

Newz Bits

HIGHLIGHTS

On Malaysia

- AirAsia:** Carries 10.6% more passengers in Q2
- Measat:** Makes it hat-trick for AK
- MAS:** Eyes 5% annual growth revenue from charter services
- WCT:** To issue RM600m bonds with detachable warrants
- CI Holdings:** PepsiCo renews Permanis' bottling rights
- George Kent:** Secures RM130m water job
- TDM:** To build RM120m hospital

On The Global Front

- US:** Recovery slowed in some areas, Fed survey shows
- US:** Durable goods orders fell unexpectedly in June
- UK:** King forecast no early to 'normal' rate level
- UK:** Second quarter economic growth was a 'blip'
- Australia:** Consumer price growth unexpectedly slows

REPORTS

- PLUS Expressways (Quick bits):** End of the road for Indon venture (Maintain BUY, TP: RM4.13)

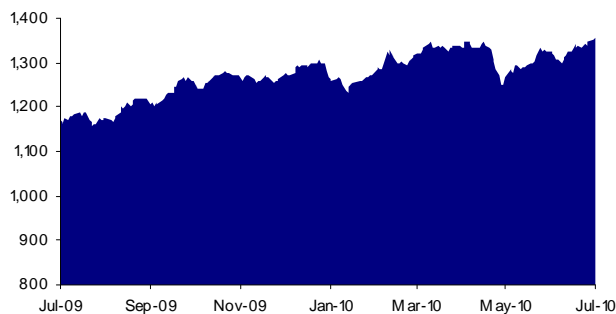
	Last	D-o-D chg %	YTD chg %
FTSE BM KLCI	1,355.2	0.2	6.5
FTSE BM ACE	3,799.2	0.2	(11.6)
Dow Jones	10,497.9	(0.4)	0.7
S&P 500	1,106.1	(0.7)	(0.8)
Nasdaq	2,264.6	(1.0)	(0.2)
FTSE	5,319.7	(0.9)	(1.7)
Nikkei	9,753.3	2.7	(7.5)
Hang Seng	21,091.2	0.6	(3.6)

Currency	28 July	27 July	% chg
USD/RM	3.1945	3.1880	0.20
Yen100/RM	3.6367	3.6669	(0.82)
EURO/RM	4.1516	4.1473	0.10
SGD/RM	2.3420	2.3419	0.01

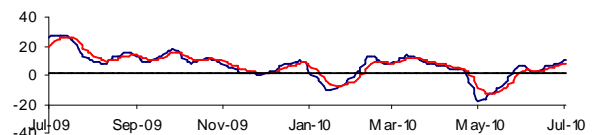
Market Turnover	28 July	27 July	% chg
Vol (m shrs)	844.1	730.9	15.5
Value (RMm)	1,192.1	1,270.9	(6.2)

Futures	28 July	27 July	% chg
KLCI (1 st month)	1,356.0	1,355.5	0.04
CPO (3 rd month)	2,495.0	2,485.0	0.40
WTI (1 st month)	76.99	77.50	(0.66)

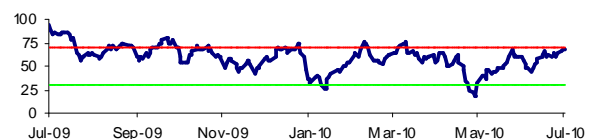
FBMKLCI



MACD



RSI



Malaysia

AirAsia: Carries 10.6% more passengers in Q2

AirAsia Bhd (*AIRA MK, Buy, TP: RM1.67*) carried 10.6% more passengers in the second quarter ended 30 Jun compared with the same period last year. According to its preliminary operating statistics for Apr to Jun that was released, AirAsia carried 3.89m passengers in the second quarter compared with 3.52m a year ago. The carrier's load factor increased to 77% from 75% previously. Its available seat kilometres, which measures the airline's passenger capacity, rose 9.1% to 5.94m in the Q2. Meanwhile, its revenue passenger kilometres, which measures the volume of passengers carried by the airline, rose 14.6% to 4.32m. (*StarBiz*)

Measat: Makes it hat-trick for AK

Tycoon T.Ananda Krishnan is going for his third major corporate exercise in less than a year, this time involving the privatisation of Measat Global Bhd – at a cash offer price of RM4.20 or about RM668m. In a statement to Bursa Malaysia, Measat said Measat Global Network Systems Sdn Bhd, the entity controlled by Ananda, intended to undertake a conditional takeover to acquire all the shares in Measat not already held by Measat Global Network Systems for RM4.20 each cash per share. Besides Measat, Tanjong PLC (*TJN MK, Hold, TP: RM17.66*) was also suspended until Friday evening. (*StarBiz*)

MAS: Eyes 5% annual growth revenue from charter services

Malaysia Airlines (*MAS MK, Hold, TP: RM2.22*) expects 5% annual growth in revenue from charter services due to high demand and availability of resources, said haj and charter department head Captain Nik Ahmad Huzlan Nik Hussain. Last year, MAS recorded about RM200m in revenue from its charter flights, including haj services. "The charter flight business is very much a side business for MAS. We only pursue it whenever there is a request," he told. (*StarBiz*)

WCT: To issue RM600m bonds with detachable warrants

WCT Bhd has proposed an issuance of RM600m nominal value serial fixed rate bonds of up to five years with up to 181m detachable warrants on a "bought deal" basis to primary subscribers. In a filing with Bursa Malaysia, WCT also proposed an offer for sale of the provisional rights to the allotment of up to 181m WCT warrants by primary subscribers at an offer price to be determined to shareholders and entitled senior management of the WCT group of companies. The company said the proceeds from the proposed bonds with warrants would enable it to refinance its existing borrowings, resulting in interest savings of the company. (*StarBiz*)

CI Holdings: PepsiCo renews Permanis' bottling rights

PepsiCo has extended the rights of C.I.Holdings Bhd (CIH) wholly-owned subsidiary Permanis to manufacture and sell its beverage brands in Malaysia for 10 years. PepsiCo and C.I.Holdings said in a joint statement that the two parties had signed an exclusive bottling agreement to renew the franchise bottling rights of Permanis. PepsiCo GM for its South-East Asia business unit, Manu Anand, said the renewal and extension of the agreement show PepsiCo's confidence in Permanis as a long-term strategic growth partner for its Malaysia beverage business. (*StarBiz*)

George Kent: Secures RM130m water job

George Kent (M) Bhd has secured another water infrastructure project with the award of a RM129.8m contract to construct and complete a 160m litres per day water treatment plant in Kuantan, Pahang. The contract was awarded by the East Coast Economic Region Development Council in an open tender. The project was scheduled for completion by Aug 12, 2013, which would be 157 weeks from the site possession date of Aug 10, 2010. Chairman Tan Sri Tan Kay Hock said George Kent is currently pursuing infrastructure contracts within the water and healthcare industries, worth several billions. (*Malaysian Reserve*)

TDM: To build RM120m hospital

Terengganu state-owned company TDM Bhd will build a RM120m seven-storey hospital for Kuantan Medical Centre (KMC). The new facility will be equipped with the latest technology, 150 beds based on the single-room concept and services by 33 consultants. It will also have five operating theatres and 12 intensive care units. The existing hospital has 84 beds and 18 consultants. The new hospital is expected to be completed in 2012. Chairman Datuk Roslan Awang Chik said there was need for the company to meet the increasing demand for quality healthcare and medical services in line with higher standards of living. (*StarBiz*)

Malaysia

MRCB: Will consider setting up REIT, says CEO

Malaysia Resources Corp Bhd (MRCB) will consider injecting some of its properties into a real estate investment trust (REIT) as part of the company's growth strategy, said CEO Mohamed Razeek Hussain. "REIT has never been (far) away from our minds. It is a strategy that we might employ in the future, perhaps in the mid to long term. We are strengthening our balance sheet to enhance recurring income. When it is substantial and the time is right, we will consider," he said. "For us, mid term would mean (within) three years and long term (is anything) beyond that," he said. Meanwhile, MRCB plans to raise RM400m via a guaranteed commercial paper / medium-term note programme to finance the development of KL Sentral Park project. (*StarBiz*)

Economy: Consumer confidence turns more optimistic

Consumer confidence in Malaysia inched up to 99 index points in second quarter from 98 points in first quarter this year, according to the latest Nielsen Global Consumer Confidence Survey. In a statement, Nielsen said the latest consumer confidence index gain in Malaysia also represented an 18-point surge from an all-time low in first quarter last year. The Nielsen Co's MD for Malaysia Kow Kuan Hua said the latest increase in the consumer confidence index came as various economists raised their gross domestic growth forecasts for this year after a robust first quarter growth of 10.1%. (*StarBiz*)

Global

US: Stocks fall on economic fears

Stocks fell Wednesday as a worse-than-expected report on durable goods orders and weaker quarterly results from Boeing and others added to concerns about the pace of the economic recovery. The Dow Jones industrial average slipped 0.4% (-39.8 pts, close 10,497.9). The Nasdaq dropped 1.0% (-23.7 pts, close 2,264.6) and the S&P 500 fell 0.7% (-7.7 pts, close 1,106.1). U.S. light crude oil for Sep delivery fell 19 cents to US\$76.80 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. (*CNNmoney*)

US: Recovery slowed in some areas, Fed survey shows

The Federal Reserve said U.S. economic growth slowed in some areas over the past two months, dragged down by commercial real estate and the expiration of a tax credit for homebuyers. The Federal Reserve said U.S. economic growth slowed in some areas over the past two months, dragged down by commercial real estate and the expiration of a tax credit for homebuyers. The report underscored the Fed's view that the recovery, while still moving forward, is progressing at a slower pace than earlier in the year. Fed Chairman Ben S. Bernanke said in congressional testimony last week that the central bank expects "continued moderate growth" and noted that the economic outlook remains "unusually uncertain." The Fed reported improvements in service industries, an increase in tourism, an expansion of manufacturing and progress in labor markets. (*Bloomberg*)

US: Durable goods orders fell unexpectedly in June

New orders for long-lasting U.S. manufactured goods unexpectedly fell for a second straight month in Jun, posting their largest decline since Aug, according to a government report on Wednesday that was further evidence economic growth cooled in the second quarter. The Commerce Department said durable goods orders fell 1.0% after a revised 0.8% drop in May. Analysts polled by Reuters had forecast orders increasing 1.0% in Jun from May's previously reported 0.6% fall. Durable goods orders had been expected to rise based on the fact that Boeing Co received 49 orders for civilian aircraft in Jun compared to only five in May. But non-defense aircraft orders tumbled 25.6% in Jun after falling 30.2% the prior month. Overall orders were also pulled down by bookings for computers and electronic products, which saw their largest decline since Oct. (*Financial Post*)

UK: King forecast no early to 'normal' rate level

The Fed reported improvements in service industries, an increase in tourism, an expansion of manufacturing and progress in labor markets. "There will come a point when we will certainly need to ease off the accelerator and return Bank Rate to more normal levels," King told lawmakers in London. "I look forward to that time because it will probably be a signal that there is a smoother drive ahead, with the economic outlook improving in a durable way. But I fear there is some considerable distance to travel before we can begin to use the word 'normal.'" Bank of England policy makers are starting to split on monetary policy as an economic recovery stokes concerns about inflation pressures. While Andrew Sentance argues it's time to raise the benchmark rate from a record low of 0.5%, David Miles told the same committee that the central bank should be prepared to step up its bond-purchase program to safeguard growth if necessary. (*Bloomberg*)

UK: Second quarter economic growth was a 'blip'

The pace of U.K. second-quarter economic growth was a "blip" and it isn't time for the Bank of England to begin removing stimulus, the National Institute of Economic and Social Research said. The U.K. economy expanded 1.1% in the three months through Jun, the fastest pace in four years, data last week showed. That complicates the dilemma policy makers face as they mull whether the economy faces a greater threat from inflation or needs more stimulus as the government implements the deepest budget squeeze since World War II. "I don't think that growth rate will be sustained," Nieser economist Simon Kirby told reporters in London. "Far from that, I think the growth rate will fall back somewhat quite sharply." (*Bloomberg*)

Australia: Consumer price growth unexpectedly slows

Australian consumer-price growth unexpectedly slowed in the second quarter, giving the central bank scope to extend a pause in interest-rate increases. The consumer price index rose 0.6% from the first quarter, less than the median forecast in a Bloomberg News survey for a 1% advance, a Bureau of Statistics report showed in Sydney. Prices gained 3.1% from a year earlier. Recreation, food and communications costs fell, the data showed. The Australian dollar slid the most in a week as traders abandoned forecasts that Governor Glenn Stevens will next week add to what's been the most aggressive round of rate increases in the Group of 20. With Chinese demand for natural resources stoking an Australian mining boom that's pulled

Dates to note

July 2010

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 US - Jobless Claims US - ISM Manufacturing US - Pending Home Sales Index	2 MY - Exports & Imports MY - Trade Balance US - Employment Situation US - Factory Orders
5	6 ISM Non-Mfg Index	7 MY - Foreign Reserves MY - BNM Statement of Acc	8 MY - Ind Production MY - Mfg Sales Value MY - Monetary Policy US - Jobless Claims	9
12	13 US - Int Trade US - Treasury Budget JAPAN - Ind Production	14 MY - Import Price Index US - Retail Sales US - Bank Reserve Settlm US - Import and Export	15 US - PPI US - Jobless Claims US - Ind Production US - Philadelphia Fed Survey US - Money Supply CHINA - Producer Price Index CHINA - CPI CHINA - Ind Production	16 US - CPI US - Consumer Sentiment US - Treasury Int Capital
19 US - Housing Market Index	20 US - Housing Starts JAPAN - Leading Index CI	21 MY - CPI	22 MY - Foreign Reserves MY - BNM Statement of Acc US - Leading Indicators US - Jobless Claims US - Existing Home Sales	23
26 US - New Home Sales	27 US - S&P Case-Shiller HPI US - Consumer Confidence	28 US - Bank Reserve Settlm US - Durable Goods Orders	29 US - Jobless Claims	30 MY - M3 Money Supply MY - Int Reserves MY - PPI US - GDP US - Consumer Sentiment JAPAN - Tokyo CPI JAPAN - Jobless Rate JAPAN - Ind production JAPAN - Housing Starts

August 2010

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 US - ISM Mfg Index	3 MY - Imports & Exports MY - Trade Balance MY - External Trade* US - Factory Orders US - Pending Home Sales Index US - Motor Vehicle Sales JAPAN - Monetary Base	4 US - ADP Employment Report US - ISM Non-Mfg Index	5 US - Jobless Claims	6 MY - Foreign Reserves MY - Unemployment Rate MY - Statement of Acc US - Employment Situation US - Consumer Credit
9 JAPAN - Trade Balance	10 MY - Manufac Sales Value MY - Ind Production US - FOMC Meeting Ann US - Productivity and Costs US - Wholesale Trade JAPAN - BOJ Target Rate	11 US - Bank Reserve Settlm US - International Trade US - Treasury Budget CHINA - Ind Production CHINA - CPI CHINA - PPI	12 US - Jobless Claims US - Import and Export JAPAN - Ind Production	13 US - CPI US - Retail Sales US - Consumer Sentiment
16 US - Housing Market Index JAPAN - GDP Annualized	17 US - Housing Starts US - PPI US - Industrial Production	18 MY - CPI MY - GDP	19 US - Jobless Claims US - Leading Indicators US - Philadelphia Fed Survey	20 MY - Foreign Reserves MY - BNM Statement of Acc MY - GDP
23	24 US - Existing Home Sales	25 US - Bank Reserve Settlm US - Durable Goods Orders US - New Home Sales	26 US - Jobless Claims	27 MY - M3 Money Supply MY - Monthly Statistic US - GDP US - Consumer Sentiment JAPAN - Tokyo CPI JAPAN - Jobless Rate

Source: Bloomberg, BNM, DOS & ECM Libra Capital

What's happening

VISIT/BRIEFING

Company	Time	Date
Unisem (Briefing)	10.30am	2 August
JTI (Briefing)	11.00am	13 August
SapuraCrest (Visit)	4.00pm	5 August

RESULTS

Company	Quarter	Date
MAS	2QFY10	16 August
Maybank	4QFY10	20 August
Maxis	2QFY10	30 August

NEW LISTING

Companies	Prospectus Date	Listing Date
SIG Gases Bhd	22 July	9 August
SCC Holdings	30 June	3 August
Berjaya Retail Bhd	30 June	16 August

Reports published

Company	Title	Target Price	Call	Date
Strategy	1QCY10 results round up	-	-	2 June
Berjaya Sports Toto	A tale of 2 World Cups	RM4.91	Buy	3 June
Shin Yang	On solid footing	-	Non-rated	7 June
Oil & Gas	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	7 June
Plantation	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	7 June
Property	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	7 June
Tenaga	Second look at subsidy rationalisation programme	RM9.90	Buy	9 June
Boustead Holdings	Pockets of potential	RM4.14	Buy	10 June
Strategy	Jigsaw not yet completed	-	-	11 June
Plantation	May MPOB statistics – Ho Hum...	-	Neutral	11 June
Telecommunication	Active sharing to benefit Axiata and DiGi	-	Neutral	11 June
Boustead Holdings	What's cooking?	RM4.14	Buy	11 June
Boustead Holdings	Seventh Heaven	RM4.48	Buy	14 June
Oil & Gas	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	14 June
Plantation	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	14 June
Telco	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	14 June
Boustead Holdings	Secures RM130.7m job from Government	RM4.48	Buy	15 June
IJM Corporation	Second job for the year in the bag	RM4.77	Hold	16 June
SP Setia	2QFY10 Results	RM4.46	Buy	18 June
Sunway Holdings	Sri Lankan venture	RM2.00	Buy	18 June
Notion VTEC	Bursting with growth	RM3.63	Buy	21 June
REIT	Quantum leap from new listings	-	-	21 June
Berjaya Sports Toto	Delightful dividends	RM4.91	Buy	21 June
Oil & Gas	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	21 June
Property	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	21 June
Plantation	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	21 June
Telecommunication	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	21 June
Plus Expressways	Second Link toll reduction	RM3.98	Buy	23 June
YTL Power	Charging up for growth	RM2.36	Buy	24 June
SapuraCrest Petroleum	1QFY11 Results	RM2.64	Buy	25 June
Gamuda	3QFY10 Results	RM3.50	Hold	25 June
Oil & Gas	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	28 June
Property	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	28 June
Plantation	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	28 June
Telecommunication	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	28 June
Sunway Holdings	Another local contract	RM2.00	Buy	29 June
Glomac	4QFY10 Results	RM1.87	Buy	30 June
Banking	May banking statistics	-	Overweight	1 July
Tanjong	Safe harbour in this bay	RM18.66	Buy	1 July
Gaming	Another step backwards	-	Underweight	2 July
Genting	Not just from left hand to right hand	RM5.90	Sell	2 July
Genting Malaysia	Once bitten, twice shy? No	RM2.48	Sell	2 July
Oil & Gas	Sector Monthly Review	-	Overweight	5 July
Property	Sector Monthly Review	-	Overweight	5 July
Plantation	Sector Monthly Review	-	Neutral	5 July
Telecommunication	Sector Monthly Review	-	Neutral	5 July
Gaming	4D first prize payout to be reduced by RM200?	-	Underweight	6 July
Plus	Fourth lane widening works	RM3.98	Buy	7 July
Genting Malaysia	Aqueduct bid – not bolting out the gates yet	RM2.48	Hold	8 July
KNM Group	Secures RM289m of jobs	RM0.55	Hold	9 July
Oil & Gas	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	12 July
Property	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	12 July
Telecommunication	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	12 July
Plantation	June MPOB statistics	-	Neutral	13 July
Strategy	Heading no where	-	-	14 July
Tenaga	3QFY10 Results	RM9.90	Buy	15 July
Oil & Gas	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	19 July
Property	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	19 July
Telecommunication	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	19 July
Plantation	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	19 July
Construction	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	19 July
Gamuda	Expanding Malaysian landbank	RM3.50	Hold	19 July
Dayang Enterprises	More jobs from Petronas Carigali	RM2.50	Buy	19 July
Media	Subsidy rationalisation – Easy does it	-	Overweight	20 July
Axiata	Divests Multinet to focus on core business	RM4.52	Buy	20 July
DiGi.Com	2QFY10 Results	RM23.20	Hold	21 July
Public Bank	2QFY10 Results	RM13.30	Buy	21 July
British American Tobacco	2QFY10 Results	RM43.00	Hold	23 July
Oil & Gas	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	26 July
Property	Sector Weekly Review	-	Overweight	26 July
Telecommunication	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	26 July
Plantation	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	26 July
Construction	Sector Weekly Review	-	Neutral	26 July
Notion VTEC	Progress of new Klang plant on track	RM3.74	Buy	26 July
Wah Seong	RM48 pipe coating job	RM2.90	Buy	26 July
Star Publications	Shooting for the stars	RM4.06	Buy	27 July
Plantation	Rain, not always a bad thing	-	Neutral	28 July

Key to stock recommendations:

Buy = Share price is expected to appreciate by >10% over the next 12 months

Hold = Share price is expected to move by less than +/-10% over the next 12 months

Sell = Share price is expected to decline by >10% over the next 12 months

Key to sector recommendations:

Overweight = Industry expected to outperform the market over the next 12 months

Neutral = Industry expected to perform in-line with the market over the next 12 months

Underweight = Industry expected to underperform the market over the next 12 months

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