

Markets

SFE 200 Futures (9.30am AEDT)	6120	12	0.2
NZX 50	9519	-0.2	0.0
DJIA Futures	25575	-2	0.0
S&P 500 Futures	2807	0	0.0
NASDAQ Futures	7355	0	0.0

Local Markets Commentary

The Australian market opens today's trade following fragile overnight international equities trade sentiment with significant announcements from several high-profile domestic stocks.

In overnight commodities trade, WTI **crude** settled modestly lower but Brent swung higher.

US **gold** futures (April) picked up the pace of Friday's move higher.

Iron ore (China port, 62% Fe) turned slightly lower.

LME **copper** settled a little higher, but most base metals recorded declines.

The **\$A** was propelled beyond US71.10c after appreciating to US70.95c early yesterday evening.

Locally today, a weekly consumer sentiment reading is due pre-trade.

Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) assistant governor (economic) Luci Ellis was scheduled to speak on *What's Up (and Down) with Households?* at a Housing Industry Association industry outlook breakfast earlier this morning.

Regionally, **New Zealand** has this morning reported a \$NZ6.62B trade deficit as at 28 February, against the end-January \$NZ6.45B deficit. For the month, the trade balance rose \$NZ12M.

In **Japan**, a summary of opinions from the 14 – 15 March Bank of Japan policy meeting is expected **10.50am** AEDT.

Overseas Markets

INDEX	CLOSE	+/-	%
Dow Jones	25517	15	0.1
S&P 500	2798	-2	-0.1
NASDAQ	7638	-5	-0.1
FTSE 100	7178	-30	-0.4
DAX 30	11347	-18	-0.2
Shanghai Comp	3043	-61	-2.0

Overseas Markets Commentary

Marked choppy trade and swings featured across major European and US equities markets overnight.

Among new data releases, the **US** Chicago Fed February national activity index came in at -0.29 against -0.25 for January.

A manufacturing index for the Texas region fell 4.8 points to 8.3.

RBA – Assistant governor (economic) Luci Ellis has spoken on *What's Up (and Down) with Households?* at a HIA breakfast Sydney

Today's Stock Watch

Coles Group (COL)

Exclusive services agreement secured with LSE-listed online grocery specialist Ocado Group.

Under the agreement two COL-Ocado customer fulfillment centres will be established in Australia, one each in Melbourne and Sydney, at a total expected capex of \$130M - \$150M.

The centres are expected to be operational by FY 2023.

COL is anticipating doubling home delivery capacity and hence improved Coles Online profit margins.

Kathmandu Holdings (KMD)

13.7% higher, \$NZ13.95M interim NPAT.

13.3% higher, \$NZ232.02M revenue.

NZ4c interim dividend. NZ8c NTA.

Anticipating continued Oboz and international profile growth.

Adelaide Brighton (ABC)

Flagged board changes will include Raymond Barro to be appointed chairman as from the end of the 10 May AGM.

Current ABC chair Zlatko Todorovski will be deputy chair lead independent director.

Animoca Brands (AB1)

Resuming from a trading halt with an international licensing agreement with Formula 1 to develop and publish blockchain game F1 Delta Time, featuring the motor sport and its series of events.

AB1 anticipates an initial phase of the game will be released 10 May. AB1 last traded at 9.9c.

Resources

Lynas Corporation (LYC) / Wesfarmers Ltd (WES)

WES has presented LYC with an indicative proposal to acquire LYC for \$2.25 cash per share. Details, including conditions, lodged this morning.

LYC has traded at \$1.5525 - \$1.69 over the past five trading sessions and has called a trading halt this morning.

Kalium Lakes (KLL)

KLL has secured a 10-year binding offtake agreement with Germany-headquartered K&S for up to 90,000tpa of sulphate of potash from KLL's Pilbara, WA Beyondie project.

Anson Resources (ASN)

ASN's Paradox brine project Long Canyon No2 well has flowed 35bbl/hr from 6318ft below surface. Flow continued for 10hrs until shut-in.



An IFO business climate index for **Germany** improved by 0.9 to 99.6.

In the **UK**, speculation grew regarding possible new parliamentary resignations as MPs considered three new sideline votes regarding what to do next in relation to separating from the European Union (EU).

A new overnight vote on the negotiated UK-EU proposed arrangements was ruled out.

Tonight in the **US**, February building starts and housing permits, two residential property price indices, a consumer confidence reading and regional manufacturing index are due.

Bright Dairy & Food, Carnival Corp, China Citic Bank, CITIC Heavy Industries, Dalian Port PDA, Hunan Gold, United Utilities, Vale and Yunnan Aluminium are among stocks scheduled to report earnings or provide an update later today and tonight.

In overnight corporate news, **Apple** achieved the launch of its much-anticipated video and expanded TV streaming service, together with news and games subscriptions and an Apple-Goldman Sachs credit card.

Commodities

COMMODITY	CLOSE	\$US/	+/-	%
Gold (NY) (Apr)	1322.6	oz	10.3	0.8
Silver (NY) (May)	15.57	oz	0.16	1.0
Gold (LON)	1311	oz		
Platinum	856	oz	11	1.3
WTI Crude (May)	58.82	bbf	-0.22	-0.4
Brent Crude (May)	67.21	bbf	0.18	0.3
Iron Ore (CHN port 62%)	85.81	t	-0.15	-0.2
Copper (LME,3mth,PM)	6337	t	13	0.2
Nickel	12960	t	-15	-0.1
Aluminium	1888	t	-14	-0.8
Lead	2016	t	-21	-1.0
Zinc	2842	t	28	1.0
Tin	21435	t	-30	-0.1
CBT Wheat (May)	4.71	bshl	0.05	1.1

Commodities Commentary

Oil – geopolitical tensions and demand concern based on international growth data appeared the main influencers on overnight trade.

Two major refineries in Texas, **US** were reported to have reduced activity following a petrochemical storage facility fire which closed the Houston shipping channel Friday through Sunday. Some shipping was listed to recommence overnight.

Gold – traded at four-week peaks overnight, seemingly buoyed by some safe-haven interest amid weakened equities risk sentiment and higher bond prices (pushing yields lower).

Traders have plenty to anticipate, with late-week December quarter growth figures for each side of the Atlantic in focus, plus a euro zone inflation reading, together with Thursday-Friday US-China trade talks in Beijing, and UK parliamentary moves on plans to leave the European Union, amid various other simmering geopolitical scenarios.

Pre-Open Announcements

BINGO Industries (* BIN)

BIN has completed its \$377.5M-plus-\$200M-scrip acquisition of Dial-a-Dump Industries (DADI).

DADI founder Ian Malouf now holds 12% of BIN and will be appointed as a BIN non-executive director.

Mr Malouf's transaction BIN shares are variously escrowed for nine, 12, 18 and 24 months.

Skin Elements (* SKN)

Resuming from suspended trade with a binding term sheet covering a proposed distribution agreement with Henan Huatuo Health Management Co (HHHM).

Under the planned deal, HHHM plans to sell a minimum \$A20M of SKN products over three years to Huatuo health centres.

In addition, pending SKN shareholder approval, HHHM will invest \$2.4M in SKN.

SKN also plans to issue performance-related shares to HHHM over the three years.

A SKN director is also a director of corporate adviser firm Indian Ocean Corporate which introduced HHHM and advised SKN.

Details of fees, issues and a sales royalty SKN intends to pay Indian Ocean Corporate also lodged post-trade yesterday.

SKN last traded 14 March, at 4.3c after appreciating from 1.8c to 4.3c over the three trading sessions prior to calling a trading halt.

In response to a price query, SKN has told the ASX that 'negotiations were incomplete and confidential at that time'.

In addition, SKN has responded to an accounting query, also lodging this post-trade yesterday.

Synlait Milk (SM1)

SM1 has successfully commissioned a 6MW electrode boiler at its Canterbury, New Zealand facility, against the traditional coal-fired boiler. Efficiency gains are estimated at up to 30%.

SM1 can double the electrode boiler capacity, pending upgrades to the local power network.

Corporate Travel Management (CTD)

MD Jamie Pherous has not sold any of his CTD shares and is not intending to.

Mr Pherous is intending to lodge paperwork and outstanding fees today ahead of a potential reinstatement of his personal investment company.

Buddy Platform (BUD)

Non-executive BUD director Alex Gounares has resigned, effective on the LIFX acquisition Friday this week.

Mr Gounares has been with BUD since before the company listed on the ASX.

Mr Gounares has offered to advised BUD as required, but is otherwise seeking to advance a Seattle, US technology company of which he is CEO.



Base metals – traded lower early with nothing new to allay international growth jitters, but settled variously on individual sector expectations and amid reported mixed trading volumes.

Copper news out of two operations in Chile and one in Peru kept 2019 supply-demand debate alive.

Yesterday, an all industry activity index for **Japan** was reported 0.2% lower for January following a 0.4% December fall.

China's February industrial profits are due tomorrow, ahead of a late-week restart for high-level US-China trade talks in Beijing.

Exchange Rates

CURRENCIES	LAST	+/-	%
AUD – USD	0.7111	0.0001	0.01
EUR – USD	1.1315	0.0003	0.03

Australian Data Today

ANZ/RoyMgn	Consumer sentiment	24 Mar
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US Data Tonight

Building permits	Feb
Housing starts	Feb
FHFA house prices	Jan
Case Shiller home price index	Jan
Richmond Fed manufacturing	Mar
Conference Board consumer confidence	Mar

Other Overseas Data Today & Tonight

Japan	BoJ summary of opinions	Mar
UK	Mortgage approvals	Feb
France	GDP (final)	Dec Q
Germany	GfK consumer confidence	Apr

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BUD settled at 8c yesterday, representing a 21% appreciation for the month to date.

Dropsuite Ltd (DSE)

DSE has partnered with United Internet Group company Strato, to supply DSE's email archiving product to Strato small business customers.

DSE's archive product development and deployment has utilised Strato's cloud storage technology.

Immutep Ltd (IMM)

IMM lodged the presentation slides for this morning's (7.45am AEDT) IMP761 webcast teleconference post-trade yesterday.

Resources

Pioneer Resources (* PIO)

Amendments relating to the Cabot Specialty Fluids pollucite ore offtake and funding agreement lodged this morning.

PIO has included new anticipated sales revenue figures.

Canyon Resources (* CAY)

Heralding an initial assessment indicating the existing Minim Martap – Douala rail line has capacity to transport commercial bauxite loads.

CAY is developing the Cameroon Minim Martap bauxite project.

BlueScope Steel (* BSL)

Conducting road shows in Asia and North America. Road show presentation lodged this morning.

Energy

Central Petroleum (CTP)

Investor presentation lodged post-trade yesterday.

CTP is presenting at the Blue Ocean Energy Day today.

Santos Ltd (STO)

Company update lodged post-trade yesterday in presentation format.

STO forfeited 3.8% yesterday, settling at \$6.92, after closing with a gain for seven consecutive sessions.

Trading Halts

Company	Code	Resuming
Fremont Petroleum Corporation	FPL	26 Mar
Consolidated Zinc	CZL	26 Mar
Element 25	E25	26 Mar
Janison Education Group	JAN	26 Mar
Firstwave Cloud Technology	FCT	27 Mar
THC Global Group	THC	27 Mar

Suspensions (select)

Company	Code	Since
American Patriot Oil & Gas	AOW	14 Mar
(The) Data Exchange Network	DXN	25 Mar
Elk Petroleum	ELK	1 Mar

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Environmental Clean Technologies	ECT	15 Mar
Gascoyne Resources	GCY	18 Mar
IOT Group	IOT	13 Mar
Medigard Ltd	MGZ	8 Mar
MZI Resources	MZI	20 Mar
Mustera Property Group	MPX	20 Mar
Orinoco Gold	OGX	25 Mar
Range Resources	RRS	20 Mar
Serpentine Technologies	S3R	6 Mar
Universal Coal	UNV	21 Mar
Vivid Technology	VIV	25 Mar

Ex-Dividends

Code	Ex-Div	Div (c)	Franking (%)	Yield (%)
EPW	Today	7.5	100	4.30
PEA	Today	1	100	1.59
SSG	Today	2	80	11.00
JHC	Tomorrow	2.8	0	4.46
PWH	Tomorrow	1.6	100	2.14
SGF	Tomorrow	8.17	100	7.81
URW	Tomorrow	30.21	0	2.50
VEA	Tomorrow	4.8	100	1.93
A2B	Thu	4	10	3.83
ADI	Thu	4.25	0	5.89
AOF	Thu	3.95	0	5.83
APE	Thu	22.5	100	4.82
AQR	Thu	5.22	0	6.78
ARF	Thu	3.38	0	4.79
AVN	Thu	4.16	0	7.32
CIP	Thu	4.6	0	6.21
CLW	Thu	6.9	0	5.74
CMA	Thu	4.36	0	7.04
EHH	Thu	0.5	0	2.00
GCI	Thu	0.9	0	3.66
GCM	Thu	1.25	0	4.14
GDF	Thu	2.25	0	6.69
KLA	Thu	3.4	0	0.24
MEZ	Thu	7.36	0	3.08
MOC	Thu	3	100	12.77
RFF	Thu	2.61	0	4.50
RFP	Thu	1.3	100	0.00
SDI	Thu	2.2	100	3.25
TGP	Thu	3	0	6.97
TOT	Thu	3	0	9.41
VRT	Thu	12	100	5.90
VTG	Thu	5.2	100	6.40
WPP	Thu	4	100	9.69
GVF	Fri	3.15	70	6.06
PNC	Fri	4.31	100	5.39