

Bulletin Today

BURSA MALAYSIA

Index	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg
FBM-KLCI	1,497.55	(0.84)	(0.06)
Volume: Total (mil):	4,623.26	871.26	23.22
Total Value (RM' mil):	2,419.98	390.65	19.25
Gainers	542		
Losers	384		
Unchanged	405		

TRADE STATISTICS

Participation	Bought	Sold	Net
48.60 Institution	1,195	1,159	36
31.70 Retail	765	769	(5)
19.70 Foreign	461	492	(31)
100.00	2,420	2,420	

FTSE-BURSA MALAYSIA

Index	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg
FBM 70	13,759.84	80.37	0.59
FBM 100	10,563.91	9.81	0.09
FBM Palm Oil - NC	10,830.72	(7.68)	(0.07)
FBM Smallcap	16,189.53	71.32	0.44
FBM Emas	10,893.36	12.44	0.11
FBM Fledgling	20,302.96	137.53	0.68

WORLD

Index	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg
Dow Jones	33,978	29	0.08
Nasdaq	11,622	109	0.95
FTSE 100	7,765	4	0.05
Nikkei 225	27,383	20	0.07
Hang Seng	22,689	122	0.54
Korea Kospi	2,484	15	0.62
Singapore STI	3,394	17	0.50
Thailand SET	1,681	10	0.60
Jakarta	6,899	34	0.50
Shanghai	3,265	25	0.76
Shenzen	2,126	14	0.65

KLCI FUTURES

Index	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg	Volume
FBM-KLCI	1,497.55	(0.84)	(0.06)	95m
FKLI - Jan 23	1,497.00	(2.00)	(0.13)	22,606
FKLI - Feb 23	1,498.50	(3.50)	(0.23)	21,732
FKLI - Mar 23	1,489.50	(1.00)	(0.07)	152
FKLI - Jun 23	1,486.00	(2.50)	(0.17)	94

FOREX & COMMODITIES

	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg
CPO Futures (Apr)	3,902.00	121.00	3.20
Brent (USD/b)	86.66	(0.81)	(0.93)
Gold (USD/Ounce)	1,928.04	(1.17)	(0.06)
USD/RM	4.2443	(0.0014)	(0.03)
SGD/RM	3.2308	(0.0042)	(0.13)
JPY/RM	3.2684	0.0087	0.27

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The Dow inched up 28.67 points or 0.1% to 33,978.08 and the Nasdaq jumped 109.30 points or 1.0% to 11,621.71
- ◆ U.S. consumer sentiment improves more-than-initially estimated in January
- ◆ U.S. pending home sales unexpectedly rebounded in December
- ◆ U.S. personal income inches up 0.2% M-o-M in December, in line with estimates
- ◆ Hextar Industries' net profit climbs 30% in Sept-Nov quarter due to better profit margin
- ◆ EcoFirst logs higher 2QFY23 revenue but net loss widens as finance costs jump

THE SLANT

- ◆ The key index ended the week on a whimper again as selling still dominated trades on the FBM KLCI as well as bucking the region's positive performances. For the most part, however, the FBM KLCI trended within a tight range while the broader market and lower liners were still on the ascend as trading activities gathered pace. Consequently, market breadth stayed positive as traded volumes also picked up to over 4.5b shares traded for the day.
- ◆ The directionless trading is likely to sustain over the near term as the key index constituents remain on the low gear, unable to find any meaningful traction to press ahead. As it is, there are still few noteworthy catalysts to provide the much-needed lift to the market, while valuations are also seen as fair, relative to regional peers. With the dithering to continue, the 1,500 level remains a formidable level to clear and we see the key index remaining rangebound between the 1,490 and the above level for the time being. The other support and resistance are at 1,495 and 1,505 points respectively.
- ◆ The lower liners and broader market shares, however, are likely to continue seeing strong trading interest and their upsides look to continue over the near term. Momentum among these stocks is still building and points to further upsides, albeit conditions could turn choppy after their extended gains over the past few sessions.

GLOBAL AND ECONOMIC UPDATE

- ◆ Stocks saw considerable volatility over the course of the trading session on Friday but managed to close mostly higher. The Dow inched up 28.67 points or 0.1% to 33,978.08 and the Nasdaq jumped 109.30 points or 1.0% to 11,621.71. [RTT News](#)

- ◆ **U.S. consumer sentiment improves more-than-initially estimated in January**
Revised data released by the University of Michigan showed that consumer sentiment in the U.S. improved slightly more than initially estimated in January. The report showed that the consumer sentiment index for January was upwardly revised to 64.9 from the preliminary reading of 64.6. Economists had expected the index to be unrevised. With the upward revision, the consumer sentiment index is well above the December reading of 59.7 and at its highest level since hitting 65.2 in April 2022. [RTT News](#)

- ◆ **U.S. pending home sales unexpectedly rebounded in December**
The National Association of Realtors released a report showing that pending home sales unexpectedly rebounded in December. The pending home sales index jumped by 2.5% to 76.9 in December after tumbling by 2.6% to a revised 75.0 in November. The rebound surprised economists, who had expected pending home sales to decrease by another 0.9% compared to the 4.0% nosedive originally reported for the previous month. Despite the monthly increase, pending home sales in December were down by 33.8% compared to the same month a year ago. [RTT News](#)

- ◆ **U.S. personal income inches up 0.2% M-o-M in December, in line with estimates**
According to a report released by the Commerce Department, personal income in the U.S. increased in line with economist estimates in December. Personal income inched up by 0.2% M-o-M in December after rising by a downwardly revised 0.3% in November. Economists had expected personal spending to edge up by 0.2% compared to the 0.4% growth originally reported for the previous month. Disposable personal income rose by 0.3% in December, matching the increase in November. [RTT News](#)

CORPORATE NEWS

- ◆ **Hextar Industries' net profit climbs 30% in Sept-Nov quarter due to better profit margin**
Hextar Industries Bhd registered a net profit of RM4.0m in the three months ended Nov 30, 2022, up 29.8% from RM3.1m in the immediate preceding quarter, mainly due to better profit margin achieved from its product sales mix. Gross profit margin improved to 18% from 14% previously. Revenue, however, decreased 6.9% Q-o-Q to RM57.2m, from RM61.4m, amid lower delivery of fertilisers and lower sales from the trading of industrial battery. There is no comparative year-ago quarter

as the group recently changed its financial year end from Aug 31 to Dec 31. [The Edge Markets](#)

◆ **EcoFirst logs higher 2QFY23 revenue but net loss widens as finance costs jump**

EcoFirst Consolidated Bhd's net loss widened to RM4.1m in 2QFY23 from RM1.9m in the same quarter last year, despite stronger revenue, due to higher finance costs after the end of the moratorium period. The group's revenue rose 38% Y-o-Y to RM5.1m from RM3.7m, mainly due to higher rental income from its investment property division and the sales of inventories. Finance costs, meanwhile, more than doubled to RM3.9m from RM1.4m. [The Edge Markets](#)

Table 1: Entitlements (30/1/2023 – 6/2/2023)

Stock Code	Stock Name	Entitlements	Description	Ex-Date	Lodgement Date	Payment/Cessation Date
7048	ATLAN HOLDINGS BHD	1st Interim	0.04	30/01/2023	31/01/2023	17/02/2023
7076	CB INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT HLDG BHD	1st Interim	0.02	30/01/2023	31/01/2023	15/02/2023
5398	GAMUDA BHD	1st Interim	0.06	31/01/2023	02/02/2023	02/03/2023
0186	PERAK TRANSIT BHD	4th Interim	0.0075	02/02/2023	03/02/2023	22/02/2023
5280	KIP REIT	2nd Distribution	0.0145	03/02/2023	07/02/2023	21/02/2023

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