## HSI WEEK ENDED AUGUST 24, 2018

The Husson Stock Index (HSI) increased 0.93% from the week ended August 17th.

The Husson Stock Index on August 1, 2018 was 153.87 and increased to 155.30.

The largest percentage change for the week was Lowe's Companies, Inc. (LOW), which increased 9.00% for the week. Despite lower growth targets, the stock rose 5.8% on Wednesday after the company announced a new strategy to compete with Home Depot.

Valero Energy Corporation (VLO) rose 8.60% for the week, possibly due to the widening spread between Brent crude oil, which is primarily refined in Northwest Europe, and WTI (West Texas Intermediate) crude.

The Husson Stock Index was developed by Marie Kenney, while a student at Husson University, in consultation with Associate Professor J. Douglas Wellington. The index tracks and analyzes 27 companies that are considered to have an effect on the Maine economy. These companies are either based in Maine or have an influence on the Maine economy through employment, number of consumers, and overall presence in the State. This price-weighted index offers a numerical break down of Maine's economy. The analysis looks into the events of the week and finds the likely reasons the index was up or down. The index and analysis help provide a better

understanding of Maine's economy and offer an explanation of significant changes in the stock prices of the companies that comprise the Husson Stock Index.

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