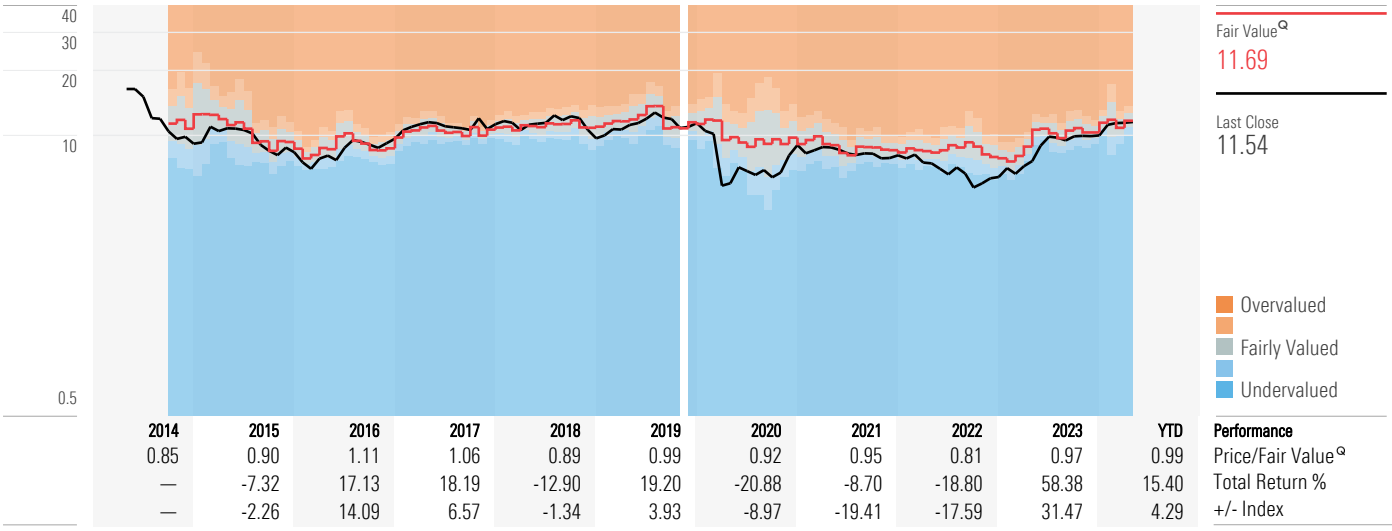
Applus Services SA APPS ★★★ Q 23 Apr 2024, 22:38 UTC

Economic Moat Q	Uncertainty Q	Price/Fair Value Q	ESG Risk Rating Assessment[1]	Trailing Dividend Yield %	Market Cap	Investment Style	Sector	Industry
Narrow	Medium	1.0	3 Apr 2024 05:00, UTC	1.39	1.4852 Bil	Small Core	Industrials	Specialty Business Services

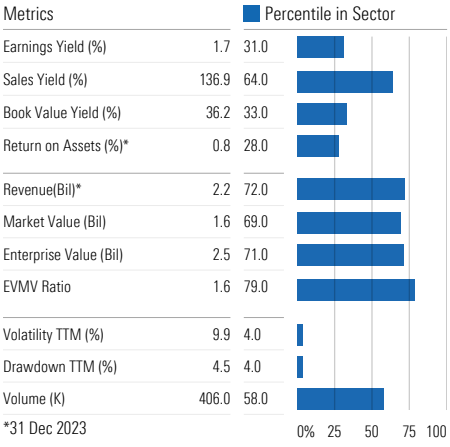


	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	YTD
Price/Fair Value Q	0.85	0.90	1.11	1.06	0.89	0.99	0.92	0.95	0.81	0.97	0.99
Total Return %	—	-7.32	17.13	18.19	-12.90	19.20	-20.88	-8.70	-18.80	58.38	15.40
+/- Index	—	-2.26	14.09	6.57	-1.34	3.93	-8.97	-19.41	-17.59	31.47	4.29

As of 23 Apr 2024 | Index: Morningstar Spain GR EUR. Fair Value data as of 23 Apr 2024, 22:38 UTC.

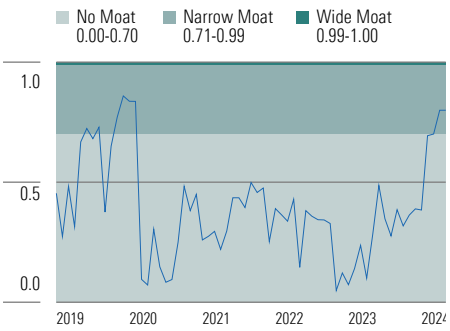
[1]The ESG Risk Rating Assessment is a representation of Sustainalytics' ESG Risk Rating. Lee Davidson, Chief Analytics Officer for Morningstar, Inc, oversees the methodology that supports Quantitative Fair Value Estimates and Quantitative Star Ratings. Mr. Davidson is guided by the Morningstar, Inc. Code of Ethics in carrying out his responsibilities. For information regarding Conflicts of Interests, visit http://global.morningstar.com/equitydisclosures.

Key Metrics as of 22 Apr 2024



*31 Dec 2023

Economic Moat Q History as of 23 Apr 2024



Business Description

Applus Services SA is a Spain-based company that provides testing, inspection and certification services. The company operates through four divisions. Applus+ Energy & Industry, Applus+ Laboratories, Applus+ Automotive, Applus+ IDIADA and Other. Applus+ Energy & Industry provides non-destructive testing, quality control and accreditation services, project management, supplier inspection, facility inspection and asset certification and integrity services. Applus+ Laboratories offers variety of laboratory testing, system certification, product development services. Applus+ Automotive offers vehicle roadworthiness testing services, verifying vehicles' compliance with safety. Applus+ IDIADA offers design, engineering, testing and certification services to car manufacturers.

Valuation Q as of 23 Apr 2024

Morningstar maintains a 3-star quantitative star rating for Applus Services, derived from the firm's valuation and uncertainty scores.

The company's shares last closed at 11.52, in-line with our quantitative fair value estimate of 11.64. These shares have traded between a 16.38% discount and 5.51% premium to their fair value estimate over the past year. In Morningstar's equity coverage universe for this methodology, the company's valuation rating lands at the 90th percentile; in the industrials sector, the firm's score lies at the 83rd percentile (meaning the shares are more undervalued than 83% of stocks in the sector).

Furthermore, Applus Services maintains a quantitative valuation uncertainty rating of Medium.

The company has held this star rating since the previous rating of 4, which was last assigned on 07/04/2023. The uncertainty rating for Applus Services has remained Medium since the previous rating of High, which was last assigned on 04/17/2024.

The key factors behind these ratings are the company's earnings yield and volatility. The earnings yield is 1.73%, and its maximum annualized trailing 12-month volatility is 27.86%. The earnings yield falls at the 31st percentile in the industrials sector while the volatility is at the 5th percentile. Over the past year, the company's earnings yield has been between 1.72% and 4.29%; its volatility has ranged between 9.92% and 27.86%.

Economic Moat Q as of 23 Apr 2024

Quantitatively, we believe Applus Services has a Narrow economic moat. Its moat score of 0.76 corresponds to the 70th percentile in the industrials sector. Furthermore, this rating last differed from its previous rating of None on 03/18/2024, when the company's moat score fell from its maximum of 0.82 (score of 1 indicates greatest economic moat).

The company also maintains a quantitative financial health rating of Moderate. Its score sits at the 66th percentile in both the universe and sector.

Examining the company's financials and market statistics, we find these ratings are principally driven by its enterprise value and enterprise value-to-market value ratio. The enterprise value is 2.51 billion, sitting at the 71st percentile in the industrials sector. The company's enterprise value-to-market value ratio is 1.58, corresponding to the 79th percentile in the equity coverage universe and the 79th percentile in the sector.

Fundamentals as of 23 Apr 2024

Applus Services maintains earnings per share of 0.16. The company further earns a return on invested capital of 2.71%. The shares offer a dividend yield of 1.4%. These values are calculated over a trailing 12-month period.

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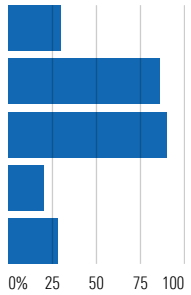
Applus Services SA APPS ★★★ 23 Apr 2024, 22:38 UTC

Economic Moat	Uncertainty	Price/Fair Value	ESG Risk Rating Assessment	Trailing Dividend Yield %	Market Cap	Investment Style	Sector	Industry
Narrow	Medium	1.0	3 Apr 2024 05:00, UTC	1.39	1.4852 Bil	Small Core	Industrials	Specialty Business Services

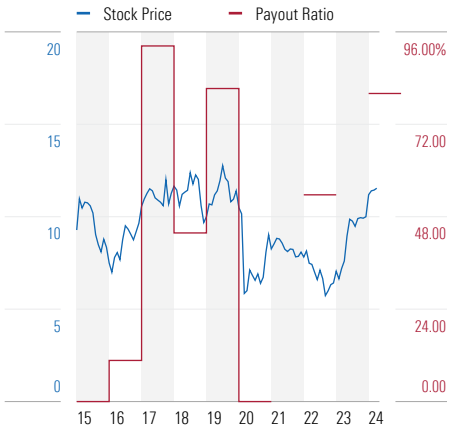
Earnings as of 22 Apr 2024

Earnings	%	Percentile in Sector
Dividend Yield*	1.4	30.0
Payout Ratio*	80.0	86.0
Price to Earnings	57.6	90.0
Price to Cash Flow	6.1	20.0
ROIC**	2.7	28.0

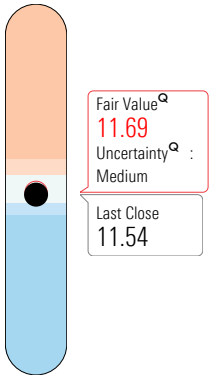


*28 Mar 2024
**31 Dec 2023

Dividends as of 23 Apr 2024



Valuation as of 23 Apr 2024



APPS is trading within a range we consider fairly valued..

Economic Moat
Narrow
Financial Health
Moderate
1-Star Price
> 13.58
5-Star Price
< 10.07

As of last market close, Applus Services has a price-to-earnings ratio of 57.6, falling below the 90th percentile in its sector (where a lower percentile means a lower ratio) and ranging between 20.84 and 58.2 over the past year. The company's price-to-free cash flow ratio is 6.12, falling at the 20th percentile in its sector and ranging between 5.54 and 8.19 over the past year.

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https://www.applus.com

Financials as of 23 Apr 2024 (Fiscal Year End 31 Dec 2024)

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	YTD	Fiscal
1,619	1,701	1,586	1,583	1,676	1,778	1,558	1,777	1,899	2,058	2,058	Revenue (Mil)
99	111	81	89	112	135	55	117	146	152	152	Operating Income (Mil)
6.09	6.55	5.09	5.6	6.66	7.61	3.55	6.61	7.7	7.39	7.39	Operating Margin (%)
24	38	20	36	41	56	-158	32	49	20	20	Net Income (Mil)
0.20	0.30	0.15	0.27	0.29	0.39	-1.11	0.23	0.36	0.16	0.16	Diluted Earnings/Share
123	160	169	137	159	248	282	188	249	324	324	Operating Cash Flow (Mil)
-48	-51	-54	-59	-51	-71	-56	-63	-66	-79	-79	Capital Spending (Mil)
75	109	116	78	108	178	227	125	183	245	245	Free Cash Flow (Mil)
123	130	130	133	143	143	143	143	137	130	130	Avg Shares Outstand(Mil)

Valuation as of 23 Apr 2024

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Current	Calendar
0.85	0.90	1.11	1.06	0.89	0.99	0.92	0.95	0.81	0.97	0.99	Price/Fair Value
0.74	0.64	0.77	0.92	0.84	0.94	0.78	0.70	0.48	0.64	0.73	Price/Sales
14.38	24.42	40.74	80.08	32.64	33.10	—	44.92	22.96	24.69	57.70	Price/Earnings
8.36	8.60	7.58	9.10	8.78	8.14	5.12	4.78	4.12	5.29	4.63	Price/Cash Flow
2.01	1.75	2.07	2.64	1.87	2.17	2.17	1.95	1.46	2.30	2.75	Price/Book

Operating Performance as of 23 Apr 2024 (Fiscal Year End 31 Dec 2024)

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Q3	Fiscal (%)
1.19	1.91	0.97	1.78	2.06	2.67	-7.31	1.44	2.05	0.83	—	Return on Assets
5.39	6.38	3.21	5.25	5.5	7.26	-23.25	5.36	7.94	3.52	—	Return on Equity
3.06	3.44	2.09	3.42	3.73	4.63	-9.62	2.88	4.0	2.71	—	Rtn on Invested Capital

Dividends as of 23 Apr 2024

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Current	Calendar (%)
—	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.15	—	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.16	Dividend Per Share
—	0.3	1.35	1.15	1.34	1.32	—	—	2.34	—	1.39	Trailing Dividend Yield
—	0.03	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.43	Buyback Yield

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Appendix

Economic Moat Q History as of 23 Apr 2024 (No Moat: 0.00-0.70, Narrow Moat: 0.70-0.99, Wide Moat: 0.99-1.00)

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
2024	0.38	0.69	0.70	0.80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2023	0.07	0.14	0.24	0.10	0.28	0.49	0.35	0.28	0.39	0.32	0.36	0.39
2022	0.39	0.36	0.34	0.43	0.15	0.38	0.36	0.34	0.34	0.33	0.05	0.12
2021	0.26	0.27	0.30	0.22	0.30	0.44	0.44	0.39	0.50	0.46	0.48	0.25
2020	0.84	0.84	0.10	0.07	0.30	0.15	0.08	0.09	0.25	0.48	0.38	0.45
2019	0.45	0.27	0.48	0.31	0.67	0.72	0.68	0.73	0.38	0.65	0.77	0.86

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Quantitative Equity Ratings

Morningstar's quantitative equity ratings consist of: (i) Quantitative Fair Value Estimate, (ii) Quantitative Star Rating, (iii) Quantitative Uncertainty, (iv) Quantitative Economic Moat, and (v) Quantitative Financial Health (collectively the "Quantitative Ratings).

The Quantitative Ratings are calculated daily and derived from the analyst-driven ratings of a company's peers as determined by statistical algorithms. Morningstar, Inc. ("Morningstar", "we", "our") calculates Quantitative Ratings for companies whether or not it already provides analyst ratings and qualitative coverage. In some cases, the Quantitative Ratings may differ from the analyst ratings because a company's analyst-driven ratings can significantly differ from other companies in its peer group.

i. **Quantitative Fair Value Estimate:** Intended to represent Morningstar's estimate of the per share dollar amount that a company's equity is worth today. Morningstar calculates the Quantitative Fair Value Estimate using a statistical model derived from the Fair Value Estimate Morningstar's equity analysts assign to companies. Please go to http://global.morningstar.com/equitydisclosures for information about Fair Value Estimate Morningstar's equity analysts assign to companies.

ii. **Quantitative Economic Moat:** Intended to describe the strength of a firm's competitive position. It is calculated using an algorithm designed to predict the Economic Moat rating a Morningstar analyst would assign to the stock. The rating is expressed as Narrow, Wide, or None.

Narrow – assigned when the probability of a stock receiving a "Wide Moat" rating by an analyst is greater than 70% but less than 99%.

Wide – assigned when the probability of a stock receiving a "Wide Moat" rating by an analyst is greater than 99%.

None – assigned when the probability of an analyst receiving a "Wide Moat" rating by an analyst is less than 70%.

iii. **Quantitative Star Rating:** Intended to be the summary rating based on the combination of our Quantitative Fair Value Estimate, current market price, Quantitative Uncertainty Rating, and momentum. The rating is expressed as One-Star, Two-Star, Three-Star, Four-Star, and Five-Star.

★ – the stock is overvalued with a reasonable margin of safety.
*Log (Quant FVE/Price) < -1*Quantitative Uncertainty*
*Micro-Caps: Log (Quant FVE/Price) < -1.5*Quantitative Uncertainty*

★★ - the stock is somewhat overvalued.
*Log (Quant FVE/Price) between (-1*Quantitative Uncertainty, -0.5*Quantitative Uncertainty)*
*Micro-Caps: Log (Quant FVE/Price) between (-1.5*Quantitative Uncertainty, -0.75*Quantitative Uncertainty)*

★★★ – the stock is approximately fairly valued.
*Log (Quant FVE/Price) between (-0.5*Quantitative Uncertainty, 0.5*Quantitative Uncertainty)*
*Micro-Caps: Log (Quant FVE/Price) between (-0.75*Quantitative Uncertainty, 0.75*Quantitative Uncertainty)*

★★★★ – the stock is somewhat undervalued.
*Log (Quant FVE/Price) between (0.5*Quantitative Uncertainty, 1*Quantitative Uncertainty)*
*Micro-Caps: Log (Quant FVE/Price) between (0.75*Quantitative Uncertainty, 1.5*Quantitative Uncertainty)*

★★★★★ – the stock is undervalued with a reasonable margin of safety.
*Log (Quant FVE/Price) > 1*Quantitative Uncertainty*
*Micro-Caps: Log (Quant FVE/Price) > 1.5*Quantitative Uncertainty*

After the initial calculation for the star rating, there is a final filtering step based on the momentum of the company. We rank the companies based on their 12-1 month momentum, then restrict those below the 30th percentile to a maximum of 3 stars.

iv. **Quantitative Uncertainty:** Intended to represent Morningstar's level of uncertainty about the accuracy of the Quantitative Fair Value Estimate. Generally, the lower the Quantitative Uncertainty, the narrower the potential range of outcomes for that particular company. The rating is expressed as Low, Medium, High, Very High, and Extreme.

Low – the interquartile range for possible fair values is less than 10%

Medium – the interquartile range for possible fair values is less than 15% but greater than 10%

High – the interquartile range for possible fair values is less than 35% but greater than 15%

Very High – the interquartile range for possible fair values is less than 80% but greater than 35%

Extreme – the interquartile range for possible fair values is greater than 80%

v. **Quantitative Financial Health:** Intended to reflect the probability that a firm will face financial distress in the near future. The calculation uses a predictive model designed to anticipate when a company may default on its financial obligations. The rating is expressed as Weak, Moderate, and Strong.

Weak – assigned when Quantitative Financial Health < 0.2

Moderate – assigned when Quantitative Financial Health is between 0.2 and 0.7

Strong – assigned when Quantitative Financial Health > 0.7

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i. **Last Close** – Price of the stock as of the close of the market of the last trading day before date of the report.

ii. **Quantitative Valuation**– Using the below terms, intended to denote the relationship between the security's **Last Price** and Morningstar's quantitative fair value estimate for that security.

Undervalued – Last Price is below Morningstar's quantitative fair value estimate.

Farily Valued – Last Price is in line with Morningstar's quantitative fair value estimate.

Farily Valued – Last Price is in line with Morningstar's quantitative fair value estimate.

Overvalued – Last Price is above Morningstar's quantitative fair value estimate.

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Sustainalytics analyzes over 1,300 data points to assess a company's exposure to and management of ESG risks. In other words, ESG Risk Ratings measures a company's unmanaged ESG Risks represented as a quantitative score. Unmanaged Risk is measured on an open-ended scale starting at zero (no risk) with lower scores representing less unmanaged risk and, for 95% of cases, the unmanaged ESG Risk score is below 50.

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of unmanaged ESG risk across all subindustries covered.

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