

Key Global Indices

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	Last Close	1D% Chg	5D% Chg	1M% Chg	1Y% Chg		Last Close	1D% Chg	5D% Chg	1M% Chg	1Y% Chg
FTSE 100	7,323.8	↑ 0.2%	-0.6%	2.4%	4.6%	S&P 500	3,120.2	↓ -0.1%	0.9%	4.5%	16.0%
FTSE 250	20,528.5	↑ 0.4%	0.5%	1.5%	10.7%	DJIA	27,934.0	↓ -0.4%	0.9%	4.3%	11.7%
DJSTOXX 50	3,333.0	↓ -0.2%	-0.5%	3.6%	15.0%	Nasdaq	8,570.7	↑ 0.2%	1.0%	5.9%	21.9%
FTSEurofirst 300	1,587.6	↓ -0.1%	-0.5%	3.4%	13.5%	Nikkei 225*	23,103.2	↓ -0.8%	-1.0%	3.6%	6.7%
German DAX 30	13,221.1	↑ 0.1%	-0.5%	4.7%	17.6%	Shanghai Composite*	2,923.0	↓ -0.4%	0.2%	-0.1%	8.5%
France CAC 40	5,909.1	↓ -0.3%	-0.2%	4.8%	18.5%	DJIA at London close	27,965.0				*Time - GMT 4:30

FTSE 100



UK Market Snapshot

UK markets finished higher yesterday, supported by gains in financial and mining sector stocks. Halma soared 8.5%, after the company reported a rise in its interim revenue and pretax profit. easyJet climbed 5.3%, after it forecasted annual adjusted pretax profit to be at the upper end of its previous guidance. HomeServe advanced 4.8%, after announcing the acquisition of a majority stake in US-based home expert business, eLocal, for about \$140.0 million. Intertek Group jumped 3.7%, following a rating upgrade on the stock to 'Buy' from 'Hold'. Meggitt rose 1.2%, after the company won a six-year contract from the US Defense Logistics Agency to supply fuel bladders for military aircrafts. On the flipside, Equiniti Group plunged 13.4%, after it forecasted annual underlying earnings to be at the lower end of market expectations. The FTSE 100 advanced 0.2%, to close at 7,323.8, while the FTSE 250 rose 0.4%, to end at 20,528.5.

DJIA



US Market Snapshot

US markets closed mostly lower yesterday, led by losses in retail and industrial sector stocks. Kohl's tanked 19.5%, after it reported lower than expected revenue and profit in the third quarter and lowered its annual earnings outlook. Home Depot dropped 5.4%, after the retailer's third quarter same-store sales missed market expectations. Boeing fell 0.7%, after the National Transportation Safety Board recommended the company to redesign the 737 aircraft's engine structure and its components. On the contrary, Broadcom gained 2.1%, after a top broker raised its target price on the stock to \$367.0 from \$298.0 and upgraded its rating to 'Overweight' from 'Equal Weight'. TJX rose 1.8%, after it reported better than anticipated revenue and earnings for the third quarter and lifted its annual earnings forecast. The S&P 500 slipped 0.1%, to settle at 3,120.2. The DJIA fell 0.4%, to settle at 27,934.0, while the NASDAQ added 0.2%, to close at 8,570.7.

DJ Euro STOXX50



Europe Market Snapshot

European markets finished mostly lower yesterday, weighed down by losses in technology and utilities sector stocks. Utilities companies, Iberdrola, E.ON and RWE dropped 0.2%, 0.6% and 0.8%, respectively. Chipmakers, Infineon Technologies, STMicroelectronics and ASM International declined 0.2%, 0.9% and 1.8%, respectively. Sonova Holding plummeted 8.2%. The Swiss hearing aid maker raised its annual sales and profit guidance, following higher than expected interim net income. On the contrary, TLG Immobilien advanced 4.3%, after the company agreed to be acquired by Luxembourg-based real estate firm, Aroundtown, for €3.1 billion. Julius Baer Group rose 0.3%, after the Swiss private banking group posted a jump in its assets under management for the first ten months of 2019. The FTSEurofirst 300 index slipped 0.1%, to settle at 1,587.6. The German DAX Xetra rose 0.1%, to settle at 13,221.1, while the French CAC-40 shed 0.3%, to close at 5,909.1.

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Asia Market Snapshot

Markets in Asia are trading lower this morning. In Japan, T&D Holdings and JGC Holdings have declined 3.8% and 4.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, Rakuten and Casio Computer have risen 2.2% and 2.5%, respectively. In Hong Kong, AIA Group and WH Group have fallen 1.7% and 3.4%, respectively. Meanwhile, China Resources Land and AAC Technologies Holdings have added 1.2% and 2.7%, respectively. In South Korea, SK Hynix and E-MART have dropped 2.7% and 3.0%, respectively. Meanwhile, Shinhan Financial Group and KB Financial Group have gained 0.9% and 2.2%, respectively. The Nikkei 225 index is trading 0.8% lower at 23,103.2. The Hang Seng index is trading 0.6% down at 26,924.2, while the Kospi index is trading 1.1% lower at 2,128.7.

Key Corporate Releases Today

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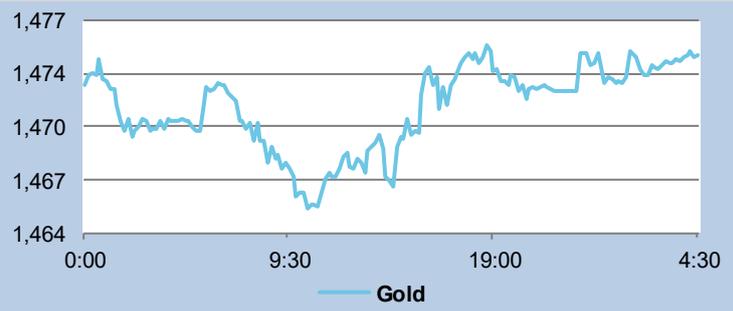
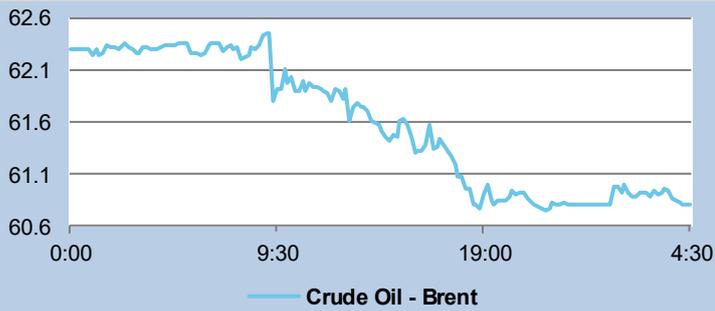
UK

Company Name	Results	Currency	Full Year Consensus	
			Estimated EPS	Estimated Revenue (Mn)
Babcock International Group Plc	Interim	GBP	0.72	4,892.50
SSP Group Plc	Final	GBP	0.29	2,775.57
Mitchells & Butlers Plc	Final	GBP	0.37	2,231.23
Sage Group Plc/The	Final	GBP	0.30	1,943.63
United Utilities Group Plc	Interim	GBP	0.57	1,868.75
Inmarsat Plc	Q3	GBP	0.14	1,414.00
Cambria Automobiles Plc	Final	GBP	0.10	665.00
Intermediate Capital Group Plc	Interim	GBP	0.91	587.75
U & I Group Plc	Interim	GBP	-	130.00
Liontrust Asset Management Plc	Interim	GBP	0.57	108.00
Alpha Financial Markets Consulting Plc	Interim	GBP	0.14	92.10
Rambler Metals and Mining Plc	Q3	CAD	(0.01)	41.60
CML Microsystems Plc	Interim	GBP	0.13	28.00
Argentex Group Plc	Interim	GBP	0.07	27.70
C4X Discovery Holdings Plc	Final	GBP	(0.20)	(13.60)
HICL Infrastructure Co Ltd	Interim	GBP	-	-
Creighton's Plc	Interim	GBP	-	-
Falanx Group Ltd	Interim	GBP	-	-
Metalnrg Plc	Interim	GBP	-	-

Note: All Estimates are for Full Year

Commodity, Currency and Bitcoin

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Commodity

- At 0430GMT today, Brent crude oil one month futures contract is trading 0.18% or \$0.11 lower at \$60.80 per barrel, ahead of the Energy Information Administration's weekly oil inventory data, scheduled to be released later today. Yesterday, the contract declined 2.45% or \$1.53, to settle at \$60.91 per barrel, after the American Petroleum Institute reported that the US crude stockpiles rose by 6.0 million barrels for the week ended 15 November 2019.
- At 0430GMT today, Gold futures contract is trading marginally higher at \$1474.80 per ounce. Yesterday, the contract climbed 0.16% or \$2.40, to settle at \$1474.30 per ounce, after the US President Donald Trump threatened to increase tariffs on Chinese imports, if no deal is reached between the two countries.



Currency

- At 0430GMT today, the EUR is trading marginally lower against the USD at \$1.1074. Investors await the US FOMC meeting minutes, scheduled later today. Yesterday, the EUR strengthened 0.05% versus the USD, to close at \$1.1078, after the Euro-zone construction output advanced as expected in September, whereas the region's current account surplus narrowed less than anticipated in the same month. In other economic news, the US building permits surprisingly rose to its highest level since May 2007 in October, whereas housing starts advanced in the same month.
- At 0430GMT today, the GBP is trading 0.12% lower against the USD at \$1.2911. Yesterday, the GBP weakened 0.21% versus the USD, to close at \$1.2926.



Bitcoin

- At 0430GMT today, BTC is trading 0.14% higher against the USD at \$8119.66. Yesterday, BTC declined 1.35% against the USD to close at \$8108.09. In major news, Fidelity Digital Asset Services has secured a trust company charter from the New York Department of Financial Services, allowing it to offer wider crypto-related services to institutional clients. In a key development, blockchain company, Bison Trails has raised \$25.5 million in a Series A funding led by Blockchain Capital to expand its offerings.

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FTSE All Share Index- Performance

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UK Top Sector Performers

Sector	Current Price	1D Change	1D (%) Change	1M (%) Change	1Y (%) Change
Electronic & Electrical Equipment	8337.76	450.04	5.7%	14.1%	39.5%
Industrial Engineering	12863.41	218.42	1.7%	11.9%	16.4%
Chemicals	13067.65	165.17	1.3%	5.2%	-5.7%
Industrial Metals	3373.50	39.54	1.2%	-2.2%	-33.5%
Financial Services	11943.74	114.04	1.0%	2.3%	26.3%

UK Worst Sector Performers

Sector	Current Price	1D Change	1D (%) Change	1M (%) Change	1Y (%) Change
Automobiles & Parts	4485.91	-125.13	-2.7%	4.4%	-41.0%
Electricity	7702.56	-130.89	-1.7%	0.3%	14.2%
Oil Equipment & Services	7804.73	-103.54	-1.3%	0.0%	-38.9%
Food Producers	7599.36	-78.86	-1.0%	5.1%	3.5%
Fixed Line Telecommunications	2233.75	-22.55	-1.0%	-7.1%	-24.2%

Key Economic News

Euro-zone current account surplus dropped in September

In the Euro-zone, the seasonally adjusted current account surplus fell to €28.00 billion in September, compared to a revised current account surplus of €29.00 billion in the previous month. Markets were anticipating the region to post a current account surplus of €24.50 billion.

Euro-zone construction output rose as expected in September

In the Euro-zone, the seasonally adjusted construction output recorded a rise of 0.70% on a MoM basis in September, at par with market expectations. Construction output had registered a revised drop of 0.80% in the previous month.

US housing starts rose in October

In the US, housing starts rose to an annual rate of 1314.00 K on a MoM basis in October, compared to market expectations of 1318.00 K. Housing starts had registered a revised to a level of 1266.00 K in the prior month.

US building permits surprisingly advanced in October

In the US, building permits unexpectedly rose by 5.00% to an annual rate of 1461.00 K, on a MoM basis in October, compared to a revised to a level of 1391.00 K in the previous month. Market anticipation was for building permits to ease to a level of 1381.00 K.

Canadian house price index dropped in October

In Canada, the house price index fell 0.05% on a MoM basis in October. The index had advanced 0.09% in the previous month.

Share Tips, Bids and Rumours

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- [The Daily Telegraph \(Questor share tips\)](#): “Hold” Franchise Brands; “Buy” Breedon Group.
- [The Times \(Tempus share tips\)](#): “Buy” Halma; “Avoid” Rathbone Brothers.
- [The Times](#): Homeserve said that it was acquiring 79% of the Philadelphia-based Elocal as part of its strategy to expand and extend its “local experts” division.
- [Financial Times](#): Private equity owner TA Associates has hired Goldman Sachs to explore a sale of Russell Investments.
- [Financial Times](#): The \$4 billion Chinese facial recognition company Megvii is planning to seek approval for a listing in Hong Kong.
- [Financial Times](#): A U.K.-listed cyber security company Kape is to buy a U.S. rival LTMI, owner of Private Internet Access, in the virtual private network market in a \$128 million deal that will double its size.
- [Financial Times \(Comment\)](#): How Riyadh’s Saudi Aramco ambitions were thwarted.

Newspaper Summary

The Times

Andrea Leadsom ready to clear Cobham takeover by Advent International: The £4 billion takeover of Cobham by an American private equity group is back on track after the business secretary said she is minded to clear the deal.

Arconic says French law bars it from releasing documents on Grenfell Tower cladding: The American maker of the flammable cladding panels used on Grenfell Tower has claimed that it cannot release documents about them to a U.S. court because of a French law limiting disclosure in foreign courts.

US prosecutors turn up heat on Wework: New York’s top prosecutor is investigating the owner of Wework, the beleaguered office space provider, amid concerns about the business dealings of its former head.

Gloucester shopping centre is big deal for city council: Gloucester city council has bought a local retail park for £54 million, almost four times its net annual budget.

Uber partly to blame for self-driving car’s fatal crash: Uber lacked an effective safety culture when one of its autonomous vehicles killed a woman last year, an investigation has concluded.

Bentley Motors ordered to pay costs in brand battle: Bentley Motors has been ordered to pay a family-run clothing company more than £400,000 in legal costs after it was found to have infringed its trademarks.

Boeing lands orders for 60 737 Max jets at Dubai Airshow: Boeing has won orders for 60 of its 737 Max jets at the Dubai Airshow, suggesting that airlines are confident it will soon return to the skies.

Intermediate Capital wins £4 billion in new investment: A strong first half in which it won more than £4 billion of investment mandates has prompted Intermediate Capital to lift its key margin target.

Dialight counts cost of factories switch: A second profit warning in just over four months darkened the mood around an industrial lighting company, sending its shares to a nine-year low.

Flooding leads to sinking feeling at Polypipe: One of Britain’s biggest building materials suppliers has issued a profit warning, blaming a Brexit-driven slowdown in construction and the impact of flooding in the north and the Midlands.

HSBC closes account for Hong Kong protest link: A customer corporate account held at HSBC that helped to fund protest-related activities in Hong Kong is being shut down. The bank moved to close the account after discovering that it was being used contrary to its initial documentation, according to reports.

Mandates boost L&G’s case for debt: Legal & General has pulled in another £23 billion of investment mandates since June, but sales of equity release mortgages have faltered.

It’s game on as Google enters fray: Google has gone into the \$140 billion video

gaming industry with a service that allows users to stream games straight to a device of their choice in what is being called “Netflix for gaming”.

US is the latest market Homeserve checks out: The company behind Checkatrade has doubled down on its bet to create a worldwide platform matching local tradespeople with householders by making a \$140 million acquisition in the United States.

Halma has safety in numbers like these: If Halma had the secret of its success locked away in a deposit box at head office, it would have to guard it extremely carefully. The FTSE 100 company in the business of all things related to safety delivered its latest set of record results, prompting a round of analyst upgrades and a surge in its share price of as much as 12.5%.

Equiniti is source of unease as corporate demand falls: There was no mistaking the disappointment that greeted a profit warning from Equiniti. Shares in the outsourcer fell deep into the red, despite its insistence that it was “well positioned” to deal with its problems.

The Independent

Jamie Oliver’s restaurant empire plots international expansion, months after U.K. chain’s collapse: Jamie Oliver’s restaurant empire is launching an international expansion just months after the collapse of the TV chef’s U.K. business.

UCL strike: Hundreds of outsourced cleaners, porters and security guards protest to demand better conditions:

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Hundreds outsourced cleaners, porters and security staff at University College London went on strike demanding equal employment rights and demanding an end to "bullying and intimidation".

Financial Times

Tesla set to make world's biggest battery even bigger: The world's biggest lithium-ion battery is about to get even bigger after its Australian operators decided to expand in a bid to stabilise the nation's fragile electricity grid.

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Westpac accused of 23 million anti-money laundering violations: Australia's financial crime fighting agency has accused Westpac of breaching anti-money laundering laws on more than 23 million occasions and failing to adequately monitor suspicious transactions related to potential child exploitation in south-east Asia.

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Fidelity wins bitcoin trading and custody licence in NY: Fidelity has been granted a trust licence to offer trading and custody of bitcoin by the New York State Department of Financial Services, as the asset management group continues to woo cautious institutional investors into the "Wild West" of digital assets.

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TSB missed chances to avoid last year's IT meltdown: TSB repeatedly missed opportunities that could have helped the U.K. bank avoid an IT meltdown last year that affected millions of customers and cost it more than £350 million, according to a long-awaited independent report into the fiasco.

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Fidelity manager overseeing Uber and WeWork stakes departs: A Fidelity executive overseeing private investments is leaving to launch his own fund as valuations of some of the mutual fund manager's high-profile positions, such as WeWork and Uber, have tumbled.

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WeWork effect hits IPO pricing as investors revolt: Wall Street banks have started to cut the prices of initial public

offerings after WeWork's botched debut sent a shockwave through the U.S. market for new listings.

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Asset manager Russell Investments put up for sale: Private equity owner TA Associates has hired Goldman Sachs to explore a sale of Russell Investments, putting the \$293 billion asset manager on the block as part of a wave of consolidation in the fund management industry, according to people briefed on the matter.

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TSB lacked 'common sense' before IT glitch, says report: An investigation into last year's IT meltdown at TSB has concluded that the bank's board of directors failed to show "common sense" in the run-up to the doomed upgrade, said people briefed on the report.

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NHS to cover doctors' tax to avert winter staff crisis: Senior doctors in England will have their tax bills covered by the National Health Service this winter after a pension tax crisis threatened to exacerbate treatment delays.

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Boeing to redesign 737NG engine cover after fatal accident: U.S. safety regulators have called on Boeing to redesign the protective covering of engines on its older 737 aircraft to prevent a repeat of the fatal accident last year in which a Southwest Airlines passenger was pulled through a window damaged by shattered cowling.

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ArcelorMittal's Italian offices raided by police: Police have raided steelmaker ArcelorMittal's offices in Italy as part of an investigation into the company's Ilva plant just weeks after the group prompted a political crisis in Rome for saying it would pull out of the country.

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Grenfell cladding manufacturer declines to release documents: The U.S. metals group Arconic is declining to release documents about flammable cladding used on the Grenfell tower to a U.S. court hearing a lawsuit from survivors and

victims' families, citing a French law limiting disclosure in foreign courts, which it has also invoked in the U.K. public inquiry.

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Tata Steel plans to cut 3,000 jobs in Europe: Tata Steel is planning to cut 3,000 jobs across its European operations as the company wrestles with "unprecedented" market conditions.

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U.K. government set to approve Cobham takeover by Advent: Boris Johnson's government plans to wave through the acquisition of Cobham, the U.K. aerospace and defence supplier, by U.S. buyout group Advent International on condition that the new owner strengthens security around sensitive sites and informs the Ministry of Defence of any plans to sell the business.

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Conservative party's 'factcheckUK' Twitter stunt backfires: The Conservatives party was accused of duping the public last night after rebranding one of its official Twitter accounts as "factcheckUK" during the first big televised debate of the election.

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SoftBank in talks to take over KPMG Mayfair club: SoftBank is in advanced talks to take over KPMG's contentious private club in London after regulators raised concerns that the accounting firm was handing out memberships as perks to audit clients.

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U.S. food groups take plant-based burgers to China: U.S. meat substitute companies Impossible Foods and Beyond Meat have set their sights on China, the world's biggest consumer of meat, where urbanisation, population growth and higher incomes are accelerating demand for proteins.

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Kroger partners with German vertical farm start-up Infarm: Infarm, the Berlin-based vertical farming start-up, is entering the U.S. market by partnering with Kroger, a leading grocery retailer.

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TJ Maxx owner invests \$225 million in Russian retailer Familia: TJX Cos said that it had acquired a 25% stake in Russian low-cost clothing retailer Familia for \$225 million, the first major M&A purchase in Russia by a western company since the U.S. and EU sanctioned Moscow in 2014.

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Manchester City scores record £535.2 million revenues: Manchester City has posted record revenues after the English football club won all major domestic competitions last season, including the Premier League.

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AO World ditches Dutch arm to focus on U.K. and Germany: Online electrical goods retailer AO World plans to close its operations in the Netherlands to focus on improving profitability in Germany and expanding in the U.K., sending its share price sharply higher.

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EasyJet plans to offset carbon emissions from all its flights: EasyJet has unveiled plans to become the first big airline to operate net-zero carbon flights across its network, as the industry comes under increasing pressure from climate change activists to reduce emissions.

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Megvii plan for IPO signals show of confidence in Hong Kong: The \$4 billion Chinese facial recognition company Megvii is planning to seek approval for a listing in Hong Kong, joining Alibaba in defying the political chaos in the region to come to market.

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Teddy Sagi's Kape to buy U.S. rival LTMi: A U.K.-listed cyber security company owned by Israeli billionaire Teddy Sagi is to buy a U.S. rival in the virtual private network market in a \$128 million deal that will double its size.

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Samsung chases Apple's \$50 billion-a-year lead in services: Samsung, the world's largest smartphone maker, wants to emulate Apple's success in building a \$50 billion-a-year services business as the rapid

growth of smartphone sales begins to tail off.

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Indian telecoms groups signal end of price war: India's three leading telecoms groups have revealed plans to raise tariffs, signalling a truce in a painful price war that has destroyed profits and pushed several operators out of the market.

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Atlantia pulls out of Alitalia rescue deal: Atlantia, the Rome-based infrastructure and toll road company, has pulled out from being part of a consortium to invest in Alitalia, Italy's ailing national carrier which has been administered by the state for the last two years.

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Lex:

Home Depot/Kohl's: the sharper tool: Gap between retail winners and losers will widen as the holiday season begins.

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Halma: health warning: Investors would do better to double check their risk assessments on this one.

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Tech start-ups: the WeWork non-effect: As long as global interest rates remain ultra-low, funds will keep arriving.

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Lombard:

Twitter a test of character for banks like TSB: Banks could do without customers sharing bad news. Especially challenger banks. Overend Gurney's attempt to move into riskier railway lending in 1866 was undone when depositors passed round a newspaper sketch of panic at its Lombard Street offices. Northern Rock's ability to compete in the mortgage market ended in 2007 when pensioners fretted over TV reports of queues for withdrawals. TSB's bid to become a digitally savvy rival to the big banks in 2018 collapsed into an IT meltdown as reports of crashing apps went viral on Twitter... just as its Chief Executive was trying to reassure a roomful of smartphone-wielding MPs.

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The Daily Telegraph

How the wheels came off legendary trucking business Eddie Stobart: Spotting Eddie Stobart lorries: it's a quintessentially British pastime. For outsiders, the public's love of the green and white livery is something of a head scratcher - not unlike the pickle the Aim-quoted company has found itself in.

Labour has fallen in love with the German economic model, but it cannot be grafted here: The Shadow Chancellor has imported the German 'Rhineland Model' wholesale to Labour headquarters, shorn of its anthropological context as if were an off the shelf commodity.

'Birth rate' of businesses is flagging as entrepreneurs get cold feet: Politicians of all hues have been making their pitch for the business vote this week, but worrying official figures show a smaller share of would-be entrepreneurs are willing to take the plunge.

No-deal Brexit 'fog' lifts for U.K. manufacturers: Boris Johnson's Brexit deal has helped clear the "thick fog of uncertainty" for Britain's ailing manufacturers but their prospects remain "precarious" as the global economy struggles, the CBI warned.

AO World plots smartphone war with Dixons Carphone: The head of white goods seller AO.com is banking on its mobile phone business to boost sales and take on rivals such as Dixons Carphone after pulling the plug on its Netherlands operation.

Aviva head Maurice Tulloch urged to end investors' confusion over strategy: Pressure is mounting on Aviva head Maurice Tulloch as he prepares to face investors for the first time amid a growing clamour for a change of strategy.

Amazon and eBay putting children at risk by failing to take down 'toxic' toys, claims report: Amazon and eBay are putting children at risk by failing to stop the public listing of "toxic" toys that have been declared dangerous, according to a new report.

Revolut blocks online fetish performers from using banking app: Digital banking app Revolut is scrambling to block

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payments to online fetish performers after winning popularity in an unlikely quarter for its speedy systems.

The Questor Column:

Questor: ambitious growth plans and a healthy balance sheet make Franchise Brands a hold: A solid trading update and an earnings-enhancing acquisition last month have got us off to a good start with Franchise Brands. The shares have risen by 28% since our initial analysis in August and there could be more to come. Franchise Brands has paid a maximum of £12.5 million in cash and stock for Willow, a water pumps and drainage specialist, which will add to the range of services offered by the MetroRod and MetroPlumb operations, enhancing their long-term growth prospects and therefore the fee income paid by franchisees to Franchise Brands itself. The businesses are already going well. The trading update said that sales had increased by 15% at MetroRod and that franchisees continued to join. Meanwhile, Franchise Brands has so far added 54 franchisees to its ChipsAway, Barking Mad and OvenClean operations. The firm is still in the early stages of development so won't be suitable for all investors by any means, especially as its shares trade on a pretty racy forecast earnings multiple of 26 and yield less than 1%. It is still early days, but Franchise Brands appears to be on the right track. Questor says, "Hold".

Daily Mail

Aston Martin pins revival hopes on £158k family SUV after last year's disastrous stock market float: The 106-year-old car maker will unveil the DBX, which it is aiming at families but can go from zero to 62 mph in 4.5 seconds, at simultaneous events in China and the US.

Bargain designer clothing chain TK Maxx bucks the High St gloom with a 6% rise in sales: American parent company TJX International, which includes Europe and Australia, upgraded forecasts in a third-

quarter earnings update as it brushed off Brexit uncertainty.

G4S facing the boot from FTSE ethical list after being blacklisted by Norway's state wealth fund: The security services group has been a member of the FTSE 4 Good Index - run by the London Stock Exchange Group's FTSE Russell subsidiary - for the past three years.

Easyjet rakes in £1.4 billion on extra charges over the past year after introducing 'surge pricing': The budget airline said its 'ancillary revenues' jumped by almost 14% in the year to the end of September. Surge pricing ramps up the cost of booking a seat during busy periods.

Lloyd's of London plasters local pubs with posters urging workers to report incidents of sexual harassment: The business, one of the City's grandest institutions, said advertisements and banners for its #Speakup campaign will also be displayed 'prominently' in its own Lime Street building.

The Scottish Herald

Macdonald Hotels sells Rusacks in St Andrews and Randolph in Oxford as proposed blockbuster deal for 27 properties is scrapped: Macdonald Hotels is selling its Rusacks property in St Andrews and the Randolph in Oxford, with a previously planned deal to dispose of 27 properties no longer going ahead.

Profit up at dairy firm Graham's on natural protein demand: Graham's the Family Dairy has reported a surge in annual pre-tax profits to £2.2 million, from an underlying £1.3 million, boosted by successful diversification into protein-rich, dairy-based products such as yoghurt.

First look: Inside Scottish rocket factory: Orbex, the private space company, has allowed cameras into its working rocket factory in Scotland for the first time.

EY points to Scottish arm as U.K. fees rise: Accountancy business EY has highlighted its continued investment in its Scottish practice as it unveiled small increases in turnover and profits in the last financial year.

Aberdeen coffee house showcases work of independent roasters: A start-up that showcases the products of independent coffee roasters has opened an outlet in Aberdeen.

The Scotsman

Edinburgh Trams chair named head of West Lothian Chamber of Commerce: West Lothian Chamber of Commerce has named the current chair of Edinburgh Trams as its new Chief Executive.

Commercial property: Alchemist in the mix at St James: The Alchemist cocktail bar and restaurant chain is to make its Scottish debut next year in a 5,700sq ft site in Edinburgh St James, the £1 billion mixed-use development in the city centre.

Scotland's first business 'decelerator' to awaken generation of Elon Musk innovators: Scotland's first "business decelerator" is set to take place this weekend in a bid to "inspire creativity and breakthrough innovation".

Spirits group Gordon & MacPhail tops up top and bottom lines: Single malt scotch whisky specialist Gordon & MacPhail has seen a top-up of its sales and profits as it progresses its planned growth strategy, including its proposed new whisky distillery in Speyside, as it looks to up headcount.

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