



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	6.9 ↑		2.50 ↑
▶ Q4 2014 Gross Domestic Product		▶ February 2015 Inflation Rate	
	-10 ↑		22.4 ↑
▶ Q4 2014 Consumer Confidence		▶ Q4 2014 Auto-buying Intention	
	44.76 ↑		
▶ Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate			

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Consumers Less Pessimistic This Quarter -- Central Bank
Consumer sentiment this quarter, while still negative, improved to its most optimistic in over a year amid stable commodity prices, higher family income, more employment opportunities, stronger peso, and infrastructure improvements, among others, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) reported on Friday.



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Growth to Slow, but still 'Solid' -- Foreign Banks
The Philippine economy could stand as Asia's "bright spot" this year as continued strong consumer and improving state spending, the impact of low world oil prices and infrastructure improvements fuel economic activity further, two United Kingdom-based banks said in separate notes on Friday.



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FINANCIAL TRENDS

Planned Domestic Borrowing Steady with Bias for Short-Term Debt

The government plans to borrow up to P135 billion locally in the next three months -- unchanged from this quarter's program but involving more short-dated papers as it rides market appetite for short-term securities.



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INDUSTRY NEWS

Isuzu Reports Encouraging Sales in 2 Months

Isuzu Philippines Corp. said the all-new Isuzu mu-X rolled out 1,500 units in January and February, a sharp increase from 78 units sold year-on-year for its predecessor, the Isuzu Alterra. IPC president Nobuo Izumina said the sales in the first two months of the year "reflect the company's strong lineup for the Philippines."



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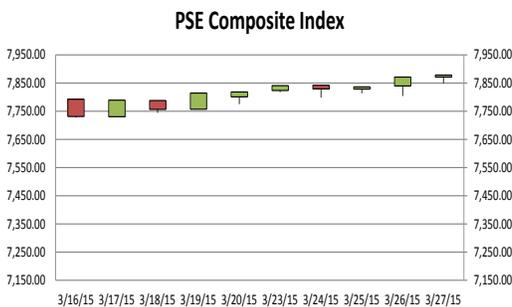
INTERNATIONAL

In among the Robots, Veteran Toyota Staffer Says Manual Labor is Key to Success

In among the robots, veteran Toyota staffer says manual labor is key to success. Mitsuru Kawai, 67, joined Toyota's technical academy from junior high school more than half a century ago, and believes that even in today's sleek, streamlined, robot-filled factories there's a place for manual skills to be learned, honed and encouraged.



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GLOBAL WATCHLIST

PCE DEFLATOR EXPECTED TO BE UP 0.1%

Why do we care so much about the dollar?
CNBC's Patti Domm discusses the market's thoughts on the dollar and their jobs report expectations.

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