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Market Opener

Tuesday, 10 March 2020

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Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	5432	-284	-5.0
NZX 50	10585	-507	-4.6
DJIA Futures	23755	-122	-0.5
S&P 500 Futures	2736	-12	-0.2
NASDAQ Futures	7940	-12	-0.2

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences today's trade with additional material data due from China early-afternoon, and several large-cap domestic stocks trading ex-dividend, following a further overnight oil price slide and plunges across major international equities markets.

Reports of Covid-19 spread continued, amid further restrictions and economic-impact statements from various governments.

China is expected to report February **CPI** and **producer prices 12.30pm** AEDT.

A foreign direct investment update is anticipated any time from today.

Locally today, the monthly NAB **business** survey report, including **conditions and expectations**, is scheduled for release **11.30am** AFDT.

A weekly **consumer sentiment** reading is due pre-trade.

Stocks trading **ex-dividend** include: **EQT**, **LOV**, **NWS**, **PRN**, **RWC** and SHL. *Please see pp3-4 for a detailed list*.

In overnight commodities trade, oil plummeted.

US gold futures (CME April) settled slightly higher.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) continued to decline, falling below \$US88.10/t.

LME (3mth evening) copper fell.

The **\$A** appreciated to ~US65.90c after trading below US65.50c early yesterday evening, and has surpassed US66.05c this morning.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	23851	-2014	-7.8
S&P 500	2747	-226	-7.6
NASDAQ	7951	-625	-7.3
FTSE 100	5966	-497	-7.7
DAX 30	10625	-917	-7.9
Shanghai Comp	2943	-91	-3.0

Overseas Markets Commentary

Major European and US equities markets dived on opening overnight, following oil price plunges on the pending 31 March end to OPEC+ production curbs, disappointing data releases from over

China – February CPI and PPI – 12.30pm AEDT

Today's Stock Watch

Qantas Airways (QAN)

Reducing international services further, mostly by cutting frequency and using smaller aircraft on select routes.

In addition, QAN is cancelling a \$150M off-market buy-back, scrapping FY20 management bonuses, paying no fees to the chairman, nor salary to the CEO, and reducing other director fees and executive management salary payments by 30%.

Further, QAN is freezing consultancy work and non-essential recruitment, and asking employees to take leave (paid or unpaid) in association with reduced flights.

Revising expected FY 20 fuel costs lower, to \$3.74B, excluding capacity cuts.

Comprehensive route change details lodged this morning.

Redbubble Ltd (RBL)

Chair Richard Cawsey is stepping down 20 March, and will be replaced by RBL independent director Anne Ward.

Southern Cross Electrical Engineering (SXE) / CIMIC Group (CIM)

SXE subsidiary Heyday has secured a \$40M electrical services design and construction contract with CIM's CPB Contractors, for wok on the Sydney Metro Pitt Street Station.

Resources

Silver Lake Resources (SLR)

WA Deflector South West resource initially estimated at 634,000t @ 14.9g/t Au & 0.6% Cu, for 304,000oz of gold and 3600t of copper.

Metals X (MLX)

Nifty underground mine contained sulphide copper has grown 10%, boosting overall Nifty sulphide resources to 39.66Mt @ 1.51% Cu, for 598,500t of copper.

Tietto Minerals (TIE)

Côte d'Ivoire Abujar gold project Abujar-Gludehi South deposit extensional drilling has returned high-grade intersections from shallow depths.

Assays lodged this morning.

Diamond drilling continues across four project targets.

AusQuest Ltd (AQD) / South32 Ltd (S32)

AQD and S32 have extended a strategic exploration alliance by two years, with AQD set to receive an administration fee equivalent to 15% of expenditure across targeted projects.



the weekend, and an increased number of Covid-19 – related restrictions across several nations.

US indices fell sufficiently low early to spark a regulatory 15-minute trading halt.

China had reported weak January-February trade figures over the weekend, and is due to reveal producer prices and CPI growth today.

In addition, within an hour of the ASX opening, Japan reported a 7.1% year-on-year drop in December quarter GDP, and 1.8% decline for the three months.

Among overnight data releases, **Germany** reported a €13.9B trade surplus as at 31 January, against €15.2B at the end of December 2019.

Exports came in flat after increasing by 0.2% in December.

Imports rose 0.5% following a 0.3% December decline.

The nation's January industrial production cheered some, improving 3% after dropping 2.2% in December.

For the **euro zone** as a whole, the Sentix investor confidence index slid to -17.1 from 5.2.

Tonight in the **US**, a small business optimism index is due.

Market-watchers will also again be watching Democratic presidential candidate voting, this time in Michigan.

Elsewhere, the **euro zone** reports a final December quarter **GDP** reading.

The **UK** conducts a 10-year bond auction, with yields last at 0.512%. In overnight corporate news, insurance broker **Aon** revealed it would outlay \$US30B to purchase competitor **Willis Towers Watson** for.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Apr)	1675.7	OZ	3.30	0.2
Silver (NY) (May)	17.054	OZ	-0.209	-1.2
Gold (LON) (6 Mar)	1684	OZ		
Platinum	863	OZ	-40	-4.6
WTI Crude (Apr)	31.13	bbl	-10.15	-24.6
Brent Crude (May)	34.36	bbl	-10.91	-24.1
Iron Ore (NYMEX,CHN,62%)	88.07	t	-1.11	-1.3
Copper (LME,3mth,PM)	5645	t		
Nickel	12650	t		
Aluminium	1687	t		
Lead	1800	t		
Zinc	1979	t		
Tin	16700	t		

Commodities Commentary

Oil – the International Energy Agency's (IEA) Oil 2020 report, released overnight, included a prediction of a 90,000bbl/d fall in 2020 global demand to 99.9MMbbl/d.

This new daily demand forecast represented an ~1MMbbl/d downward revision, and was attributed to Covid-19 impacts.

In the near-term, demand could fall by up to 730,000bbl/d, the IEA added.

Pre-Open Announcements

Wellard Ltd (* WLD)

Intending to defend a shareholder class action initiated in the Federal Court.

Details lodged this morning.

Tyro Payments (* TYR)

Confirming the company 'has operational plans in place to maintain continuity of payment and banking services' to customers.

January transaction values rose 27% year-on-year, and February transaction values grew 30% (with one additional day this year).

March-to-date transaction values are 18% higher, but on a same day-to-same day basis, are up 26%.

TYR forfeited 8.4% Friday last week, and ~16.1% yesterday, settling at \$2.92.

Resources

De Grey Mining (DEG)

Heralding Hemi gold project Brolga zone step out drilling results, deemed to have significantly extended known mineralisation.

DEG says mineralisation remains open in all directions.

Energy

Renergen Ltd (RLT)

Virginia gas project update lodged this morning. Expecting to update reserves and resources by 30 June.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Pensana Rare Earths	PM8	10 Mar
Skin Elements	SKN	10 Mar
Anglo Australian Resources	AAR	11 Mar
Empire Resources	ERL	11 Mar
Global Oil & Gas	GLV	11 Mar
NeuroScientific Biopharmaceuticals	NSB	11 Mar
Oliver's Real Food	OLI	11 Mar
Rent.com.au Ltd	RNT	11 Mar
ResApp Health	RAP	11 Mar
Sayona Mining	SYA	11 Mar
Silver City Minerals	SCI	11 Mar
West African Resources	WAF	11 Mar

Suspensions (select)

Company	Code	Since
Collection House	CLH	18 Feb
Consolidated Tin Mines	CSD	2 Mar



For its part, Goldman Sachs called a 150,000bbl/d international demand growth drop for 2020.

Early price falls (as much as ~30%) triggered further selling, pushing both Brent crude and WTI to lose as much in a day percentage-wise as at the commencement of the 'US Gulf War' in 1991

Brent crude traded as low as \$US31.02/bbl intra-session, and WTI at \$US27.34/bbl.

Trade figures out of China over the weekend, and a GDP drop reported yesterday by Japan, added to new price forecast and international debt level speculation, and a batch of cost-cutting announcements from producers.

Meanwhile, several OPEC+ members signalled a desire for further discussions.

Gold – US futures traded as high as \$US1704.3/oz overnight as 10-year and 30-year US government bond yields fell further, and major international equities markets tumbled.

Prices turned however, this again attributed by some to investors seeking to cover margin calls and boost cash positions.

Base metals – China's February trade figures, reported Saturday, coupled with Japan's December quarter GDP, released yesterday, bruised overnight trade sentiment, already hurt by oil market angst and additional Covid-19 – related restrictions imposed by an increasing number of governments which are reporting a growth in Covid-19 diagnoses.

Japan's GDP fell 1.8% for the three months, and came in 7.1% lower than for the December quarter 2018.

Copper traded as low as \$US5433/t intra-session, and aluminium at \$US1644/t.

In industry news, Vale reported additional erosion of the Gongo Soco *iron ore* mine embankment, Brazil.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.6607	0.0020	0.31
EUR – USD	1.1452	0.0000	0.00

Australian Data Today

ANZ/RoyMorgan NAB	Consumer sentiment Business conditions, outlook	8 Mar Feb
	US Data Tonight	

Overseas Data Today & Tonight

NFIB small business optimism

China	СРІ	Feb
China	PPI	Feb
China	Foreign direct investment	Feb
Japan Machine tool orders		Feb
Euro zone	GDP (final)	Dec Q

Decmil Group	DCG	27 Feb
HHY Fund	HHY	27 Feb
Kalium Lakes	KLL	24 Feb
LionHub Group	LHB	24 Feb
Moreton Resources	MRV	20 Feb
Netlinkz Ltd	NET	5 Mar
Real Estate Investar Group	REV	3 Mar

Ex-Dividends

EX-Dividends				
Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
EQT	Today	47	100	3.31
LOV	Today	15	100	4.15
NWS	Today	10.36	0	1.25
NWSLV	Today	10.36	0	1.22
PRN	Today	3.5	100	6.64
PSI	Today	3.5	100	2.94
RDH	Today	2	100	3.20
RWC	Today	4.5	20	1.73
SHL	Today	34	30	1.72
SRG	Today	0.5	100	5.08
ARA	Tomorrow	0.7	70	1.72
BGA	Tomorrow	5	100	2.66
BWX	Tomorrow	1.3	100	0.83
BXB	Tomorrow	13.38	30	1.37
CSL	Tomorrow	141.6	0	0.90
FRI	Tomorrow	2	100	3.68
ICS	Tomorrow	4.5	0	3.72
IGL	Tomorrow	8.6	100	10.35
KME	Tomorrow	1.5	100	2.84
OZL	Tomorrow	15	100	2.89
REG	Tomorrow	4.02	50	12.43
AIZ	Thu	10.53	0	11.14
CGC	Thu	2	100	2.90
DWS	Thu	3	100	8.94
EBO	Thu	31.78	95.77	2.61
GNG	Thu	2	0	7.55
GTN	Thu	1.4	70	8.24
LBL	Thu	0.5	100	2.38
MCY	Thu	6.12	0	3.18
MHJ	Thu	1.5	0	8.33
NTD	Thu	1.25	100	9.43
SHJ	Thu	1.5	0	3.13
SPK	Thu	11.54	0	4.43
TGG	Thu	2	100	5.74
VGL	Thu	1.71	0	0.35
VTH	Thu	3.25	0	7.96
WSA	Thu	1	100	0.98
BLD	Fri	9.5	50	3.51
D20	Fri	2.8	100	3.87
GRR	Fri	1	100	10.00

Feb



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HUB	Fri	3.5	0	0.63
ING	Fri	7.3	100	5.82
TGR	Fri	9	25	5.07
YAL	Fri	21.21	0	3.89