
From: Richard Kahn [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2019 10:53 PM
To: Jeffrey Epstein
Subject: Fwd: Apple, Inc.: 10-Q Highlights Lower Capex and Hedge Gains Boosting Gross Margin

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Begin forwarded message:

From: "/b>"Morgan Stanley" [REDACTED]
Subject: "/b>Apple, Inc.: 10-Q =ighlights Lower Capex and Hedge Gains Boosting Gross Margin
Date: "/b>January 31, 2019 at 12:52:43 PM =ST
To: "/b><richardkahn12@gmail.com>
Reply-To: [REDACTED]

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Katy L. Huberty, CFA – Morgan Stanley

January 31, 2019 5:49 PM GMT

Apple's 10-Q shows reduced capex guidance in FY19 and normalized F1Q gross margin decline of 140bps Y/Y when backing out the benefit from hedges & slightly lower warranty accruals, lower than the 40bps gross margin decline on a reported basis.

FY19 capex reduced by \$2B. Apple expects to incur \$12B capex in FY19, down from \$14B guided 3 months ago and \$17B reported in FY18. Apple initially highlighted lower capex Y/Y was partially attributable to 1) completing the multi-year build out of Apple's new headquarters and 2) further leverage of past tooling investments. The incrementally lower capex most likely is a function of lower tooling investments in order to align with demand in the longer replacement cycle environment, in our view. December quarter gross margin compression was greater Y/Y than reported after normalizing for hedge gains and warranty accruals. Normalized gross margin shows a 140bps decline Y/Y compared to a 40bps decline in reported gross margin after backing out Y/Y tailwinds in (1) benefits from FX hedges and non-designated derivatives and (2) lower warranty accruals. Normalized gross margin of 37.1% is below reported gross margin of 38.0%. First, FX hedges were a 40bps benefit to reported gross margin, greater than the 0bps headwind in the year ago reported gross margin. Second, non-designated derivatives were a 40bps benefit to reported gross margin, greater than the 10bps benefit a year ago. Lastly, lower warranty accruals was a 10bps benefit to reported gross margin, versus no impact a year ago. We calculate the impact of warranty expenses by comparing reported warranty expense to normalized expense based on three year average ratios to hardware revenue (1). Non-vendor trade receivables plus inventory declined Y/Y for the first time in nearly two and half years. Inventory grew 13% Y/Y in the December quarter and increased from down 19% Y/Y in the prior quarter. Sequentially inventory increased 26% Q/Q, greater than historical seasonality.

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