

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit

Narrow Range Trading in FX Markets

The busier schedule to yesterday's macro calendar helped at least temporarily to take some of the focus away from political difficulties in both Italy and the US. In the UK, we got the first of this week's PMI's releases. While the headline manufacturing index came in below market expectations and fell for the first time in seven months, the index level of 56.7 still represented its second highest reading in over 2 years. In terms of the eurozone, there was some mildly positive news on the labour market with data showing that the unemployment rate was slightly down from its peak (12.1%) to 12% in both July and August. Meanwhile, in the US, the manufacturing ISM for September provided an upside surprise to market expectations, increasing to its best level since mid-2011 and in the process suggests that the pace of growth accelerated in the sector as the third quarter came to a close.

However, while there was plenty of macro news yesterday, currency markets had a fairly muted day with most of the major currency pairs trading within narrow ranges. Looking at the picture over the last 24 hours, the dollar is holding a slightly firmer tone against both the euro and sterling. In level terms, the GBP/USD pair opens this morning below the \$1.62 mark, while EUR/USD is trading at the lower end of the \$1.35-1.36 range.

Today the spotlight will be on the ECB meeting and the Italian parliament (vote of no-confidence expected to take place). No change in interest rates is expected from the ECB. However, there has been some speculation that the ECB could announce further long term refinancing operations (LTROs) before year-end, as they look to ease pressure on rates and maintain adequate liquidity in the eurozone. ECB President Mario Draghi is likely to be questioned on the issue. Any indications that a new LTRO could be in the pipeline may weigh on the euro.

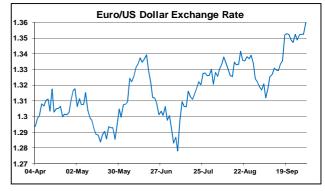
John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

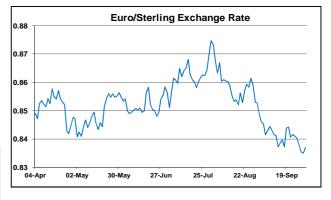
Opening Interest Rates						
		,	Short Term	Long Term		
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0-0.25	0.18	0.24	0.62	0.46	1.56
EUR	0.50	0.13	0.23	0.54	0.59	1.29
GBP	0.50	0.49	0.52	0.87	0.85	1.77

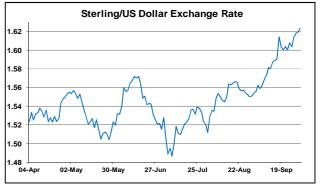
Equity Indices				
		% Changes		
	Latest Close	on Day End 2012 to D		
Dow Jones	15191.7	+0.41	+15.93	
S&P 500	1695	+0.80	+18.85	
FTSE 100	6460.01	-0.03	+9.53	
DJ Stoxx 50	2933.02	+1.38	+11.27	
ISEQ	4282.89	+1.05	+26.09	
Nikkei	14170.49	-2.17	+36.32	

All rates quoted are indicative market rates

Today's Opening Rates % Change End 2012 **EUR/USD** 1.3596 0.38 3.05 **EUR/GBP** 0.8371 0.37 3.17 **GBP/USD** 1.6241 0.03 -0.06 **GBP/EUR** 1.1945 -0.37 -3.07 USD/JPY 97.32 -0.86 12.20 **EUR/JPY** 132.28 -0.52 15.58 v Previous Day's European Open See Next Page for More Rates







See Next Page For More Rates & Charts ▶▶▶

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Opening Levels

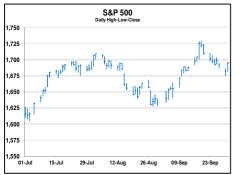
Eur	0
EUR/GBP	0.8371
EUR/USD	1.3596
EUR/JPY	132.28
EUR/SEK	8.6495
EUR/DKK	7.4588
EUR/NOK	8.1424
EUR/CHF	1.2237
EUR/AUD	1.4534
EUR/HKD	10.5433
EUR/CAD	1.4059

Sterling			
GBP/EUR	1.1945		
GBP/USD	1.6241		
GBP/CAD	1.6789		
GBP/NZD	1.9697		
GBP/JPY	157.99		
GBP/SEK	10.33		
GBP/DKK	8.9085		
GBP/NOK	9.7248		
GBP/CHF	1.4615		
GBP/AUD	1.736		

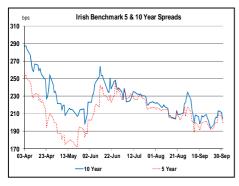
Dollar				
USD/JPY	97.32			
USD/CAD	1.0341			
USD/CHF	0.9			
USD/CNY	6.12			
USD/BRL	2.213			
USD/RUB	32.2005			
USD/INR	62.45			
AUD/USD	0.9352			
NZD/USD	0.8242			

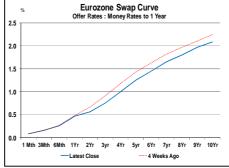












Debt Markets					
		Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 12	
10 Year Yield %					
us	2.65	+3	-21	+89	
Germany	1.80	+2	-14	+50	
uk	2.71	-0	-17	+89	
Ireland	3.84	+6	-17	N/A	
Belgium	2.56	-1	-23	+52	
France	2.32	+1	-19	+34	
Italy	4.47	-12	+13	+1	
Spain	4.17	-13	-28	-98	
Portugal	6.44	-10	-11	-28	
Greece	9.45	-4	-58	-221	
5 Year Swap %					
us	1.53	-3	-31	+65	
Eurozone	1.25	+3	-18	+47	
uk	1.73	-1	-10	+69	
2 Year Swap %					
US	0.44	-4	-15	+3	
Eurozone	0.56	-0	-11	+18	
UK	0.83	-1	-5	+10	
10 Year Governmen	t Bond Spread	s to Benchr	nark bps		
Ireland	204	-8	-10	-151	
Belgium	78	-2	-7	+4	
France	53	-2	-5	-15	
Italy	267	-13	+27	-55	
Spain	239	-15	-13	-174	
Portugal	481	-12	+2	-88	
Greece	767	-34	-83	-294	

Commodities				
	% Change			
_	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 12
Brent Oil	107.94	-0.40	-6.69	-2.85
West Texas Oil	102.09	-0.26	-6.06	+11.17
CRB - All Commodities	284.02	-0.53	-2.99	-3.72
CRB - Food	403.32	+1.34	-1.47	-4.85
Gold \$	1287.2	-3.08	-8.92	-23.18



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