

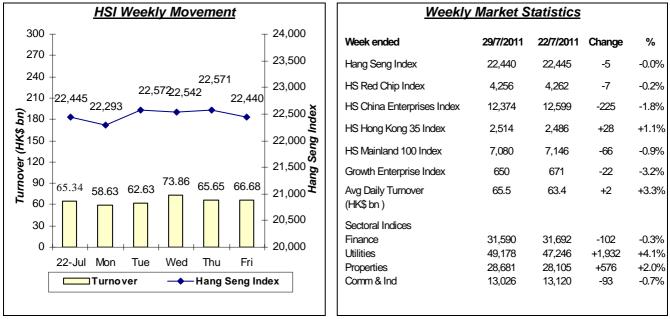
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HONG KONG RESEARCH

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Review & Outlook of Market Performance

The local bourse made a weak start this week as the market was awash with rumours that the US would still lose its AAA rating even if a compromise could be reached between the White House and Congress to raise the debt ceiling. But investors were subsequently cheered by optimism about local companies' interim earnings which helped offset Wall Street's weakness. Over the week, the Hang Seng Index rose 4.55 points or 0.02% to 22,440.25, while the HSCEI fell 1.79% to 12,373.64. Average daily turnover amounted to HK\$65.5 billion, up from HK\$63.4 billion in the previous week.

Power Assets, AIA Group and Hang Lung Properties kicked off the interim reporting season of local blue chips. Power Assets saw its first-half profit soar by 47% y-o-y to a record on full-period contribution from its UK investments while AIA Group reported a 24% y-o-y rise in first-half net profit, helped by strong growth in key markets such as China and Thailand. Both of their shares surged to record highs after reporting forecast-beating results. In contrast, Hang Lung Properties said full-year profit excluding gains from revaluations fell 59% on fewer homes sales.

During the week, railway shares were worst hit, as investors began panic selling after the fatal collision in Wenzhou City, Zhejiang Province, that prompted the government to order a safety inspection. Railway stocks, namely China Railway (00390), China Railway Construction (01186), CSR Corp (01766) and Zhuzhou CSR Times (03898), plunged 10%-18% w-o-w. The tragedy, however, drove up airline share prices as the train crash might spur demand for alternative transportation options.

On the IPO front, China's top hypermart operator Sun Art Retail Group (06808) surged 40.5% on its trading debut, making it one of the best performing initial public offerings this year. Separately, iBond, the first inflation-linked bond in HK, surprised investors by rising 6.7% on the first trading day after tepid response in the retail subscription.

Looking into next week, investors would focus on the results announcements of the banking counters, including HSBC, Hang Seng Bank (both on Monday), Standard Chartered (Wednesday) and the Bank of East Asia (Thursday). Attention should also be given to the upcoming US economic figures (personal spending & unemployment rate) to be released next week. Any positive surprises from corporate earnings may drive the HSI to test its resistance of 22,800 set in early July.

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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
29th July	12,240.11*	2,766.25*	9,833.03	3,189.26	1,548.81	1,133.53	8,644.18
22nd July	12,681.16	2,858.83	10,132.11	3,182.05	1,565.06	1,121.04	8,765.32
Change	-441.05	-92.58	-299.08	+7.21	-16.25	+12.49	-121.14
%	-3.5%	-3.2%	-3.0%	+0.2%	-1.0%	+1.1%	-1.4%

Remark: (*) closing as of 28th July 2011

Major Changes in Index Constituent Stocks (Week ended 29th July 2011)

Hang Seng Index (HSI)

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @29/7/2011	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
			Absolute	%	
AIA Group	01299	HK\$28.65	+HK\$1.75	+6.5%	AIA Group reported better-than- expected fiscal first-half results. The value of its new business jumped 32% y-o-y, thanks to strong growth in its key markets of Hong Kong and Thailand.
Power Assets	00006	HK\$64.5	+HK\$4.9	+8.2%	Power Asset announced a record 47% gain in 1H11 profit due to full-period contribution from its UK investments. It was the first time the proportion of earnings derived from the overseas markets exceeding earnings from the HK operations.

Hang Seng China Enterprises Index (HSCEI)

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @29/7/2011	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments	
			Absolute	%		
China Railway Construction	01186	HK\$4.78	-HK\$1.07	-18.3%	Chinese railway stocks slumped after a deadly train accident at the weekend fuelled concerns over the sefect of the	
China Railway	00390	HK\$2.92	-HK\$0.35	-10.7%	fuelled concerns over the safety of t country's rapidly expanding high-spe rail network.	

Hang Seng China-Affiliated Corporations Index (HSCCI)

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @29/7/2011	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
			Absolute	%	
COSCO Pacific	01199	HK\$12.66	-HK\$0.48	-3.7%	Shipping counters were mostly down as CSCL, China's second largest container carrier, issued a profit warning, saying adverse conditions in the global container market caused it to post a first half loss.



Summary of US Economic News

Indicator	Change/Index	Comments
Consumer Confidence - July 2011	59.5	The Conference Board's index rose nearly two points to 59.5 from 57.6 in June. A key detail in this report was the assessment of the current jobs market where more people, 44.1% vs June's 43.2%, said jobs were hard to get. This suggested another month of trouble for the monthly employment report.
New Home Sales - June 2011	-1.0%	Although the report showed weak new home sales, price strength surprised the market, with the median up 5.8% to \$235,200 and the average price up 1.8% to \$269,000.
Durable Goods Orders - June 2011	-2.1%	New factory orders for durables in June fell 2.1%, following a rebound of 1.9% in the prior month. Transportation was the weakest component, dropped a sharp 8.5%, following a 5.8% rebound in May.
Initial jobless claims – week ended 23 rd July 2011	-24,000	Initial jobless claims dropped a very sharp 24,000 for the week ended 23 rd July to 398,000 (the first sub-400,000 reading since April 2011). The four-week average of 413,750 was down a steep 8,500 in the week for a nearly 15,000 improvement from the month-ago reading.

Forthcoming Important Announcements / Events

1 st August 2011 (Monday)	НК	:	HSBC Holdings (00005) – interim results Hang Seng Bank (0011) – interim results Hutchison Telecommunications Hong Kong (00215) – interim results Retail Sales – June 2011
	US	:	ISM Mfg Index – July 2011 Construction Spending – Jun 2011
2 nd August 2011 (Tuesday)	ΗK	:	Hui Xian REIT (87001) – interim results
	US	:	Personal Income and Outlays – June 2011
3 rd August 2011 (Wednesday)	НК	:	SouthGobi Resources (01878) – interim results Pacific Basin Shipping (02343) – interim results Standard Chartered (02888) – interim results
	US	•	Factory Orders – June 2011 ISM Non-Mfg Index – July 2011
4 th August 2011 (Thursday)	НК	:	Cheung Kong (00001) – interim results Hutchison Whampoa (00013) – interim results The Bank of East Asia (00023) – interim results
	US	:	Initial jobless claims – week ended 30 th July 2011
5 th August 2011 (Friday)	HK	:	Orient Overseas (International) (00316) – interim results CSR Corporation (01766) – interim results Prudential Group (02378) – interim results Zhuzhou CSR Times Electric (03898) – interim results
	US	:	Employment Situation – July 2011



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