ABN 95 092 989 083

# **Market Opener**

Wednesday 1 November 2017

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## **Markets**

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	5912	24	0.4
NZX 50	8119	-27	-0.3
DJIA Futures	23332	7	0.0
S&P 500 Futures	2572	-1	0.0
NASDAQ Futures	6250	0	0.0

## **Local Markets Commentary**

The Australian market commences a new month's trade mid-week, ahead of new data out of China, and on mixed overnight commodities and mostly lacklustre equities leads.

Key domestic economic figures will also continue, ahead of the Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) policy meeting Tuesday next week.

Post-US trade, a deadly vehicle attack off-road in Manhattan has raised international security tensions.

Reports have emerged also, of significant deaths and a possible radioactive leak at a nuclear base in North Korea early last month.

Regionally today, China's October manufacturing PMI, as calculated by Caixin, is expected 12.45pm

In overnight commodities trade, US gold futures turned lower. Oil extended recent gains. Iron ore (China port, 62% Fe) continued lower. LME copper swung lower, but **nickel** surged.

The \$A fell to ~US76.55c after slipping below ~US76.70c yesterday evening.

today, AiG publishes its October manufacturing activity index pre-trade.

October residential property prices are also due from CoreLogic this morning.

RBA-calculated commodity prices are expected posttrade.

#### **Overseas Markets**

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	23377	29	0.1
S&P 500	2575	2	0.1
NASDAQ	6728	29	0.4
FTSE 100	7493	5	0.1
DAX 30	13230	Public	Holiday
Shanghai Comp	3393	3	0.1

#### **Overseas Markets Commentary**

Major European and US equities markets largely opened higher overnight, but mostly failed to achieve convincing gains amid mixed earnings and data, ahead of central bank decisions in the US tonight and UK tomorrow night. Equities markets in Germany did not trade due to a public holiday.

An initial estimate of October eurozone CPI placed annual growth at 1.4%, a little below expectations.

September quarter GDP rose 0.6% for the three months and 2.5% year-on-year, slightly higher than anticipated, again in a preliminary reading.

China - Caixin manufacturing PMI 12.45pm AEDST

\* IT services listing 11am AEDST - RD1 \*

## Today's Stock Watch

## CSR Ltd (CSR)

4% higher, \$A118.7M full-year NPAT. 7% higher, \$A1.3B revenue. 13.5c, 50%-franked interim dividend. \$2.09 NTA. 23.4c EPS. \$20.5M cash and equivalents.

## CIMIC Group (CIM)

CIM has appointed deputy CEO Michael Wright as CEO and MD, effective 1 December, replacing Adolfo Valderas who is moving to a new role with CIM parent ACS Group.

Dragados (also owned by ACS) CEO Ignacio Segura has been appointed COO and deputy CEO.

For the nine months to 30 September, CIM revenue grew 26% year-on-year, to \$9.6B.

September quarter profit grew 20% to \$178.2M, and revenue by 21.9% to \$3.3B. \$35.7B worth of work in hand as at 30 September, up \$1.7B. Presentation lodged.

## Myer Holdings (MYR)

2.8% lower, \$699M September quarter sales. Sales per square metre rose 3.6%. Online sales grew 67.8% year-on-year. Investor day today. Strategy update, including targets, lodged. Presentations will be webcast.

## Skycity Entertainment Group (SKC)

\$US150M private US notes placement to be conducted in two tranches. Details lodged this morning.

## Speedcast International (SDA)

Satellite communications supply contract secured with the Australian Government, specifically for the Mawson, Casey and Davis research stations and Macquarie Island, Antarctica.

## Smart Parking (SPZ) / Telstra Corporation (TLS)

TLS has agreed rates and conditions under a special purchase order with SPZ, having named SPZ as TLS's preferred supplier of parking sensors and information.

## AuMake International (AU8)

Acquiring 50% of Health Essence. Holds an option to purchase the balance. Details lodged this morning.

## Registry Direct (\* RD1)

Cloud-based shareholder and securities management software specialist scheduled to list 11am AEDST following a \$2M IPO at 20c per share. 32M shares. 10.156M listed options.

#### Resources

### Alacer Gold Corporation (AQG)

Produced 39,312oz of gold during the September quarter. Details lodged this morning. Webcast teleconference was scheduled to commence 8am AEDST.

#### Energy

#### Oil Search (OSH)

Paying \$US40M for Alaska North Slope oil assets. Assuming operatorship in June 2018. Holding an option to double its interest (from 25.5% and 37.5%) in the assets for \$US460M. Vendors are Armstrong Energy and GMT Exploration Company. OSH and Armstrong plan to jointly explore and develop other regional opportunities.



September unemployment slipped 0.1% to 8.9%.

Meanwhile, GfK's  ${f UK}$  consumer confidence index declined by one to -10.

In the **US**, September quarter employment costs were reported 0.7% higher.

ISM's Chicago PMI rose one point to 66.2, a more than 6.5-year peak.

The Conference Board's 125.9 reading for consumer confidence represented an almost seven-year high.

**Tonight** in the US, the Federal Reserve announces outcomes from its policy meeting, with hints regarding a possible rate rise by year's end and definitive plans regarding assets keenly awaited.

Data releases due tonight include a private sector employment report, ISM's October manufacturing PMI, September construction spending, Markit's final October PMI readings and weekly mortgage applications.

Allergan, Facebook, Honda Motor, Kraft Heinz, Office Depot, Prudential, Qualcomm, Tesla and Yamaha are among companies scheduled to report earnings today or tonight.

In overnight corporate news, **Qualcomm** dropped 7% on reports it may lose significant custom from Apple.

**Kellogg** and **Mondelez International** (reported late-Monday) benefited from well-received respective sales and profits, in general boosting consumer staples stocks.

**BP** doubled profits from a year ago and revealed plans to resume buy-backs.

Automation software and manufacturing controls specialist **Rockwell Automation** knocked back an unsolicited \$US27.6B offer from **Emerson Electric**.

Earlier, **Airbus** admitted it was reviewing company reports in relation to US arms trade laws, due to uncovered 'inaccuracies'.

#### **Commodities**

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1271	oz	-7	-0.6
Silver (NY) (Sep)	16.7	oz	-0.1	-0.8
Gold (LON)	1273	ΟZ	6	0.5
Platinum	917	ΟZ	0	0.0
WTI Crude (Nov)	54.4	bbl	0.2	0.4
<b>Brent Crude (Nov)</b>	61.4	bbl	0.5	0.8
Iron Ore (CHN port 62%)	58.5	t	-0.3	-0.4
Copper	6839	t	-28	-0.4
Nickel	12295	t	620	5.3
Aluminium	2160	t	-3	-0.1
Lead	2414	t	4	0.2
Zinc	3265	t	56	1.8
Tin	19375	t	-50	-0.3
CBT Wheat (Dec)	4.19	bshl	-0.06	-1.5

## **Commodities Commentary**

**Oil** – US government agency the EIA estimated domestic crude production had eased to 9.203MMbbl/d during August, against a daily 9.234MMbbl in July.

EIA US weekly petroleum inventories are due tonight.

**Gold** – the \$US chopped some overnight. Swings are anticipated ahead of and/or following the Federal Reserve's post-policy meeting statement, due early tomorrow AEDST. In addition, speculation regarding the next Fed chair, possibly to be

## **Pre-Open Announcements**

## Telstra Corporation (\* TLS)

Technology, innovation and strategy head Stephen Elop is guest speaker at an AmCham event in Sydney today.

TLS is hosting an investor day tomorrow.

## WorleyParsons Ltd (WOR)

Anne Templeman-Jones has been confirmed as a WOR non-executive director, effective today. Ms Templeman-Jonew is also a director of GUD Holdings (ASX: GUD), HT&E (ASX: HT1) and Cuscal.

## Link Administration Holdings (LNK)

Today's AGM speeches lodged.

## The GO2 People (\* GO2)

Labour hire and recruitment services specialist completed its ASX listing yesterday following a \$10M IPO at 20c per share. Opened at 20c and slipped to 19c where it settled. 251,900 shares were traded across 18 transactions. 62.5M shares on issue.

#### Resources

## Perseus Mining (\* PRU)

Planning to release Yaouré gold project DFS results  $\sim 8.30$ am AEDST Friday, and to host a teleconference commencing 10am AEDST.

Access details lodged post-trade yesterday.

## Volt Resources (\* VRC)

\$2.3M better off following an oversubscribed SPP at 2.1c per share. Funds will advance VRC's Bunyu graphite project, Tanzania.

VRC has traded at 2.5c - 2.7c for the week to date.

## Finders Resources (\* FND)

Facility problems will continue to adversely impact production through to the end of the year. Details lodged post-trade yesterday.

### Rift Valley Resources (RVY)

In advanced negotiations to sell the company's Tanzania gold projects.

RVY is proposing to focus on three projects in Angola.

## **Consolidated Zinc (CZL)**

Management changes are afoot as CZL moves closer to production mode.

MD Will Dix is stepping down but continuing with CZL during a transition period through to the end of 2017.

Executive director Andrew Richards will be interim MD.

### CuDeco Ltd (CDU)

Resources update, plus quarterly and annual reports lodged post-trade yesterday.

## **Energy**

## AssetOwl Ltd (\* AU8)

Conditional binding terms sheet secured for the sale of the Northern Territory Rum Jungle uranium project to Weld Range Metals.

### Karoon Gas Australia (KAR)

\$352M cash as at 30 September. September quarter report lodged post-trade yesterday.

## **Helios Energy (HE8)**

Tony Brennan has resigned as an HE8 director.



announced overnight Thursday, could affect currency trade.

**Base metals** – **China**'s official October PMIs (manufacturing down 0.8 to 51.6; services 1.1 lower at 55.4) and **Japan**'s October central bank policy decision (status quo), published yesterday, combined with end-of month trade, inventories, and LME week talk (including regarding electric car metals demand), to produce mixed overnight trade. The \$US also vacillated and US and UK central bank decisions were in mind for tonight and tomorrow night.

## **Exchange Rates**

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD - USD	0.7654	-0.0001	-0.02
EUR – USD	1.1649	0.0005	0.04

## **Australian Data Today**

AiG	PMI	Oct
CLogic	Residential property prices	Oct
RBA	Commodity price index	Oct

## **US Data Tonight**

ADP employment	Oct
ISM manufacturing	Oct
Construction spending	Sep
Markit PMIs	Oct
Vehicle sales	Oct
MBA mortgage applications	27 Oct

### Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

China	Caixin manufacturing PMI	Oct
Japan	PMI manufacturing (final)	Oct
Japan	Vehicle sales	Oct
UK	Manufacturing PMI	Oct
UK	BRC shop price index	Sep
Euro zone	PMIs (final)	Oct

## **Need More Information?**

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## Senex Energy (SXY)

October drilling report lodged this morning.

## **Trading Halts**

Company	Code	Resuming
Cadence Capital	CDM	1 Nov
Estrella Resources	ESR	1 Nov
Impact Minerals	IPT	1 Nov
Indo Mines	IDO	1 Nov
ServTech Global Holdings	SVT	1 Nov
Battery Minerals	BAT	2 Nov
Crusader Resources	CAS	2 Nov
Emeco Holdings	EHL	2 Nov
Gooroo Ventures	G00	2 Nov
Managed Accounts Holdings	MGP	2 Nov
Quest Minerals	QNL	2 Nov
Sun Resources	SUR	2 Nov
Aura Energy	AEE	3 Nov

## **Suspensions** (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Arrowhead Resources	AR1	9 Oct
Aspire Mining	AKM	1 Nov
Caeneus Minerals	CAD	30 Oct
Haoma Mining	HAO	18 Oct
Mustang Resources	MUS	30 Oct
Neurotech International	NTI	13 Oct
SIV Asset Management	SAM	10 Oct
Soon Mining	SMG	23 Oct
Stargroup Ltd	STL	19 Oct
Wavenet International	WAL	30 Oct
Wolf Petroleum	WOF	30 Oct
XPD Soccer Gear Group	XPD	11 Oct

### **Ex-Dividends**

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Fr (%)	Yield (%)
D20	Today	2.3	75	2.17
FNP	Today	2.25	100	0.91
BOQ	Tomorrow	46	100	5.69
BPS	Fri	2.25	100	5.77
BIS	Mon	2.5	100	3.16
CBC	Mon	1.55	100	2.73
CCP	Mon	31	100	2.89
MQG	Mon	205	45	4.93
OGC	Mon	0.98	0	0.55
BKW	Tue	34	100	3.59
RMD	Tue	3.21	0	1.15

## **Reports & Events**

(selected scheduled)

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When	Company	Report/Event
Today	AMC	AGM
	CNU	AGM
	CSR	Full-year
	LNK	AGM
	MYR	Investor day
	NHF	AGM



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Tomorrow	BLD	AGM
	CCP	AGM
	DOW	AGM
	FXJ	AGM
	NAB	Full-year
	PPT	AGM
	SWM	AGM
	TLS	Investor day
Fri	GMA	Sep Q
	HIL	AGM
Mon (Nov7)	ORI	Full-year
	WBC	Full-year
Wed (Nov9)	ACX	AGM
	ALU	AGM
	BTT	Full-year
	CBA	Trading update
	DMP	AGM
	FMG	AGM
	MGX	AGM
	SGM	AGM
	VAH	AGM