

## Press Release

Crescent Chemicals

January 08, 2019



**Rating Assigned**

<b>Total Bank Facilities Rated*</b>	Rs. 17.00 Cr.
<b>Short Term Rating</b>	ACUITE A3

\* Refer Annexure for details

### Rating Rationale

Acuité has assigned short term rating of '**ACUITE A3**' (**read as ACUITE A three**) to the Rs. 17.00 crore bank facilities of Crescent Chemicals (CC).

CC was established in 1964. The company is engaged in trading of bulk chemicals and solvent. CC is a part of Crescent Group which is engaged in similar line of business. The products of the company find application in various industry segments including pharmaceuticals, chemicals, agrochemicals, paints, food packaging and petrochemicals.

### Analytical Approach

Acuité has consolidated the business and financial risk profiles of Asian Solvochem Private Limited (ASPL), Crescent Organics Private Limited (COPL) and Crescent Chemicals (CC) together referred to as the 'Crescent Group' (CG) to arrive at the rating. The consolidation is in view of the similarities in the lines of business, operational and financial synergies and common management. Extent of Consolidation: Full

### Key Rating Drivers

#### Strengths

- Experienced management and established track record of operations**

The group has been in operations since 1964 and is managed by the promoters. They have more than 5 decades of experience in the chemical industry. Thus, the group benefits from its long existence and relations forge with customers and suppliers.

- Diverse application of products**

The group has a diversified application for the product portfolio as it cater to the need of various industries such as pharmaceuticals, chemicals, agrochemicals, paints, food packaging and petrochemicals, among others. Thus, reducing the dependency of sale of its products in a particular industry.

- Efficient working capital management and adequate liquidity**

The company continues to efficiently manage its working capital requirement with working capital cycle of 59 days in FY2018 compared to 42 days in the previous year. Further, the liquidity remains adequate because of comfortable cash accruals against debt repayment obligation and absence of any debt funded capex over the medium term.

#### Weaknesses

- Low profitability and susceptibility of margins to volatility in chemical prices and forex rates**

The group reported operating margin of 2.48 percent for FY2018 as against 2.94 percent in FY2017. Further, CG reported Profit after tax (PAT) margin of 0.87 percent for FY2018 as against 2.49 percent in the previous year. The low margins are on account of the trading nature of operations. Further, the group's profitability margins are susceptible to fluctuations in the raw material prices of traded chemicals and foreign exchange fluctuations as the raw materials are imported. However, the group hedges ~70 percent of its goods which mitigates the risk partially.

• **Highly competitive and fragmented industry**

The chemical trading industry is a highly fragmented industry and there are large numbers of organised and unorganised players which has led to high competition in the industry. The company faces competition from few large players as well as numerous players in the unorganised segment. Also on account of its trading nature of business, the entry barriers are low, leading to stiff competition for the company.

**About the Group**

CG includes three companies i.e. Asian Solvochem Private Limited (ASPL), Crescent Organics Private Limited (COPL) and Crescent Chemicals (CC). The group has its presence in the industry since 1964 and is engaged in trading of bulk chemicals and solvent. Apart from trading, COPL is engaged in manufacturing of poly bags with installed capacity of 55 lac bags per month.

**About the Rated Entity - Key Financials**

	Unit	FY18 (Actual)	FY17 (Actual)	FY16 (Actual)
Operating Income	Rs. Cr.	921.77	624.55	586.29
EBITDA	Rs. Cr.	22.86	18.38	0.76
PAT	Rs. Cr.	8.06	15.57	-0.75
EBITDA Margin	(%)	2.48	2.94	0.13
PAT Margin	(%)	0.87	2.49	-0.13
ROCE	(%)	10.72	17.05	3.87
Total Debt/Tangible Net Worth	Times	1.57	1.36	0.50
PBDIT/Interest	Times	2.29	2.89	1.06
Total Debt/PBDIT	Times	5.53	4.01	6.04
Gross Current Assets (Days)	Days	146	208	115

**Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA (if applicable)**

None

**Any other information**

None

**Applicable Criteria**

- Default Recognition - <https://www.acuite.in/criteria-default.htm>
- Trading Entities - <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-6.htm>
- Manufacturing Entities - <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-4.htm>
- Consolidation Of Companies - <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-22.htm>
- Financial Ratios And Adjustments - <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-20.htm>

**Note on complexity levels of the rated instrument**

<https://www.acuite.in/criteria-complexity-levels.htm>

**Rating History (Upto last three years)**

Not Applicable

**\*Annexure – Details of instruments rated**

Name of the Facilities	Date of Issuance	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Size of the Issue (Rs. Cr.)	Ratings/Outlook
Standby Letter of credit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	17.00	ACUITE A3

Standby Letter of Credit of Rs.17.00 crore includes sublimit of overdraft, shipping guarantees, import LC (unsecured), import LC (secured), bond & guarantees, credit bills negotiated – discrepant, import invoice financing, export invoice financing to the extent of Rs. 10.00 crore, Rs.5.00 crore, Rs. 17.00 crore, Rs.17.00 Crore, Rs.8.00 crore, Rs.3.00 crore, Rs.17.00 Crore and Rs.30.00 Crore respectively.

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### About Acuité Ratings & Research:

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