

EAST ASIA SECURITIES COMPANY LIMITED

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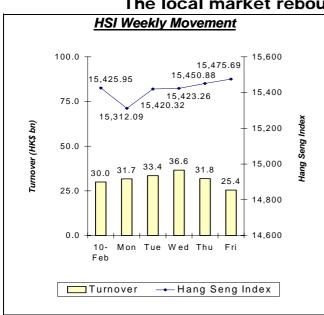
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HONG KONG RESEARCH

Weekly Report 18th February 2006

Restricted circulation Analyst: Stanley Lau

The local market rebounded from Monday's low



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Weekl	y Market	Statistic	<u>es</u>	
Week ended	17/02/2006	10/02/2006	Change	%
Hang Seng Index	15,475.69	15,425.95	+49.74	+0.3%
HS Red Chip Index	2,057.28	2,066.61	-9.33	-0.5%
HS China Enterprises Index	6,379.95	6,318.52	+61.43	+1.0%
HS Composite Index	2,074.63	2,065.85	+8.78	+0.4%
HS HK Composite Index	2,060.97	2,047.55	+13.42	+0.7%
HS Mainland Composite Index	2,113.50	2,113.80	-0.30	-0.0%
S&P/HKEx GEM Index	1,158.37	1,198.24	-39.87	-3.3%
Avg Daily Turnover	31.81	32.11	-0.30	-0.9%
(HK\$ bn)				
Sectoral Indices				
Finance	27,597.37	27,348.05	+249.32	+0.9%
Utilities	31,681.74	31,467.39	+214.35	+0.7%
Properties	18,846.56	18,626.07	+220.49	+1.2%
Comm & Ind	7,477.57	7,509.60	-32.03	-0.4%

Review & Outlook of Market Performance

Fuelled by gains on Wall Street, the Hong Kong stock market recovered Monday's drop of 113 points and finished the week in the positive territory. The HSI closed up 49.74 points, or 0.32% w-o-w, at 15,475.69. Trading remained buoyant during the week, with an average daily turnover of HK\$31.81 billion.

Property counters staged a rebound after HSBC's move to lower mortgage rates by 50 basis points. Sino Land surged 6.67% w-o-w to HK\$11.2 and New World Development jumped 3.13% w-o-w to HK\$11.55. Banking counters also outperformed after Bank of East Asia announced its better-than-expected FY2005 results last Friday with its share price up 5.06% w-o-w at HK\$25.95, while BOC Hong Kong ended 2.98% w-o-w higher at HK\$15.5.

Oil prices retreated during the week, prompting investors to switch out of the oil sector into airline stocks. PetroChina fell 3.29% w-o-w to HK\$7.35 and CNOOC dropped 4.55% w-o-w to HK\$6.3, while China Southern Airlines jumped 8.89% w-o-w to HK\$2.45 and Air China climbed 5.71% to HK\$2.775. Blue-chip player Cathay Pacific Airways rose 1.79% w-o-w to HK\$14.2 despite negative news that it was among a peer group under investigation for possible price fixing in the air-cargo market.

New policies that would allow H-share companies to join the HSI aroused interest in China Construction Bank, which was considered to be the most likely candidate as the lender had completed its non-tradable share reform. The counter had once set its 52-week high of HK\$3.85 before profit taking pulled it back to finish at HK\$3.575, up 9.16% w-o-w. Investors also piled up other H-share counters that could meet the selection criteria once they complete their share reforms later this year. Bank of Communications gained 6.86% w-o-w to HK\$4.675 and China Life Insurance added 2.42% w-o-w to HK\$8.45. Aided by the strong performance of financial counters, the H-share index closed up 0.97% w-o-w at 6,379.95.

Market factors to watch next week will be US CPI and the corporate results of the two local blue-chip counters Hang Lung Properties and Esprit Holdings. The initial support for the HSI should be at 15,350.

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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 February	11,115.32	2,282.36	15,713.45	2,431.34	926.47	739.35	6,673.75
10th February	10,919.05	2,261.88	16,257.83	2,423.59	920.31	738.07	6,594.92
Change	+196.27	+20.48	-544.38	+7.75	+6.16	+1.28	+78.83
%	+1.8%	+0.9%	-3.3%	+0.3%	+0.7%	+0.2%	+1.2%

Major Changes in Index Constituent Stocks (Week ended 17th February 2006)

Hang Seng Index (HSI)

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @17/02/06	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
			Absolute	%	
China Merchants Holdings	0144	HK\$21.75	+HK\$1.15	+5.58%	Investors continued to seek exposure to China's booming port business.
Hutchison Whampoa	0013	HK\$73.5	-HK\$2.4	-3.16%	Hutchison Whampoa shelved the IPO of its Italian 3G unit as it failed to fetch the target valuation.

Hang Seng China Enterprises Index (HSCEI)

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @17/02/06	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
			Absolute	%	
Sinopec Shanghai Petrochemical	0338	HK\$4.275	+HK\$0.325	+8.23%	Its parent Sinopec said it would take private 4 mainland-listed subsidiaries in a bid to simplify its structure. Investors were betting that Sinopec Shanghai Petrochemical could be the next.
Zijin Mining	2899	HK\$4.55	-HK\$0.325	-6.67%	Gold prices slipped after the US dollar rose on the prospect of more interestrate hikes.

Hang Seng China-Affiliated Corporations Index (HSCCI)

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @17/02/06	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
			Absolute	%	
China Netcom	0906	HK\$13.35	+HK\$0.4	+3.09%	China Netcom will be included in the HSI with effect from 6 th March 2006.
TCL Multimedia Technology Holdings	1070	HK\$1.35	-HK\$0.18	-11.76%	The company issued a profit warning on its fourth quarter to December results.

Summary of US Economic News

Indicator	Change/Index	Comments
Retail Sales – January	2.3%	The 2.3% rise was more than double market
		expectations and followed a 0.4% increase in December.
Business Inventories – December	0.7%	Business inventories rose a larger-than-expected
		0.7% in December, led by automotive stocks.
Industrial Production – January	-0.2%	Industrial production unexpectedly fell last month
		after a record decline in utility output.
Housing Starts – January	2.276 million	Housing starts surged 14.5% to an annualised
	units	2.276 million units last month, well ahead of market
		expectations of 2.023 million.
Initial Jobless Claims – week ended	297,000	Initial jobless claims rose 19,000 last week, but held
11 th February 2005		below the 300,000 level for a fifth straight week,
,		signalling a strong job market.
Producer Price Index (PPI) –	0.3%	PPI rose 0.3% in January, led by higher costs for
January		vehicles and machinery. The core PPI, which
		excludes food and energy, increased 0.4% after a
		0.1% rise in December.
Consumer Sentiment (Preliminary)	87.4	Consumer sentiment fell to 87.4 in February from
- February		the previous month of 91.2.

Forthcoming Important Announcements / Events

20th Fahruary 2000 (Manday)	LUZ	١.	Ctor Cruines (0070) Final results
20 th February 2006 (Monday)	HK		Star Cruises (0678) – Final results
et	US	Ŀ	Public Holiday – President's Day
21 st February 2006 (Tuesday)	HK	:	Consumer Price Index – January
			Hang Lung Group (0010) – Interim results
			Hang Lung Properties (0101) – Interim results
			ASM Pacific Technology (0522) – Final results
			Wumart Store (8277) – Final results
	US	:	Leading Indicators – January
			FOMC Minutes – 31 st January 2006 meeting
			Federated Department Stores Inc – Q4 results
			Home Depot Inc – Q4 results
			Medtronic Inc – Q3 results
			Wal-Mart Stores Inc – Q4 results
22 nd February 2006 (Wednesday)	HK	:	Gross Domestic Product – 4Q2005
			Wing Lung Bank (0096) – Final results
			Esprit Holdings (0330) – Interim results
	US	:	Consumer Price Index – January
			Sprint Nextel Corp – Q4 results
23 rd February 2006 (Thursday)	HK	:	Pacific Century Insurance Holdings (0065) – Final results
			Parkson Retail Group (3368) – Final results
	US	:	Initial Jobless Claims – week ended 18 th February 2006
			Gap Inc – Q4 results
			Kohl's Corp – Q4 results
			Nordstrom Inc – Q4 results
24 th February 2006 (Friday)	HK	:	San Miguel Brewery Hong Kong (0236) – Final results
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