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KFC boosts Restaurant Brands Restaurant Brands lifted third-quarter sales 6.4 per cent as an increase in revenue at its KFC stores offset falling sales at its Carl's Jr burger chain. The Auckland-based **company** lifted sales to \$81.1 **million** in the 12 weeks to December 1 from \$76.2 **million** a year earlier, it said. Restaurant Brands expects full-year profit to exceed \$22 **million**, higher than the **company's** \$20 **million** forecast in April. and the \$18.9 **million** posted last year. Meridian cancels Aussie plan Meridian **Energy**, the partially privatised electricity generator and retailer, has abandoned plans for a 37mW hydro power station at Burdekin Falls Dam, Queensland, blaming the "destabilising revisions" in the Australian Federal Government's renewable **energy** policy. The Government moved to reduce the country's renewable **energy** target, creating regulatory uncertainty around the project, Meridian said. Cost-cutting at Fronde IT service provider Fronde has shed staff and cut costs after going into the red with a far lower than expected first-half result due to decreased revenue from its Wellington consulting business. The **company** reported a net loss of \$1.3 **million** in the six months to September 30, from a profit of \$700,000 a year earlier. That included a \$187,000 unrealised, non-cash loss in foreign currency relating to its Australian subsidiary. Blis fined \$30,000 for rule breach Blis Technologies has been ordered to pay \$30,000 plus costs for breaching continuous disclosure rules when its CEO was caught on the fly in an interview in August. The New Zealand markets disciplinary tribunal publicly censured the Dunedin **firm** after Barry Richardson told a Fairfax Media publication its oral probiotics product would be distributed in 600 stores in **China** by pharmaceutical **firm**, Sinopharm, before informing the NZX. Watchdog stops hospital takeover The Commerce Commission has turned down an application by the three biggest shareholders of Acuity Healthcare Group to take the private hospital operator over, saying the group would be the "only significant provider in the greater Wellington region" for some procedures. Connor Healthcare wanted to buy the shares of Acuity it didn't already own, which would have put three of the region's four private hospital under the group's ownership, it said. Auction house businesses for **sale** Mowbray Collectables, the unprofitable listed auction house business, has put its stamp, coin and bank note trading businesses up for **sale** to enhance shareholder value and reposition the **company**. The **company** embarked on a review after its first-half loss increased to \$1.99 **million** from \$700,000 a year earlier. Aotearoa Fisheries back in profit Aotearoa Fisheries, which manages more than \$530 **million** of fisheries assets for its iwi shareholders, returned to profit in the 2014 financial year after its major investment, Sealord, exited its unprofitable South American business and returned a profit of \$21.9 **million**, turning around a loss of \$6 **million** a year earlier. Rakon sells UK plant Rakon has sold its Lincoln, UK plant for £900,000 (\$1.814 **million**), nearly all of which will go to repay debt, as part of a plan to send more manufacturing work back to New Zealand. The high-tech components maker has been exiting the smart wireless device market, which didn't deliver big enough margins, to focus on the burgeoning telecoms sector.

Agencies

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CO elecncz : Meridian Energy Ltd

IN irenewf : Renewable Energy Facility Construction | i502 : Heavy Construction | i5020044 : Power Station Construction | iconst : Construction | icre : Real Estate/Construction | i1 : Energy | i16 : Electricity/Gas

Utilities | i16101 : Electric Power Generation | i1610107 : Hydropower Energy | i163 : Renewable Energy
Generation | ieutil : Electric Utilities | iutil : Utilities

NS ccat : Corporate/Industrial News

RE nz : New Zealand | austr : Australia | apacz : Asia Pacific | ausnz : Australia/Oceania

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