

## Morning Market Summary

Index	Close	Chg	% Chg
DJIA	24,099.05	-64.10	-0.27
S&P500	2,654.80	6.75	0.25
Nasdaq	7,130.70	64.44	0.91
FTSE100	7,520.36	11.06	0.15
DAX	12,612.11	31.24	0.25
CAC40	5,520.50	37.31	0.68
Nikkei225	22,508.03	40.16	0.18
Hang Seng	30,808.45	527.78	1.74
Shanghai	3,082.23	7.20	0.23
All Ords	6,100.00	28.40	0.47
ASX200	6,015.20	32.50	0.54
BSPC Average	918.86	0.06	0.01

Commodities	Close	Chg	% Chg
Gold (USD/oz)	1,305.70	-1.10	-0.08
Silver (USD/oz)	16.2	0.07	0.42
Platinum (USD/t oz)	894.67	0.04	0.00
Palladium (USD/t oz)	947.16	-1.42	-0.15
Copper (USD/MT)	304.9	1.15	0.38
Oil (USD/bbl)	73.13	-1.56	-2.09
Cocoa (USD/MT)	2,894.00	69.00	2.44
Coffee (USD/lb)	124.8	2.00	1.63

PGK v	Buy	Sell	Mid
USD	0.315	0.300	0.308
AUD	0.412	0.397	0.404
EUR	0.261	0.246	0.253
JPY	34.040	32.540	33.290
NZD	0.442	0.427	0.434

### Global Markets<sup>1</sup>

#### U.S

U.S. stocks closed mostly higher on Tuesday, as a sharp rally in technology stocks helped the S&P 500 and the Nasdaq shake off an early decline. However, the Dow fell for a third straight session as caution remained high ahead of the conclusion of a Federal Reserve policy meeting and fresh developments in global trade.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average **DJIA, -0.27%** fell 64.1 points, or 0.3%, to end at 24,099.05.

The S&P 500 index **SPX, +0.25%** rose 6.75 points to 2,654.8, a gain of 0.3%. The Nasdaq Composite Index **COMP, +0.91%** rose 64.44 points, or 0.9%, to finish at 7,130.70, supported by a rise in Apple and other major technology companies.

The Federal Reserve began a two-day meeting Tuesday. When it wraps, the central bank is expected to leave interest rates on hold and signal no change to a tightening path of two more rate increases in 2018. Changes to Fed policy—in addition to interest rates, the U.S. central bank is shrinking the size of its balance sheet—are widely seen as one of the biggest headwinds facing markets.

The U.S. tariffs on aluminum and steel imports were in focus again. President Donald Trump late Monday gave top allies—the European Union, Canada and Mexico—an extension to the tariff exemption to allow more time to negotiate a new pact to avoid the levies. The tariffs of 25% on steel and 10% aluminum—already in effect against China, Russia, Japan and others—were slated to come into effect on May 1, but have now been pushed back to June 1.

#### Europe

European stocks posted a modest loss on Tuesday, as most of the region's markets were closed for the May Day holiday.

The Stoxx Europe 600 index **SXXP, -0.08%** ended marginally lower, down about 0.1% at 385.03. The U.K.'s FTSE 100 index **UKX, +0.15%** rose by 0.2% to 7,520.36, and marked its highest close since Jan. 31, according to FactSet data. Stock markets were closed across most of Europe in observance of May Day or Labor Day including in France **PX1, +0.68%** Germany **DAX, +0.25%** Spain **IBEX, +0.56%** and Italy **I945, +0.22%**

With most markets closed, attention turned to corporate news in the U.K., where oil giant BP reported its strongest quarterly profit since mid-2014, buoyed by higher oil prices and rising production.

Also in focus, U.S. President Donald Trump on Monday eased pressure on the European Union, giving the bloc more time to negotiate deals that would keep it exempt from U.S. aluminum and steel tariffs.

#### Asia

Stocks in Japan and New Zealand fell slightly following declines on Wall Street, though Australia's benchmark climbed.

In Japan, the Nikkei **NIK, +0.18%** was recently down 0.1%, as was New Zealand's NZX 50 **NZ50GR, +0.09%**. Australian equities kept

<sup>1</sup> MarketWatch

rising after the S&P/ASX 200 **XJO, +0.54%** logged its best month since October.

Many markets in Asia are closed for the Labor Day holiday.

Market participants were concerned about allegations made by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that Iran had a secret plan to develop nuclear weapons.

And President Donald Trump gave the European Union and some nations outside the bloc more time to negotiate deals that would exempt them from U.S. steel and aluminum tariffs. The tariffs are already in effect against China, Japan, Russia and others. U.S. and Chinese officials are meeting later this week to discuss trade.

## Port Moresby<sup>2</sup>

The local bourse finished Tuesday in positive territory, with Bank South Pacific **BSP+0.10%** adding one toea to close at K9.80 a share, another fresh record set. All the others remained flat at the closing bells.

Name	Bid Price	Offer Price	Ref Price	High	Low	Chge Price	Chge %	Daily Vol	Daily Val	Close Price	Last	Trades
BSP	9.79		9.79	9.80	9.80	0.01	0.10	3,260	31,948	9.80	9.80	1

On the dual listed front; both OSH and NCM closed Tuesday higher at A\$7.91 and A\$21.19 a share respectively.

## Commodities<sup>3</sup>

### Gold

Gold futures ended at a two-month low on Tuesday as the dollar turned positive for 2018 and Treasury yields climbed a day ahead of the Federal Reserve's monetary-policy decision.

June gold **GCM8, -0.09%** fell \$12.40 or 0.9%, to settle at \$1,306.80 an ounce, after finishing April down by 0.6%. The settlement was the lowest since March 1, according to FactSet data.

A strengthening dollar helped to weaken demand for bullion, with the ICE U.S. dollar up 0.6% at 92.43, tipping the benchmark index higher for the year.

The downturn for gold also comes as the Fed gathers for a two-day policy meeting, ending Wednesday. Although the central bank isn't expected to alter its policy, market participants are anticipating that the central bank will underscore its intention to lift interest rates at least three more times in 2018.

### Oil

Oil prices declined Tuesday on signs of rising U.S. crude production and stockpiles, despite uncertainty about whether the U.S. will pull out of the Iran nuclear deal.

June West Texas Intermediate crude oil dropped by \$1.32, or 1.9%, to settle at \$67.25 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, for the lowest finish since April 17. The U.S. contract scored a 5.6% monthly advance, based on the most-active contract, in April.

July Brent **LCON8, -1.75%** the international benchmark, fell \$1.56, or 2.1%, to \$73.13 a barrel on ICE Futures Europe, also the lowest settlement in about two weeks. The contract rose 7.7% in April.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration reported Monday that oil production rose to a record 10.264 million barrels a day in February. The EIA will issue its weekly figures on petroleum supply and production on Wednesday. Trade group the American Petroleum Institute will release its own inventory data late Tuesday.

<sup>2</sup> POMSoX, Company, BSP Capital

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