

## Singapore Hot Stocks-IPOs Mercator and KTL Global in focus

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SINGAPORE, Dec 14 (Reuters) - [Mercator Lines \(Singapore\)](#) and KTL Global may be in focus after they make their trading debut at 9 a.m. on Friday. Mercator raised S\$205.3 million in its initial public offering while KTL raised S\$11.2 million.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose on Thursday after economic bellwether [Honeywell International](#) raised its profit forecast, offsetting doubts about whether a global plan to thaw credit markets could work.

Stocks and factors to watch.

- Indian shipping firm [Mercator Lines \(Singapore\)](#) will start trade at 9 a.m. after fetching S\$0.76 per share at its initial public offering. [ID:nSNCD11531]
- Rigging equipment firm KTL Global will commence trade at 9 a.m. after fetching S\$0.28 per share in its initial public offering which was approximately 11.2 times subscribed. [ID:nSNCD30971]
- ElectroTech Investments , a manufacturer of electronic components, has issued a profit warning for its 2007 results, citing a decline in orders for mobile phone keypads and slower sales for its office automation products. [ID:nSP46430]
- [Deutsche Bank](#) has raised its target price for shares of Singapore Exchange to S\$18.00 from S\$7.50 and kept its "buy" rating on the stock, citing a robust outlook for transaction turnover and the possibility of mergers and acquisitions in the industry. [ID:nSGC001527]
- Construction firm [Koh Brothers](#) Group said it has won a S\$78.9 million contract (\$55 million) from the government to build a local school and a hostel. The project is expected to be completed by August 2009. [ID:nSNCD61291]
- Chinese shipbuilding firm Yangzijiang Shipbuilding said it has increased its investment in one of its units by 512.6 million yuan (\$70 million). The additional investment will be funded by cash. [ID:nSNCD41471]
- Real estate firm ARA Asset Management posted a 22 percent gain in net profit to S\$3.7 million for its third quarter ending September 30. Revenue was up 27 percent to S\$9.4 million. [ID:nSNCD51483]
- [Singapore Airlines](#) reiterated it has not bid for Alitalia , denying comments by the ailing Italian carrier that it is part of a consortium that has expressed bidding interest. [ID:nSP22579]

- [Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing](#) reiterated its fourth-quarter outlook of net profit in the range of \$1 million to \$11 million on revenue of \$334 million to \$346 million.

[ID:nWNAS4584]

- Singapore's politicians, already among the best paid in the world, will get a salary hike next year with Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong enjoying a 21 percent rise to S\$3.76 million (\$2.61 million), state radio said. [ID:nSIN214818]

- Singapore's Straits Times Index <.STI> slipped 1.97 percent to 3,479.31 points on Thursday.

- The Dow Jones Industrial Average <.DJI> rose 0.33 percent to end at 13,517.96. The Nasdaq Composite Index <.IXIC> lost 0.10 percent to 2,668.49. (Reporting by Melanie Lee; editing by Kevin Lim)