

BULLETIN TODAY

Friday | 9 May 2025

BURSA MALAYSIA

Index	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg
FBM-KLCI	1,542.74	(7.16)	(0.46)
Volume: Total (mil):	3,365.56	521.38	18.33
Total Value (RM' mil):	2,719.60	289.12	11.90
Gainers	528		
Losers	410		
Unchanged	491		

TRADE STATISTICS

Participation	Bought	Sold	Net
42.13 Institution	1,189	1,103	86
16.89 Retail	438	481	(43)
40.98 Foreign	1,093	1,136	(43)
100.00	2,720	2,720	0

FTSE-BURSA MALAYSIA

Index	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg
FBM 70	16,266.03	21.79	0.13
FBM 100	11,257.03	(34.28)	(0.30)
FBM Palm Oil - NC	11,683.69	(225.08)	(1.89)
FBM Smallcap	15,586.53	63.52	0.41
FBM Emas	11,491.81	(27.78)	(0.24)
FBM Fledgling	17,796.09	10.94	0.06

WORLD

Index	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg
Dow Jones	41,368	254	0.62
Nasdaq	17,928	190	1.07
FTSE 100	8,532	(28)	(0.32)
Nikkei 225	36,929	149	0.41
Hang Seng	22,776	84	0.37
Korea Kospi	2,579	6	0.22
Singapore STI	3,848	(17)	(0.44)
Thailand SET	1,207	(14)	(1.12)
Jakarta	6,828	(98)	(1.42)
Shanghai	3,352	9	0.28
Shenzhen	1,988	20	1.03

KLCI FUTURES

Index	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg	Volume
FBM-KLCI	1,542.74	(7.16)	(0.46)	228m
FKLI - May 25	1,538.50	(6.50)	(0.42)	6,006
FKLI - Jun 25	1,537.50	(5.50)	(0.36)	398
FKLI - Sep 25	1,522.00	(4.50)	(0.29)	177
FKLI - Dec 25	1,530.00	(6.50)	(0.42)	37

FOREX & COMMODITIES

	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg
CPO Futures (Aug)	3,820.00	86.00	2.30
Brent (USD/b)	62.84	1.72	2.81
Gold (USD/Ounce)	3,305.72	(58.78)	(1.75)
USD/RM	4.2820	0.0423	1.00
SGD/RM	3.3031	0.0200	0.61
JPY/RM	2.9340	(0.0112)	(0.38)

HIGHLIGHTS

- The **Dow advanced 254.48 points** or 0.6% to **41,368.45** and the **Nasdaq jumped 189.98 points** or 1.1% to **17,928.14**
- PENTAMASTER CORPORATION BHD – 1QCY25: Recommendation and TP under review**
- BNM keeps overnight policy rate steady, flags rising downside risks to growth; slashes reserve ratio to a 14-year low at 1.0%, releasing RM19.0b into banking system
- DOSM: Malaysia industrial output growth improves to 3.2% Y-o-Y in March
- U.S. weekly jobless claims dip to 228k
- BoE cuts key rate to 4.25% in three-way split
- Public Bank** raises dividend payout ratio to 60.0% for CY25, no plans for buybacks or share issuances
- Petronas Gas** to develop 120MW power plant in Labuan with Sabah GLCs
- Lotte Chemical Titan** secures 10-year ethylene supply deal in Indonesia
- Kerjaya Prospek** bags RM162.0m building job in Johor Bahru
- Infraharta** wins RM17.4m subcontract for hospital project in Kuantan
- TechStore** bags RM15.9m job to provide IT maintenance support to Malaysian police
- MGRC** plans RM42.0m capital reduction, RM2.5m private placement
- Green Packet** plans RM340.0m share capital reduction

THE SLANT

- The key index surrendered some of the gains it attained on Wednesday as quick profit taking activities set in to leave it on a losing note yesterday. The pullback follows the key index's inability to breach the psychological 1,550 level and it ended the session near its intraday low. In the broader market, however, stocks mostly rose as technology stocks led gains after the Trump administration rescinded the AI chip curbs, helping market breadth to remain positive. Traded volumes, meanwhile, rose to 3.4b units.
- It appears that the 1,550 level is a formidable hurdle for the key index to clear and it is likely to remain so for the time being. As it is, much of the FBM KLCI's fundamentals are already reflected in its valuation that has recovered to near its historical forward averages and unless there are meaningful improvements in the corporate earnings prospects, further significant upsides may still prove to be difficult to come by and most market players will still be adopting a relatively defensive stance for the time being. Nevertheless, the easing trade war concerns could still provide some impetus for the key index to end the week on a positive note. For now, the 1,550 level remains the main hurdle for now, followed by the 1,556 level, while the supports are pegged at 1,537 points and at 1,531 points respectively.
- Although the key index constituents appear to be dithering, the broader market shares are still on the recovery mode. As such, there could be further near-term upsides, albeit the upsides may be slower in the day ahead as bouts of profit taking could emerge ahead of the weekend.

RESULTS UPDATE

▪ PENTAMASTER CORPORATION BHD – 1QCY25: Recommendation and TP under review

CYE Dec (RM m)	1QCY25	1QCY24	YoY	4QCY24	QoQ
			%		%
Revenue	131.6	170.8	(22.9)	130.7	0.7
PBT	20.6	30.8	(33.3)	21.1	(2.8)
PATAMI	13.1	19.4	(32.6)	14.2	(7.7)
EPS (sen)	1.8	2.7	(32.4)	2.0	(7.5)

Y-o-Y. Revenue declined 22.9% to RM131.6m in 1QCY25, from RM170.8m in the previous corresponding period, primarily attributed to a 63.4% contraction in the factory automation solutions (FAS) segment. This was largely due to a sharp 91.2% drop in revenue from medical devices customers to RM6.9m, from RM78.5m, impacted by timing differences in project deliveries and order conversion cycles, contributing just 5.2% to total group revenue. On a positive note, the automated test equipment (ATE) segment recorded a 31.6% increase, driven by recovering demand from both automotive and semiconductor customers which contributed 38.8% and 20.0% of total revenue respectively. In line with the lower overall revenue, PATAMI fell 32.6% to RM13.1m, from RM19.4m in 1QCY24, mainly dragged down by weaker FAS performance. Excluding foreign exchange movements, core PATAMI came in at RM11.7m, down 28.9% to RM16.5m.

Q-o-Q. Revenue increased slightly from the preceding quarter as weaker sales in the medical devices segment were offset by stronger automotive segment sales. However, PATAMI decreased by 7.7%, weighed down by a softer gross profit margin resulting from an unfavourable change in sales mix.

Below expectations. Pentamaster's 1QCY25 revenue and core PATAMI (after stripping out foreign exchange movements) missed our expectations, making up only 18.5% and 14.1% of our full year forecast respectively, mainly due to significantly lower-than-expected contributions from the medical devices segment. We are reviewing our recommendation and TP on Pentamaster pending more information from an analyst briefing today. Our last recommendation was a BUY with a TP of RM4.10 which was derived from pegging to an unchanged target PER of 35x to our CY25F EPS.

GLOBAL AND ECONOMIC UPDATE

- U.S. stocks turned in a strong performance much of the trading day on Thursday before giving back some ground going into the close. The Dow advanced 254.48 points or 0.6% to 41,368.45 and the Nasdaq jumped 189.98 points or 1.1% to 17,928.14 as President Trump said it was close to securing trade deals with some of its trading partners. [RTT News](#)

- **BNM keeps overnight policy rate steady, flags rising downside risks to growth; slashes reserve ratio to a 14-year low at 1.0%, releasing RM19.0b into banking system**

Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) has kept the overnight policy rate (OPR) unchanged at 3.00%, as expected, while flagging rising downside risks to economic growth. This marks the 12th consecutive meeting with no rate changes since a 25bps increase in May 2023. BNM noted that while the global economy is still expanding, the recent U.S. tariffs and retaliatory measures have negatively impacted the outlook for global trade and growth. Meanwhile, BNM also announced a 100-bps cut in the statutory reserve requirement ratio (SRR) from 2.0% to 1.0% — its lowest in 14 years since March 2011. The new rate will take effect from 16 May, 2025. This is the first SRR adjustment the central bank has made since March 2020. This latest SRR cut will release about RM19.0b in liquidity into the banking system. [The Edge Markets](#)

- **DOSM: Malaysia industrial output growth improves to 3.2% Y-o-Y in March**
Malaysia's industrial output growth accelerated in March, largely on the back of a recovery in the mining sector. Industrial production climbed 3.2% Y-o-Y in March, faster than the 1.5% Y-o-Y increase in February. Production has been rising since January 2024. Among sectors, mining activity grew 1.9% Y-o-Y in March, reversing an 8.9% Y-o-Y decline in February. On a monthly basis, industrial output rebounded sharply by 9.3% in March, following a 6.8% decrease in the prior month. [The Edge Markets](#)
- **U.S. weekly jobless claims dip to 228k**
First-time claims for U.S. unemployment benefits saw a modest decline in the week ended 3 May, 2025. Initial jobless claims dipped to 228k, a decrease of 13k from the previous week's unrevised level of 241k. Economists had expected jobless claims to slip to 230k. [RTT News](#)
- **BoE cuts key rate to 4.25% in three-way split**
Policymakers of the Bank of England (BoE) decided to reduce its interest rate by 25 bps in a three-way split. The Monetary Policy Committee lowered the bank rate to 4.25%, as widely expected. Five members of the MPC voted in favour of 25 bps reduction and two members sought a bigger 50 bps cut. Another two members preferred to hold the bank rate at 4.50%. [RTT News](#)

CORPORATE NEWS

- **Public Bank raises dividend payout ratio to 60.0% for CY25, no plans for buybacks or share issuances**
Public Bank Bhd is raising its dividend payout target for CY25. The bank plans to distribute 60.0% of its net profit as dividend this year, compared with 57.0% of net profit in CY24. The CEO also said that buybacks or share issuances are not on the table currently. [The Edge Markets](#)
- **Petronas Gas to develop 120MW power plant in Labuan with Sabah GLCs**
Petronas Gas Bhd is partnering two Sabah state government-linked companies (GLCs) to jointly develop a 120MW power plant in Labuan. Its 100%-owned subsidiary, PG Energia Sdn Bhd, had entered into a shareholders' agreement with Sustainable Power Sdn Bhd (SPSB) and SEC Power Sdn Bhd for the collaboration. SPSB is a 100%-owned unit of Sabah Electricity Sdn Bhd, while SEC Power is a 100%-owned unit of Sabah Energy Corporation Sdn Bhd. The target commercial operation date for the plant is set for no later than 1 January, 2028. PG Energia will be the majority shareholder of the joint venture with a 60% stake, while SPSB and SEC Power will each hold 20%. The joint-venture company, Rancha Power Sdn Bhd, will be responsible for the design, construction, installation, testing, commissioning, ownership, operation and maintenance of the power plant and its associated facilities. The project will be financed through a combination of internally generated funds and external financing. [The Edge Markets](#)
- **Lotte Chemical Titan secures 10-year ethylene supply deal in Indonesia**
Lotte Chemical Titan Holding Bhd has secured a 10-year ethylene supply contract from PT Asahimas Chemical that is valued at more than RM743.5m. The sale and agreement will see the group supply about 150k tonnes of ethylene per annum to Asahimas Chemical. The agreement was signed by its 100%-owned Indonesian unit, PT Lotte Chemical Indonesia (LCI) and would be effective from 1 July, 2025 to 30 June, 2035. Asahimas Chemical is an integrated chemical company producing basic chemicals for downstream industries in Indonesia. LCI is the new development company undertaking the construction of the petrochemical facility known as the Lotte Chemical Indonesia New Ethylene (Line) project, which is expected to be completed in 2H2025. The facility will have the capacity to produce 1.0m tonnes of ethylene per year. Some of the ethylene produced will be used internally, while the remainder will be sold to the market. [The Edge Markets](#)

- **Kerjaya Prospek bags RM162.0m building job in Johor Bahru**
Kerjaya Prospek Group Bhd has secured a RM162.0m building contract from Majestic Gen Sdn Bhd for a project in Johor Bahru. The project involves the construction of a 47-storey transit-oriented serviced apartment development, dubbed Gen Rise. It comprises one block of 732 serviced apartment units, nine levels of podium parking, one level of basement parking with mechanical and electrical (M&E) facilities, an additional level of parking and M&E facilities with a commercial unit, and three levels of recreational facilities. Work is scheduled to begin on 1 August, 2025 and is expected to be completed within 36 months. With this latest contract, the group's year-to-date new contract wins have reached RM870.3m, keeping the group on track to achieve its RM1.60b target for the year. Its total outstanding order book now stands at RM4.60b. [The Edge Markets](#)
- **Infraharta wins RM17.4m subcontract for hospital project in Kuantan**
Infraharta Holdings Bhd has won a RM17.4m subcontract for site clearance, earthwork and piling works for the women and children's block of the Tengku Ampuan Afzan Hospital in Kuantan, Pahang. The group has accepted a letter of award from Synergy Goldtree Sdn Bhd. The 12-month contract period started on 5 May, 2025 and will be completed by 4 May, 2026. [The Edge Markets](#)
- **TechStore bags RM15.9m job to provide IT maintenance support to Malaysian police**
TechStore Bhd has been awarded a three-year contract valued at RM15.9m to provide maintenance and support services for information communication technology software and hardware to the Royal Malaysian Police (PDRM). The group has accepted the letter of award for the job from the Ministry of Home Affairs of Malaysia (KDN). The contract starts from 12 May, 2025 to on 11 May, 2028. [The Edge Markets](#)
- **MGRC plans RM42.0m capital reduction, RM2.5m private placement**
Malaysian Genomics Resource Centre Bhd (MGRC) has proposed a private placement exercise to raise up to RM2.5m. Concurrently, the group is proposing a capital reduction of RM42.0m, intended to eliminate its accumulated losses of RM27.8m at the company level and RM41.3m at the group level, as at end-December 2024. Post-capital reduction and after deducting related expenses, the group expects to report retained earnings of RM13.9m and group-level retained earnings of RM455k.

Meanwhile, the proposed private placement will involve the issuance of up to 13.7m new shares — representing not more than 10% of its total issued shares — to third-party investors to be identified later. The indicative issue price is set at 18.37 sen per share, representing a 10% discount to the five-day volume-weighted average market price of 20.41 sen up to 25 April, 2025. The actual issue price will be determined at a later date, depending on market conditions. The group plans to use RM2.26m of the proceeds for working capital, including business expansion, procurement of lab consumables, marketing and advertising, and repair and maintenance for its office and laboratory, while the remaining RM265k will cover placement-related expenses. The private placement is expected to be completed by 2H2025 and the capital reduction by 3Q2025. [The Edge Markets](#)

- **Green Packet plans RM340.0m share capital reduction**

Green Packet Bhd has proposed a share capital reduction to offset RM340.0m in accumulated losses. As of 31 December, 2024, it had accumulated group-level losses of RM339.3m. Following the proposed capital reduction, the group is expected to report retained earnings of RM572k. In the minimum scenario, where no additional shares are issued and the treasury shares are not resold, the share capital will be reduced to RM42.8m. In the maximum scenario, where all remaining placement shares are issued and treasury shares are resold, the share capital will be reduced to RM59.9m. The exercise will help rationalise its financial position by reducing accumulated losses through the cancellation of issued share capital, aligning it with the value of its underlying and financial assets. [The Edge Markets](#)

Published by



West Wing, Level 13
Berjaya Times Square
No.1, Jalan Imbi
55100 Kuala Lumpur
General Line: 03-2117 1888 | Fax: 03-2142 7678

IMPORTANT: This report has been prepared from sources that are believed to be reliable, but we do not hold ourselves responsible for its completeness and accuracy. All opinions and estimates in this report are subject to change without notice. We do not accept any liability that may arise from the use of information in this report. Inter-Pacific Research Sdn Bhd and or its associates may from time to time have interest and/or underwriting commitments in the company being reported. This report is for internal circulation only and the contents, or any part thereof cannot be reproduced in any manner whatsoever except with the prior written consent of Inter-Pacific Research Sdn Bhd.