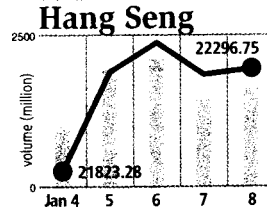
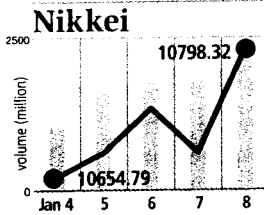
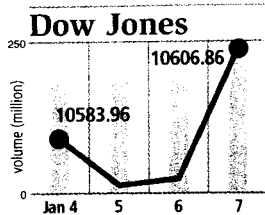
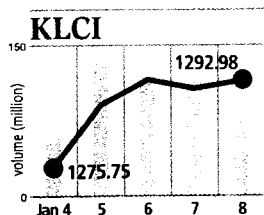


HIGHS & LOWS



Promising start

Dual listings hog the market

| BY KANG WAN CHERN |

The Straits Times Index reached 2,922.76 at its close, taking last week's advance to 0.9%. Among the most hotly traded stocks were those of the three Mainboard-listed palm oil supply players. **Indood Agri-Resources, Wilmar International and Golden Agri-Resources** jumped 2.1%, 2.1%, 3.4% respectively, after Goldman Sachs Group raised its crude palm oil price forecasts to US\$850 a tonne this year from US\$800.

Sports footwear and apparel maker **China Sports International** climbed 14% to 20 cents after the company announced it obtained exclusive rights to distribute Federation Internationale de Football Association (Fifa), clothing and accessories in China over the next three years. DBS Vickers believes the win will provide the company with additional sources of revenue and improved margins for its products. The brokerage has a "buy" call on the stock, with a target price of 35 cents apiece.

Dayen Environmental, a provider of water-treatment services, surged 29% to nine cents. The company said it secured a new ultra-filtration project in Qatar valued at US\$583,000 (\$815,772). The contract underscores the growing importance of the Middle Eastern market to water-treatment players listed in Singapore like **Hyflux**, says DMG and Partners.

Dual listings in Hong Kong

Meanwhile, **Epure International** will be seeking a dual listing in Hong Kong and issuing 430 million new shares at a discount of up to 15% of its stock price in Singapore. Shares in Epure have since surged to a 52-week high of

82.5 cents apiece. At those levels, the stock is valued at 15.4 times forward earnings (its Hong Kong and China-listed peers are trading at 15 to 30 times earnings). "Low valuations are a key catalyst towards dual listing or privatisation," DBS Vickers said.

Thinly traded steel supplier, **Novo Group**, advanced 18% to 26 cents. The company is also seeking a dual primary listing in Hong Kong to attract new investors, boost trading liquidity and raise its profile in China, where it derives the bulk of its business. Other stocks gunning for a dual listing include **Midas Holdings, China Fishery, Pacific Andes, China Animal Healthcare and Yangzijiang Shipbuilding**, DBS says. **China Hongxing** and **China Sports** could be potential candidates for privatisation.

Keppel Land has taken a 42% stake worth US\$16 million in a joint venture with two Vietnamese developers to develop a waterfront township in Ho Chi Minh City. "Given Vietnam's solid real estate fundamentals and GDP growth potential, as well as Keppel Land's established track record there, we

view the acquisition positively," says DMG and Partners. "Nonetheless, the acquisition will be earnings-accretive only in the medium-long term, given the relatively long development timeframe." The brokerage is "neutral" on the stock, with a price target of \$3.01.

What to look out for

EOC, the Oslo-listed, 49%-owned offshore construction arm of **Ezra Holdings**, and **Singapore Press Holdings** announce their 1Q2010 results on Jan 12 and 13 respectively. Advance GDP estimates for 4Q2009 will be released on Jan 14.

