

**ABC 774 Melbourne (Melbourne)**  
**Business & Finance Report - 14/08/2006 - 12:58 PM**  
**Whitney Fitzsimmons**  
**Station Ph: 03 9626 1771**

Today's trade has been boosted by Bendigo Bank, which has gained over 1.5% off the back of positive four yr earnings results. The company's 11.8% profit rise was due to stronger lending and deposit growth. Competition from smaller banks opening branches where the big banks do not operate, is weighing on other players in the sector. Building company Leighton Holdings has posted a 28% profit rise, sending the share prices up by over 5%. Australian engineering company United Group has reported a 66% profit jump, boosted by its takeover of the transport arm of French company Alstom. United is bidding against Downer EDI for a \$3.5b railway contract from the NSW Govt. The recent terrorism scare is benefiting Austrn company **QR Sciences**, which has developed a scanner that can detect explosives in hand luggage.

**Duration:** 2:00  
**Summary ID:** M00023022542  
© Media Monitors

**ABC Channel 2 (National Australia)**  
**Midday Report - 14/08/2006 - 12:22 PM**  
**Paul Lockyer**  
**Station Ph: 03 9626 1500**

Financial markets report with Whitney Fitzsimmons:

- Bendigo Bank has announced an 11.8 per cent increase in full-year profit.
- United Group has reported a 66 per cent profit jump, boosted by its takeover of the transport arm of French company Alstom. United is bidding against Downer EDI for a \$3.5b contract from the NSW Govt.
- **QR Sciences** has developed a scanner which can detect explosives in hand luggage.
- Telstra's stand-off with the ACCC over its expansion to the network continues. It is casting doubt over the Fed Govt's planned sale of the telco. Its shares have dropped 10 cents to \$3.67.

**Mentions:** Cochlear; Commonwealth Bank; Macquarie Airports; Oxiana; PBL  
**Duration:** 2:10  
**Summary ID:** M00023021556  
© Media Monitors

*This program or part thereof is syndicated to 7 station/s.*