#### EAST ASIA SECURITIES COMPANY LIMITED

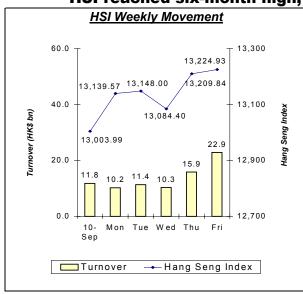
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#### HONG KONG RESEARCH

Restricted circulation Weekly Report
Analyst: Ernest Tan 18<sup>th</sup> September 2004

#### HSI reached six-month high; H-shares regained momentum



Weekl	y Market	Statistic	cs	
Week ended	17/09/2004	10/09/2004	Change	%
Hang Seng Index	13,224.93	13,003.99	+220.94	+1.7%
HS Red Chip Index	1,410.37	1,381.45	+28.92	+2.1%
HS China Enterprises Index	4,570.09	4,287.47	+282.62	+6.6%
HS Composite Index	1,693.12	1,657.29	+35.83	+2.2%
HS HK Composite Index	1,809.46	1,780.00	+29.46	+1.7%
HS Mainland Composite Index	1,463.75	1,413.42	+50.33	+3.6%
S&P/HKEx GEM Index	978.63	991.81	-13.18	-1.3%
Avg Daily Turnover	14.12	13.71	+0.41	+3.0%
(HK\$ bn)				
Sectoral Indices				
Finance	26,548.05	26,193.80	+354.25	+1.4%
Utilities	29,549.90	29,381.63	+168.27	+0.6%
Properties	17,114.08	16,684.61	+429.47	+2.6%
Comm & Ind	5,523.17	5,414.80	+108.37	+2.0%

#### **Review & Outlook of Market Performance**

The Hang Seng Index reached a six-month high this week on strong corporate earnings and upbeat economic outlook. HSI ended the week at 13,224.93, up 220.94 points, or 1.70% w-o-w. Turnover was robust over the week with average daily turnover of HK\$ 14.12 billion.

Blue chip property shares paused for breath earlier this week as the market waited for the final results of Henderson Land (0012) and Sun Hung Kai Properties (0016) next Thursday. On this Thursday, HSBC placed some 196 million shares of Hang Lung Properties (0101) for HK\$2.1 billion. Despite its colossal size, the placement was quickly snapped up and was three times oversubscribed. This news only caused slight and short-lived retreat of property counters Friday morning and did not affect the sector to record another week of gain.

Actions were also witnessed from counters that reported strong results. Esprit Holdings (0330) reported a better than expected 55.5% increase in net profit on Wednesday to a record HK\$2.003 billion on fast growing European business and a strong Euro. The counter reached an all time high of HK\$40.20 on Monday on anticipation of the announcement and quickly rebound from post-announcement profit taking to close at HK\$39.40, up HK\$2.00, or 5.35% w-o-w. Tianjin Development (0882) reported a 3.67 times jump in interim earnings and the share surged as much as 16% in the afternoon session on Thursday.

During the week, H-shares forged higher with steadily increasing volume. HSCEI gradually gathered momentum earlier this week and finally broke through the short-term resistance level of 4,500 points and close at 4,570.09, up 282.62 points, or 6.59% w-o-w. Series of economic figures released recently suggested a cool down of China's economy. It brought relief to the fear of further austerity measures in the near term. Besides, investors had high hopes on market reforms that might be brought forward during the Communist Party plenum. Furthermore, the rebound of both Shenzhen and Shanghai stock markets from their five-year lows had greatly improved market sentiment. Commodity-play continued to be strong across the board. Maanshan iron and steel (0323), Chalco (2600) and Angang Newsteel (0347) all recorded w-o-w gain from 12.28% to 14.41%.

Market focus next week will be on the Federal Reserve FOMC meeting next Tuesday and the aftermath of the Fourth Plenum of the 16<sup>th</sup> Communist Party Central Committee. Positive news on either of these fronts would provide further boost to the HSI and the HSCEI to test 13,400 and 4,600 levels respectively. 13,000 should be a strong support level for the Hang Seng Index in the near term.

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# **US & Regional Markets Weekly Update**

Date	US	US	JAPAN	SINGAPORE	MALAYSIA	BANGKOK	TAIPEI
	Dow Jones	NASDAQ	Nikkei Avg	STI	KLSE Index	SET Index	Weighted Index
Week to							
17th September	10,284.46	1,910.09	11,082.49	2,003.56	859.66	668.73	5,818.39
10th September	10,313.07	1,894.31	11,083.23	1,967.70	850.29	640.60	5,846.19
Change	-28.61	+15.78	-0.74	+35.86	+9.37	+28.13	-27.80
%	-0.3%	+0.8%	-0.0%	+1.8%	+1.1%	+4.4%	-0.5%

# Major Changes in Index Constituent Stocks (Week ended 17<sup>th</sup> September 2004)

## Hang Seng Index (HSI)

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @17/09/04	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
			Absolute	%	
Wheelock	0020	HK\$12.40	+HK\$1.40	+12.73%	Its subsidiary, Wharf (0004), had submitted a guaranteed bid of HK\$1.65 billion for a waterfront residential lot in Aberdeen.
Li & Fung	1199	HK\$11.90	+HK\$0.70	+6.25%	The company is looking to raise around US\$ 300 million from the offshore bond market.

## **Hang Seng China Enterprises Index (HSCEI)**

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @17/09/04	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
			Absolute	%	
Angang Newsteel	0347	HK\$3.375	+HK\$0.425	+14.41%	Commodity sector outperformed after economic figures suggested a cool down of China's economy.
Yizheng Chemical	1033	HK\$1.74	+HK\$0.20	+12.99%	Stock price caught up to narrow the discount with its A share as the Shanghai stock market rebound from its five-year low.

### Hang Seng China-Affiliated Corporation Index (HSCCI)

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @17/09/04	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
			Absolute	%	
Tianjin Development	0882	HK\$3.10	+HK\$0.40	+14.81%	The counter reported a 2004 interim net profit that was 3.67 times compared with last year. It also raised its interim dividend from 3.8 cents to 4.6 cents.

# **Summary of US Economic News**

Indicator	Change/Index	Comments
Retail & food sales – August	-0.3%	The drop was bigger than the consensus (-0.1%) mainly due to a 2% fall in auto sales.
Current account – Q2	-166.2 billion	The increase was more than accounted for by an increase in the deficit on goods and a decrease in the surplus on income.
Industrial production – August	+0.1%	Manufacturing output gained a 0.5% in August. The output at utilities fell significantly for third consecutive month in August and mining output moved down after a strong increase in July.
Capacity utilization – August	77.3%	Capacity utilization for total industry was unchanged in August, at a rate of 3.8 % below its 1972-2003 average.
Initial jobless claims – 11 <sup>th</sup> September	+16k	The increase was 10k less than the consensus (+26k).
Consumer price index	+0.1%	Energy costs declined for the second consecutive month, i.e. down 0.3% in August, after advancing sharply in the first half of the year.
September preliminary U of Michigan consumer sentiment	95.8	The figure was lower than the consensus (96.5). Consumer confidence fell slightly in August due to greater concerns about the sluggish pace of growth in employment.

# Forthcoming Important Announcements / Events

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20 <sup>th</sup> September 2004 (Monday)	US	:	Housing market index – September
			Adobe Systems (ADBE) – Q3 results
			Nike (NKE) – Q1 results
01 -			Red Hat (RHAT) – Q2 results
21 <sup>st</sup> September 2004 (Tuesday)	HK	:	Harbin Brewery Group (0249) – H1 results
			China Everbright International (0257) – H1 results
			Midland Realty (1200) – H1 results
	US	:	Federal Reserve FOMC meeting
			ICSC-UBS store sales index
			Housing starts – August
			Redbook retail sales index
			General Mills (GIS) – Q1 results
			Goldman Sachs (GS) – Q3 results
			Lehman Brothers (LEH) – Q3 results
22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2004 (Wednesday)	HK	:	Sino Land (0083) – Final results
			Tsim Sha Tsui Properties (0247) – Final results
			Sino Hotel (1221) – Final results
	US	:	Bear Stearns (BSC) – Q3 results
			Fedex (FDX) – Q1 results
			Morgan Stanley (MWD) - Q3 results
23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2004 (Thursday)	HK	:	Henderson Land Development (0012) - Final results
			Henderson Investment (0097) – Final results
			Henderson China (0246) – Final results
			Sun Hung Kai Properties (0016) – Final results
			Brilliance China Automotive (1114) – Interim results
			Consumer price index
	US	:	Initial jobless claims
			Leading indicators – August
			DJ – BTM business barometer
			A.G. Edwards (AGE) – Q2 results
			Rite Aid Corp (RAD) – Q2 results
24 <sup>th</sup> September 2004 (Friday)	US	:	Durable goods orders – August
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