

Monday October 17, 2011

NEWS UPDATE

Stock Markets Rap (as of Oct 14)

	Close	Chg	(%)
Dow	11,644	+166	+1.4
Nasdaq	2,668	+48	+1.8
S&P 500	1,225	+21	+1.7
Global Dow	1,846	+20	+1.1
VIX	28.24	-2.46	-8.0

	Close	Chg	(%)
FTSE 100	5,466	+63	+1.2
DAX	5,967	+52	+0.9
CAC	3,218	+31	+1.0

	Close	Chg	(%)
ASX 200	4,206	-39	-0.9
Nikkei	8,748	-75	-0.9
Shanghai	2,431	-7	-0.3
HSI	18,502	-256	-1.4
H Shares	9,585	-218	-2.2
FTSE STI	2,744	+10	+0.4
SET	956	+19	+2.0
LSX	913	-1	-0.1
Vietnam	414	+2	+0.5

Currencies Rap (as of Oct 14)

	Last	Chg	(%)
DXY	76.62	-0.37	-0.48
THB/USD	30.76	-0.13	-0.42
THB/LAK	260.40	+0.92	+0.35
LAK/USD	8,020.00	-1.50	-0.02
USD/EUR	1.3882	+0.01	+0.99
JPY/USD	77.22	+0.34	+0.44

Commodities Rap (as of Oct 14)

	Close	Chg	(%)
Gold	1,683.00	+14.50	+0.87
Silver	32.17	+0.51	+1.60
WTI	86.80	+2.57	+3.05
Brent	114.68	+3.57	+3.21
BDI	2,173	+18	+0.84

Source: Bloomberg

G-20 Signals More IMF Aid for Europe Possible, Splits on Fillip

Group of 20 finance chiefs and central bankers opened the possibility of handing more IMF aid to Europe, while splitting over whether the lender should be given more resources. If European leaders step up efforts to tackle their debt crisis, the U.S. would be willing to back more IMF cash to "supplement" them, U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy F. Geithner said after the G-20 meeting in Paris yesterday. [\[Bloomberg\]](#)

Occupy Wall Street Protests Continue Worldwide

Inspired by the Occupy Wall Street protests that began in New York, protesters here entered a second day of demonstrations Sunday as they reiterated their anger at the global financial system, corporate greed and government cutbacks. Rallies rippled across the globe on Saturday as more than 900 cities in Europe, Africa, Asia, and North America took part in the worldwide demonstration, including Washington, Toronto, Denver, and Chicago. [\[The Washington Post\]](#)

U.S. Deficit Increased to \$1.3T in Fiscal 2011

The U.S. government posted its third consecutive annual budget deficit in excess of \$1 trillion in the fiscal year ended Sept. 30. The shortfall registered \$1.3 trillion in fiscal 2011, up from \$1.29 trillion in 2010 and the second-highest on record, according to Treasury Department data. It reached \$1.42 trillion in 2009, the highest ever. The September gap widened to \$64.6 billion from \$34.6 billion in the same month last year. [\[Reuters\]](#)

Italian PM Berlusconi Wins Key Confidence Vote

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi won a crucial vote of confidence on Friday, giving his struggling center-right government a new, but probably short, lease of life. Berlusconi, who said before the vote that the country would be thrown into economic and social catastrophe if his government collapsed now, won the vote 316 for and 301 against. [\[CNBC\]](#)

Beijing to Keep Yuan Stable, Premier Says

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said China will keep the yuan basically stable to avoid hurting exporters, the highest-level statement yet from Beijing on its currency policy since the U.S. Senate approved a bill that would take China to task over the issue. China will keep its export policy generally stable, maintain its export-tax-rebate policy and increase its credit support for exporters. His remarks Saturday came after trade data last week showed both exports and imports weakened more than expected. [\[Bloomberg\]](#)

China New Loans, Money Supply, Forex Reserves Trail Estimates

China's money supply grew at the slowest pace in a decade in September, new loans were the smallest in almost two years and quarterly foreign-exchange reserves rose the least in more than 10 years. New local-currency loans were 470 billion yuan (\$73.7 billion) and M2, the broadest measure of money supply, rose a less than estimated 13%, according to a statement on the People's Bank of China. [\[Bloomberg\]](#)

Lao Airlines Will Be Listed

Officials at the Business Improvement Office said the government has given the green light for state enterprises such as Lao Airlines to be listed on the stock market, to generate more capital for growth. The two state enterprises BCEL and EDL Generation have been listed on the stock market after mobilising investment funding of more than US\$120 million. ETL plans to list on the stock market at the end of this year. Lao Airlines also intends to list but has been unable to name a date, saying it must first improve its management system to ensure effective and transparent operations, one of the main conditions for listing on the exchange. [\[Vientiane Times\]](#)

Singapore Grows Slowly, Central Bank Eases Policy

Singapore's central bank Friday eased monetary policy for the first time in two years, as a worsening global economic outlook threatens to derail the island nation's export-dependant economy. The move came as the government reported the economy posted only meager growth in the third quarter, narrowly avoiding a technical recession. The economy grew at annualized pace of 1.3% in the third quarter from the second. That was better than a 0.7% expansion tipped by economists but a weak bounce from a contraction of 6.3% in the second quarter. [\[Bloomberg\]](#)

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