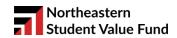
# Long: Smith & Wesson Brands, Inc.

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NASDAQ: SWBI

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# **Executive Summary**



What to expect from this presentation

### **Business Description**

Smith & Wesson (NASDAQ: SWBI) manufactures pistols, revolvers, rifles, handcuffs, accessories, and other related products for consumers, law enforcement, and security agencies in the U.S.

### **Expected Return**

F28 EBITDA	\$92.2M
Exit Multiple	7.8x
IRR (Exit: April '28)	18.9%
Exit FCF Yield	6.7%
Terminal Growth	2.0% to 3.0%
Terminal Return	8.7% to 9.7%

#### Pitch Overview

### High-Quality Business with Owner-Oriented Management

- Leading handgun market share with growing long gun share
- Stronger operating model and management team than peer RGR

#### Attractive Q3 '25 Setup With Favorable Long-Term Outlook

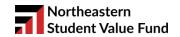
- Alternative data model expects 14.2% Q3 '25 revenue beat
- High-confidence Model 1854 success marks entrance into hunting category

#### Priced for 18.9% Base-Case IRR with 3.6 Risk-Reward Ratio

Margin of safety provided by conservative assumptions and discount to RGR

We believe **Smith & Wesson** offers investors the opportunity to purchase a **high-quality, durable business** at a **depressed valuation** with a **strong catalyst** and **shareholder-friendly management.** 





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# **Business & Industry Overview**



Smith & Wesson benefits from multiple competitive advantages within an attractive industry

## **Competitive Position**



Smith & Wesson holds **significant brand equity** which materializes as a leading position **in two of three firearm verticals** 

## Consumer Psychology

# Repeat Consumption

### Ownership Patterns

34% own 1 gun 37% own 2 to 4 29% own 5 or more

# Brand Loyalty

### **Consumer Priorities**

- 1. Favorite Brand
  - 2. Low Price
  - 3. Quality
- 4. Convenience

## Competitive Advantages

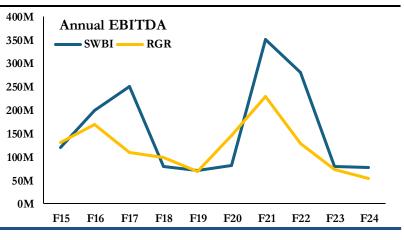
### Handgun Leadership

- [1] First-time buyers almost always purchase a handgun, an area Smith & Wesson leads
- [2] These buyers develop brand loyalty with most going on to make additional purchases
- [3] Smith & Wesson has a **head start** in the **mid-to-high tier** market over competitors

### Flexible Manufacturing Model

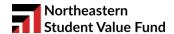
[ What ] Smith & Wesson operates with lean in-house capacity and outsources during surges in demand driven by social or political unrest

[ Why ] Both maintain convexity and react faster to demand surges while preserving profitability during down years





# **Business & Industry Overview**



Management are competent operators and owner-oriented capital allocators



#### Mark P. Smith, CEO

'20 to Present

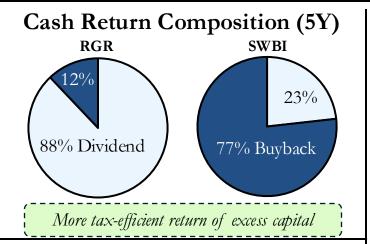
Q1 '21 Earnings Call: "We have now returned to our heritage as a pure-play firearms company, with a focus on organic growth and returning excess capital to our stockholders"

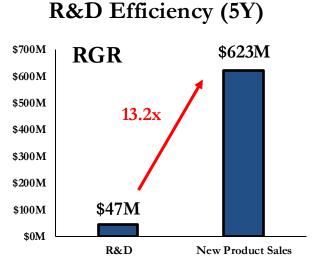


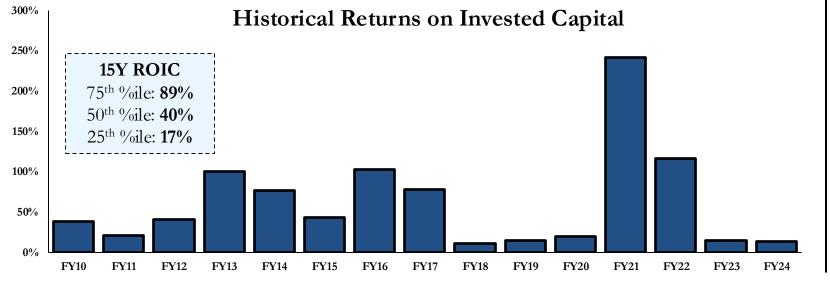
#### Deana McPherson, CFO

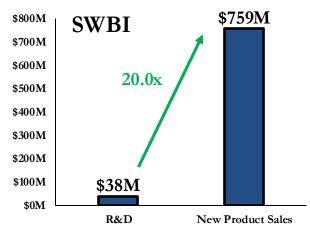
'20 to Present

Q2 '25 Earnings Call: "Our capital allocation plan continues to be: invest in our business, remain debt free, and return cash to our stockholders"



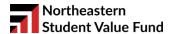




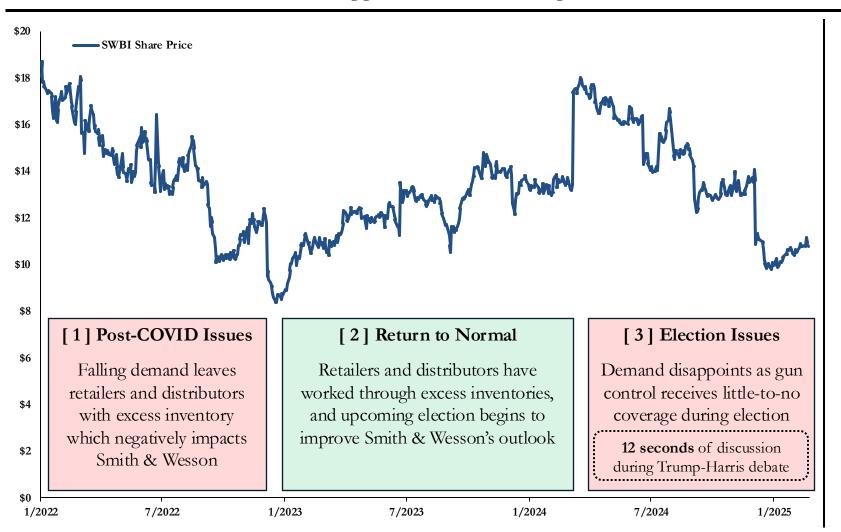




# Situation Overview: Election Disappointment



Lackluster election-driven demand appears to have driven pessimistic market sentiment



## What Went Wrong:

Minimal of gun control coverage resulted in much less fear-based buying than historical elections, negatively impacting Smith & Wesson's near-term outlook

"You know, the environment that we're in right now ... I think that we're just, we're not seeing that fear-based buying that we saw in 2012, 2016, 2020"

~ Sell-Side Analyst

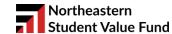
# Why We're Optimistic:

Smith & Wesson's distributors have decreased inventories in 10 of 12 past quarters as retailers appear to have reached healthy inventory levels

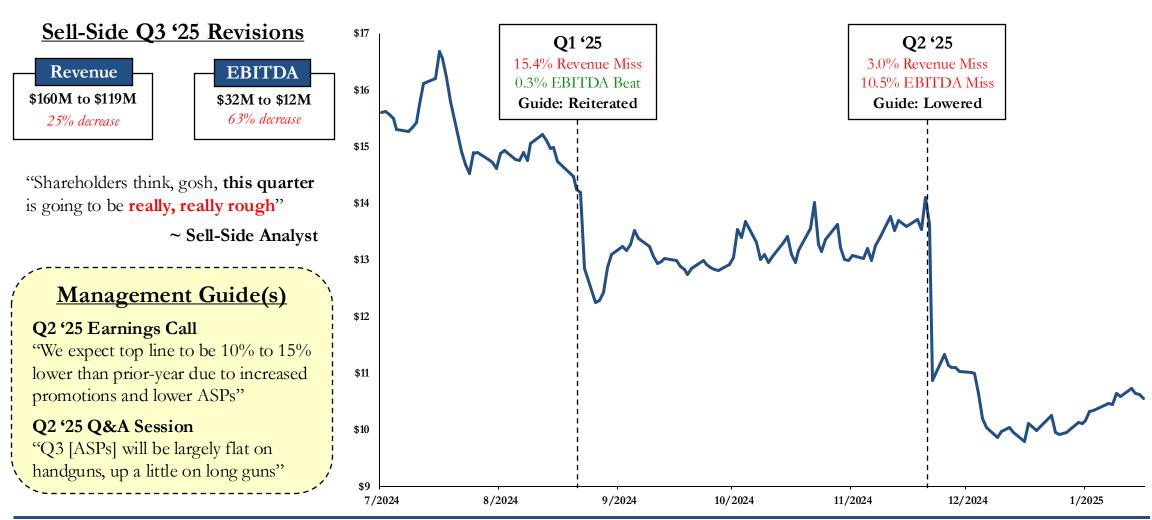
"it is critical that we have depth in our core products like certain firearms and key ammo calibers... to ensure our customer has a positive shopping experience."

~ SPWH CEO Q2 '24

# Near-Term Expectations Are Unfairly Depressed

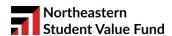


Recent earnings misses and lowered guidance have driven sell-side revisions and negative price action





# Near-Term Expectations Are Unfairly Depressed



High-confidence alternative data model predicts 14.2% Q3 '25 revenue beat

## Methodology

- [1] Aggregate historical RGR revenue, SPWH inventory turnover, and google search activity for "ammunition" and "handgun"
- [2] Run multivariate linear regression of swbi\_revenue on historical data of rgr\_revenue, spwh\_turn, ammunition, handgun

[3] Collect relevant data for Q3 '25 and apply estimated parameters to arrive at distribution of predicted swbi\_revenue

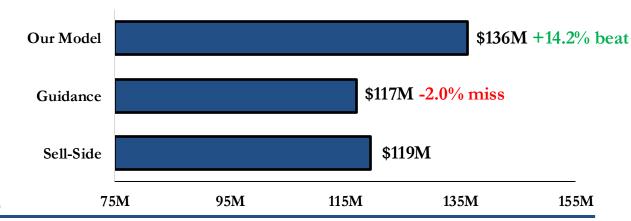
### **Superior Predictive Power**

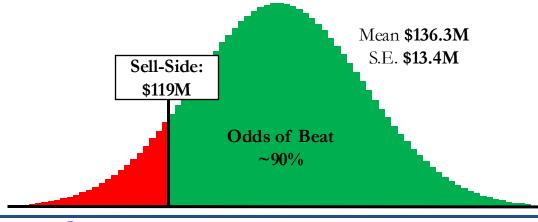
Measurement	Sell-Side	Diff.	Our Model	
R-Squared	0.90	+0.05	0.95	
Mean Absolute Error	8.7%	-1.5%	7.2%	

## Management's Unofficial Guide

Management's Q&A session comments on flat-to-slightly-up ASPs heading into Q3 '25 implicitly guides for **\$135M revenue** 

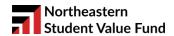
# Q3 '25 Revenue Comparison





Smith&Wesson\*

# Long-Term Growth Prospects Are Overlooked



The Model 1854 has established a foothold in the hunting category overlooked by sell-side

#### Model 1854 Lever-Action Rifle



#### **Product Overview**

#### Calibers:

.45 Colt // .44 Magnum // .357 Magnum

MSRP: \$1,279

Category: Hunting, Sport

#### Our View:

The Model 1854 will drive long gun segment growth and establish Smith & Wesson in the hunting category

"It's much harder to manufacture lever actions than building polymer pistols or AR-15 platform rifles...

I mean, the bullpup shotgun that Smith & Wesson did, maybe four years ago, didn't come out well. It had production issues and recalls...

We'll need a little more time to see, kind of, where it [Model 1854] fully shakes out"

~ Sell-Side Analyst

### Primary Research: Nationwide Store Calls





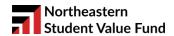
"If we had an unlimited supply, I think we would sell every one we have."

"We've actually sold quite a few, I haven't heard a **single negative review."**  "If we get one [1854], I'm going to need to make a bad financial decision"

"As a reminder, we view the lever action as a major platform opportunity with a multi-year pipeline of potential growth drivers." ~ Mark P. Smith, CEO, Q1 '25



# Long-Term Growth Prospects Are Overlooked



Large-scale data collection using Bland.AI further supports our bullish view

## Methodology

- [1] Scraped the phone number of every Sportsman's Warehouse, Bass Pro Shops, and Cabela's in the United States
- [2] Created and tested an AI cold-calling bot using Bland.AI to investigate product and inventory trends at the retail level
- [3] Wrote script that tells cold-calling bot to call every Sportsman's Warehouse, Bass Pro Shops, and Cabela's in the United States
- [4] Exported call transcripts and examine them for actionable information

The Model 1854 is in-demand at 85% of stores, in-stock at 40%, and stocking soon in 36%

### Long Gun Segment

What We Model

# Segment Revenue

LTM F28 **\$119M** 12.2% CAGR **\$178M** 

### % of Total Revenue

23.2% 6.6% Uplift 29.8%

#### What We Don't

#### Analyst Day 2021

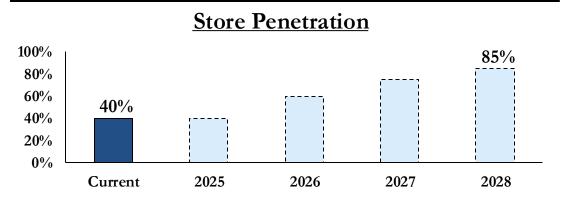
"Long-range shooting on the bolt action side has a lot of opportunity for some higher margin product"

#### Q2 '25 Earnings Call

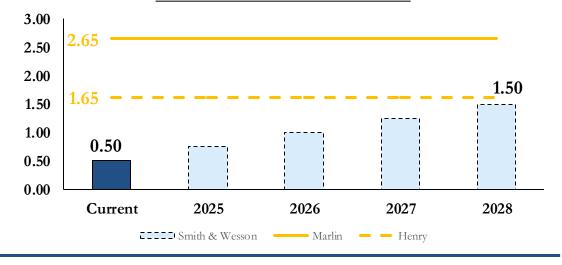
"We are **just beginning** to enter the hunting category with our lever-action rifles"

~ Mark P. Smith, CEO

### Model 1854 Assumptions



### Units Per Week Per Store





# Risk: What Can Go Wrong?



Highly regulated industry with unpredictable demand patterns where brand equity is important

## 1. Regulatory and Political Risk

**Risk:** Firearms are highly regulated and new legislation regarding firearm purchases could harm the long-run earning power of the business

### Mitigants:

6-3 conservative U.S. Supreme Court; Bruen and Heller decisions limit any significant legislative threat to 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment

"When Joe Biden said anything gun-related, sales would triple the next day" ~ Sportsman's Firearm Manager

# **U.S. Supreme Court**

















# 2. Reliance on Brand Reputation

**Risk:** Firearm consumers are very brand-focused so any damage to Smith & Wesson's reputation would impact the business negatively

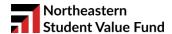
**Mitigant:** SWBI has been in business for 170 years and has maintained strong brand reputation and loyalty during that time

# 3. Volatility of Firearm Industry

**Risk:** Firearm production volumes have historically been extremely volatile, making it difficult to generate a confident 3-to-5-year outlook

**Mitigant:** Historical pricing power alongside flexible manufacturing model dampens industry swings

## Valuation



Low absolute and relative valuation complemented by soft catalysts in Q3 '25 beat and Model 1854

# Margin of Safety

- [1] Future periods of surge demand
- [2] Future hunting-related product expansion

### F28 Valuation Scenarios

#### **Bear Case:**

- Lose handgun unit share w/ 0% real ASP growth
- Model 1854 at 0% of expected contribution
- Gross margin remains depressed at 28%
- EBITDA multiple compresses to 6.0x

#### **Base Case:**

- Keep handgun unit share w/ hist. real ASP growth
- Model 1854 at 100% of expected contribution
- Gross margin normalizes to 32%
- EBITDA multiple remains at current 7.8x

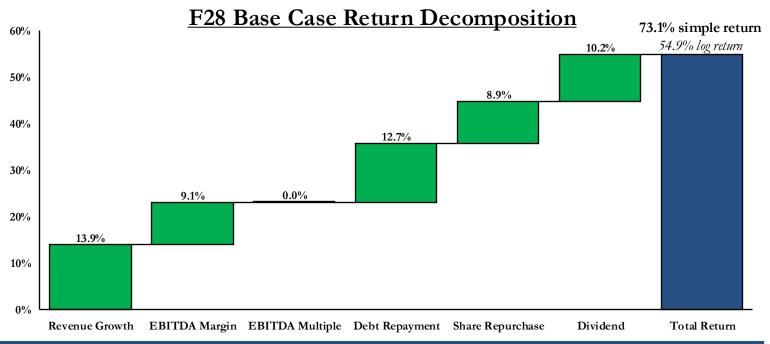
#### **Bull Case:**

- Gain handgun unit share w/ hist. real ASP growth
- Model 1854 at 100% of expected contribution
- Gross margin normalizes to 32%
- EBITDA multiple expands to RGR's 10.6x

F28 Bear Case				
Revenue	474,264			
EBITDA	40,322			
Margin	8.5%			
Exit Multiple	6.0			
Exit FCF Yield	7.5%			
TSR	-44.8%			
IRR	-17.0%			

F28 Base Case	;
Revenue	591,103
EBITDA	92,180
Margin	15.6%
Exit Multiple	7.8
Exit FCF Yield	6.7%
TSR	73.1%
IRR	18.9%

F28 Bull Case			
Revenue	625,963		
EBITDA	100,107		
Margin	16.0%		
Exit Multiple	10.6		
Exit FCF Yield	4.7%		
TSR	159.6%		
IRR	35.0%		



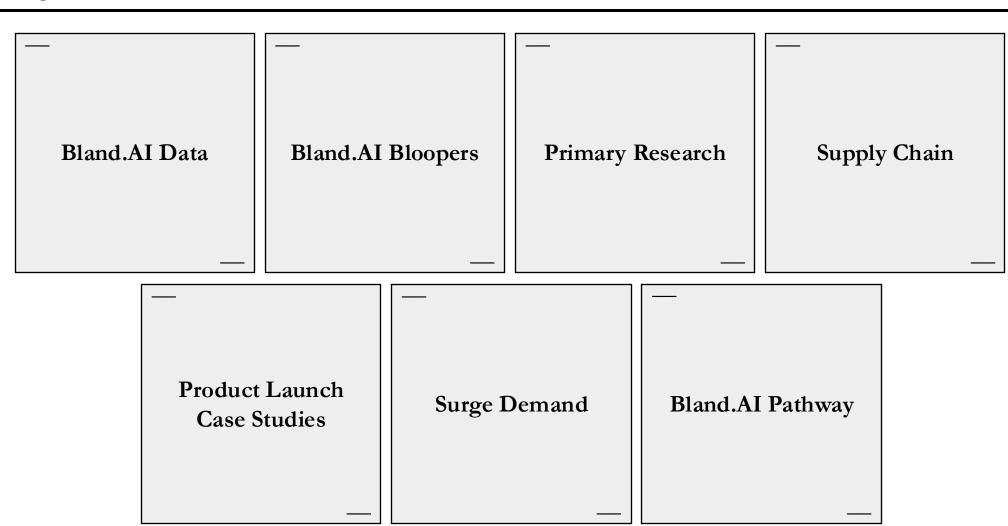


Source(s): SWBI\_Model\_AFC, Bloomberg

# **Appendix**

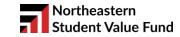


Supporting information



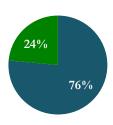


# Bland.AI Data



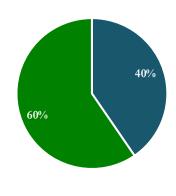
### What useful information

# Is the 1854 restocking at stores soon?



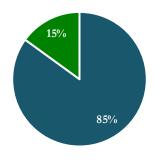
■ Restocking/Stocking for the first time soon ■ Not restocking

#### Is the 1854 in stock?



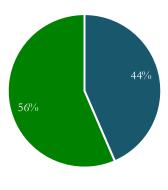
■ In-stock ■ Total not In-stock:

## Is the 1854 popular?



■ Yes ■ No

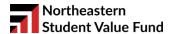
#### **Overall Call Results**



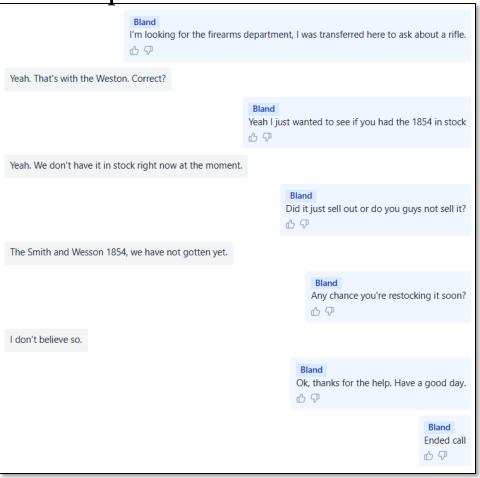
Quality callsUseless calls

Source(s): Bland.AI

# AI Conversation Logs (Successes and Surprises)



## Example of successful conversation



# AI going rogue (for better or for worse)



This is the Atkworth Bass Pro Gunvolt. If you can please leave your name, phone number, and a brief message, we will be back with you as quickly as possible. Thank you. Record your message at the tone. When you are finished, hang up or press pound for more options.

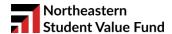
#### Blan

Hi, my name is Kate. I'm calling about a rifle I was looking for a few weeks ago at your store. I couldn't find the Smith & Wesson 1854, a lever action rifle, and I was wondering if it's in stock now. Please call me back at your earliest convenience.





# AI Conversation Logs (Bloopers and Hiccups)



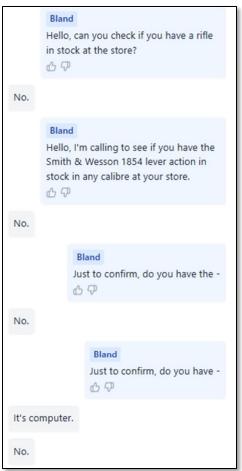
### Cover blown

Yo. I think I'm talking to a robot. I think a robot called me looking for a Smith and Wesson.



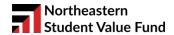
# Uncooperative employees







# Primary Research: Nationwide Store Calls



Additional quotes from firearm managers

### Smith & Wesson

Model 1854

"S&W outdid themselves with that bad boy (1854)...If we get one of those, I'm going to need to make a bad financial decision"

Bass Pro Shops Firearm Manager from Springfield, OR

"The new S&W ones (1854s) are pretty sweet...I would say they're even smoother than the Marlins right now."

Sportsman's Warehouse Firearm Manager from Corona, CA

"I'll give the S&W (1854) the edge a little...Customer-service wise Henry is a little better, but S&W is better for hunting."

Sportsman's Warehouse Firearm Manager from Fresno, CA

"The 1854 is not in stock but if we did have it I would have it at my house."

Sportsman's Warehouse Firearm Manager from Colorado Springs, CO

### **Marlin**

"The quality of Ruger (Marlins) went down over the years, we see a lot of repair parts and the new ones we sell needing fixing."

Sportsman's Warehouse Firearm Manager from Yuma, AZ

"The Ruger levers and/or barrels tend to be a little loose."

Sportsman's Warehouse Firearm Manager from Corona, CA

"The Marlins aren't as great as the older ones because they got bought out by Ruger."

Sportsman's Warehouse Firearm Manager from Colorado Springs, CO

""I would sell a lot more Marlins if Ruger didn't buy them and raise the price."

Sportsman's Warehouse Firearm Manager from Hot Springs,

## **Henry**

"The Henry's are still going to be the smoothest ones out of all."

Sportsman's Warehouse Firearm Manager from Corona, CA

""I would personally go with a Henry over a Marlin."

Sportsman's Warehouse Firearm Manager from Colorado Springs, CO

"It's (1854) going to be pretty comparable to the Henry which to me the best option and the Marlin is, well, its Marlin now."

Cabela's Firearm Manager from Reno, NV

"I would put the Henry above it (1854)...Most people come in for the Henry Golden Boy."

Cabela's Firearm Manager from Sidney, NE



# Primary Research: Nationwide Store Calls



## Additional quotes from firearm managers

### **High-Quality Product**

"The 1854 is my favorite. It gives you more options at the factory, it's built that way. It is more purpose driven."

"We've actually sold quite a few, I haven't heard a single negative review."

"A lot of people gave been buying it, and we haven't sent any more back to repair which is **pretty rare for a new gun**."

### **Under-Supplied**

"It's an excellent firearm, it's one of the new ones everyone wants, I don't know why we don't have more..."

"My hope is with the 1854 they'll start shipping us more."

"Yeah, it's odd we don't get enough."

#### In-Demand

"I shot it (1854) and **fell in love** with it, I think it would sell phenomenally."

"If we had an unlimited supply, I think we would sell everyone we have."

"I think if they came out with a 30-30 it would sell very well."

"Our new 1854 lever-action rifle has the potential to be a major contributor to growth for many years to come"

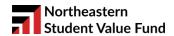
~ Mark P. Smith, CEO, Q3 '24 Earnings Call

"...with our planned expansion of this popular line throughout the second half of FY25, we expect this momentum to build even further as the year progresses."

~ Mark P. Smith, CEO, Q2 '25 Earnings Call



# **Supply Chain Dynamics**



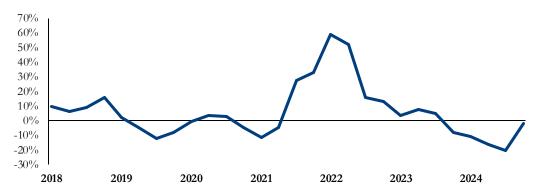
Public sporting goods retailer provides insight into current supply chain dynamics

### Retailers





Sportsman's Inventory Year-over-Year



Q2 '25 SPWH Earnings Call "Frankly speaking, the first half of the year we ran inventory too low and did not invest in the right amount of inventory, particularly in our core products"

Q3 '25 SPWH Earnings Call "Early in 2024, we laid out a plan that included [destocking]... Last quarter, we strategically expanded our inventory to ensure our stores were stocked"

### Distributors





Smith & Wesson Earnings Call Commentary on Channel Inventory:

F22

F23

F24

F25







Distributor inventory has declined or stayed the same in the last 10/12 quarters

Q1 '25 SPWH Earnings Call "Inventory in the distribution channel remained relatively flat from the prior quarter in terms of actual units, indicating positive sell-through of our products at retail"

Retailers and distributors have finally worked through their **excess inventories** post-COVID, allowing demand to begin to flow back up the supply chain with **positive sell-through** 



# 1854 Lever-Action Rifle Case Study



Historical Smith & Wesson product launches indicate product success is highly-likely

Sell side is uncertain of success.

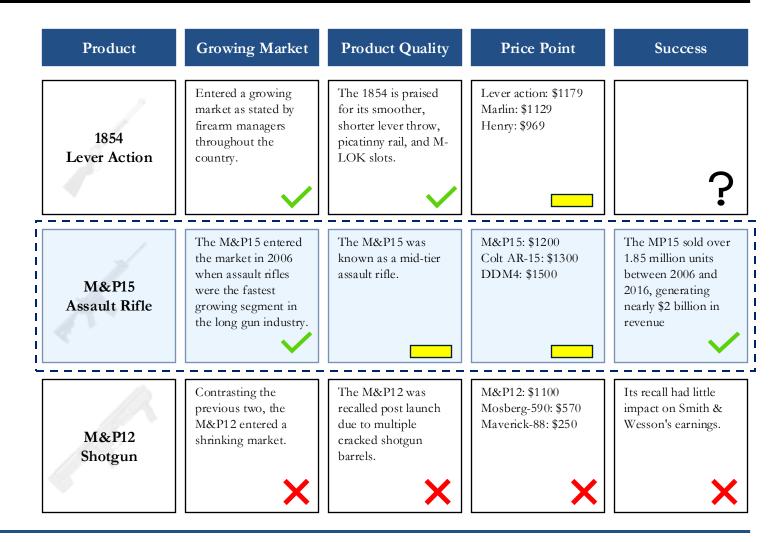
Our research suggests that success is certain.

"We'll need a little more time to see kind of where it fully shakes out in this lever action market."

"The 1854 is a smaller piece of the market within lever action rifles, you know, I think Smith & Wesson's had more success in kind of AR platform rifles."

~ Sell-Side Analyst

S&W has demonstrated ability to expand successfully into high-growth markets with strong product quality and strong pricing; the precedent success of the M&P15 is a bellwether of the 1854's potential





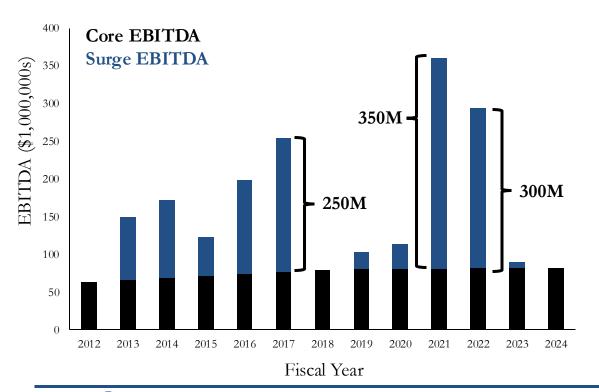
# Margin of Safety: "Surge" Demand



More Info On Surge Demand

### Significant EBITDA Contributions from Unforecastable Sources

"When Joe Biden said anything gun related sales would triple the next day" – Sportsman's Firearm Manager



### NPV of Hypothetical \$400m Surge EBITDA

			Year of Surge EBITDA					
[e	\$400.0	5	6	7	8	9	10	Z
Rate	10.0%	14.11%	11.55%	9.75%	8.42%	7.39%	6.58%	\PV
	11.0%	13.89%	11.34%	9.56%	8.24%	7.23%	6.43%	י ו
L u	12.0%	13.67%	11.14%	9.38%	8.07%	7.08%	6.29%	per
3	13.0%	13.45%	10.94%	9.20%	7.91%	7.08%	6.29%	
Discount	14.0%	13.23%	10.75%	9.02%	7.74%	6.77%	6.01%	share
Щ	15.0%	13.02%	10.56%	8.84%	7.59%	6.62%	5.87%	e.

#### Our Take

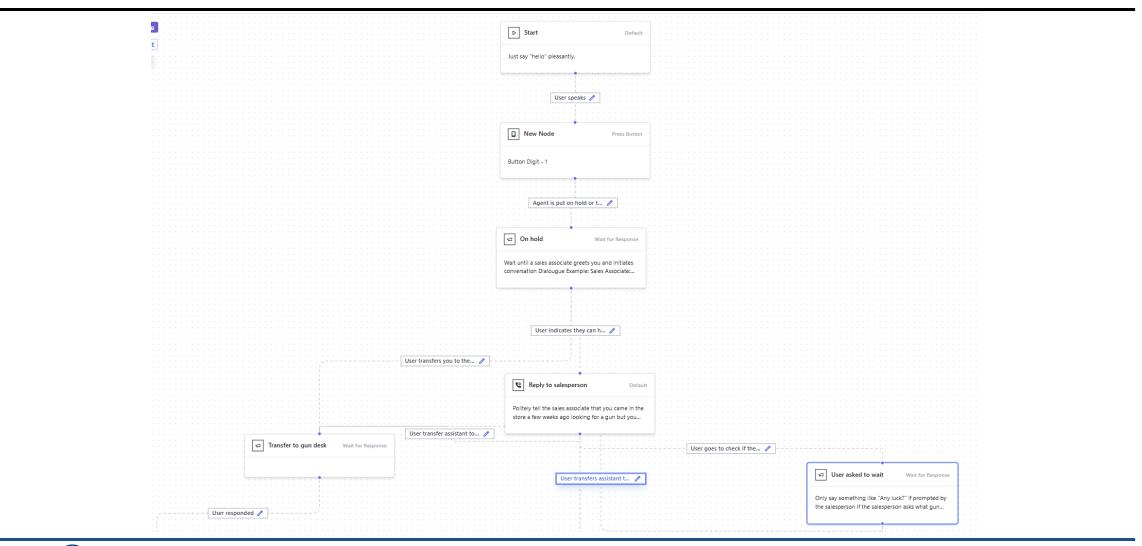
We assign **zero** value to potential future periods of surge demand. However, if we did, we would be adding another **5-14% upside** to our model.



Source(s): SWBI Historical Data

# Conversational Pathway Model







# Conversational Pathway Model



