

Santuka Foods Private Limited February 01, 2019

Ratings

Sr. No.	Facilities	Amount (Rs. crore)	Rating ¹	Rating Action		
1.	Long-term Bank Facilities	3.00	CARE B+; Stable (Single B Plus; Outlook: Stable)	Assigned		
2.	Short-term Bank Facilities	3.50	CARE A4 (A Four)	Assigned		
Total Facilities		6.50 (Rupees Six Crore and Fifty Lakh Only)				

Details of facilities in Annexure-1

Detailed Rationale and key rating drivers

The ratings assigned to the bank facilities of Santuka Foods Pvt. Ltd are constrained by its small scale of operations along with low profit margins, regulation by government in terms of MSP, leveraged capital structure and moderate debt coverage indicators, seasonal nature of availability of raw material resulting in high working capital intensity and exposure to vagaries of nature and fragmented and competitive nature of industry. However, the aforesaid constraints are partially offset by its experienced promoter and long track record of operations, satisfactory demand outlook of the products and proximity to raw material sources. The ability of the company to grow its scale of operations and improve its profit margins and ability to manage working capital effectively would be the key rating sensitivities.

Detailed description of the key rating drivers Key Rating Weaknesses

Small scale of operation along with low profit margins

Santuka Foods Pvt. Ltd. is small player vis-à-vis other players in the rice milling and processing industry marked by its total operating income of Rs.10.17 crore (Rs.4.09 crore in FY17) with a PAT of Rs.0.16 crore (Rs.0.08 crore in FY17) in FY18. Furthermore, the total operating income witnessed year on year growth marked by Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 71.94% during last three years (FY16-FY18). Moreover, the company has reported turnover of Rs.6.67 crore during 8MFY19. The profitability margins of the company remained low marked by PBILDT margin of 7.57% (17.05% in FY17) and PAT margin of 1.53% (1.98% in FY17) in FY18. The total capital employed was low at Rs.5.59 crore as on March 31, 2018. The small size restricts the financial flexibility of the company in times of stress.

Regulation by government in terms of MSP

The Government of India (GOI), every year decides a minimum support price (MSP – to be paid to paddy growers) for paddy which limits the bargaining power of rice millers over the farmers. The MSP of paddy has increased during the crop year 2018-19 to Rs.1750/quintal (as suggested by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, the apex body to advice on MSP to the government) from Rs.1550/quintal in crop year 2017-18. Given the market determined prices for finished product vis-à-vis fixed acquisition cost for raw material, the profitability margins are highly vulnerable. Such a situation does not augur well for the entity, especially in times of high paddy cultivation.

Leveraged capital structure and moderate debt coverage indicators

The capital structure of the company remained leveraged marked by overall gearing ratios of 2.42x as on March 31, 2018. Moreover, the debt coverage indicators also remained moderate as marked by total debt to GCA ratio of 9.19x.Interest coverage ratio remained moderate at 2.63x in FY18 on account of increase in PBILDT level.

Seasonal nature of availability of raw material resulting in working capital intensity and exposure to vagaries of nature Agro product processing business is working capital intensive as the millers have to stock paddy by the end of each season

till the next season as the price and quality of agro products are better during the harvesting season. Accordingly, the working capital intensity remains high impacting company's profitability. Moreover, the average fund based working capital utilisation remained at around 67% during the last 12 months ended on November, 2018. Also, agro products cultivation is highly dependent on monsoons, thus exposing the fate of the company's operation to vagaries of nature.

Fragmented and competitive nature of the industry

SFPL's plant is located in Jajpur, Odisha, which is in close proximity to hubs for paddy/rice cultivating region. Owing to the advantage of close proximity to raw material sources, large number of small units is engaged in milling and processing of

 $^{^{1}}$ Complete definitions of the ratings assigned are available at <u>www.careratings.com</u> and in other CARE publications.



rice in the region. This has resulted in intense competition which is also fuelled by low entry barriers. Given that the processing activity does not involve much of technical expertise or high investment, the entry barriers are low.

Key Rating Strengths

Experienced Promoters and long track record of operations

The key promoter, Mr. Gajendra Kumar Santuka (aged about 55 years) has around three decades of experience in rice milling industry, looks after the overall management of the company. He is supported by other director, Mr. Rahul Santuka (aged about 32 years) having an experience of around a decade in rice milling industry. Both of them look after the overall management of the company with adequate support from a team of experienced personnel. More than a decade of presence of the company, reflecting long track record in the business of rice milling activities.

Satisfactory demand outlook of the products and proximity to raw material sources

SFPL's plant is located at Jajpur, which is close to the vicinity to a major rice growing area of Odisha. The entire raw material requirement is met locally from local agents which helps the company to save substantial amount of transportation cost and also procure raw materials at effective price. Further, rice being a staple food grain with India's position as one of the largest producer and consumer, demand prospects for the industry is expected to remain good in near to medium term.

Analytical approach: Standalone

Applicable Criteria

Criteria on assigning Outlook to Credit Ratings

CARE's Policy on Default Recognition

Rating methodology-Manufacturing Companies

Criteria for Short Term Instruments

Financial ratios - Non-Financial Sector

About the Company

Incorporated in December 2008, Santuka Foods Pvt. Ltd (SFPL) is engaged in rice milling activities with its manufacturing facilities located at Plot no – 184/194, Harian Sapatna, P.O.- Shakuntalapur, Jajpur, Odisha, 754296 with aggregate installed capacity of 25000 Ton per Annum (TPA). The company was promoted by Mr. Gajendra Kumar Santuka and Mr. Mr. Rahul Santuka. The entity is also doing custom milling for Odisha State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited (OSCSCL). Mr. Gajendra Kumar Santuka has experience around three decades in rice milling industry, looks after the overall management of the company. He is supported by other director Mr. Rahul Santuka who also has experience of around a decade in this line of business. The promoters are supported by a team of experienced professionals.

Liquidity

The liquidity position of the company remained moderately marked by the cash and bank balance was at Rs.0.06 crore as on March 31, 2018. The Gross cash accruals also remained low at Rs.0.43 crore in FY18. Current ratio and liquid ratio was at 0.90x and 0.39x, respectively, as on March 31, 2018.

Brief Financials (Rs. crore)	FY17 (A)	FY18 (A)
Total operating income	4.09	10.17
PBILDT	0.70	0.77
PAT	0.08	0.16
Overall gearing (times)	1.85	2.42
Interest coverage (times)	2.54	2.63

A: Audited.

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not Applicable

Any other information: Not Applicable

Rating History (Last three years): Please refer Annexure-2

Note on complexity levels of the rated instrument: CARE has classified instruments rated by it on the basis of complexity. This classification is available at www.careratings.com. Investors/market intermediaries/regulators or others are welcome to write to care@careratings.com for any clarifications.



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Annexure-1: Details of Instruments/Facilities

Name of the Instrument	Date of Issuance	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Size of the Issue (Rs. crore)	Rating assigned along with Rating Outlook
Fund-based - LT-Cash Credit	-	-	-	3.00	CARE B+; Stable
Non-fund-based - ST-Bank Guarantees	-	-	-	3.50	CARE A4

Annexure-2: Rating History of last three years

Sr.	Name of the	Current Ratings			Rating history			
No.	Instrument/Bank Facilities	Туре	Amount Outstanding (Rs. crore)	Rating	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2018-2019	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2017-2018	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2016-2017	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2015-2016
1.	Fund-based - LT-Cash Credit	LT	3.00	CARE B+; Stable	-	-	-	-
2.	Non-fund-based - ST- Bank Guarantees	ST	3.50	CARE A4	-	-	-	-



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