

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	5731	19	0.3
NZX 50	7935	6	0.1
DJIA Futures	22506	-1	0.0
S&P 500 Futures	2527	0	0.0
NASDAQ Futures	5983	3	0.1

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences today's trade ahead of a new Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) policy statement and on positive overnight international equities leads.

Commodities trade proved less supportive. US gold futures fell. Oil turned and dropped. LME copper turned to settle slightly higher.

The **\$A** recovered some after falling below ~US78.05c early yesterday evening.

Locally today, the **RBA** convenes a policy meeting, from which outcomes will be announced **2.30pm** AEST.

Prior to this, September job advertisements, plus August building approvals and new home sales will be in hand.

Pre-trade, a weekly consumer sentiment reading is due.

Post-trade, the RBA is due to publish September commodity prices.

China's markets remain closed for the remainder of the week for Autumn festival holidays.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	22558	153	0.7
S&P 500	2529	10	0.4
NASDAQ	6517	21	0.3
FTSE 100	7439	66	0.9
DAX 30	12903	74	0.6
Shanghai Comp	3349	Autumn Holidays	

Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European and US equities markets extended Friday's gains, buoyed by positive domestic economic indicators and encouraging data out of China over the weekend.

A yet lower euro against the \$US added support for European exporters, while new records for the NASDAQ exchange and S&P500 and DJIA indices appeared to inject further US trade enthusiasm.

US data releases exceeded expectations, the ISM's September manufacturing index rising two points to a robust 60.8 and Markit's final September manufacturing PMI coming in at 53.1, 0.3 higher than for August.

Various sub-component gains were attributed to hurricane impacts.

August construction spending rose 0.5% for the month, after falling in both June and July. The total spend also proved 2.5% greater than a year ago.

RBA – policy meeting outcomes 2.30pm AEST

Today's Stock Watch

Pacific Current Group (PAC)

Selling its 30% holding in Investors Mutual to Natixis Global Asset Management for \$A120M cash.

Capital management update promised at the 1 November AGM. Teleconference scheduled for 3.30pm AEDST today. Access details lodged this morning.

Vocus Group (VOC)

Executive VOC director and M2 Group founder Vaughan Bowen has been appointed non-executive VOC chairman.

Mr Bowen takes over from David Spence who previously announced his intention to retire from the VOC chairmanship at the company's AGM.

Former Telstra (ASX: TLS) chairman and Optus founding CEO Robert Mansfield AO has been appointed deputy chair, succeeding Craig Farrow who will remain a VOC non-executive director.

Novonix Ltd (NVX)

NVX intends to appoint Andrew N Liveris AO as a non-executive director.

Mr Liveris is currently executive chair of DowDuPont and The Dow Chemical Company CEO.

In addition, NVX is planning to issue \$A500,000 worth of NVX shares to Mr Liveris in a private placement, pending shareholder approval at the NVX AGM.

Ansell Ltd (ANN)

ANN has closed the sale of its Blowtex condom business in Brazil, completing the sale of the company's entire sexual wellness division to Humanwell Healthcare and CITIC Capital.

iSelect Ltd (ISU)

ISU is outlaying \$US4.15M to boost its holding in Kuala Lumpur-headquartered iMoney from 23.8% to 51.5%.

ISU is hosting a teleconference from 9.30am AEDST. Access details lodged this morning.

The A2M Milk Company (A2M) / Synlait Milk (SM1)

Deutsche Bank has cancelled an A2M buy recommendation, in favour of hold advice, and has placed a 'sell' on SM1, replacing a hold recommendation.

Nick Scali (NCK)

Trading ex-dividend (20c) today. Please see p3 for a detailed list.

Resources

AVZ Minerals (AVZ)

MoU secured with Shanghai Greatpower Industry Co. Greatpower is interested in Manono lithium project off-take and an AVZ equity holding. Manono is located with the DR of Congo where Greatpower also owns assets.

Novo Lito (NLI) / Pilbara Minerals (PLS)

NLI has realised \$4.8M gross from selling the PLS shares issued as part of the Lynas Find project sale in December last year. The sell price averaged 63.2c, representing a 59.6% appreciation of the issue price. PLS added 16% Friday, settling at 63.5c, and gained a further 3.9% yesterday.

Tonight in the US, ISM's New York business activity index is due, followed by September vehicle sales.

Earlier in the **euro zone**, the final September manufacturing PMI was reported at 58.1, representing a 0.7-point gain for the month.

The **UK's** equivalent reading fell 0.8 to a nonetheless strong 55.9.

In overnight corporate news, General Motors espoused plans to produce two additional electric vehicles for the US market within 18 months and to add 20 internationally within six years.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1276	oz	-9	-0.7
Silver (NY) (Sep)	16.6	oz	-0.1	-0.5
Gold (LON)	1274	oz	-0.9	-0.7
Platinum	911	oz	1	0.1
WTI Crude (Nov)	50.6	bbl	-1.1	-2.1
Brent Crude (Nov)	56.1	bbl	-0.7	-1.2
Iron Ore (CHN port 62%)	62.1	t		
Copper	6493	t	12	0.2
Nickel	10390	t	-110	-1.1
Aluminium	2101	t	-1	-0.1
Lead	2518	t	33	1.3
Zinc	3236	t	74	2.3
Tin	20675	t	0	0.0
CBT Wheat (Dec)	4.45	bshl	-0.03	-0.8

Commodities Commentary

Oil – another report, this one from the International Energy Agency (IEA), fuelled increased production fears.

The IEA forecast OECD oil stocks to rise in 2018.

Friday, two reports had estimated recent US and OPEC production higher.

Gold – traded at six-week lows overnight as the \$US index was pushed to six-week peaks.

Significant data releases, and a swag of central bank reports and public speeches by central bank officials, are expected to provide trade momentum through the week.

Base metals – caution appeared to largely prevail at the commencement of a new quarter's trade, with Chinese markets closed for public holidays this week.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7829	0.0003	0.03
EUR – USD	1.1736	0.0003	0.02

Australian Data Today

ANZ/RyMgn	Consumer sentiment	1 Oct
ABS	Building approvals	Aug
ANZ	Job advertisements	Sep
HIA	New home sales	Aug
RBA	Commodity index	Sep

US Data Tonight

ISM New York	Sep
Vehicle sales	Sep

Pre-Open Announcements

Buddy Platform (BUD)

Celebrating a performance milestone, namely 500,000 new devices interacting with a Buddy application each week for three consecutive weeks.

BUD says this is the second milestone achieved of three performance milestones and that it has been independently verified.

Additional detail lodged post-trade yesterday.

Weebit Nano (* WBT)

The WBT board has appointed former EDAcon Partners CEO Coby Nanoch as WBT MD and CEO, to take over from Yossi Keret. The appointment has been made effective as at 1 October (this past Sunday).

Mr Keret remains with WBT as a non-executive director and executive chairman David Perlmutter resumes his previous role as WBT's non-executive chair.

Resources

Finders Resources (* FND)

Indonesia Wetar copper project Lerokis area drilling has returned high-grade copper within an area not contained within current modelling. Assays lodged this morning.

European Metals (* EMH)

MoU secured with the Czech Government covering the proposed development of the Cinovec lithium-tin project.

Valor Resources (VAL)

Peru Berenguela copper-silver project drilling has returned high-grade copper plus significant width, high-grade silver intersections. Details lodged this morning.

Anticipating an updated resource 'soon'.

European Cobalt (EUC)

A newly granted licence has extended EUC's Slovakia Dobsina cobalt-nickel-copper-silver project's strike length beyond 26km.

American Pacific Borate & Lithium (ABR)

Drilling within the first two of 14 planned holes in an historic colemanite resource in the Fort Cady, California project has indicated multiple zones of boron and lithium.

Three drill rigs operational and a fourth expected on site within a week.

Initial assays anticipated before month's end.

Australian Potash (APC)

WA Lake Wells potash project pilot solar evaporation pond system commissioned with the first brine from production bores.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Force Commodities	4CE	3 Oct
Hazer Group	HZR	3 Oct
Ardiden Ltd	ADV	4 Oct
Argosy Minerals	AGY	4 Oct
Birimian Ltd	BGS	4 Oct
Moreton Resources	MRV	4 Oct
Winmar Resources	WFE	4 Oct

**Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight**

Japan	Consumer confidence (ASX-close)	Sep
UK	BoE policy meeting minutes	Sep
UK	Construction PMI	Sep
Euro zone	PPI	Aug

Need More Information?

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Suspensions *(selected)*

Company	Code	Since
Brierty Ltd	BYL	8 Sep
Cudoco Ltd	CDU	28 Sep
East Energy Resources	EER	2 Oct
Eve Investments	EVE	27 Sep
iCandy Interactive	ICI	25 Sep
Intra Energy Corporation	IEC	28 Sep
Intrepid Mines	IAU	18 Sep
Lantern Hotel Group	LTN	2 Oct
Manalto Ltd	MTL	18 Sep
Silver Mines	SVL	28 Sep
SMS Management & Technology	SMX	8 Sep
Veriluma Ltd	VRI	20 Sep

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Fr (%)	Yield (%)
ASL	Today	2	100	2.05
CAM	Today	1.25	100	5.57
CTN	Today	3.9	50	6.80
MYO	Today	5.75	0	3.35
NCK	Today	20	100	5.23
APZ	Tomorrow	5	0	4.26
CLH	Tomorrow	3.9	100	5.82
RDH	Tomorrow	2	100	1.16
WMK	Tomorrow	2.5	100	5.88
AIA	Thu	9.66	0	3.19
ARB	Thu	18	100	1.96
AWN	Thu	0.3	0	1.36
DNA	Thu	0.5	0	1.18
ICS	Thu	4	0	3.51
MNY	Thu	3.15	100	3.73
SGM	Thu	30	66.7	2.95
ALR	Fri	1	100	4.27
AUB	Fri	29.5	100	3.16
FSF	Fri	15.61	0	5.49
GVF	Fri	3.15	50	5.48
SWL	Fri	44.5	100	0.00