

## Taiwan Business Quick Take

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### SOLAR ENERGY

Tainergy sees sales growth

Solar cell maker Tainergy Tech Co Ltd yesterday reported a strong annual increase of 36.31 percent in quarterly sales to NT\$2.59 billion (US\$ 77.93 million) for last quarter, compared with the previous years NT\$1.9 billion. On a quarterly basis, the result grew 22.16 percent from the third quarters revenues of NT\$2.12 billion, the firm said in a filing with the Taiwan Stock Exchange. Last quarters sales result brought the companys combined annual revenues to NT\$7.82 billion for last year, up 19.4 percent from NT\$6.55 billion recorded a year earlier.

### ELECTRONICS

Samsung focuses on Taiwan

Samsung Electronics Co yesterday said that it aims to increase its Taiwan revenue by a double-digit percentage this year by offering more value-added services and raising its service quality in retail stores. Gary Tsao, general manager of Samsung Taiwans IT and mobile communication team, said that although revenue from Taiwan last year was flat from a year earlier, the firm is still optimistic that sales this year could grow from last year. The companys revenue is expected to be driven by smartphones, tablets, wearable products and accessories, Tsao told reporters on the sidelines of Samsungs Galaxy A7 and Galaxy A5 launch event. He declined to disclose the sales figures.

### FINANCE

NT dollar dips 0.51%

The New Taiwan dollar yesterday closed down 0.51 percent to trade at NT\$33.236 against the greenback, relatively stable compared with the South Korean won's 1.28 percent decline, the central bank said in a statement. The central bank issued the statement after the local currency dropped to a three-month low on the first trading session of this year. The depreciation came after foreign institutional investors cut local shares by NT\$13.94 billion and mutual funds by NT\$287.94 million, Taiwan Stock Exchange data showed. Proprietary traders had overbought positions of NT\$439.93 million.

### MANUFACTURING

Ichia sales plunge 33.86%

Keypad manufacturer Ichia Technologies Inc yesterday reported sales of NT\$1.66 billion for last quarter, a significant plunge of 33.86 percent from NT\$2.51 billion a year earlier. The quarterly result also represents a 12.16 percent decline from the third quarters NT\$1.89 billion. In the first three quarters of last year, the firms net income totaled NT\$49.39 million, plunging 94.31 percent from NT\$869.17 million made over the same period of time in the previous year. The keypad makers combined revenues totaled NT\$7.38 billion last year, plummeting 34.24 percent from NT\$11.22 billion made a year ago.

## PHARMACEUTICALS

### China grants BioFirst patent

BioFirst Co yesterday said its newly developed surgical fluid for eye operations has gained patent approval from the Chinese authority, following approvals from Taiwan, **Australia**, Canada and Japan. The firm said the patent approval from China is valid through 2031, which is expected to help the firm tap into the Chinese and other Asian markets. The Taiwanese biotech company said it is still waiting for the US and European countries to offer a green light to its eye operation surgical fluid in the regions. The company is set to gain a technological advantage in the global market with more patent approvals, it said.