

Singapore stocks down on profit-taking, Thailand up on earnings
Malaysian Insider
23 Apr, 2014

Southeast Asian stocks were mixed today, with Singapore's Straits Times Index retreating from a near 11-month high on profit-taking, while news on earnings of a cement firm led gains in Thai shares.

The Singapore index fell 0.65% to 3256.37 on profit-taking after it closed at its highest since June 2013 in the previous session, analysts said.

Keppel Corp Ltd, the world's top offshore jack-up drilling rig producer, fell the most, with shares dropping 3.45%.

Bangkok's SET Index climbed 0.4%, led by construction material company Siam Cement Pcl, with a 2.3% advance.

Siam Cement posted a net profit of 1.9 billion baht (RM192.07 million) for the first quarter of 2014, up 56% from the same period last year, according to a statement posted on the Stock Exchange of Thailand yesterday.

Other markets little moved, harmonising with other Asian shares after a Chinese manufacturing survey met expectations. – Reuters, April 23, 2014.

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Source: <http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/business/article/singapore-stocks-down-on-profit-taking-thailand-up-on-earnings>