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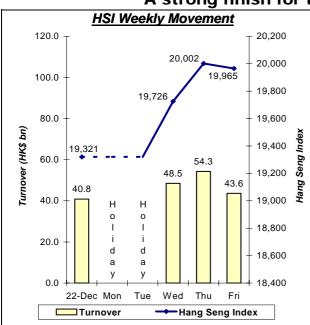
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HONG KONG RESEARCH

Weekly Report 29th December 2006

Restricted circulation Analyst: Vincent Leung

A strong finish for the local bourse in 2006



Weekly Market Statistics						
Week ended	29/12/2006	22/12/2006	Change	%		
Hang Seng Index	19,965	19,321	+644	+3.3%		
HS Red Chip Index	3,330	3,161	+170	+5.4%		
HS China Enterprises Index	10,340	9,593	+747	+7.8%		
HS Composite Index	2,803	2,693	+109	+4.1%		
HS HK Composite Index	2,454	2,409	+45	+1.9%		
HS Mainland Composite Index	3,285	3,093	+193	+6.2%		
S&P/HKEx GEM Index	1,225	1,211	+14	+1.1%		
Avg Daily Turnover	48.8	48.9	-0	-0.2%		
(HK\$ bn)						
Sectoral Indices						
Finance	32,429	31,584	+845	+2.7%		
Utilities	35,794	35,694	+99	+0.3%		
Properties	23,144	22,455	+690	+3.1%		
Comm & Ind	10,620	10,196	+425	+4.2%		

Review & Outlook of Market Performance

The local bourse returned to action after the Christmas break and had a cheerful 3-day trading week, mainly driven by mainland-related shares. Talks on a plan to set a unified corporate income tax rate of 25%, a move that will scrap the countries decade-old preferential treatment for foreign companies, fuelled the rally for the mainland firms, which are currently subject to a tax rate of 33%. Hectic trading amid bullish sentiment and year-end window-dressing activities propelled the Hang Seng Index to break through the 20,000-point mark on Thursday. However, with profit-taking set in on Friday, the HSI finished the week at 19,964.72, up 644 points or 3.3% over the week. Average daily turnover for the shortened week was HK\$48.8 billion.

Mainland telecoms were the main drivers for the blue-chip index on resurgence of talks on 3G license issuance. China Mobile, China Unicom and China Netcom all gained more than 5% in this week's trades. Meanwhile, BOC Hong Kong was the top performer among the blue chips this week on expectations that Hong Kong lenders will be able to offer a broader range of Renminbi-related services. The lender hit a fresh record closing high at HK\$21.10 on Friday, up 10.4% w-o-w. BEA also gained 4.1% w-o-w to close at HK\$44.05.

The surge in the A-share market during the Christmas break powered the H shares. In particular, performances of financial stocks in the Mainland were eye-catching as they were tipped as the major beneficiaries in the possible new tax system. Continued talks on A-share listings on the Mainland bourse also drove the H-share financials to new highs during the week amid the strong demand for China Life Insurance's Shanghai IPO. The top life insurer in the Mainland, which had priced its A-share issue at RMB18.88 per share, finished the week at HK\$26.55, up 9.0% w-o-w. With all but four constituents finishing in the positive territory, the H-share index ended the week up 7.8% w-o-w at 10,340.36.

As a wrap-up for the 2006, the HSI recorded a 34.2% gain or up 5,089 points over the year while the HSCEI registered a whopping 94% jump. Looking forward, China-related shares should remain the market focus and trading is expected to be volatile. In the near term, a healthy consolidation in the local market seems inevitable after the recent rally. Nevertheless, it is expected the correction should be short-lived given the still ample liquidity. The HSI is expected to see firm support at 19,500 to kick off Year 2007.

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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							
29th December	12,501.52*	2,425.57*	17,225.83	2,985.83	1,096.24	679.84	7,823.72
22nd December	12,343.22	2,401.18	17,104.96	2,942.39	1,079.72	680.31	7,652.47
Change	+158.30	+24.39	+120.87	+43.44	+16.52	-0.47	+171.25
%	+1.3%	+1.0%	+0.7%	+1.5%	+1.5%	-0.1%	+2.2%

Remark (*): closing as of 28th December 2006

Major Changes in Index Constituent Stocks (Week ended 29th December 2006)

Hang Seng Index (HSI)

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @29/12/06	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
		HK\$	Absolute	%	
HKEx	0388	HK\$85.50	+HK\$6.95	+8.85%	Brisk trading turnover and IPO pipelines for the coming year fuelled the bourse operator to new highs.
BOC Hong Kong	2388	HK\$21.10	+HK\$1.98	+10.36%	The lender shot up on expectation that banks in Hong Kong will be able to expand the scope of Renminbi businesses soon.

Hang Seng China Enterprises Index (HSCEI)

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @29/12/06	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
		HK\$	Absolute	%	
Sinopec	0386	HK\$7.20	+HK\$0.48	+7.14%	The mainland's top oil refiner said it had received RMB5 billion as compensation from the central government for refining losses in 2006.
PetroChina	0857	HK\$11.02	+HK\$0.64	+6.17%	Corporate tax news and hopes for an A-share listing next year propelled the oil major.
CCB	0939	HK\$4.95	+HK\$0.33	+7.14%	Hopes of future A-share listing in the
Ping An	2318	HK\$43.05	+HK\$4.75	+12.40%	Mainland stock market continued to pop up
PICC P&C	2328	HK\$3.99	+HK\$0.55	+15.99%	financial counters in the Mainland amid the
China Life	2628	HK\$26.55	+HK\$2.20	+9.03%	well-received China Life Insurance's A-
Bank of Communications	3328	HK\$9.44	+HK\$1.02	+12.11%	share IPO.

Hang Seng China-Affiliated Corporations Index (HSCCI)

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @29/12/06	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
		HK\$	Absolute	%	
China Unicom	0762	HK\$11.40	+HK\$0.84	+7.95%	Shares of these telecom counters all went up on resurgence of talks on the imminent
China Netcom	0906	HK\$20.85	+HK\$1.39	+7.14%	issue of 3G license and the possible unification of Mainland's corporate tax
China Mobile	0941	HK\$67.20	+HK\$3.20	+5.00%	system in 2007 that may lower the tax rate to 25% from the current 33%.

Summary of US Economic News

Indicator	Change/Index	Comments
New home sales - November 2006	+3.4% m-o-m	Sales of new homes were unexpectedly strong in November, rising 3.4% to an annual rate of 1.047 million units from an upwardly-revised 1.013-million-unit pace in October.
Consumer confidence – December 2006	109.0	The Conference Board's consumer confidence index rose to a better-than-expected 109.0 in December from a revised 105.3 in November as concerns about the job market faded.
Initial jobless claims – week ended 23 rd December 2006	+1,000	The number of workers applying for jobless benefits rose a smaller-than-expected 1,000 to 317,000, showing a stable job market.
Existing home sales - November 2006	+0.6% m-o-m	Existing home sales increased 0.6% to a higher-than- expected annual rate of 6.28 million units in November, suggesting the slumping property market is stabilising.

Forthcoming Important Announcements / Events

1 st January 2007 (Monday)	HK	:	New Year's Day holiday
	US	:	New Year's Day holiday
2 nd January 2007 (Tuesday)	HK	:	Retail sales – November 2006
	US	:	ISM manufacturing index – December 2006
			Accenture Ltd – Q1 2007 results
3 rd January 2007 (Wednesday)	HK	:	No important announcements / events
	US	:	Minutes of FOMC Meeting held on 12 th December 2006
			Construction spending – November 2006
4 th January 2007 (Thursday)	HK	:	No important announcements / events
	US	:	Factory orders – November 2006
			ISM non-manufacturing index – December 2006
			Initial jobless claims – week ended 30 th December 2006
			Constellation Brands Inc – Q3 2006 results
5 th January 2007 (Friday)	HK	:	No important announcements / events
	US	:	Unemployment rate – December 2006

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