



# DASHBOARD

Changing News. Your Guide.

AVID Daily E- News

August 28, 2012

Volume 4 No. 27

## MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

### Q2 slowdown expected

The economy likely slowed in the second quarter following a surprisingly strong start to the year, analysts polled by BusinessWorld said, as agriculture and manufacturing weakened. The median forecast in a poll of eight economists and analysts was April-June growth of 5.86%, down from the first quarter's 6.4% that was traced to increased government spending and an export sector recovery. Official second-quarter data will be released this Thursday. "[The] surprising first-quarter economic output is a hard act to follow," said University of the Philippines economist Benjamin E. Diokno, who forecast growth of just 4.5%. Jose Mario I. Cuyugkeng, senior economist at ING Bank Manila, said: "the production indices for manufacturing and agriculture sectors were weaker during the second quarter." Mr. Diokno, a former Budget secretary, agreed, noting that both sectors account for over a quarter of the economy. (BusinessWorld)

### More OFWs opting to go into business

More overseas Filipino workers are opting to return home for good and put up their own business in the country, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) reported. Labor Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz said close to 500 OFWs have put up their own enterprises over a year since the government launched a P2-billion reintegration program. Baldoz said that the Land Bank of the Philippines, which is the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA's) partner in the program, has already approved 410 loan applications "The total loan amount has already reached P261,707,063.20," Baldoz said, citing the OWWA's update report. (The Philippine Star)

### Confidence in global economy hits new low in Q3

Confidence in the world economy slipped to a new low in the third quarter due to the slowdown in the economic growth in the United States and China and the lingering crisis in the euro zone, according to the latest Global Confidence Index of the World Economic Forum. Results of the Global Confidence Index showed that in the third quarter, 72 percent of the respondents said they lacked confidence in the state of the world economy in the next 12 months, up from 37 percent in the previous quarter. This was the most pessimistic since the WEF started the confidence index five quarters ago. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)

## FINANCIAL TRENDS

### Stock market outlook

The benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange Index (PSEi) closed lower as investors were mainly on the sidelines with few market drivers during the holiday-shortened week. The PSEi declined 1.2 percent to 5,143.35, with some traders also pointing to the start of the so-called ghost month, a period marking thinner volumes. (BusinessMirror)

### P/\$ rate stands at P42.165/\$1

The peso exchange rate stands at P42.165 to the US dollar, the closing rate last Friday at the Philippine Dealing & Exchange Corp. (PDEX). The weighted average rate stands at P42.162. (Manila Bulletin)

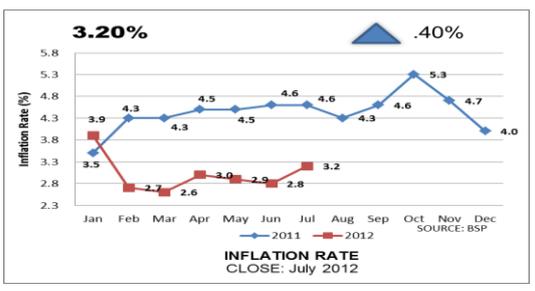
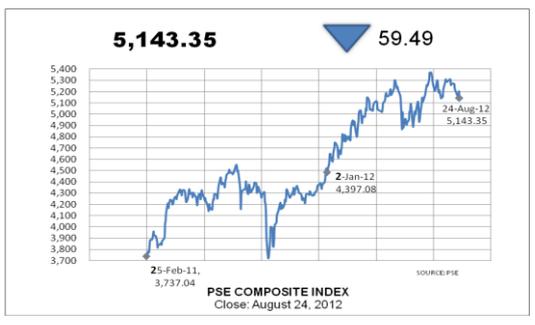
## INDUSTRY BUZZ

### Dealer eyes comm'l vehicle assembly

Autohub Group, the country's fastest growing multi-auto brand dealer and car related accessories firm, is keen of going into the assembly of commercial vehicles locally following its entry into the distribution of Piaggio, an Italian commercial vehicle brand. Willy Q. Tee Ten, president of Autohub Group, told Business Bulletin after the launch of the "3rd MVP Bossing Awards" that going into the assembly of commercial vehicle is the next direction that the company is going into the future. Tee Ten, already an MVP Bossing Awardee, said this direction would be pursued after it has established its presence in the commercial vehicle segment. The company will launch end this year four models of three-wheeled Piaggio APE to serve the strong demand for affordable vehicle for start-up entrepreneurs. (Manila Bulletin)

### Lexus Manila achieves record sales in July 2012

From selling 32 units last May, Lexus Manila set a record by being able to roll out 35 units last June and capping it all off by ending the second quarter with its highest sales ever of 41 units sold for the past month. This amazing feat made Lexus Manila enjoy their phenomenal growth rate of 46% over last year, even with a growth decline in the luxury market segment. According to Lexus Manila, their powerful sales figures are mainly driven by the best-selling RX350 SUV and the recently launched ES350 sedan. (BusinessMirror)



	Thursday, August 23 2012	Last Week	Year ago
Overnight Lending, RP	5.75%	6.00%	6.50%
Overnight Borrowing, RRP	3.75%	4.00%	4.50%
91 day T Bill Rates	2.01%	2.15%	3.85%
Lending Rates	7.61%	7.64%	7.79%

