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FIL/SEC/SEs/2022-23/018 25th May, 2022

The Manager – Listing Department	The Manager – Listing Department
National Stock Exchange of India	BSE Limited
Limited	Registered Office: Floor 25
5, Exchange Plaza	P.J.Towers
Bandra-Kurla Complex	Dalal Street
Bandra (East),	Mumbai 400 001
Mumbai 400051	
Scrip Code: FINPIPE	Scrip Code: 500940/FINOLEXIND

Sub : Disclosure of revision in Credit Rating

Ref : Regulation 30(6) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

In terms of the subject referred Regulation, we would like to inform that based on CRISIL credit ratings, the Company has been assigned the following revised Corporate Credit Rating:

Instrument/Facility	Credit Ratings			
Long-term rating	CRISIL AA+/Stable (upgraded from 'CRISIL AA'/'Positive')			
Short-term rating	CRISIL A1+ (Reaffirmed)			

A copy of the CRISIL credit ratings report is enclosed for your reference.

You are requested to the take the above on your records.

Thanking you,

Yours truly, For **Finolex Industries Limited**

Ashutosh Kulkarni Company Secretary & Compliance Officer M. No.: A18549

Encl: As above

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Ratings

CRISIL Ratings Limited (A subsidiary of CRISIL Limited)



Rating Rationale

May 25, 2022 | Mumbai

Finolex Industries Limited

Long-term rating upgraded to 'CRISIL AA+/Stable'; short-term rating reaffirmed

Rating Action

Total Bank Loan Facilities Rated	Rs.1378.25 Crore
Long Term Rating	CRISIL AA+/Stable (Upgraded from 'CRISIL AA/Positive')
Short Term Rating	CRISIL A1+ (Reaffirmed)

¹ crore = 10 million

Refer to Annexure for Details of Instruments & Bank Facilities

Detailed Rationale

CRISIL Ratings has upgraded its rating on the long-term bank facilities of Finolex Industries Limited (FIL or 'the company') to '**CRISIL AA+/Stable**' from 'CRISIL AA/Positive'. The short-term rating has been reaffirmed at 'CRISIL A1+'.

The upgrade factors in the enhanced product diversity with share of non-agri products rising to around 40% during fiscal 2022, compared to 30-35% two years ago. The rating action also reflects the improved financial risk profile, as indicated by net cash position (cash and equivalent less gross debt) improving to over Rs 1,500 crore as on March 31, 2022, from around Rs 600 crore as on June 30, 2021. Healthy cash accrual, aided by strong operating performance, along with sale of around 34.88 acres of land in Pune in the last quarter of fiscal 2022, has boosted liquidity.

Revenue has grown by around 34% during fiscal 2022, aided by higher realisations, though volume rose by a modest 3%. Operating margin was healthy around 22% in fiscal 2022, despite moderating from the peak of around 29% in fiscal 2021. While a correction in prices of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) may lead to further moderation, the margin is likely to be healthy above 18% on a sustainable basis and this is a key monitorable.

Cash surplus may be impacted by the yearly dividend payout and sizeable capital expenditure (capex) plans for the pipe division, but should still be healthy. However, any large outflow due to a major capex and/or shareholder payout is a key rating sensitivity factor.

The ratings continue to reflect the established market position of FIL in the PVC resin and pipe segments, its high operating efficiency, driven by the integrated production process and its strong financial risk profile. These rating strengths are partially offset by susceptibility to volatility in raw material prices.

Analytical Approach

CRISIL Ratings has adjusted the networth of FIL for the circular investments between FIL and Finolex Cables Ltd (rated 'CRISIL AA+/Stable/CRISIL A1+').

Key Rating Drivers & Detailed Description Strengths:

- Established market position in the domestic PVC resin and pipes segments: FIL is amongst the largest players in the domestic PVC resin and pipe segments. It holds a market share of over 20% in the organised PVC pipe market (in terms of volume sold).
- High operating efficiency, driven by in-house PVC resin capacity and 43-megawatt (MW) captive power: FIL is the
 only large vertically integrated player in the domestic market as it produces its majority requirement of PVC resin, the
 major raw material used in pipe manufacturing. Interdivisional transfer of raw material has accounted for around 73% of
 total revenue from PVC resign segment in fiscal 2022, vis-à-vis 11% in fiscal 2008.
- Strong financial risk profile: Financial risk profile is marked by negligible gearing of 0.1 time as on March 31, 2022, in the absence of any long-term debt or major capex plans. Debt protection metrics were strong, with interest cover of around 79 times in fiscal 2022. Liquidity has improved further, as reflected in net cash and equivalent aggregating above Rs 1,500 crore as on March 31, 2022, supported by healthy cash accrual and proceeds from sale of 34.88 acres of land in the last quarter of fiscal 2022.

Weakness:

• Susceptibility to volatility in raw material prices: Profitability remains volatile to movement in international prices of PVC and its raw materials: ethylene dichloride (EDC), ethylene, and vinyl chloride monomer (VCM). Furthermore, as most of the raw material required for manufacturing PVC resin is imported, inventory-related risk is also high.

Rating Rationale

Liquidity: Strong

Expected cash accrual of over Rs 250 crore per annum will continue to support liquidity in the absence of any debt. Net cash and equivalents were above Rs 1,500 crore as on March 31, 2022. Moderate capex of Rs 150-200 crore per annum is likely to be funded through internal accrual going forward. Bank limit also has adequate cushion to cover the incremental working capital expenses.

Outlook: Stable

CRISIL Ratings believes that FIL will benefit from its strong market position and operating efficiency, while maintaining its healthy financial risk profile over the medium term.

Rating Sensitivity factors

Upward factors

- Improvement in business risk profile, driven by increased geographical reach as well as product diversification
- Sustenance of healthy double-digit revenue growth and operating margin of over 20% along with a healthy financial risk
 profile

Downward factors

- Steep decline in revenue, with operating margin falling below 16% on sustained basis
- Significant weakening of the capital structure or debt protection metrics
- Sizeable reduction in cash surpluses due to higher-than-expected shareholder payouts or large debt funded capex

About the Company

FIL is the third-largest player in the PVC resin market and second largest manufacturer of PVC pipes in India. The company has three manufacturing facilities, one each in Pune and Ratnagiri (both in Maharashtra) and Masar, near Vadodara in Gujarat. The company is the only backward integrated player, with in-house PVC resin capacity and 43 MW captive power, aiding cost control.

Key Financial Indicators

As on/for the period ended March 31		2022	2021
Revenue	Rs crore	4,647	3454
Profit after tax (PAT)	Rs crore	1,053	728
PAT margin	%	22.7	21.1
Adjusted debt/adjusted networth	Times	0.10	0.09
Interest coverage	Times	78.6	146.4

Any other information: Not applicable

Note on complexity levels of the rated instrument:

CRISIL Ratings' complexity levels are assigned to various types of financial instruments. The CRISIL Ratings' complexity levels are available on <u>www.crisil.com/complexity-levels</u>. Users are advised to refer to the CRISIL Ratings' complexity levels for instruments that they consider for investment. Users may also call the Customer Service Helpdesk with queries on specific instruments.

Annexure - Details of Instrument(s)

ISIN	Name of instrument	Date of allotment	Coupon rate (%)	Maturity date	Issue size (Rs crore)	Complexity levels	Rating assigned with outlook
NA	Cash Credit	NA	NA	NA	120.25	NA	CRISIL AA+/Stable
NA	Letter of credit & Bank Guarantee*	NA	NA	NA	1250.0	NA	CRISIL A1+
NA	Proposed Long Term Bank Loan Facility	NA	NA	NA	8.0	NA	CRISIL AA+/Stable

*Letter of credit and bank guarantee are interchangeable with buyer's credit.

Annexure - Rating History for last 3 Years

		Current		2022	History)	2	:021	20	020	20)19	Start of 2019
Instrument	Туре	Outstanding Amount	Rating	Date	Rating	Date	Rating	Date	Rating	Date	Rating	Rating
Fund Based Facilities	LT	128.25	CRISIL AA+/Stable			29-10-21	CRISIL AA/Positive / CRISIL A1+	18-12-20	CRISIL A1+ / CRISIL AA/Stable	26-09-19	CRISIL A1+ / CRISIL AA/Stable	CRISIL A1+ / CRISIL AA/Stable
Non-Fund Based Facilities	ST	1250.0	CRISIL A1+			29-10-21	CRISIL A1+	18-12-20	CRISIL A1+	26-09-19	CRISIL A1+	CRISIL A1+

All amounts are in Rs.Cr.

Annexure - Details of Bank Lenders & Facilities

Facility	Amount (Rs.Crore)	Rating
Cash Credit	4	CRISIL AA+/Stable
Cash Credit	10	CRISIL AA+/Stable
Cash Credit	50	CRISIL AA+/Stable

Rating Rationale

Cash Credit	6.25	CRISIL AA+/Stable
Cash Credit	50	CRISIL AA+/Stable
Letter of credit & Bank Guarantee*	500	CRISIL A1+
Letter of credit & Bank Guarantee*	50	CRISIL A1+
Letter of credit & Bank Guarantee*	200	CRISIL A1+
Letter of credit & Bank Guarantee*	500	CRISIL A1+
Proposed Long Term Bank Loan Facility	8	CRISIL AA+/Stable

*Letter of credit and bank guarantee are interchangeable with buyer's credit.

Criteria Details

Links to related criteria	
CRISILs Approach to Financial Ratios	
Rating criteria for manufaturing and service sector companies	
CRISILs Bank Loan Ratings - process, scale and default recognition	

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Rating Rationale

Rating Rationale

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