Del Monte Pacific profit surges to \$5.5M after US unit deconsolidation

DEL MONTE PACIFIC Ltd. (DELM) said its attributable net income for the first quarter of fiscal year 2026, ending in July, surged nearly 15 times to \$5.5 million from \$368,000 a year ago, as results stabilized after the deconsolidation of its US opera-

In a disclosure on Thursday, the Campos-led food and beverage producer said turnover rose by 12.9% to \$203.72 million, while gross profit jumped 32.8% to \$66.11 million.

"The Philippine market delivered \$88.4 million in first-quarter sales, up 10.3% in peso terms and 14.9% in US dollar terms, driven by strong demand across beverages, packaged fruits and culinary essentials," the company said.

Sales in the Philippines were lifted by health-focused beverage variants and new ready-to-drink products targeting younger consumers, it noted.

International sales increased by 6.4% to \$97.2 million, supported by higher fresh pineapple demand in China and

Japan, along with an improved product mix and pricing.

The premium S&W Deluxe Pineapple expanded its export share, while fresh-cut packs boosted S&W's lead in North Asia to a 50% export share. In Japan, sales climbed 20% on stronger retail demand and new customers, the company added.

DELM deconsolidated its US subsidiary, Del Monte Foods Corp., effective May 1, after the unit filed for voluntary Chapter 11 bankruptcy in April due to

heavy debt and shifting consumer preferences

Del Monte Foods secured \$912.5 million in financing to continue operations while selling most of its assets under court supervision. The restructuring was intended to support the unit's recovery and enable it to continue serving

At the local bourse on Thursday, DELM shares closed 21.3% higher at P4.16 apiece. — **Alexandria Grace C.**





The following are scheduled power interruptions necessary for the regular maintenance and upgrade of our power distribution facilities, to ensure the delivery of safe and reliable electricity to your areas. Rest assured that Meralco is doing everything to quickly restore your electricity according to schedule.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

SAN JUAN CITY (GREENHILLS AND LITTLE BAGUIO)

BETWEEN 9:00AM AND 9:30AM AND THEN BETWEEN 2:30PM AND 3:00PM -PORTIONS OF CIRCUIT MANDALUYONG 41VD

Portion of Xavier St. from Connecticut St. to Ortigas Ave. including Grant and Madison Sts.; 81 Xavier Residences, Avalon Condominium, Xavier School, St. Francis Condominium, Midland Park Manor, Mary the Queen Parish Church, Immaculate Conception Academy and Cardinal Santos Medical Center in West Greenhills Subd.

Portion of Roosevelt St. from Lincoln St. to Adams St. in West Greenhills Subd., Bay. Greenhills, San Juan City.

Portion of Ortigas Ave. from Triumph Motorcycles to and including Greenhills Autohaus, I AM Worldwide, Burger King, McDonalds, Abenson Greenhills Madison and Mercury Drugstore in Bgy. Greenhills.

Portion of M. A. Reyes and Gen. Vicente Lim Sts. from Grant St. to near Col. Ver

BETWEEN 9:00AM AND 3:00PM - PORTION OF CIRCUIT MANDALUYONG 41VD Portion of Wilson St. from near Xavier St. to and including Wilson Circle, Don Miguel, Doña Paz, Roosevelt, Garfield, Monroe, Harding, Jackson, Taft, Cleveland, Coolidge and Adams Sts.; and Century Seafood Restaurant in West Greenhills Subd.

REASON: Line reconstruction work along Wilson St. in West Greenhills Subd., Bgy. Greenhills, San Juan City.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

QUEZON CITY (PALTOK)

BETWEEN 9:00AM AND 2:00PM - PORTION OF CIRCUIT BANAWE 413BNW Portion of Mendoza St. from Natividad St. to and including Ilagan, Zorra, Anak

Bayan, Gomez, Basa, Matias and Zamora Sts

Portion of Hernandez and Matias Sts. from near Ilaw St. to and including Guevarra, Kundiman, Mendoza and Aragon Sts.; Luzon Foundry Shop, Nascent Technologies, S-3 Ice Tube Ice and Uniwin Multiprinting Corp

REASON: Replacement of poles and line reconductoring work along Aragon St. in Bgy, Paltok, Quezon City,

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

PASIG CITY (UGONG)

BETWEEN 9:00AM AND 3:00PM - PORTION OF CIRCUIT HILLCREST 422VZ The whole of Valle Verde Subd. Phase 2.

REASON: Replacement of poles and line reconductoring work inside Valle Verde Subd. Phase 2 in Bgy. Ugong, Pasig City.

RIZAL PROVINCE (ANTIPOLO CITY)

BETWEEN 10:00AM AND 3:00PM - PORTION OF CIRCUIT MASINAG 45WN The whole of Kingsville Executive Village in Bgy. Mayamot.

REASON: Line reconductoring work and replacement of pole along Sumulong

Highway in Bgy. Mayamot, Antipolo City, Rizal Province.

TUESDAY TO WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16-17, 2025

CALOOCAN CITY (BAGONG BARRIO); AND QUEZON CITY (BALINTAWAK)

BETWEEN 11:00PM (TUE., 09/16/25) AND 4:00AM (WED., 09/17/25) - PORTION

OF CIRCUITS BALINTAWAK 45E AND 404E Portion of Quirino Highway from North Luzon Expressway (NLEX) - East Service Road to and including Caiña Drive, S. Gonzales Drive, Maxima Drive, and Salazar Drive;

Teachers Bliss Condominium II and PTHP Compound in Bgy. Balong Bato, Balintawak Portion of North Luzon Expressway (NLEX) - East Service Road from Quirino Highway to and including Cabrera, Dinalaga, Doce 36, Elon-Elon, Flores, Imelda,

Malolos, Mangahan, Peta, Ramelon, Sampaguita, Tanke and Tieramas Sts. in East Bagong Barrio, Bagong Barrio, Caloocan City. REASON: Line reconstruction, line reconductoring work and replacement of pole

along Quirino Highway in Bgy. Balong Bato, Balintawak, Quezon City.

MANILA (STA. CRUZ AND QUIAPO)

BETWEEN 11:30PM (TUE., 09/16/25) AND 4:30AM (WED., 09/17/25) - PORTION OF CIRCUIT TUTUBAN 432VT

Portion of Soler St. from Rizal Ave. to Evangelista St. including Sales, Commandante, Calero, Mabolo, Germinal, and Trinidad Sts. in Sta. Cruz.

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Portion of Evangelista St. from Recto Ave. to Gonzalo Puyat St. including Esperanza, Florante and Porvenir Sts. in Quiapo.

REASON: Replacement of poles, line reconstruction work and installation of additional lightning protection devices along Evangelista, Soler and Trinidad Sts. in Quiapo and Sta. Cruz in Manila.

WEDNESDAY TO THURSDAY, **SEPTEMBER 17 – 18, 2025**

LAGUNA (CABUYAO CITY)

BETWEEN 11:00PM (WED., 09/17/25) AND 4:00AM (THU., 09/18/25) - PORTION

Portion of Mabuhay Road from San Isidro Road to and including Cluster Series Phase 5 Subd., Extraordinary Homes Subd. and Mabuhay City Subd. Phases 1, 3 Extension, 3 Luxury Series, 3 Cluster Series, 3, 5 & 6 in Bgys. Mamatid and San Isidro. Portion of San Isidro Road from Mamatid Road to Mabuhay Road in Bgy. Mamatid.

REASON: Installation and retirement of poles, and line reconductoring work along Mabuhay Road in Bgy. Mamatid, Cabuyao City, Laguna.

MUNTINLUPA CITY (ALABANG; BAYANAN; AND PUTATAN)

BETWEEN 11:30PM (WED., 09/17/25) AND 4:30AM (THU., 09/18/25) -PORTIONS OF CIRCUIT FILINVEST 415FIL

Portion of Bautista St. from Manila South Road to Baywalk St. including L&B Compound 1, Filrizan Subd., Sunrise Subd., San Juan Compound and Tavera Compound; Purok 2, 3, 5-PNR, 6 & 7C in Bgys. Alabang, Bayanan and Putatan. Portion of San Guillermo St. from Bayanan Bridge to and including Lakeview Homes 2 Subd., Jamcels Villa Arciaga Subd. and Bagong Paraiso Subd. in Bgys. Bayanan and

REASON: Installation and retirement of facilities along Bautista and San Guillermo Sts. in Bgy. Bayanan, Muntinlupa City.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

CAVITE (IMUS CITY)

BETWEEN 12:01AM AND 5:00AM - PORTION OF CIRCUIT LANCASTER 415LAN

Portion of NIA Road from Palazzo Bello Subd. to and including Country Mile Homes Subd., Pacific Terraces Community North Subd., Grand Residences Subd. and Reyes Compound; Saint Simon of Cyrene Academy, Southdale International School Of Sciences, Arts & Technology and Harvest Marketplace in Bgys. Carsadang Bago 1 & 2.

REASON: Relocation of poles affected by DPWH road widening along NIA Road in Bgy. Carsadang Bago, Imus City, Cavite.

BULACAN (SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CITY)

BETWEEN 11:00AM AND 4:00PM - PORTIONS OF CIRCUIT SAN JOSE 413SJ Portion of Matahimik St. from Citrus Road to and including Purok 6; RC-11, UC-2. UC-3 and UC-4 Sts.; Citrus Seventh-day Adventist Church and Citrus Cemetery in Bgys. Bagong Buhay and Citrus.

Portion of Citrus and South Roads from Matahimik St. to and including RC-10 Barangay Outpost, Citrus Barangay Hall, Citrus National High School, Bagong Buhay G Elementary School and Blessed Church Bulacan C&C Partners; Sampaloc, Mangga, RC-2, RC-3, RC-4, RC-5, RC-11, TC-6, TC-18 and UC-3 Sts.; in Bgy. Citrus. Portion of Sampaloc St. from Citrus Road to and including Iglesia Ni Cristo -Lokal Ng Citrus in Bgy. Citrus.

REASON: Line reconductoring work, relocation, replacement, retirement and upgrading of facilities in Bgy. Citrus, San Jose Del Monte City, Bulacan.

THURSDAY TO FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18-19, 2025 **BATANGAS PROVINCE (BATANGAS CITY)**

BETWEEN 11:00PM (THU., 09/18/25) AND 4:00AM (FRI., 09/19/25) - PORTIONS OF CIRCUIT PALLOCAN WEST 312PAL

Portion of Maselang St. from near Calicanto Crossing to Tramo St. including Arce 1 & 2 Subds., Villa Neneng Subd., FPIC Housing Compound and Lourdes Compound; DPWH Batangas 1st District Engineering Office, Provincial Engineer's Office Compound and Greenhills Christian Fellowship (GCF) Batangas in Bgys. Calicanto, Kumintang Ibaba and Kumintang Ilaya.

REASON: Replacement of ageing facilities in Arce Subd., Brgy. Kumintang Ibaba, Batangas City, Batangas Province

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2025 **CAVITE (GEN. TRIAS CITY)**

BETWEEN 10:00AM AND 3:00PM - THE WHOLE OF CIRCUIT GATEWAY 412WP

Gateway Business Park Administration Bldg., Globe STT Data Center, Analog Devices Gen. Trias Inc., CDI Sakata Inx Corp., Daejin Hi-tech Phils., Epson Precision (Philippines), Fujihiro (Phils.), Greenkraft Corp., GRM Ecozone Storage, JAE Phils., PSTP EMS Inc., Petvalue Phils, Synergy Sales Int'l Corp., First Orient Dev't & Construction (FODC Temporary Site), SSMC Satellite Hospital and Unilever Phils. in Gateway Business Park, Bgy. Javalera

REASON: Line reconstruction work inside Gateway Business Park in Bgy Javalera, Gen. Trias City, Cavite.



Pangilinan: MPIC acquisition in Wendy's, Conti's 'not a very big amount'

By Ashley Erika O. Jose

METRO PACIFIC Investments Corp. (MPIC) has acquired a 15% stake in Eight8Ate Holdings, Inc., the operator of Conti's Bakeshop and Restaurant and Wendy's Philippines, in a move analysts said would support MPIC's strategy to vertically integrate its agribusiness.

"[It's] not a very big amount," MPIC Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Manuel V. Pangilinan told reporters on Thursday, describing the value of the transaction.

Asked how soon the deal could contribute to MPIC's revenue, Mr. Pangilinan said the company only took a minority stake in Eight8Ate Holdings.

Established in 2018, Eight8Ate Holdings currently manages and operates brands such as Conti's, a premium casual dining restaurant, and Wendy's Philippines.

"We are only a minority. I know that Conti's is making money already. I think Wendy's will soon make money," Mr. Pangilinan said.

"It will help the company be more vertically integrated. This is because they have the farms, then the food processor, manufacturer, then the restaurants. Vertical integration will help boost profitability," COL Financial Group, Inc. Chief Equity Strategist April Lynn Lee-Tan said in a Viber message.

For First Metro Investment Corp. Head of Research Cristina S. Ulang, the investment will help expand the holding company's dairy and other food-based products valueadded chain.

MPIC, through its agriculture arm Metro Pacific Agro Ventures, Inc. (MPAV), said it is pursuing a strategy to create a vertically integrated agribusiness portfolio.

MPIC is one of the three key Philippine units of Hong Kongbased First Pacific Co. Ltd., along with Philex Mining Corp. and PLDT Inc. Hastings Holdings, Inc., a unit of PLDT Beneficial Trust Fund subsidiary Media-Quest Holdings, Inc., holds a majority stake in BusinessWorld through the Philippine Star Group, which it controls.

MGen, KEPCO eye wind, storage projects in RE push

MERALCO POWERGEN CORP. (MGen), the power generation arm of Manila Electric Co. (Meralco), and Korea Electric Power Corp. (KEPCO) are planning to expand their renewable energy (RE) partnership to help diversify the country's energy portfolio.

"Looking ahead, KEPCO and MGen intend to expand their collaboration beyond solar into other renewable energy projects such as wind and ESS (energy storage system), further diversifying the Philippines' energy portfolio," the companies said in a statement on Thursday.

The expanded partnership builds on earlier collaborations, including the signing of a memorandum of understanding to jointly explore nuclear energy, renewable energy, smart grids, microgrids, ESS, electric vehicles, advanced metering infrastructure, smart substations, and distribution automation.

At the same time, MGen announced that its unit SP New Energy Corp. (SPNEC) will take over the operations of the 63.3-megawatt peak (MWp) solar farm in Calatagan, Batangas.

MGen signed a deed of accession and amendment with KEP-CO to replace Solar Philippines Power Project Holdings Corp. (SPPHI) with SPNEC.

Through MGen Renewable Energy, Inc., MGen owns 53.7% of SPNEC after acquiring the stake from SPPHI. KEPCO holds a 38% share in SPPHI's subsidiary Solar Philippines Calatagan Corp., which operates the solar

"This agreement is a testament to the trust and cooperation that KEPCO and MGen have built over the years," KEPCO Philippines Holdings, Inc. President and Chief Executive Officer Jeon Yongsu said. "Together, we are creating a stronger foundation to accelerate renewable energy development in the Philippines and set a benchmark for strategic energy partnerships across Asia."

Under the agreement, the companies affirmed their commitment to strengthen their strategic partnership as joint shareholders in the solar farm.

"Our strengthened partnership with KEPCO underscores MGen's commitment to advancing clean energy and supporting the country's sustainability goals," MGen and SPNEC President and Chief Executive Officer Emmanuel V. Rubio said.

"By working hand in hand, we aim to not only ensure the continued success of the Calatagan Solar Farm but also unlock new opportunities for innovation and growth in the Philippine energy sector," he added.

At present, MGen has seven solar power plants in the Philippines across Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Rizal, Batangas, and Tarlac.

Meralco's controlling stakeholder, Beacon Electric Asset Holdings, Inc., is partly owned by PLDT Inc. Hastings Holdings, Inc., a unit of PLDT Beneficial Trust Fund subsidiary MediaQuest Holdings, Inc., has an interest in BusinessWorld through the Philippine Star Group, which it controls.

– Sheldeen Joy Talavera