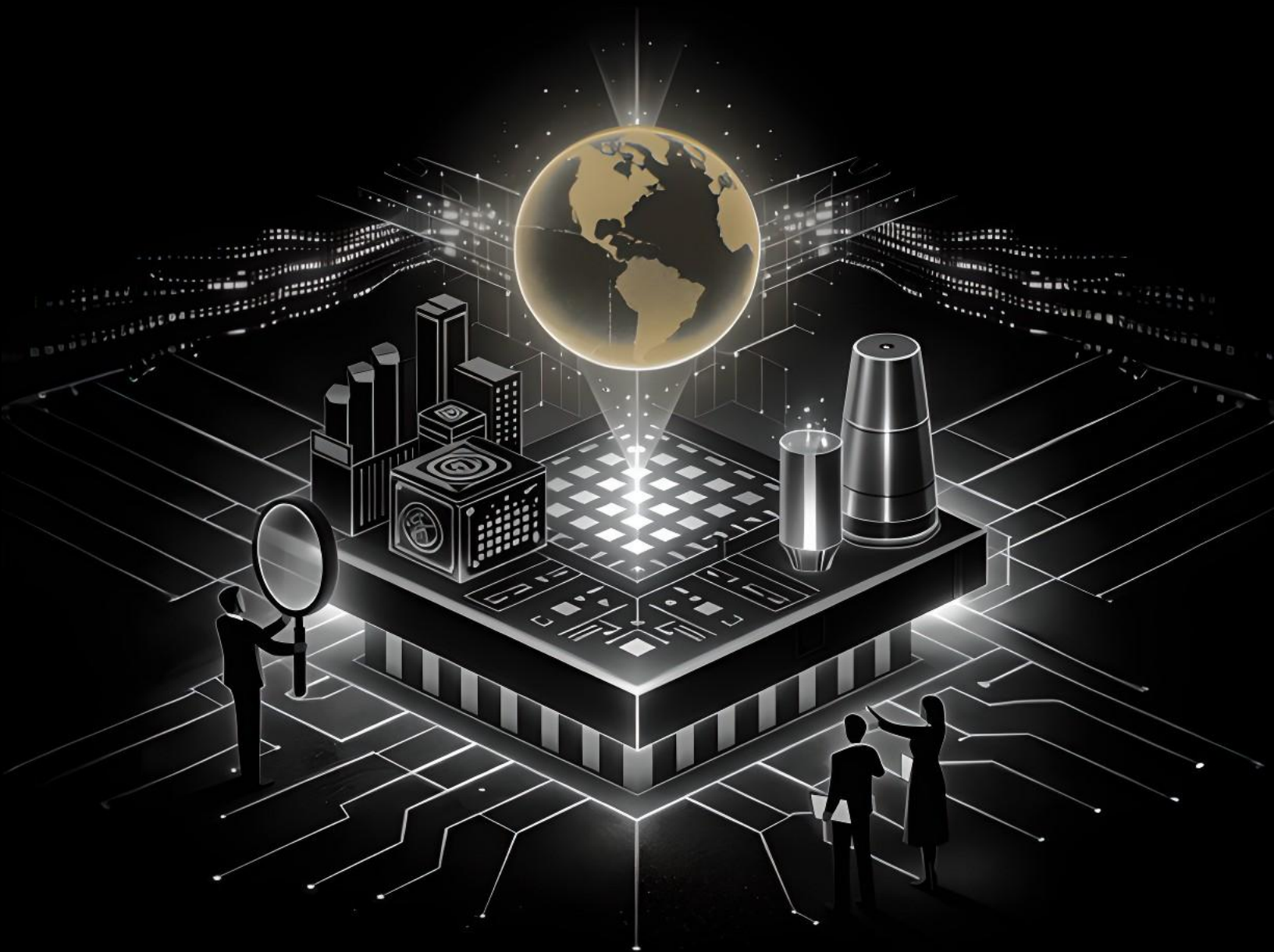




2026: WHY COMPUTE, DATA, & ENERGY WILL CONTROL THE NEXT \$100 **TRILLION ECONOMY**

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Presented by CNC Academy



INTRODUCTION: THE AI SUPERCYCLE

Artificial intelligence is not simply another technology trend—it represents the early stages of a global infrastructure super-cycle.

The next decade of artificial intelligence will not be defined by apps — it will be defined by infrastructure.

Throughout history, the most powerful economic expansions have been driven by foundational infrastructure investments. Railroads transformed commerce in the 19th century. Electrification reshaped industry in the early 20th century. The internet revolutionized communication and information in the late 20th century.

Artificial intelligence represents the next phase of this evolution.

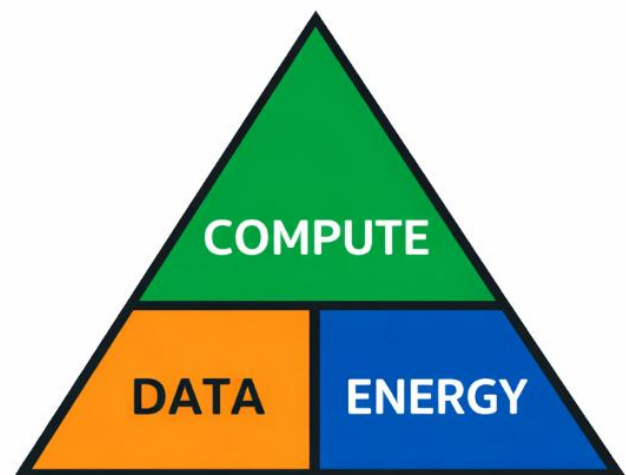
However, unlike previous technology cycles, AI requires an unprecedented level of physical infrastructure.

Training AI models requires four things:

1. large data centers
2. advanced computer chips
3. high-speed networks
4. massive amounts of electricity

As a result, the global economy is entering a new phase of infrastructure investment centered on the Power Triad. The Power Triad consists of three fundamental assets that will define the next economic era:

1. *Compute*: The hardware and chips that process AI workloads.
2. *Data*: The fuel that trains them and gives them decision-making capability.



$$PTR = \frac{\eta \cdot E}{K \cdot D}$$



3. *Energy*: The electricity required to power data centers and compute infrastructure.

The companies that control these three resources may become the most valuable companies of the AI era.

Historically, investors focused heavily on software companies. However, the AI era shifts value back toward infrastructure providers. Training large models requires enormous data centers filled with GPUs and networking equipment that consume extraordinary amounts of electricity.

As AI adoption accelerates, the demand for compute, data storage, and reliable energy will grow exponentially. Investors who understand this framework can identify opportunities across the entire AI value chain rather than focusing solely on software and hardware companies.

Why AI Requires Physical Infrastructure

Artificial intelligence is not just another technology cycle—it is a productivity revolution. Research from McKinsey suggests generative AI could raise global productivity by about 0.6% annually through 2040, adding up to 1% to yearly global GDP growth.

Realizing this potential will require massive investment in computing, data infrastructure, and energy—the three pillars of the Power Triad.

Training modern AI models requires thousands of GPUs running at the same time in massive data centers. These systems process huge amounts of data and use enormous amounts of electricity.

As AI adoption grows, companies are investing heavily in the infrastructure needed to support it. Cloud providers are building new data centers, chip manufacturers are expanding production, and energy companies are preparing for rising electricity demand.



Investors who understand the foundation of the Power Triad gain exposure not just to AI companies, but to the entire infrastructure powering the AI economy.

The Three Layers of the AI Economy

The AI economy can be understood through three core layers that make artificial intelligence possible. These layers align with the Power Triad: Compute, Data, and Energy, the three resources that form the foundation of the AI economy.

Layer 1: Compute Infrastructure

This layer includes semiconductor manufacturers, chip designers, and the hardware required to run AI models. Companies such as NVIDIA, AMD, and ASML provide the processing power that enables AI training and inference.

Layer 2: Data Systems

AI models require enormous datasets for training and continuous improvement. Cloud platforms, enterprise software companies, and cybersecurity providers help collect, process, and protect these data systems

Layer 3: Energy Infrastructure

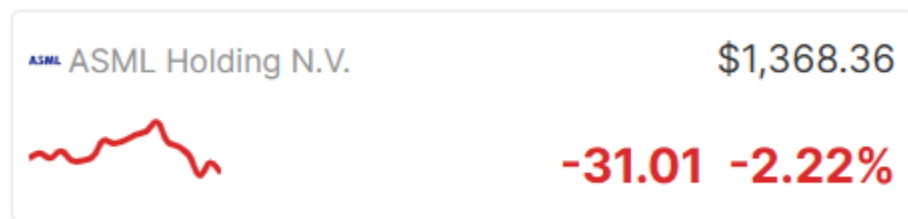
AI data centers consume massive amounts of electricity. As AI adoption grows, energy production becomes a critical bottleneck. Nuclear energy, natural gas infrastructure, and renewable power generation are increasingly essential to supporting AI infrastructure.



Together, these three layers form the Power Triad, the structural foundation of the artificial intelligence economy.

COMPUTE INFRASTRUCTURE: ASML

ASML (ASML) occupies one of the most important positions in the global semiconductor ecosystem.



Artificial intelligence relies on increasingly powerful semiconductors, and manufacturing these chips requires extremely advanced equipment. **ASML (ASML)** is the only company in the world capable of producing the machines used to manufacture cutting-edge chips.

These machines can cost hundreds of millions of dollars each and are essential for producing the advanced processors used in AI data centers.

Because **ASML (ASML)** has a technological lead that took decades and billions of dollars to develop, it enjoys a near-monopoly in EUV technology. Major semiconductor manufacturers, including Taiwan Semiconductor, Intel, and Samsung—depend on ASML’s machines to build the chips powering the AI economy.

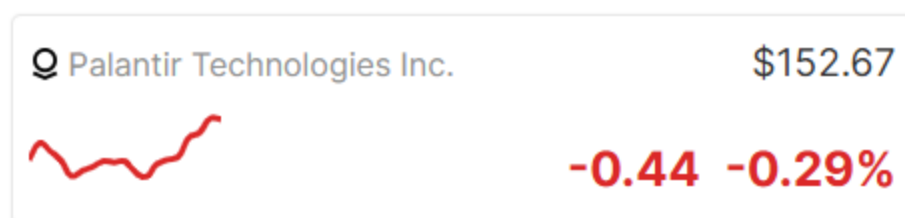
As global demand for AI chips expands, **ASML (ASML)** sits at the center of the compute infrastructure stack.



DATA INFRASTRUCTURE: PALANTIR

Artificial intelligence depends not only on computing power, but on the ability to organize, integrate, and analyze massive amounts of data.

Palantir (PLTR) occupies a critical position in the global data infrastructure ecosystem. Palantir's software platforms help governments and corporations turn complex, fragmented data into usable intelligence that can power AI systems and decision-making.



Its platforms—used by defense agencies, intelligence organizations, and major corporations—allow institutions to manage sensitive data, build AI models, and deploy those systems across operations.

In an era of rising geopolitical instability, the importance of secure data infrastructure is increasing. Governments and defense agencies are investing heavily in technologies that provide data integration, operational awareness, and AI-driven intelligence.

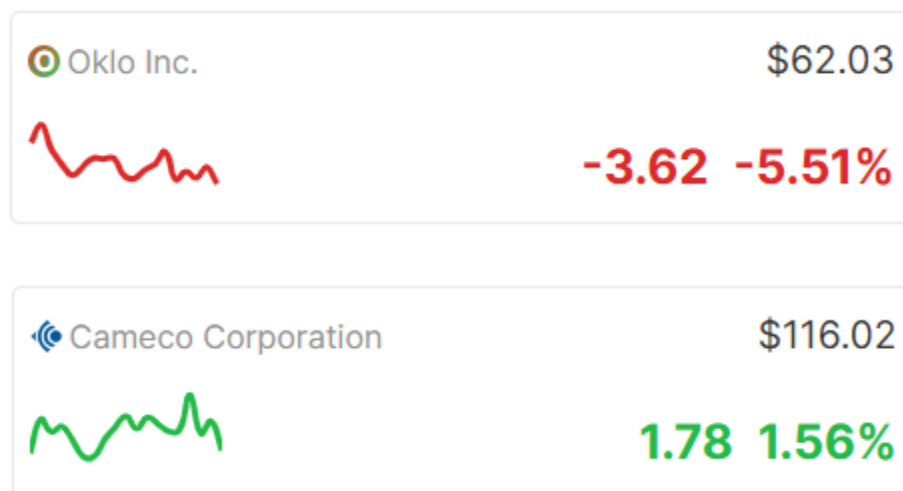
Because of its deep relationships with Western governments and national security institutions, **Palantir (PLTR)** sits at the center of the data infrastructure layer supporting both the AI economy and modern geopolitical competition.

ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE: OKLO & CAMECO



Energy is the third pillar of the Power Triad, and it may become the most critical as artificial intelligence scales.

AI data centers require enormous amounts of reliable electricity. Unlike intermittent renewable sources, nuclear energy can provide constant, carbon-free power capable of supporting large-scale computing infrastructure.



Oklo (OKLO) is developing advanced small modular nuclear reactors designed to power modern infrastructure, including AI data centers. These compact reactors are built to deliver reliable energy close to where computing demand is growing.

If nuclear power becomes a primary energy source for the AI economy, uranium becomes one of the most strategically important commodities in the world. **Cameco (CCJ)**, one of the largest uranium producers globally, supplies fuel to nuclear power plants around the world.

As AI adoption accelerates and electricity demand rises, companies like **Oklo (OKLO)** and **Cameco (CCJ)** sit at the center of the energy infrastructure required to power the AI economy.



ENERGY: THE HIDDEN BOTTLENECK OF AI

The rapid growth of artificial intelligence is creating an unprecedented surge in electricity demand.

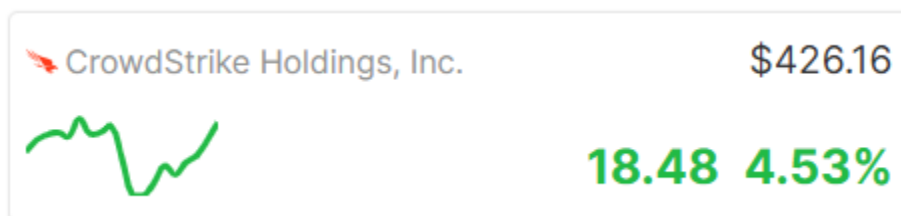
Large AI data centers require enormous amounts of power to operate thousands of GPUs simultaneously. Training a single frontier model can consume as much electricity as a small town.

As a result, energy production is becoming one of the most critical investment themes of the AI era.

Reliable, scalable, and carbon-neutral energy sources will be required to support global compute expansion. Nuclear energy, in particular, is emerging as a key solution due to its ability to deliver constant base-load power without carbon emissions.

CYBERSECURITY IN THE AI ERA: CROWDSTRIKE

As artificial intelligence expands across industries, the cybersecurity threat landscape grows more complex. AI systems themselves become targets for manipulation, model theft, and adversarial attacks.



CrowdStrike (CROWD) has emerged as a leader in AI-native cybersecurity. Its Falcon platform integrates artificial intelligence directly into threat detection and response systems, allowing organizations to detect and neutralize attacks in real time.



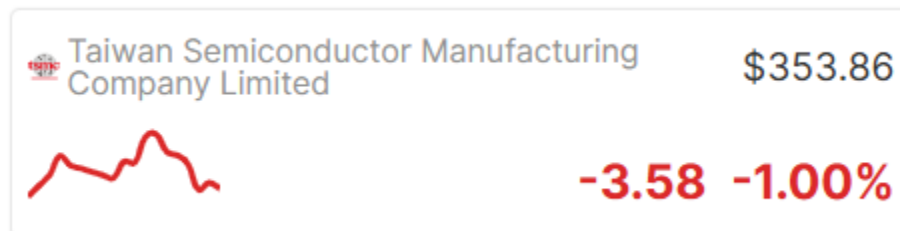
A major innovation is Charlotte AI, the company's generative AI assistant that automates cybersecurity workflows. Charlotte AI can handle a majority of threat triage tasks autonomously, allowing security teams to respond faster while reducing labor demands.

As enterprises deploy AI agents and autonomous systems, security will become an even more critical layer of infrastructure. **CrowdStrike (CROWD)** is positioning itself as the security backbone for the AI economy.

AI COMPUTE INFRASTRUCTURE: THE BOTTLENECK

At the center of the artificial intelligence revolution is the raw processing power required to train and run increasingly sophisticated AI models.

Companies such as **NVIDIA (NVDA)** and **AMD (AMD)** design powerful GPUs and accelerators used to train large-scale AI systems, while technology giants like **Alphabet (GOOG)**, **Amazon (AMZN)**, and **Meta (META)** operate the massive data centers where these chips are deployed.



These companies form the visible layer of the AI compute economy—designing chips, building models, and running hyperscale infrastructure.

But behind nearly all these systems sits a single manufacturing backbone.



Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company Limited (TSM) produces many of the most advanced semiconductors used in modern AI hardware. Companies such as NVIDIA and AMD design the processors, but they rely on TSMC's cutting-edge fabrication facilities to manufacture them.

Producing advanced AI chips requires extremely sophisticated semiconductor fabrication processes that only a handful of companies in the world can achieve at scale. Over decades, **TSMC (TSM)** has built a technological lead that makes it one of the most indispensable companies in the global technology supply chain.

As artificial intelligence drives unprecedented demand for advanced semiconductors, **TSMC (TSM)** sits at the center of the compute infrastructure powering the AI economy.

What Comes Next for Investors

Artificial intelligence is creating one of the largest infrastructure buildouts in modern history.

Over the next decade, trillions of dollars will likely be invested into the technologies that power the AI economy — including semiconductors, data infrastructure, and energy production.

The companies discussed in this report represent only a small part of the broader opportunity.

New opportunities are emerging across the Power Triad: compute, data, and energy.

But identifying the companies best positioned to benefit from this transformation requires ongoing research and analysis.

This is exactly what we focus on inside CNC Academy.

[Explore CNC Academy →](#)



Inside CNC Academy

CNC Academy is a private research community focused on identifying the biggest investment opportunities in emerging technology.

Members receive:

- Deep-dive research reports on emerging technologies
- AI infrastructure stock analysis
- Market signals and trade ideas
- Access to a private investor community
- Exclusive video briefings and strategy sessions

Our goal is simple: To help investors position themselves for the most important technological shifts shaping the future of the global economy.

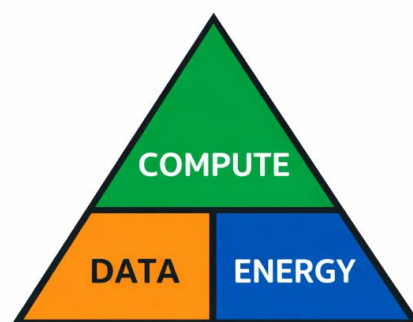
Why the Power Triad Matters

Most investors focus only on AI software companies. But the real opportunity may lie in the infrastructure powering the AI economy.

Compute. Data. Energy.

These three resources form the Power Triad — the foundation of the artificial intelligence economy.

Inside CNC Academy, we continuously track the companies positioned at the center of this transformation.



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Learn More About CNC Academy



If you want to stay ahead of the AI infrastructure boom and receive our ongoing research and analysis, you can learn more about CNC Academy below.

[Learn More About CNC Academy →](#)

CLOSING THOUGHTS: INVESTING IN THE AI SUPERCYCLE

The companies that control compute, data, and energy may become the most valuable companies of the AI era.

In fact, the largest technology companies are expected to spend nearly \$400 billion on capital expenditures in 2025 alone, representing a 56% increase from the previous year as they race to build data centers, develop chips, and expand cloud capacity.

The artificial intelligence revolution is not just about software innovation. It is an infrastructure transformation that touches every layer of the global economy.

Understanding the Power Triad—compute, data, and energy—provides investors with a strategic framework for identifying long-term winners.

Companies that control semiconductor manufacturing, networking infrastructure, cybersecurity, nuclear energy, and critical resources like uranium will play essential roles in powering the AI supercycle.

Over the next decade, trillions of dollars will likely be invested into AI infrastructure. The companies controlling compute, data, and energy may become some of the most valuable businesses in the world. Investors who recognize the structural importance of the Power Triad may be best positioned to benefit from one of the largest technological transformations in history.

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Prepared by CNC Group Research

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