

Alphabet (GOOG US)

3Q25 results beat; upbeat on AI and cloud business momentum

Alphabet announced 3Q25 results: total revenue grew by 16% YoY to US\$102.3bn, 3% ahead of consensus estimate; operating income excluding US\$3.5bn European Commission fine was up by 22% YoY to US\$34.7bn, 8% ahead of consensus estimate, primarily thanks to the enhanced overall efficiency and robust earnings growth of Google Cloud (+85% YoY). Management raised FY25 capex guidance to US\$91-93bn (previously: US\$85bn), up by 73%-77% YoY. The AI investments gradually bear fruit in both core search (>2bn AI Overviews users) and cloud businesses (cloud backlog + 82% YoY to US\$155bn), driving acceleration in revenue growth. We lift our FY25-27 total revenue forecast by 1-4% in view of the AI empowerment. We roll over our valuation window to FY26 and raise our target price to US\$328.0 based on 30x FY26E PE (previous: US\$221.0 based on 22x FY25E PE), given the AI-enhanced growth outlook. Maintain BUY.

- **AI drove acceleration in core search revenue growth.** Google Search & other revenue grew by 15% YoY to US\$56.6bn in 3Q25, led by strength in retail and financial service verticals. AI Overviews and AI Mode drove acceleration in the growth rate of paid clicks from +3% YoY in 1H25 to +7% YoY in 3Q25. DAUs of AI Mode surpassed 75mn in 3Q25, with consistent WoW usage growth since launch and queries doubled QoQ. Cost-per-click was also up by 7% YoY in 3Q25, driven by the AI-enhanced ad performance. AI Max and Search, globally launched in September, created billions of net new queries in 3Q25, becoming the fastest-growing AI-powered search ads product. YouTube ads revenue grew by 15% YoY to US\$10.3bn in 3Q25, as the recommendation systems drove robust watch growth in key monetization areas like Shorts and Living Room.
- **Google Cloud: strong beat on both revenue and margin.** Google Cloud revenue was up by 34% YoY to US\$15.2bn in 3Q25 (2Q25: +32% YoY), further accelerating thanks to the robust demand for AI compute. Google Cloud backlog was up by 46% QoQ and 82% YoY to US\$155bn in 3Q25. Demand for Google's first-party AI models was especially strong, with revenue from products built on its generative AI models grew over 200% YoY in 3Q25. The company is now processing over 1,300tn monthly tokens across all surfaces, up from 980tn monthly tokens in Jul, with its first-party models processing c.300tn monthly tokens via direct API. Google Cloud margin expanded by 7ppts YoY to 23.7% in 3Q25, driven by the strong revenue performance and efficiency gains.
- **Raise full-year capex guidance.** OPM, excluding the EC fine, improved by 2ppts YoY to 33.9% in 3Q25 despite increased AI investments. Total capex increased by 83% YoY to US\$24.0bn in 3Q25, and management raised full-year capex guidance to US\$91-93bn (previously: US\$85bn). Depreciation grew by 41% YoY to US\$5.6bn in 3Q25 (5% of total revenue), and we expect it to further accelerate and put pressure on margin in 4Q25E and FY26E.

Earnings Summary

(YE 31 Dec)	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue (US\$ mn)	307,394	350,018	399,165	451,805	506,432
Net profit (US\$ mn)	73,795.0	100,118.0	127,499.6	132,271.6	150,321.6
EPS (Reported) (US\$)	5.84	8.13	10.53	10.92	12.42
Consensus EPS (US\$)	5.84	8.13	9.90	10.79	12.35
P/E (x)	47.1	33.9	26.1	25.2	22.2

Source: Company data, Bloomberg, CMBIGM estimates

BUY (Maintain)

Target Price US\$328.00
(Previous TP) US\$221.00
Up/Downside 19.2%
Current Price US\$275.17

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Stock Data

Mkt Cap (US\$ mn)	3,331,758.4
Avg 3 mths t/o (US\$ mn)	1,879.5
52w High/Low (US\$)	275.17/146.58
Total Issued Shares (mn)	12108.0

Source: FactSet

Shareholding Structure

The Vanguard Group	4.1%
BlackRock	3.4%

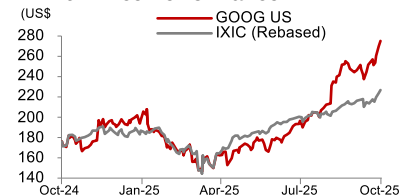
Source: Company data

Share Performance

	Absolute	Relative
1-mth	13.0%	6.9%
3-mth	39.4%	22.9%
6-mth	71.0%	24.5%

Source: FactSet

12-mth Price Performance



Source: FactSet

Business forecasts update and valuation

Figure 1: Alphabet: forecast revision

US\$ bn	Current			Previous			Change (%)		
	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	399.2	451.8	506.4	393.3	438.6	486.3	1.5%	3.0%	4.1%
Gross profit	236.2	267.7	300.9	231.8	259.1	287.8	1.9%	3.3%	4.6%
Operating profit	128.7	148.8	171.8	129.9	147.7	165.0	-0.9%	0.8%	4.1%
Net profit	127.5	132.3	150.3	121.8	131.2	144.4	4.7%	0.8%	4.1%
EPS (US\$)	10.5	10.9	12.4	10.1	10.8	11.9	4.7%	0.8%	4.1%
Gross margin	59.2%	59.2%	59.4%	58.9%	59.1%	59.2%	0.2 ppt	0.2 ppt	0.2 ppt
Operating margin	32.2%	32.9%	33.9%	33.0%	33.7%	33.9%	-0.8 ppt	-0.7 ppt	0.0 ppt
Net margin	31.9%	29.3%	29.7%	31.0%	29.9%	29.7%	1.0 ppt	-0.6 ppt	0.0 ppt

Source: CMBIGM estimates

Figure 2: Alphabet: CMBIGM estimates vs consensus

US\$ bn	CMBIGM			Consensus			Diff (%)		
	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	399.2	451.8	506.4	395.4	441.9	492.8	1.0%	2.2%	2.8%
Gross profit	236.2	267.7	300.9	233.0	260.4	287.6	1.4%	2.8%	4.6%
Operating profit	128.7	148.8	171.8	131.0	150.8	171.1	-1.8%	-1.3%	0.4%
Net profit	127.5	132.3	150.3	120.3	129.1	145.3	6.0%	2.4%	3.4%
EPS (US\$)	10.5	10.9	12.4	9.9	10.8	12.3	6.3%	1.3%	0.6%
Gross margin	59.2%	59.2%	59.4%	58.9%	58.9%	58.4%	0.2 ppt	0.3 ppt	1.1 ppt
Operating margin	32.2%	32.9%	33.9%	33.1%	34.1%	34.7%	-0.9 ppt	-1.2 ppt	-0.8 ppt
Net margin	31.9%	29.3%	29.7%	30.4%	29.2%	29.5%	1.5 ppt	0.1 ppt	0.2 ppt

Source: CMBIGM estimates, Bloomberg

Figure 3: Alphabet: quarterly results

(US\$ mn)	1Q24	2Q24	3Q24	4Q24	1Q25	2Q25	3Q25	Consensus	Diff
Total revenue	80,539	84,742	88,268	96,469	90,234	96,428	102,346	99,853	2.5%
YoY	15.4%	13.6%	15.1%	11.8%	12.0%	13.8%	15.9%	13.1%	
Google services	70,398	73,928	76,510	84,094	77,264	82,543	87,052	84,674	2.8%
YoY	13.6%	11.5%	12.5%	10.2%	9.8%	11.7%	13.8%	10.7%	
Google cloud	9,574	10,347	11,353	11,955	12,260	13,624	15,157	14,752	2.7%
YoY	28.4%	28.8%	35.0%	30.1%	28.1%	31.7%	33.5%	29.9%	
Other bets	495	365	388	400	450	373	344	429	-19.9%
YoY	71.9%	28.1%	30.6%	-39.1%	-9.1%	2.2%	-11.3%	10.7%	
Gross Profit	46,827	49,235	51,794	55,856	53,873	57,389	60,977	58,180	4.8%
GPM	58.1%	58.1%	58.7%	57.9%	59.7%	59.5%	59.6%	58.3%	
S&M Expenses	6,426	6,792	7,227	7,363	6,172	7,101	7,205	7,565	-4.8%
YoY	-1.6%	0.2%	5.0%	-4.6%	-4.0%	4.5%	-0.3%	4.7%	
G&A Expenses	3,026	3,158	3,599	4,405	3,539	5,209	7,393	4,697	57.4%
YoY	-19.5%	-9.3%	-9.6%	-15.4%	17.0%	64.9%	105.4%	30.5%	
R&D Expenses	11,903	11,860	12,447	13,116	13,556	13,808	15,151	14,306	5.9%
YoY	3.8%	12.0%	10.6%	8.3%	13.9%	16.4%	21.7%	14.9%	
Operating income	25,472	27,425	28,521	30,972	30,606	31,271	31,228	32,106	-2.7%
YoY	46.3%	25.6%	33.6%	30.7%	20.2%	14.0%	9.5%	12.6%	
OPM	31.6%	32.4%	32.3%	32.1%	33.9%	32.4%	30.5%	32.2%	
Google services	27,897	29,674	30,856	32,836	32,682	33,063	33,527	33,588	-0.2%
OPM	39.6%	40.1%	40.3%	39.0%	42.3%	40.1%	38.5%	39.7%	
Google cloud	900	1,172	1,947	2,093	2,177	2,826	3,594	3,012	19.3%
OPM	9.4%	11.3%	17.1%	17.5%	17.8%	20.7%	23.7%	20.4%	

Other bets	-1,020	-1,134	-1,116	-1,174	-1,226	-1,246	-1,426	-1,211	17.7%
OPM	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Net income	23,662	23,619	26,301	26,536	34,540	28,196	34,979	31,756	10.2%
YoY	57.2%	28.6%	33.6%	28.3%	46.0%	19.4%	33.0%	20.7%	
NPM	29.4%	27.9%	29.8%	27.5%	38.3%	29.2%	34.2%	31.8%	

Source: Bloomberg, CMBIGM

Valuation

We value Alphabet at US\$328.0 per share based on 30x 2026E P/E. Our target PE multiple is a premium to the sector average (21x), which mainly reflects Google's competitive edge in the search market and the monetization potential of Google Cloud.

Figure 4: Alphabet: target valuation

P/E valuation (US\$mn)	2026E
Net income	132,272
Target 2026E P/E	30
Target equity valuation	3,968,147
Valuation per share (US\$)	328.0

Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates

Figure 5: Global online ad platforms: valuation comparison

Companies	Ticker	Price (LC)	PE (x)			PS (x)			EPS CAGR 25-27E
			2025E	2026E	2027E	2025E	2026E	2027E	
Global ads									
Meta	META US	751.7	21.2	21.9	19.0	9.6	8.2	7.1	18%
Alphabet	GOOGL US	274.6	26.0	23.7	21.0	9.9	8.6	7.6	17%
Pinterest	PINS US	32.8	18.6	16.2	13.3	5.3	4.6	4.0	17%
Snap	SNAP US	7.7	29.4	21.6	15.6	2.2	2.0	1.8	23%
Average			23.8	20.8	17.2	6.7	5.8	5.1	
Global tech									
Microsoft	MSFT US	541.6	40.4	34.6	29.5	14.4	12.4	10.9	16%
Amazon	AMZN US	230.3	27.7	25.0	20.4	3.5	3.1	2.8	18%
Netflix Inc	NFLX US	1100.4	44.7	35.4	30.7	10.3	9.2	8.2	22%
Uber	UBER US	95.8	27.1	22.7	19.8	3.9	3.3	2.9	33%
Average			35.0	29.4	25.1	8.0	7.0	6.2	

Source: Bloomberg, CMBIGM

Note: data as of 29 Oct

Financial Summary

INCOME STATEMENT	2022A	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
YE 31 Dec (US\$ mn)						
Revenue	282,836	307,394	350,018	399,165	451,805	506,432
Cost of goods sold	(126,203)	(133,332)	(146,306)	(162,964)	(184,144)	(205,507)
Gross profit	156,633	174,062	203,712	236,201	267,661	300,925
Operating expenses	(81,791)	(89,769)	(91,322)	(107,517)	(118,825)	(129,140)
Selling expense	(26,567)	(27,917)	(27,808)	(28,189)	(29,819)	(31,399)
Admin expense	(15,724)	(16,425)	(14,188)	(20,841)	(18,524)	(19,244)
R&D expense	(39,500)	(45,427)	(49,326)	(58,488)	(70,482)	(78,497)
Others	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operating profit	74,842	84,293	112,390	128,683	148,837	171,785
Other income/expense	(3,514)	1,424	7,425	28,256	6,777	5,064
Pre-tax profit	71,328	85,717	119,815	156,940	155,614	176,849
Income tax	(11,356)	(11,922)	(19,697)	(29,440)	(23,342)	(26,527)
After tax profit	59,972	73,795	100,118	127,500	132,272	150,322
Net profit	59,972	73,795	100,118	127,500	132,272	150,322
Adjusted net profit	79,334	96,255	122,903	153,484	161,683	183,289

BALANCE SHEET	2022A	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
YE 31 Dec (US\$ mn)						
Current assets	164,795	171,530	163,711	203,575	251,614	347,252
Cash & equivalents	21,879	24,048	23,466	57,175	98,824	188,071
Account receivables	40,258	47,964	52,340	58,495	64,885	71,276
Inventories	2,670	0	0	0	0	0
Financial assets at FVTPL	91,883	86,868	72,191	72,191	72,191	72,191
Other current assets	8,105	12,650	15,714	15,714	15,714	15,714
Non-current assets	200,469	230,862	286,545	356,963	438,921	502,618
PP&E	112,668	134,345	171,036	241,454	323,412	387,109
Right-of-use assets	14,381	14,091	13,588	13,588	13,588	13,588
Deferred income tax	5,261	12,169	17,180	17,180	17,180	17,180
Investment in JVs & assos	30,492	31,008	37,982	37,982	37,982	37,982
Intangibles	2,084	2,084	2,084	2,084	2,084	2,084
Goodwill	28,960	29,198	31,885	31,885	31,885	31,885
Other non-current assets	6,623	7,967	12,790	12,790	12,790	12,790
Total assets	365,264	402,392	450,256	560,538	690,535	849,869
Current liabilities	69,300	81,814	89,122	95,698	103,834	111,738
Account payables	5,128	7,493	7,987	8,718	9,655	10,559
Tax payable	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other current liabilities	12,278	13,013	14,838	15,991	17,187	18,384
Accrued expenses	51,894	61,308	66,297	70,989	76,992	82,794
Non-current liabilities	39,820	37,199	36,050	36,050	36,050	36,050
Long-term borrowings	14,701	13,253	10,883	10,883	10,883	10,883
Obligations under finance leases	12,501	12,460	11,691	11,691	11,691	11,691
Deferred income	599	911	911	911	911	911
Other non-current liabilities	12,019	10,575	12,565	12,565	12,565	12,565
Total liabilities	109,120	119,013	125,172	131,748	139,884	147,788
Capital surplus	68,184	76,534	84,800	61,007	50,596	51,705
Retained earnings	195,563	211,247	245,084	372,584	504,855	655,177
Other reserves	(7,603)	(4,402)	(4,800)	(4,800)	(4,800)	(4,800)
Total shareholders equity	256,144	283,379	325,084	428,790	550,651	702,082
Total equity and liabilities	365,264	402,392	450,256	560,538	690,535	849,869

CASH FLOW	2022A	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
YE 31 Dec (US\$ mn)						
Operating						
Profit before taxation	71,328	85,717	119,815	156,940	155,614	176,849
Depreciation & amortization	15,287	11,946	15,311	21,390	28,734	37,590
Tax paid	(11,356)	(11,922)	(19,697)	(29,440)	(23,342)	(26,527)
Change in working capital	(2,235)	(3,845)	(8,406)	420	1,747	1,513
Others	18,471	19,850	18,276	25,984	29,411	32,967
Net cash from operations	91,495	101,746	125,299	175,294	192,164	222,391
Investing						
Capital expenditure	(31,485)	(32,251)	(52,535)	(91,808)	(110,692)	(101,286)
Acquisition of subsidiaries/ investments	(6,969)	(495)	(2,931)	0	0	0
Others	18,156	5,683	9,930	0	0	0
Net cash from investing	(20,298)	(27,063)	(45,536)	(91,808)	(110,692)	(101,286)
Financing						
Net borrowings	(1,196)	(760)	888	0	0	0
Share repurchases	(59,296)	(61,504)	(62,222)	(49,778)	(39,822)	(31,858)
Others	(9,265)	(9,829)	(18,399)	0	0	0
Net cash from financing	(69,757)	(72,093)	(79,733)	(49,778)	(39,822)	(31,858)
Net change in cash						
Cash at the beginning of the year	20,945	21,879	24,048	23,466	57,175	98,824
Exchange difference	(506)	(421)	(612)	0	0	0
Cash at the end of the year	21,879	24,048	23,466	57,175	98,824	188,071
GROWTH	2022A	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
YE 31 Dec						
Revenue	9.8%	8.7%	13.9%	14.0%	13.2%	12.1%
Gross profit	6.8%	11.1%	17.0%	15.9%	13.3%	12.4%
Operating profit	(4.9%)	12.6%	33.3%	14.5%	15.7%	15.4%
Net profit	(21.1%)	23.0%	35.7%	27.3%	3.7%	13.6%
Adj. net profit	(13.2%)	21.3%	27.7%	24.9%	5.3%	13.4%
PROFITABILITY	2022A	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
YE 31 Dec						
Gross profit margin	55.4%	56.6%	58.2%	59.2%	59.2%	59.4%
Operating margin	26.5%	27.4%	32.1%	32.2%	32.9%	33.9%
Adj. net profit margin	28.0%	31.3%	35.1%	38.5%	35.8%	36.2%
Return on equity (ROE)	23.6%	27.4%	32.9%	33.8%	27.0%	24.0%
GEARING/LIQUIDITY/ACTIVITIES	2022A	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
YE 31 Dec						
Current ratio (x)	2.4	2.1	1.8	2.1	2.4	3.1
Receivable turnover days	52.0	57.0	54.6	53.5	52.4	51.4
VALUATION	2022A	2023A	2024A	2025E	2026E	2027E
YE 31 Dec						
P/E	59.9	47.1	33.9	26.1	25.2	22.2
P/E (diluted)	60.4	47.4	34.2	26.4	25.5	22.4
P/B	14.0	12.3	10.4	7.8	6.1	4.7

Source: Company data, CMBIGM estimates. Note: The calculation of net cash includes financial assets.

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