

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEST)	7454	-17	-0.2
NZX 50	13246	3	0.0
DJIA Futures	35292	2	0.0
S&P 500 Futures	4523	2	0.0
NASDAQ Futures	15616	7	0.0

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens today's trade with an overnight \$A appreciation, a swag of large-cap and high-profile stocks trading ex-dividend, two influential economic data reports due late morning, and fresh material regional data in hand, ahead of key US data tonight.

Overnight international equities trade sentiment again proved relatively vulnerable.

Prices for most key commodities fell.

Locally today, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publishes **July trade balance** and **lending indicators** (including for property) reports, **11.30am AEST**.

Large-cap stocks trading **ex-dividend** today include **BHP, CSL, IVC, JIN, NHF, PPT** and **WOW**. *Please see pp3-4 for a detailed ex-dividend list.*

Regionally today, Japan hosts a 10-year government bond auction.

South Korea has released a finalised **June quarter GDP** reading pre-trade, this representing 0.8% quarterly and 6.0% annualised growth.

South Korea has also reported 0.6% **August CPI** growth, following July's 0.2%. Against August 2020, inflation has grown 2.6%.

In overnight commodities trade, **crude oil** settled mixed but little changed for both Brent and WTI.

US **gold** futures swung slightly lower.

Iron ore (China port CFR, 62% fines) dropped.

LME **copper, nickel** and **aluminium** turned and fell.

The **\$A** was propelled to US73.70c after rising to US73.44c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	35312	-48	-0.1
S&P 500	4524	1	0.0
NASDAQ	15309	50	0.3
FTSE 100	7150	30	0.4
DAX 30	15824	-11	-0.1
Shanghai Comp	3567	23	0.7

* Energy sector services listing – 11am AEST – T3K *

* Water technology specialist listing – 11.30am AEST – RWL *

Today's Stock Watch
QBE Insurance Group (QBE)

Flagging a proposed issue of £-denominated fixed rate resetting subordinated notes.

Flight Centre Travel Group (FLT)

Planning to launch the group's FCM travel management business in Japan via a JV with Japan-headquartered NSF Engagement Corporation.

FCM Japan is expected to be operational in January 2022.

Wellnex Life (WNX) / Coles Group (COL)

COL supermarkets will stock WNX's wholly-owned Wakey Wakey and The Iron Company brands.

Calix Ltd (CXL)

Today's investor day materials lodged pre-trade.

Amaero International (3DA)

Base-case investment levels achieved and exceeded for yields in trials of 3DA's metal powder products.

Hence, 3DA anticipates greater-than-initially expected output from the proposed titanium powder manufacturing facility, with ~\$A40.8M fully operational revenue capacity against the previously flagged \$A30M.

Resources
Great Boulder Resources (GBR)

WA Side Well gold project Mulga Bill RC drilling has returned significant-width and high-grade intersections.

Assays lodged pre-trade.

Fin Resources (FIN)

Staged, large-scale production plans lodged pre-trade for the WA North Onslow solar salt project.

Black Cat Syndicate (BC8)

Maiden resources for the Crown and Jones Find deposits have boosted overall Kal East gold project resources by 95,000oz.

Further Crown and Jones Find mineralisation remains open along strike and at depth. Jones Find extensional drilling is expected to commence by week's end.

Additional discovery drilling across multiple Kal East exploration targets is planned for the next four months.

Energy
Senex Energy (SXY)

Four-year initial natural gas sales agreement secured with packaging and paper manufacturer Opal, for up 8PJ of gas. The arrangement could extend to up to six years, for an additional 4PJ supply.



Overseas Markets Commentary

Vacillating sentiment featured across most major European, UK and US equities markets overnight, the NASDAQ proving the exception and recording a new record peak settlement.

Data releases, geopolitical wrangling and Covid-19 containment warnings featured among investor considerations.

Earlier yesterday, a manufacturing index for China had indicated a return to contraction.

Covid-19 commentary centred on vaccine efficacy and new variants.

Among the overnight **data** releases, the **euro zone's** finalised August manufacturing PMI readings were confirmed lower than for July, but nonetheless relatively robust.

The overall euro zone estimate of 61.4 represented a 1.4-point fall from the final July reading.

The region's July unemployment rate declined to 7.6% from 7.8%.

Germany's July retail sales tumbled 5.1% for the month, following a 4.2% June jump.

Moreover, against July 2020, sales were down 0.3%.

The final August manufacturing PMI for Germany came in at 62.6 from 65.9 for July.

In the **UK**, a final August manufacturing PMI represented a 0.1-point decline for the month, to 60.3, following forecasts for 60.1.

Russia reported a 4.7% annualised July CPI increase, following expectations of 5.4%.

In the **US**, an August private sector employment report surprised on the downside, with 374,000 jobs created against an anticipated 500,000.

The ISM August manufacturing index exceeded expectations however, with a relatively strong 59.9 following expectations of a 0.5-point decline since July to 59.

July construction spending rose 0.3%, in line with forecasts after coming in flat for June.

Weekly mortgage applications were reported 2.4% lower following a 1.6% increase the previous week.

Mean average 30-year mortgage rates remained at 3.03%.

Tonight in the US, July trade balance, factory orders and productivity are due, together with weekly new unemployment claims and an August job cuts report.

This, ahead of tomorrow night's national August employment statistics.

Companies scheduled to report earnings later today and tonight include Broadcom, Coca-Cola European Partners, DocuSign and Hewlett Packard Enterprise.

Antofagasta, BHP Group and Glencore are among stocks listed to trade ex-dividend on the FTSE 100.

Meanwhile, US equities markets will be closed Monday due to a public holiday.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$/oz	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1816	oz	-2.1	-0.1

Pre-Open Announcements

TEK-Ocean Group (* T3K)

Energy sector service provider scheduled to list on the ASX **11am** AEST, following a \$6.6M IPO at 50c per share. 32.73M quoted shares.

Rubicon Water (* RWL)

Water technology specialist scheduled to list on the ASX **11.30am** AEST, following a \$42.6M IPO at \$1.00 per share. 171.885M quoted shares.

Seafarms Group (* SFG)

SFG has appointed former Inghams CEO (ASX: ING) and current Ridley Corporation chair (ASX: RIC) Mick McMahon as CEO, and former Inghams and GWA Group (ASX: GWA) CFO Ian Brannan as CFO, effective 20 September.

United Malt Group (* UMG)

Anticipating \$129M - \$134M FY21 underlying EBITDA. Significant items (inventory and bad debt provision) are expected to tally \$20M - \$22M. Excluding significant items, UMG anticipated \$36M - \$41M underlying NPAT.

Keytone Dairy (* KTD)

Commercial runs for health and confectionary bar and snacking lines are commencing this month at the upgraded Prestons, Sydney facility, due to strong opening orders.

SG Fleet (SGF)

SGF has completed its acquisition of LeasePlan Australia and LeasePlan New Zealand. SGF paid \$273M cash plus SGF shares equivalent to 13% of SGF.

Goodman Group (GMG)

Non-executive director Penny Winn is resigning from the GMG board, effective at the group's AGM.

AWN Holdings (AWN)

AWN's Edventure Co has completed the \$NZ17.3M acquisition of Auldhouse Computer Training.

Generation Development Group (GDG)

GDG has completed its \$US50,000 sale of Ascalon Capital to Wayford Capital Partners.

Resources

Zenith Minerals (* ZNC)

Queensland Develin Creek copper-zinc project drilling has commenced with three operational rigs. ZNC is testing eight targets.

Kin Mining (* KIN)

Heralding Mount Flora gold prospect air core drilling results. Mount Flora is located 20km east of the Cardinia gold project.



Silver (NY) (Dec)	24.22	oz	0.21	0.9
Gold (LON)	1815	oz		
Platinum	996	oz	-12	-1.2
WTI Crude (NYMEX Oct)	68.59	bbbl	0.09	0.1
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Nov)	71.59	bbbl	-0.04	-0.1
Iron Ore (Qingdao) (CHN;62%F)	143.43	t	-10.24	-7.1
Iron Ore (Nymex)	143.08	t	-16.17	-10.2
Copper (LME Ind)	9340	t	-182	-1.9
Nickel	19330	t	-216	-1.1
Aluminium	2690	t	-27	-1.0
Lead	2277	t	25	1.1
Zinc	2979	t	-27	-0.9
Tin	33600	t	-287	-0.9

Commodities Commentary

Oil – prices continued lower in early overnight trade but recovered sufficiently for both Brent and WTI crude to close just a few cents from Tuesday's respective settlements.

WTI traded as low as \$US67.12/bbl and Brent as low as \$US70.42/bbl.

OPEC and **OPEC+** agreed overnight to retain plans to boost output by 400,000bbl/d each month.

In the meantime, a weekly US petroleum inventories report, published by government agency the EIA, included a 7.17MMbbl drop in stored crude and 1.29MMbbl rise in petrol stocks.

The fall in petrol usage was in part attributed to less traffic in large populated areas ahead of a tropical storm (Henry).

A weekly rise in supplied petroleum products was recorded as a record 22.8MMbbl/d, however, despite a 364,000bbl/d fall in petrol production.

Crude output rose to 11.5MMbbl/d.

Net crude imports fell by 45,000bbl/d.

Overnight Tuesday, the API had released a report which estimated an ~4MMbbl fall for US crude stocks last week.

Gold – prices swung overnight – lower on a US manufacturing index and higher on a private sector jobs report.

Tomorrow night's US August employment report is expected to influence late-week trade heading into a US Monday public holiday weekend, but key data scheduled for release tonight could keep sentiment fluid in the meantime.

Base metals – overnight LME sentiment appeared mostly influenced by data for China and inventory updates.

Caixin's August manufacturing PMI for China, published yesterday, indicated contraction mode, slipping below 50.0 to 49.2 following 50.3 for July. Forecasters had anticipated a remaining-expansionary reading of 50.2.

Caixin releases its August services sector activity index for China **tomorrow**.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7368	0.0043	0.59
EUR – USD	1.1841	0.0042	0.36

AngloGold Ashanti (AGG)

CEO designate Alberto Calderon has purchased 1100 AGG shares/ADRs on-market at \$US16.613 each.

Ballymore Resources (* BMR)

Explorer scheduled to list on the ASX 11am AEST **tomorrow**, following a \$7M IPO at 20c per share.
71.48M quoted shares.

Energy

Brookside Energy (* BRK)

Anadarko Basin Jewell well flow-back is underway, with oil and gas already noted.

Calima Energy (* CE1)

July operational and financial statistics lodged pre-trade. These include 14% higher, 3291boe/d production for the month and 20% higher, \$4.9M revenue (net royalties).

Tamboran Resources (TBN) / Santos Ltd (STO)

Beetaloo Sub-Basin EP161 JV Tanumbirini 3H drilling underway and ahead of scheduled.
Planning to fracture stimulate and flow test by year's end.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
88 Energy	88E	2 Sep
Mont Royal Resources	MRZ	3 Sep
Mosaic Brands	MOZ	3 Sep
Plexure Group	PX1	3 Sep
Structural Monitoring Systems	SMN	3 Sep
Ultima United	UUL	3 Sep
Diatreme Resources	DRX	6 Sep
Houston We Have	HWH	6 Sep

Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
AIC Mines	A1M	25 Aug
AXP Energy	AXP	16 Aug
Environmental Clean Technologies	ECT	30 Aug
Grand Gulf Energy	GGE	1 Sep
Orminex Ltd	ONX	1 Sep
Superior Lake Resources	SUP	16 Aug
Troy Resources	TRY	1 Sep
Weebit Nano	WBT	2 Sep

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
BHP	Today	273.56	100	4.59
BRI	Today	3	100	2.38
CSL	Today	161.4	10	0.91

**Australian Data Today**

ABS	Trade balance	Jul
ABS	Lending indicators	Jul

US Data Tonight

Initial jobless claims	27 Aug
Challenger job cuts	Aug
Trade balance	Jul
Factory orders	Jul
Productivity	Jul

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

Euro zone	Producer prices	Jul
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CUV	Today	2.5	0	0.07
DRR	Today	11.52	100	0.57
GAP	Today	2	0	4.71
GNG	Today	7	100	4.76
HMC	Today	6	50	1.97
IBC	Today	1.25	100	1.92
IDX	Today	7	100	1.21
IVC	Today	9.5	100	0.56
JIN	Today	18.5	100	2.33
LIC	Today	5	100	0.28
MLD	Today	2.5	100	5.84
NHF	Today	14	100	2.06
PPT	Today	96	100	3.22
PTM	Today	12	100	5.78
SFC	Today	45	100	3.54
SLK	Today	9	100	1.27
WOW	Today	55	100	2.17
ALD	Tomorrow	52	100	1.71
BEN	Tomorrow	26.5	100	2.77
BVS	Tomorrow	6	0	2.61
CYC	Tomorrow	0.5	0	0.61
ECL	Tomorrow	2	100	2.40
EGH	Tomorrow	0.59	0	0.94
MCP	Tomorrow	1.5	100	9.50
PCG	Tomorrow	8	100	4.65
PFG	Tomorrow	0.4	100	3.93
PPE	Tomorrow	6	100	2.31
PTL	Tomorrow	1.6	100	5.81
RMC	Tomorrow	4	100	0.96
SDI	Tomorrow	1.65	100	1.90

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEST)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	CE1	July
	CLX	Investor Day (10am – midday)
	RWL	ASX listing (11.30am)
	T3K	ASX listing (11am)
Tomorrow	BMR	ASX listing (11am)