

SEPTEMBER 08, 2015

CARE REAFFIRMS THE RATING ASSIGNED TO THE SHORT-TERM BANK FACILITIES OF LAURUS LABS PVT. LTD.

Ratings

Facilities	Amount (Rs. crore)	Ratings ¹	Remarks
Short term Bank Facilities	36.20	CARE A1 (A One)	Reaffirmed
Total Facilities	36.20 (Rupees Thirty Six crore and Twenty lakh only)		

Rating Rationale

The ratings assigned to the bank facilities of Laurus continues to take into consideration healthy growth in revenue backed by strong demand for existing products globally, equity infusion by private equity investor and resultant improvement in the capital structure, promoter's experience, regulatory approvals from various countries for the company's manufacturing and research and development (R&D) facilities, healthy product pipeline, reputed customer base coupled with strong flow of repeat orders, proven R&D capabilities and favourable industry prospects. The ratings are, however, constrained by rise in debt-funded capacity expansion, high working capital requirements, decline in profitability margins during FY15 (refers to the period April 1 to March 31) and risks associated with capacity expansion planned during FY16. The ability of the company to maintain healthy growth in revenue and profitability, successfully complete planned expansion without any adverse impact on the capital structure and, continuously add new products to its portfolio in order to have a diversified revenue base are the key rating sensitivities.

Background

Incorporated in September 2005, Laurus Labs Private Limited (Laurus) is promoted by Dr C. Satyanarayana, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company. The company is primarily engaged in the manufacturing of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and related intermediates with a strong presence in anti-retroviral (ARV) and oncology segments. Headquartered in Hyderabad, the company's manufacturing facility is located in Jawaharlal Nehru Pharma City, Visakhapatnam. In FY08, the company entered into a strategic partnership agreement with Aptuit (Singapore) Pvt. Ltd. (ASPL), subsidiary of Aptuit Inc. a US-based drug development services company. Consequent to the strategic partnership, the name of the company was changed to Aptuit Laurus P Ltd. effective July 2007. In February 2012, Fidelity Growth Partners India (Fidelity) acquired a stake in the company and pursuant to the same, the company has been renamed to Laurus Labs Private Limited. During October 2014, Warburg Pincus through its affiliate Bluewater Investment Ltd. invested Rs 300 crore in the company to meet growth requirements. Warburg Pincus has also acquired part stakes held by Fidelity and a few other promoter associates.

The total operating income of the company grew by 16.7% to Rs 1,362.61 crore in FY15 and the company earned a net profit of Rs. 73.57 crore during the same period (FY14: Rs.99.12 crore).

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****For detailed Rationale Report and subscription information, please contact us at www.careratings.com**

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

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In case of partnership/proprietary concerns, the rating assigned by CARE is based on the capital deployed by the partners/proprietor and the financial strength of the firm at present. The rating may undergo change in case of withdrawal of capital or the unsecured loans brought in by the partners/proprietor in addition to the financial performance and other relevant factors.

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