



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

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**SN**      Australian Associated Press Financial News Wire

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

SYDNEY - Struggling clothing maker Pacific Brands is selling its workwear business after writedowns and weaker profit margins blew its full year loss out to \$224 **million** loss (PACIFIC BRANDS WRAP to come).

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PERTH - Troubled **mining** services **company** Boart Longyear is considering selling out to private **equity** after making a \$US143 **million** first half loss amid steep revenue falls.(BOART LONGYEAR wrap to come)

SYDNEY - Shares in clothing retailer Specialty Fashion have tumbled as it reports a slide in net profit and soaring costs (SPECIALTY FASHION to come)

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 to come).

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

MELBOURNE - IVF provider Virtus Health says a slowdown in the **mining** sector in Queensland has resulted in slower growth in demand for in vitro fertilisation (IVF) services (VIRTUS UPDATE to come).

MELBOURNE - Prices for Australia's most valuable export **iron ore** have slumped to below \$US90 a tonne (**IRON ORE** to come)

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 grows (THREEP LEARNING on file)

#### PREMIUM FINANCE STORIES

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

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 to come)

See also on the general wire:

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)

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

CANBERRA - The government's \$7 Medicare co-payment plan appears dead, with Clive Palmer saying his party will not support a GP charge "of even one cent". (MEDICARE)

CANBERRA - Clive Palmer has apologised to the **Chinese** ambassador for his televised tirade against the country last week. (PALMER)

Stocks Aust, Dollar Aust, Stockwatch, Finance Briefs to come AAP gfr

**CO** boaint : Boart Longyear Ltd | pacbra : Pacific Brands Ltd | virhep : Virtus Health Ltd.

**IN** i1 : Energy | i13 : Crude Oil/Natural Gas | i1300005 : Support Activities for Oil/Gas | i951 : Health Care/Life Sciences | i95101 : Doctors/Physicians | ict : Clothing/Textiles | icnp : Consumer Goods | iphph : Healthcare Provision

**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

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