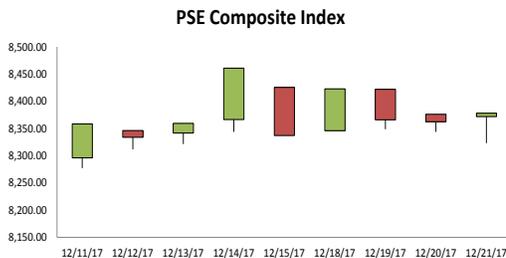




ECONOMIC INDICATORS



GLOBAL WATCHLIST



Japan's Emperor Akihito to abdicate in 2019
Emperor Akihito, who has spent much of his nearly three decades on Japan's throne seeking to soothe the wounds of World War Two, will step down on April 30, 2019- the first abdication by a Japanese monarch in about two centuries.

[FULL STORY HERE](#)

MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Peso strengthens further on profit taking ahead of holidays

THE PESO continued its rally against the dollar on Thursday as market players took profits ahead of the holiday season. The local currency closed the session at P50.24, climbing five centavos from the previous day's finish of P50.29 versus the greenback.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

Corruption, high power and shipping costs main burden to industries – BOI

The high costs of power and shipping, coupled with smuggling and corruption continue to burden majority of Philippine industries, a report by the Board of Investments (BOI) showed.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

FINANCIAL TRENDS

Philippine Monetary and Banking Industry: Doing good business as ever

Banks or depository institutions are places where one can keep his or her money safe. Banks offer various services such as savings accounts and checking accounts. They can also offer loans, investments, financial advice and counseling, and safe deposit boxes.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

Toyota sees sales slowdown in 2018

Toyota Motors Philippines Corp. (TMP) said it expects a significant drop in sales next year as it grapples to comply with volume requirements under the government's Comprehensive Automotive Resurgence Strategy (CARS) program due to the planned implementation of higher automobile taxes.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

INTERNATIONAL

European, Japanese Makes Win Top Euro Safety Ratings

Euro NCAP Secretary General Michiel van Ratingen says the ratings continue to represent outstanding engineering achievements. "Euro NCAP's rating regime now includes over 15 different tests and hundreds of individual requirements, which are strengthened all the time," he says.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

