

EAST ASIA SECURITIES COMPANY LIMITED

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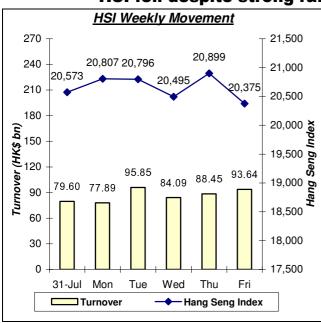
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HONG KONG RESEARCH

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Weekly Report
7th August 2009

HSI fell despite strong rally in HSBC and China Mobile



| Weekly Market Statistics | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|-----------|--------|-------|--|--|--|
| Week ended | 7/8/2009 | 31/7/2009 | Change | % | | | |
| Hang Seng Index | 20,375 | 20,573 | -198 | -1.0% | | | |
| HS Red Chip Index | 4,318 | 4,150 | +168 | +4.0% | | | |
| HS China Enterprises Index | 11,612 | 12,124 | -511 | -4.2% | | | |
| HS Composite Index | 2,850 | 2,887 | -37 | -1.3% | | | |
| HS HK Composite Index | 2,033 | 2,048 | -15 | -0.7% | | | |
| HS Mainland Composite Index | 3,829 | 3,891 | -62 | -1.6% | | | |
| Growth Enterprise Index | 617 | 644 | -27 | -4.2% | | | |
| Avg Daily Turnover (HK\$ bn) | 88.0 | 84.7 | +3 | +3.9% | | | |
| Sectoral Indices | | | | | | | |
| Finance | 30,726 | 31,252 | -526 | -1.7% | | | |
| Utilities | 37,169 | 37,745 | -575 | -1.5% | | | |
| Properties | 26,480 | 28,288 | -1,809 | -6.4% | | | |
| Comm & Ind | 11,083 | 10,899 | +183 | +1.7% | | | |

Review & Outlook of Market Performance

The Hang Seng Index fell during the week, despite strong rally in heavyweights HSBC and China Mobile. It was mainly dragged by sharp decline in PRC banking plays, amid growing concerns that the major PRC commercial banks would turn more cautious on making new loans for the rest of the year following a lending boom in the first half. Property developers were also among the losers, as a possible slowdown in capital inflow from the Mainland may hurt buying spree in local properties. Over the week, the HSI dropped 0.96% to 20,375.37, while the HSCEI plunged 4.22% to 11,612.18.

Major blue-chip companies began to report their first-half results. HSBC reported on Monday a 52% y-o-y drop in earnings but it was better than market expectations, which triggered a strong rally (+8.69% w-o-w) in its shares. It helped lift the HSI to above 21,000 on Tuesday, a high not seeing in more than 11 months. Hang Seng Bank, Hongkong Electric and Swire Pacific reported lower earnings in 1H09 on economic weakness, while Cathay Pacific Airways turned back into profit on fuel hedging gains. Besides HSBC, another index heavyweight China Mobile also jumped sharply (+8.78% w-o-w) during the week, amid market talks that the mobile giant has hired an investment bank to arrange its A-share listing before the year-end. However, rally in both HSBC and China Mobile failed to support the HSI, as deep share-price losses in the Mainland banks and HK property developers pressed the blue-chip index down into the negative territory. For instance, China Construction Bank tumbled 8.00% w-o-w, while ICBC slumped 8.42%. The HS Property Sub-index registered the biggest drop among the four sub-indexes, down a sharp 6.39% w-o-w.

Besides a streak of results announcements, investors will also look to the Chinese July economic data due in the coming week, including CPI on Monday, external trade figures on Tuesday and retail sales on Wednesday. The HS index complier will release the quarterly review next Friday, while China Resources Land is tipped to join the HSI and BYD to join the HSCEI. For the coming week, profit taking activities are expected to continue, which may press the blue-chip index down below the 20,000 level.

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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 |
| | | | | | | | |
| 7th August | 9,256.26* | 1,973.16* | 10,412.09 | 2,549.35 | 1,184.88 | 644.20 | 6,868.65* |
| 31st July | 9,171.61 | 1,978.50 | 10,356.83 | 2,659.20 | 1,174.90 | 624.00 | 7,077.71 |
| Change | +84.65 | -5.34 | +55.26 | -109.85 | +9.98 | +20.20 | -209.06 |
| % | +0.9% | -0.3% | +0.5% | -4.1% | +0.8% | +3.2% | -3.0% |

Remarks: (*) closing as of 6th August 2009

Major Changes in Index Constituent Stocks (Week ended 7th August 2009)

Hang Seng Index (HSI)

| Stock | Stock Code | Closing Price @7/8/09 | W-O-W Change | | Remarks / Comments |
|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------|---|
| | | | Absolute | % | |
| HSBC Holdings | 00005 | HK\$83.80 | +HK\$6.70 | +8.69% | HSBC was one of the winners in the HSI, after it reported a better-than-expected 1H09 result. In 1H09, HSBC posted 51% y-o-y fall in pre-tax profit to US\$5.02 billion, but it was higher than consensus forecast of US\$4.9 billion and far better than some forecast of making a loss in the first half. |
| China Mobile | 00941 | HK\$88.55 | +HK\$7.15 | +8.78% | China Mobile hit an 11-month high, bucking sluggish share-price performance so far this year, as sources were quoted as saying that the mobile giant has hired CICC to arrange its A-share listing. |

Hang Seng China Enterprises Index (HSCEI)

| Stock | Stock Code | • | W-O-W Change | | Remarks / Comments |
|------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|--------|--|
| | | | Absolute | % | |
| China Railway Group | 00390 | HK\$7.49 | +HK\$0.51 | +7.31% | China Railway Group was the top gainer in the HSCEI, after its parent company won a sizable US\$7.5 billion railway project in Venezuela and plans to let China Railway Group to act as the contractor of the project. Besides, the share was also supported by investment upgrade by brokerage houses following the news. |

Hang Seng China-Affiliated Corporations Index (HSCCI)

| Stock | Stock Code | Closing Price @7/8/09 | W-O-W Change | | Remarks / Comments |
|--|---------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------|--|
| | | | Absolute | % | |
| COSCO Pacific | 01199 | HK\$12.32 | +HK\$1.50 | +13.86% | Port operators rebounded sharply during the week, following market talks |
| China Merchants Holdings (International) | 00144 | HK\$27.25 | +HK\$1.65 | +6.45% | that container throughput in the Mainland ports is seen rebounding robustly in July. |



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Summary of US Economic News

| Indicator | Change/Index | Comments |
|--|--------------|--|
| Construction spending – June 2009 | +0.3% | Construction spending rose 0.3% m-o-m in Jun, bucking market expectation of a 0.5% fall and a 0.8% decline in May, supported by public construction. |
| ISM manufacturing index - July 2009 | 48.9 | ISM manufacturing index surged to 48.9 in Jul from 44.8 in Jun, beating consensus forecast of 46.5. It marked the highest level since Aug 2008, a fresh sign showing the US manufacturing sector may be bottoming out. |
| Personal income – June 2009 | -1.3% | Personal income fell 1.3% m-o-m in Jun, bigger than market expectation of a 1.0% drop. |
| Factory orders – June 2009 | +0.4% | Factory orders rose 0.4% m-o-m in Jun after a 1.1% rise in May, bucking market expectation of a 1% fall. |
| ISM non-manufacturing index - July 2009 | 46.4 | ISM non-manufacturing index slipped to 46.4 in Jul from 47.0 in Jun, showing contraction in the US services sector had not yet bottomed. |
| Initial jobless claims – week ended 1 st August 2009 | -38,000 | Initial jobless claims fell 38,000 from a week earlier to 550,000 last week, better than consensus forecast of 580,000. |

Forthcoming Important Announcements / Events

| 10 th August 2009 (Monday) | HK | : | China Eastern Airlines (00670) – interim results Haier Electronics (01169) – interim results Lifestyle International (01212) – interim results |
|--|----|---|---|
| | US | : | No important announcement/event |
| 11 th August 2009 (Tuesday) | HK | : | External trade – June 2009 Hysan Development (00014) – interim results MTR Corporation (00066) – interim results Fubon Bank (Hong Kong) (00636) – interim results Huaneng Power International (00902) – interim results Huadian Power International (01071) – interim results |
| | US | : | Productivity (preliminary) – Q2 2009 Wholesale inventories – June 2009 |
| 12 th August 2009 (Wednesday) | НК | : | Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing (00388) – interim results Dah Sing Financial (00440) – interim results Tencent Holdings (00700) – interim results Dah Sing Banking (02356) – interim results |
| | US | : | Trade balance – Jun 2009 |
| 13 th August 2009 (Thursday) | HK | : | Gross domestic product – Q2 2009 Cheung Kong (Holdings) (00001) – interim results Hutchison Whampoa (00013) – interim results Wing Hang Bank (00302) – interim results Li & Fung (00494) – interim results Chong Hung Bank (01111) – interim results |
| | US | : | Initial jobless claims – week ended 1 st August 2009 Retail sales – July 2009 Business inventories – June 2009 Wal-Mart Stores Inc. – Q2 FY2009/10 results |
| 14 th August 2009 (Friday) | HK | : | Hang Seng quarterly index review Datang International Power (00991) – interim results Ping An Insurance (02318) – interim results |
| | US | : | Consumer price index – July 2009 Industrial production – July 2009 Consumer sentiment (preliminary) – August 2009 |

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