

Research

Research Update:

Swedish Heavy Truck Manufacturer Scania 'A-' Rating Placed On Watch Negative After Similar Action On Parent, Volkswagen

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Overview

- On Sept. 24, 2015, we placed our 'A' rating on Volkswagen AG (VW), Scania's parent, on CreditWatch negative following the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's announcement that VW had violated U.S. environmental standards.
- Scania is a highly strategic entity within the VW group, in our view, implying that it cannot carry a higher rating than its owner.
- We are therefore placing our 'A-' long-term rating on Scania on CreditWatch negative.
- We aim to resolve the CreditWatch on Scania within 90 days, once the CreditWatch on VW has been resolved.

Rating Action

On Sept. 25, 2015, Standard & Poor's Ratings Services placed its 'A-' long-term corporate credit rating on Sweden-based heavy truck manufacturer Scania AB (publ.) on CreditWatch with negative implications. We also placed our 'A-' issue ratings on Scania's debt instruments on CreditWatch negative.

At the same time, we affirmed our 'A-2' short-term corporate credit rating on Scania.

Rationale

The CreditWatch placement follows a similar action on Scania's owner, Volkswagen AG (VW) on Sept. 24, 2015 (see "Germany-Based Automaker Volkswagen Placed On CreditWatch Negative On €6.5 Billion Charge For Global Recall," published Sept. 24, 2015, on RatingsDirect). We consider Scania to be a highly strategic entity within the VW group, which means that our ratings on Scania are capped by those on VW.

Liquidity

We assess Scania's liquidity as "strong," based on our projections that the company's ratio of potential sources of liquidity to uses will exceed 1.5x in each of the next two years.

Principal liquidity sources:

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- Cash and liquid assets of Swedish krona (SEK) 10.8 billion (about €1.15 billion) as of June 30, 2015.
- About SEK38 billion in undrawn fully committed credit facilities, including a three-year €1 billion revolving credit facility (RCF), signed by Scania CV AB and VW in July 2015.
- Our expectation of funds from operations of more than SEK10 billion annually in 2015 and 2016.

Principal liquidity uses:

- A total of SEK23.5 billion, including debt maturing in the next 12 months. Most of these outflows are tied to Scania's financial services operations, but because we expect them to be matched by inflows from the same operations, we remove them from our calculations. This could change, however, if for any reason a material duration mismatch were to occur.
- Annual capital expenditure of SEK6 billion-SEK7 billion.

CreditWatch

We aim to resolve the CreditWatch on Scania within 90 days, once the CreditWatch on VW has been resolved, meaning that the resolution is tied to developments at VW.

If the long-term rating on VW were affirmed or lowered by one notch, we would likely affirm our ratings on Scania, since we assess Scania's stand-alone credit profile at 'a-'.

However, if we lowered our long-term rating on VW by more than one notch, we would lower our long-term rating on Scania to the same level.

Ratings Score Snapshot

Corporate Credit Rating: A-/Watch Neg/A-2

Business risk: Satisfactory

- Country risk: Low
- Industry risk: Moderately high
- Competitive position: Strong

Financial risk: Minimal

• Cash flow/Leverage: Minimal

Anchor: a-

Modifiers

- Diversification/Portfolio effect: Neutral (no impact)
- Capital structure: Neutral (no impact)
- Financial policy: Neutral (no impact)
- Liquidity: Strong (no impact)

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- Management and governance: Satisfactory (no impact)
- Comparable ratings analysis: Neutral (no impact)

Stand-alone credit profile: a-

Entity status within group: Highly strategic

Related Criteria And Research

- Methodology And Assumptions: Liquidity Descriptors For Global Corporate Issuers, Dec. 16, 2014
- Standard & Poor's National and Regional Scale Mapping Tables, Sept. 30, 2014
- National and Regional Scale Ratings, Sept. 22, 2014
- Corporate Methodology, Nov. 19, 2013
- Corporate Methodology: Ratios And Adjustments, Nov. 19, 2013
- Group Rating Methodology, Nov. 19, 2013
- Key Credit Factors For The Auto And Commercial Vehicle Manufacturing Industry, Nov. 19, 2013
- Methodology: Management And Governance Credit Factors For Corporate Entities And Insurers, Nov. 13, 2012

Ratings List

CreditWatch Action

	То	From
Scania AB (publ.) Long-Term Corporate Credit Rating	A-/Watch Neg	A-/Stable
Scania CV AB		
Senior Unsecured	A-/Watch Neg	A-
Ratings Affirmed		
Scania AB (publ.)		
Short-Term Corporate Credit Rating	//A-2	
Nordic Regional Scale	//K-1	
South Africa National Scale	//zaA-1	
South Africa National Scale	zaAAA//zaA-1	
Scania CV AB		
Commercial Paper	K-1	

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