

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	7925	-144	-1.8
NZX 50	12372	-116	-0.9
DJIA Futures	40416	-98	-0.2
S&P 500 Futures	5464	-17	-0.3
NASDAQ Futures	18931	-92	-0.5

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens Friday trade with additional material domestic data due, and key regional data in hand, following a UK interest rate cut overnight and amid a watch on a reported meeting from later today of officials from Iran, Iraq, Lebanon and Yemen.

US equities markets turned and dropped by 1.2% - 2.3% overnight.

Locally today, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publishes June quarter **producer prices**, June **lending indicators**, including for housing, and June **household spending** at **11.30am AEST**.

Regionally, South Korea has reported July **inflation** grew by 0.3% for the month, and 2.6% year-on-year, pre-trade. For June, South Korea had reported 0.2% deflation and 2.4% annualised inflation growth.

In overnight **commodities** trade, **oil** swung ~1.5% - ~2% lower.

US **gold** (December Comex) futures continued higher, but more slightly so, prices reaching \$US2480/oz.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) turned and settled greater than 2.5% higher, above \$US102.5/t.

LME (3mth evening) **copper** and **nickel** swung almost 2% lower. **Aluminium** posted a further, but slight, gain.

The **\$A** traded below US65.00c after hovering around US65.20c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	40348	-495	-1.2
S&P 500	5447	-76	-1.4
NASDAQ	17194	-405	-2.3
FTSE 100	8283	-85	-1.0
DAX 30	18070	-439	-2.4
Shanghai Composite	2932	-6	-0.2

Overseas Markets Commentary

Varied, yet generally cautious openings, deteriorated into definitive falls across major European, UK and US equities markets overnight.

The Bank of England concluded a monetary policy meeting at which a majority vote (5 – 4) delivered a 0.25% benchmark bank interest rate cut to 5.0%.

Today's Stock Watch
ResMed Inc (RMD)

9% higher year-on-year, \$US1.2B June quarter revenue.

Net income rose 27%, to \$US292.2M.

FY24 revenue grew 11% to \$US4.7B.

FY24 income estimated at \$US1.02B, up 14%.

Paying a US53c quarterly dividend.

Block Inc (SQ2)

\$US195.268M June quarter net income.

\$US667.273M estimated January - June income.

\$US6.156B June quarter net revenue.

\$US12.112B estimated January – June income.

Pinnacle Investment Management Group (PNI)

26.4c, 72%-franked final dividend, from 20.4c fully franked a year ago.

18.1% higher, \$90.351M full year NPAT.

7.6% higher, \$48.988M continuing activities revenue.

\$2.24 NTA from \$2.09.

In addition, PNI has appointed employment and workplace law specialist Christa Lenard as a PNI director.

Presentation lodged post-trade yesterday ahead of today's pre-trade teleconference.

Resources
Capstone Copper (CSC)

\$US29.3M June quarter net income, against a \$US36.5M net loss a year earlier.

Copper prices rose from \$US3.76/lb to \$US4.54/lb.

\$US741.3M net debt.

Develop Global (DVP)

Woodlawn copper-zinc project funding and five-year off-take agreement secured with Trafigura.

Trafigura has agreed to a \$US65M pre-payment in the form of a loan facility.

Details, together with revised production restart study figures, lodged this morning.

GreenX Metals (GRX)

GRX plans to earn a 90% interest in a German company which holds the copper-prospective 272sq km Tannenberg exploration licence in central Germany.

Details lodged this morning.

Energy
Strike Energy (STX)

WA Perth Basin L23 Walyering-7 flow test results lodged this morning.



Bank of England governor Andrew Bailey ruled out a run of cuts however, with the central bank's economists predicting a bump to 2.75% UK inflation prior to year's end.

Earnings reports from the likes of Amazon and Apple were awaited past the closing bell, both stocks trading greater than 1.50% lower intra-session.

Computer chip stocks dropped among others, largely on disappointing earnings and/or outlooks from high-profile stocks across several sectors.

Middle East conflict angst remained, with Lufthansa cancelling Tel Aviv flights until at least Thursday next week.

In the meantime, Iranian officials were reported to be planning to meet with representatives from Lebanon, Iraq and Yemen later today to discuss a response to the killings this week of Hezbollah and Hamas leaders in Beirut and Tehran respectively.

Earlier yesterday, Caixin reported a contraction-mode 49.8 July manufacturing PMI for China, from an expansionary 51.8 for June. Economists had anticipated remaining expansion, with a 51.5 reading.

Also yesterday, Australia reported a 5.9% drop in export prices for the June quarter.

Later, Australia's July commodity prices were reported 3.0% lower than for July 2023.

In overnight **economic data** releases, final July manufacturing PMIs for the **euro zone** as a whole and for **Germany** were revised a little higher than the initial estimate, but remained decidedly in contraction territory.

The euro zone June unemployment rate unexpectedly rose from a historically low 6.4% to 6.5%.

UK house prices appreciated by 0.3% in July according to a Nationwide report. Against July 2023, prices were up 2.1%.

The July manufacturing PMI for the UK was finalised at 52.1 from an initial 51.8 estimate, against 50.9 for June.

In the **US**, the ISM's July manufacturing PMI fell further into contraction mode, from June's 48.5 to an eight-month low of 46.8. This surprised, with consensus having come in at 48.8.

Weekly new unemployment claims tallied 249,000, against expectations for 236,000, following the previous week's 235,000.

A July job cuts report estimated 25,885 planned job losses against 48,786 for June. Forecasters had anticipated 52,000 new cuts.

Tonight in the US, July workforce statistics are keenly anticipated.

Other economic indicators expected tonight include June factory orders.

Companies listed to report earnings or provide trading updates later today or tonight include: AXA, Berkshire Hathaway, Chevron, China Steel, Enbridge, Exxon Mobil, Imperial Oil, Kumho Petro Chemical, Linde, Nintendo and Sumitomo Mitsui Financial.

In overnight corporate news, which featured a wave of high-profile international stocks, **Amazon** and **Apple** have reported post-US trade, Apple iPhone revenue supporting the stock higher in early after-hours trade.

Amazon figures and outlook disappointed, however, and the stock lost ~4.5% post-settlement.

Intel revealed cost-cutting plans involving ~15% of the group's workforce.

Pre-Open Announcements

The Star Entertainment Group (* SGR)

Sydney Casino manager Nicholas Weeks' appointment has been approved for a further extension to 31 March 2025.

Macquarie Group (* MQG)

New capital notes offer under consideration.

Vmoto Ltd (* VMT)

Sold 50% fewer units year-on-year during the June quarter, the tally coming to 4167.

\$A41.7M cash at 30 June.

Ongoing challenging economic climate in Europe.

Healius Ltd (HLS)

HLS non-executive director Javi Jeyaraj has resigned from the HLS board, having accepted a full-time position in Singapore.

CurveBeam AI (CVB)

CVB called a trading halt pre-trade Wednesday and revealed at yesterday's close that the company is chasing \$13.6M in a two-tranche placement and entitlement offer.

The raising includes a \$4M, 18c-per-share institutional placement, the second tranche of which will be subject to shareholder approval.

A total \$9.6M is targeted from across institutional and retail entitlement offers, at the same price, the retail component scheduled for 8 – 29 August.

In the five sessions prior to calling the halt, CVB traded at 23.5c – 25c.

Investor Centre (ICU)

ICU has decided not to proceed with the planned Onefocus Private Wealth acquisition, announced in February.

Resources

Astral Resources (* AAR)

Heralding Feysville gold project Kamperman prospect RC drilling results.

Initial resource estimate anticipated by 30 September.

Astron Corporation (* ATR)

Early conversion of \$5M worth of notes.

Details lodged post-trade yesterday.

Energy

Energy Metals (EME)

The Northern Territory Bigryli uranium and vanadium JV deposit resource has been upgraded to 6.32Mt @ 1530 ppm U₃O₈ & 960ppm V₂O₅, for 9660t (21.3Mlb) U₃O₈ and 6040t (13.3Mlb) V₂O₅.

18.2% of the resource qualifies for measured status, and 54.3% for indicated status.

EME 72.4%.

**Commodities**

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (COMEX 100 Dec)	2480.8	oz	7.80	0.3
Silver (COMEX 5000 Sep)	28.48	oz	-0.46	-1.6
Platinum	960	oz	-15	-1.6
WTI Crude (NYMEX Sep)	76.31	bbl	-1.60	-2.1
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Oct)	79.52	bbl	-1.32	-1.6
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	102.83	t	2.73	2.7
Copper (LME 3mth Evening)	9079	t	-172	-1.9
Nickel	16338	t	-324	-2.0
Aluminium	2301	t	4	0.2
Lead	2074	t	-20	-1.0
Zinc	2717	t	31	1.2
Tin	29929	t	-162	-0.5

Commodities Commentary

Oil – prices turned lower overnight following a stay on major Middle East conflict developments which pegged back crude supply risk.

In addition, OPEC+ confirmed plans for a gradual reversal of output curbs from October remained in place, but also reiterated production decisions would continue to be made in line with balanced market requirements.

Further, a Caixin-calculated July manufacturing PMI for China indicated contraction, largely due to falling orders.

On the flip side, the UK's central bank announced a 0.25% interest rate cut.

A weekly US petroleum drill rig report is due tonight from Baker Hughes.

Gold – decisive price gains across the past two sessions eased in magnitude overnight, but gold sentiment remained supported by some safe-haven demand and US Fed indications of a near-term interest rate cut.

In addition overnight, some weaker-than-anticipated US economic data releases supported views that multiple rate cuts could be needed by year's end.

Base metals – further data for China yesterday, an overnight interest rate cut for the UK, speculation regarding China stimulus moves, and some weaker-than-anticipated US economic data and international corporate updates and outlooks pushed and pulled base metals sentiment.

In the meantime, the BHP (majority)-RIO-JECO Escondida copper operation in Chile was considered at risk of new industrial action after workers rejected a collective bargaining proposal.

Caixin's July manufacturing PMI for China, released yesterday, indicated a return to contraction with a two-point fall to 49.8, against expectations for a 0.3-point fall to a remaining expansion-mode 51.5.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.6497	-0.0037	-0.57

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEST)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	CSC	Jun Q (w/cast tele 7am)
	PNI	Full year (tele 9am)
Mon	ARG	Full year
Tue	AGL	Full year
	CAT	AGM
	CRN	Interim (w/cast tele 10am)
	CTT	Full year
	LTM	Jun Q
Wed	LNW	Jun Q
Thu	AMP	Interim
	AVH	Jun Q (w/cast 1pm PDT)
	CLW	Full year
	CRN	Interim
	NWS	Full year
	MGR	Full year
	TCL	Full year
Fri	360	Jun Q
	BLD	Full year
	NCK	Full year
	QBE	Interim
	REA	Full year

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Alto Metals	AME	2 Aug
Allup Silica	APS	5 Aug
Altech Batteries	ATC	5 Aug
Bastion Metals	BMO	2 Aug
Botala Energy	BTE	5 Aug
Brightstar Resources	BTR	2 Aug
Culpeo Minerals	CPO	2 Aug
CurveBeam AI	CVB	6 Aug
Dreadnought Resources	DRE	5 Aug
FBR Ltd	FBR	5 Aug
Gold Mountain	GMN	5 Aug
Heavy Minerals	HVY	5 Aug
IODM Ltd	IOD	2 Aug
NeuRizer Ltd	NRZ	5 Aug
Prospect Resources	PSC	2 Aug
Rare Foods Australia	RFA	5 Aug



EUR – USD 1.0790 -0.0037 -0.34

Australian Data Today

ABS	Producer prices	Jun Q
ABS	Lending indicators	Jun
ABS	Household spending indicator	Jun
MInst	Inflation gauge	Jul

US Data Tonight

Workforce (incl jobs, earnings, unemplmt, prtctpn)	Jul
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Other Overseas Data Today and Tonight

South Korea	Inflation	Jul
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Red Mountain Mining	RMX	5 Aug
State Gas	GAS	5 Aug

Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Aeon Metals	AML	26 Jul
Beston Global Food Company	BFC	3 Jul
Calidus Resources	CAI	1 Jul
Calima Energy	CE1	3 Jul
Infini Resources	I88	29 Jul
Korab Resources	KOR	29 Jul
Linius Technologies	LNU	8 Jul
Magellan Global Fund	MGF	12 Jul
Mighty Craft	MCL	22 Jul
Mineral Commodities	MRC	31 Jul
Pacific Nickel Mines	PNM	18 Jul
QMines Ltd	QML	1 Aug
Regional Express Holdings	REX	31 Jul

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
QIP	Mon	7.1	100	4.63
QRI	Mon	1.17	0	8.78
AMH	Tue	3	100	3.02
BKI	Tue	4	100	4.42
MYG	Wed	2	100	1.20
PSQ	Wed	7	100	2.16
DJW	Fri (9 Aug)	8	100	4.75