Caterpillar Inc / CAT

Equity | Generated Sep 22, 2026 11:31 PM EDT

Current price	Daily move	Bid / Ask	Previous close
$808.01	**-8.49 -1.04%**	**$804.00/$808.95**	**$816.50**

Market	**NYSE**
Industry	**Machinery**
Market data as of	**Sep 22, 2026 11:31 PM EDT**

JW Intelligence Report

Complete | 3 of 3 sections | Sep 22, 2026 7:52 PM EDT

JW Rank	Rank label	Confidence	IV percentile
57.3 / 100	**Balanced**	**high**	**24 / 100**

Model reference	Upside scenario	Risk reference	Wheel strategy fit
$802.00	**$835.00**	**$782.00**	**60 / 100**

Options stance	**neutral**
Tail-risk safety	**32 / 100**
JW Rank data coverage / as of	**100.0% | Sep 22, 2026 7:52 PM EDT**

Key insight

CAT Option Market Implies Rangebound Trading Ahead of Earnings

Market read

The CAT option market is currently pricing in a rangebound trading environment ahead of its upcoming earnings release. While the stock has seen recent weakness, implied volatility remains elevated, suggesting uncertainty surrounding the company's future performance. The term structure shows a slight downward slope, indicating that near-term options are more expensive than longer-dated options.

Strategy context

CAT's upcoming earnings release is likely driving current option activity. Traders are positioning for potential volatility swings based on the company's performance and guidance.

JW AI conclusions

Short- and medium-term model interpretation

AI context bias	**Bullish**
AI analysis updated	**Sep 22, 2026 2:27 PM EDT**

Short-term scenario

Cautious dip-buy only, not a chase. Tactical 1-3 week bounce attempt toward nearby resistance if $800 holds; not a confirmed trend reversal. High uncertainty from tariff headlines, AI-capex sentiment, and an approaching earnings window.

Three-month outlook

Constructive but low conviction. The backlog and data-center power demand can support visibility if orders convert and margins hold through tariffs, and consensus targets imply upside from about $806. Offsets are an elevated trailing multiple near 35x, about $2.2B of expected 2026 tariff costs, insider selling, rate sensitivity in construction, and a stock still well below its 52-week high. Base case is a choppy path toward the mid-$800s to low-$900s if the next print confirms backlog conversion; a break of the 200-day opens risk toward the mid-$700s. Uncertainty is material: this is not a return forecast, targets are not guarantees, and policy or AI-spending shocks can dominate the next quarter.

Market sentiment

Recent X flow is thin and low-engagement, leaning cautiously constructive on dips rather than strongly bullish or bearish. Several posts flag buy zones around $750-$800 or $790-$800 and tie CAT to AI data-center power. A Citi positive 90-day catalyst-watch note was recirculated. Older posts warned of stretched valuation and heavy insider selling. Overall social tone is dip-oriented and noisy, not a clear institutional consensus. Uncertainty: samples are small, often promotional, and a poor proxy for positioning.

Supporting evidence

Implied volatility is currently at 34.5%, suggesting market participants expect significant price movement in the coming weeks. | The term structure of implied volatility shows a slight downward slope, with near-term options more expensive than longer-dated options. | Recent insider selling and a Bernstein Hold rating contribute to market uncertainty.

Risk watch

Earnings risk: The next earnings report could significantly impact CAT's stock price, leading to increased volatility.

Enhanced price structure

45 trading days with volume, model levels and current technical reference bands

Model reference $802.00
Upside scenario $835.00
Risk reference $782.00
20D MVWAP $801.79
200D SMA $786.36
BB upper $831.61
BB lower $776.13

45 complete trading-session observations

JW Rank factors

Score, source coverage and interpretation for each decision factor

JW RANK FACTOR PROFILE	COVERAGE	0 50 100	
Liquidity	100.0%		**92.5**
Strategy Fit	100.0%		**60.0**
Technical Trend	100.0%		**54.1**
Market Tail Risk	100.0%		**32.0**
Fundamental Quality	100.0%		**59.2**
Volatility Pressure	100.0%		**52.2**

Decision summary

Primary model reads before the detailed indicator appendix

Momentum	Institutional flow	Structure	Volatility
bullish_recovery	**Above MVWAP**	**Above 200D trend**	**medium**

Decision indicators

Detailed momentum, institutional and structural observations

Momentum kinematics

Direction, velocity and oscillator state

Current read	**BULLISH RECOVERY | neutral | MACD accelerating**
Trend signal	**BULLISH RECOVERY**
RSI signal	**neutral**
RSI (7 / 14 / 21)	**52.35 / 47.63 / 46.31**
RSI velocity	**1.01**
MACD line / signal / histogram	**-9.74 / - / -13.39**
MACD acceleration	**1.67**
Stochastic K / D	**67.29 / 57.31**

Institutional footprints

Volume-weighted cost, price location and flow

Current read	**Above institutional MVWAP | Distribution bias**
Institutional flow	**-0.49**
20-day MVWAP	**$801.79**
Price vs 20-day MVWAP	**+0.78%**
Daily reference VWAP	**$807.69**
Price vs daily reference	**+0.04%**
Volume	**1.03M**

Structural context

Long-term trend and volatility boundaries

Current read	**Above 200-day trend | Negative macro velocity**
Macro velocity	**-0.35**
20-day / 200-day SMA	**$803.87 / $786.36**
Bollinger range	**$776.13 - $831.61**
Bollinger position	**0.575**

Options and volatility intelligence

Structure, premium conditions and principal risks

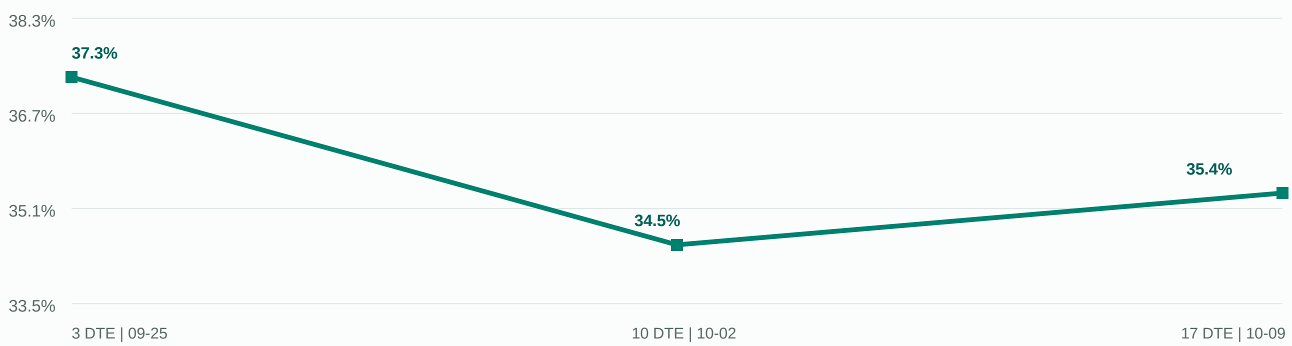
IV rank	IV percentile	VVIX	SKEW
31 / 100	23 / 100	81.95	142.19

Market regime	**DANGER ZONE**
Tail-risk regime	**NORMAL TAIL RISK**
Term structure	**flat**
Term slope	**-1.97 pts**
Skew read	**balanced**
Liquidity / quote coverage	**100.0%**
Options Snapshot IV sources	**ATM: option chain | Rank/percentile: fundamentals**
Options Snapshot IV observed at	**Sep 22, 2026 2:48 PM EDT**
Options data quality	**Coverage 88.9%**

Option term structure

ATM implied-volatility curve by days to expiration

ATM IV CURVE



Downward-sloping ATM volatility term structure

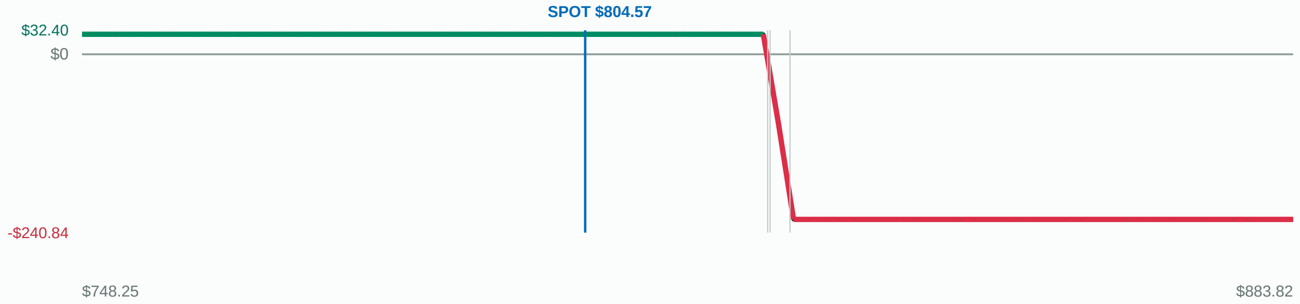
EXPIRATION	DTE	ATM IV	STATE
2026-09-25	3	37.3%	-
2026-10-02	10	34.5%	-
2026-10-09	17	35.4%	-

Reference spread payoff

Illustrative expiry profit/loss per one-lot structure, including quoted net credit

Bear Call Spread reference

Short $825.00 | Long $827.50 | Width $2.50 | Net credit $0.27



Max profit $27.00 | Max loss -$223.00 | Break-even $825.27 | Per contract at expiry

Event and tail-risk context

Known event windows and broad volatility conditions

Next earnings date	**2026-10-29**
Earnings IV-crush risk	**NOT MEASURED**
VIX	**14.26**
VVIX	**81.95**
SKEW index	**142.19**
Observation confidence	**high**
Option quote quality	**reliable**
Contracts observed	**104**
Contracts with quotes	**104**

Strategy fit

Generalized structure fit; not a personalized recommendation

Market structure

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Options context

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Wheel context

CAT's upcoming earnings release is likely driving current option activity. Traders are positioning for potential volatility swings based on the company's performance and guidance.

Observed evidence

Implied volatility is currently at 34.5%, suggesting market participants expect significant price movement in the coming weeks. | The term structure of implied volatility shows a slight downward slope, with near-term options more expensive than longer-dated options. | Recent insider selling and a Bernstein Hold rating contribute to market uncertainty.

Principal risks to monitor

Earnings risk: The next earnings report could significantly impact CAT's stock price, leading to increased volatility.

Fundamentals and events

Business quality, valuation and upcoming event context

Market capitalization **$375.32B**	P/E (TTM) **34.66**
ROE **54.2%**	Revenue growth **4.4%**
EPS growth **14.2%**	Operating margin **17.5%**
Net profit margin **14.5%**	Gross margin **-**
Free cash flow CAGR **12.1%**	Debt / equity **2.03**
Dividend yield **2.1%**	Beta **1.60**
52-week range **$459.58 - $1,073.46**	

Company or fund profile

Issuer identity and classification

Name **Caterpillar Inc**	Market **NYSE**
Industry **Machinery**	Country **US**
Currency **USD**	IPO date **1929-12-02**
Shares outstanding **460.59M**	52-week return **75.0%**
Book value per share **$42.11**	Revenue per share **$161.58**

Website	**caterpillar.com**

Latest strategy observation

Most recent shared general market signal available when this report was generated

CAT Covered Call signal

Sep 22, 2026 10:28 AM EDT

Covered Call | 2026-09-25

At signal $807.33 | Current $808.01

SHORT **Option $780.00 B $28.00 / A $31.80**

High turnover | CR $29.90

Complete technical details

Full supporting indicator set used by the symbol detail experience

Volatility and options market

Price movement and premium conditions

ATR	**$23.99**
ATR as % of price	**3.0%**
Volatility environment	**medium**
Current IV	**34.7%**
IV rank	**31 / 100**
IV percentile	**24 / 100**
Technical Snapshot IV source	**Private fundamentals snapshot**
Technical Snapshot IV observed at	**Sep 22, 2026 3:52 PM EDT**

Technical health and risk radar

Derived indicator health and event context

Overall health	**81 / 100**
Trend health	**78 / 100**
Momentum health	**87 / 100**
Volatility health	**65 / 100**
Structure health	**93 / 100**
Earnings risk / date	**low | 2026-10-29**
Macro risk	**unknown**
Volatility risk	**medium**
Structure risk	**low**

Structural indicator levels

Moving averages, volatility bands and observed trading ranges

SMA (20 / 50 / 200)	**$803.87 / $834.95 / $786.36**
EMA (9 / 21)	**$804.28 / $810.09**
Bollinger upper / middle / lower	**$831.61 / $803.87 / $776.13**

Structural indicator levels (continued)

Moving averages, volatility bands and observed trading ranges

FIELD	VALUE
Bollinger %B	**0.575**
True high / low	**$816.50 / $802.61**
5-day true high / low	**$827.81 / $774.47**

Three-day indicator history

Short-horizon change and the underlying three-session observations

INDICATOR	3-DAY CHANGE	SESSION 1 / 2 / 3
SMA20	-0.347	**-**
SMA50	-2.592	**-**
MVWAP20	-0.486	**-**
MACD	1.671	**-**
RSI	1.009	**-**
Volume	-1351.670	**-**
ATR	-0.675	**-**
T1	-	**-10.86 / 802.14 / 827.81 / 805.24**
T2	-	**-12.99 / 802.85 / 809.49 / 798.57**
T3	-	**-14.76 / 803.25 / 813.95 / 782.72**

Detailed options evidence

Supporting option-chain, execution and data-quality observations

Underlying price at observation	**$804.57**
Options Snapshot IV sources	**ATM: option chain | Rank/percentile: fundamentals**
Options Snapshot IV observed at	**Sep 22, 2026 2:48 PM EDT**
Options data coverage	**88.9%**
SKEW regime	**HIGH TAIL RISK SKEW**
VVIX regime	**VVIX FALLING**
Front expiration / DTE	**2026-09-25 | 3 DTE**
Front at-the-money IV	**37.3%**
25-delta skew	**3.82**
Put / Call 25-delta	**$750.00 Delta -0.029 / $825.00 Delta 0.241**
Median option bid/ask spread	**17.5%**
Bid/ask spread	**-**
Contracts observed / quoted	**104 / 104**

Price context

Last Price: 804.57 | Bid: 804.46 | Ask: 804.66 | Previous Close: 816.50 | Change: -11.93 | Daily change: -1.46% | Update Time: 2026-09-22T14:48:43.215213-04:00 | Latest History Date: 2026-09-22 | Latest History Price: 804.72

Historical context

Trading-day sample: 60 sessions | First Date: 2026-06-29 | Latest Date: 2026-09-22 | Latest Price: 804.72 | Max Drawdown 60d Percent: -26.83%

Fundamental context

Current Iv Percent: 34.50% | Iv Rank: 30.60 | Iv Percentile: 22.71 | Next Earnings Date: 2026-10-29 | Ex Dividend Date: 2026-07-19

Important disclosures

Scope, limitations, risk and permitted interpretation

General market information only

This report is general quantitative research and market commentary. It is not investment, legal, tax or accounting advice; it is not an offer, solicitation, order, recommendation or promise of performance. It does not consider any reader's holdings, objectives, financial circumstances, risk tolerance or suitability.

Model observations - not instructions

JW Rank, strategy fit, model reference, upside scenario and risk reference levels are model observations. They are not entries, price targets, stops, position sizes or instructions to buy, sell, open, close or hold a security or option. A higher score does not imply lower risk or a guaranteed favorable outcome.

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Prices, volumes, fundamentals, options data, news-derived context and model outputs reflect the timestamps shown and may be delayed, incomplete, revised or inaccurate. AI-generated explanations can omit context or produce errors. Models can fail when volatility, liquidity, correlations or market regimes change.

Performance and scenario limitations

Past, hypothetical, back-tested, simulated and model-derived results are not indicative of future results. Strategy statistics may exclude commissions, fees, taxes, slippage, early assignment, execution constraints and other costs unless expressly stated. Actual outcomes may differ materially.

Options risk

Options are complex and are not suitable for all investors. They may involve total or substantial loss, assignment, early exercise, margin calls, liquidity and spread risk, volatility and Greek exposure, event risk, regime shifts and expiration risk. Multi-leg positions may not execute or close at modeled prices.

Investor responsibility and ODD

Use current market information, assess suitability independently and consult qualified professionals when appropriate. Before trading listed options, read Characteristics and Risks of Standardized Options (ODD) available from the Options Clearing Corporation at theocc.com.

Reference documents

Official product terms and standardized options disclosure

Jason Wheel	**jasonwheel.com**
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Options Disclosure Document	**theocc.com / Options Disclosure Document**