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## Highlights

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Global	Global risk appetite may continue to meander amid lingering trade and geopolitical tensions, as investors await the FOMC statement, US' decision on the Iran deal, and the slew of manufacturing PMIs from Asia including China's Caixin. Meanwhile, US Commerce Secretary Ross downplayed expectations for a quick resolution to US-China talks this week, with Trade Representative Lighthizer opining that the two countries could "spend the next year developing how we deal with each other over a period of time". This came after the Trump administration said it would delay steel and aluminium tariffs on the EU, Mexico and Canada. Asian bourses may play catch up today after coming back from holiday, but market optimism may be tampered by a stronger USD and higher US Treasury bond yields. Apple's earnings had beat estimates and guided for continued sales momentum, which lifted post-market US trading. Key to watch today are the FOMC statement, corporate earnings from HSBC and Tesla, as well as US' ADP employment change, 1Q18 GDP growth estimates from EU, and Indonesian inflation prints.
NS	The manufacturing ISM softened for a second month from 59.3 in Mar to 57.3 in Apr, with the prices paid gauge edging higher from 78.1 to 79.3, but new orders and employment easing to 61.2 and 54.2 respectively, down from 61.9 and 57.3 previously. Construction spending unexpectedly shrank 1.7% mom in Mar, after a revised 1.0% expansion in Feb.
AU	RBA kept the OCR static at a record low of 1.5% for the 19 <sup>th</sup> consecutive meeting, anticipating that inflation will remain low for "some time" even though growth may exceed 3% for 2018-2019. Governor Lowe cited "further progress in reducing unemployment and having inflation return to target is expected, although this progress is likely to be gradual".
UK	The country will issue a 53-year bond maturing in 2071, which will replace the 2068 note as the longest-dated debt available.
SG	In his May Day speech, PM Lee said "if all goes well, we should do better than 2.5 percent" and "I hope things hold up and we get another good year".
СН	The April official PMI fell slightly to 51.4 from 51.5. Both new order and new export order softened slightly. The impact of US-China trade tension remains mixed and market is waiting for the bilateral negotiation due this week. In addition, producer prices may find the bottom with the pace of decline of PMI purchasing prices slowed. We expect PPI to stabilize around 3.5% in April.
KR	Similar to the slowdown in industrial production seen in late April, the disappointing trade data seen this morning further cements the view that Korea's growth momentum is moderating further into 2Q18.
CMD	Some profit-taking in oil prices were seen yesterday, after crude oil prices spiked on Israeli PM comments that "Iran lied" about its nuclear capabilities while asserting his belief that US President Donald Trump will do "the right thing" in reviewing the nuclear deal he has with Iran. More buying into defensive commodities, especially softs and grains, were seen overnight, while the greenback's rally effectively erased the losses seen since the start of the year. The stronger greenback was the key reason for weaker gold prices overnight, though further concrete details over FOMC's rate decision later tonight could re-inject buying momentum and short-covering behaviour.



#### **Major Market**

- US: After a weaker than expected manufacturing data release, equities ended mixed on Tuesday. Apple Inc. led tech stocks higher ahead of its earnings report afterhours, while the telecommunications and consumer staples sectors put a drag on the overall performance. The S&P 500 overcame early losses to close 0.26% higher. The Nasdaq Composite added 0.91%, while the Dow slipped 0.27%. VIX lower at 15.49, compared to 15.93 previously.
- Meanwhile, long-end US Treasury yields firmed after three consecutive days of declines. The 10y added 1 bp to 2.96%. The 2y benchmark also added 2 bps to 2.504%. Continue to watch for the 10y to hold above 2.95% threshold, as eyes will be pinned on the FOMC announcement later today.
- **Singapore:** The STI added 1.03% on Mon to close at a fresh year-to-date high of 3613.93 (also highest since 2007), aided by strong bank earnings, but may meander in a 3585-3600 range today amid soft Wall Street cues overnight and mixed morning signals from Nikkei and Kospi. With the UST bond yields firming by 1-2bps overnight, SGS bonds may also trade lower today.
- Korea: Note also that manufacturing PMI faded deeper below into its contraction zone at 48.4 in April (down from March's 49.1). Exports contracted 1.50%, versus market call of +3.3% in April, bringing trade surplus lower at US\$6.6mn. Elsewhere, inflation pressures in April accelerated to 1.6%, although still below BOK's target of 2.0%.
- Hong Kong: Total loans and advances increased 15% yoy in March 2018, marking the fourteenth consecutive month of double-digit annual growth. Internally, loans for use in HK (excluding trade finance), which accounted for 64.5% of total loans, increased 15.3% yoy due to resilient performance of the stock market and the housing market. Moving forward, on top of high base effect, concerns about higher borrowing costs together with volatile stock market may slow local loan growth. Externally, loans for use outside of Hong Kong rose 14.8% yoy. The growth has been moderating gradually from the recent peak of 20.8% yoy (November 2017). HKD loans should have been attractive to offshore borrowers as a weak HKD effectively reduces the repayments and interest expenses. Nevertheless, curbs on irrational overseas expansion as well as expectations on the PBOC's easing bias will likely suppress some Mainland companies' demand for offshore loans. Adding on a high base effect, we expect loans for use outside of Hong Kong to grow at a moderate rate this year.
- Despite the possible slowdown in total loan growth, banks may still face funding
  pressure due to muted total deposits which grew at the slowest pace since August 2016
  by 6.8% yoy. Given that HKD loan to deposit ratio rose to the highest level since
  December 2014 at 83.2%, we expect HKD deposit rates to remain elevated. Moving
  forward, various factors including month-end effect, quarter-end effect, dividend
  payment flows, reduction in aggregate balance and large IPOs could push HIBOR
  higher. As a result, banks' funding costs may increase further and prompt the start of a
  prime rate hike cycle in 2H 2018.
- **Macau:** Hotel occupancy rate picked up by 4.3 percentage points on a yearly basis to 87% in March 2018. Further, the number of hotel guests rose by 8.2% yoy to 1,143,00. Combined with the base effect resulted from the different timing of the Easter holiday between this year and last year, the sustainable improvement in tourism has underpinned the hotel sector. Specifically, the number of hotel guests from Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea and Japan increased by 9.5% yoy, 1.2% yoy,



4.1% yoy, 11.2% yoy and 1.3% yoy, respectively. Moving forward, a weaker MOP, the completion of Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge and the opening of new mega projects may enhance the attractiveness of Macau as a travel destination. As such, it may lend further support to the hotel sector.

- Indonesia: The manufacturing PMI rose to a 22-month high of 51.6 for the month of April (March 2018: 50.7). This was driven by improving domestic demand as there was strong growth of output and new orders. However, demand in international markets was subdued. Input cost inflation softened from March's 29-month high but remained sharp overall as the primary driver was the strength of the USD against the IDR. Meanwhile, in relation to the IDR weakness, Governor Agus Martowardojo told reporters that BI is open to adjusting interest rates if the pressure on rupiah persists and is considering boosting dollar supply through more forex swap auctions.
- **Malaysia:** The manufacturing PMI fell to a six month low of 48.6 in April (March 2018: 49.5). Lower production requirements and subdued demand condition led to firms reducing their purchasing activity and pre-production inventories. However, business sentiment was the highest in four-and-a-half years.

### Bond Market Updates

- Market Commentary: The SGD swap curve traded lower on Monday, with swap rates for the shorter tenors down sharply by 14bps while the rest of the curve was broadly lower by 2-4bps. The Bloomberg Barclays Asia USD IG Bond Index average OAS traded little changed at 1.30% while the Bloomberg Barclays Asia USD HY Bond Index average OAS tightened 2bps to 381bps. 10Y UST yields remained at 2.96% given minimal news flow.
- New issues: Bumi Serpong Damai Tbk PT priced a USD50mn tap of its existing BSDEIJ 7.25% '21c20s at 100.125 + accrued interest. SGSP (Australia) Assets Pty Ltd has mandated banks for a potential 7Y-10Y AUD, EUR or USD issuance.



#### Key Financial Indicators

			Key FI	nanciai	Indicato	rs		
Foreign Exch	nange		-			Equity and C	Commodity	
	Day Close	% Change		Day Close	% Change	Index	Value	Net change
DXY	92.449	0.66%	USD-SGD	1.3336	0.58%	DJIA	24,099.05	-64.10
USD-JPY	109.860	0.48%	EUR-SGD	1.5991	-0.14%	S&P	2,654.80	6.75
EUR-USD	1.1993	-0.70%	JPY-SGD	1.2137	0.07%	Nasdaq	7,130.70	64.44
AUD-USD	0.7490	-0.53%	GBP-SGD	1.8153	-0.54%	Nikkei 225	22,508.03	40.16
GBP-USD	1.3614	-1.08%	AUD-SGD	0.9989	0.05%	STI	3,613.93	
USD-MYR	3.9235		NZD-SGD	0.9341	0.14%	KLCI	1,870.37	
USD-CNY	6.3322		CHF-SGD	1.3379	-0.01%	JCI	5,994.60	
USD-IDR	13913		SGD-MYR	2.9487	-0.37%	Baltic Dry	1,341.00	
USD-VND	22760		SGD-CNY	4.7509	-0.61%	VIX	15.49	-0.44
Interbank Off	ier Rates (%)					Government	Bond Yields	(%)
Tenor	EURIBOR	Change	Tenor	USD LIBOR	Change	Tenor	SGS (chg)	UST (chg)
1M	-0.3710		O/N	1.7037		2Y	1.95 ()	2.50 (+0.02)
2M	-0.3410		1M	1.9093		5Y	2.18 ()	2.81 (+0.02)
3M	-0.3290		2M	2.0656		10Y	2.53 ()	2.96 (+0.01)
6M	-0.2690		3M	2.3629		15Y	2.79 ()	
9M	-0.2200		6M	2.5118		20Y	2.80 ()	
12M	-0.1890		12M	2.7700		30Y	2.91 ()	3.13 ()
Fed Rate Hik	e Probability					Financial Sp	oread (bps)	
Meeting	Prob Hike	1.75-2	2-2.25	2.25-2.5	2.5-2.75	-	Value	Change
05/02/2018	34.2%	34.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	LIBOR-OIS	52.78	-0.28
06/13/2018	94.6%	63.2%	31.4%	0.0%	0.0%	EURIBOR-OIS	3.30	0.09
08/01/2018	94.8%	60.8%	32.7%	1.3%	0.0%	TED	56.01	
09/26/2018	98.4%	21.9%	52.3%	23.2%	0.9%			
11/08/2018	98.6%	20.3%	49.9%	25.6%	2.7%			
12/19/2018	99.3%	11.3%	35.7%	37.2%	13.7%			
Commodities	Futures							
Energy			Futur	es %	chg Base	e Metals	Futures	% chg
WTI (per barre	l)		67.		5	per (per mt)	6,696.5	-1.19%
Brent (per barrel)		73.			el (per mt)	13,601.8	0.01%	
Heating Oil (per gallon)			2.09			ninium (per mt)	2,266.5	0.13%
Gasoline (per	<b>e</b> ,		2.08		95%	()	_,000	
Natural Gas (p	<b>,</b>		2.80			n Commodities	Futures	% chg
i tatului Gus (p			2.00			le Palm Oil (MYR/MT)	2,362.0	/6 Clig
					Ciuu		2,302.0	

% chg

-0.94% -1.67%

Futures

1,306.8

16.127

Rubber (JPY/KG)

192.9

3.93%

#### Precious Metals Gold (per oz) Silver (per oz)

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters

(Note that rates are for reference only)



# Economic Calendar

Revised	Prior	Actual	Survey		Event		Date Time
	63.1	58.3		Apr	AiG Perf of Mfg Index	AU	05/01/2018 06:30
6.40%	5.70%	14.70%		Mar	Building Permits MoM	NZ	05/01/2018 06:45
	6.10%	-1.50%	3.30%	Apr	Exports YoY	SK	05/01/2018 08:00
5.20%	5.00%	14.50%	16.00%	Apr	Imports YoY	SK	05/01/2018 08:00
\$6775m	\$6865m	\$6611m	\$8455m	Apr	Trade Balance	SK	05/01/2018 08:00
	53.3	53.8		Apr F	Nikkei Japan PMI Mfg	JN	05/01/2018 08:30
	0.79%	1.07%	0.92%	Apr		TH	05/01/2018 11:30
	0.63%	0.64%	0.67%	Apr	CPI Core YoY	TH	05/01/2018 11:30
	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%	May-01	RBA Cash Rate Target	AU	05/01/2018 12:30
	-4.90%	0.50%		Apr	Vehicle Sales YoY	JN	05/01/2018 13:00
-2.80%	-2.10%	-1.40%		Apr	Commodity Index SDR YoY	AU	05/01/2018 14:30
112.4	113.2	109		Apr	Commodity Index AUD	AU	05/01/2018 14:30
3.9b	3.7b	4.0b	3.6b	Mar	Net Lending Sec. on Dwellings	UK	05/01/2018 16:30
63.8k	63.9k	62.9k	63.0k	Mar	Mortgage Approvals	UK	05/01/2018 16:30
-0.40%	-0.30%	-1.40%		Mar	Money Supply M4 MoM	UK	05/01/2018 16:30
4.20%	4.10%	2.20%		Mar	M4 Money Supply YoY	UK	05/01/2018 16:30
54.9	55.1	53.9	54.8	Apr	Markit UK PMI Manufacturing SA	UK	05/01/2018 16:30
	-0.10%	0.40%	0.30%	Feb	GDP MoM	CA	05/01/2018 20:30
	55.7	55.5		Apr	Markit Canada Manufacturing PMI	CA	05/01/2018 21:30
	56.5	56.5	56.5	Apr F	Markit US Manufacturing PMI	US	05/01/2018 21:45
1.00%	0.10%	-1.70%	0.50%	Mar	Construction Spending MoM	US	05/01/2018 22:00
	59.3	57.3	58.5	Apr	ISM Manufacturing	US	05/01/2018 22:00
	78.1	79.3	78.5	Apr	ISM Prices Paid	US	05/01/2018 22:00
	7.30%	7.60%		Apr	QV House Prices YoY	NZ	05/02/2018 01:00
-	4.50%	4.40%	4.40%	1Q	Unemployment Rate	NZ	05/02/2018 06:45
0.40%	0.50%	0.60%	0.60%	1Q	Employment Change QoQ	NZ	05/02/2018 06:45
-	1.30%	1.60%	1.50%	Apr	CPI YoY	SK	05/02/2018 07:00
-	9.10%			Apr	Monetary Base YoY	JN	05/02/2018 07:50
-	49.1			Apr	Nikkei South Korea PMI Mfg	SK	05/02/2018 08:30
-	55.3			Apr	Nikkei Taiwan PMI Mfg	ТА	05/02/2018 08:30
-	51.6			Apr	Nikkei Vietnam PMI Mfg	VN	05/02/2018 08:30
-	50.7			Apr	Nikkei Indonesia PMI Mfg	ID	05/02/2018 08:30
	50.9			Apr	Nikkei Japan PMI Services	JN	05/02/2018 08:30
	51.3			Apr	Nikkei Japan PMI Composite	JN	05/02/2018 08:30
	51		50.9	Apr	Caixin China PMI Mfg	СН	05/02/2018 09:45
	66.8			Apr	Consumer Confidence Economic	TH	05/02/2018 11:30
	2.67%		2.77%	Apr	CPI Core YoY	ID	05/02/2018 12:00
	3.40%		3.50%	Apr	CPI YoY	ID	05/02/2018 12:00
	51			Apr	Nikkei India PMI Mfg	IN	05/02/2018 13:00
	53.3			Apr	Business Sentiment Index	TH	05/02/2018 15:30
	55.1		54.5	Apr	Markit Italy Manufacturing PMI	IT	05/02/2018 15:45
	53.4		53.4	Apr F	Markit France Manufacturing PMI	FR	05/02/2018 15:50
	58.1		58.1	Apr F	Markit Germany Manufacturing PMI	GE	05/02/2018 15:55
	56		56	Apr F	Markit Eurozone Manufacturing PMI	EC	05/02/2018 16:00
	10.90%		10.90%	Mar P	Unemployment Rate	IT	05/02/2018 16:00
	47		50.5	Apr	Markit/CIPS UK Construction PMI	UK	05/02/2018 16:30
	8.50%		8.50%	Mar	Unemployment Rate		05/02/2018 17:00
	0.60%		0.40%	1Q A	GDP SA QoQ	EC	05/02/2018 17:00
-	0.30%		0.30%	1Q P	GDP WDA QoQ	IT	05/02/2018 17:00
-	-0.20%			Apr-27	MBA Mortgage Applications	US	05/02/2018 19:00
-	241k		198k	Apr	ADP Employment Change	US	05/02/2018 20:15
	52.4			Apr	Electronics Sector Index	SI	05/02/2018 21:00
_	53		52.8	Apr	Purchasing Managers Index	SI	05/02/2018 21:00
				-	-		



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