

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

July exports shine with 7.8% growth

Export earnings in July, 2012 posted a 7.8 percent growth to \$4.8 billion from \$4.46 billion recorded in the same period last year driven by non-electronics exports. The Philippines was one of only a few Asian nations to post on-year export growth in July – others included Singapore and China – but the data hinted at tougher times ahead. The National Statistics Office (NSO) attributed the increase to the higher annual growth in seven out of the 10 top exports including activated carbon, metal components, bananas, ignition wiring set, pineapple, tuna, woodcraft and furniture. (Manila Bulletin)

Businesses pressed to see bigger picture

Companies still steeped in traditional ways of operating need to review their strategies and practices if they are to contribute to the country's quest for inclusive growth, according to speakers at an annual business conference in Makati City yesterday. Themed, "Transformative change: the imperative of inclusive growth", The 10th MAP (Management Association of the Philippines) International CEO Conference in Makati Shangri-La gathered experts who shared insights and experiences in their respective fields. Jesus P. Estanislao, a Finance secretary under the late former president Corazon C. Aquino who now heads the Institute of Corporate Directors and the Institute for Solidarity in Asia, cited the need for "systemic change." (BusinessWorld)

FINANCIAL TRENDS

Philippine stocks slightly dip in late selling

Local share prices closed hardly changed yesterday, ending just slightly in the red for the second day in a row as late selling erased the gains in morning trade. The benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) shed 4.76 points, or 0.09 percent, to close at 5,186.05, tracking the movement of other Asian markets due to the lack of leads locally. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)

Peso climbs to fresh four-year high

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) said yesterday it will continue to limit its participation in the foreign exchange market to that of preventing sharp movements despite the peso reaching new highs for the past two days. For the second straight day, the peso closed at 41.56 to a dollar, its highest level since April 2008. Yesterday's close was 5.50 centavos higher than Monday's close of 41.615 to \$1. The peso hit a high of 41.560 and a low of 41.670 to \$1. Total volume turnover amounted to \$592.80 million. (The Philippine Star)

INDUSTRY BUZZ

Vehicle sales grew 6% as of Aug.—Campi

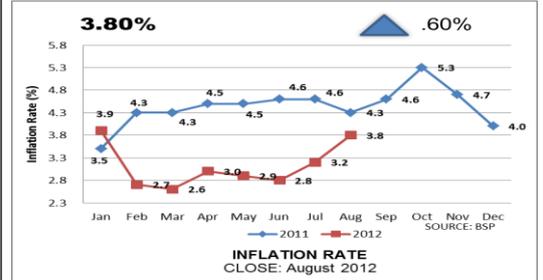
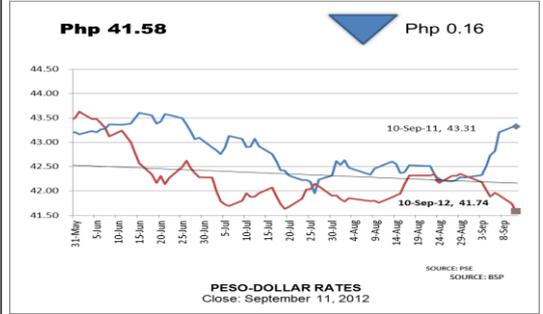
Vehicle sales in the first eight months of the year improved on the back of an upbeat economy despite a slight decline in August caused by weather disruptions, according to the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines (Campi). Campi data showed that vehicle sales as of August increased by 6 percent to 98,725 from the 93,108 sold in the same period last year. In terms of brand performance as of August 2012, Toyota Motor Philippines continues to lead the industry with a 40.9 percent share of the market, followed by Mitsubishi's 23.1 percent and Honda with 8.3 percent. For the month of August alone, Campi members registered total industry sales of 11,351 units—a 1-percent drop from the 11,511 units sold in the same month last year. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)

Ford unveils 15 fresh models for EU market

Ford Motor Co. on Thursday unveiled 15 new or restyled vehicles for the European market that it will launch over five years to revive slumping sales. While other carmakers are holding back on new car launches due to tanking European demand, Ford executives announced that the Detroit carmaker will accelerate new car launches in Europe, expanding its line-up of SUVs, restyling the hot-selling Fiesta, redesigning its commercial vehicles and bringing the iconic Mustang sports across the Atlantic. (Malaya Business Insight)

Porsche banks on sustainability in expanded Leipzig plant

The expansion of Porsche's Leipzig plant, one of the most efficient automobile factories in the world, sends out another clear message for environmental protection. The plant's designers have taken numerous steps for the provision of natural energy sources as well as the reduction of CO2 emissions, amount of waste and consumption of water. So they have been successful in reducing the overall energy needs of the plant considerably. One-of-a-kind in this context is the use of a wood chip fired heating system—a biomass power plant, which will supply the new paint shop with heat from natural resources. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)



	Tuesday, September 11 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	7.58%	7.61%	7.79%

