

Perth, Sydney
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Participant of ASX, Chi-X Australia, SSX & NSX

Market Opener

Tuesday, 20 August 2024

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Please see disclaimer at end of this document

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	7963	36	0.5
NZX 50	12585	-77	-0.6
DJIA Futures	41016	-4	0.0
S&P 500 Futures	5630	-0.5	0.0
NASDAQ Futures	19864	6	0.0

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences today's trade with the \$A at ~US67.30c, earnings reports a-plenty from influential domestic stocks, a key Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) report due, plus a China rates announcement, ahead of key data out of the euro zone tonight.

US equities markets climbed 0.6% - 1.4% overnight.

Since then, the US administration has reiterated that Israel is prepared to accept a compromise US proposal that works towards a full Hamas-Israel ceasefire.

Locally today, the RBA is expected to release the **minutes** of this month's **monetary policy meeting** at **11.30am** AEST.

Also today, **CPU** and **MFG** trade **ex-dividend**. Please see p4 for a detailed ex-dividends list.

Regionally, China is scheduled to announce monthly one-year and five-year loan prime rates at 11.15am AEST.

The one-year rate (3.35%) acts as a benchmark for household and corporate lending. The five-year rate (3.85%) is viewed as a property mortgage reference rate. Last month, each rate was reduced by 0.1%.

Meanwhile, **New Zealand** has reported July international trade figures pre-trade, these including a \$NZ963M deficit from a \$5NZ85M June surplus. Imports and exports both increased, but imports by \$NZ1.66B against an \$NZ11M rise for exports.

Japan is listed to host a 20-year government bond auction this afternoon.

In overnight **commodities** trade, **oil** fell for a second consecutive session, this time by 2.5% - 3.0%.

US **gold** (Comex) futures settled just slightly higher, remaining above \$US2500/oz.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) turned slightly higher, settling above \$US98.0/t.

LME (3mth evening) **copper**, **nickel** and **aluminium** rallied by 1.4% - 3.3%.

The **\$A** was propelled to ~US67.30c after trading at US66.90c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	40897	237	0.6
S&P 500	5608	54	1.0

Today's Stock Watch

ANZ Group Holdings (ANZ)

June quarter Basel III Pillar 3 report lodged.

Ansell Ltd (ANN)

 ${\sf US21.90c\ final\ dividend\ from\ 40.31c\ a\ year\ ago}.$

48.4% lower, \$US76.5M full year NPAT.

2.2% lower, \$US1.62B revenue. \$US5.76 NTA from \$US4.27.

Sims Ltd (SGM)

10c full franked final dividend from 21c a year ago. \$57.8M full year net loss from a \$181.1M net profit. 6.2% higher, \$8.56B sales revenue. \$11.70 NTA from \$12.99. Further cost reductions required.

KMD Brands (KMD)

Anticipating an 11.2% drop in full year (to 31 July) sales and \$NZ49M - \$NZ51M FY24 EBITDA. \$NZ60M net debt.

Hub24 Ltd (HUB)

19.5c fully franked final dividend from 18.5c a year ago.

22% higher, \$46.48M full year NPAT.

17% higher, \$327.36M revenue. 87c NTA from 63c.

ARB Corporation (ARB)

35c fully franked from 30c a year ago.

16.1% higher, \$102.68M full year NPAT.

3.5% higher, \$698.75M revenue.

\$56.5M cash reserves. No debt.

Vicinity Centres (VCX)

Outlaying \$420M for 50% of Lakeside Joondalup, in the Perth, WA northern suburbs.

Full year results, including a doubling of profit and 3.3% higher revenue, also lodged.

Fletcher Building (FBU)

FBU has appointed former FBU executive and subsequent Rank Group executive Andrew Reding as CEO and MD, effective 30 September.

Mr Reding will join the FBU board Thursday.

Energy

Terra Uranium (T92)

Lol secured with TSXV-listed ATHA Energy Corp for a potential JV covering ATHA's Spire and Horizon uranium projects and one covering T92's Pasfield Lake uranium project.

All projects are in Canada.

Strike Energy (STX)

Onshore WA Perth Basin EP469 JV Erregulla Deep-1 progress, observations and plans lodged this morning.



NASDAQ	17877	245	1.4
FTSE 100	8357	46	0.6
DAX 30	18422	99	0.5
Shanghai Composite	2894	14	0.5

Overseas Markets Commentary

Most major European, UK and US equities markets featured cautious openings followed by decisive trends higher overnight.

The \$US traded at seven-month lows following media reports quoting two US Federal Reserve regional presidents promoting rate cut consideration at the September monetary policy meeting.

A third was reported as venturing damage to the US jobs market should a reduction not be effected in September.

Presidential election prospects were in focus in the US, with the Democrat National Congress commencing and the Kamala Harris camp claiming party opinion polling is suggesting a closer contest than the generally reported polls.

In scant overnight **economic data** releases, the Conference Board July leading index for the **US** was notably reported at -0.6% against consensus for -0.3%. This followed -0.2% for June.

Among debt offers, Japan conducted a 52-week bill auction yesterday afternoon AEST, which had resulted in a 0.2255% yield from 0.1672%.

Tonight in the US, two US Federal Reserve officials are scheduled to speak publicly.

Elsewhere, inflation and monetary policy will also be in focus, as Canada reports July CPI inflation, the euro zone provides a final July CPI reading and Germany releases July producer prices.

In the meantime, Germany's central bank publishes its monthly report.

Also tonight, Germany conducts a 10-year bond auction.

Companies scheduled to report earnings or provide trading updates later today or tonight include Antofagasta, US retailer Lowe's, Medtronic and Toll Brothers.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (COMEX 100 Dec) (15.59ET Iress)	2543	OZ	4.8	0.2
Silver (COMEX 5000 Dec) (15.59ET Iress)	29.92	OZ	0.65	2.2
Platinum	956	OZ	2	0.2
WTI Crude (NYMEX Sep)	74.37	bbl	-2.28	-3.0
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Oct)	77.66	bbl	-2.02	-2.5
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	98.1	t	0.29	0.3
Copper (LME 3mth Evening)	9253	t	132	1.4
Nickel	16664	t	275	1.7
Aluminium	2446	t	79	3.3
Lead	2039	t	-0.31	-0.0
Zinc	2787	t	23	0.8
Tin	32579	t	661	2.1

Commodities Commentary

Oil – prices fell sharper than Friday's fall overnight, this attributed again to the promotion of ceasefire potential in the Middle East

Pre-Open Announcements

Plato Income Maximiser (PL8)

July investment performance and top 10 holdings lodged post-trade yesterday.

Top Shelf International Holdings (TSI)

Non-executive TSI director and 15.7% TSI shareholder Stephen Grove has resigned from the TSI board.

TSI plans to proceed with the sale and leaseback of the Eden Lassie Agave Farm to an entity associated with Mr Grove, pending shareholder approval.

Resources

MetalsTech Ltd (MTC)

MTC has opted out of acquiring the Sauvolles lithium project, Quebec, Canada.

Further, MTC is investigating recovering some deposit funds, after having conducted some remote sensing surveying and initial field exploration almost a year ago.

Energy

Yancoal Australia (* YAL)

YAL scheduled a webcast teleconference to commence at **10am** AEST.

57% drop in interim NPAT to \$420M.

21% lower, \$3.14B revenue.

\$6.29 NTA from \$6.01.

Revenue fell mostly due to a 37% fall in the realised coal price, to \$A176/t.

\$1.42B net cash.

Metgasco Ltd (MEL)

MEL chair Philip Amery and non-executive director Peter Lansom have each resigned from the MEL board.

MEL's largest debt holder and 14.95% shareholder Michael Glennon has been appointed to the MEL board as interim chair.

Glennon Small Companies is providing a further \$880,000 in debt funding to MEL.

Interest will be capitalised and repayments will be made only from revenue.

A minimum 20% of revenue earned will be applied to the loan.

Following repayment of the loan, MEL will pay 12.5% of revenue earned to Glennon Small Companies.

Debt-to-equity conversion conditions also lodged post-trade yesterday.

Mr Amery joined MEL as chair in December 2015.



and ongoing commentary regarding China's weakened economy. On the flip side, a blast in Tel Aviv was claimed in part by Hamas. In addition, Russia-Ukraine conflict reports included increased military activity on both sides of Russia-Ukraine borders, including further damage to transport links.

Gold – prices swung overnight, Comex futures reportedly trading as high as \$US2549.9/oz, before falling back to record just a slight sessional gain (Reuters reported a \$US2541.3/oz {+0.1%} futures settlement).

Market watchers noted some initial safe-haven buying and reports of China's central bank issuing new gold quotas to financial institutions, with sentiment also supported by seven-month lows for the \$US.

The intra-session pullback was attributed in part to profit-taking ahead of key reports, data and events this week.

Base metals – the \$US index at lows not seen since 5 January supported overnight base metals trade. Early-week inventory updates also influenced some trade.

LME trade also reacted for the first time to late-weekend warnings of potential renewed industrial action at the Escondida copper operation in Chile.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.6733	0.0049	0.74
EUR – USD	1.1084	0.0036	0.33

Overseas Data Today and Tonight

New Zealand	International trade	Jul
China	Prime rates – one-yr & five-yr loans	Aug
Germany	Producer prices	Jul
Germany	Bundesbank report	Aug
Euro zone	CPI (final)	Jul
Canada	CPI inflation	Jul

Need More Information?

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Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEST)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	ANN	Full year (webcast 8am)
	ANZ	Q3/Jun Q update
	ARB	Full year
	BBN	Full year (tele 9.15am)
	DRR	Full year
	EVS	Full year (webinar 10.30am)
	HLI	Interim
	HUB	Full year (webcast 11.30am)
	INA	Full year
	JDO	Full year
	MAD	Full year (webcast 10am)
	MAH	Full year (w/cast tele 11am)
	MCY	Full year (w/cast tele 9am)
	MND	Full year
	MP1	Full year
	PRN	Full year (tele 9am)
	RWC	Full year (w/cast tele 9am)
	SGM	Full year (webcast 10am)
	SRG	Full year (webcast 10.30am)
	SVR	Full year
	VCX	Full year
	VG1	Full year
Tomorrow	ATG	Full year (webcast 9.30am)
	AUB	Full year (w/cast tele 11am)
	BAP	Full year
	BRG	Full year (tele 9.30am)
	BXB	Full year
	CTD	Full year
	CWP	Full year (webcast 11am)
	CWY	Full year (w/cast tele 11am)
	DMP	Full year
	DTL	Full year (webcast 10am)
	EBO	Full year (webcast 9.30am)
	FBU	Full year (w/cast tele 9am)
	FRI	Full year
	HLS	Full year (w/cast tele 10.30am)
	HMC	Full year (w/cast tele 10.30am)
	HPI	Full year
	HSN	Full year (webcast 10am)
	IAG	Full year
	IFM	Full year
	ILU IMD	Interim (tele 9am)
	MGH	Full year (webcact 9am)
	MGX	Full year (webcast 9am) Full year
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NSR	Full year
PWR	Full year (w/cast tele 9.30am)
PXA	Full year (tele 10.30am)
QAL	Full year (w/cast tele 10am)
SCG	Full year
SHA	Full year (webinar 1pm)
SLC	Full year (w/cast tele 10.30am)
STO	Interim
STP	Full year (w/cast tele 9.30am)
TLC	Full year (webcast 10.30am)
VNT	Interim (audio webcast 11am)
WGN	Full year (webinar 8.30am Thu)
WTC	Full year
WOW	Full year

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Andromeda Metals	ADN	20 Aug
Armada Metals	AMM	21 Aug
Auswide Bank	ABA	21 Aug
Fertoz Ltd	FTZ	21 Aug
Grand Gulf Energy	GGE	21 Aug
Green Technology Metals	GT1	21 Aug
Pan Asia Metals	PAM	20 Aug
Toubani Resources	TRE	21 Aug
Zinc of Ireland	ZMI	21 Aug

Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Aeon Metals	AML	26 Jul
Coolabah Metals	СВН	14 Aug
Korab Resources	KOR	29 Jul
MCS Services	MSG	15 Aug
Mineral Commodities	MRC	31 Jul
Regional Express Holdings	REX	31 Jul

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
CPU	Today	42	0	2.79
MFG	Today	35.7	50	6.41
AMP	Tomorrow	2	20	3.46
ASX	Tomorrow	106.8	100	3.34
CBA	Tomorrow	250	100	1.54
GQG	Tomorrow	3.54	0	4.03
DHG	Thu	4	100	2.09
JBH	Thu	183	100	3.53
MAM	Thu	1.8	100	6.23
AOV	Fri	22	100	3.78