UK-Asia trade deal to boost UK economy by 0.08%

The UK has signed a deal to join a trade pact with 11 Asia and Pacific nations, three years after it officially left the European Union

Joining the group will boost UK exports by cutting tariffs on goods such as cheese, cars, chocolate, machinery, gin and whisky, the government said.

However, the government's own estimates show being in the bloc will only add 0.08% to the size of the UK's economy.

The trade area covers a market of around 500 million people.

The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership - or CPTPP - was established in 2018, and includes Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam.

Membership of the CPTPP loosens restrictions on trade between SOURCE



UPCOMING HOLIDAYS APR 2023

DATE	DAY	COUNTRY	CURRENCY	HOLIDAY
10 APR	MONDAY	AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND	AUD NZD	EASTER MONDAY
13 APR	THURSDAY	THAILAND	ТНВ	SONGKRAN
14 APR	FRIDAY	THAILAND	ТНВ	SONGKRAN
17 APR	MONDAY	THAILAND	ТНВ	SONGKRAN

Credit Suisse shareholders re-elect chairman

ZURICH, April 4 (Reuters) - Credit Suisse (CSGN.S) shareholders voted to re-elect Chairman Axel Lehmann at the company's annual general meeting in Zurich on Tuesday.

Of the votes cast, 55.67% were in favour of keeping Lehmann chairman for the remainder of the time until the Swiss bank is officially merged with rival UBS (UBSG.S) as part of a forced takeover orchestrated by Swiss authorities.

Lehmann said earlier that five board members would not stand for re-election.

The remaining board members were all narrowly reelected by share.....

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What OPEC's surprise oil cut means for gas prices



OPEC and its allies' surprise move to slash oil production will soon be felt at US gas pumps.

The group known as OPEC+ announced Sunday it would cut oil production by more than 1.6 million barrels a day starting in May, running through the end of -

of the year. The news sent both Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, and WTI, the US benchmark, up about 6% in trading Monday.

The production announcement also had an immediate impact on gasoline futures, which will be passed onto US drivers much more quickly than the spike in oil prices. RBOB, the closely watched most wholesale gasoline price, was up about 8 cents a gallon, or about 3%, in morning trading.

"I think OPEC is reawakening the inflation monster," said Tom -

Kloza, global head of energy analysis for OPIS, which tracks gas prices for AAA. "The White House has to be shocked and major-time pissed. It certainly alters the calculus for a while."

The national average for US gas prices stood at \$3.51, on Monday, according to AAA. Kloza said he could see it getting up to \$3.80 to \$3.90 in relatively short order thanks to the move by OPEC.

"We're not going to get back to \$5 a gallon. I don't think we're even going as high as \$4," he said. But he said by the end of the summer US...... SOURCE