

The Daily Dispatch

August 23, 2017
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

MPIC plans to buy out MRT-3 stakeholders

MPIC is planning to buy out the stake of the government and other shareholders in the MRT 3. MPIC chairman Manuel V. Pangilinan told reporters yesterday the company is open to buy out the stake of the government and other shareholders of the MRT-3 system, which runs from North Avenue in Quezon City to Taft station in Pasay City.

Pangilinan inks deal to sell Inquirer stake

Manuel Pangilinan on Tuesday said that his 15 percent stake in the Inquirer Group of Companies was already "within the sale process." An agreement with Marixi Prieto, chairman of the Inquirer group, was signed last week, he told reporters.

Macau's Galaxy Casino to enter Philippines

Macau-based Galaxy Casino is betting big on the Philippines, taking advantage of the country's booming gaming sector, industry sources told The Star. The gaming firm, a subsidiary of Galaxy Entertainment Group, has chosen Negros Occidental Rep. Alfredo "Albee" Benitez as its local partner, the sources said.

MPTC launches digital toll system

Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), the largest tollway concessionaire in the country, yesterday launched its digital tollways program so motorists in the North Luzon Expressway, Manila-Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX) and Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX) can use electronic payment for their toll fees instead of cash.

Viacom to no longer pursue resort in Coron

Viacom International Media Networks (VIMN) no longer wants to pursue the construction of its fiercely opposed Nickelodeon-branded attraction and resort in Coron town. VIMN said it decided to "mutually agree" with project developer Coral World Park (CWP) "to discontinue the IP licensing agreement" for the resort.

Philippine Stock Market Update



Previous Close:

8,018.05

1 Yr Return:

-0.34%

Open:

8,015.68

YTD Return:

15.58%

52-Week Range:

6,499.00 - 8,106.74

Source:

Bloomberg

Foreign Exchange

As of August 22, 2017

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	51.233

PDST-R2 Rates

As of August 22, 2017

Tenor	Rate
1Y	2.8485
3Y	3.8337
5Y	4.6825
7Y	4.7964
10Y	4.7086
20Y	5.5393

Daily Quote

"A good traveler has no fixed plans, and is not intent on arriving."

--Lao Tzu

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MORE LOCAL NEWS

Japan Tobacco buying Mighty Corp for \$1 billion

Japan Tobacco (JT) said on Tuesday, August 22, it would pay nearly \$1 billion to buy Mighty Corp., the Philippines' number two cigarette firm, marking its second acquisition in Southeast Asia this month. Mighty has a 23% share of the Philippine market.

Sun Life, CBTC team up on PSEi feeder fund

The mutual fund arm of Sun Life of Canada has teamed up with the local unit of Taiwanese banking giant CBTC to offer a fund that tracks the local stock barometer Philippine Stock Exchange index. A feeder fund is a type of investment fund that invests its capital into a larger master fund, in this case SLAMCI's index fund.

Biz Buzz: Next acquisition target?

The buzz is that Dennis Uy is looking at the acquisition of the Kuwaiti development in Clark, Pampanga, that was meant to be a logistics hub. If this proves to be correct, the acquisition will dovetail perfectly into Uy's thrust of being an even bigger player in the logistics scene, notwithstanding his already formidable presence in the shipping business.

Clark expansion lures 7 firms

Seven companies, including three Chinese firms, are expected to vie for the construction of the new terminal building at the Clark International Airport, possibly the first hybrid project under the Duterte administration.

Viventis sets 'career-centric' pivot ahead of IPO

Viventis Executive Director Yu Ming Chin said in an interview last week the company is pivoting from transactional recruitment to a career-centric and people-first approach to stay ahead of the game, as competition for talent increases.

Philab shelves follow-on offering worth P3.4 bn

PHILAB Holdings Corp. has withdrawn its application to conduct a follow-on offering of up to P3.4 billion. In a disclosure to the stock exchange on Tuesday, Philab, which underwent a backdoor listing through Alterra Capital Partners, Inc., said it is deferring the listing of up to 500 million common shares at the Philippine Stock Exchange.

TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

Close to \$1b invested in India, another bn in 3-4 years

Global private equity major Partners Group has been consistently increasing the capital deployed in Asia Pacific. It clocked almost \$1 billion in investments in one of the largest regional markets, India, and is actively scouting for deals to deploy another billion dollars in the country in the next three-four years.

Wanda scraps \$823m London land purchase

Billionaire Wang Jianlin's Dalian Wanda Group has scrapped plans to buy a land plot in London for £470 million (\$823 million), amid the Chinese government's intensifying scrutiny of overseas investments.

Rosewood Hotels & Resorts to expand into SE Asia

Hotel management company Rosewood Hotels & Resorts is making its foray into South-east Asia, with three hotels slated to open in the region later this year. In the fourth quarter, it will be launching properties in Phnom Penh, Phuket and Luang Prabang.

Cashless holds benefits if hurdles cleared

With six out of every ten transactions in Singapore settled via cash or cheque, it's clear the Lion City lags behind in this regard. Mr Lee - who made a renewed push for Singapore to become a Smart Nation - said he hopes the adoption of e-payments can take off as quickly as possible.

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MORE ASIAN NEWS

Chinese firm signals to buy Fiat Chrysler

China's Great Wall Motor signalled on Monday its intention to make an ambitious offer to buy all or part of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles. A deal would be a major coup for the Chinese auto industry but it may cause political waves in the US, where President Donald Trump has railed against his country's trade imbalance with China.

PH, IDN, and IND have got a Fed problem

The populist leaders of India, Indonesia and the Philippines won office with promises of massive spending to upgrade their nation's roads, railways and ports. Doing so, the thinking goes, would supercharge economic growth. But now the Fed is set to shrink its \$4.5T balance sheet and old vulnerabilities are starting to resurface.

China banks 'raising billions' to fund OBOR push

China's largest state-owned commercial banks are said to be raising tens of billions of dollars to fund the country's Belt and Road investment push, bolstering Beijing's ambitions as private capital pulls back.

TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

Malaysia's RHB Bank and AmBank drop merger plans

Malaysia's RHB Bank and AMMB Holdings (AmBank) have dropped plans for a merger on grounds that both could not arrive at mutually acceptable terms. In a joint statement filed to the bourse, RHB Bank and AmBank said that "after much discussion and deliberation, (both parties) were not able to reach an agreement."

Funds managing \$1.1T are dumping junk bonds

Even before Ray Dalio doubled down on his warning that the US has become as dangerously fragmented as during the pre-World War II days of 1937, prompting him to "tactically reduce" risk, some of the biggest names on Wall Street were selling.

US dollar advances as euro falters

US dollar rallied on Tuesday after falling for two straight days, benefiting from the euro's decline following weaker-than-expected euro zone data. The US currency posted its largest daily percentage gain in more than two weeks against the euro, and its best one-day rise in one week versus the yen.

CH's robot revolution may affect global economy

China is installing more robots than any other nation. Shipments jumped 27 percent to about 90,000 units last year, a single-country record and almost a third of the global total, and will nearly double to 160,000 in 2019. The blazing pace hasn't dented Chinese wages – yet – but it might influence the global economy.

Chevron CEO Watson plans to step down

John Watson, who has led Chevron Corp. since 2010, is planning to step down as the oil major seeks a new chief executive officer, the Wall Street Journal said, citing people familiar with the matter. Kent Robertson, a Chevron spokesman, declined to comment on the report.

Revenue from wearable devices to hit \$60B in 2022

Revenue from enterprise wearable devices is expected to reach \$60 billion in 2022, a compounded annual growth rate of 41 percent from an estimated \$10.6 billion this year, according to a study by market consultancy firm ABI Research. "Companies are always looking innovative ways to improve productivity, and wearables are well placed to do

Economic Calendar

Date	Release
08.15.2017	PH: Remittances YoY
08.15.2017	PH: OFW Remittances
08.16.2017	PH: GDP YoY
08.18.2017	PH: BOP Overall
08.31.2017	PH: Budget Balance

Source: Bloomberg Economic Calendar