

The Stock Exchange Corner

The Market Journal Explained

by George Edwards

This week, we shall examine the information contained in the Market Journal which is published in the Stabroek Business every Friday. We shall apply the meanings of terms that appeared in earlier articles and explain the columns, moving from left to right.

Stock

This column contains the abbreviations for the names of the companies that are listed on the Stock Exchange. These companies are as follows:

NBI – National Bank of Industry & Commerce Limited (NBIC)

BTI – Guyana Bank for Trade & Industry Limited (GBTI)

CBI – Citizens Bank Guyana Incorporated

DIH – Banks DIH Limited

JPS – J. P. Santos & Company Limited

CCI – Caribbean Containers Incorporated

DTC – Demerara Tobacco Company Limited

GSI – Guyana Stockfeeds Incorporated

SPL – Sterling Products Limited

DBL – Demerara Bank Limited

DDL – Demerara Distillers Limited

PHI – Property Holdings Incorporated

GTI – Globe Trust & Investment Company limited

Best Bid \$

This is the highest bid received for a company's shares e.g. among the bids outstanding at the end of trading on February 6, 2006 for Banks DIH's shares, the highest price someone has offered to pay is \$7.50. Unless a new bidder comes in with a bid higher than \$7.50, the

seller at \$11.40 may be forced to accept \$7.50 if he/she needs cash urgently and cannot wait for a better bid.

Vol Bid (000s)

The abbreviation stands for Volume Bid (to buy) in thousands of shares. The various bids for shares are totalled and expressed in thousands to one decimal place. Hence, the entry for BTI means that bids totalling two hundred and forty-four thousand eight hundred (and maybe some odds) shares have been received for GBTI shares. When read against the Best Bid, it does not mean that all 244.8 thousand shares are being bid for at \$50. Some bids will be lower than \$50.

Best Offer \$

This represents the lowest price at which a seller is willing to sell his/her shares e.g. the lowest price at which a seller is offering to sell DTC shares is \$170.00. It does not mean that all the shares in the Vol Off'd (000s) column are being offered at that price. There may be offers to sell at higher prices.

Vol Off'd (000s)

The abbreviation stands for Volume Offered (to sell) in thousands of shares. Like Vol Bid, the various offers to sell are totalled and expressed in thousands to one decimal place. Hence, the entry for DTC means that offers to sell totalling two hundred and sixty-seven thousand four hundred (and maybe some odds) shares have been made by shareholders.

Opening Price \$

The figures in this column represent the prices that are standing at the opening of the trading session and correspond to the prices at which the shares were last traded in previous sessions.

MWAP \$

This means Mean Weighted Average Price. Perhaps the best means by which this column is explained is to give an example. Assume that there were three trades in the same company's shares for different amounts at different prices as follows:

10 shares @ \$10, 5 shares @ \$8, 15 shares @ \$5

then the MWAP would be calculated in this way:

$$10 \times \$10 = \$100$$

$$5 \times \$8 = \$40$$

$$\underline{15} \times \$5 = \underline{\$75}$$

$$\text{Total} \quad \underline{30} \quad \underline{\$215}$$

$$\text{MWAP} \quad = \$215 \text{ divided by } 30 = \$7.17$$

Low \$

This is the lowest price at which a trade in a particular share was made e.g. the lowest price at which DIH shares were traded in this session was \$11.30.

High \$

This is the highest price at which a trade in a particular share was made e.g. the highest price at which DIH shares were traded in this session was \$11.40.

Last Trade Price \$

This is the price at which the last trade in a particular share was made in this session e.g. the last trade in DIH shares was made at \$11.40.

Last Trade Date

This is the date on which the last trade in a particular share took place. However, the date for this session's trades appears at the top of the column – in this case February 06 2006.

Vol Traded (000s)

The figures in this column represent the total number of shares in a particular company that was traded in this session e.g. the total number of DIH shares that was traded on this day February 06, 2006 was two hundred and six thousand six hundred and thirty-four (the actual figure is given in the write-up that accompanies the Market Journal table).

We hope that readers, potential investors and investors will now have a better understanding of the information presented in the Market Journal.

Next week: An explanation of the Summary of Financials

N.B. – More information may be accessed on our website: www.gasci.com