Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) 6,551.81 ▼15.01 PTS. ▼0.22%

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025 BusinessWorld

PSEi MEMBER STOCKS

AC	Ayala Corp.	P595.00	-P13.00	-2.14%
ACEN	ACEN Corp.	P2.63	——	
AEV	Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc.	P37.25	+P3.25	+9.56%
AGI	Alliance Global Group, Inc.	P6.62	-P0.08	-1.19%
ALI	Ayala Land, Inc.	P23.50	+P1.00	+4.44%
AREIT	AREIT, Inc.	P40.00	+P0.15	+0.38%
BDO	BDO Unibank, Inc.	P167.00	-P1.00	-0.60%
BLOOM	Bloomberry Resorts Corp.	P4.00	-P0.12	-2.91%
BPI	Bank of the Philippine Islands	P139.80	-P1.20	-0.85%
CBC	China Banking Corp.	P85.00	-P1.70	-1.96%
CNPF	Century Pacific Food, Inc.	P41.75	-P0.25	-0.60%
CNVRG	Converge ICT Solutions, Inc.	P18.52	-P0.18	-0.96%
DMC	DMCI Holdings, Inc.	P10.50	-P0.14	-1.32%
EMI	Emperador, Inc.	P13.20	+P0.10	+0.76%
GLO	Globe Telecom, Inc.	P1,890.00	-P50.00	-2.58%
GTCAP	GT Capital Holdings, Inc.	P529.00	+P6.00	+1.15%
ICT	International Container Terminal Services, Inc.	P411.00	+P4.00	+0.98%
JFC	Jollibee Foods Corp.	P243.20	+P10.20	+4.38%
JGS	JG Summit Holdings, Inc.	P18.38	-P0.12	-0.65%
LTG	LT Group, Inc.	P12.02	-P0.38	-3.06%
MBT	Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co.	P79.60	-P0.90	-1.12%
MER	Manila Electric Co.	P574.00	-P1.00	-0.17%
MONDE	Monde Nissin Corp.	P7.13	-P0.77	-9.75%
PGOLD	Puregold Price Club, Inc.	P32.60	-P0.10	-0.31%
SCC	Semirara Mining and Power Corp.	P32.00	-P0.70	-2.14%
SM	SM Investments Corp.	P868.00	-P32.00	-3.56%
SMC	San Miguel Corp.	P78.75	+P0.15	+0.19%
SMPH	SM Prime Holdings, Inc.	P25.20	+P1.00	+4.13%
TEL	PLDT Inc.	P1,272.00	+P6.00	+0.47%
URC	Universal Robina Corp.	P91.95	-P1.05	-1.13%

SMC Q1 net income soars to P43.4B on forex, asset gains

ANG-LED conglomerate San Miguel Corp. (SMC) reported a sharp increase in its first-quarter net income to P43.4 billion from P8.9 billion a year earlier, fueled by foreign exchange (forex) gains and a one-time gain from the partial sale of power assets, despite a decline in consolidated revenue.

Core net income rose by 31% to P19 billion, supported by cost management efforts and improved performance across most core businesses, SMC said in an e-mail statement on Wednesday.

Revenue declined by 8% to P360.9 billion, weighed down by lower crude prices and reduced contributions from the power business following the deconsolidation of the Ilijan Power Plant.

The decline was partially offset by stronger sales from the food, hard liquor, and infrastructure units.

Operating income increased by 13% to P45.6 billion, while consolidated earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA) rose by 17% to P64.2 billion.

For its food and beverage business, San Miguel Food and Beverage, Inc. recorded a 16% increase in net income to P11.6 billion, as consolidated revenue grew by 4% to P98.9 billion.

San Miguel Foods saw an 83% jump in net income to P3 billion, driven by an 8% rise in revenue to P46.3 billion on strong poultry sales and steady demand for processed meats and dairy products.

San Miguel Brewery, Inc. posted a 1% increase in net income to P6.6 billion, with sales reaching P36.3 billion.

Ginebra San Miguel, Inc. reported an 11% growth in net income to P2.1 billion as revenue climbed by 8% to P16.3 billion.

San Miguel Global Power Holdings Corp. generated P26.4 billion in net income. Revenue fell by 4% to P42.5 billion, reflecting the impact of the Ilijan Power Plant deconsolidation.

Petron Corp., which leads SMC's fuel and oil segment, posted a 2% increase in net income to P4 billion. Revenue dropped to P194.4 billion, weighed by lower crude prices and softer export sales.

SMC Infrastructure recorded a 7% rise in revenue, led by continued growth in toll road operations. Operating income improved by 10% to P5.3 billion.

The conglomerate's cement business reported a 4% decline in revenue to P8.9 billion, reflecting lower average selling prices amid heightened import competition and soft demand.

The business includes Eagle Cement, Northern Cement, and Southern Concrete Industries.

SMC shares rose by 0.19% or 15 centavos to P78.75 apiece on Wednesday. — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**

Mega Prime eyes initial public offering in 2-3 years

MEGA PRIME FOODS, Inc. is targeting an initial public offering (IPO) within the next two to three years as part of its long-term growth strategy, while seeking to expand its sardines market share this year.

"It is on the table because we really want to share this story, this company, with the Filipinos and with other investors because we believe in it so much," Mega Prime Chief Growth and Development Officer Marvin P. Tiu Lim told reporters on Wednesday.

"And I think given the right management team, given the right brands that are out there for acquisition, and given the right plan for future growth, we can take this Filipino company globally," he added.

Mr. Tiu Lim said the company has started preparations for the potential listing, which include discussions with banks and improving internal processes.

"We want the company to be able to go IPO anytime, and that means being more transparent, having good corporate governance in place, and being more professional. So, it has to run like a professionally run company," he said.

He noted, however, that the plan remains in its early stages. "But it [the plan to go public] is still premature. So, we are just trying to hopefully bring out more products and acquire new brands. We just recently acquired Jim's Coffee," he said.

Mega Sardines, the company's flagship brand, is the current market leader in the Philippines. Citing Nielsen Retail Audit data, Mr. Tiu Lim said the brand captured a 26% market share in 2023, ahead of its closest competitors with 18% and 15% shares, respectively.

The company is targeting an additional five to 10 percentage points in market share this year, aiming to reach at least 30% by end-2024.

"We are not only expecting to sustain it but to grow it massively because we are the only brand that has this certification, and celebrating our 50th year, we have a big raffle promo coming up... so we expect a lot of market share growth hopefully this year," he said, referring to a recognition the brand received from the Medical Wellness Association (MWA).

On Wednesday, Mega Sardines was endorsed by the US-based MWA as a "Superfood," becoming the first sardine brand globally to receive such recognition.

"With the product being rich in omega-3, high in vitamins, and processed with world-class safety, we can say that it is more than a pantry essential — it's a food that supports overall health," said James Michael Lafferty, founding board member of the MWA.

He said Mega Sardines met the MWA's System-6 criteria for a "Superfood," citing its high omega-3 content, essential nutrients, and stringent food safety processes.

"Based on these proven health benefits, the MWA is proud to bestow its professional recommendation to Mega Sardines — the first and only sardine brand in the Philippines to receive this endorsement. In fact, it is the only seafood brand to do so," he added.

Following the MWA recognition, Mega Prime aims to increase the share of its export sales from 5% to 10% over the next three years. Its key export markets include Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, and Canada, with Egypt being eyed as a potential new market. — **Justine Irish D. Tabile**

JG Summit Q1 profit falls 61% to P4.3B amid petrochemical losses

JG SUMMIT Holdings, Inc. reported a 61% drop in first-quarter (Q1) net income to P4.3 billion from P11 billion a year earlier, weighed down by losses from its petrochemical business, which will remain shut for at least two years.

Consolidated revenues rose by 2% to P98.2 billion from P96.6 billion, lifted by the conglomerate's travel, malls, hotel, and food and beverage segments, the company said in a disclosure to the stock exchange on Wednesday.

However, core net income dropped by 65% to P4.4 billion, as last year's figure included a P7.9-billion gain from the merger of Robinsons Bank Corp. and Bank of the Philippine Islands.

"We are hopeful that the encouraging trends we are seeing in improving consumer sentiment brought about by the tempering inflation coupled with the favorable forex and oil prices will help accelerate demand and translate to better topline growth and improving margins for the balance of the year," JG Summit President and Chief Executive Officer Lance Y. Gokongwei said.

JG Summit announced that its petrochemical unit, JG Summit Olefins Corp. (JGSOC), will remain shut for at least two years due to ongoing challenges in the global market.

"During this period, the focus will be on preserving the assets in the plant complex while evaluating strategic options for the business moving forward. Meanwhile, its liquefied petroleum gas trading arm, Peak Fuel Corp., will continue to operate," JG Summit said.

JGSOC recorded a net loss of P3.3 billion for the period, as non-recurring costs were incurred to facilitate the shutdown. Revenues declined by 46% to P7.6 billion, weighed by lower petrochemical sales.

"Our decision to extend the shutdown of our petrochemical unit will also help reduce the drag on our profitability," Mr. Gokongwei said.

Meanwhile, its food business Universal Robina Corp. reported a 2% drop in net income to P4.1 billion, reflecting lower foreign exchange gains. Revenues rose by 7% to P45.3 billion, driven by the domestic branded consumer foods segment.

Robinsons Land Corp., the group's property arm, saw its net income increase by 4% to P3.5 billion. Revenues rose by 1% to P10.7 billion, supported by sustained investment portfolio growth despite a decline in residential sales due to fewer units sold post-pandemic.

Cebu Air, Inc., the airline unit, posted a 79% drop in net income to P466 million, following higher aircraft depreciation and financing costs. Revenues, however, grew by 20% to P30.4 billion, supported by robust passenger demand and continued network expansion.

JG Summit's core investments also contributed positively. Its share in Manila Electric Co.'s net income rose by 9% to P2.7 billion, driven by higher distribution sales volumes and stronger contributions from its power generation business.

PLDT, Inc. declared dividends of P47 per share, resulting in P1.1 billion in dividend income for JG Summit, up 2% year on year.

On Wednesday, shares in JG Summit fell by 0.65% or 12 centavos to close at P18.38 each. — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**

SM Prime deploys 131 EV charging stations, targets 50 more by year-end

SM PRIME Holdings, Inc. is planning to install 50 additional electric vehicle (EV) charging stations nationwide by end-2025, supporting its long-term push for sustainable mobility.

The listed property developer said it deployed 131 EV charging stations in the first quarter across its malls and office developments, as part of its efforts to expand green infrastructure and clean transport options.

"SM Prime has strategically deployed EV charging stations across its malls and office developments to support low-emission transport," the company said in a disclosure to the stock exchange on Wednesday.

"Future installations are also planned for its residential communities and leisure estates, making sustainable mobility more accessible across its integrated property portfolio," it added.

SM Prime said its charging stations comply with national standards and safety protocols. The company is accredited by the Department of Energy as an Electric Vehicle Charging Station (EVCS) Provider-Operator.

"Integrating sustainable practices into our operations is a core part of SM Prime's long-term strategy," SM Prime President Jeffrey C. Lim said. "Through this initiative, we are also supporting the government's vision for an inclusive and future-ready EV ecosystem."

Under the Comprehensive Roadmap for the Electric Vehicle Industry, the government is targeting a 10% EV fleet share under a business-as-usual scenario by 2040. A higher target of at least 50% has been set under a clean energy scenario.

The Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines, Inc. earlier projected EV sales to grow by 7% this year, with annual purchases expected to reach 20,000 units.

SM Prime said it aims to be a key player in the country's low-carbon future, leveraging its footprint and sustained investments in integrated property developments and green technologies.

With its expanding EV charging network, the company said it is contributing to the transformation of the country's transport sector while advancing climate-resilient urban development.

"We are focused on making sustainability practical and accessible. Expanding our EV charging network is one way we are enabling Filipinos to adopt greener habits as part of daily life," Mr. Lim said.

On Thursday, shares in SM Prime rose by 4.13% or P1 to close at P25.20. — **Beatriz Marie D. Cruz**

Hotel101-Roxas Boulevard seen finished by 2028

DOUBLE DRAGON Corp. (DD) has unveiled its latest project, Hotel101-Roxas Boulevard, in Pasay City.

The company said in a statement on Wednesday that the project is expected to generate approximately P5.25 billion in revenue from unit sales.

The project will rise on a 1,790-square-meter commercial lot along Roxas Boulevard.

Construction is scheduled to begin in the second half of 2025, with the project slated for completion by the second half of 2028.

"The Hotel101-Roxas Boulevard, with 700 rooms, is set to become the largest hotel along Roxas Boulevard and is envisioned as the area's most vibrant landmark," the company said.

The 34-story hotel will contribute to Double Dragon's goal of expanding its Hotel101 Global portfolio, which aims to include up to 50,000 rooms in the Philippines and one million rooms across 100 countries.

Hotel101 is the flagship brand of Hotel of Asia, Inc., Double Dragon's hospitality arm.

On Wednesday, Double Dragon's shares fell by 38 centavos, or 3.82%, closing at P9.56 each. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**