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EURO LATEST

FINANCIAL TIMES

ATHENS FACES TOUGH BAIL-OUT TERMS

By Peter Spiegel, Gerrit Wiesmann, and Matt Steinglass

A €130bn bail-out of Greece will contain unprecedented controls on Athens' ability to spend funds, officials said, as European leaders scrambled on Thursday to paper over their divisions on the rescue package. The agreement, which officials hope to finalise on Monday, is likely to include an escrow account that must always contain enough cash to pay Greece's debt for nine to 12 months. If the account falls below that level, money will be taken from funds earmarked to run the Greek government, according to people briefed on the talks

DAILY TELEGRAPH

GREECE TRIES DEEPER CUTS TO MEET EUROPEAN DEMANDS

By Louise Armitstead, Chief business correspondent

The Greek government offered deeper cuts to public sector salaries and defence spending in a bid to axe €325m from its budget as the options to stave off bankruptcy narrowed. Insiders said Lucas Papademos was scrambling to meet Brussels' demands for austerity even as the latest data pointed to Greece missing yet more debt-reduction targets. Officials said that eurozone finance ministers had been given a report showing Greece's public debt was on track to fall to just 129pc of GDP, far short of the 120pc target agreed under the €130bn (£108bn) second bail-out package.

DAILY EXPRESS

GREEDY EURO MPS DEMAND PAY RISE

By Martyn Brown

Grasping Euro MPs sparked fury last night by demanding a pay rise of up to three per cent. As the eurozone teeters on the brink of catastrophe and Britain is forced to tighten its belt, the shameless demand added to the growing clamour for us to pull out of the EU. The basic salary of an MEP is already £82,915 a year, compared with £64,766 for an MP at Westminster. Euro MPs can also rake in £360,000 in expenses.

DAILY MAIL

CONSUMER GLOOM STARTS TO LIFT AS INFLATION EASES

Consumers are growing more confident in a sign that the economy might be on the mend, a monthly survey by Nationwide has revealed. A sharp fall in inflation to 3.6 per cent and improvements in the manufacturing and service sectors in January may have lifted consumers' spirits and spurred hopes that the country can dodge a double-dip recession.

GUARDIAN

GENERAL MOTORS SHRUGS OFF EUROPEAN WOES TO POST RECORD PROFIT OF \$7.6BN

By Dominic Rushe

GM posts highest profit on record in its first full year since it was bailed out, but Europe remains a black spot for firm. In its first full year since emerging from bankruptcy, General Motors has posted a record profit of \$7.6bn, although European woes weighed on the car firms results in the last months of 2011. GM's 2011 profit, up from \$4.7bn last year, was boosted by recovery in North America, where sales rose and buyers paid higher prices for vehicles, and steady growth in China.

FINANCIAL TIMES

FSA REVEALS GREENLIGHT EVIDENCE

By Sam Jones and Megan Murphy

The UK's Financial Services Authority has handed down a £350,000 fine to one of London's top corporate brokers following a multi-year probe into improper trading in the shares of pub company Punch Taverns by Greenlight Capital, the \$9bn US hedge fund.

THE SCOTSMAN

SCOTTISH INDEPENDENCE: DAVID CAMERON OFFERS A DEAL TO REJECT INDEPENDENCE.

VOTE NO and get more powers. That was the offer on the table from Prime Minister David Cameron yesterday, as he pledged to reopen the devolution settlement for Scotland if voters rejected independence in the forthcoming referendum.

FROM FURTHER AFIELD

WALL STREET JOURNAL

PORTUGAL'S JOBLESS RATE JUMPS

By Patricia Kowsmann

Portugal's unemployment rate jumped to 14% in the final three months of last year, surprising economists and suggesting that austerity measures being implemented under the country's international bailout are creating a bigger-than-expected dent in the economy. A total of 771,000 people were without jobs in the fourth quarter, up from the previous quarter when the jobless rate stood at 12.4%, the country's national statistics bureau said Thursday.