

## Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi)

6,253.18

▲44.35 PTS.

▲0.71%

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2023

BusinessWorld

## PSEi MEMBER STOCKS

<b>AC</b> Ayala Corp. P649.50 +P3.50 +0.54%	<b>ACEN</b> ACEN Corp. P4.97 +P0.07 +1.43%	<b>AEV</b> Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc. P48.70 +P0.05 +0.1%	<b>AGI</b> Alliance Global Group, Inc. P10.36 +P0.08 +0.78%	<b>ALI</b> Ayala Land, Inc. P29.85 ---	<b>BDO</b> BDO Unibank, Inc. P131.50 -P0.40 -0.3%	<b>BLOOM</b> Bloomerry Resorts Corp. P9.87 +P0.07 +0.71%	<b>BPI</b> Bank of the Philippine Islands P105.20 +P1.20 +1.15%	<b>CNPF</b> Century Pacific Food, Inc. P30.80 +P0.30 +0.98%	<b>CNVRG</b> Converge ICT Solutions, Inc. P8.33 +P0.31 +3.87%
<b>DMC</b> DMCI Holdings, Inc. P9.22 -P0.08 -0.86%	<b>EMI</b> Emperador, Inc. P20.80 +P0.05 +0.24%	<b>GLO</b> Globe Telecom, Inc. P1,760.00 ---	<b>GTCAP</b> GT Capital Holdings, Inc. P560.00 -P0.50 -0.09%	<b>ICT</b> International Container Terminal Services, Inc. P218.40 +P3.60 +1.68%	<b>JFC</b> Jollibee Foods Corp. P240.00 +P2.00 +0.84%	<b>JGS</b> JG Summit Holdings, Inc. P38.65 +P0.80 +2.11%	<b>LTG</b> LT Group, Inc. P8.98 ---	<b>MBT</b> Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co. P52.00 -P0.80 -1.52%	<b>MER</b> Manila Electric Co. P373.00 ---
<b>MONDE</b> Monde Nissin Corp. P8.19 +P0.37 +4.73%	<b>NIKL</b> Nickel Asia Corp. P5.14 +P0.03 +0.59%	<b>PGOLD</b> Puregold Price Club, Inc. P28.15 -P0.25 -0.88%	<b>SCC</b> Semirara Mining and Power Corp. P28.60 +P0.70 +2.51%	<b>SM</b> SM Investments Corp. P830.00 +P3.00 +0.36%	<b>SMC</b> San Miguel Corp. P107.50 ---	<b>SMPH</b> SM Prime Holdings, Inc. P31.50 +P0.25 +0.8%	<b>TEL</b> PLDT Inc. P1,260.00 ---	<b>URC</b> Universal Robina Corp. P119.90 +P6.10 +5.36%	<b>WLCON</b> Wilcon Depot, Inc. P19.60 +P0.16 +0.82%

## SMC-ALI tie-up links Arca South to Skyway system

SAN MIGUEL Corp. (SMC) and Ayala Land, Inc. (ALI) have forged a partnership to integrate the property firm's Arca South to the Skyway Stage 4 project, the listed conglomerate said on Wednesday.

The two parties have signed an integration agreement that will connect the on-and-off ramps of Arca South into the Skyway

system via the upcoming South East Metro Manila Expressway or Skyway Stage 4 project, SMC said.

The construction of the integration will begin next year, SMC said, adding that this will provide "seamless access from the Skyway to Arca South."

"This partnership shows that when major companies work together, the potential

for driving positive change is immense. By combining our resources and expertise, we will be doing more than just building infrastructure," SMC President and Chief Executive Officer Ramon S. Ang said.

This collaboration is also expected to bring more job opportunities, he said, adding that it would also deliver more "resi-

dential and lifestyle options for Filipinos — while dispersing economic growth and easing traffic congestion."

"This collaboration will improve connectivity, benefiting not only the Arca South community but various stakeholders in Taguig as well," said Cesar P. Consing, vice-chairman of ALI.

Arca South was established by ALI in 2014. It is a 74-hectare mixed-use master-planned development that features six residential projects and commercial lots.

SMC's infrastructure unit is the concessionaire for the 32.66-kilometer Skyway Stage 4, which connects the Skyway system at the Arca South central

business district to the Batasan complex in Quezon City.

The expressway is expected to provide an alternate route from the south to the eastern parts of Metro Manila, including Rizal province.

At the local bourse on Wednesday, shares in ALI and SMC closed unchanged at P29.85 and P107.50 apiece, respectively. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**

## ACEN expects to soon reach 5,000-MW RE goal

AYALA-LED ACEN Corp. may soon reach its renewables capacity target of 5,000 megawatts (MW) as ongoing projects reach completion, its top official said.

"We have a high degree of confidence because we're already at close to 4,500 [MW]. That doesn't include yet the wind project that we won in the green energy auction — that's scalable to more than 300 MW," ACEN President

and Chief Executive Officer Eric T. Francia said on the sidelines of the BusinessWorld Economic Forum on Wednesday.

Mr. Francia said the new capacity excludes the 335-MW onshore wind power project located in Laguna and Quezon provinces. Based on the data from the Department of Energy (DoE), the company has an offered capacity of 230 MW for P5.79 per kilowatt-hour.

The company won the bid through its unit Giga Ace 6, Inc., which was awarded recently under the DoE's second green energy auction.

The government's green energy auction program is a competitive process of procuring RE supply by offering capacities to qualified bidders at a set maximum price.

"So it's around the corner, getting to the 5,000-megawatt mark,"

Mr. Francia said. "I cannot say if it's end of the year, early next year but somewhere in that neighborhood."

Currently, ACEN has approximately 4,200 MW of attributable capacity spanning the Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, India, and Australia.

At the local bourse on Wednesday, shares in ACEN rose by seven centavos or 1.43% to close at P4.97 apiece. — **Sheldeen Joy Talavera**

## CPG and Accor launch Novotel Suites Manila in Mandaluyong City

PROPERTY developer Century Properties Group, Inc. (CPG) partnered with global hospitality group Accor to launch Novotel Suites Manila at Acqua in Mandaluyong City.

The hotel is located at Coronado St. in Mandaluyong City in an area bordering Makati City. It features 152 rooms and suites with a practical, cozy, and contemporary design.

"The opening of Novotel Suites Manila at Acqua underlines our long-term commitment to expand our portfolio in the Philippines. Novotel's relaxed and lively atmosphere resonates with our guests, we are delighted to offer the second Novotel address for travelers, long-staying guests and locals to work, play and relax," Accor Premium, Midscale, and Economy Division in Asia Chief Executive Officer Garth Simmons said in a statement late Tuesday.

Novotel Suites Manila at Acqua features various room sizes ranging from a 31-square meter (sq.m.) standard room suited for corporate travelers, the 45-sq.m. deluxe suite and 75-sq.m. superior suite for families and long-staying guests, and the 91-sq.m. premier suite that features a 180-degree view of the city via its curved floor-to-ceiling window.

All suites feature working, living, and dining areas, and kitchens that come with a microwave, Nespresso machine, induction cooker, cooking equipment, and cutlery.

"With the renewed interest for travel globally, having Novotel Suites Manila at Acqua to host travelers will further boost the Philippine government's push to bolster the tourism industry," CPG President and Chief Executive Officer Marco R. Antonio said.

Novotel Suites Manila at Acqua also features an all-day dining restaurant called Tempus, located on the sixth floor. It offers a breakfast buffet and a la carte options for lunch and dinner. A private dining room across the restaurant could accommodate up to 20 guests. It can serve as a venue for birthday celebrations, reunions, and lunch meetings.

The hotel also has an infinity swimming pool on the sixth floor, while its 21<sup>st</sup> floor features a lobby lounge and two meeting rooms that could accommodate up to 30 guests each. It also offers a fitness center with free weights and modern cardio machines for guests who are fitness enthusiasts. — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**

FULL STORY



Read the full story by scanning the QR code or by typing the link  
<https://tinyurl.com/2wzsdw4r>

## OCS opens office in Mandaluyong

GLOBAL facilities management company OCS Group, through its local unit, inaugurated an office in Mandaluyong City to mark its debut in the Philippines.

OCS Facilities Philippines Services, Inc. (OCS Philippines), which is part of the OCS Group, will provide services that are expected to enhance the functioning, safety, and long-term viability of buildings, grounds, infrastructure, and real estate assets.

These services include "non-core" duties such as cleaning, technical maintenance, gardening, security, pest control, and transportation.

Globally, the group employs over 130,000 staff and operates in 26 countries with an annual revenue forecasted to grow to 4 billion British pounds by 2027. Locally, it operates nationwide and currently has over 4,000 employees.

Located at SM Offices' Mega Tower in Mandaluyong, OCS Philippines opened its office with Pronove Tai International Property Consultants as a tenant representative on Tuesday.

"I am extremely excited as we enter this new chapter for OCS Philippines. We are uniquely positioned to move forward in the market with our tailored Integrated facilities management model," said Phillip Carter, OCS Philippines' managing director, in a press release.

"With our global strength and history, as well as our local and regional knowledge, I see the launch of the OCS brand in the Philippines as a real 'game changer' in the Philippines [facilities management] market," he added.

The company said that with the debut of the brand in the Philippines, it seeks to operate across all business sectors. It claims to have a strong foothold with offices in Manila, Cebu, and Davao.

"OCS Philippines currently provides services to corporate offices, manufacturing plants, healthcare, telecommunications, energy, and logistics, to name just some of the segments they work in," it added.

In the future, it plans to incorporate more technology into its operations including utilizing robotics machines for cleaning, which is seen to significantly reduce the physical labor of its workers and boost focus on tasks that need more "human touch."

"Moving forward, as the new brand is launched in the Philippines, the company intends to expand to a wider range of industries, including the rapidly expanding renewable energy sector, education, and hospitality, among others," the company said. — **Justine Irish D. Tabile**

## Cease-and-desist order vs Casa Infini permanent — SEC

THE Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has made permanent the cease-and-desist order against the Casa Infini group, it said on Wednesday.

In a statement, the SEC said the order against Casa Infini Builders and Realty Co. Ltd., Casa Infini Realty Management Co. Ltd., and its affiliated entities was affirmed by the commission en banc in a resolution dated Oct. 31.

The order was issued on June 8 after the Casa Infini group was discovered to have been actively selling securities in the form of investment contracts without the necessary secondary license.

According to the SEC, Casa Infini urged the public to invest in alleged real estate projects in Baguio City either as a buyer-investor or partner financier. Investors were promised more than P33,000 monthly income

for 20 months with the assurance that the investments collected were to be used to finance real estate properties that the entity owned, managed, or operated.

Before the permanent declaration, Casa Infini filed a motion to lift the cease-and-desist order, arguing that the solicitation from investors was not a scam since its project was supported by a license issued by the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development.

Casa Infini denied practicing a Ponzi scheme, saying that the referral fee is paid and incurred not by the investments of new partners but by Casa Infini Builders itself because of the acknowledged benefit that the program will have for the business.

The entity also said that no damages were being reported by any of

the company's partners, which supposedly showcased that the partner financiers did indeed receive the expected returns, proving the authenticity of the promised profits.

However, the SEC's commission en banc dismissed the arguments of Casa Infini, maintaining that the group was offering securities in the form of investment contracts to the public without the necessary license.

Under Section 8 of Republic Act No. 8799 or the Securities Regulation Code, the sale or offer to sell and/or distribute securities is prohibited without the proper secondary license from the SEC.

"Consistent with the broad definition of securities, the term investment contract should include and cover all

forms and varieties thereof which are known or considered, or ought to be known or considered to be such, in the financial world," the commission en banc said.

"Wherefore, premises considered, the verified motion to lift [the cease-and-desist order] filed by [Casa Infini] is hereby denied for lack of merit," it said, adding that the June 8 order is permanent.

In a separate statement on Wednesday, the SEC said that it revoked the corporate registration of

Bagong Bansang Maharlika (BBM) International Inc., which is said to operate as a non-government organization (NGO) without the necessary licenses as well as "using the president's name to lure members." — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**

FULL STORY



Read the full story by scanning the QR code or by typing the link  
<https://argo.page.link/>