

CPF (THAILAND) PLC

No. 90/2020 8 December 2020

CreditUpdate

CORPORATES	
Company Rating:	A+
Issue Ratings:	
Senior unsecured	A+
Outlook:	Stable

Last Review Date: 10/06/20

Company Rating History:						
Date	Rating	Outlook/Alert				
31/03/20	A+	Alert Negative				
04/11/15	A+	Stable				

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RATIONALE

TRIS Rating removes the CreditAlert with "negative" implication placed on the company rating and issue ratings of CPF (Thailand) PLC (CPFTH) since 31 March 2020. At the same time, TRIS Rating affirms the company rating and its senior debenture ratings at "A+" with a "stable" outlook.

The ratings on CPFTH reflect its status as a core subsidiary of Charoen Pokphand Foods PLC (CPF), rated "A+" with a "stable" outlook. The ratings also take into consideration the high degree of the operational integration CPFTH has with CPF and the support it receives from CPF.

CPFTH is a core subsidiary of CPF for the domestic livestock operation. CPFTH posted satisfactory results in the first nine months of 2020, owing to the rise of livestock prices together with low feed cost. Sale increased by 4.6% year-on-year (y-o-y) to Bt111.2 billion. Gross margin improved to 13.8% in the first nine months of 2020, compared with 10.2% during the same period of 2019.

The economic fallout from the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has had minimal impact on CPFTH's businesses as its products are essential for everyday life. We expect CPFTH's operating results in 2020 will benefit from low raw material costs and rising demand of frozen packaged food.

At the end of September 2020, the company's interest-bearing debt amounted to THB98 billion, with debentures and long-term loans made up 80% of total debts. We assess CPFTH to have adequate liquidity for the next 12 months. The major cash outflows are its scheduled debt repayments of THB13 billion due in 2021, which are expected to be funded primarily by cash flow from operation. CPFTH's funds from operations (FFO) are projected to hover around THB6-THB7 billion per year. Liquidity buffer is at an acceptable level with cash on hand of around THB31 billion and available credit lines from commercial banks.

RATING OUTLOOK AND SENSITIVITIES

The "stable" outlook is based on our expectation that CPFTH will remain a core subsidiary of CPF, responsible for the whole chain of CPF's livestock operations in Thailand. The company rating of CPFTH is aligned with CPF's credit profile. Any change in CPF's rating will affect CPFTH's rating accordingly.

COMPANY OVERVIEW

CPFTH is a nearly wholly owned (99.99%) subsidiary of CPF. Established in February 2012, the company was founded through the amalgamation of 10 subsidiaries of CPF.

The company is a fully integrated producer of livestock products. CPFTH's business is divided into three segments: feed, farm, and food. In 2019, the farm segment was the largest, accounting for 55% of CPFTH's total revenues,

CreditUpdate, reviews ratings of companies or debt issues that have already been rated by TRIS Rating. The CreditUpdate occurs when new debt instruments are issued or if significant events have taken place that may impact a company's current ratings or when current ratings are cancelled. The CreditUpdate announces whether a rating has been "upgraded," "downgraded," "affirmed" or "cancelled." The update includes information to supplement the previously published ratings. Credit Updates are part of TRIS Rating's monitoring process. TRIS Rating monitors every rating it assigns until either the debt instrument matures or the rating contract ends. To keep the public informed of changing situations, TRIS Rating periodically issues announcements about the credit ratings it monitors.



followed by food products (27%) and animal feed (18%). About 87% of CPFTH's products are sold in Thailand, while the rest is exported indirectly through CP Merchandising Co., Ltd., another subsidiary of CPF.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS AND KEY FINANCIAL RATIOS

Unit: Mil. THB

	Year Ended 31 December				
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Total operating revenues	144,165	146,983	143,375	142,903	136,697
Earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT)	3,212	(1,865)	2,084	8,700	3,878
Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA)	8,833	3,169	6,470	12,766	7,422
Funds from operations (FFO)	5,956	1,572	4,585	9,724	5,024
Adjusted interest expense	2,841	2,634	1,949	1,635	1,966
Capital expenditures	6,715	10,626	10,544	8,353	6,060
Total assets	150,769	139,628	122,974	118,587	79,656
Adjusted debt	80,596	78,257	68,755	66,605	40,232
Adjusted equity	60,141	50,480	44,003	37,572	20,165
Adjusted Ratios					
EBITDA margin (%)	6.13	2.16	4.51	8.93	5.43
Pretax return on permanent capital (%)	2.32	(1.52)	1.89	10.37	6.68
EBITDA interest coverage (times)	3.11	1.20	3.32	7.81	3.78
Debt to EBITDA (times)	9.12	24.70	10.63	5.22	5.42
FFO to debt (%)	7.39	2.01	6.67	14.60	12.49
Debt to capitalization (%)	57.27	60.79	60.98	63.93	66.61

RELATED CRITERIA

- Rating Methodology – Corporate, 26 July 2019

- Key Financial Ratios and Adjustments, 5 September 2018

- Group Rating Methodology, 10 July 2015



CPF (Thailand) PLC (CPFTH)

Company Rating:	A+
Issue Ratings:	
CPFTH211A: THB7,450 million senior unsecured debentures due 2021	A+
CPFTH215A: THB4,500 million senior unsecured debentures due 2021	A+
CPFTH231A: THB2,150 million senior unsecured debentures due 2023	A+
CPFTH235A: THB4,000 million senior unsecured debentures due 2023	A+
CPFTH237A: THB3,300 million senior unsecured debentures due 2023	A+
CPFTH245A: THB4,000 million senior unsecured debentures due 2024	A+
CPFTH252A: THB13,445 million senior unsecured debentures due 2025	A+
CPFTH255A: THB2,000 million senior unsecured debentures due 2025	A+
CPFTH261A: THB3,350 million senior unsecured debentures due 2026	A+
CPFTH267A: THB1,400 million senior unsecured debentures due 2026	A+
CPFTH275A: THB500 million senior unsecured debentures due 2027	A+
CPFTH278A: THB2,359.1 million senior unsecured debentures due 2027	A+
CPFTH281A: THB3,050 million senior unsecured debentures due 2028	A+
CPFTH287A: THB1,100 million senior unsecured debentures due 2028	A+
CPFTH295A: THB4,000 million senior unsecured debentures due 2029	A+
CPFTH305A: THB3,500 million senior unsecured debentures due 2030	A+
CPFTH308A: THB806.1 million senior unsecured debentures due 2030	A+
CPFTH315A: THB6,500 million senior unsecured debentures due 2031	A+
CPFTH317A: THB2,200 million senior unsecured debentures due 2031	A+
CPFTH328A: THB872.6 million senior unsecured debentures due 2032	A+
CPFTH335A: THB3,000 million senior unsecured debentures due 2033	A+
CPFTH358A: THB2,517.2 million senior unsecured debentures due 2035	A+
Rating Outlook:	Stable

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