

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	5701	73	1.3
NZX 50	8630	62	0.7
DJIA Futures	24781	-96	-0.4
S&P 500 Futures	2676	-12	-0.5
NASDAQ Futures	6881	-46	-0.7

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences Friday trade on some misses for major US corporates which have reported post-US trade, subsequent falling US equities futures, and ahead of a US September quarter GDP reading tonight and industrial profits out of China over the weekend.

In overnight commodities trade, WTI and Brent **crude** each settled higher.

US (December) **gold** futures turned to record a slight gain.

Iron ore (China port, 62% Fe) picked up the pace of this week's gains.

LME **copper** turned higher. **Nickel** and aluminium continued lower.

The **\$A** was constrained within a narrow range after trading at US70.80c early yesterday evening.

Locally today, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is due to published details and revisions for 2017 - 2018 national account figures, **11.30am** AEDT.

PMV trades ex-dividend (33c).

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	24985	401	1.6
S&P 500	2706	49	1.9
NASDAQ	7318	210	3.0
FTSE 100	7004	41	0.6
DAX 30	11307	115	1.0
Shanghai Comp	2604	0.5	0.0

Overseas Markets Commentary

US equities markets bounced overnight, opening higher and mostly trending so, supported in part by improved and select tech sentiment.

A slight pullback occurred across key indices in the last half-hour of trade, however, overall trade volumes were notably lower than for the previous session, and domestic economic indicators were decidedly mixed.

Major European equities markets opened cautiously but ultimately settled higher.

The **European Central Bank** (ECB) confirmed it remained confident of ending its bond purchase program in December.

Following a policy meeting, the bank revealed a continuing view of no need to change the 0.25% marginal lending rate.

Meeting outcomes and commentary kept the euro down against the \$US.

Today's Stock Watch

Insurance Australia Group (IAG)

Today's AGM speeches and presentation, including Royal Commission comments, lodged pre-trade.

Again conceding 'some failure to consider the best outcomes for customers', regarding add-on insurance for vehicles.

Challenger Group (CGF)

MD and CEO Brian Benari is retiring his CGF roles after seven years as CGF's CEO.

CGF distribution, product and marketing chief executive Richard Howes has been appointed to take over from Mr Benari.

Mr Benari will step down in January but remain with CGF for an additional six months.

Today's AGM speeches and presentation lodged pre-trade.

Mayne Pharma Group (MYX)

Outlaying \$US32M, plus an earn out, for FDA-approved psoriasis treatment halobetasol foam 0.05%.

ResMed Inc (RMD)

23% higher, year-on-year \$US105.7M September quarter profit. 12% higher, \$US588.3M revenue. US37c quarterly dividend.

Teleconference webcast available.

Retail Food Group (RFG)

RFG non-executive director, and former PMP Ltd (ASX: PMP) MD Peter George has been elected RFG chairman.

Mr George is taking over from Stephen Lonie, who has retired from the RFG board, together with non-executive director Russell Shields.

Fairfax Media (FXJ) / Nine Entertainment (NEC)

FXJ chairman Nick Falloon has acquired 200,000 NEC shares, his initial NEC purchase, at \$1.8691 per share.

NEC is proposing to acquire FXJ.

NEC has traded at \$1.7375 - \$1.865 for the week-to-date.

Quickstep Holdings (QHL)

\$17.6M September quarter sales, 6% higher than for the June quarter, and 42% higher than a year ago. \$2.7M cash.

Adairs Ltd (ADH)

Today's AGM speeches and presentation lodged. Director David Briskin is retiring from the ADH board 'in the near future'.

AMP Ltd (AMP)

UBS has cancelled AMP sell advice, in favour of a neutral rating.

Resources

Newcrest Mining (NCM)

Today's Sydney investor day briefing information plus exploration presentation lodged post-trade yesterday. The Sydney briefing and Q&A event commenced ~9am AEDT.

Evolution Mining (EVN)

NSW regulatory approval in hand for an exploration decline within the Cowal gold project.

OceanaGold Corporation (OGC)

\$US21.7M September quarter net profit. Produced 138,034oz of gold and 4310t of copper. Sold 134,134oz of gold and 4232t of copper, recording a \$US761/oz AISC.

Presentation, plus management discussion and analysis also lodged post-trade yesterday.

In overnight data releases, **US** September goods orders were reported 0.8% higher for the month at \$US262.1B, following a 4.6% gain in August.

Core (excluding defence and civil aircraft) goods orders declined 0.1%.

Wholesale inventories rose 0.3% to \$US644.1B, 5.1% higher than a year earlier, and after a 0.9% August increase.

Pending home sales surprised on the upside, growing by 0.5% against forecasts of an up to 0.1% slip for the month, and following a 1.9% August fall. Year-on-year, pending sales came in 1.0% lower.

A Kansas City Fed manufacturing index halved to 5.0.

Weekly new unemployment claims rose by 5000, following expectations of a 4000 increase. The four-week moving average came in flat.

Tonight in the US, a first (of three) September quarter GDP estimate is due, together with a University of Michigan October consumer sentiment reading.

Companies scheduled to reveal earnings or provide updates later today or tonight include: Aon, Colgate-Palmolive, Electrolux, Exxon Mobil, Glencore, Hyundai Steel, IAG, Kia Motors, Phillips 66, Total, Royal Bank of Scotland and Yanzhou Coal Mining.

In overnight corporate news, **Microsoft** and **Tesla** were each propelled higher after reporting better-than-anticipated profit and revenue post-Wednesday US trade.

Twitter's return-to-profit plus higher revenue also pleased, even though new accounts fell by 20% during the September quarter.

ZTE quarterly profit fell 65% year-on-year.

ConocoPhillips raised its quarterly dividend by US7c on a forecast-beating \$US1.9B profit that was buoyed by oil price gains and asset sales, combined with technology used to reduce costs.

Alphabet (Google parent), **Amazon** and **Intel** have reported post-US trade and will influence tonight's sentiment.

Alphabet and Amazon fell in post-settlement trade, but Intel was pushed higher.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Dec)	1232	oz	1.3	0.1
Silver (NY) (Dec)	14.7	oz	-0.02	-0.1
Gold (LON)	1231	oz		
Platinum	825	oz	-4	-0.5
WTI Crude (Dec)	67.3	bbbl	0.5	0.8
Brent Crude (Dec)	76.9	bbbl	0.7	1.0
Iron Ore <small>(CHN port 62%)</small>	76.0	t	1.3	1.8
Copper <small>(LME,3mth,PM)</small>	6226	t	47	0.8
Nickel	12150	t	-75	-0.6
Aluminium	1994	t	-3	-0.2
Lead	2012	t	7	0.3
Zinc	2637	t	-26	-1.0
Tin	19325	t	50	0.3
CBT Wheat (Dec)	4.87	bshl	-0.12	-2.5

Commodities Commentary

Oil – a compliance monitoring committee overseeing the OPEC-led June agreement to boost production released a statement noting international

Pre-Open Announcements

Blue Sky Alternatives Access Fund (* BAF)

Independent BAF non-executive director Paul Masi is assuming the BAF chairman's role today, following a 'handover' from Andrew Champion.

Mr Champion will remain a BAF executive director.

Resources

First Graphene (* FGR)

Agreement secured with Chemiplas, for FGR's PureGRAPH to be tested in Chemiplas sports equipment.

Details lodged this morning.

FGR appreciated 12% yesterday, settling at 14c.

Aurelia Metals (* AMI)

September quarter results presentation lodged post-trade yesterday.

Reports & Events

(selected scheduled)

When	Company	Report/Event	
Today	ADH	AGM	
	ASB	AGM	
	CAR	AGM	
	CGF	AGM	
	GWA	AGM	
	IAG	AGM	
	NCM	Investor day	
	QAN	AGM	
	RMD	Sep Q	
	RSG	AGM	
Mon	BAP	AGM	
	BCI	Sep Q	
	IGO	Sep Q	
Tue	AQG	Sep Q	
	BPT	Sep Q	
	BEN	AGM	
	BLD	AGM	
	LOV	AGM	
	ORG	Sep Q	
	ORE	Sep Q	
	RCR	AGM	
	RWC	AGM	
VOC	AGM		
Wed	AIA	AGM	
	ANZ	Full year	
	CTD	AGM	
	GMA	Sep Q	
	HSO	AGM	
	IFN	Sep Q	
	JHC	AGM	
	NHF	AGM	
	TGR	AGM	
	Thu	CNU	AGM
		CCP	AGM



trade uncertainty and rising crude inventories pointing to possible oversupply.

The committee maintained the combination meant the agreement may need to again be changed at the next official meeting between OPEC members and additional agreement participants in December.

The Saudi OPEC governor claimed oversupply was possible before year's end.

Further, a Genscape report estimated inventories at the Cushing, Oklahoma, US centre had risen by ~1.8MMbbl in the week to Tuesday, to 33MMbbl.

In the meantime, some US shale producers were reported to be hedging export prices.

A weekly US petroleum drill rig count is due tonight.

Gold – market-watchers again noted some cautious buying overnight, ahead of major US corporate results which were due post-US trade, and as risk sentiment improved, in part due to Microsoft's results, reported after US trade closed Wednesday.

Tonight's preliminary US September quarter GDP reading is keenly anticipated, in light of an expected series of Federal Reserve rate rises.

Base metals – bargain hunting and improved overnight equities sentiment appeared to support some overnight trade.

Meanwhile, French miner Eramet has reported reduced New Caledonia *nickel* production, following environmental-based protests.

September industrial profits are anticipated out of **China** over the weekend.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7079	0.0000	0.00
EUR – USD	1.1377	0.0003	0.03

Australian Data Today

ABS National accounts (incl revisions) 2017-18

US Data Tonight

GDP (1st reading of three) Sep Q
Uni of Michigan consumer sentiment Oct

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

Germany GfK consumer climate Nov

Need More Information?

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CWN	AGM
DOW	AGM
NAB	Full year
PPT	AGM
SGR	AGM
VCX	AGM
WOW	Sep Q

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Impelus Ltd	IMS	26 Oct
Redbubble Ltd	RBL	26 Oct
Roto-Gro International	RGI	26 Oct
SportsHero Ltd	SHO	26 Oct
Talon Petroleum	TPD	26 Oct
Universal Coal	UNV	26 Oct
Bellevue Gold	BGL	29 Oct
FYI Resources	FYI	29 Oct
Gascoyne Resources	GCY	29 Oct
GWR Group	GWR	29 Oct
Inca Minerals	ICG	29 Oct
Tungsten Mining	TGN	29 Oct

Suspensions (select)

Company	Code	Since
BPH Energy	BPH	25 Oct
GBM Gold	GBM	11 Oct
Gulf Manganese Corporation	GMC	19 Oct
MMJ Phytotech	MMJ	8 Oct
PLC Financial Solutions	PLC	5 Oct
ResApp Health	RAP	24 Oct
Updater Inc	UPD	9 Oct

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
PMV	Today	33	100	3.68
CLV	Mon	1.25	100	1.22
CLX	Tue	2	100	4.17
GCI	Tue	0.88	0	1.59
SMR	Tue	2	0	2.37
UNV	Tue	1	0	6.67
FNP	Fri (2 Nov)	2.75	50	0.97
JYC	5 Nov	6	100	7.24
NAC	5 Nov	1.35	100	6.95
NSC	5 Nov	1.36	100	9.26
BIS	6 Nov	4	100	4.40
BKW	7 Nov	36	100	3.25
API	8 Nov	4	100	4.98
WAT	8 Nov	3	100	2.38



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