

**Amman Stock Exchange (ASE)****MARKET  
BRIEF****January 17, 2013 – February 17, 2013**

The index followed an early decline with a strong gain to reach a high of 2059.1 points on January 28<sup>th</sup> before suffering a steady decline to a low of 2028.8 points on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Since then, the index recovered most of its losses to end the period with a 1% gain at 2047.2 points. In the meantime, the market's trading reached USD285 million as the financial sector accounted for 64% of the market's trading compared to 19% and 17% respectively for the services and industries sectors. Over the second half of the period many of the listed companies issued their preliminary results. The companies' financial results, investors' expectations of dividend payouts, and the actual dividend announcements will play a strong role in determining the course of the market over the next month or so.

The financial sector was by far the period's star performer. The financial index outperformed the services and industries indices by gaining 1.97% on the back of a 2.6% gain in the banking index. The strong performance of the banking index was backed by an 18% growth in the sector's net income in 2012 to JD585 million. The Arab Bank (ARBK) was instrumental to the strong performance of the banking sector with its 5.6% gain and JD21 million in trading that made it the market's second most active stock.

Eleven of the fourteen listed banks posted growth in their net income in 2012 as the preliminary results show. ARBK was the most profitable bank after its net income grew 15% to JD250 million at the group level, and Capital Bank of Jordan (EXFB) was the sector's best performer after it posted a 1443% increase in net income to JD22 million. Meanwhile, Jordan Islamic Bank (JOIB) posted a 29% increase in net income to JD36 million as the net income of Jordan Dubai Islamic Bank (JDIB) shrunk 52% to JD2.6 million. JDIB's percentage change in net income was the worst in the sector. Jordan Kuwait Bank (JOKB), which enjoyed a 23% growth in net income to JD48.8 million, was the top performing banking stock after gaining 12.4% and closing at JD3.54. At the other end, JOIB was the worst performing stock in the sector after dropping 4.1% to JD3.07.

Other good performers in 2012 included Irbid District Electricity (IREL), which saw its net income grow 115% to JD9 million, Union Tobacco & Cigarettes Industries (UTOB), which turned a JD1 million loss in 2011 to a JD3.5 million profit in 2012, Royal Jordanian Airlines (RJAL), which turned a JD58 million loss in 2011 into a JD1.1 million profit this past year, and Arab Orient Insurance (AOIC), which enjoyed a 6% increase in net income to JD3.3 million. The good results of IREL reflected very well on its stock price as it gained 17.3% to close at JD11.44. Meanwhile, the price of UTOB rose 1.4% to JD5.2, RJAL dropped 10.6% to JD0.76, and the price of AOIC rose 5.1% to JD1.45. The strong performance of these stocks did not reflect strongly on their respective sectors with the exception of the tobacco & cigarettes index, which gained 9.8%.

The preliminary results of the mining & extraction sector were disappointing with the net income of Arab Potash (APOT) declining 34% to JD198.8 million, and the net income of Jordan Phosphate Mines (JOPH) shrinking 5% to JD137.4 million. In the meantime, Jordan Steel's (JOST) income dropped from JD5.7 million to JD4 thousands and Jordan Cement Factories (JOCM) posted nearly JD20 million in losses for a second consecutive year. Despite these disappointing results, the aforementioned stocks dropped only slightly. Aside from the mining & extraction sector, Jordan Press Foundation's (PRES) results were one of the most disappointing. PRES posted a JD2.2 million loss last year after bringing in JD1.4 million in profits in 2011.

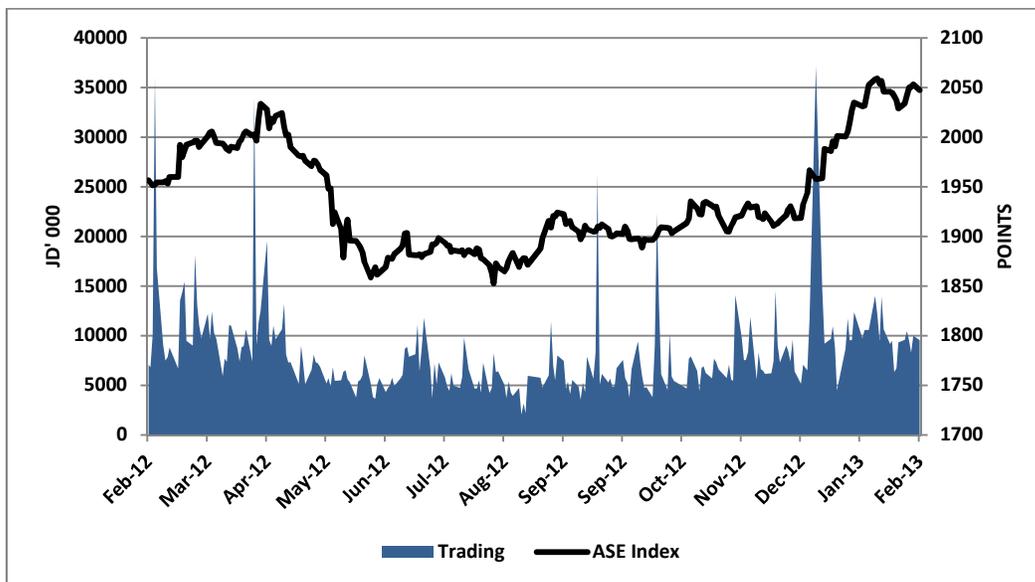
The market's top performing stock was International Card Company (CARD), which gained 57.1% to close at JD0.66; CARD's net income grew 138% in 2012 to JD1.6 million. Meanwhile, the glass & ceramics index was the market's best performing index after gaining 17.5% on the back of a Jordan Ceramic Factories (JOCF) gain of 20.5% to close at JD1; JOCF's losses dropped from JD2 million in 2011 to JD0.76 million in 2012. In the meantime, Al Tajamout for Catering & Housing Projects (JNTH) was the market's most active stock with JD22.5 million in trading. JNTH, which gained 26.6% to close at JD1.57, posted JD0.21 million in profits in the last year compared to JD0.75 million in 2011.



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Company	Close (JOD)	Change (%)	Turnover (JOD)
<b>Best Performers</b>			
INTERNATIONAL CARD COMPANY	0.66	57.1	1,904,641
FIRST NATIONAL VEGETABLE OIL INDUS	0.26	44.4	6,718
INTERNATIONAL BROKERAGE & FINANCIAL MA	0.54	42.1	8,196,852
<b>Worst Performers</b>			
ARAB REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT	0.03	-25.0	7,244
INVESTORS & EASTERN ARAB FOR INDUSTRIAL	0.04	-20.0	50,566
AL ENTEKAEYA FOR INVESTMENT & REAL EST	0.68	-20.0	2,557,644
<b>Most Active</b>			
AL TAJAMOAT FOR CATERING & HOUSING PR	1.57	26.6	22,498,468
ARAB BANK	7.80	5.6	20,995,103
AD DULAYL INDUSTRIAL PARK COMPANY	0.49	11.4	10,717,167

Index	ASE
Close	2047.24
Change (%)	0.99
YTD (%)	4.58
Y-o-Y (%)	4.59
Trailing P/E	16.23

ASE: Amman Stock Exchange Index  
 Trailing P/E: Market capital weighted P/E of index elements

Trading Activity	
Volume (shares)	245,068,549
Volume (JD)	201,856,039
Volume (US\$)	284,617,015

Market Breadth	
Advancers	77
Decliners	77
Unchanged	81

### Trading Value

