

**HD News Highlights: Top Equities Stories of the Day****WC** 851 words**PD** 12 December 2014**ET** 12:00**SN** Dow Jones Institutional News**SC** DJDN**LA** English**CY** Copyright © 2014, Dow Jones & Company, Inc.**LP**

**CHINESE** STATE MINER TO TAKE HUNAN NONFERROUS METALS PRIVATE FOR \$820 **MILLION**  
The state-owned parent of **Chinese** miner Hunan Nonferrous Metals Corp. plans to take its **Hong Kong**-Listed unit private for 6.36 **billion Hong Kong** dollars as part of efforts to consolidate their **operations**. (published 0043 GMT)

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HALLIBURTON TO LAY OFF 1,000 WORKERS -- UPDATE

Halliburton Co., the world's second-largest oilfield-services **company**, said Thursday it will lay off 1,000 employees outside the U.S. (published 0018 GMT)

CAESARS REACHES TENTATIVE DEBT-RESTRUCTURING DEAL -- 2ND UPDATE

Caesars Entertainment Corp. has reached a tentative deal with senior bondholders on a debt-restructuring plan for its largest unit, according to people familiar with the matter. (published 0059 GMT)

GOOGLE TO SHUT ENGINEERING OFFICE IN RUSSIA

Google Inc. is shutting its engineering office in Russia after the government cracked down on Internet freedoms and ahead of a new law governing data-handling practices by Internet companies. (published 0007 GMT)

LEIGHTON TO SELL JOHN HOLLAND UNIT TO

**CHINESE** CONSTRUCTION **COMPANY** -- UPDATE

Leighton Holdings Ltd. will sell its John Holland building division to **China** Communications Construction Co. for about 1.15 **billion** Australian dollars, giving the **Chinese firm** a large foothold in Australia and allowing Leighton to cut debt as its German parent **company** tightens its grip. (published 2359 GMT Thursday)

CROWN RESORTS PLANS NEW FIVE-STAR HOTEL IN MELBOURNE

Crown Resorts Ltd. has bought stakes in land opposite its casino in Melbourne where it plans to build a new five-star hotel to meet rising tourism demand in Australia's second most populous city. (published 2354 GMT Thursday)

AMEX COURTING TECH TALENT FOR NEW PALO ALTO TECH HUB, CIO SAYS

American Express Corp., Thursday, advanced the financial service industry's march on Silicon Valley and its deep technology talent pool. The credit card **company** unveiled a new "tech hub" in downtown Palo Alto run by a former Google Inc. expert on mobile payment software. Engineers there are working on several projects, including data analytics, mobile software, and cybersecurity. (published 2344 GMT Thursday)

HEARST ACQUIRES 25%  
**STAKE** IN AWESOMENESSTV

Hearst Corp. has acquired a 25% **stake** in AwesomenessTV, the maker of teen-focused YouTube content that DreamWorks Animation SKG Inc. purchased last year, a move that comes as Hearst ramps up its ambitions in digital video. (published 2340 GMT Thursday)

COMMERZBANK LIKELY TO PAY MORE THAN \$1 **BILLION** TO SETTLE PROBES

German lender Commerzbank AG is likely to pay more than \$1 **billion** to U.S. authorities to resolve two probes examining whether it violated U.S. economic sanctions and money laundering laws, according to people familiar with the matter. (published 2339 GMT Thursday)

CANADA COMPETITION AGENCY EXAMINES APPLE UNIT -- UPDATE

Canada's Competition Bureau said on Thursday that it is probing the Canadian arm of Apple Inc. for potential anticompetitive behavior in the contracts that it signs with telecom carriers for its popular iPhone devices. (published 2339 GMT Thursday)

J&J DRUG FOR RESISTANT TUBERCULOSIS POISED FOR EXPANDED REACH

Johnson & Johnson said its Janssen Therapeutics affiliate reached a preliminary collaboration agreement with the U.S. Agency for International Development to expand access to its drug to treat a form of resistant tuberculosis that is uncommon in the U.S. but growing globally. (published 2339 GMT Thursday)

LENDING CLUB SHARES RISE IN MARKET DEBUT--5TH UPDATE

Shares of Lending Club Corp surged 56% from their initial public offering price Thursday--a strong debut for the first publicly traded peer-to-peer lending **company**. (published 2336 GMT Thursday)

HOUGHTON SHAREHOLDER PUSHES FOR DIVIDEND OR SHARE BUYBACK

An activist investor wants publisher Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Co. to further turn the page from its recent bankruptcy and hand back more cash to shareholders. (published 2301 GMT Thursday)

WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS APPOINTS NEW CEO, KEY FIGURE IN PLANNED REIT SPINOFF  
Telecom **company** Windstream Holdings Inc., which is reclassifying most of its **copper** and fiber-optic lines as real estate in a tax-cutting move, has promoted the head of its real-estate-investment-trust **operations** to the top executive post. (published 2254 GMT Thursday)

GM TO INVEST \$5 **BILLION** TO EXPAND FACILITIES IN MEXICO -- UPDATE

General Motors Co., already among Mexico's leading auto makers, said Thursday that it is investing \$5 **billion** through 2018 to double capacity at its four plants in the country. (published 2238 GMT Thursday)

UNITED TECHNOLOGIES CEO HUNTING FOR MAJOR

**ACQUISITION**

United Technologies Corp.'s new Chief Executive Greg Hayes is hunting for a major **acquisition** and is willing to consider changes to a portfolio that includes Otis elevators, Black Hawk helicopters and Carrier air conditioning systems. (published 2228 GMT Thursday)

ADOBE AGREES TO BUY STOCK-PHOTOGRAPHY WEB **FIRM** FOR \$800 **MILLION**

Adobe Systems Inc. agreed to acquire privately-held stock-photography website **company** Fotolia for roughly \$800 **million** and reported, earnings excluding one-time items, that topped expectations as well as strong growth in Creative Cloud subscriptions for the quarter ended November. (published 2155 GMT Thursday)

(END) Dow Jones Newswires

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**CO** hllbt : Halliburton Co | hufmcc : Hunan Nonferrous Metals Corp Ltd

**IN** itheradv : Therapeutic Devices/Equipment | i372 : Medical Equipment/Supplies | i951 : Health Care/Life Sciences | iphmed : Medical/Surgical Instruments/Apparatus/Devices | i1 : Energy | i13 : Crude Oil/Natural Gas | i1300005 : Support Activities for Oil/Gas | i22 : Primary Metals | i224 : Non-ferrous Metals | ibasicm : Basic Materials/Resources

**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

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