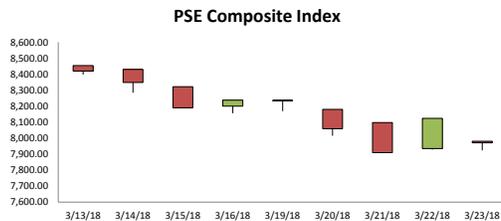
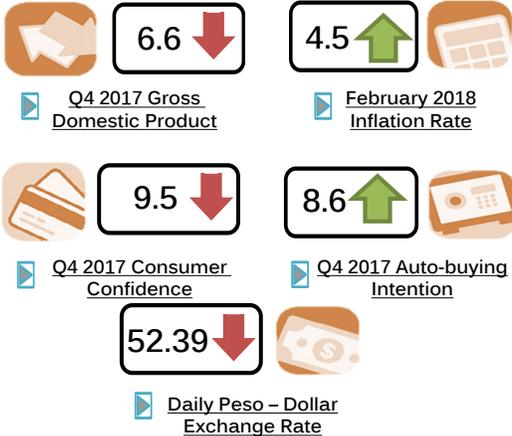




ECONOMIC INDICATORS



MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Inflation to hit peak in 3rd quarter

Inflation is expected to keep rising to hit a peak in July to September, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) said, but maintained that price pressures will remain temporary and manageable.



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Economy to withstand higher interest rates

The Philippine economy is robust enough to afford higher borrowing rates, the country's central bank chief said, following dovish remarks on monetary policy.



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FINANCIAL TRENDS

BSP wants tighter watch on heavy corporate borrowers

Banks will soon be rated by regulators based on the quality of their loan portfolios, with the highest marks being given to those financial institutions that lend mostly to corporate borrowers with the best earning capacity.



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INDUSTRY NEWS

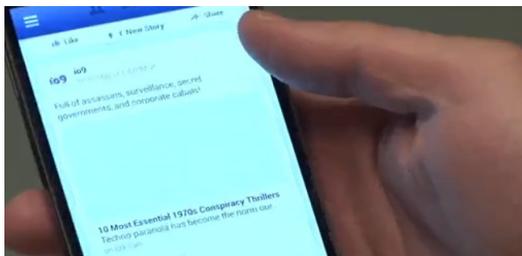
Ford Philippines Reduces Cost of Ownership for EcoSport, Everest, and Ranger

Starting April, Ford Philippines will be implementing a standardized "scheduled service maintenance" pricing to all dealers across the archipelago. The program, which initially covers Ford Philippines's so-called big three: EcoSport, Ranger, and Everest.



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GLOBAL WATCHLIST



Majority of Americans don't trust Facebook - Reuters poll

Fewer than half of Americans trust Facebook to obey U.S. privacy laws, according to a Reuters/Ipsos poll released on Sunday, illustrating the challenge facing the social media network after a scandal over its handling of personal information.

[FULL STORY HERE](#)

INTERNATIONAL

Nissan LEAF batteries to light up Japanese town

Nissan and its affiliate 4R Energy Corporation have teamed up with the town of Namie, Japan, to install new streetlights that will be powered by a combination of solar panels and used batteries from the Nissan LEAF electric car.



[FULL STORY HERE](#)

