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SMART IDEAS. SMART RETURN

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Daily Edition

January 14, 2009

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Good Morning!

Trade Status

Open trade(s)

- SK115, SK116, SK117, SK118, SK120, SK119 (filled on 1/12/09).

- Asian stocks rise modestly after Bernanke talks up stimulus.
- European stocks fall, lead by Deutsche Bank; HSBC; US Index futures fall.
- US retail sales may have dropped record six months as job vanished.
- The yen is finally weaker relative to all other currencies this morning.
- Stock symbols with positive guidance: ATEC
- Stock symbols with in-line guidance: CAMP, EXFO, HMSY, MDAS, UAM, INFY
- Stock symbols with negative guidance: RACK, BG, LLTC, KCP, FNB, ONB, NVDA, LIZ, CPHD, L XK, HMA

Day Trade Corner

- Yesterday's trade DT101 closed for a profit range of \$350 to \$700 on a risk of \$600.
- Today's day trade DT102: Sell to open 1 contract of mini-S&P 500 March 2009 at 874 or better. Sell stop 884. Close the trade by 4 pm ET. Win, lose or draw.

Important Report(s) Due Today

- United States: Retail Sales for Dec. 2008. Released at 8:30 AM ET. M/M change: Previous -1.8%; Consensus -1.2%; Consensus Range -2.1% to -0.3%.
- United States: Import Prices. Released at 8:30 AM ET. M/M change: Previous -6.7%; Consensus -5.3%; -8.5% to -2.1%.
- United States: EIA Petroleum Status Report. Released at 10:30 AM ET.
- United States: US Business Inventories for Nov. 2008. Released at 2:00 PM ET. Previous -0.6%; Consensus -0.5%; Consensus Range -2.4% to 0.0%.
- United States: Beige Book Released at 2:00 PM ET

Market Update

Global risk appetite deteriorated this week after Standard & Poor's warned about the ratings on several countries including the United States, Spain, Greece and New Zealand. The U.S. dollar firmed against a basket of major trading-partner currencies, with the U.S. Dollar Index up 1.18 percent at 84.2 from a previous session close of 83.214, buoyed by the U.S. trade data and the expected ECB rate cut. The euro fell 1.31 percent at \$1.32, extending a one-month decline. Sterling fell 2.19 percent to \$1.4502, a one-week low. The benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note was down 8/32 in price, with the yield at 2.28 percent. Crude oil prices rose over 2.0 percent after Saudi Arabia confirmed it planned to produce less than its OPEC target while Qatar said OPEC would cut output again in March. Profit taking cut into the gains and it settled with a 0.51 percent gain to \$37.78. Yesterday, DJIA ended down 25 points in a volatile session. Rally in technology and energy stocks offset concerns about dismal corporate earnings.

Overnight, Dow Jones near-term future contract is down 60 points in anticipation of weak retail sales numbers due today. We expect a weak opening in the US stock market this morning.

Good Luck and Happy Trading!

Daniel, Derrick and Dad

The SmartMoneyLetter Team

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