

# The Dividend Corner: The Artificial Intelligence Buildout

Artificial intelligence (AI) has become one of the most discussed themes in markets, drawing significant investment and generating both opportunities and risks. In this special episode of The Dividend Corner, Nick Puncer hosts a conversation with Kunaal Kanagal of Bahl & Gaynor's Technology, Media & Telecom (TMT) group to examine how AI is influencing companies and the broader economy. [Hear the latest episode.](#)



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## ★ Scale of Investment

AI is widely viewed as a major technology shift. Over the past four years, S&P 500 companies have materially increased capital expenditures, with a large share directed toward data centers and advanced computing. Independent research, as well as Bahl & Gaynor's proprietary analysis, suggests combined AI and data center investment may be substantial through the end of the decade.

## ★ Understanding AI Capex vs. Sales:

Proceed to **5:00** to listen directly to this segment.

The team discusses how infrastructure providers (e.g., semiconductors, cooling, networking) are often among the earliest beneficiaries of large platform shifts, while longer-term revenue opportunities may develop for consumer-facing organizations (AI Sales), with some business not even imagined at this point.

## ★ Volatility & Disruption:

Proceed to **9:58** to listen directly to this segment

Like past technology changes, AI has introduced excitement and volatility. Supply chain bottlenecks and questions around software business models may create near-term challenges, even as adoption broadens.

## ★ Historical Lessons

Proceed to **21:05** to listen directly to this segment.

Prior technological shifts suggest that long-term value capture tends to concentrate where firms have durable scale, intellectual property, or distribution advantages.

## ★ Investment Lens:

Proceed to **25:00** to listen directly to this segment.

Bahl & Gaynor continues to apply a bottom-up, research-driven approach to evaluating companies across all sectors, with an emphasis on financial flexibility and sustainable business models -factors that may enable these companies to benefit from advances in AI.

## ★ Bahl & Gaynor Lightning Round:

Proceed to **28:25** to listen directly to this segment.

This segment provides a quick recap of the topics covered during today's podcast, including AI Capex, private market behaviors, continued AI investment, AI sales, along with final thoughts from Kunaal.

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