

The Daily Dispatch

August 15, 2017
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

BIR, BOC flunk collection targets

The country's main revenue collecting agencies, Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) and Bureau of Customs (BOC), both failed to reach their collection goals in the first seven months, the Department of Finance (DOF) reported yesterday.

Net Group leads \$2.1m series A round in Flyspaces

Workplace developer The Net Group Corp has led a \$2.1-million series A round in Flyspaces, a Philippine-based startup that provides work and meeting space solutions. An undisclosed local private equity firm and top property developers also joined the round.

Alliance Global profit hits P10.1 B

Alliance Global Group Inc. (AGI), the holding company of tycoon Andrew Tan, posted a net income of P10.1 billion in the first half of the year, 13 percent lower than the previous year. Despite the decline in income, the company has maintained its P80 billion capital spending this year, its president Kingson Sian said.

JFC NI grows 10% on higher foreign contribution

Local fast-food giant Jollibee Foods Corp. (JFC) said its net income grew 10 percent during the first half of the year to P3.37 billion, from last year's P3.06 billion, driven mainly by the acceleration of profit growth in foreign businesses, lower losses in joint ventures.

VLL tops up income, project launches this year

Vista Land & Lifescapes Inc., the listed property developer of the Villar family, may launch as much as P70 billion worth of projects this year, significantly higher than its original target of P50 billion amid a positive business environment.

Philippine Stock Market Update



Previous Close:

8,018.05

1 Yr Return:

-0.34%

Open:

8,015.68

YTD Return:

15.58%

52-Week Range:

6,499.00 - 8,106.74

Source:

Bloomberg

Foreign Exchange

As of August 14, 2017

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	51.227

PDST-R2 Rates

As of August 14, 2017

Tenor	Rate
1Y	3.0625
3Y	3.8580
5Y	4.6643
7Y	4.4929
10Y	5.0107
20Y	5.4518

Daily Quote

- "We live in the kind of society where, in almost all cases, hard work is rewarded." -Neil deGrasse Tyson

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MORE LOCAL NEWS

Core business fuels Phoenix Petroleum's net income

Lifted by strong performance of its core business, Phoenix Petroleum Philippines saw its core income jump by 35% in the first half of 2017 to P610 million from P450 million in the same period last year. The oil firm's strong performance was brought about by the 24% increase in revenues from its core petroleum business.

AGI net income drops to P10.1B in 1H2017

Alliance Global Incorporated, tycoon Andrew Tan's holding firm, saw its net income drop in the 1st half of 2017 following the attack on Resorts World Manila. The firm's consolidated revenues hit P66.8B while net income to owners stood at P6.7B in the 1st half of 2017, reflecting a decline of 8% from its year ago level of P7.3B.

New RE rules give consumers the right to choose

Draft rules enabling end-users to choose RE sources will be unveiled in the coming weeks, an Energy official said. National Renewable Energy Board (NREB) Chair Jose Layug Jr. said the board had endorsed guidelines covering the establishment of Green Energy Option Program (GEOP) to Energy Secretary Alfonso Cusi.

Peza to support Aurora Ecozone

The Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport Authority and the PEZA agreed to work with each other to secure support for infrastructure and the opening of online gaming companies. Under the terms of the mutual cooperation agreement signed on July 28, the two agencies agreed to "provide the necessary inputs to fast track the development

Off-grid supplier income down as tax perk expires

The expiration of DMCI Power Corp.'s (DPC) income tax holiday for its Masbate operations pushed down its net income in the first semester by 5 percent year-on-year to P228 million. "Our pre-tax income is a better indicator of our financial performance. We actually grew by double digits year-on-year," DPC president Nestor D. Dadivas said.

NOW expands network with Pre-5G

NOW Corporation is aggressively pursuing its push to become one of the country's formidable Technology, Media and Telecom (TMT) companies by using Pre-5G technologies to enhance and expand its ever-growing broadband Internet infrastructure in Metro Manila.

LTFRB suspends Uber accreditation

THE LTFRB on Monday suspended the accreditation and operations of Uber System, Inc. (Uber Philippines) for a month. LTFRB said its board slapped a one-month suspension on Uber's accreditation and ordered it to "cease and desist its operation of their online booking application during the period of suspension."

TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

China industrial output slows sharply in July

China's industrial output, a key engine of growth, slowed sharply in July as government efforts to rein in debt weighed on demand and economic activity. The authorities have sought to tighten regulations to tame debt as well as reduce excess capacity left over from massive government-backed infra. spending at the height of the GFC.

BlackRock stake in Australian solar portfolio

BlackRock Real Assets has acquired a 90 per cent interest in a 200 MW/AC solar portfolio in Queensland, Australia from Edify Energy, an Australian utility-scale solar energy company. The assets have been acquired through a private fund managed by BlackRock Real Assets that focuses on wind and solar assets globally.

US probe into 'unlawful' China trade practices

US President Donald Trump called China's policies toward US companies operating in the country "unlawful", as he kicked off an investigation that threatens to spark a trade war between the two largest economies.

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MORE ASIAN NEWS

HK is having another go at gold trading

Back in May, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing announced plans to launch gold futures contracts. Although international trading in the precious metal remains centred on London and New York, there are reasons to believe HKEx's new contracts stand a better chance of success.

Luxury brands in China's online marketplaces

The world's biggest luxury brands have had a change of heart towards China's online marketplaces, which they once saw as a no-win battleground of counterfeit sellers, discounts and sales that tear away their brand value. Louis Vuitton and Gucci are now jumping into the country's 5 trillion yuan (US\$751 billion) e-retail market.

Whatever happened to IDN's oil & gas industry?

Hit by a drop in global prices, changing regulations and competition from neighbors that are proving more attractive to international energy companies, Southeast Asia's biggest economy, Indonesia, is facing a decline in oil revenue and steadily rising fuel imports.

Debt-ridden Marco Polo Marine plunges further

Struggling shipping services firm Marco Polo Marine saw widening losses in the third quarter, posting a \$304.2 million net loss for the three months ended June 30, from a \$6.4 million net loss the year before. Revenue stayed relatively flat year-on-year, at \$9.1 million.

Vietnam's PM wants to speed up credit growth

HANOI --- Vietnam's prime minister has called for an increase in credit growth to 21% this year to help the communist country hit its economic growth target, state media reported on Monday, potentially adding to concerns over the pace of new lending.

TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

US stock buybacks are plunging

U.S. stocks have been able to hit fresh highs this year despite a dearth of demand from a key source of buying. Share repurchases by American companies this year are down 20 percent from this time a year ago, according to Societe Generale global head of quantitative strategy Andrew Lapthorne.

Toronto has more housing than you thought

When it comes to Toronto's runaway housing prices, the most important question remains the extent to which speculation is driving demand. Ideally, fundamentals such as demographics and employment are at play, and the price gains reflect natural household growth getting ahead of supply.

Frasers joins \$2.2B urban renewal development proj

A consortium that includes Singapore-listed Frasers Centrepoint's Australia unit has been picked to redevelop a Sydney neighbourhood, the property group said in a joint media release on Monday (Aug 14).

Bitcoin surges past US\$4,000 to new all-time high

Bitcoin soared past US\$4,000 for the first time on growing optimism faster transaction times will hasten the spread of the cryptocurrency. The largest digital tender jumped to a peak of US\$4,125.17 on Monday (Aug 14), a gain of 15 per cent since Friday, after a plan to quicken trade execution by moving some data off the main network was activated last

Economic Calendar

Date	Release
08.03.2017	PH: CPI YoY
08.06.2017	PH: Foreign Reserves
08.09.2017	PH: Trade Balance
08.10.2017	PH: BSP Overnight Borrowing Rate
08.14.2017	PH: Overseas Remittances YoY

Source: Bloomberg Economic Calendar