

**HD News Highlights: Top Equities Stories Of The Day****WC** 379 words**PD** 21 August 2014**ET** 22:04**SN** Dow Jones Institutional News**SC** DJDN**LA** English**CY** Copyright © 2014, Dow Jones & Company, Inc.**LP****SEARS POSTS LOSS AS REVENUE, MARGINS DECLINE**

Sears Holdings, the struggling store operator that was once a prominent fixture of the U.S. retail landscape, posted a \$573 **million** loss in its fiscal second-quarter, as revenue and margins declined.

**TD****SINOPEC IN TALKS OVER RETAIL UNIT**

**China** Petroleum & Chemical, or Sinopec, is in talks with numerous **Chinese** companies, including Tencent Holdings, about either selling a **stake** or forming alliances in its gas-station-to-convenience store **business**.

**BOFA TO PAY NEARLY \$17B IN DOJ SETTLEMENT**

Bank of America is said to be expected to pay nearly \$17 **billion** to settle U.S. Department of Justice accusations it packaged shoddy mortgages into securities and **sold** them to investors in the run-up to the financial crisis.

**COOLPAD EYES EXPANSION, CONSIDERS ACQUISITIONS**

After overtaking Samsung Electronics to become the third-largest smartphone maker in **China**, Coolpad, a **brand** little known outside of the country, is now setting its sights overseas.

**LEXUS CUTS PRICES FOR SPARE PARTS IN **CHINA****

Toyota Motor Corp.'s luxury **brand** Lexus announced a 26% cut on the price of spare parts in **China**, joining other foreign car makers in appeasing **Chinese** regulators amid an antitrust investigation,

**AUSTRALIA WATCHDOG SUPPORTS FUNG'S CASINO TAKEOVER**

**Hong Kong** investor Tony Fung's bet on Australia's gambling industry won support from the country's competition regulator, which said it wouldn't block the planned \$201.3 **million** acquisition of a casino in tropical Cairns.

**TREASURY **WINE** RESULT TAKES HEAT OUT OF BID BATTLE**

Australia's Treasury **Wine** Estates--enmeshed in a takeover battle led by two private-**equity** firms--hit the bottom end of its annual earnings guidance, easing pressure on the suitors to raise their evenly matched \$3.14 **billion** offers.

**ASCIANO CEO SAYS DEEPENING TALKS OVER PORTS **STAKE SALE****

Australian freight **group** Asciano is deepening talks to sell part of its ports and logistics **business**, although stressed it isn't under any financial pressure to finalize a deal.

**ORIGIN ENERGY PULLS SHARE ISSUE**

Origin Energy Ltd. surprised investors by dropping plans for a 1 **billion** Australian dollar share issue in favor of a European debt raising.

(END) Dow Jones Newswires

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**CO** cpetc : China Petroleum and Chemical Corp (Sinopec Corp) | kmrt : Sears Holdings Corp | tenchl : Tencent Holdings Ltd | chpc : China Petrochemical Corp

**IN** i1 : Energy | i13 : Crude Oil/Natural Gas | i64 : Retail/Wholesale | i656 : Mixed Retailing | i7902 : Telecommunications | i79022 : Wireless Telecommunications Services | iretail : Retail

**NS** ncdig : Corporate Digests | neqac : Equities Asset Class News | nhhour : Headlines of the Hour | ncat : Content Types | ndj : Dow Jones Top Stories | nfact : Factiva Filters | ntop : Top Wire News | redit : Selection of Top Stories/Trends/Analysis

**RE** china : China | austr : Australia | apacz : Asia Pacific | asiaz : Asia | ausnz : Australia/Oceania | bric : BRIC Countries | chinaz : Greater China | devgcoz : Emerging Market Countries | dvpcoz : Developing Economies | easiaz : Eastern Asia

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