



ECONOMIC INDICATORS

5.8 ↓ Full Year 2015 Gross Domestic Product

1.10 ↑ March 2016 Inflation Rate

-5.7 ↑ Q1 2016 Consumer Confidence

20.3 ↓ Q1 2016 Auto-buying Intention

46.09 ↓ Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Business optimism in PH falls in Q1—global survey

Business optimism in the Philippine economy in the first quarter of 2016 has dropped by 18 points compared to the previous quarter, a global survey conducted by an international audit and tax services firm revealed on Thursday.



[FULL STORY](#)

Smaller remittances seen amid oil price weakness

Remittances to the Philippines and neighboring countries are expected to soften in the next few years given the weakness in oil prices, Moody's Investors Service said, even as it noted that weaker inflows from the Middle East may be offset by money sent home by Filipinos elsewhere.



[FULL STORY](#)

FINANCIAL TRENDS

More foreign banks eye PHL operations

Two more foreign banks are looking to set up shop in the Philippines, an official from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) said, which if approved would add to the six offshore lenders that entered the country last year.



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INDUSTRY NEWS

Suzuki Ph enters the subcompact sedan market with all-new Ciaz

Suzuki has been and always will be best-known for their small cars. But that doesn't mean they're not going to try anything new. And the country's competitive subcompact sedan market proved to be too tempting for them not to ignore, thus Suzuki Philippines Inc. is now selling the all-new Ciaz here.



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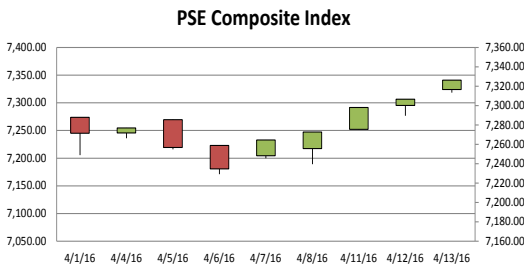
INTERNATIONAL

GM recycling water bottles for auto use

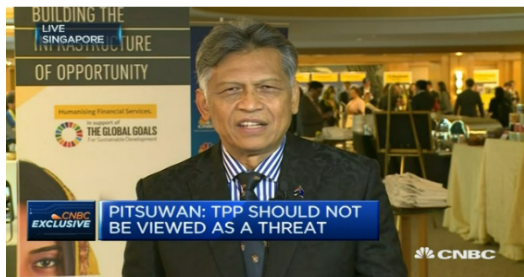
General Motors is doing their part in being greener and more environmentally friendly by collecting water bottles from all of its five facilities in Michigan for reprocessing as 'noise-reducing fabric insulation that covers the Chevrolet Equinox engine.'



[FULL STORY](#)



GLOBAL WATCHLIST



Why TPP won't hurt the AEC

While many ASEAN nations have joined the TPP, that won't hinder the progress of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), explains Surin Pitsuwan, former secretary general of ASEAN.

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