

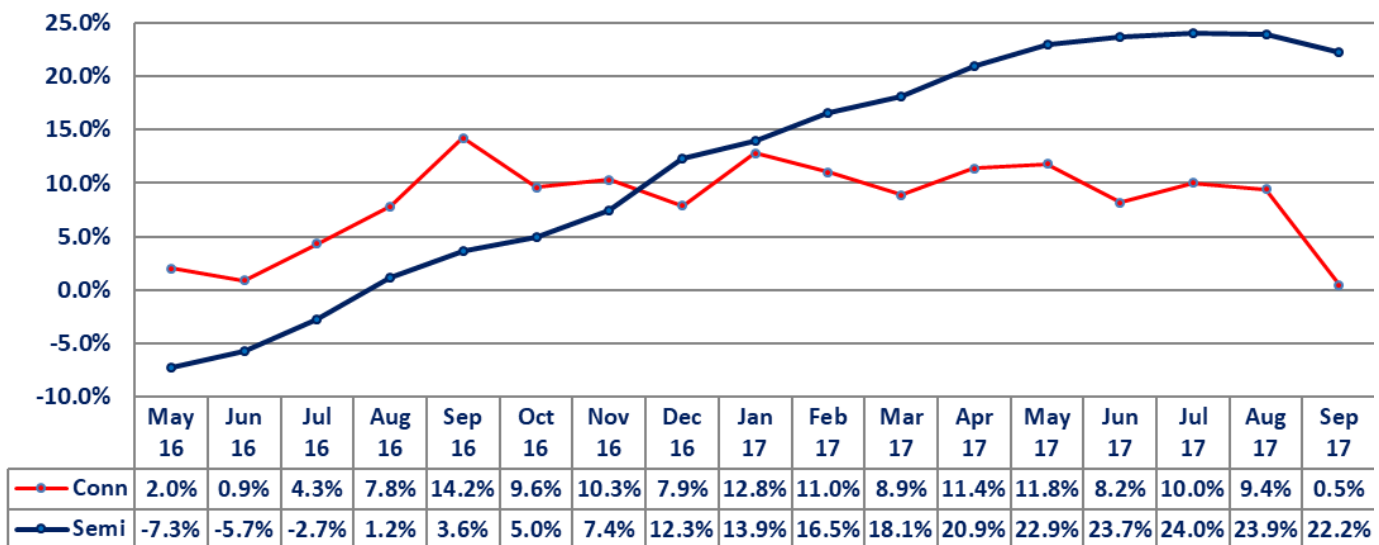
Semi Sales Up +22.2% in September Monthly Sales Reach \$36 billion for the First Time

The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) reported record September sales of \$36.0 billion, up +22.2% from September 2016 and up +2.8% sequentially. Regionally for September, the SIA reported that China grew +19.9% YOY, Japan grew +11.9%, Asia Pacific/Other grew +16.8%, the Americas grew +40.7% and Europe grew +19.0%.

The connector industry sales, measured in U.S. dollars, increased +0.5% to prior year in September and contracted -3.8% sequentially. Regionally for September, YOY sales increased +0.4% in North America, +2.2% in Europe, +2.8% in China, and +5.9% in ROW. Japan contracted -8.6% and Asia Pacific contracted -2.4%.

The following graph compares semiconductor sales performance to the connector industry.

Monthly Sales Performance
Year-Over-Year



- Semis grew for the 14th consecutive month and have outpaced Connectors for the last ten months due to easier comparisons as their downturn started later than Connectors. The easy comparisons will end over in the next two months.
- Semi sales growth may be plateauing.
- The record sale of semis indicates that the worldwide economies are really picking up.

The following table displays year-to-date performance, measured in U.S. dollars, by geographic region for both components.

**Sales Performance
September Year-To-Date**

	Semiconductors	Connectors
North America	29.2%	6.0%
Europe	14.2%	9.2%
Japan	13.3%	12.2%
China	24.4%	16.8%
Asia Pacific/Other	15.9%	4.4%
World	20.7%	9.8%

Source SIA & Bishop

Both components sales performance is tracking more closely on a regional basis and in total world sales. North America is now the fastest growing region for semis followed by China.

High demand for semiconductors always leads to strong connector sales. The sale of connectors was \$1,000 million higher in the third quarter of 2017 than was anticipated in our forecast. It appears that both components are on the road toward a record year.

Semiconductors is projecting +11.5% growth for the full-year 2017. We believe semis will easily surpass this forecast and may actually be twice as high. Connectors is projecting +9.0% growth for 2017.