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International

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U.S. jobless claims hold steady at moderately low level.

- Applications for unemployment benefits were unchanged in the first week of November, signaling employers with a healthier appetite for hiring are also holding the line on firing.
- Jobless claims held at 276,000 in the week ended November 7, although the median forecast was 270,000.
- Companies are limiting staff cutbacks as steady domestic demand diminish some of the concern about weaker global sales.
- Payrolls rose in October by the most in 10 months showing firmer labor market progress that might convince the Federal Reserve to raise its benchmark interest at next month's meeting on December 16.
- Fed policy makers are weighing employment data along with inflation and growth figures as they decide whether to raise the benchmark interest rate for the first time since 2006.
- The implied probability of a rate hike in December 2015, based on Fed fund futures is currently at 66%, up from 27% a month ago.

