthens Phenna's Infrastructure Division, expanding its geographic reach and enhancing its testing capabilities through integration with Simtec, a specialist materials testing business.	Read More
6/25/2025		Phenna Group has acquired Asset Management Engineers, a Perth-based leader in plant testing, inspection, and certification. This marks Phenna's 10th acquisition in 2025 and strengthens its presence in the APAC region, supporting industries like resources, energy, and industrial sectors.	Read More
6/10/2025		Richard Bartlett has joined Applus+ as the new CEO, bringing leadership experience from bp. He aims to prioritize safety, customer trust, operational excellence, and growth, positioning Applus+ as a major player in the testing, inspection, and certification sector.	Read More
6/10/2025	 	Bridgepoint has partnered with NMI Group, acquiring a majority stake to accelerate NMI's growth in ATICC services. The partnership aims to expand NMI's global platform, focusing on high-growth certifications, geographic expansion, and enhanced commercial infrastructure. Completion is expected in Q3 2025.	Read More
6/4/2025		SGS has acquired H2Safety, a Canadian leader in emergency management and operational safety solutions. This acquisition enhances SGS's health and safety services in North America, adding expertise in risk mitigation, regulatory compliance, and business continuity to protect people and critical infrastructure.	Read More
5/30/2025		Phenna Group has acquired Civiltest, a Melbourne-based leader in geotechnical engineering and soil testing. This acquisition strengthens Phenna's geotechnical and construction materials testing capabilities in Australia and complements its existing operations.	Read More
5/28/2025		Phenna Group has acquired Statutory Inspections Ltd., a leading U.K. provider of forklift inspections and compliance services. This acquisition enhances Phenna's Built Environment division, integrating with BTIS to expand capabilities and deliver comprehensive inspection services nationwide.	Read More

Sources: Company websites, press releases.
Indicates Houlihan Lokey Transaction.



Featured Sector News (cont.)

Date	Company	Description	Article Link
5/15/2025	 UL Solutions	UL Solutions has launched its Europe Advanced Battery Testing Laboratory in Aachen, Germany. This state-of-the-art facility tests and certifies batteries for electric vehicles and energy storage systems, enhancing safety, performance, and lifespan evaluations.	Read More
5/2/2025	 NMI Group	NMI Group has acquired Electromagnetic Testing Services, a U.K.-based EMC testing lab. This acquisition enhances NMI's market access services and expands its capabilities in EMC testing for industries such as medical technology, EV charging, and communications. ETS will continue operations under its current leadership.	Read More
5/1/2025	 element	Element Materials Technology announced that it is expanding its Swedish laboratory for plastic pipe testing to meet rising demand in industries such as water and gas distribution, underfloor heating, and district heating. The new 3,000-square-meter facility will open in 2026.	Read More
4/14/2025	 intertek	Intertek has announced a significant investment in a U.K.-based Centre of Excellence for consumer goods testing in Leigh, Greater Manchester. This facility will consolidate softlines and hardlines testing, offering enhanced technical expertise and faster turnaround times. Completion is expected in the fall of 2025.	Read More
4/2/2025	 Applus+	Applus+ Laboratories has acquired Gometrics, a Spanish company specializing in industrial calibration and instrumentation. This acquisition enhances Applus+'s metrology capabilities, adding expertise in calibration, validation, and equipment manufacturing.	Read More
4/1/2025	 PHENNA GROUP	Phenna Group has acquired Atlantic Testing Laboratories, a New York-based engineering support firm with 11 offices across the Northeastern, Mid-Atlantic, and Midwestern U.S. This acquisition strengthens Phenna's presence in the U.S. and enhances its capabilities in construction materials, geotechnical, and environmental services.	Read More
3/21/2025	 NMI Group	NMI Group has acquired Central Calibration Services, a UKAS-accredited lab specializing in high-precision force calibration. This will enhance NMI's U.K. In-Life Services Division, expanding capabilities in aviation, defense, and soil testing and improving turnaround times and service offerings.	Read More

Sources: Company websites, press releases.



Featured Transactions Executed by Houlihan Lokey's TICC Team

Houlihan Lokey Advises Applied Technical Services on Its Sale to SGS



- Applied Technical Services (ATS) is a leading provider of specialized testing, inspection, calibration, and forensic consulting solutions in North America.
- With ~2,100 team members in more than 85 locations across the United States, the company serves a diverse client base across large and stable end markets, including manufacturing, power generation, food and beverage, chemicals, aerospace, life sciences, and defense.
- Following its acquisition by Odyssey in 2020, the company has completed nearly 40 acquisitions, substantially increasing its scale, broadening service capabilities, and deepening its presence across diversified end-markets—establishing a leading industry position.
- Houlihan Lokey served as the lead financial advisor and assisted in marketing, structuring, and negotiating the transaction on behalf of ATS and Odyssey.

[Read More](#)

Houlihan Lokey Advises NMI Group on Its Sale to Bridgepoint

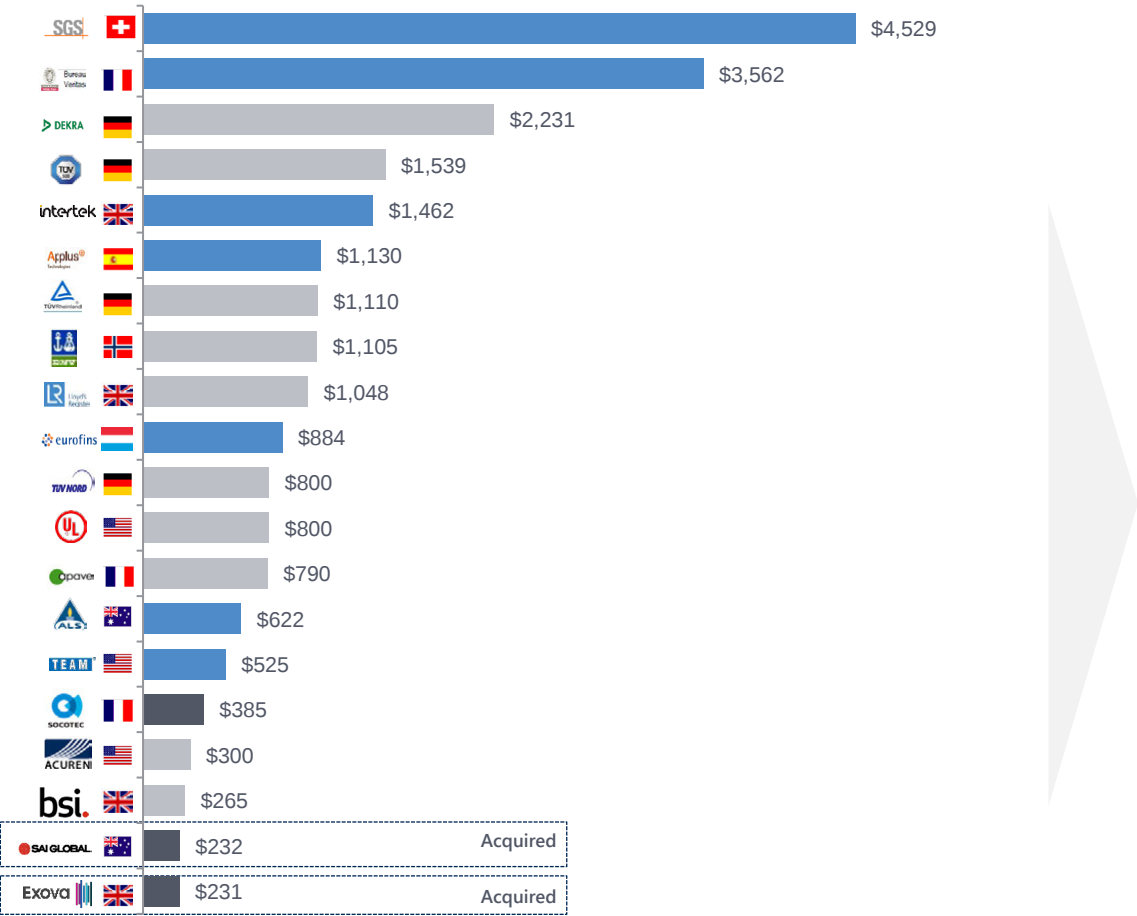


- NMI Group is a leading European TICC player that provides complex products with mission-critical assurance services across their lifecycle.
- Provides comprehensive market access and in-life services through type approval, certification, verification, and calibration for the essential needs of customers in growing and highly regulated end markets, including energy and utilities, aerospace and defense, cybersecurity, and health and life sciences.
- Established as a true leader in a large, regulatory-driven, and mission-critical market, supported by unmatched standards, impartiality, independence, and reliability.
- Houlihan Lokey served as the lead financial advisor to LLCP and NMI in a deal that exemplifies the continued success of Houlihan Lokey's dedicated global coverage of the TICC sector.

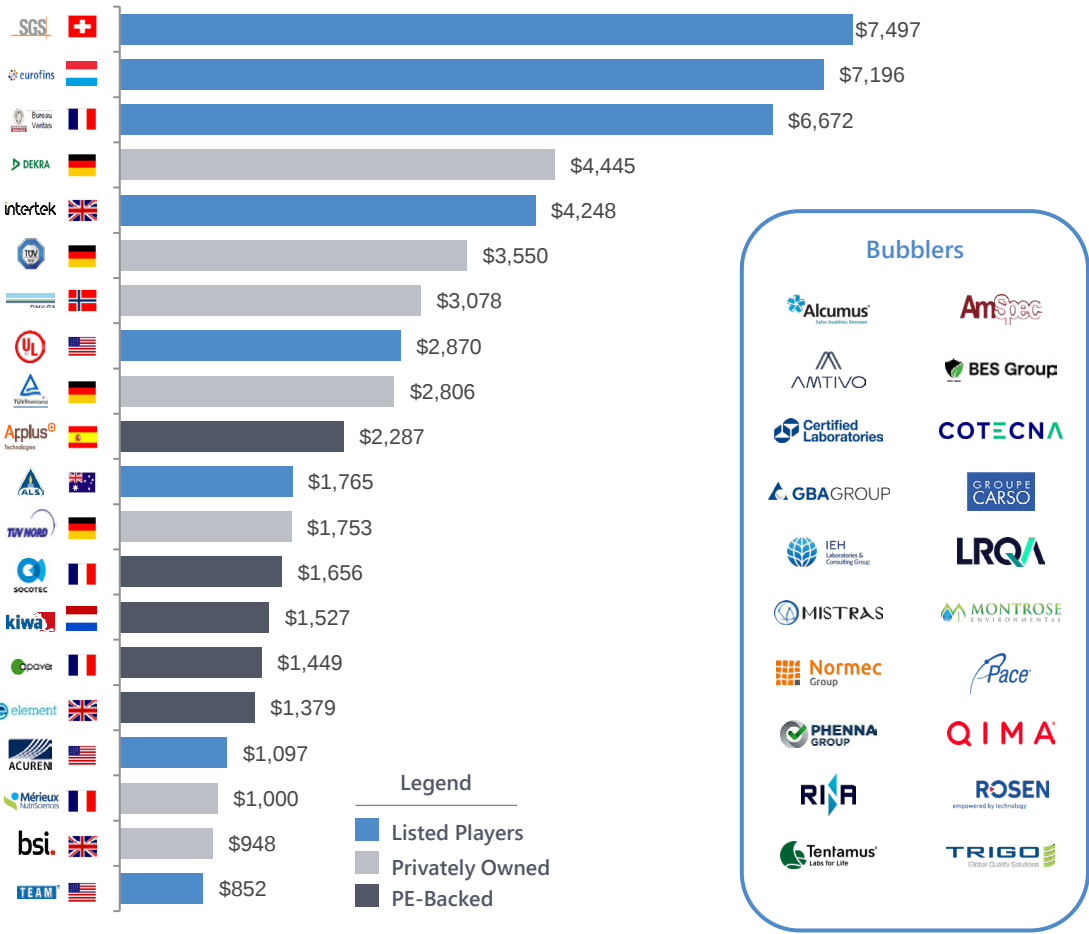
[Read More](#)

New Platforms Have Been Created in the Sector...

The Houlihan Lokey TICC Top 20: 2008⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

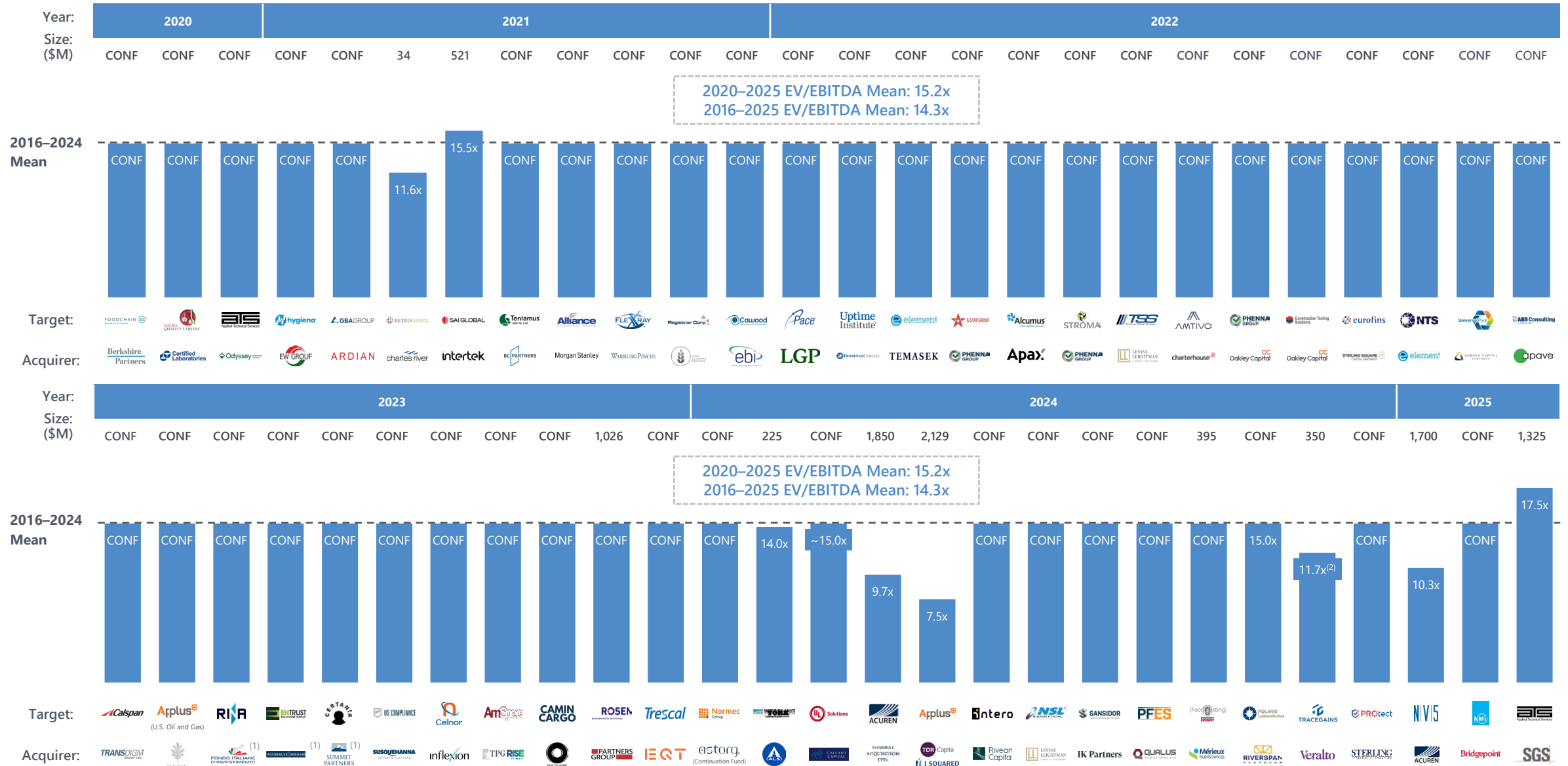


The Houlihan Lokey TICC Top 20: 2024⁽²⁾⁽³⁾



Sources: S&P Capital IQ, company reports, and Houlihan Lokey estimates.
(1) Represents LTM revenue available as of January 31, 2009. Estimates provided where information was not readily available.
(2) Excludes public companies with minor testing and certification operations.
(3) Represents most recent LTM revenue available as of December 31, 2024.
Notes: Estimates provided where information was not readily available. Figures above in US\$ millions.

...Driving M&A Transaction Multiples to **Above the Long-Term Trend**

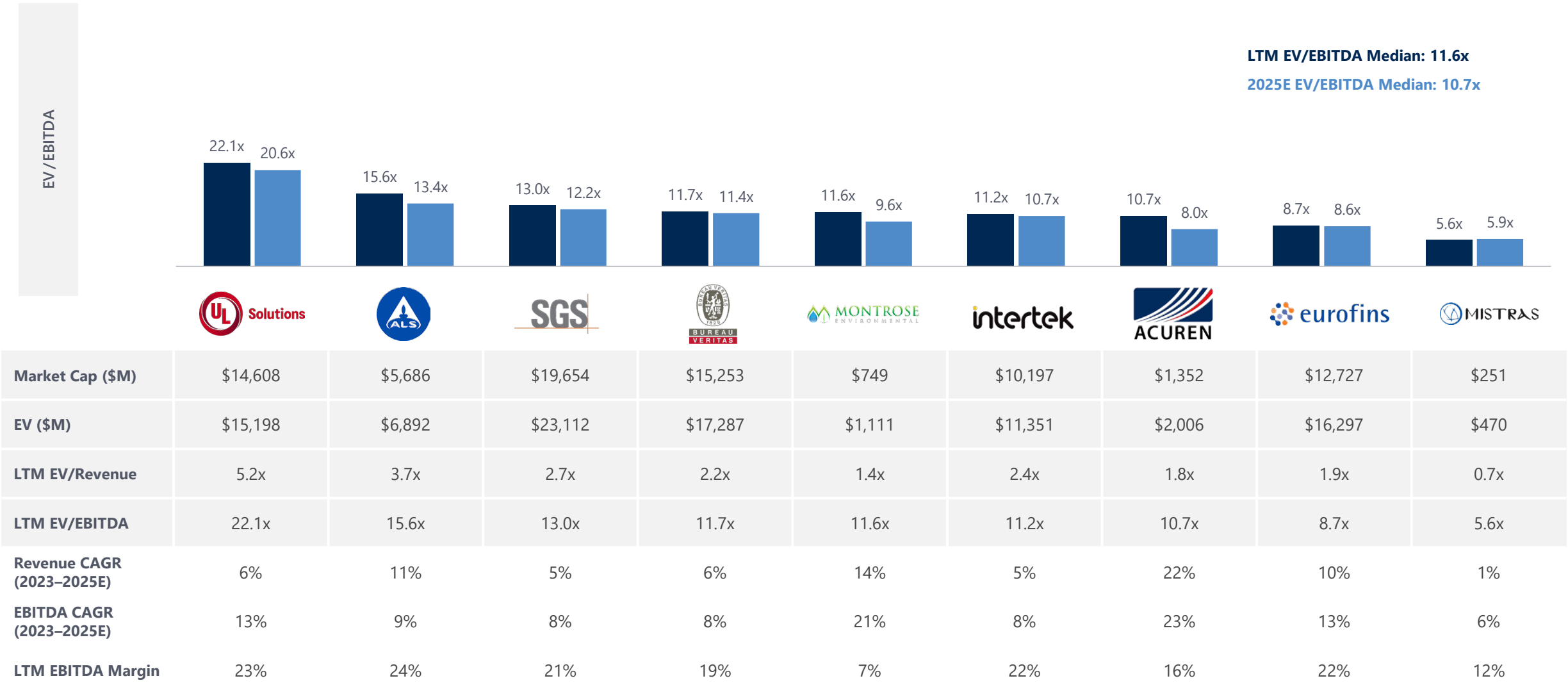


Note: CONF denotes multiples whose values are confidential. These values are included in the average as known to Houlihan Lokey. Data as of July 2, 2025.

(1) Minority stake.

(2) Revenue multiple.

Public Company Valuations TICC



Public Comparables TICC

(\$ in Millions, Except per-Share Prices)

As of 6/30/2025

					EV/Revenue		EV/EBITDA		2023-2025E CAGR		EBITDA Margin		
					LTM	2025E	LTM	2025E	Revenue	EBITDA	LTM	2025E	
Testing, Inspection, Certification, and Compliance	UL Solutions Inc.	\$14,608	\$15,198	\$336	0.5x	5.2x	5.0x	22.1x	20.6x	6.4%	13.1%	23.3%	24.4%
	ALS Ltd.	\$5,686	\$6,892	\$1,138	2.7x	3.7x	3.4x	15.6x	13.4x	10.6%	8.8%	23.7%	25.4%
	SGS S.A.	\$19,654	\$23,112	\$3,575	2.4x	2.7x	2.7x	13.0x	12.2x	4.8%	8.3%	20.5%	21.9%
	Bureau Veritas S.A.	\$15,253	\$17,287	\$2,017	1.6x	2.2x	2.3x	11.7x	11.4x	6.3%	8.3%	18.9%	20.1%
	Montrose Environmental Group, Inc.	\$749	\$1,111	\$280	6.9x	1.4x	1.4x	11.6x	9.6x	13.6%	20.5%	7.4%	14.0%
	Intertek Group PLC	\$10,197	\$11,351	\$1,481	1.6x	2.4x	2.4x	11.2x	10.7x	4.6%	8.2%	21.9%	22.8%
	Acuren Corp.	\$1,352	\$2,006	\$597	6.0x	1.8x	1.3x	10.7x	8.0x	22.0%	23.0%	15.5%	16.1%
	Eurofins Scientific SE	\$12,727	\$16,297	\$3,946	2.5x	1.9x	1.9x	8.7x	8.6x	9.5%	13.4%	22.3%	22.0%
	Mistras Group, Inc.	\$251	\$470	\$191	2.1x	0.7x	0.7x	5.6x	5.9x	0.8%	5.6%	11.9%	11.2%
Median					2.4x	2.2x	2.3x	11.6x	10.7x	6.4%	8.8%	20.5%	21.9%
Mean					2.9x	2.4x	2.3x	12.2x	11.2x	8.8%	18.4%	17.5%	19.7%

Trading multiples are based on share price, other market data, and broker consensus future revenue and earnings estimates from S&P Capital IQ as of June 30, 2025.



Disclaimer

© 2025 Houlihan Lokey. All rights reserved. This material may not be reproduced in any format by any means or redistributed without the prior written consent of Houlihan Lokey.

Houlihan Lokey is a trade name for Houlihan Lokey, Inc., and its subsidiaries and affiliates, which include the following licensed (or, in the case of Singapore, exempt) entities: in (i) the United States: Houlihan Lokey Capital, Inc., and Waller Helms Securities, LLC, each an SEC-registered broker-dealer and a member of FINRA (www.finra.org) and SIPC (www.sipc.org) (investment banking services); (ii) Europe: Houlihan Lokey UK Limited (FRN 792919), authorized and regulated by the U.K. Financial Conduct Authority; Houlihan Lokey (Europe) GmbH, authorized and regulated by the German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht); Houlihan Lokey Private Funds Advisory S.A., a member of CNCEF Patrimoine and registered with the ORIAS (#14002730); (iii) the United Arab Emirates, Dubai International Financial Centre (Dubai): Houlihan Lokey (MEA Financial Advisory) Ltd., regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority; (iv) Singapore: Houlihan Lokey (Singapore) Private Limited an “exempt corporate finance adviser” able to provide exempt corporate finance advisory services to accredited investors only; (v) Hong Kong SAR: Houlihan Lokey (China) Limited, licensed in Hong Kong by the Securities and Futures Commission to conduct Type 1, 4, and 6 regulated activities to professional investors only; (vi) India: Houlihan Lokey Advisory (India) Private Limited, registered as an investment adviser with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (registration number INA000001217); and (vii) Australia: Houlihan Lokey (Australia) Pty Limited (ABN 74 601 825 227), a company incorporated in Australia and licensed by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (AFSL number 474953) in respect of financial services provided to wholesale clients only. In the United Kingdom, European Economic Area (EEA), Dubai, Singapore, Hong Kong, India, and Australia, this communication is directed to intended recipients, including actual or potential professional clients (UK, EEA, and Dubai), accredited investors (Singapore), professional investors (Hong Kong), and wholesale clients (Australia), respectively. No entity affiliated with Houlihan Lokey, Inc., provides banking or securities brokerage services, nor is any such affiliate subject to FINMA supervision in Switzerland or similar regulatory authorities regarding such activities in other jurisdictions. Other persons, such as retail clients, are NOT the intended recipients of our communications or services and should not act upon this communication.

Houlihan Lokey gathers its data from sources it considers reliable; however, it does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of the information provided within this presentation. The material presented reflects information known to the authors at the time this presentation was written, and this information is subject to change. Any forward-looking information and statements contained herein are subject to various risks and uncertainties, many of which are difficult to predict, that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied or projected by, the forward-looking information and statements. In addition, past performance should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of future performance, and information contained herein may be subject to variation as a result of currency fluctuations. Houlihan Lokey makes no representations or warranties, expressed or implied, regarding the accuracy of this material. The views expressed in this material accurately reflect the personal views of the authors regarding the subject securities and issuers and do not necessarily coincide with those of Houlihan Lokey. Officers, directors, and partners in the Houlihan Lokey group of companies may have positions in the securities of the companies discussed. This presentation does not constitute advice or a recommendation, offer, or solicitation with respect to the securities of any company discussed herein, is not intended to provide information upon which to base an investment decision, and should not be construed as such. Houlihan Lokey or its affiliates may from time to time provide financial or related services to these companies. Like all Houlihan Lokey employees, the authors of this presentation receive compensation that is affected by overall firm profitability.





Houlihan
Lokey

Corporate Finance
Financial Restructuring
Financial and Valuation Advisory

[HL.com](https://www.hl.com)