

Friends Paper Mills

June 20, 2024

Facilities/Instruments	Amount (₹ crore)	Rating ¹	Rating Action
Long Term Bank Facilities	rm Bank Facilities 16.69		Rating continues to remain under ISSUER NOT COOPERATING category

Details of instruments/facilities in Annexure-1.

Rationale and key rating drivers

CARE Ratings Ltd. had, vide its press release dated May 08, 2023, placed the rating(s) of Friends Paper Mills (FPM) under the 'issuer non-cooperating' category as FPM had failed to provide information for monitoring of the rating and had not paid the surveillance fees for the rating exercise as agreed to in its Rating Agreement. FPM continues to be non-cooperative despite repeated requests for submission of information through e-mails, phone calls and a letter/email dated March 23, 2024, April 02, 2024, April 12, 2024.

In line with the extant SEBI guidelines, CARE Ratings Ltd. has reviewed the rating on the basis of the best available information which however, in CARE Ratings Ltd.'s opinion is not sufficient to arrive at a fair rating.

Users of this rating (including investors, lenders and the public at large) are hence requested to exercise caution while using the above rating(s).

Analytical approach: Standalone

Outlook: Stable

Detailed description of the key rating drivers:

Please refer to PR dated May 08, 2023

Applicable criteria

CARE Rating's criteria on information adequacy risk and issuer non-cooperation Policy on default recognition Rating Outlook and Credit Watch

About the company

Friends Paper Mills (FPM) was established in December, 2016 as a partnership firm and is currently being managed by Mr. Sujeet Kumar Julka, Mr. Rohit Sharma, Mr. Kashish Julka, Mr. Shahbaz Singh, Mr. Ramesh Kumar Sharma and Mr. Avtar Singh, as its partners. The firm is engaged in the manufacturing of craft papers at its manufacturing facility located in Pathankot, Punjab. The firm sells the finished goods to various authorised dealers based in Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir. Besides FPM, some of the partners are also associated with another group concerns namely, Amandeep Hospital and Sharma Diagnostic Centre, Batala.

Brief Financials (Rs. crore)	March 31, 2018 (A)	March 31, 2019 (A)	
Total operating income	41.55	51.54	
PBILDT	4.72	4.81	
PAT	0.35	0.53	
Overall gearing (times)	5.27	4.40	
Interest coverage (times)	2.11	2.07	

A: Audited; Note: 'the above results are latest financial results available'

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^{*}Issuer did not cooperate; based on best available information.

¹Complete definition of the ratings assigned are available at <u>www.careedge.in</u> and other CARE Ratings Ltd.'s publications



Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: India Ratings has continued the rating assigned to the bank facilities of FPM into "Issuer Not Cooperating" category vide press release dated March 14, 2024 on account of its inability to carry out a review in the absence of requisite information.

Any other information: Not Applicable

Rating history for last three years: Please refer Annexure-2

Covenants of rated instrument / facility: Detailed explanation of covenants of the rated instruments/facilities is given in

Annexure-3

Complexity level of various instruments rated: Annexure-4

Lender details: Annexure-5

Annexure-1: Details of instruments/facilities

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Name of the Instrument	ISIN	Date of Issuance (DD-MM-YYYY)	Coupon Rate (%)	Maturity Date (DD- MM-YYYY)	Size of the Issue (₹ crore)	Rating Assigned along with Rating Outlook
Fund-based - LT- Cash Credit		-	-	-	13.00	CARE B-; Stable; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING*
Fund-based - LT- Term Loan		-	-	August, 2024	3.69	CARE B-; Stable; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING*

^{*}Issuer did not cooperate; based on best available information.

Annexure-2: Rating history for the last three years

Sr. No	Name of the Instrument /Bank Facilities	Current Ratings		Rating History				
		Typ e	Amount Outstanding (₹ crore)	Rating	Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2024-2025	Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2023-2024	Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2022-2023	Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2021-2022
1	Fund-based - LT-Term Loan	LT	3.69	CARE B-; Stable; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING*	-	1)CARE B-; Stable; ISSUER NOT COOPERATI NG* (08-May-23)	1)CARE B; Stable; ISSUER NOT COOPERATI NG* (17-May-22)	-
2	Fund-based - LT-Cash Credit	LT	13.00	CARE B-; Stable; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING*	-	1)CARE B-; Stable; ISSUER NOT COOPERATI NG* (08-May-23)	1)CARE B; Stable; ISSUER NOT COOPERATI NG* (17-May-22)	-

^{*}Issuer did not cooperate; based on best available information.

Annexure-3: Detailed explanation of covenants of the rated instruments/facilities: Not Applicable

Annexure-4: Complexity level of the various instruments rated

Sr. No.	Name of the Instrument	Complexity Level
1	Fund-based - LT-Cash Credit	Simple
2	Fund-based - LT-Term Loan	Simple

Annexure-5: Lender details

To view the lender wise details of bank facilities please <u>click here</u>

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LT: Long term



Note on the complexity levels of the rated instruments: CARE Ratings has classified instruments rated by it on the basis of complexity. Investors/market intermediaries/regulators or others are welcome to write to care@careedge.in for any clarifications.

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About us:

Established in 1993, CARE Ratings is one of the leading credit rating agencies in India. Registered under the Securities and Exchange Board of India, it has been acknowledged as an External Credit Assessment Institution by the RBI. With an equitable position in the Indian capital market, CARE Ratings provides a wide array of credit rating services that help corporates raise capital and enable investors to make informed decisions. With an established track record of rating companies over almost three decades, CARE Ratings follows a robust and transparent rating process that leverages its domain and analytical expertise, backed by the methodologies congruent with the international best practices. CARE Ratings has played a pivotal role in developing bank debt and capital market instruments, including commercial papers, corporate bonds and debentures, and structured credit.

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