

Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi)

6,815.91

▼ 6.18 PTS.

▼ 0.09%

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023

BusinessWorld

PSEi MEMBER STOCKS

AC Ayala Corp. P670.00 -P3.50 -0.52%	ACEN ACEN Corp. P7.00 -P0.03 -0.43%	AEV Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc. P55.20 +P0.55 +1.01%	AGI Alliance Global Group, Inc. P13.00 +P0.06 +0.46%	ALI Ayala Land, Inc. P29.60 +P0.55 +1.89%	AP Aboitiz Power Corp. P39.30 +P0.30 +0.77%	BDO BDO Unibank, Inc. P124.20 -P1.30 -1.04%	BPI Bank of the Philippine Islands P105.10 -P0.90 -0.85%	CNVRG Converge ICT Solutions, Inc. P16.04 -P0.20 -1.23%	DMC DMCI Holdings, Inc. P11.56 -P0.02 -0.17%
EMI Emperador, Inc. P21.00 +P0.05 +0.24%	GLO Globe Telecom, Inc. P1,970.00 -P9.00 -0.45%	GTCAP GT Capital Holdings, Inc. P542.50 -P1.50 -0.28%	ICT International Container Terminal Services, Inc. P209.00 -P1.00 -0.48%	JFC Jollibee Foods Corp. P238.60 +P0.20 +0.08%	JGS JG Summit Holdings, Inc. P54.00 +P1.25 +2.37%	LTG LT Group, Inc. P10.50 +P0.20 +1.94%	MBT Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co. P61.00 -P1.50 -2.40%	MER Manila Electric Co. P309.00 ---	MONDE Monde Nissin Corp. P12.16 -P0.08 -0.65%
MPI Metro Pacific Investments Corp. P4.27 -P0.21 -4.69%	PGOLD Puregold Price Club, Inc. P33.30 +P0.30 +0.91%	SCC Semirara Mining and Power Corp. P30.85 -P0.15 -0.48%	SM SM Investments Corp. P888.00 -P3.00 -0.34%	SMC San Miguel Corp. P109.80 +P3.00 +2.81%	SMPH SM Prime Holdings, Inc. P37.85 -P0.15 -0.39%	TEL PLDT Inc. P1,330.00 +P20.00 +1.53%	UBP UnionBank of the Philippines P86.90 +P0.80 +0.93%	URC Universal Robina Corp. P147.40 ---	WLCON Wilcon Depot, Inc. P32.85 ---

LNG users risk reliance on volatile prices — IEEFA

THE Philippines may be forced to rely on volatile spot market prices as long-term liquefied natural gas (LNG) contracts with shipments before 2026 are reportedly sold out globally, the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) said on Thursday.

“A recent survey of LNG buyers in Japan suggests that there are no long-term contracts available for shipments until 2026. As a result, Vietnam and the Philippines may be forced to rely solely on volatile spot markets for several years,” it said.

IEEFA identified both countries as having LNG-related projects that have experienced repeated delays, not currently importing LNG, and are without a long-term LNG supply contract as of November 2021.

Policy responses may limit the role of LNG for countries like the Philippines, which favors renewables over natural gas, said the global research institute that examines issues related to energy markets, trends, and policies.

The Philippine Energy Plan, as crafted by the Department of Energy (DoE),



REUTERS

focuses on developing renewable energy (RE). The agency targets a 50% RE share in the country's power generation mix by 2040 under a clean energy scenario, surpassing traditional coal, natural gas and oil-based power sources.

Last year, the government opened the renewable energy sector to full foreign ownership after Energy Secretary Raphael P.M. Lotilla signed a circular amending the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of the Renewable Energy Act of 2008.

Rino E. Abad, director of the DoE's Oil Industry Management Bureau, told re-

porters at an energy conference last week that proponents of LNG terminals should secure LNG contracts as soon as possible.

He said now is the best time to negotiate an LNG supply contract while the price is “relatively low.” He added that the Philippines accounts for only a small portion of global LNG demand.

To date, seven proponents of LNG terminal projects have been approved by the DoE for development, two of which are expected to come online in the first semester of 2023.

Linseed Field Power Corp., a unit of Atlantic Gulf & Pacific Co., said that it

had completed the conversion of a vessel into a floating storage unit for gas. The company is expected to start taking delivery of gas by March.

First Gen Corp., through its subsidiary FGEN LNG Corp., said its LNG terminal will also be completed by the first quarter. First Gen's gas-fired power plants currently run on indigenous gas from the Malampaya-Camago reservoir, which is expected to start depleting next year.

The other LNG terminal projects are led by Samat LNG Corp., Luzon LNG Terminal, Inc.; Energy World Gas Operations Philippines, Inc.; Shell Energy Philippines, Inc.; and Vires Energy Corp.

“Southeast Asia's demand growth faces challenges related to high prices, limited LNG contract availability and infrastructure constraints. Long-term contracts with deliveries before 2026 are reportedly sold out globally, meaning price-sensitive Southeast Asian buyers risk high exposure to volatile, expensive spot markets,” IEEFA said. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**

BRIEFS

Stronger intellectual property education seen

THE Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) expects a stronger intellectual property (IP) education in law schools across the country through its partnership with the Legal Education Board (LEB).

In a statement on Thursday, the IPOPHL said its IP Academy partnered with the LEB to promote IP via training, education, and research programs within the legal community.

The partnership was formalized with the signing of a memorandum of agreement between IPOPHL Director General Rowel S. Barba and LEB Chairperson Anna Marie Melanie B. Trinidad.

IP Academy is the IPOPHL's unit engaged in promoting IP education, professionalization, and research. “With the emergence of new technologies such as artificial intelligence, biotechnology and other brainchildren of innovators, IP protection has been becoming more complex. These technologies have already shown their potential to manifest change and with it, the creation of new legal issues that require expertise in IP law,” Ms. Trinidad said.

According to the IPOPHL, a technical working group will be formed consisting of IPOPHL and LEB representatives that will implement action plans to support the partners' objectives once a roadmap has been formulated. — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**

FULL STORY



Read the full story by scanning the QR code or by typing the link
<https://bit.ly/3xrvDIV>

DTI aims for local production of Mitsubishi's Xpander

THE Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is hoping that Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp. (MMPC) would consider the local production of its multi-purpose vehicle (MPV) model.

Dita Angara-Mathay, DTI commercial counselor and special trade representative to Tokyo, said MMPC's Xpander “is very popular” and that the department is hoping that the MPV model's next generation will be made in the country.

“Right now, it is being made in Indonesia,” Ms. Angara-Mathay told reporters in mixed English and Filipino during a recent virtual briefing.

She said MMPC is eyeing the local production of a new model, which has yet to be disclosed. “They have an expansion. They want to get into probably a new model assembly that they have not yet disclosed,” she said.

“That [plan] is really contingent [on] the extension of our program,” she said. “The Comprehensive Automotive Resurgence Strategy (CARS) program, is time-bound, performance-bound. We have to meet a certain volume of units before you get any subsidy.

We had the pandemic. They are asking for an extension.” — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**

Napocor powers Roxas-Taytay transmission line

STATE-owned National Power Corp. (Napocor) has energized the P691-million Roxas-Taytay 69 kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Palawan.

“With this new transmission line, we'll not only improve power dispatch and eventually decrease system loss, but we can also accommodate more power generators to cater to the growing electricity needs of Palawan,” Napocor President and Chief Executive Officer Fernando Martin Y. Roxas said in a media release.

The transmission line stretches from the municipalities of Roxas to Taytay in the province of Palawan. Mr. Roxas said that the completion of the transmission line, which was funded by the national government's special allotment release order, is part of Napocor's goal to provide reliable power in provinces.

The 71.3-circuit kilometer line was bid out and awarded in two schedules, with the first half awarded to SL Development Construction Corp. and the second half awarded to and completed by DM Consunji, Inc. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**

FULL STORY



Read the full story by scanning the QR code or by typing the link
<https://bit.ly/35UUno>

JOB OPENING

Company: Hovid Inc.
Position: General Manager

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Sales & Marketing**
 - Preparation and compilation of reporting requirements
 - Promoting HOVID's existing brands and introducing new marketing opportunities
- Relationship Management**
 - Promoting healthy relationship with the team members of Hovid
 - Maintaining relationships with important customers by making regular visits, understanding their needs and anticipating new marketing opportunities
- Marketing Strategy/Research**
 - Has oversight responsibilities for researching and developing marketing opportunities and plans, understanding consumer requirements, identifying market trends, and implementing system improvements to achieve Hovid's marketing goals
 - Identifying new and existing business opportunities to increase GROWTH of Hovid, promoting strong customer engagement, retention and attraction strategies
 - Gathering, investigating and summarizing market data and trends to draft reports
- Operational and Financial Management**
 - Analyzing budgets, preparing annual budget plans, scheduling expenditures, and ensuring that the sale team meets their quotas and goals
 - In collaboration with Head of Departments, overseeing and leading development and execution of new sales plans, go-to-market processes and advertising to achieve business objectives, drive profit and champion customer experience
 - Acting as project manager to ensure professional and timely execution of key customer or marketing initiatives based on priorities established through the business planning process
 - Partnering closely with product team to understand the product pipeline and how marketing can create awareness, knowledge and excitement for both existing and potential customers

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Graduate of any 4 years Medical-allied, marketing or Business related courses. MBA is an advantage.
- At least 10 years solid experience in the pharmaceutical industry (preferably Branded Generics) on the same role as General Manager with strong successful track record
- Can speak Chinese (Mandarin), Malay (Bahasa) and English as this will require constant communications to Headquarter counterparts
- With Strong financial Acumen
- Ability to build effective relationships, influence others and work effectively in a highly matrixed organization
- Strong process improvement/project management focus.

TIMELINE: 15 Days
Contact Us: hrd@hovidinc.com

Lumina Homes partners with TFC to make OFW's dreams come true

Overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) have long been considered as modern-day heroes for good reason. They leave home to toil in far-flung countries, enduring loneliness in order to provide a better life for their loved ones. And for OFWs, a “better life” ultimately means purchasing or building their own homes in which they may envision their families leading safe, secure and comfortable lives through the years.

This is an aspiration that OFWs share with most average Filipinos, one that Lumina Homes is committed to help fulfill. As the affordable housing arm of Vista Land, the country's largest integrated property developer, Lumina Homes has over 50 residential projects across the Philippines.

To reach out to more of our hardworking *kababayans* abroad, Lumina Homes forged a partnership with The Filipino Channel (TFC), a 24-hour global subscription television network that is patronized by OFWs all over the world. Seeking to harness this huge following, TFC launched last year its Win a Home Season 3 promo among its subscribers in Europe and the Middle East. By registering with Lumina Homes' newsletter and uploading photos of themselves sending money home using the Ding app, OFW promo participants qualified for the grand draw where a brand-new Lumina house and lot was raffled off.



Lumina Homes has over 50 residential projects across the Philippines.

The grand draw, which was held last December and streamed live on TFC's official YouTube channel and Facebook page, had as lucky winner a Kuwait-based OFW named Luzviminda Pelon, who was awarded a brand-new Angelique Townhouse unit.

Lumina's Angelique Townhouse is a well-designed 35-sq.m. home, with thoughtfully laid-out living spaces such as living and dining rooms, a kitchen, a toilet and bath, provisions for two bedrooms, a carport, and a service area. It was an auspicious way for Ms. Pelon's family in the Philippines to jump-start the new year and see firsthand why Lumina Homes was recognized as the Best Affordable Housing Developer in the 2021 Carousell Property Awards.

For further information about Lumina Homes, visit www.lumina.com.ph or check its official Facebook page at www.facebook.com/luminahomesofficial. Lumina can also be reached at 0917-629-6523.



REUTERS

PLDT to expand its largest data center by 12 MW, build 11th facility

THE data center arm of PLDT, Inc. will be expanding the capacity of its largest operational data center by 12 megawatts (MW) to power an additional 1,600 racks.

In a press release, ePLDT, Inc. said it will be increasing the capacity of VITRO Makati 2 (VM2) to 3,360 racks — the framework that houses computing equipment — running on 20 MW total power capacity.

“The expansion of VM2 will enable ePLDT to accommodate additional requirements of existing customers and to keep up with the country's ever-increasing data center demands,” ePLDT President and Chief Executive Officer Victor S. Genuino said.

“We take pride in the standards and reach we have achieved with our data centers. We will continue to scale and push boundaries to maintain ePLDT's position as the premier data center hub in the Philippines,” Mr. Genuino added.

The increased capacity is expected to be ready by March to accommodate the surging

data center demand in the country, the company said.

“VM2 connects directly to major international cable landing stations in the country, directing massive global data into VITRO's network,” the company said.

Meanwhile, the company said that it will be building its 11th data center in the Philippines at a 5-hectare lot in Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

The new data center, VITRO Sta. Rosa, will have an initial power capacity of 14 MW in early 2024, which ePLDT said will further increase to 50 MW once it is fully operational.

The company described VITRO Sta. Rosa as “the largest and most advanced data center in the country.”

ePLDT is said to operate the widest data center network in the country. It offers a total rack capacity of nearly 10,000 to meet the requirements of local and global enterprises across various key industries. — **Justine Irish D. Tabile**

Citicore Holdings subscribes to Megawide capital hike

MEGAWIDE Construction Corp. said on Thursday that its parent firm Citicore Holdings Investment, Inc. is subscribing to at least 25% or P9 million of the listed infrastructure firm's increased capital stock.

In a regulatory filing, Megawide said that the subscription will be through the execution of a subscription agreement dated Feb. 15.

“[A] payment of 25% of such subscription, amounting to P2.25 million was received by the Company on December 23, 2022,” the construction company said.

This subscription follows the approval by the Securities and Exchange Commission of the increase in Megawide's total authorized capital stock to P5.116 billion.

According to the company, it received both the certificate of approval of the increase in

capital stock and the certificate of filing of amended articles of incorporation from the SEC on Wednesday.

The increase allows the company to issue an additional 36 million cumulative, non-voting, non-participating, non-convertible, perpetual preferred shares at one peso apiece, from the previous 150 million non-voting shares.

On Nov. 4, 2022, the board of directors of Megawide approved the increase in the company's authorized capital stock and the amendment of article seven of its articles of incorporation.

On the stock exchange on Thursday, shares in Megawide increased by nine centavos or 2.18% to P4.22 apiece. — **Justine Irish D. Tabile**