

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	6992	85	1.2
NZX 50	11087	42	0.4
DJIA Futures	33906	-8	0.0
S&P 500 Futures	4330	-6	-0.1
NASDAQ Futures	14953	-45	-0.3

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market commences today's trade with the \$A at ~US64.35c, a Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) official scheduled to speak publicly, some major domestic stocks convening AGMs, and key domestic and regional economic data releases due, ahead of influential US economic data tonight.

US equities markets settled greater than 1.5% higher overnight.

Locally today, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publishes a final **September quarter retail sales** report, including updated information for the reports released Monday, at **11.30am AEDT**.

At the same time, the ABS releases September **household spending** figures.

Also today, **RBA** assistant governor (financial system) Brad Jones is listed to participate in discussions at the Financial Services Institute of Australasia *The Regulators* event, scheduled to commence 11.30am.

Regionally today, Caixin is due to publish an October **services PMI** for **China** at **12.45pm AEDT**.

Japan's markets will be closed Monday due to a public holiday.

In overnight **commodities** trade, **oil** swung greater than 2.5% higher.

US **gold** futures posted a further slight gain.

Iron ore (Nymex CFR China, 62% Fe) recorded a second sharp increase for the week, closing above \$US125.50/t.

US (Dec) **copper** futures added US2c/lb, settling at \$US3.67/lb.

LME copper was reported 0.4% higher in outcry trade, at \$US8140/t.

Last night's LME final 3-mth evening price updates were unavailable from IRESS at time of publication. These are expected to become available via IRESS at ~11.30am AEDT.

The **\$A** slipped below US64.30c after trading at ~ US64.35c early yesterday evening.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	33839	565	1.7
S&P 500	4318	80	1.9
NASDAQ	13294	233	1.8
FTSE 100	7447	104	1.4
DAX 30	15144	220	1.5
Shanghai Composite	3009	-14	-0.4

Today's Stock Watch
Macquarie Group (MQG)

MQG has appointed former APRA chair Wayne Byres as a non-executive director, effective 1 February.

In addition, MQG is planning to buy back up to \$A2B worth of shares on-market.

Further, MQG will pay a \$2.55, 40%-franked, interim dividend, from \$3.00, 40%-franked a year ago.

Reporting 38.61% lower, \$1.415B interim NPAT.

8.28% lower, \$7.910B revenue. \$73.49 NTA from \$70.29.

Management discussion and analysis also lodged this morning.

Qantas Airways (QAN)

Today's AGM is likely one of the most anticipated in the airline's history.

Coles Group (COL)

AGM today. Pricing commentary anticipated.

Block Inc (SQ2)

September quarter report as lodged in the US overnight, lodged with the ASX pre-trade. Revenue tallied \$US5.62B against \$US4.52B for the September quarter 2022.

SQ2 recorded a \$US28.95M net loss (for common stockholders) however, against \$US14.71M.

The total comprehensive loss was estimated at \$US298.86M.

Treasury Wine Estates (TWE)

Resuming from a trading halt having raised \$604M in a \$10.80-per-share institutional entitlement offer. A shortfall offer, via book-build, realised \$11.50-per-share.

TWE is proposing to acquire California-headquartered DAOU Vineyards LLC for \$US900M upfront, plus earn-out payments of up to \$100M.

The purchase is to be funded via a mix of \$US350M worth of new debt, a \$A157M placement (\$11.97 per share) to DAOU owners and an \$A825M, \$10.80-per-share fully underwritten entitlement offer, comprising the completed institutional portion and a retail component.

The retail entitlement offer is scheduled for 8 – 23 November. TWE traded at \$11.82 - \$12.23 over the five sessions immediately prior to calling the halt.

Aussie Broadband (ABB)

\$120M better off following a \$3.55-per-share institutional placement. An up to \$20M SPP is also planned, for 13 – 29 November, at a yet-to-be-determined price.

ABB is resuming from a trading halt, having traded at \$3.77 - \$4.04 over the five sessions immediately prior to calling the halt.



Overseas Markets Commentary

Strong positive sentiment featured from the start across major European, UK and US equities markets overnight.

The Bank of England (BoE) convened a monetary policy meeting at which policy-makers continued a pause on interest rate increases, as had the US Federal Reserve overnight Wednesday.

Yields for longer-term bonds fell.

Some buoyant earnings figures and/or outlooks from high-profile international stocks also again maintained improved optimism, ahead of Apple Inc's figures, due post-US equities trade.

Nonetheless, the Bank of England rates-stay decision was not unanimous, with a 6-3 vote including three policy-makers advocating a 0.25% push higher for the key bank rate to 5.50%.

Bank of England governor Andrew Bailey acknowledged inflation remained significantly above the bank's target and that policy would likely remain tight for some time.

Meanwhile, Japan's government announced an ~\$US113B worth of stimulus, including benefits for low-income households and select tax relief.

Earlier yesterday, Japan conducted a 10-year government bond auction which delivered a 0.910% yield from 0.768%, a day after the Bank of Japan concluded a policy meeting with updated bond yield plans and commentary.

Among overnight **data** releases, **US** weekly new unemployment claims tallied 217,000, against 210,000 expected following 212,000 the previous week.

An October job cuts report included 36,836 layoffs from 47,457 for September.

September factory orders climbed 2.8% for the month, against consensus for a 2.4% increase following a 1.0% rise for August.

A September quarter productivity report included an overall 4.7% increase and a 0.8% fall in labour costs, defying expectations for labour costs to rise by 0.7%.

Tonight in the US, October national workforce statistics are keenly anticipated.

Among other US economic data releases, the ISM's influential non-manufacturing index is due.

Elsewhere, Germany reports September trade figures.

Companies expected to report **earnings** or provide updates later today or tonight include: Alibaba, AP Moeller Maersk, BMW, Dominion Energy and Société Générale.

Berkshire Hathaway is also expected to report on the weekend.

In overnight corporate news, iPhone sales and services revenue were cited for delivering better-than-expected Apple Inc quarterly earnings. Some supply issues, the overall sales result and a fall in year-on-year sales within China did not go unnoticed, however.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (COMEX 100 Dec)	1993.5	oz	6	0.3
Silver (COMEX 5000 Dec)	22.85	oz	0.6	0.3
Platinum	923	oz	-1	-0.1

Pre-Open Announcements

Lendlease Group (* LLC)

LLC and Google are mutually terminating four development services agreements covering the proposed San Francisco Bay project.

GPT Group (GPT)

September quarter operational statistics lodged this morning.

Integral Diagnostics (IDX)

September quarter trading update, including 8.4% revenue growth within Australia, lodged this morning.

Nanosonics Ltd (NAN)

Today's AGM materials lodged.

Global Data Centre Group (GDC)

Anticipating 27% - 29% FY24 operating revenue growth and a 56% - 60% increase for operating EBITDA.

APA Group (APA)

Unsecured \$1.25B syndicated loan and €500M debt issue.

Resources

Emerald Resources (* EMR) / InvoCare Ltd (IVC)

EMR will replace IVC on the S&P/ASX 200 when IVC is removed, prior to next Monday's ASX open.

IVC is being removed, pending final court approval for its acquisition by Eternal Aus BidCo.

Tietto Minerals (TIE)

Rejecting the Zhaojin A58c-per-share takeover offer.

Zhaojin holds ~7% of TIE.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Sprintex Ltd	SIX	2 Nov
Anatara Lifesciences	ANR	3 Nov
Critical Minerals Group	CMG	3 Nov
Fluence Corporation	FLC	3 Nov
Group 6 Metals	G6M	3 Nov
Indiana Resources	IDA	3 Nov
Kalina Power	KPO	3 Nov
Mayur Resources	MRL	3 Nov
R3D Resources	R3D	3 Nov
St George Mining	SGQ	3 Nov
Scorpion Minerals	SCN	3 Nov
Surefire Resources	SRN	3 Nov
Terra Uranium	T92	3 Nov
Bowen Coking Coal	BCB	6 Nov
Copper Search	CUS	6 Nov
Everest Metals Corporation	EMC	6 Nov



WTI Crude (NYMEX Dec)	82.67	bbl	2.23	2.8
Brent Crude (ICE EUR Jan)	86.85	bbl	2.22	2.6
Iron Ore (NYMEX CHN port;62%Fe)	125.57	t	3.27	2.7
Copper (LME 3mth Evening) (1Nov)	8123	t	-3	-0.0
Nickel	18079	t	-117	-0.6
Aluminium	2244	t	-15	-0.7
Lead	2107	t	19	0.9
Zinc	2502	t	70	2.9
Tin	23938	t	-171	-0.7

Commodities Commentary

Oil – a greater than 2.5% turn higher for prices overnight was mostly attributed to interest rate pauses by the Bank of England (overnight) and US Federal Reserve (overnight Wednesday), helping buoy demand views.

The \$US index also fell.

A weekly US oil rig report is expected tonight from Baker Hughes.

Gold – sentiment benefited overnight from a rise in US weekly new unemployment claims, a partly-associated weaker \$US index and reduced bond yields, these associated with US Federal Reserve and Bank of England policy meeting outcomes.

The World Gold Council in the meantime reported a 77t net September increase in gold held by central banks.

Base metals – central bank interest rate pauses and an associated lower \$US supported select overnight base metals sentiment.

Zinc prices continued higher following Nyrstar's announcement mid-week of plans to temporarily cease production from two mines in the US.

Caixin is due to release an October services PMI for China today.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.6433	0.0008	0.12
EUR – USD	1.0621	0.0025	0.24

Australian Data Today

ABS	Retail sales (final)	Sep Q
ABS	Household spending	Sep

US Data Tonight

Workforce (incl jobs, wages, participation, unemployment)	2Oct
ISM non-manufacturing	Oct

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

China	Caixin services PMI	Oct
UK	Services PMI (final)	Oct
Germany	International trade	Sep

Lithium Plus Minerals	LPM	6 Nov
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Suspensions (selected)

Company	Code	Since
Omnia Metals Group	OM1	30 Oct
Pioneer Lithium	PLN	2 Nov
Remsense Technologies	REM	16 Oct
Resources & Energy Group	REZ	27 Oct
Strandline Resources	STA	31 Oct

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
AVA	Today	0.17	0	0.00
QRI	Today	1.22	0	8.35
CIA	Mon	11.52	0	2.96
EVO	Mon	2	100	3.01
IVC	Tue	60	100	0.87
RMD	Wed	5.35	0	0.81
ACQ	Thu	4.25	100	8.50
NAC	Thu	1.5	100	6.38
NSC	Thu	1.25	100	7.35
WAT	Thu	5	100	2.38

Reports & Events

(selected; all times AEDT)

When	Company	Report/Event
Today	COL	AGM
	GPR	Sep Q
	IDX	Sep Q
	MQG	Interim
	NAN	AGM
	QAN	AGM
	SPK	AGM
	SQ2	Sep Q
Mon	PNR	AGM
	WBC	Full year
	WC8	AGM
Tue	ING	AGM
Wed	AKE	AGM
	ALG	AGM
	BOT	AGM
	DHG	AGM
	JHX	AGM
	RCE	AGM
	RDX	AGM



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WIN	AGM
WDS	Investor day (w/cast 9.30am)