

BUSINESS

ASOS warns on profit again

British online fashion retailer ASOS dented profit expectations for their third time in eight months on Thursday, saying problems in ramping up warehouses in the United States and Germany had hit sales and increased costs. Shares in the one-time stock market darling plunged as much as 22% in early trading. They were down 12.5% at 0740 GMT, extending losses over the last year to more than 60%.

“Clearly management need to rebuild credibility in their financial guidance,” said analysts at Shore Capital. ASOS, which sells fashion aimed at twentysomethings, issued a shock profit warning in December, and in March said its new US warehouse was struggling to cope with demand, hitting sales there and adding to challenges in France and Germany.

The group said on Thursday total sales rose 12% to 919.8 million pounds (\$1.14 billion) in the four months to June 30, with sales in its United Kingdom and rest of world division robust, up 16% and 14% respectively. However, in the European Union and the United States sales were held back by operational problems at its new warehouses in Berlin and Atlanta, up 5% and 12% respectively. (RTRS)

Kuwait stocks dip as profit taking kicks in

KAMCO slips 9 fils, Ooredoo flat

By John Mathews
Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, July 18: Kuwait stocks headed south on Thursday to wind up the week on a sour note. The All Shares Index slipped 12.25 points in volatile session to 6,124.63 points weighed by profit taking in some of the blue chips even as the broader trend remained mixed.

The Premier Market dropped 22.06 points to 6,746.7 pts paring the month's gains to 369 pts while Main Market rose 8.19 points to 4,900.85 pts. The volume turnover meanwhile pulled sharply lower following last session's slight fall. Over 153 million shares changed hands – down 28 percent from the day before.

Among the notable losers, National Bank of Kuwait fell 4 fils to KD 1.005 after trading 3.6 million shares as it extended an identical loss in the previous session and Mezzan Holding was down 6 fils at 614 fils. KAMCO gave up 9 fils to wind up at 81 fils.

Zain eased 1 fil to 582 fils and had rallied 53 fils so far during the month while Ooredoo stood pat at 655 fils. Kuwait Telecommunications Co (VIVA) climbed 6 fils to 800 fils and logistics major Agility dialed down 2 fils before ending at 805 fils. Humansoft Holding jumped 31 fils to KD 3.401.

The market opened firm and fell sharply in early trade. The main index plumped the day's lowest level of 6,118 points amid a brief bout of selling and bounced back into green. It slipped again and traded sideways before closing with small losses.

Top gainer of the day, International Resorts Co jumped 9.8 percent to 167 fils and IFA Hotels and Resorts climbed 8.7 pct to stand next. Bayan Investment Co skidded 10 pct, the steepest decliner of the day and KGL Logistics topped the volume with 13.9 million shares.

National Industries Group slipped 4 fils to 243 fils after trading 4.3 million shares while Integrated Holding Co tripped 1 fil. Boubyan Petrochemical Co slipped 5 fils to 901 fils and Al Qurain Petrochemical Co eased 1 fil to 355 fils. UPAC climbed 18 fils to 440 fils.

Jazeera Airways was unchanged at 950 fils and ALAFCO was up 5 fils at 298 fils on back of 2.8 million shares. Mashaer Holding ticked 0.4 fil on back of over 3 million shares while Educational Holding C and Safat Energy Holding paused at 320 fils and 320 fils respectively.

Kuwait Cement Co climbed 6 fils to 290 fils and Kuwait Portland Cement clipped 2 fils before settling at KD 1.197. Sharjah Cement Co rose 2.5 fils to 67.5 fils and Gulf Cement Co added 2.1 fils. Fujairah Cement Co took in 2.7 fils to wind up at 54.8 fils.

Combined Group Co scaled 6 fils on back of 9.6 million shares and IFA Hotels and Resorts added 3.9 fils to end at 48.4 fils. Heavy En-

Other Gulf markets mixed

Abu Dhabi outperforms peers

DUBAI, July 18, (RTRS): Stocks in the United Arab Emirates surged on Thursday, outperforming most major Gulf markets, boosted by strong earnings at the index.

In Abu Dhabi, the index closed 2.7% higher, buoyed by First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB), which rose 4% to its highest level since May after posting a 5% rise in second-quarter net profit.

The bank recorded a net profit of 3.2 billion dirhams (\$871million) in the quarter ending June 30, versus 3.06 billion dirhams a year earlier. Similarly, the Dubai index climbed 1.7%, driven by a 2.7% rise in Emirates NBD after the bank announced an 80% jump in second-quarter earnings.

The bank made a net profit of 4.74 billion dirhams (\$1.29billion) in the three months to June 30, helped by an asset sale and foreign exchange gains. EFG Hermes had expected a net profit of 4.06 billion dirhams.

The results reinforced signs that top banks in the UAE are managing to withstand strains from a sluggish economy and a property downturn in Dubai. Emirates NBD said on Wednesday it had received permission to open 20 more branches in Saudi Arabia.

Egypt's blue-chip index advanced 0.2%, with Cairo Investment and Real Estate Development jumping 6.8%.

Saudi Arabia's main index fell 0.5%, ending eight straight days

of gains triggered by EFG Hermes forecasting that profits for the kingdom's financial sector would grow 7.6% in the second quarter.

Nine of 11 Saudi banks fell. Al Rajhi Bank lost 0.7%, while National Commercial Bank was down 0.9%. Qatar's index dropped over 1% with 17 of 20 stocks declining. Commercial Bank plunged 4.5% and Industries Qatar lost 1.5%.

Saudi Arabia

The index dropped 0.5% to 9,034 points

Abu Dhabi

The index gained 2.7% to 5,218 points

Dubai

The index added 1.7% to 2,763 points

Qatar

The index lost 1% to 10,503 points

Egypt

The index was up 0.2% at 13,670 points

Bahrain

The index slid 0.1% to 1,538 points

Oman

The index was flat at 3,748 points

Kuwait

The index declined 0.3% to 6,747 points

gineering Industries and Shipbuilding Co rallied 9 fils on back of 4.2 million shares and Gulf Cable followed suit to close at 456 fils.

Kuwait Foundry Co fell 2 fils to 257 fils and Equipment Holding eased 0.1 fil to 22.4 fils. Salbookh Trading tripped 0.3 fil and AAN ticked 0.5 fil higher to 12.9 fils on back of over 2 million shares. AC-ICO Industries was unchanged at 131 fils. SPEC dialed down 0.9 fil.

Kuwait and Gulf Links Transport Co rose 1.7 fils to 81.9 fils and KGL logistics added 2.1 fils with brisk trading of 13.9 million shares. KPCC trimmed 0.5 fil and KCPC was flat at 205 fils with thin trading volume. Inovest gave up 0.5 fil and EK Holding tumbled 39 fils to 416 fils.

In the banking sector, Gulf Bank clipped 2 fils after trading over 2 million shares and Kuwait International Bank followed suit to end at 278 fils. Burgan Bank tripped 1 fil and Boubyan Bank dialed up 2 fils. Ahli United Bank gave up 4 fils to close at 285 fils.

Kuwait Finance House was flat at 781 fils after trading 4.4 million shares and Commercial Bank jumped 15 fils to 565 fils with razor thin volume. Al Ahli Bank took in 1 fil and Al Mutahed stood pat at 342 fils. Warba Bank eased 1 fil to 259 fils.

KIPCO was flat at 226 fils and Gulf Finance House ticked 0.2 fil up on back of 2.7 million shares. National Investment Co fell 2 fils to 131 fils whereas Coast Investment Co and Securities House paused at

39.9 fils and 49.5 fils respectively. Arzan eased 0.2 fil to 32.7 fils.

Kuwait Financial Centre (Markaz) was unchanged at 98 fils and Bayan Investment was down 4.8 fils at 44.1 fils. Aayan Investment tripped 1.5 fils after trading 13.9 million shares while FACIL ticked 1 fil into red. Al Mal Investment and NIH held ground at 13.3 fils and 70.4 fils respectively.

KMEFIC rose 1.4 fils to 44.4 fils and KFIC took in 0.5 fil. Unicap added 0.6 fil while Al Medina edged 0.4 fil higher to 18 fils. Al Deera Holding tripped 0.4 fil and Ektittab Holding closed flat at 14.8 fils.

Noor Financial Investment Co fell 2.6 fils to 93.8 fils after trading 2.2 million shares and Al Intiaz clipped 2 fils with heavy trading. KSHC took in 1.2 fils and Madar ticked 1 fil into red. Ahleia Insurance Co paused at 425 fils and Warba Insurance tripped 1.1 fils.

Mabaneer Co fell 3 fils to 783 fils and National Investment Co ticked 1 fil up on back of 3.3 million shares. United Real Estate was unchanged at 63.5 fils and Salhiya Real Estate added 2 fils. Al Aqaria and Mazaya Holding rose 1.5 fils on back of 1.3 million shares.

The bourse was mixed during the week. The main index closed higher in three of the five sessions trimming 3 points week-on-week. The main index has rallied 292 pts from start of the month and is trading 1,045 pts higher year-to-date. Boursa Kuwait, with 176 listed stocks, is the second largest market in the region.

Negative headlines boost safe haven debt

Eurozone govt bond yields drop again

LONDON, July 18, (RTRS): Eurozone government bond yields slipped back towards record lows on Thursday as economic indicators and corporate earnings deepened gloom on the global economy and increased bets on interest-rate cuts by major central banks.

Sliding Japanese exports, an unexpected rate cut in South Korea, weak results from trade-related CSX Corp and missed targets for Netflix made for bleak headlines that rippled through markets across the world.

This in turn boosted bets for further monetary policy easing from major central banks. The focus was on the US Federal Reserve, where speculation centres around whether rates will be cut by 25 basis points or 50 basis points in July.

A Reuters poll showed economists expect the Bank of Japan's next policy move will be a rate cut, too. Eurozone money markets show a September rate cut by the European Central Bank is fully priced in.

“The ECB will likely present a more dovish forward guidance next week, allowing rate expectations to move lower again,” said Mizuho strategist Peter Chatwell.

“However, despite the ECB's efforts, we strongly doubt that monetary stimulus will be effective in generating a sustained increase in inflation.”

German 10-year bond yields retreated below the -0.30% mark once again, off last week's high of -0.224%, ending a brief spell of optimism last week that led to this safe-haven debt's worst weekly selloff in

nearly 18 months.

Most other eurozone government bond yields were also 1 to 2 bps lower, having already dropped about 4 to 6 bps on Wednesday.

French 10-year government bond yields fell further into negative territory. They were last 2 bps lower at -0.056%, while the Belgian equivalent was heading towards zero.

France is set to tap its short-dated bonds later on Thursday in an auction. Spain will also hold a bond auction.

Some investors may be balking at the deeply sub-zero yields. An auction of German 30-year debt on Wednesday barely generated enough demand to cover the targeted size of 1 billion euros. Demand at a 10-year Bund auction last week fell short of the 4 billion-euro target.

| KAMCO Boursa Kuwait Daily Report | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Prepared by KAMCO Investment Research Department | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18-Jul-2019 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Index Returns & Market Capitalization | Value | Daily Point Change | Percentage Change | | | Trading Indicators | Value | Daily Point Change | Daily Percent Change | YTD Daily Average | | | |
| | | | DTD | MTD | YTD | | | | | | Volume (000 shares) | P/BV | S2 Week Price (xw) |
| Premier Market Index | 6,746.7 | -22.06 | -0.33% | 5.80% | 28.09% | 153,576 | -66.67 | -28.32% | 159,168 | | | | |
| Main Market Index | 4,900.9 | 8.19 | 0.17% | 2.82% | 3.42% | 27,692 | -6.62 | -19.39% | 33,622 | | | | |
| All Share Market Index | 6,124.63 | -12.25 | -0.20% | 5.02% | 22.16% | 6,866 | -1.539 | -18.31% | 5,999 | | | | |
| Market Cap (KWD Million) | 35,443.1 | -70.95 | -0.20% | 5.28% | 22.16% | | | | | | | | |
| | Close KWD | Vol Traded (000's) | Trades | Traded KWD (000) | Change in Price Daily (fil) | YTD (%) | Beta | Dividend Yield | P/E | P/BV | S2 Week Price (xw) | YTD Daily Avg. (000 shares) | |
| SENERGY | 0.021 | 3 | 1 | 0.1 | 0.00 | -31.8% | 1.42 | 0.00% | NM | 0.29 | 0.034 | 0.018 | 63.6 |
| IPG | 0.450 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 12.2% | 0.31 | 5.12% | 13.4 | 0.92 | 0.450 | 0.379 | 38.6 |
| NAPESCO | 1.020 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 10.9% | 0.19 | 6.66% | 8.6 | 3.21 | 1.170 | 0.731 | 5.1 |
| ENERGYH | 0.025 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | -32.5% | 0.89 | 0.00% | NM | 0.89 | 0.051 | 0.022 | 141.6 |
| GPI | 0.023 | 148 | 13 | 3.4 | 0.00 | -22.0% | 1.22 | 0.00% | NM | 0.25 | 0.033 | 0.021 | 3,879.2 |
| ABAR | 0.099 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 4.2% | NA | 0.00% | 7.7 | 0.38 | 0.123 | 0.080 | 8.3 |
| Oil & Gas | 150 | 14 | 3.4 | 7.1% | 4.56% | 15.4 | 0.90 | | | | | | 4,136 |
| KFOUC | 0.257 | 144 | 17 | 37.1 | -2.00 | 34.6% | 0.45 | 3.11% | 33.0 | 0.88 | 0.289 | 0.175 | 155.5 |
| BPCC | 0.901 | 128 | 45 | 116.0 | -5.00 | -7.6% | 0.75 | 5.40% | 45.7 | 1.66 | 1.090 | 0.903 | 269.0 |
| ALKOUT | 0.840 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0.0% | 0.05 | 5.95% | 13.5 | 2.72 | 0.840 | 0.342 | 0.0 |
| ALQURAIN | 0.355 | 97 | 21 | 34.5 | -1.00 | -1.4% | 0.68 | 4.27% | 8.6 | 1.01 | 0.415 | 0.321 | 424.4 |
| Basic Materials | 369 | 83 | 187.7 | -3.4% | 4.91% | 15.7 | 1.32 | | | | | | 849 |
| SPEC | 0.074 | 81 | 11 | 5.9 | -0.90 | 8.2% | 0.36 | 0.00% | 7.3 | 0.40 | 0.082 | 0.080 | 196.0 |
| KCEM | 0.290 | 99 | 19 | 28.2 | 6.00 | -23.5% | 0.44 | 5.03% | 33.2 | 1.06 | 0.399 | 0.327 | 20.1 |
| CABLE | 0.456 | 1,050 | 114 | 477.2 | 9.00 | 29.9% | 1.03 | 5.92% | 8.8 | 0.59 | 0.460 | 0.346 | 232.0 |
| SHIP | 0.415 | 4,291 | 432 | 1,781.6 | 9.00 | -3.9% | 0.48 | 7.23% | 7.2 | 1.27 | 0.538 | 0.350 | 381.8 |
| PCEM | 1.187 | 11 | 4 | 13.3 | -2.00 | 5.2% | 0.49 | 8.35% | 11.4 | 1.80 | 1.459 | 0.149 | 53.1 |
| PAPER | 0.165 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | -12.2% | 0.17 | 5.97% | 20.6 | 0.89 | 0.225 | 0.012 | 1.4 |
| MFC | 0.069 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 9.5% | NA | 0.00% | NM | 0.55 | 0.089 | 0.012 | 0.8 |
| ACICO | 0.131 | 15 | 3 | 2.0 | 0.00 | -21.6% | 0.43 | 3.80% | 43.9 | 0.41 | 0.240 | 0.150 | 106.8 |
| HCC | 0.118 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 5.4% | 0.12 | 0.00% | 16.7 | 0.81 | 0.146 | 0.067 | 5.9 |
| NICMB | 0.180 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | -10.0% | 0.18 | 5.35% | 14.6 | 0.80 | 0.202 | 0.160 | 21.1 |
| EQUIPMENT | 0.022 | 54 | 5 | 1.2 | -0.10 | -17.0% | 1.34 | 0.00% | NM | 0.50 | 0.033 | 0.025 | 230.9 |
| NCCI | 0.055 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 25.0% | NA | 0.00% | 50.1 | 0.61 | 0.070 | 0.035 | 2.4 |
| SALBOOKH | 0.043 | 258 | 13 | 10.9 | -0.30 | 7.0% | 0.75 | 0.00% | NM | 0.51 | 0.052 | 0.306 | 259.3 |
| AGLTY | 0.805 | 574 | 226 | 462.4 | -2.00 | 15.4% | 1.50 | 1.53% | 17.2 | 1.37 | 0.943 | 0.305 | 1,473.0 |
| EDU | 0.320 | 0 | 1 | 0.1 | 0.00 | 3.2% | 0.16 | 4.69% | 12.0 | 1.94 | 0.340 | 0.054 | 9.9 |
| CLEANING | 0.057 | 103 | 3 | 5.9 | 0.60 | -0.7% | 0.92 | 8.51% | 9.1 | 0.39 | 0.072 | 0.050 | 106.1 |
| KGL | 0.082 | 297 | 29 | 23.7 | 1.70 | -14.4% | 0.93 | 5.81% | 5.9 | 0.35 | 0.120 | 0.090 | 288.9 |
| KCPK | 0.205 | 0 | 3 | 0.1 | 0.00 | -10.9% | 0.34 | 9.43% | 8.1 | 0.92 | 0.260 | 0.190 | 16.2 |
| HUMANSOFT | 3.401 | 178 | 64 | 605.6 | 31.00 | 3.7% | 0.42 | 5.41% | 12.8 | 0.59 | 3.814 | 0.296 | 152.2 |
| GFC | 0.070 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0.0% | NA | 0.00% | NM | 0.83 | 0.250 | 0.011 | 0.1 |
| SHOOTING | 0.012 | 543 | 20 | 6.2 | 0.10 | -23.1% | 1.76 | 0.00% | NM | 0.18 | 0.018 | 0.015 | 297.2 |
| CGC | 0.247 | 9,628 | 710 | 2,366.2 | 6.00 | -22.8% | 0.03 | 8.07% | 7.5 | 0.83 | 0.430 | 0.295 | 673.0 |
| UPAC | 0.440 | 1 | 5 | 0.4 | 18.00 | -30.7% | 0.02 | 3.68% | 7.6 | 1.00 | 0.690 | 0.217 | 6.5 |
| ALAFCO | 0.298 | 2,848 | 246 | 854.1 | 5.00 | -14.6% | 0.38 | 3.36% | 16.6 | 0.90 | 0.372 | 0.054 | 798.5 |
| MUBARRAD | 0.062 | 527 | 23 | 32.0 | -0.60 | -4.8% | 0.85 | 7.94% | 6.3 | 0.50 | 0.080 | 0.038 | 441.3 |
| LOGISTICS | 0.042 | 13,954 | 301 | 581.2 | 2.10 | 5.0% | 0.80 | 0.00% | 5.6 | 0.31 | 0.046 | 0.040 | 2,017.8 |
| INTEGRATED | 0.594 | 75 | 40 | 44.2 | -1.00 | -29.3% | 0.19 | 6.73% | 8.6 | 1.88 | 0.790 | 0.720 | 233.4 |
| SCEM | 0.068 | 9 | 4 | 0.6 | 2.50 | -22.3% | 0.43 | 11.85% | 27.5 | 0.35 | 0.087 | 0.052 | 16.2 |
| GCEM | 0.057 | 293 | 27 | 16.2 | 2.10 | -15.9% | 0.43 | 14.01% | NM | 0.54 | 0.079 | 0.058 | 58.3 |
| QIC | 0.079 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 18.8% | 0.23 | 8.86%</ | | | | | |