From The Floor

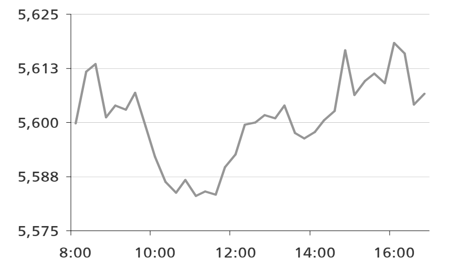
09 March 2010

Key Global Indices

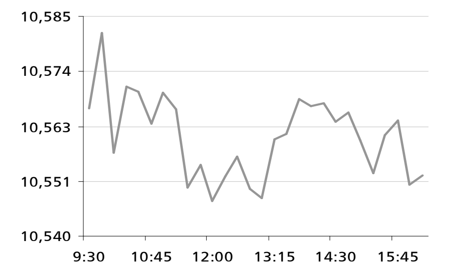
	Last Close		1D% Chg	5D% Chg	1M% Chg	1Y% Chg
FTSE 100	5,606.7	⇧	0.1%	3.7%	10.1%	58.8%
DJSTOXX 50	2,575.1	⇩	-0.1%	3.2%	7.4%	58.1%
FTSE Eurofirst 300	1,053.4	⇩	-0.1%	3.3%	7.6%	59.1%
German DAX 30	5,875.9	⇩	0.0%	2.8%	7.1%	60.3%
France CAC 40	3,903.5	⇩	-0.2%	3.6%	8.2%	54.0%
Russia RTS Index	1,508.2		2.6%	5.5%	9.7%	161.7%
S&P 500	1,138.5	⇩	0.0%	2.0%	7.7%	66.6%
Dow Jones Industrials	10,552.5	⇩	-0.1%	1.4%	6.5%	59.2%
Nasdaq Composite	2,332.2	⇧	0.3%	2.6%	9.7%	80.3%
Brazil Bovespa	68,575.5	⇩	-0.4%	2.0%	8.6%	84.8%
Nikkei 225*	10,562.6	⇩	-0.2%	4.1%	6.4%	47.6%
Shanghai Composite*	3,069.1	⇧	0.5%	-1.1%	4.0%	39.2%
Sensex*	17,100.7	⇩	0.0%	4.1%	7.3%	105.4%

*Time - BST 5:08:51 AM

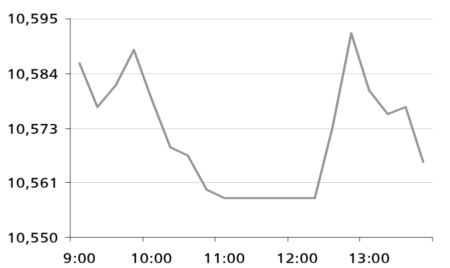
FTSE 100 Intraday



DJIA Intraday



Nikkei Intraday



UK Market Snapshot

⇨ UK markets inched up yesterday, with the FTSE 100 index extending the biggest weekly jump since July 2009, as banks, retailers and commodity stocks recorded gains. Oil producers, Petrofac, BP and Royal Dutch Shell, added between 0.6% and 4.1%, as oil prices continued their upward trend. Petrofac extended gains, following its positive full year results. Miners, BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto and Lonmin, rose between 0.3% and 1.2%, on better outlook for demand. Among banks, shares of Standard Chartered and Barclays gained 0.9% and 1.1% respectively, as Société Générale upgraded the former to "Hold" from "Sell", and the latter was helped by speculation of a China-backed fundraising. Retailers, WM Morrison and Home Retail Group, paced gains, ahead of their results, scheduled to be released on Thursday. FTSE 100 gained 0.1% to 5,606.7. FTSE 250 added 0.1% to 9,786.4.

European Market Snapshot

⇨ Other European markets finished lower yesterday, with the FTSE Eurofirst 300 index snapping its winning streak of six consecutive sessions, as downbeat corporate updates and broker downgrades weighed on the investor sentiment. Genmab, down 20.4%, led drug makers lower, after the company stated that a trial of its cancer drug had failed to improve survival in patients with late-stage head and neck tumours. Shares of EADS eased 0.5%, as the company warned that warned that it would make a loss for 2009 due to the troubled A400M military transport aircraft programme. Renewable Energy and BMW paced declines, affected by negative broker reviews. On the economic front, German industrial production rose 0.6% month-on-month in January, lower than the market expectations. FTSE Eurofirst 300 index lost 0.1% to 1,053.4. German DAX Xetra 30 fell marginally to 5,875.9. French CAC-40 edged down 0.2% to settle at 3,903.5.

US Market Snapshot

⇨ US markets ended mixed yesterday, as losses in healthcare sector and steel stocks were offset by gains in technology and insurance stocks. Among technology stocks, shares of Cisco Systems and Research in Motion paced gains, as JPMorgan Chase advised investors to purchase the former's stock, citing its upcoming new technology which is expected to speed up Internet connections, while the latter also benefited from a broker upgrade. Sprint Nextel rallied 3.7%, after predicting revenue growth in the next several quarters. Insurers, AIG and MetLife, gained values, after the latter agreed to former's American Life Insurance unit in a deal worth $6.8 billion in cash and $8.7 billion in equity securities. However, the healthcare sector suffered losses, as US President, Barack Obama, strived for a final push to overhaul the medical industry. Steel stocks, AK Steel and Schnitzer Steel Industries, pace declines, affected by broker downgrades. DJIA eased 0.1% to 10,552.5. NASDAQ rose 0.3% to 2,332.2. S&P 500 index closed lower, at 1,138.5.

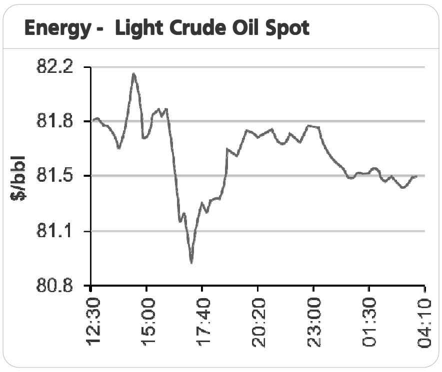
Asian Market Snapshot

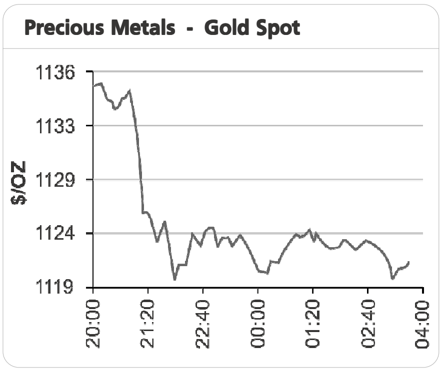
⇨ Asian markets are trading mixed this morning, as investors awaited a slew of economic data from China, scheduled to be released on Thursday. In Japan, shares of Jtekt and Fujitsu traded lower, as Credit Suisse downgraded the former, citing Toyota's recall problems, while the latter stated that it asked its former President, Kuniaki Nozoe, to resign for his links to a firm with an "unfavourable reputation". In Hong Kong, shares fluctuated between positive and negative ground, with BOC Hong Kong Holdings falling after a broker downgrade, while China Southern Airlines gained, on hopes that its plans to raise 10.75 billion yuan ($1.58 billion) from private placement would boost capital position. In South Korea, the Kospi index traded lower, as investors booked profits in large-cap stocks. Nikkei 225 index is trading 0.2% lower, at 10,562.6. Hang Seng index is up 0.2%, at 21,236.5, while the Kospi index is trading 0.1% lower, at 1,659.3.

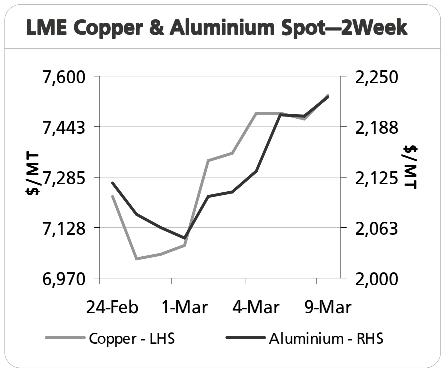
Contact Details

Manoj Ladwa	0207 392 1487
Index and Equity Desk	0207 392 1479
Institutional Equities	0207 392 1477
Commodities	0207 392 1403
Options	0207 392 1472
Currencies	0207 392 1455
Internet Dealing Desk	0207 392 1434

Commodities

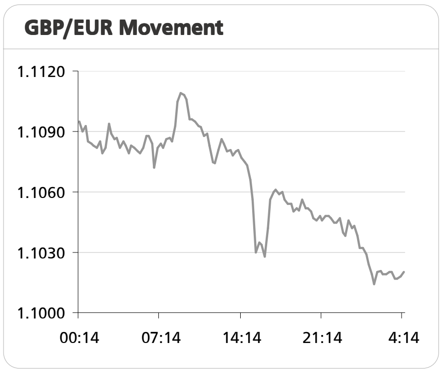


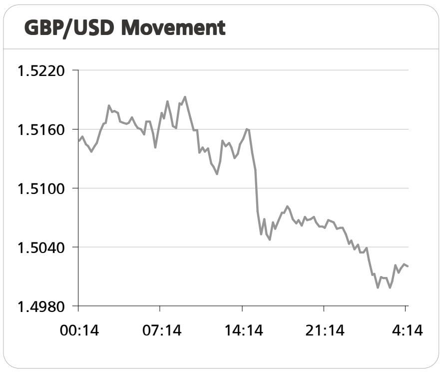


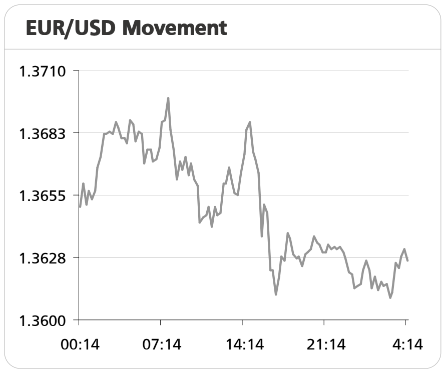


- In Asia, crude oil for April delivery is trading 41 cents lower at $81.46 per barrel, amid expectations of a build-up in US crude oil inventories. Yesterday, crude oil for April delivery closed 0.4% or 37 cents higher at $81.87 per barrel, amid optimism over the pace of the global economic recovery, after French President, Nicolas Sarkozy, pledged support for Greece.
- Gold for immediate delivery is trading $2.45 lower today, at $1,120.40 per ounce, from New York's notional close of $1,122.85 yesterday. Gold prices for April delivery lost 1.0% or $11.20 to $ 1,124.00 per ounce yesterday, as the dollar gained against most of the major currencies, denting the demand of the precious metal as a hedge against inflation.

Currencies







- At 0415 BST today, the GBP is trading 0.1% lower against the USD at $1.5020, 0.2% down against the EUR at €1.1020 and 0.4% weak against the JPY at ¥135.20. According to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, the recent gains in UK property market may be running out of steam. Bank of England Policy Maker, Kate Barker, is of the view that the UK economy is on track for recovery.
- The EUR is trading .1% higher against the USD at $1.3626. Greek Prime Minister, George Papandreou, would appeal to US President, Barack Obama, to curb activities of speculators. The EUR is trading 0.3% lower against the JPY at ¥122.65, as most Asian equity markets traded lower, decreasing demand for high yielding assets.
- The JPY is trading higher against the USD, on speculation that Japanese companies are bringing home overseas earnings before the nation's fiscal year ends this month.
- The AUD is trading higher against the USD, as Australian job vacancies jumped in February by the most in more than a decade and business confidence index rose for the second consecutive month.
- The NZD is trading lower against the major currencies, after New Zealand's consumer purchases on debit, credit and store cards fell for the first time in eight months.
- Yesterday, the USD recovered most of its lost ground against the EUR, after the US equity markets turned mostly lower, increasing the demand for the dollar as a safe haven.

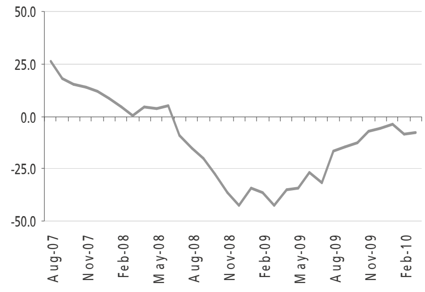
Key Economic Releases Today

Country	BST/GMT	Economic Indicator	Consensus/* Actuals	Previous	Frequency
UK	0:01	BRC Retail Sales Monitor - All (YoY) (Feb)	2.20%*	-0.70%	Monthly
UK	0:01	RICS House Price Balance (Feb)	17.00%*	32.00%	Monthly
UK	9:30	Goods Trade Balance (Jan)	-£6.90 bn	-£7.30 bn	Monthly
UK	9:30	Trade Balance, Non-EU (Jan)	-£3.50 bn	-£3.60 bn	Monthly
UK	9:30	Total Trade Balance (Jan)	-£3.00 bn	-£3.30 bn	Monthly
Switzerland	8:15	Consumer Price Index (MoM) (Feb)	0.20%	-0.10%	Monthly
Switzerland	8:15	Consumer Price Index (YoY) (Feb)	1.00%	1.00%	Monthly
US	13:00	White House Council on Economic Advisers Chief Romer Gives Speech before NABE 2010 Economic Policy Conference Breakfast Session	-	-	-
US	14:30	Chicago Fed President Evans Gives Speech "A View from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago" before the NABE 2010 Economic Policy Conference	-	-	-
US	15:00	IBD Consumer Optimism (Mar)	-	46.80	Monthly
US	21:30	API Crude Oil Inventories (W/E)	-	2.67 mn	Weekly
US	22:00	ABC/Washington Post Consumer Confidence (W/E)	-	-49.00	Weekly
Japan	5:00	Coincident Index, Prelim (Jan)	99.60	97.40	Monthly
Japan	5:00	Leading Economic Index, Prelim (Jan)	96.80	94.30	Monthly
Japan	6:00	Machine Tool Orders (YoY) (Feb)	-	189.40%	Monthly
Japan	23:50	Key Machinery Orders (MoM) (Jan)	-3.60%	20.10%	Monthly
Japan	23:50	Key Machinery Orders (YoY) (Jan)	-0.60%	-1.50%	Monthly
Japan	23:50	Domestic Corporate Goods Price Index (MoM) (Feb)	0.10%	0.30%	Monthly
Japan	23:50	Domestic Corporate Goods Price Index (YoY) (Feb)	-1.40%	-2.10%	Monthly

Global Economic Matrix

	Real GDP - YoY	CPI - YoY	10 Year Bond Yield
UK	0.3%	3.5%	4.1%
US	5.9%	2.6%	3.7%
Japan	4.6%	-1.3%	1.3%
France	0.6%	1.1%	3.4%
Germany	0.0%	0.3%	3.2%
Brazil	1.3%	4.8%	12.6%
Russia	-8.9%	7.2%	8.2%
India	7.2%	15.0%	8.0%
China	10.7%	1.5%	3.4%

EU Consumer Confidence Stood at -7.5 in Mar.



Key Corporate Releases Today

UK

Company Name	Results	Currency	Full Year Consensus	
			Estimated EPS	Estimated Revenue (Mn)
Antofagasta Plc	Prelim	GBP	1.19	4,178.97
International Power Plc	Prelim	GBP	27.62	3,357.95
John Menzies Plc	Prelim	GBP	43.63	1,884.82
Lookers Plc	Prelim	GBP	5.63	1,719.29
Weir Group	Prelim	GBP	51.41	1,272.59
Inmarsat Plc	Prelim	GBP	0.47	1,111.47
Interior Services Group Plc	Interim	GBP	27.92	1,007.05

Note: All Estimates are for Full Year

Trading Announcements

Aer Lingus Group

AGMs

JPMorgan Russian Securities

EGMs

Amiad Filtration Systems, Greencore Group, Uranium Ltd

Europe

Company Name	Results	Currency	Full Year Consensus	
			Estimated EPS	Estimated Revenue (Mn)
European Aeronautic Defence and Spa	Final	EUR	0.84	41,111.00
Topdanmark A/S	Final	DKK	73.37	9,862.00
DFDS A/S	Final	DKK	11.95	8,265.69
Kloeckner & Co SE	Final	EUR	0.86	4,960.71
Dampskibsselskabet Norden A/S	Final	DKK	3.62	1,353.80

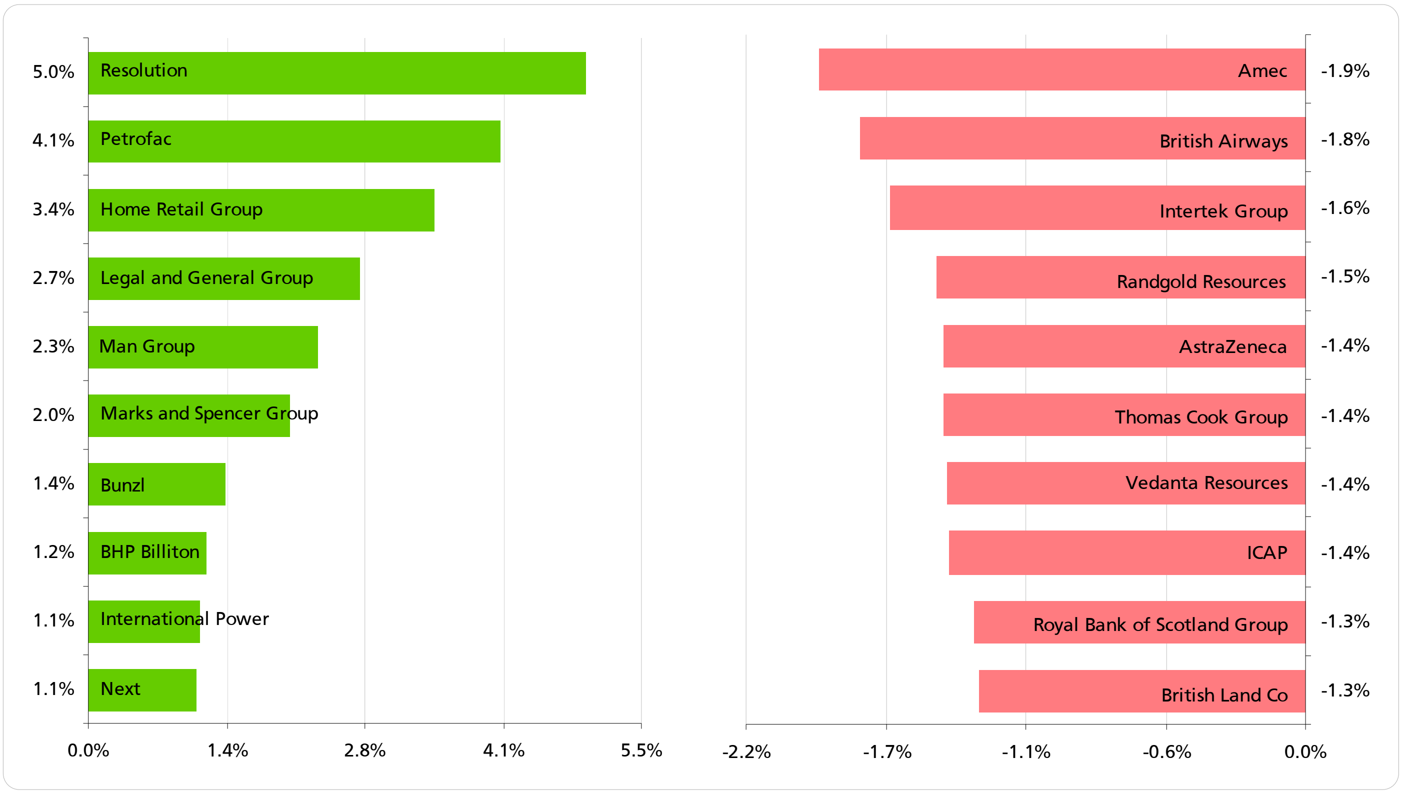
Note: All Estimates are for Full Year

US

Company Name	Results	Currency	Full Year Consensus	
			Estimated EPS	Estimated Revenue (Mn)
The Kroger Co.	Q4	USD	1.79	78,640.00
Dick's Sporting Goods	Q4	USD	1.32	4,650.00
Collective Brands	Q4	USD	1.61	3,370.00
J. Crew Grp	Q4	USD	2.13	1,700.00
Stage Stores	Q4	USD	0.81	1,470.00

Note: All Estimates are for Full Year

What's Hot & What's Not



Major Movers & Shakers

- Resolution gained 5.0%, rebounding from its losses in the previous few sessions.
- Petrofac rallied 4.1%, as its full-year net income rose to $353.6 million from $265 million in 2008, surpassing market expectations.
- Home Retail Group added 3.4%, in anticipation that the company would post better-than-expected results. The stock also rose, aided by a "Buy" recommendation from UBS.
- Legal and General Group was up 2.7%, ahead of the insurer's full-year results later this month, and following a "Buy" advice from Nomura.
- Man Group rose 2.3%, as Bank of America reiterated a "Buy" advice on the stock with a 390p target, citing concerns about its benchmark fund, AHL, as overdone.
- Bunzl closed 1.4% higher, as to HSBC Holdings upgraded the stock to "Overweight" from "Neutral".
- Intertek Group slipped 1.6%, as the company's full year results revealed a continuous weakening of its underlying growth rate.
- Randgold Resources dropped 1.5%, in line with a fall in gold prices.
- AstraZeneca eased 1.4%, following the failure of its Recentin experimental cancer drug in a late-stage trial.

Disclaimer