

Worldcom defaults on debts, probes new irregularities

AFP, Washington

Worldcom hurtled closer to collapse Monday as it defaulted on 4.25 billion dollars in debt and said it was investigating possible new accounting irregularities.

Worldcom shares, returning to the Nasdaq for the first time since being suspended five days earlier, plummeted 75 cents, or 90.36 per cent, to just eight cents.

The us telecom giant sent world markets reeling last week when it revealed a 3.8 billion-dollar black hole in its accounts for 2001 and the first quarter of 2002, eclipsing even the Enron scandal.

The future of Worldcom, which owns MCI, the second-largest us telephone company, may now lie in the hands of creditors.

"Worldcom's lenders under its 2.65 billion-dollar and 1.6 billion-dollar senior unsecured credit facilities have notified the company that events of default had occurred," it said in a statement.

Worldcom, based in Clinton,

Mississippi, said its creditors now had the right to vote to bring forward the date for repayment of the loans, which would then become immediately due and payable.

"these notifications were anticipated," said Worldcom president and Chief Executive John Sidgmore.

"We are engaged in discussions with lenders regarding replacement facilities and remain optimistic that our good working relationships will ultimately reach a positive resolution."

Worldcom, making new revelations in a separate statement demanded by market regulators, said its audit committee was now poring over the books dating back to 1999.

"in particular, questions have been raised regarding certain material reversals of reserve accounts during 2000 and 1999," Worldcom told the securities and exchange commission.

"No conclusion has been reached regarding these entries," it

said. Worldcom has admitted to presenting 3.8 billion dollars in current expenses incurred since 2001 as capital outlays, an accounting trick that is often used to conceal losses.

The latest statement is bound to fuel fears that further restatements of Worldcom's accounts lie ahead.

Proper accounting would have forced Worldcom to report a net loss in 2001 and for the first quarter of 2002, the company has said.

Instead, Worldcom claimed 1.4 billion dollars in profit in 2001 and 130 million dollars in profit for the first quarter of 2002. Final numbers for those five quarters are awaiting another audit.

Compounding its troubles, Worldcom said it had received a notice from the Nasdaq exchange saying it had failed to comply with filing and fee requirements and was therefore subject to be delisted.

"the notice said that the company's securities will be delisted at the opening of business on July 5,

2002, but that the delisting will be stayed if the company requests a hearing, in accordance with Nasdaq rules."

The group said it also had received a notice halting a program under which it had been securitizing -- or converting into investment securities -- income owed but yet to be collected.

Money collected would be used to pay off about 1.2 billion dollars outstanding, it said. "the company believes that the receivables in the program are sufficient to repay the amounts outstanding."

The wall street journal said investigators looking into the Worldcom scandal were turning their attention to the group's recently ousted chief executive, Bernard Ebbers.

Questions had been raised about how he could have failed to notice the alleged accounting fraud, the daily said. Ebbers built Worldcom through a string of 70 acquisitions but was ejected in April.



M A Mannan, chairman and managing director of Butterfly Marketing Ltd, speaks at the Dhaka zone sales meeting of the company at a city hotel yesterday. M M Ferdous, manager (admin) of the company, was also present there. More than one hundred officers including assistant managers and sales officers of 25 showrooms of Dhaka zone attended the meeting.

ROK creditor banks take over Hynix Board

AFP, Seoul

Creditors of Hynix semiconductor inc on Tuesday brought in two new top executives and made sweeping changes to the south Korean chipmaking giant's board ahead of a planned overhaul.

Hynix said the nine-member board would now be headed by two chief executives: former president of Hnix's number one creditor Korea exchange bank (keb) Woo Eui-je

and incumbent Park Sang-ho. Woo will be in charge of restructuring and external affairs, while park will control the company's semiconductor operations.

The changes were ordered by creditors who secured an 81 per cent stake in Hynix by swapping debt for equity after the firm's board vetoed a creditor-inspired deal to sell the company's memory chip operations to US rival Micron Technology Inc in April.



Guan Lin, chief representative of the Bangladesh office of China Geo-Engineering Corporation, the general contractor of Dhaka-Sylhet Highway Project (RRMP-III), and K M Zahid Uddin, general manager of Sales & Marketing of Scancement International Ltd, sign deal on behalf of their companies. Under the agreement, cement of Scancement company will be used in the project.

HK pledges to fight rising unemployment

AFP, Hong Kong

Hong Kong's newly-appointed ministers pledged to tackle the territory's rising unemployment rate on their first day at work Tuesday.

"I will be working wholeheartedly on the important employment issue," financial secretary Antony Leung told reporters after attending the first meeting of chief executive Tung Chee-hwa's new cabinet, the executive council.

Cheng Yiu-tong, another new member of the cabinet sworn in on Monday, pledged to make tackling unemployment his top priority, expressing hopes that there would be ways to reduce the jobless rate, which is expected to worsen.

Legislator Tsang Yok-sing, chairman of the democratic alliance for the betterment of Hong Kong, told reporters "the major driving force should be the private sector" in resolving the employment problem.

CURRENCY

Following is yesterday's foreign exchange rate statement by Standard Chartered Grindlays Bank.

Selling	Currency		Buying		
	TT/OD	BC	TT Clean	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer
58.5500	58.5800	USD	57.400	57.2314	57.1629
58.7198	58.7499	EUR	55.7985	55.6346	55.5681
90.5066	90.5530	GBP	86.9782	86.7227	86.6189
33.2681	33.2852	AUD	31.6676	31.5746	31.5368
0.4921	0.4923	JPY	0.4762	0.4748	0.4743
39.7353	39.7557	CHF	38.1979	38.0857	38.0401
6.4319	6.4352	SEK	6.2021	6.1838	6.1764
38.7928	38.8127	CAD	37.5950	37.4845	37.4397
7.5139	7.5178	HKD	7.3524	7.3308	7.3220
33.2576	33.2746	SGD	32.3289	32.2340	32.1954
16.0724	16.0806	AED	15.5026	15.4571	1.4386
15.7367	15.7448	SAR	15.1844	15.1398	15.1217

Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

Indian rupee	Pak rupee	Lankan rupee	Thai baht	Norwegian	NZ dollar	AUD
48.83	60.15	96.15	41.460	7.4696	0.4862	0.55995

The local interbank foreign exchange market was active Tuesday. Demand for dollar was steady. Demand for BDT for overnight borrowing at call was steady and the call rate ranged between 3 and 4 per cent for the day.

In the international market, dollar gained ground due to strong US manufacturing data. Dollar rose against the yen amid fears of more intervention from the Bank of Japan (BOJ). However, the long-term sentiment on the dollar still remains bearish. BOJ intervened in the forex market on Friday through European Central Bank (ECB) and US Federal reserve by selling yen.

At 1545 hrs, euro traded at 0.9803/06 against dollar, pound sterling at 1.5254/60 and yen traded at 120.71/74 against US dollar.

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SHIPPING

Chittagong port

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 2-7-2002

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L/Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving	Imprt disc
J/1	Khaleda	Sugar	Sant	AMBL	18/6	5/7	4131
J/2	Handy Humanity	R Seed	Sing	Usl	14/6	10/7	17178
J/4	Togo Charm	C Clink	Cila	Olm	20/6	7/7	1230
J/5	Kiant Satu (Liner)	GI(SI & PA)	Sing	Prog	25/6	2/7	2819
J/6	Le Tai	GI(Peas)	Rouen	Angelic	23/6	12/7	15917
J/7	Ava	Rice (P) GI	Yang	BNSShip	4/6	3/7	55
J/8	Taraman Bibi	Rice(P)	Mumb	Mutual	21/6	10/7	279
J/9	Issac Light	C Clink	Hond	Psai	11/6	5/7	718
J/11	Jaya Mars	Cont	Sing	RSL	28/6	3/7	250/31
J/12	Orient Freedom	Cont	P Kel	Pssl	27/6	3/7	164/X
J/13	Banga Birol	Cont	Sing	Bdship	30/6	5/7	113/39
CCT/1	Banglar Robi	Cont	Sing	BSC	25/6	2/7	194/36
CCT/2	Banga Bonik	Cont	P Kel	Bdship	27/6	3/7	63/X
CCT/3	QC Dignity	Cont	P Kel	Qcsl	28/6	4/7	473/41
RM/14	Banglar Kallol	Idle	Yang	BSC	13/6	-	-
RM/15	Baltimar Sirius	Rice(P)	Kaki	Seacom	25/6	-	-
CCJ	Aliana Princess	C Clink	Thai	BSL	18/6	4/7	-
GSJ	Gat-2	GI/Rice(P)	Kaki	Rainbow	27/6	-	-
TSP	Mercs Kandy	Sugar (P)	Col	RSA	22/6	4/7	-
RM/3	Viscaya	Cdso	Ukro	Seacom	26/6	5/7	-
RM/4	Pranedyia Dwittya	F Oil	Sing	Ctpl	30/6	2/7	-
RM/6	Dailong	HSD/MS	Sing	Eclst	28/6	3/7	-
DD	Banglar Mamata	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	3/7	-
DD/J2	Banga Barta	Cont	Hald	Baridhi	28/6	4/7	-
RM/9	Banglar Gourab	C Clink	Krabi	Owsl	22/5	5/7	-
RM/10	Banglar Jyoti	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	5/7	-

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L/Port call	Local agent	Cargo	Loading por
Banga Biraj (Cont)22/6	2/7	-	Bdship	Cont	Sing
QC Lark(Cont)22/6	2/7	P Kel	QCSSL	Cont	P Kel
An Guang Jiang (Liner)	3/7	-	Everett	St. C	-
Banga Bijoy (Cont) 17/6	3/7	-	Baridhi	Cont	Sing
Banga Lanka (Cont)9/6	3/7	-	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Win Song	3/7	B Abb	Rkship	Bitumeen	-
Tug Sandy Cape	3/7	Fuja	Rkship	-	-
Suisen	3/7	Krabi	Olm	C. Clink	-
Sea Arendal	3/7	Niko	Litmond	Mop in Bulk	-
Pai Hai Jun No. 2	4/7	-	Transglobal	-	-
Dawei (72) 29/6	6/7	-	Evertt	G(SIC)	-
Alpha Venture	4/7	P. Kel	QCSSL	Cont	P. Kel
Mardios(Cont) 25/6	5/7	P Kel	RSL	Cont	Sing
Banglar Shikha(Cont) 27/6	6/7	Sing	BD	Cont	Sing
Banglar Moni (Cont) 27/6	6/7	Sing	BSC	Cont	Sing
Pioneer Runner (Roro)24/ 23/6	5/7	P Kel	JF	Cont	Sing
Kuo Hsiung (Cont) 23/6	6/7	P Kel	QCSSL	Cont	Sing
Jaami (Cont) 23/6	6/7	-	Everbest	Cont	Col
Elmwood	6/7	Pipa	Rml	G(HRST,Col)	-
Kota Barjaya (Cont)25/6	7/7	Sing	Pi(BD)	Cont	Sing
Jurong Bauhinia(Cont)29/6	7/7	-	Nol	Cont	Sing
QC Teal (Cont) 30/6	7/7	P Kel	QCSSL	Cont	-
QC Honour(Cont)1/7	9/7	P Kel	Qcsl	Cont	Sing
Asimont(Cont) 1/7	10/7	-	Seabome	Cont	Sing
Deep Sea-03	10/7	-	Srl	Fishing Trawler	-
Hartford-10	10/7	-	Srl	Fishing Trawler	-
Orient Patriot(Cont)13/6	10/7	-	Pssl	Cont	Sing
Kota Naga(Cont)30/6	10/7	Sing	Pi(BD)	Cont	Sing
Kota Naga(Cont)29/6	13/7	Sing	Pi(BD)	Cont	Sing
Xpress Resolve (Cont)12/6	12/7	-	Everbest	Cont	Col
Min Jiang (Liner)	12/7	-	Bdship	GI	-
QC Pintail (Cont) 30/6	12/7	P Kel	Qcsl	Cont	Sing

Vessels at outer anchorage

Ready on				
Maritime Peace	C. Clink	Tarj	BSL	28/6
Consistence (Cont)	Cont	P. Kel	PSSL	30/6
Oriental Queen	C. Clink	Sing	Unique	25/6
Kota Cahaya(Cont)	Cont	Sing	Pi(BD)	1/7

The above are shipping position and performance of vessels at Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

STOCK