



**HD**      **Highlights of the AAP Finance Wire at 14:45 Aug 26, 2014**

**WC**      527 words

**PD**      26 August 2014

**SN**      Australian Associated Press Financial News Wire

**SC**      AAPFIN

**LA**      English

**CY**      (c) 2014 Australian Associated Press Pty Ltd. All Rights Reserved

**LP**

HIGHLIGHTS Highlights of the AAP Finance Wire for Tuesday, Aug 26:

SYDNEY - Pacific Brands is casting off workwear brands like KingGee and Hard Yakka and pinning its recovery hopes on the iconic **Bonds** and Sheridan labels after slumping to a \$224 **million** loss. (PACIFIC BRANDS on file)

**TD**

MELBOURNE - The big miners, rather than slowing growth in **China**, are being blamed for the steep fall in the price of Australia's top export, **iron ore**. (**IRON ORE** on file)

PERTH - Troubled **mining** services **company** Boart Longyear is considering selling out to private **equity** after suffering a fourth consecutive half year loss. (BOART LONGYEAR on file)

SYDNEY - Qantas is being urged to cut thousands more jobs and jettison a majority of its international routes as the **company** faces the most turbulent period in its 94-year history. (QANTAS on file)

SYDNEY - Consumer confidence has bounced as rising house prices and low interest rates outweigh concerns about growing unemployment. (CONSUMERS ANZ on file)

SYDNEY - Shares in clothing retailer Specialty Fashion have plummeted as costs soar and profits sink. (SPECIALTY FASHION on file)

MELBOURNE - Westfield's new Australian spin-off Scentre expects to boost operating income from of its shopping centres by up to 2.5 per cent this year. (SCENTRE on file)

MELBOURNE - One of Australia's biggest IVF providers, Virtus Health, says a slowdown in the **mining** sector in Queensland has resulted in weaker-than-expected growth in demand for its fertility services. (VIRTUS on file)

SYDNEY - The United States is set to become one of the main stops on 3P Learning's global excursion as demand for its educational software increases. (THREEP LEARNING on file)

SYDNEY - Health products **company** Blackmores is cautiously optimistic about growth this year as it deals with Thailand's political unrest and wary Australian consumers. (BLACKMORES on file)

#### PREMIUM FINANCE STORIES

The following finance stories and features are available on AAP's premium FinEx content service.

For access to AAP's FinEx content please contact our Newswire Team on (02) 9322 8405. AAP's FinEx content desk can be reached on 02 93228738.

SYDNEY - The difference between "trend" economic growth and "below trend" growth might not seem to matter much. But it does. (FINEX: ECONOMY on file)

SYDNEY - Spring is around the corner and so are the seasonal cliches about the blooming property market - but is spring really the best time to buy and sell property? (FINEX: SPRING on file)

See also on the general wire:

MELBOURNE - Australian politicians are glass-jawed and Rupert Murdoch is "fiercely direct", says former News Corp Australia CEO Kim Williams. (WILLIAMS)

CANBERRA - Up to 40,000 workers will lose their jobs as car making in Australia ends and component makers adjust to the loss of business, the Productivity Commission says. (CARS)

CANBERRA - The federal government's controversial \$7 Medicare co-payment appears dead in the water. (BUDGET)

SYDNEY - A proposed 900 kilometre gas pipeline connecting the Northern Territory to Australia's eastern seaboard would help bring prices down for NSW consumers, Premier Mike Baird says. (GAS)

Stocks Aust, Dollar Aust, Stockwatch on file

AAP gfr/dmc

**CO** boaint : Boart Longyear Ltd | pacbra : Pacific Brands Ltd

**IN** i1 : Energy | i13 : Crude Oil/Natural Gas | i1300005 : Support Activities for Oil/Gas | ictl : Clothing/Textiles | icnp : Consumer Goods

**NS** ncdig : Corporate Digests | ncat : Content Types

**RE** austr : Australia | melb : Melbourne | sydney : Sydney | victor : Victoria (Australia) | apacz : Asia Pacific | ausnz : Australia/Oceania | nswals : New South Wales

**PUB** Australian Associated Press Pty Ltd

**AN** Document AAPFIN0020140826ea8q002jp