

# Market Opener

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Perth, Sydney ABN 95 092 989 083 | AFSL 247 100 Participant of ASX, Chi-X Australia, SSX & NSX

Markets			
SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	6506	-19	-0.3
NZX 50	12634	28	0.2
DJIA Futures	29391	-329	-1.1
S&P 500 Futures	3565	-42	-1.2
NASDAQ Futures	11897	-78	-0.7

#### **Local Markets Commentary**

The Australian market opens today's trade with several highprofile domestic stocks hosting AGMs and providing updates, ahead of key domestic data late morning, following another fall in overnight US equities sentiment.

**Locally** today, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is due to release **October** national **employment** statistics **11.30am** AEDT.

The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) publishes a monthly foreign exchange transactions and official reserves assets report at the same time.

In addition today, **IAP** and **WAM** trade **ex-dividend**. *Please see p3 for a detailed list.* 

Regionally, Japan's markets are heading towards a Monday public holiday long weekend.

In overnight commodities trade, both Brent and WTI crude gained.

US gold futures (Dec) picked up the pace of Tuesday's turn lower.

LME **copper** settled essentially flat. **Nickel** was pushed yet lower, and **aluminium** higher.

The **\$A** fell to ~US73.00c after trading at ~US73.20c early yesterday evening.

#### **Overseas Markets**

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	29438	-345	-1.2
S&P 500	3568	-42	-1.2
NASDAQ	11802	-98	-0.8
FTSE 100	6385	20	0.3
DAX 30	13202	68	0.5
Shanghai Comp	3347	7	0.2

#### **Overseas Markets Commentary**

Sentiment across second-half major European equities markets trade and early US markets trade was supported overnight by additional encouraging Covid-19 diagnostic testing and vaccine development news.

US Covid-19 diagnoses and death tallies ultimately appeared to douse risk appetite however, with additional partial shutdowns announced.

US election challenges and State outcome delays also continued.

Overnight, Pfizer released additional phase three trial results for

Thursday, 19 November 2020

*Please see disclaimer at end of this document* 

Australia – October employment statistics – 11.30am AEDT

\* Online lending listing – 11am AEDT – HMY \*

\* Mineral exploration listing – midday AEDT – MHK \*

## **Today's Stock Watch**

## Flexigroup Ltd (FXL)

FXL has partnered with Mastercard to boost the application and distribution of FXL's BNPL platform bundll.

An initial five-year agreement has been secured.

Anticipating 1H FY21 cash NPAT growth beyond 1H FY20's \$34.5M. Today's AGM materials also lodged pre-trade.

## Australian Agricultural Co (AAC)

\$1.7M interim net loss, following a \$14.1M loss a year ago. \$144.0M cattle and meat sales, against \$182.8M.

## **Crown Resorts (CWN)**

The New South Wales Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority has deferred, until February 2021, consideration of applications required for Crown Sydney gaming operations to commence.

Crown Sydney was to commence operations next month, but CWN says it will now focus on the opening of non-gaming operations.

## Resources

## **BlueScope Steel (BSL)**

Anticipating \$475M 1H FY21 underlying EBIT, representing an 80% increase on 2H FY20. Breakdown commentary lodged this morning, ahead of today's AGM.

## Estrella Resources (ESR)

Resuming from a trading halt heralding a WA Carr Boyd nickelcopper sulphide find. ESR last traded at 12c.

## Metal Hawk (\* MHK) / Western Areas (WSA)

Mineral explorer MHK is scheduled to list on the ASX **midday** AEDT following a \$5.5M IPO at 20c per share.

36.06M quoted securities. Brett Lambert non-executive chair. WSA holds 6.61% and a right to earn 75% of three MHK projects. WSA hosts its AGM today.

## Energy

## Oil Search (OSH)

Alaska North Slope 2C resources have been boosted from 728MMbbl to 968MMbbl, 494MMbbl net attributable to OSH. OSH holds a 51% working interest in the Pikka field.

Strategy update and investor briefing presentation also lodged pre-trade.

A webcast teleconference was scheduled for 9am AEDT.

the potential Covid-19 vaccine under joint development with BioNTech, figures indicating efficacy in trial participants aged over 65 and for people of different ethnic origins.

Also in the US, private company Lucira Health received FDA approval for emergency use of a Covid-19 test that can be conducted at home.

In addition, talk of definitive progress in **UK** - **European Union** (EU) trade negotiations fuelled plenty of speculation ahead of the commencement of a European Council meeting commencing tonight.

Meanwhile, aspects of the proposed UK-wide internal market bill, one of the sticking points in negotiation, were again rejected in the House of Lords overnight.

Also overnight, **Bank of England** (BoE) chief economist Andy Haldane ventured the recent positive vaccine news would likely spawn an increase in capital spending, supporting economies.

In other overnight developments, a partial US election vote recount was announced for Wisconsin and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court agreed to look at Republican allegations regarding the treatment of mailed votes.

Key Democrat politicians were reported in the meantime, to have requested the recommencement of negotiations towards additional COVD-19 relief funding.

In overnight **data** releases, **UK** October CPI growth came in flat for the month, following 0.4% September growth, and 0.7% higher than for October 2019.

Fruit and vegetable prices supported the annualised result, as did some seasonal clothing price rises.

A final October CPI reading for the **euro zone** confirmed 0.2% growth for the month and 0.3% year-on-year deflation.

New car registrations in the euro zone dropped 7.8% year-on-year during October.

Meanwhile, a 10-year bond auction in Germany produced a - 0.57% yield from -0.51% previously.

In the **US**, October housing starts rose by 4.9%, following a 6.3% September jump, and defying expectations of a new 2.1% rise.

Building permits came in flat after a 4.7% September increase and against forecasts of a new 1.3% climb.

Weekly mortgage applications declined 0.3% following a 0.5% fall the previous week. Average 30-year mortgage rates were calculated at 2.99% from 2.98%.

**Tonight** in the **US**, weekly new unemployment claims, two regional manufacturing indices, October existing home sales and the Conference Board October leading index are due.

Elsewhere, a European Council meeting is expected to deliver new commentary on proposed relations with the UK from 1 January.

Companies listed to report earnings later today and tonight include Intuit, Macy's, Ross Stores, Thyssenkrupp and Weibo.

In overnight corporate news, **Boeing** received US Federal Aviation Administration approval to fly 737 Max craft again, pending software and wiring modifications and subsequent pilot training.

US retailer **Target Co** reported quarterly profit and revenue that exceeded expectations.

US home improvement retailer **Lowe's** revealed profit and outlook that appeared to disappoint, despite better-than-expected

## **Pre-Open Announcements**

## Harmoney Corp (\*\* HMY)

Online personal loans provider scheduled to list on the ASX **11am** AEDT, following a \$92.5M IPO at \$3.50 per share. 100.9M quoted shares.

## **Quickstep Holdings (QHL)**

Today's AGM materials lodged pre-trade.

#### GWA Group (GWA)

GWA has secured an extension to a \$227M syndicated banking facility to November 2023.

#### Swift Media (SW1)

SW1 will install its Swift Plus communications and entertainment system in 1986 residential aged care rooms operated by Uniting NSW.ACT.

Uniting has also agreed to use the SW1 *My Family, My Community* app for aged care facilities to communicate remotely with residents' families.

#### AFT Pharmaceuticals (AFP)

\$1.2M interim NPAT, against \$100,000 a year ago. 4% higher, \$48.8M operating revenue.

#### Resources

## RED 5 (\* RED) / Ardea Resources (\* ARL)

RED is planning an up to 80% farm-in to ARL's WA Kalgoorlie nickel project.

Details lodged pre-trade.

In addition, RED has appointed former Energy Resources of Australia (ASX: ERA) CEO and MD Andrea Sutton as an independent non-executive director.

## Cardinal Resources (CDV)

 $\sim$ 28% CDV shareholder Nord Gold has extended the period of its on-market takeover offer for CDV, by seven days, until close-of-trade 7 December.

## **Trading Halts**

Company	Code	Resuming
E2 Metals	E2M	19 Nov
Alicanto Minerals	AQI	20 Nov
Classic Minerals	CLZ	20 Nov
Cromwell Property Group	CMW	20 Nov
Dotz Nano	DTZ	20 Nov
Great Southern Mining	GSN	20 Nov
Hot Chili	HCH	20 Nov
Orthocell Ltd	OCC	20 Nov
Stone Resources	SHK	20 Nov
Blue Star Helium	BNL	23 Nov
VRX Silica	VRX	24 Nov

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2 | Page



#### revenue.

NVIDIA reported record quarterly revenue post-overnight US trade.

Commodities				
COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1873.9	oz	-11.2	-0.6
Silver (NY) (Dec)	24.448	ΟZ	-0.2	-0.8
Gold (LON) (17 Nov)	1889	ΟZ		
Platinum	936	oz	13	1.4
WTI Crude (NYMEX Dec)	41.82	bbl	0.39	0.9
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Jan)	44.34	bbl	0.59	1.4
Iron Ore (NYMEX,CHN,62%) (17 Nov)	122	t	0.8	0.6
Copper (LME,3mth Ind,PM)	7066	t	-2	-0.0
Nickel	15815	t	-124	-0.8
Aluminium	1993	t	16	0.8
Lead	1952	t	11	0.6
Zinc	2731	t	42	1.5
Tin	19045	t	20	0.1

#### **Commodities Commentary**

*Oil* – overnight prices appeared supported by further positive Covid-19 potential vaccine news, supporting ultimate global economic recovery views.

Meanwhile, a report included a prediction that private oil refineries and oil storage operators in China would seek to purchase additional crude in the coming year, to fill an estimated 100MMbbl worth of new storage capacity.

Also overnight, a weekly US petroleum inventories report, published by government agency the EIA, included a 768,000bbl rise in stored crude and 2.61MMbbl increase in petrol stocks.

Net daily crude imports fell by 228,000bbl.

Post-overnight Tuesday settlement, a US industry report had included an estimated 4.17MMbbl rise in crude stocks for last week. Analysts had predicted a 100,000bbl increase.

Gold - early positive equities sentiment appeared to detract from overnight gold interest, even as the \$US continued lower.

Among the forecasters, Goldman Sachs retained gold and silver targets for the next year at \$US2300/oz and \$US30/oz respectively.

Base metals - overnight sentiment appeared mostly influenced by early positive Covid-19 testing and potential vaccine news, followed by qualms concerning diagnoses tallies and new outbreaks. Overnight US data also proved mixed.

Zinc traded at 18-month highs after Vedanta Zinc International revealed mining operations had been suspended at the 250,000tpa Gamsberg, South Africa project following a safety incident.

LME-warehoused zinc stocks have reached ~220,000t from 50,000t early-year, but one party reportedly controls half.

Further, a private stockpile in Spain has also allegedly exacerbated supply to major consumer China.

Meanwhile, China is set to launch a yuan-denominated copper futures contract.

Yesterday, Japan reported a 13.3% year-on-year fall in October

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Suspensions (select)

Company	Code	Since
Emerge Gaming	EM1	30 Oct
Fremont Petroleum Corporation	FPL	3 Nov
New Energy Minerals	NXE	16 Nov
Poseidon Nickel	POS	18 Nov
Resource Generation	RES	26 Oct
Sagasco Ltd	SGC	18 Nov
Suvo Strategic Minerals	SUV	13 Nov
Triple Energy	TNP	28 Oct
Xstate Resources	XST	18 Nov

## **Ex-Dividends**

Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
Today	4.39	0	5.81
Today	7.75	100	3.28
Tomorrow	35	100	0.87
Mon	16.55	0	4.16
Mon	13	100	1.57
Wed	7	100	0.00
Wed	0.81	0	3.88
26 Nov	8.5	100	tbc
27 Nov	1	100	1.44
30 Nov	5.64	0	2.87
30 Nov	1.5	100	1.95
	Today Today Tomorrow Mon Mon Wed Wed 26 Nov 27 Nov 30 Nov	Today 4.39   Today 7.75   Tomorrow 35   Mon 16.55   Mon 13   Wed 7   Wed 0.81   26 Nov 8.5   27 Nov 1   30 Nov 5.64	Today 4.39 0   Today 7.75 100   Tomorrow 35 100   Mon 16.55 0   Mon 13 100   Wed 7 100   Wed 0.81 0   26 Nov 8.5 100   27 Nov 1 100   30 Nov 5.64 0

## **Reports & Events**

(selected; all times AEDT)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	ALU	AGM
	AMA	AGM
	AAC	Interim
	ARF	AGM
	AVN	AGM
	AVZ	AGM
	BSL	AGM
	FZO	AGM
	FXL	AGM
	GMG	AGM
	GOZ	AGM
	IPH	AGM
	LSF	AGM
	MLD	AGM
	MIN	AGM
	MGR	AGM
	NET	AGM
	PNR	AGM

AFSL 247100 3 | Page



imports and 0.2% decline in exports. The nation's trade surplus rose to  $\pm 872.9B$  from  $\pm 687.8B.$ 

Exchange Rates			
CURRENCIES	+/-	%	
AUD – USD	0.7302	0.0001	0.01
EUR – USD	1.1854	0.0001	0.01

#### **Australian Data Today**

ABS	Employment (wages, unemployment rate)	Oct
RBA	Forex transactions; official reserve assets	Oct

#### **US Data Tonight**

Initial jobless claims	14 Nov
Philadelphia Fed manufacturing	Nov
Kansas City Fed manufacturing	Nov
Existing home sales	Oct
Conference Board leading index	Oct

#### **Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight**

UK	CBI industrial trends orders	Nov
Euro zone	Construction output	Sep

#### **Need More Information?**

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		QHL	AGM
		SEK	AGM
		SXY	AGM
		TSO	AGM
		VRT	AGM
		WSA	AGM
		ZNO	AGM
	Tomorrow	AX1	AGM
		CLV	AGM
		CNI	AGM
		CMM	AGM
		JLG	AGM
		KGN	AGM
		LLC	AGM
		LNK	AGM
		ORI	Full year
		PTM	AGM
		SLR	AGM
		SO4	AGM
		SPL	AGM
		TNT	AGM
		WGX	AGM