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RESOURCES: Mount Gibson Iron has lifted underlying profit as record ore sales offset a fall in prices. It said it would continue to target further cost reductions and was well prepared for future volatility. Net profit after tax fell 38.8 per cent to \$96.4 million in the year to June 30, compared with \$157.3m in the previous year. But underlying net profit after tax, which excluded a \$21.3m non-cash charge related to accounting requirements for the Mineral Resources Rent Tax, rose 26.7 per cent to \$117.7m in the year. Revenue rose by 5.6 per cent to \$913.5m, compared with \$864.8m in the prior year. Mount Gibson will pay a final dividend of 4c a share.

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RESULTS: Yancoal Australia does not expect a marked improvement in global **coal** markets in the year ahead, as the **China**-backed miner reported another first-half loss. Sydney-based Yancoal said there were few signs the glut of **coal** was easing as prices of thermal **coal** have traded near multi-year lows. "Significant global oversupply continues to weaken export **coal** prices, with minimal improvements expected in the year ahead," said Yancoal, which is 78 per cent owned by **China**'s Yanzhou **Coal Mining** Co. Yancoal reported a net loss of \$192.7m for the six months through June. That was narrower than the \$749.4m loss a year ago, when currency swings increased liabilities on its US dollar denominated debt.

ENERGY: Asia-focused oil producer Roc Oil said it is on track to meet full-year production guidance after posting a 3 per cent lift in first-half net profit, excluding the profit from sale of non-core assets. The company made \$US53.8 million (\$57.7m) in net profit after tax for the six months to June 30, which included the \$US32.6m in the sale of the BMG field. Sales revenue rose to \$US143.4m, up from \$US114.1m.

MEDIA: Auction website Trade Me Group net profit rose slightly in the 2014 financial year but met forecasts previously published by the **company**. Net profit for the 12 months to June 30 was up 2 per cent to \$NZ80.1m (\$72.5m) from the prior year, while revenue rose 10 per cent to \$NZ180.1m for the 2014 financial year. Trade Me chief executive Jon Macdonald said investments had been "substantial but careful" over the year.

BUSINESS SPECTATOR; DOW JONES NEWSWIRES

yaptyl : Yancoal Australia Limited | whitt : Mount Gibson Iron Ltd | yankua : Yankuang (Group) Corp | ynzmn : Yanzhou Coal Mining Co Ltd

IN i22 : Primary Metals | i221 : Iron/Steel/Ferroalloys | ibasicm : Basic Materials/Resources | i112 : Coal Mining Support Activities | i211 : Metal Ore Mining | i2111 : Iron Ore Mining | imet : Mining/Quarrying

NS gcat: Political/General News

RE austr : Australia | apacz : Asia Pacific | ausnz : Australia/Oceania

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