

ACEN Q1 profit jumps 50% on PSA recoveries, India gains

ACEN CORP. posted a 49.9% increase in first-quarter attributable net income, supported by power supply agreement (PSA) recoveries, India-related gains, and higher electricity revenues.

In a regulatory filing released Tuesday, the Ayala-led energy company said attributable net income rose to P2.92 billion in the January-to-March period from P1.95 billion a year earlier.

Revenue from sale of electricity climbed 42.2% to P10.74 billion from P7.55 billion previously, driven by higher revenues from power supply contracts and power generation and trading activities.

Total attributable renewable energy output rose 32% year on year to 2,230 gigawatt-hours (GWh), while Philippine renewable energy generation increased 29% to 636 GWh due mainly to the recovery of operations in Ilocos Norte as the Pagudpud and Capa wind farms returned to near-full operations.

ACEN said year-on-year results were "significantly influenced by several material, largely non-cash, one-off items."

Among the key contributors to earnings was the Energy Regulatory Commission's approval of price adjustments for ACEN's baseload and mid-merit power

supply agreements with Manila Electric Co. (Meralco), allowing the recovery of incremental fuel costs linked to the 2022-2023 coal price surge.

"The approval resulted in a significant positive pre-tax impact on earnings in the period, partially reversing prior margin pressure from elevated fuel costs," the company said.

The company also benefited from the acquisition of the remaining 50% stake in Unlimited Renewables Holdings BV. (URH), which resulted in ACEN gaining full ownership of its India platform.

"The transaction generated a gain from remeasurement of the previously held interest and recognition of goodwill, partly offset by the write-off of uncollected guarantee fees from prior years," ACEN said.

However, ACEN also booked a provision related to developments in Vietnam after state-owned utility Vietnam Electricity (EVN) applied revised payment practices for certain renewable energy projects.

The company said the provision "reflects management's best estimate of the adverse financial impact based on available information as of the reporting date, and may increase or decrease de-

pending on the final outcome of discussions with EVN."

ACEN said it had recognized a provision of P1.19 billion to reflect the potential downside impact from reduced future cash flows arising from developments in Vietnam.

The company likewise said goodwill arising from the consolidation of Vietnam Wind Energy Limited Group "was fully impaired in the same period due to prevailing economic and regulatory conditions in Vietnam, resulting in a net negative earnings impact."

"This volatility creates both urgency and opportunity. Our capital program remains intact, our pipeline continues to advance and our focus on execution will help ensure delivery of long-term, sustainable returns for our shareholders," ACEN President and Chief Executive Officer Eric T. Francia said.

As of March 31, ACEN had 7,083 megawatts (MW) of attributable renewable energy capacity in operation and under construction. Of the total, 4,293 MW were operational while 2,790 MW were under construction.

The company said its India platform now includes a fully owned 1,059-megawatt direct current diversified portfolio and

"a pipeline of nearly 7 GW of renewable energy projects across India," reinforcing its long-term expansion plans in the market.

"Looking ahead, our priorities remain clear — maximizing output from operating assets, maintaining momentum across our construction pipeline, and managing costs with discipline," ACEN Group Chief Finance Officer and Chief Strategy Officer Jonathan Back said.

In March, ACEN's Bijapur Wind project in Karnataka, India secured a 7.517-billion Indian rupee green term loan from Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp. to partially fund the construction of the project's 100-MW Phase 1.

The company also disclosed plans to support the development of a 35-MW battery energy storage system project in Zambales through up to P850 million in short-term financing for subsidiary Palauig Solar 1, Inc.

ACEN earlier confirmed a *BusinessWorld* report stating that its 2026 capital expenditures (capex) could exceed P80 billion, although the quarterly filing did not disclose a final capex target for the year.

On Tuesday, shares in ACEN fell 1.47% or five centavos to close at P3.34 apiece. — **Sheldeen Joy Talavera**

Airline fuel surcharge remains elevated at Level 15 for May 16-31

THE Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) lowered the passenger fuel surcharge to Level 15 for the second half of May from Level 18 previously, although surcharge rates remain near the upper end of the regulator's pricing matrix amid continued volatility in global jet fuel prices.

In an advisory issued Tuesday and signed by Officer-in-Charge Maria Elben S.L. Moro, the regulator said the surcharge level for May 16-31 is five notches below the maximum Level 20 cap.

At Level 15, fuel surcharges range from P491 to P1,436 for domestic flights and from P1,621.42 to P12,056 for international flights, depending on distance.

Fuel surcharges are additional fees imposed by airlines to offset movements in jet fuel prices and are adjusted using the Mean of Platts Singapore benchmark.

Based on the CAB's fuel surcharge matrix, passengers traveling from the Philippines to Taiwan, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Brunei from May 16 to 31 will pay an additional P1,621.42 in fuel surcharge.

Passengers flying to Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, and Guam will pay an additional P2,242.46, while those traveling to North America, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands will pay P11,481.90.

In April, the CAB shifted from a monthly review of fuel surcharges to a 15-day monitoring cycle to respond more quickly to movements in fuel prices following tensions in the Middle East.

The interim measure will remain in effect until conditions in the Middle East stabilize or until revised or revoked, CAB Executive Director Carmelo L. Arcilla said previously.

For airlines collecting surcharges in foreign currency during the May 16-31 period, CAB

set the equivalent exchange rate at P61.18 to the dollar.

Data from the Department of Energy showed the Philippines had 73 days of available jet fuel supply as of May 8.

According to the International Air Transport Association, jet fuel prices declined 10.1% week on week to \$162.89 per barrel as of May 8, although prices remained 80.9% higher year on year.

Meanwhile, Philippine Airlines (PAL) said it is extending the suspension of flights to and from Doha until June 30 from the earlier suspension period ending May 31. The flag carrier is also extending the suspension of Dubai flights until Aug. 2.

"With unpredictable conditions — including restricted airspace, sudden closures, and limited routing options — we are taking a more cautious approach based on our safety assessment, recognizing that operating conditions vary by airline," PAL said in an advisory.

The airline cited escalating tensions in the region and risks to critical infrastructure as reasons for extending the flight cancellations.

PAL earlier suspended the Doha and Dubai routes from March 20 to April 30 before extending the suspension until May 31.

Affected passengers may avail themselves of free rebooking, travel credit conversion, or refunds, the airline said.

PAL said refund processing for tickets booked directly with the airline may take about eight days due to the volume of requests, while posting time may take between two and four weeks.

The airline added that flights to Riyadh remain operational while it continues to assess operating conditions in the region. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**

Strong data demand lifts Globe Q1 revenues; profit slips on base effects, higher financing costs

GLOBE TELECOM, Inc. posted a 20% decline in first-quarter (Q1) attributable net income to P5.55 billion from P6.98 billion a year earlier, as the absence of one-off gains booked in 2025 and higher financing costs offset growth in revenues and core earnings driven by strong data demand.

In a regulatory filing on Tuesday, the Ayala-led telecommunications company said core net income rose 9% year on year to P4.93 billion, while consolidated gross service revenues climbed 5% to P41.97 billion.

"For the three months ended March 2026, Globe posted a net income after tax of P5.6 billion, down by 20% from P7.0 billion in 1Q25, primarily due to last year's one-off gains from the dilution of Globe's stake in Mynt following the MUFJ (Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group) investment, as well as tower sale gains, and higher net interest expense," the company said.

The company said revenue growth was supported by sustained mobile data demand, continued fiber adoption, and resilient enterprise information and communications technology (ICT) activity.

"This comes amid another challenging macroeconomic backdrop, which the company continues to navigate," Globe said.

Mobile revenues rose 6% to P29.97 billion, led by an 11% in-

crease in mobile data revenues to P26.78 billion.

Globe said mobile data traffic rose 18% to 1,810 petabytes during the quarter, while average monthly data consumption per subscriber increased 12% to around 16 gigabytes.

Home broadband revenues also increased 6% to P6.18 billion as fiber adoption continued to grow, while corporate data revenues climbed 6% to P5.14 billion, driven by business application solutions, cloud, and cybersecurity services.

Globe said data-driven services, including mobile internet, fiber broadband, and enterprise solutions, now account for 91% of consolidated service revenues, up from 87% a year ago.

"Data-driven services, spanning mobile internet, fiber broadband, and enterprise solutions, now account for 91% of consolidated service revenues," the company said.

Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA) rose 7% to P22.17 billion, while EBITDA margin improved to 52.8% from 52.1% a year earlier.

Meanwhile, Globe's equity earnings from fintech affiliate Mynt, the parent company of GCash, increased 8% to P1.9 billion during the quarter.

Globe said Mynt now accounts for 30% of its net income before tax.



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"Mynt's growing contribution underscores its role as a key earnings driver, complementing Globe's sustained investments in digital infrastructure and connectivity," Globe said.

Capital expenditures (capex) surged 51% to P12.74 billion in the first quarter as Globe accelerated investments in network expansion and capacity enhancements. About 91% of capex was allocated to data-related initiatives.

The company maintained its full-year capital expenditure guidance of below \$1 billion.

"Globe remains focused on sustaining positive free cash flow and maintaining a prudent balance sheet," it said.

Globe also continued to expand its fiber and 5G initiatives during the quarter. The company said GFiber Prepaid subscribers reached one million by end-March, while fiber now accounts for about 93% of total home broadband revenues.

Globe said it deployed 408 new 5G sites during the quarter, bringing outdoor 5G coverage to over 98% in Metro Manila and key cities in Visayas and Mindanao.

"Moving forward, in the face of a challenging macroeconomic environment posed by the ongoing Middle East crisis, our priority is execution — delivering a best-in-class customer experience, operating with focus, and investing where it matters most," Globe President and Chief Executive Officer Carl Raymond R. Cruz said.

"We will continue to expand our 5G network, deepen our fiber footprint, and scale our digital platforms," he added.

Globe also said ST Telemedia Global Data Centres Philippines is on track to exceed 30 megawatts of capacity this year following developments at its STT Cavite facility.

The company added that it continues to strengthen enterprise capabilities through artificial intelligence-driven solutions and digital infrastructure investments.

On Tuesday, shares in Globe rose 1.8% or P30 to close at P1,700 apiece. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**

GT Capital donates land for future Ateneo campus in Cavite

GT CAPITAL Holdings, Inc. said it donated 15 hectares of land in its Riverpark estate in Cavite to Ateneo de Manila University for the site of the school's planned campus in the province.

"The property will serve as the future site of a new Ateneo campus in Cavite, bringing holistic and world-class education closer to students residing in the south of Metro Manila and neighboring provinces," the company said in a statement on Tuesday.

The Deed of Donation was signed on May 11 at GT Tower International in Makati City.

The donation followed the signing of a memorandum of agreement between GT Capital and Ateneo de Manila in October 2025.

The future Ateneo campus will rise within the 600-hectare Riverpark estate in General Trias, Cavite, which was developed by Federal Land, Inc. and Federal Land NRE Global, Inc.

According to information posted on Federal Land NRE Global's website, the Ateneo de Manila University Riverpark campus is targeted to open in 2030.

GT Capital said the township is expected to benefit from improved accessibility through two interchanges of the Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX) — the Open Canal Interchange, which is scheduled for completion this year, and the Riverpark-General Trias Interchange, which is targeted for completion in 2027. — **Juliana Chloe A. Gonzales**

Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi)

5,971.98

▼ 14.87 PTS.

▼ 0.24%

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026

BusinessWorld

PSEI MEMBER STOCKS

AC Ayala Corp. P463.20 -P7.80 -1.66%	ACEN ACEN Corp. P3.34 -P0.05 -1.47%	AEV Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc. P29.95 +P1.05 +3.63%	ALI Ayala Land, Inc. P16.00 -P0.14 -0.87%	AREIT AREIT, Inc. P38.30 +P0.10 +0.26%	BDO BDO Unibank, Inc. P118.50 +P1.80 +1.54%	BPI Bank of the Philippine Islands P87.75 +P0.20 +0.23%	CBC China Banking Corp. P57.60 +P0.60 +1.05%	CNPF Century Pacific Food, Inc. P31.70 +P0.05 +0.16%	CNVRG Converge ICT Solutions, Inc. P12.38 +P0.16 +1.31%
DMC DMCI Holdings, Inc. P9.65 +P0.03 +0.31%	EMI Emperador, Inc. P15.76 -P0.10 -0.63%	GLO Globe Telecom, Inc. P1,700.00 +P30.00 +1.80%	GTCAP GT Capital Holdings, Inc. P472.60 +P2.60 +0.55%	ICT International Container Terminal Services, Inc. P785.00 +P5.00 +0.64%	JFC Jollibee Foods Corp. P144.00 -P17.20 -10.67%	JGS JG Summit Holdings, Inc. P26.40 +P0.75 +2.92%	LTG LT Group, Inc. P15.44 +P0.06 +0.39%	MBT Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co. P65.85 +P0.15 +0.23%	MER Manila Electric Co. P650.00 —
MONDE Monde Nissin Corp. P7.29 -P0.16 -2.15%	PGOLD Puregold Price Club, Inc. P46.00 —	PLUS DigiPlus Interactive Corp. P11.98 -P0.98 -7.56%	RCR RL Commercial REIT, Inc. P7.00 -P0.09 -1.27%	SCC Semirara Mining and Power Corp. P27.85 +P0.80 +2.96%	SM SM Investments Corp. P600.00 -P6.00 -0.99%	SMC San Miguel Corp. P69.15 -P0.05 -0.07%	SMPH SM Prime Holdings, Inc. P18.98 -P0.56 -2.87%	TEL PLDT Inc. P1,225.00 -P8.00 -0.65%	URC Universal Robina Corp. P60.50 -P0.50 -0.82%