

Bulletin Today

BURSA MALAYSIA

Index	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg
FBM-KLCI	1,604.25	1.10	0.07
Volume: Total (mil):	3,191.82	649.59	25.55
Total Value (RM ¹ mil):	2,963.56	589.45	24.83
Gainers	590		
Losers	480		
Unchanged	495		

TRADE STATISTICS

Participation	Bought	Sold	Net
43.41 Institution	1,514	1,059	454
19.67 Retail	563	603	(39)
36.92 Foreign	887	1,301	(415)
100.00	2,964	2,964	0

FTSE-BURSA MALAYSIA

Index	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg
FBM 70	17,918.91	28.06	0.16
FBM 100	11,887.55	11.18	0.09
FBM Palm Oil - NC	12,190.80	(120.77)	(0.98)
FBM Smallcap	17,284.39	171.77	1.00
FBM Emas	12,190.97	20.02	0.16
FBM Fledgling	19,690.40	57.54	0.29

WORLD

Index	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg
Dow Jones	44,722	(138)	(0.31)
Nasdaq	19,060	(115)	(0.60)
FTSE 100	8,275	16	0.20
Nikkei 225	38,135	(307)	(0.80)
Hang Seng	19,603	444	2.32
Korea Kospi	2,503	(17)	(0.69)
Singapore STI	3,708	(4)	(0.12)
Thailand SET	1,430	(8)	(0.55)
Jakarta	7,246	(68)	(0.93)
Shanghai	3,310	50	1.53
Shenzhen	1,997	41	2.07

KLCI FUTURES

Index	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg	Volume
FBM-KLCI	1,604.25	1.10	0.07	177m
FKLI - Nov 24	1,602.00	(0.50)	(0.03)	32,682
FKLI - Dec 24	1,605.00	(2.00)	(0.12)	33,211
FKLI - Mar 25	1,595.00	(3.00)	(0.19)	109
FKLI - Jun 25	1,604.00	(1.50)	(0.09)	57

FOREX & COMMODITIES

	Closing	Pts Chg	% Chg
CPO Futures (Feb)	4,798.00	63.00	1.33
Brent (USD/b)	72.83	0.02	0.03
Gold (USD/Ounce)	2,636.02	2.87	0.11
USD/RM	4.4438	(0.0140)	(0.31)
SGD/RM	3.3085	0.0007	0.02
JPY/RM	2.9404	0.0288	0.99

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The Dow fell 138.25 points or 0.3% to 44,722.06, while the Nasdaq closed down 115.10 points or 0.6% to 19,060.48
ABLE GLOBAL BHD – 3QCY24: BUY, TP: RM2.75
AWC BHD – 1QFY25: Recommendation and TP under review
- ◆ DOSM: Malaysia's producer price index continues to fall to 2.4% Y-o-Y in October
- ◆ U.S. 3Q2024 GDP growth unrevised at 2.8% Y-o-Y
- ◆ U.S. consumer price growth matches estimates in October
- ◆ U.S. weekly jobless claims unexpectedly edge lower once again
- ◆ Binastra clinches RM67.6m sewage treatment contract
- ◆ JF Tech plans RM46.4m private placement to fund new investment and capital expenditure
- ◆ Citaglobal firms-up collaboration to develop eco-friendly industrial park, proposes 1-for-5 bonus warrants
- ◆ Meta Bright partners with Tunas Manja on rooftop solar PV installations
- ◆ BHIC to sell 51% stake in former LCS subcontractor to Rheinmetall, recognising RM14.8m loss on disposal
- ◆ AMMB lifts dividend payout sharply as 2QFY25 net profit rises 6.6% Y-o-Y
- ◆ Kerjaya Prospek declares special dividend following a 29.6% Y-o-Y jump in profit for 3QCY24
- ◆ Chin Hin's 3QCY24 net profit more-than-doubled with newly-acquired subsidiaries

THE SLANT

- ◆ The FBM KLCI sustained its recovery for a third day but surrendered most of its intraday gains to settle with just minor gains at the close. Much of the activities, however, were in the broader market as the lower liner indices tipped higher on the return of mild buying interest. Nevertheless, these indices also surrendered most of their intraday gains on quick profit taking actions as traded volumes picked up to above 3.0b units. Meanwhile, market breadth turned positive for the day.
- ◆ Near-term market conditions are likely to remain mildly positive as the key index attempts to solidify its position above the 200-day moving average line and psychological level of 1,600 points. There also appears to be continuing mild bargain hunting that could provide support to the market. However, the upsides could also stay relatively modest as market players continue to monitor the spate of corporate results ahead of the month-end deadline. At the same time, foreign institution's interest on Bursa Malaysia stocks is still tepid, particularly among foreign institutions, thereby limiting the upside potential with the FBM KLCI's immediate targets staying at 1,608-1,612 levels, followed by the 1,620 levels. The supports, meanwhile, are at the 1,600 and 1,595 levels respectively.

- ◆ Despite the strengthening lower liners, their upsides could remain modest unless there is continues to be a pick-up in interest on these stocks. Consequently, we see the mostly sideways trend persisting for now.

RESULTS UPDATE

◆ ABLE GLOBAL BHD – 3QCY24: BUY, TP: RM2.75

RM m	3QCY24	3QCY23	YoY chg (%)	2QCY24	QoQ chg (%)	9MCY24	9MCY23	YoY chg (%)
Revenue	193.9	176.8	9.7	179.2	8.2	544.4	479.2	13.6
PBT	24.4	21.0	15.9	24.3	0.3	69.6	44.7	55.6
PATAMI	17.7	16.2	9.4	17.9	(1.2)	50.9	33.8	50.3
EPS (sen)	5.8	5.3	9.5	5.8	(1.2)	16.5	11.0	50.2

Y-o-Y. Revenue increased by 9.7% to RM193.9m in 3QCY24, from RM176.8m in the same quarter last year, mainly attributable to a 15.4% increase in sales from the F&B segment on stronger demand, but the increased sales were partly offset by a 14.2% decline in the sales from the tin manufacturing segment. In line with the higher revenue, PATAMI expanded by 9.4% to RM17.7m, from RM16.2m, due to an improvement in the gross profit margin to 21.3%, up from 18.5% in 3QCY23, which we attribute to lower sugar prices and higher economies of scale resulting from increased utilisation rates.

Q-o-Q. Similarly, revenue improved by 8.2%, driven by higher demand in the F&B segment, while revenue from the tin manufacturing segment eased slightly due to lower demand. However, PATAMI remained relatively stable at RM17.7m as profitability was slightly impacted by a higher net foreign exchange loss of RM4.1m, compared to RM0.4m in the preceding quarter.

Dividend. Able Global declared a third interim dividend of 2.0 sen per share, bringing the total dividend for 9MCY24 to 6.0 sen (9MCY23: 4.5 sen).

Within expectations. Able Global's 9MCY24 results were in line with our expectations, with revenue and PATAMI making up 78.2% and 76.9% of our CY24 forecasts respectively. Hence, we maintain our **BUY** recommendation on Able Global with the same **TP** of **RM2.75**, derived from pegging unchanged target PERs of 15.0x and 8.0x to our CY25F earnings of its F&B and tin manufacturing segments respectively.

◆ AWC BHD – 1QFY25: Recommendation and TP under review

RM m	1QFY25	1QFY24	YoY chg (%)	4QFY24	QoQ chg (%)
Revenue	94.4	88.8	6.2	102.0	(7.5)
PBT	7.7	3.8	>100	10.4	(25.5)
PATAMI	6.2	0.5	>100	7.0	(10.6)
EPS(sen)	1.9	0.2	>100	2.2	(12.0)

Y-o-Y. Revenue increased by 6.2% to RM94.4m, from RM88.8m in 1QFY24, with the Facilities (+13.7%) and Rail (+79.2%) divisions offsetting the slower project recognition in the Environment and Engineering divisions. The revenue improvement of the Facilities and Rail divisions was mainly attributed to cost optimisation of unscheduled

work from government hospital projects and higher rail project deliveries. With higher margins contributed by these two divisions, its PAT recorded a 12.0x jump to RM6.2m, from RM0.5m in 1QFY24.

Q-o-Q. Topline decreased by 7.5% on slower projects progress in Singapore and UAE in its Environment division (-27.6%), lower revenue recognition from HVAC projects under the Engineering division (-9.2%), and fewer additional concession works from the Facilities division (-8.6%). In terms of PBT margins, the Facilities division recorded an 88.8% decrease from 4.8% to 0.5%, as the preceding quarter included a RM2.9m one-time write-back from receivables. The Engineering division was the exception to record a PBT margin growth on better margins from both the air-con segments and plumbing segments.

Missed expectations. AWC's 1QFY25 revenue and earnings missed our expectations, making up only 21.1% and 18.3% of our previous full-year forecast, mainly due to slower project recognition on most of its divisions. Pending for more information from the management team, we are reviewing our recommendation and TP. Our last recommendation was a BUY call with a TP of RM1.58 based on our SoTP-derived target price.

GLOBAL AND ECONOMIC UPDATE

- ◆ After trending higher over the past several sessions, stocks gave back some ground during trading on Wednesday. The Dow fell 138.25 points or 0.3% to 44,722.06 and the Nasdaq climbed well off its worst levels of the day but still closed down 115.10 points or 0.6% at 19,060.48. [RTT News](#)
- ◆ **DOSM: Malaysia's producer price index continues to fall at 2.4% Y-o-Y in October**
Malaysia's producer price index fell 2.4% Y-o-Y in October, continuing its downward trend after falling 2.1% Y-o-Y in September. Similar to the previous month, the decrease in October was mainly attributed to the mining sector, which fell by 17.3% Y-o-Y (September: -16.1% Y-o-Y), while the manufacturing sector also declined by 2.6% Y-o-Y (September: -1.5% Y-o-Y). In contrary, the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector went up by 13.8% Y-o-Y (September: 5.8% Y-o-Y). [The Edge Markets](#)
- ◆ **U.S. 3Q2024 GDP growth unrevised at 2.8% Y-o-Y**
The jump in U.S. economic activity in 3Q2024 was unrevised compared to the previous estimate. Gross domestic product surged by 2.8% Y-o-Y in 3Q2024, unchanged from the advance estimate issued last month as the upward revisions to private inventory investment and non-residential fixed investment were offset by downward revisions to exports and consumer spending. The unrevised GDP increase in 3Q2024 still reflects a modest slowdown from the 3.0% Y-o-Y jump in 2Q2024. [RTT News](#)

- ◆ **U.S. consumer price growth matches estimates in October**
Consumer prices in the U.S. increased in line with expectations in October. The personal consumption expenditures (PCE) price index rose by 0.2% M-o-M in October, matching the uptick seen in September as well as economist estimates. The monthly increase by the PCE price index came as prices for services climbed by 0.4%, more than offsetting a 0.1% dip by prices for goods. Excluding food and energy prices, the core PCE price index climbed by 0.3% M-o-M in October. The annual rate of growth by the PCE price index accelerated to 2.3% in October, from 2.1% in September, which was also in line with expectations. [RTT News](#)
- ◆ **U.S. weekly jobless claims unexpectedly edge lower once again**
First-time claims for U.S. unemployment benefits unexpectedly edged lower in the week ended 23 November, 2024. Initial jobless claims dipped to 213k, a decrease of 2k from the previous week's revised level of 215k. Economists had expected jobless claims to rise to 217k. With the slight decrease from the previous week's upwardly revised figure, jobless claims were once again at their lowest level since hitting 209k in the week ended 27 April, 2024. [RTT News](#)

CORPORATE NEWS

- ◆ **Binastra clinches RM67.6m sewage treatment contract**
Binastra Corp Bhd bagged a contract for the redevelopment of a sewage treatment plant in Taman Bukit Cheras, Kuala Lumpur. The RM67.6m contract, awarded by F3 Cheras Development Sdn Bhd, involves the construction of new sewer force mains, gravity sewer mains and pumping stations. It also encompasses upgrading existing sewage facilities and decommissioning of outdated infrastructure across multiple sites. [The Edge Markets](#)
- ◆ **JF Tech plans RM46.4m private placement to fund new investment and capital expenditure**
JF Technology Bhd plans to raise RM46.4m via a private placement to fund its new investment and ongoing business expansion. The exercise involves the placement of up to 10.0% of its issued shares totalling 92.7m shares to independent third-party investors to be identified later. Assuming the maximum number of placement units are issued at 50.0 sen per share, the gross proceeds to be raised is RM46.4m. The group has earmarked RM27.0m for future investment and it is in the process of securing viable investment or business ventures. Furthermore, the group plans to utilise RM15.0m from the proceeds as capital expenditure for its planned expansion which consists of factory expansions and upgrading of manufacturing equipment. Another RM3.3m will be used for its working capital and the remaining RM1.1m for defraying estimated expenses relating to the placement exercise. The proposal is expected to be completed by 2Q2025. [The Edge Markets](#)

◆ **Citaglobal firms up collaboration to develop eco-friendly industrial park, proposes 1-for-5 bonus warrants**

Citaglobal Bhd has firmed up its collaboration with electric vehicle maker Tree Technologies Sdn Bhd to develop an industrial park with green elements in Pahang. Following up on the binding term sheet inked in August, Citaglobal have now inked a joint venture (JV) agreement with Tree Technologies to develop the industrial park on the 247-ac. land, based on the previously agreed 65:35 equity basis. The industrial park is estimated to have a gross development value (GDV) of between RM321.0m and RM397.0m.

Meanwhile, the group announced a proposal to undertake a bonus issue of up to 88.1m warrants on a 1-for-5 basis. The exercise price of the warrants will be fixed later. Based on an illustrative price of RM1.00, assuming all the warrants are exercised, the proposal could raise RM88.1m for the group for future business investment, expansion and/or working capital. The bonus issue is expected to be completed by 2Q2025, which is also when the joint venture is expected to commence.

The Edge Markets

◆ **Meta Bright partners with Tunas Manja on rooftop solar PV installations**

Meta Bright Group Bhd is partnering grocery and retail operator Tunas Manja Sdn Bhd (TMG) to implement cost-effective energy efficiency initiatives. Through the partnership, the group will focus on the installation of rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) systems at TMG-owned and-operated buildings under the Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0 Programme. The first installation under this partnership will take place at TMG Mart Wisma Air Putih in Kuantan, with plans to extend the initiative to other TMG locations. The group will take the lead in developing, designing, financing, installing and maintaining the PV systems for TMG's properties. *The Edge Markets*

◆ **BHIC to sell 51% stake in former LCS subcontractor to Rheinmetall, recognising RM14.8m loss on disposal**

Boustead Heavy Industries Corp (BHIC) is selling its 51% stake in Contraves Advanced Devices Sdn Bhd (CAD) to its joint venture partner in the firm, German arms maker Rheinmetall AG, for RM54.0m cash. The disposal of the stake will result in a loss of RM14.8m for the group. CAD is a former subcontractor for the littoral combat ship project. *The Edge Markets*

◆ **AMMB lifts dividend payout sharply as 2QFY25 net profit rises 6.6% Y-o-Y**

AMMB Holdings Bhd raised its dividend payout after reporting a 6.6% Y-o-Y rise in 2QFY25 net profit to RM500.6m on interest income growth, from RM469.8m in 2QFY24. Quarterly revenue also improved to RM1.23b, from RM1.12b. The bank declared a higher interim dividend of 10.3 sen per share, compared with 6.0 sen per share for the same period last year. Y-o-Y, net interest income edged up 6.8% and Islamic banking income gained 41.0%, while non-interest income, such as fees and commissions, fell 24.0%. *The Edge Markets*

- ◆ **Kerjaya Prospek declares special dividend following 29.6% Y-o-Y jump in profit for 3QCY24**
Kerjaya Prospek Group Bhd declared a special dividend on top of interim dividend after reporting a 29.6% Y-o-Y net profit jump to RM46.1m, compared with RM35.6m in the same period a year earlier, attributed to its higher progress billings. Quarterly revenue also climbed 39.4% Y-o-Y to RM504.8m, from RM362.2m. The group plans to distribute 4.0 sen per share in special dividend and 3.0 sen per share as the third interim dividend, both of which will be payable on 20 December, 2024. *The Edge Markets*
- ◆ **Chin Hin's 3QCY24 net profit more-than-doubled with newly-acquired subsidiaries**
Chin Hin Group Bhd's net profit more-than-doubled to RM27.7m in 3QCY24, from RM11.6m a year ago, thanks to revenue from newly-acquired subsidiaries that significantly boosted its overall gross margin. Both building materials firm **Ajiya Bhd** and kitchen cabinet maker **Signature International Bhd** became the group's subsidiaries this year. Quarterly revenue, meanwhile, jumped 81.0% Y-o-Y to RM912.6m on higher revenue from its new subsidiaries, building materials division, as well as property development and construction. The group did not declare any dividend during the quarter. *The Edge Markets*

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