

HD News Highlights: Top Equities Stories of the Day

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INVESTORS PULL \$9.5

BILLION FROM PIMCO TOTAL RETURN IN NOVEMBER -- UPDATE

Two months after Bill Gross quit Pacific Investment Management Co., the giant Pimco Total Return bond fund that he managed for 27 years is showing signs of stabilizing. (published 2238 GMT Tuesday)

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HONDA'S LENDING UNIT FACING U.S. CHARGES OF DISCRIMINATORY LENDING --

U.S. authorities are poised to charge the lending arm of Honda Motor Co. with discriminatory loan practices, the **company** disclosed Tuesday, as part of a broad federal inquiry into whether auto lenders charge higher interest rates to minorities. (published 0053 GMT)

SANOFI, EVOTEC DISCUSS PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP--UPDATE

Sanofi SA said it was in exclusive talks with German pharmaceuticals company Evotec AG to take over the bulk of its research and development activities in Toulouse, a site in Southern France that the French drug maker had unsuccessfully sought to shut down. (published 2042 GMT Tuesday)

SUNCORP SEES BRISBANE STORM COST HITTING LIMITS

The estimated cost to insurance companies of damage caused by last week's violent storm in the eastern Australian city of Brisbane continues to rise as claims roll in. (published 0049 GMT)

KKR INVESTS IN NEXT ISSUE, A MAGAZINE-STREAMING SERVICE

Next Issue Media LLC, a Netflix-like subscription service that offers unlimited access to as many as 145 magazine titles for a monthly fee, said it has closed a \$50 million financing round with private-equity firm Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. (published 2119 GMT Tuesday)

SINGAPORE'S GIC FUND WAGERS ON U.S.

PROPERTY

Singapore's sovereign-wealth fund is making a big bet on U.S. industrial **property**, as a strengthening American economy and the growth of online shopping fuel demand for warehouses and distribution centers. (published 2253 GMT Tuesday)

HYBRID KINETIC

GROUP TO RAISE HK\$284.8 MLN VIA SHARE SALES

Hong Kong-listed Hybrid Kinetic Group Ltd. said late Tuesday it is raising 284.8 million Hong Kong dollars from share sales and will use the net proceeds to pursue acquisition and investment opportunities in the high-tech motor vehicles business in China. (published 0038 GMT)

AUSTRALIA'S TEN NETWORK RECEIVES TAKEOVER BIDS

Ten Network Holdings Ltd. said Wednesday it was reviewing approaches from companies either wanting to **buy** the free-to-air broadcaster or refinance its debt. (published 2229 GMT Tuesday)

SINGAPORE EXCHANGE DELAYS TRADING START FOLLOWING SOFTWARE GLITCH

Singapore Exchange Ltd. Wednesday delayed start of trading by over three hours to enable member firms to reconcile client positions and correct any errors after a software glitch on Dec. 1. (published 2352 GMT Tuesday)

NZ POST SELLS COURIERSPLEASE HOLDINGS FOR A\$95MLN TO SINGAPORE POST

Government-owned New Zealand Post<mark>Group</mark> has **sold** its Australian courier **company**, CouriersPlease Holdings, to Singapore Post Ltd. for 95 **million** Australian dollars . (published 0037 GMT)

ONEOK EXPECTS TO RAISE DIVIDEND 14% NEXT YEAR ON STRENGTH AT PIPELINE AFFILIATE

Oneok Inc. said it expects to raise its dividend by 14% next year, reflecting higher anticipated cash distributions from its interests in affiliate Oneok Partners LP. (published 2215 GMT Tuesday)

BIOGEN SHARES RISE ON EARLY RESULTS OF ALZHEIMER'S STUDY--UPDATE

Biogen Idec Inc. reported positive interim results from an early-stage study of an Alzheimer's disease drug, sending the **company**'s shares soaring and renewing debate about drugs that attack amyloid plaques in the brain. (published 2203 GMT Tuesday)

BRAZIL'S VALE WEIGHS IPO OF BASE METALS DIVISION

STAKE -- 3RD UPDATE

Brazilian miner Vale SA is considering selling shares in its base-metals division in an effort to "unlock" value, Chief Executive Murilo Ferreira said Tuesday, after a drop in iron-ore prices this year sent its stock spiraling downward. (published 2211 GMT Tuesday)

NEXT LOEWS CEO WILL COME FROM

HOTEL RIVAL

Loews Hotels & Resorts has named Kirk Kinsell as chief executive, poaching a top executive from the larger InterContinental Hotels Group PLC. (published 0052 GMT)

(END) Dow Jones Newswires

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