

#Stocks to watch:* MBSB, Ireka, Maybank, Chin Teck, Jerneh Asia



By Joseph Chin of theedgemalaysia.com | The Edge – 13 hours ago

KUALA LUMPUR (Oct 31): The string of positive corporate news is expected to underpin market sentiment on Tuesday, Nov 1 after the FBM KLCI ended October on a strong note.

Among the stocks to watch are Malaysia Building Society Bhd (MBSB), Ireka Corporation Bhd, Chin Teck Plantations Bhd, Malayan Banking Bhd, Jerneh Asia Bhd and AutoV Corporation Bhd

MBSB posted a 134% increase in its earnings to RM95.08 million for the third quarter ended Sept 30, 2011 from RM40.51 million a year ago.

Its revenue increased by 72% to RM372.67 million from RM215.77 million while earnings per share were 10.88 sen compared with 5.79 sen.

Ireka's unit has secured a RM85.14 million contract for the proposed City International Hospital project in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam from Hoa Lam-Shangri-La 1 Ltd Liability Company.

Chin Teck Plantations Bhd's earnings surged 90.8% to RM21.84 million in the fourth quarter ended Aug 31, 2011 from RM11.45 million a year ago, boosted by the increase in average selling prices of fresh fruit bunches (FFB), crude palm (CPO) and palm kernel despite lower production.

Its revenue rose 31.4% to RM38.37 million from RM29.20 million a year ago while earnings per share were 23.91 sen compared with 12.53 sen.

For the financial year ended Aug 31, its earnings rose 62.1% to RM76.01 million from RM46.88 million. Revenue rose at a slower pace of 28.6% to RM143.34 million from RM111.44 million.

Malayan Banking Bhd's PT Bank Internasional Indonesia Tbk (BII) reported consolidated net profit of Rp555 billion (RM193.04 million) for the January-September period, up 34% from Rp415 billion a year ago.

BII said "the increase was achieved on the back of solid growth across the Bank's core businesses as well as from its overall operational improvements".

It recorded a 22% consolidated loan growth from Rp50.8 trillion in September 2010 to Rp61.9 trillion in September 2011, underpinned by small and medium enterprises (SME) and commercial loans.

Jerneh Asia Bhd has received a notice of voluntary conditional take-over offer from Kuok Brothers Sdn Bhd to acquire the remaining 58.19% stake which it does not own for cash consideration of RM1.45 per share and 45 sen per warrant.

Kuok Brothers and the parties acting in concert directly hold 102.02 million shares or 41.81% of Jerneh Asia.

At RM1.45, this is nine sen above Monday's close of RM1.36 while the warrants ended at 40 sen.

Automotive components manufacturer AutoV Corporation expects its turnover to increase by 60% next year with the acquisition of Proreka (M) Sdn Bhd.

Bername reported executive chairman Bernard Kong as saying the company was also in the midst of merging with two other listed companies to form a bigger group. "Financially we will be much stronger to support our businesses. We also can support our clients better," he said.

Kong said the merger with AIC Corporation Bhd and Jotech Holdings, expected to be completed "sometime in March next year", would transform the company into an integrated manufacturing group dealing in automotive as well as electronics products.