

## **Inox Wind Limited**

January 17, 2025

Facilities/Instruments	Amount (₹ crore)	Rating <sup>1</sup>	Rating Action
Long Term / Short Term Bank	800.00	CARE A+; Stable / CARE	Upgraded from CARE A; Stable /
Facilities		A1+	CARE A1

Details of instruments/facilities in Annexure-1.

## Rationale and key rating drivers

The ratings upgrade on the bank facilities of Inox Wind Limited (IWL), which is engaged in the business of manufacturing of wind turbine generators (WTG), providing engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) and operations & management (O&M) solutions in the wind energy segment, factors in continued improvement in operational and financial performance of the company in H1-FY25 with profitability margins remaining in line with envisaged levels. Moreover, the order book position of the company has improved from ~2.7 GW as on March 2024 end to ~3.2 GW as on November 2024 end. Further, CARE Ratings positively factors in fund raise aggregating to Rs. 2300 crore at IWL consolidated level during H1-FY25. The promoter group has raised Rs. 900 crore at IWL level by diluting ~4.6% stake and re-invested the amount raised from such dilution into the company in the form of quasi equity instruments. The company has utilised the money infused by the promoter to reduce the external debt level upto an extent of Rs 300 crore and become a net debt zero company. This apart, the company has successfully raised Rs. 1050 crore and Rs. 350 crore under its O&M arm i.e. Inox Green Energy Services Limited (IGESL) and EPC arm i.e. Resco Global Wind Services Private Limited (Resco) respectively, which have been partly utilised for reducing external debt level and for general corporate purposes.

The ratings continue to factor in the strong group linkages by virtue of IWL being a part of the INOXGFL group. INOXGFL group has an established presence in the speciality chemicals through its flagship company Gujarat Fluorochemicals Limited (GFL) along with its presence in the renewable energy segment. Further, the wind segment continues to experience growth primarily driven by (i) Government replacing reverse bidding with closed bidding for the wind segment, (ii) Better visibility of tenders pertaining to wind capacities (iii) Increase in demand for open access renewable power from corporates and (iv) Increased reliance on wind segment to provide round-the-clock solutions from renewable power.

The aforementioned rating strengths of IWL are, however, partially offset by the high competitive intensity in the WTG manufacturing segment and susceptibility of profitability margins to volatility in the prices of inputs. Further, the business operations are working capital intensive in nature as the company has to provide LCs/BGs to both suppliers and customers. Going forward, the ability of the company to execute underlying orders without any material cost or time overrun would be critical from a credit perspective.

## Rating sensitivities: Factors likely to lead to rating actions

#### **Positive factors**

• Improvement in financial risk profile as reflected by significant improvement in scale and profitability margins on a sustained basis

#### **Negative factors**

- Deterioration in the financial risk profile as reflected by the operating income remaining significantly lower than expectations, operating margins remaining lower than 12% on a sustained basis, and/or weakening of liquidity position
- Weakening of the credit profile of the INOXGFL group or any change in linkages/support philosophy of INOXGFL group towards IWL

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Complete definition of ratings assigned are available at <a href="https://www.careedge.in">www.careedge.in</a> and other CARE Ratings Limited's publications.



## Analytical approach: Consolidated plus factoring in support from the INOXGFL group

CARE Ratings has considered the consolidated financials of IWL. The list of subsidiaries getting consolidated at IWL as on March 31, 2024 is attached as annexure-6. Moreover, CARE Ratings has applied its group notch-up framework to factor in the strong strategic and financial support from INOXGFL group towards IWL.

#### Outlook: Stable

The stable outlook on the CARE A+ rating of IWL reflects CARE Ratings' opinion that the company would benefit from its healthy order book position. The expectation of successful execution of orderbook and sustained improvement in operational and financial performance supports the outlook.

## **Detailed description of key rating drivers:**

## **Key strengths**

#### Strong group linkages by virtue of IWL being a part of INOXGFL group

IWL is a part of INOXGFL group. The group has an established presence in the speciality chemicals through its flagship company GFL along with its presence in the renewable energy segment. The group is promoted by the Mr. Vivek Jain's family who hold a significant stake in IWL and other group companies of INOXGFL group through its investment holding company Inox Leasing and Finance Limited (ILFL), Inox Wind Energy Limited (IWEL), and two partnership firms viz. Devansh Trademart LLP and Aryavardhan Trading LLP.

CARE Ratings takes cognisance of the fact that INOXGFL group has been at the forefront in providing support to IWL in the past which has resulted in revival of the company. INOXGFL group has infused more than Rs. 2,000 crore over the last two years apart from raising funds through an IPO of IGSEL.

CARE Ratings takes note of the ongoing amalgamation process of IWEL into IWL which is primarily being done in order to simply the group structure. Currently, IWL is placed under IWEL, however post amalgamation, IWEL will get merged into IWL.

#### Established track record with long term technology sharing agreements with AMSC Windtec

IWL is one of the leading wind turbine manufacturers in the country with an operational track of more than 15 years. As on September 30, 2024, the company has an annual manufacturing capacity of ~2 GW of WTGs. Furthermore, IWL has long term technology sharing agreements with AMSC Windtec for the manufacturing of 3.3 MW WTGs.

## Improvement in financial risk profile of the company

There has been an uptick in the financial performance of the company as reflected by TOI of Rs. 1371 crore in H1-FY25 as against TOI of Rs. 712 crore in H1-FY24. This improvement in topline is primarily on account of increasing order execution on the back of revival of the wind segment. Moreover, the profitability margins of the company remains in line with envisaged levels as reflected by EBITDA margin of  $\sim$ 23% and PAT margin of  $\sim$ 10% during H1-FY25. The wind sector had been witnessing a downturn since FY18 which resultingly impacted IWL's business risk profile as reflected by sharp decline in the scale of operations and operating losses. However, in CARE Ratings' opinion, there has been a revival of the wind segment primarily driven by (i) government replacing reverse bidding with closed bidding for the wind segment, (ii) better visibility of tenders pertaining to wind capacities (iii) increase in demand for open access renewable power from corporates and (iv) increased reliance on wind segment to provide round-the-clock solutions from renewable power.

#### Healthy order book providing revenue visibility for near to medium term

The company has a healthy order book position as reflected by order book of ~3.2 GW amounting to ~Rs. 22,000 crore as on November 2024 end as against ~2.7 GW worth ~Rs 20,000 crore as on March 2024 end. The order book is well diversified across central PSUs and C&I customers having marquee names mitigating order concentration risk to a large extent. Previously turnkey contracts constituted majority of the order book, whereas the group is now increasing the proportion of pure equipment supply orders which is expected to reduce execution related challenges. Going forward, the order book is expected to grow at current pace given strong turnaround in the overall wind segment.



#### **O&M** contracts for ~3.5 GW of wind assets provides stable revenue visibility

IWL provides O&M solutions through its majority-owned subsidiary IGSEL. The company has O&M contracts for ~3.5 GW of wind assets as on September 30, 2024. These contracts are spread across different IPPs with residual contract life ranging between 5-10 years. As a result, the company is expected to earn stable cashflows from the O&M business. Going forward, the company expects to increase the O&M contracts up to 6 GW by FY26 end through a mixture of organic and inorganic expansion routes.

### **Key weaknesses**

### Susceptibility of profitability to volatility in the prices of key inputs along with regulatory risks

IWL is primarily engaged in the business of manufacturing different components of WTGs including nacelles, hubs, rotor blades, and towers. CARE Ratings notes that challenges with respect to increase in the prices of various inputs, viz. aluminium, fiber composite, steel, etc. may impact the TOI and the profitability of the company.

While the overall wind segment is in the turnaround phase, any adverse regulatory news may hinder the revival of wind segment and thereby impact the business of wind OEMs. Going forward, traction in the wind segment will remain critical from credit standpoint.

#### Dependence on working capital limits to sustain business operations

Given the nature of business operations, the company requires working capital limits in order to provide LCs/BGs to its suppliers and customers. As on December 2024 end, out of the total sanctioned limits, working capital utilisation stood at more than 80%. Moreover, the working capital cycle of the company is inversely related to the pace of order execution as any delay in order execution leads to build of inventory and other receivables. Therefore, timely execution of orders would be critical from a credit perspective.

## Liquidity: Adequate

The liquidity position of the company is adequate as the company has cash and bank balance of aggregating to ~Rs. 568 crore on consolidated basis as on September 2024 end. Going forward, CARE Ratings expects the liquidity position to remain around the current levels.

This apart, the company has a strong financial flexibility on account of being a part of INOXGFL group. The same is evident by several instances of the promoter group infusing funds in the company.

#### **Environment, social, and governance (ESG) risks**

IWL is dedicated to fostering sustainable living by championing environmental preservation, promoting health and safety through adoption of green energy practices, empowering children through educational initiatives, and actively engaging communities in environmental stewardship programs. Notably, 50% of IWL's board consists of independent directors, ensuring robust governance and diverse perspectives.

#### Applicable criteria

Consolidation

Definition of Default

Factoring Linkages Parent Sub JV Group
Liquidity Analysis of Non-financial sector entities

Rating Outlook and Rating Watch

Manufacturing Companies

Financial Ratios – Non financial Sector

Short Term Instruments



## About the company and industry

# **Industry classification**

Macroeconomic indicator	Sector	Industry	Basic industry
Industrials	Capital Goods	Electrical Equipment	Other Electrical Equipment

IWL, incorporated in April 2009, is a group company of INOXGFL group and is India's leading wind energy solutions provider catering to independent power producers, PSUs and C&I customers. IWL has three line of business viz. manufacturing of WTGs and its components, providing EPC and O&M solutions. As on March 2024 end, IWL has an annual manufacturing capacity of ~2 GW spread across Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh.

### **Brief Financials of IWL (Consolidated)**

Brief Financials (₹ crore)	March 31, 2022 (A)	March 31, 2023 (A)	March 31, 2024 (A)	September 30, 2024 (UA)
Total operating income	625	737	1,743	1,371
PBILDT	-353*	-297*	269	309
PAT	-483	-671	-53	141
Overall gearing (times)	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.2
Interest coverage (times)	NM	NM	1.1	3.0

A: Audited; UA: Unaudited; NM: Not Meaningful, \*excludes income from expense capitalised of Rs. 43 crore in FY22 and Rs. 33 crore in FY23 Note: 'the above results are latest financial results available'

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable

Any other information: Not applicable

Rating history for last three years: Annexure-2

Detailed explanation of covenants of rated instrument / facility: Annexure-3

Complexity level of instruments rated: Annexure-4

Lender details: Annexure-5

## Annexure-1: Details of instruments/facilities

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 and Rating Outlook
Fund-based - LT/ ST- Working Capital Limits		-	-	-	50.00	CARE A+; Stable / CARE A1+
Fund-based/Non-fund- based-LT/ST		-	-	1	200.00	CARE A+; Stable / CARE A1+
Non-fund-based - LT/ ST-BG/LC		<del>-</del>	-	1	550.00	CARE A+; Stable / CARE A1+



## Annexure-2: Rating history for last three years

		Current Ratings			Rating History			
Sr. No.	Name of the Instrument/Bank Facilities	Туре	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/ ST-Working Capital Limits	LT/ST	50.00	CARE A+; Stable / CARE A1+	1)CARE A; Stable / CARE A1 (26-Sep-24) 2)CARE A; Stable / CARE A1 (24-May-24)	-	-	-
2	Non-fund-based - LT/ ST-BG/LC	LT/ST	550.00	CARE A+; Stable / CARE A1+	1)CARE A; Stable / CARE A1 (26-Sep-24) 2)CARE A; Stable / CARE A1 (24-May-24)	-	-	-
3	Fund-based/Non- fund-based-LT/ST	LT/ST	200.00	CARE A+; Stable / CARE A1+	1)CARE A; Stable / CARE A1 (26-Sep-24)	-	-	-

LT/ST: Long term/Short term

## Annexure-3: Detailed explanation of covenants of rated instruments/facilities: Not applicable

# **Annexure-4: Complexity level of instruments rated**

Sr. No.	Name of the Instrument	Complexity Level
1	Fund-based - LT/ ST-Working Capital Limits	Simple
2	Fund-based/Non-fund-based-LT/ST	Simple
3	Non-fund-based - LT/ ST-BG/LC	Simple

### **Annexure-5: Lender details**

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

## **Annexure-6: List of entities consolidated**

Sr No	Name of the entity	Extent of consolidation	Rationale for consolidation
1	Inox Green Energy Services Limited	Proportionate	Subsidiary
2	Resco Global Wind Services Private Limited	Full	Subsidiary
3	Waft Energy Private Limited	Full	Subsidiary

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



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