

EXPAT ENGINEERING INDIA LIMITED

Ratings

Facilities	Amount (Rs. crore)	Ratings ¹	Remarks
Long-term Bank Facilities	9.60	CARE B+ [Single B Plus]	Assigned
Short-term Bank Facilities	1.00	CARE A4 [A Four]	Assigned
Total Facilities	10.60		

Rating Rationale

The ratings assigned to the bank facilities of Expat Engineering India Limited (EEIL) are constrained by the implementation risk associated with its debt-funded project, delay in project execution due to delay in regulatory approvals and risk inherent to the real estate sector with competition from other real estate players. The ratings, however, derive strength from the experience of the promoters in the real estate industry, moderate order book showing the revenue visibility for the next two years, increase in operating income over the last three years, and comfortable capital structure.

The ability of EEIL to complete the project within envisaged cost and time in light of competition is the key rating sensitivity.

Background

Incorporated in 1999, the Expat Properties India Limited, part of the Expat Group, was setup to develop a project belonging to the Expat Group. Later in the year 2007, this division emerged as a new entity of the Expat group under the name of Expat Engineering India Limited (EEIL) in Bangalore. This restructuring was done in order to expand the operations to construction of residential buildings other than the group projects. EEIL, promoted by Mr Santosh Balakrishna Shetty, Mr Santosh Bothello and several others, is engaged in executing contracts for land & infrastructure development and construction of residential & commercial buildings for projects belonging to the Expat group as well as others. In 2010, EEIL entered into a strategic alliance with a US-based firm, TMAD-Taylor & Gaines, in order to execute the international projects. However, no international project has been executed till now. EEIL is currently executing four projects, which are expected to be completed by the end of 2013. The projects belonging to the Expat group are allotted to EEIL on part basis and once a part of work order is finished, next work order is issued.

Credit Risk Assessment

Project implementation risk

EEIL is currently executing four projects as below:

Sparsh: Sparsh is a project belonging to EEIL's group company Expat Projects & Development Pvt Ltd, for which, EEIL is executing construction activities of 80 Chalets (1 BHK) at Karjat, Maharashtra. The total cost of the project is Rs.16.20 crore to be financed through the promoter's contribution of Rs.2.51 crore and remaining amount of Rs.13.69 crore through advance against sales received from the customers. This project commenced on August 1, 2012, and is expected to complete by May 2013.

Brigade Orchards: Brigade Orchids is a project outsourced to EEIL by BCV Developers Pvt Ltd for executing construction activities of civil works only for Villas under the name of package C & E at Brigade Orchards, Devanahalli (35 Km from Bangalore). Package E was scheduled to be completed within nine months from the start date i.e. on July 2012. This project was delayed because of delay in regulatory approvals and now it is scheduled to be completed by July 2013. The total cost of the project is Rs.4.65 crore to be financed through the promoter's contribution of Rs.1.25 crore and remaining amount of Rs.3.40 crore through advance against sales received from the customers.

Solitude Enclave: Solitude Enclave is a project belonging to EEIL's group company Expat Projects & Development Pvt Ltd, for which, EEIL is executing construction activities of villas and apartments in Tivim, Goa. EEIL has been issued the work order for construction up to plinth level. The total value of the project is Rs.8.10 crore; however, the value of issued work order is Rs.67

¹Complete definition of the ratings assigned are available at www.careratings.com and other CARE publications



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lakh. The project is expected to be completed by December 2013. The total cost of the project is Rs.0.67 crore to be financed through the promoter's contribution of Rs.0.22 crore and remaining amount through advance against sales received from the customers.

Wisdom Tree: Wisdom Tree is a project belonging to EEIL's group company Expat Projects & Development Pvt Ltd, for which, EEIL is executing construction activities of residential apartments of the area ranging from 1,221 sq.ft to 1,780 sq ft in Bangalore. EEIL has been issued the work order for construction of marketing office. About 75% of the construction work for the marketing office has been completed. The total value of the project is Rs.50.50 crore; however, the value of issued work order is Rs.35 lakh.

The ability of the company to complete all the projects within the scheduled timeframe and without cost overrun remains critical. Also, as major part of funding for all the projects is advances received from the customers, any delay in receiving advances might lead to a delay in project execution and affect the company's ability to complete the projects on time.

Delay in project execution due to delay in regulatory approvals

Delay in regulatory approvals for project execution has resulted into a slowdown in the execution of the projects by the company. For many projects, commencement of EEIL's work depends upon the completion of earlier phases of the project, which in turn, depends upon obtaining regulatory approvals. Furthermore, EEIL's performance is highly dependent on the project received from its group companies and regulatory approvals for the same. During FY12, the company received many work orders from the group; however, few projects got delayed on account of delay in obtaining regulatory approvals by the client.

Risk inherent to the real estate sector with competition from other real estate players

The property markets closely tracks the interest rate cycle. Globally, the real estate markets react negatively to the rising interest rates as it impacts the customer cash flows to finance the projects. Lower interest rates on the commercial projects from the retail banks and housing finance companies and favorable tax treatment of the loans had fueled the recent growth of the Indian real estate market. The series of the interest rate hikes in the past (though the trend has started to reverse recently) as a part of the monetary tightening indicates that the cost of construction has gone up for the developers. The banks have already taken a cautious approach to the real estate lending and reduced their exposure to the sector, and hence, most developers now rely on private players for the project funding. Furthermore, a slow progress in the projects and delayed payments from contractees have resulted in elongated working capital cycle, thereby, increasing reliance of the companies on external funds deteriorating their capital structure. In addition to this, increased competition from other established players in the market shrinks the profitability margins.

Longstanding experience of the promoters in the real estate industry

EEIL was established in 2007 and has developed many residential & commercial projects, including construction of Pre Engineered Building structures and commercial complexes, and land & infrastructure development. The promoters of the company have more than two decades of experience in the area of property consultancy, infrastructure-cum-housing development projects through its group company. Mr Vijendra Rao, CFO, has 31 years of experience in this industry. Mr Arvind, CEO is associated with EEIL since 1999 through its group company. He earlier worked with Karnataka Housing Board and also partnered in establishing a company (Ace Construction) in the construction field. The directors are assisted by senior level management team and functional heads of Engineering, Marketing, Finance and Operations.

Moderate order book showing the revenue visibility

EEIL has moderate order book of Rs.150.60 crore to be executed over the next two years, most of which belong to the Expat group. Current order book shows revenue visibility and execution capability of the company.

Increase in operating income over the last three years and comfortable capital structure

The total operating income increased at a Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 49.47% during the period FY10 to FY12 due to increase in number of projects. The debt equity ratio and the overall gearing as on March 31, 2012, stood comfortable at 0.13x and 0.91x, respectively, on account of accretion of profits into networth. Furthermore, the interest coverage ratio stood satisfactory at 2.99x during FY12 on account of increase in PBILDT.





Financial Performance

(Rs. Cr)

For the period ended / as at Mar.31,	2010	2011	2012
-	(12m, A)	(12m, A)	(12m, A)
Working Results			
Net Sales	12.03	21.81	26.78
Total Operating Income	12.04	21.95	26.78
PBILDT	0.60	1.46	1.29
Interest	0.31	0.35	0.43
Depreciation	0.12	0.24	0.31
PBT	0.17	0.88	0.54
PAT (after deferred tax)	0.07	0.58	0.36
Gross Cash Accruals	0.19	0.82	0.68
Financial Position			
Equity Capital	6.71	6.72	6.72
Networth	9.65	10.29	10.66
Total Debt	3.48	8.70	9.75
Total capital employed	13.13	18.99	20.41
Key Ratios			
Growth			
Growth in Total income (%)	27.42	82.36	22.54
Growth in PAT (after D.Tax) (%)	(10.83)	755.69	(38.09)
Profitability			
PBILDT/Total Op. income (%)	4.97	6.67	4.79
PAT (after deferred tax)/ Total income (%)	0.57	2.66	1.34
ROCE (%)	3.87	7.65	4.94
Solvency			
Long Term Debt Equity ratio (times)	0.07	0.12	0.13
Overall gearing (times)	0.36	0.85	0.91
Interest coverage(times)	1.93	4.16	2.99
Term debt/Gross cash accruals(years)	3.52	1.50	2.08
Total debt/Gross cash accruals(years)	18.56	10.61	14.42
Liquidity			
Current ratio(times)	1.43	1.24	1.19
Quick ratio(times)	0.42	0.55	0.53
Turnover			
Average collection period (days)	120	118	143
Average creditors period (days)	48	43	38
Average inventory period (days)	283	239	244
Operating cycle (days)	355	314	349

A - Audited;

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