



Press Release
Duncans Tea Limited
August 16, 2024

Rating Downgraded & Withdrawn and Issuer not co-operating

Product	Quantum (Rs. Cr)	Long Term Rating	Short Term Rating
Bank Loan Ratings	18.00	ACUITE BB Downgraded & Withdrawn Issuer not co-operating*	-
Total Outstanding Quantum (Rs. Cr)	0.00	-	-
Total Withdrawn Quantum (Rs. Cr)	18.00	-	-

Rating Rationale

Acuite has downgraded and withdrawn the long-term rating at '**ACUITE BB**' (read as **ACUITE Double B**) from '**ACUITE BB+**' (read as **ACUITE Double B Plus**) on Rs.18.00 crore bank facilities of Duncans Tea Limited (DTL).

The rating continues to be flagged as "Issuer Not Cooperating" and is based on the best available information. The rating is downgraded on account of information risk.

The rating has been withdrawn as per Acuite's policy of withdrawal of ratings as applicable to the respective instrument/facility. The rating has been withdrawn on account of the request received from the company and the NOC(No Objection Certificate) received from the banker.

About the Company

Duncans Tea Limited (DTL), part of the Duncans Group, was incorporated in 1979. A Kolkata based company, Duncans Tea Limited is engaged in blending, packaging and marketing of tea through its distribution network spread across India. The company is one of the oldest players in the packaged tea market. The overall operations are managed by the directors Mr. Shrivardhan Goenka, Mr. Shrish Tapuriah, Mr. Maneyapanda Chinnappa Appaiah and Mr. Sudipta Kumar Mitra.

Unsupported Rating

Not Applicable

Non-cooperation by the issuer/borrower:

Acuité has been requesting for data, information and undertakings from the rated entity for conducting surveillance & review of the rating. However, the issuer/borrower failed to submit such information before the due date. Acuité believes that information risk is a critical component in such ratings, and non co-operation by the issuer along with unwillingness to provide information could be a sign of potential deterioration in its overall credit quality. This rating is, therefore, being flagged as "Issuer not-cooperating", in line with prevailing SEBI regulations and Acuité's policies.

Limitation regarding information availability:

The rating is based on information available from sources other than the issuer/borrower (in the absence of information provided by the issuer/borrower). Acuité endeavoured to gather information about the entity/ industry from the public domain. Therefore, Acuité cautions lenders and investors regarding the use of such information, on which the indicative credit rating is based.

Rating Sensitivity

"No information provided by the issuer / available for Acuite to comment upon."

Liquidity Position

"No information provided by the issuer / available for Acuite to comment upon."

Outlook: Not Applicable

Other Factors affecting Rating

None

Key Financials

Particulars	Unit	FY 22 (Actual)	FY 21 (Actual)
Operating Income	Rs. Cr.	167.11	179.13
PAT	Rs. Cr.	8.26	6.68
PAT Margin	(%)	4.94	3.73
Total Debt/Tangible Net Worth	Times	0.40	0.57
PBDIT/Interest	Times	5.44	3.92

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA

Not Applicable

Any other information

None

Applicable Criteria

- Manufacturing Entities: <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-59.htm>
- Default Recognition: <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-52.htm>
- Application Of Financial Ratios And Adjustments: <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-53.htm>

Note on Complexity Levels of the Rated Instrument

In order to inform the investors about complexity of instruments, Acuite has categorized such instruments in three levels: Simple, Complex and Highly Complex. Acuite's categorisation of the instruments across the three categories is based on factors like variability of the returns to the investors, uncertainty in cash flow patterns, number of counterparties and general understanding of the instrument by the market. It has to be understood that complexity is different from credit risk and even an instrument categorized as 'Simple' can carry high levels of risk. For more details, please refer Rating Criteria "Complexity Level Of Financial Instruments" on www.acuite.in.

Rating History

Date	Name of Instruments/Facilities	Term	Amount (Rs. Cr)	Rating/Outlook
13 Jul 2023	Cash Credit	Long Term	18.00	ACUITE BB+ (Reaffirmed & Issuer not co-operating*)
15 Apr 2022	Cash Credit	Long Term	18.00	ACUITE BB+ (Downgraded & Issuer not co-operating* from ACUITE BBB- Stable)
22 Jan 2021	Cash Credit	Long Term	18.00	ACUITE BBB- Stable (Reaffirmed)

Annexure - Details of instruments rated

Lender's Name	ISIN	Facilities	Date Of Issuance	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Complexity Level	Quantum (Rs. Cr.)	Rating
UCO Bank	Not avl. / Not appl.	Cash Credit	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Simple	18.00	ACUITE BB Downgraded & Withdrawn Issuer not co-operating* (from ACUITE BB+)

Contacts

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About Acuité Ratings & Research

Acuité is a full-service Credit Rating Agency registered with the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI). The company received RBI Accreditation as an External Credit Assessment Institution (ECAI) for Bank Loan Ratings under BASEL-II norms in the year 2012. Acuité has assigned ratings to various securities, debt instruments and bank facilities of entities spread across the country and across a wide cross section of industries. It has its Registered and Head Office in Kanjurmarg, Mumbai.

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