

- **Enterprise technology spending continues to accelerate**, with global IT expenditures projected to reach \$6.3 trillion in 2026, up 13.5% year over year. Software is expected to be one of the fastest-growing categories, increasing 15.1% to more than \$1.4 trillion as enterprises increasingly adopt platforms with embedded GenAI capabilities.⁽¹⁾
- **Agentic AI is driving new software investment cycle**: worldwide spending is forecasted to hit \$2.6 trillion in 2026, with purpose-built AI agent software the single fastest-growing segment – projected to reach \$206.5 billion in 2026.⁽²⁾
- **Software M&A remains resilient and strategically driven**. Strategic acquirors accounted for 76% of all software transactions in early 2026, with deal volume tracking toward the second-highest annual total on record at 2,644 transactions.

S&S M&A Weather Report

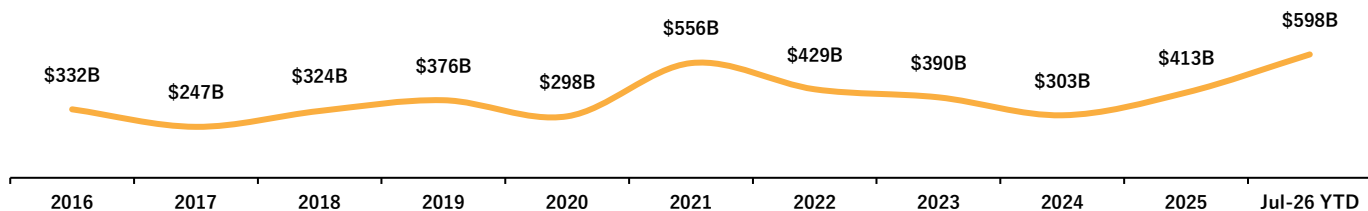


Partly Sunny

Software M&A was robust throughout Q2 2026, even as rate concerns pressured sponsor-driven activity. Despite a dynamic financing environment, persistent AI-demand and strategic buyer interest positions software M&A for a strong finish to 2026.⁽³⁾

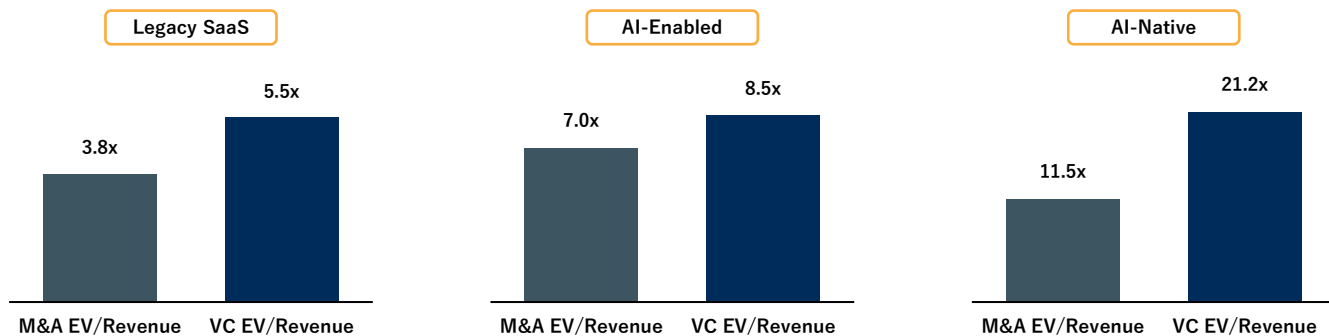
Software Trends We Are Tracking

AI-Focused Software Capital Investment Scales to Record Highs



Software Multiples Scale with AI Exposure

Median multiples for software M&A and VC activity increase for AI-enabled and AI-native SaaS platforms compared to legacy SaaS.



Notable Recent Transactions – July 2026

Acquirer	 Anyscale	 TRACSIS	 Stakk	 Progress
Target	 NSCALE	 MISTRAL DATA	 ParaScript	 DOMO
Sector	Vertical Software + AI	Supply Chain & Logistics Tech	Compliance Technology	Data & Analytics
Enterprise Value	~\$1.7B	~\$64M	\$63M	\$400M
EV / LTM Rev	ND	3.7x	3.3x	1.3x

A Shift in Software: Agentic AI Focus

The Evolution of AI in Enterprise Software ⁽⁴⁾

System of Record

Traditionally, enterprise software platforms function as aggregators and sources of company data.



System of Intelligence

AI integrations in recent years have focused on providing business insights rooted in data from a System of Record.



System of Action

Businesses are leveraging insights with AI agents to make enterprise-level decisions and improve core functions.

The Evolution in Action: The Shift to Agents ⁽⁵⁾



The new Headless360 platform exposes every CRM capability to be operated fully by agentic AI.



Several major ERP providers are implementing AI agent-enabled workflows.



Middle-Market Providers

Intrepid sees shifts across current and prospective software clients toward implementing agentic functions.

Implications for M&A Across Software ⁽⁵⁾

Consolidation

Legacy software providers are investing in and integrating agentic-AI, providing clients value beyond traditional SaaS.

SaaS Discipline

Re-framing middle-market SaaS investment decisions on agentic capability and product importance to client workflows.

A New Opportunity?

Mid-market SaaS providers improve agentic abilities, spurring a wave of enterprise transformation and M&A.

Source: (4) IBM Shift to Action, (5) PwC Mid-Year Software Outlook

Intrepid's Software & Services Coverage

-  Compliance Technology
-  Cybersecurity
-  Data & Analytics
-  Energy & Industrials Tech
-  GovTech
-  Healthcare IT
-  Human Capital Management
-  PropTech
-  SalesTech
-  Supply Chain & Logistics Technology
-  Tech-Enabled Services
-  Vertical Software + AI

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- + Capital Advisory

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Skillful Dealmakers

Backed by a Top 10 Global Bank by Assets



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- + Global Network & Resources

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Largest Foreign Lender to
U.S.-Based Tech
Companies

Christopher Park

Managing Director
Head of Software & Services
CPark@IntrepidIB.com

Jeff Becker

Managing Director
Software & Services
JBecker@IntrepidIB.com

Josh Moses

Managing Director
Software & Services
JMoses@IntrepidIB.com

Terry Jiang

Managing Director
Software & Services
TeJiang@IntrepidIB.com

Ryan Makis

Director
Software & Services
RMakis@IntrepidIB.com