



KRUNGSRIAYUDHYA CARD CO., LTD.

No. 14/2024 16 February 2024

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Company Rating:

AAA

Issue Ratings:

AAA

Senior unsecured

Outlook:

Stable

Last Review Date: 31/10/23

AAA

Company Rating History:

Date Rating

Outlook/Alert

15/11/16

Stable

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RATIONALE

TRIS Rating affirms the company rating on Krungsriayudhya Card Co., Ltd. (KCC) and the ratings on KCC's outstanding senior unsecured debentures at "AAA". At the same time, TRIS Rating assigns a "AAA" rating to KCC's proposed issue of up to THB6 billion senior unsecured debentures due within three years. The rating outlook remains "stable". The proceeds from this latest proposed debenture issue are intended for use in business operations and debt repayment.

The ratings on KCC reflect the company's status as a core subsidiary of Bank of Ayudhya PLC (BAY). The ratings primarily reflect the company's status as a core subsidiary of Bank of Ayudhya PLC (BAY). The ratings on KCC are equivalent to the company rating on BAY, "AAA/stable". As a wholly owned, soloconsolidated subsidiary of BAY, KCC is fully controlled by BAY, and as such, is indirectly under the supervision of the Bank of Thailand (BOT) in accordance with the regulation on Consolidated Supervision.

KCC is positioned as the bank's principal credit card business unit under the "Krungsri" brand. KCC is operationally integrated with BAY. BAY also supports KCC in the form of business collaboration and financial assistance by making available credit facilities which help enhance KCC's liquidity profile.

We expect KCC to maintain its strong market position in credit cards, thanks to its active marketing and strong brand. KCC ranks among the top-tier credit card issuers including banks and non-banks, with a 9.5% market share in outstanding credit card receivables at the end of June 2023.

KCC's total receivables, including credit cards and personal loans, rose to THB49.5 billion at the end of December 2022, up 4% year-on-year (y-o-y). At the end of June 2023, credit card outstanding loans expanded by 6% y-o-y, while card spending in the first half of 2023 (1H23) recovered with growth of 13% y-o-y. This was in line with the industry and mainly underpinned by the recovery in consumption. We believe KCC's loan portfolio will continue to expand in the next 2-3 years supported by new card acquisitions due to more active and efficient marketing campaigns and collaboration with BAY.

We expect KCC's asset quality to remain healthy in the medium term, backed by prudent and effective risk management system. As part of BAY's solo consolidated group, KCC adopts a similar risk framework as that of the bank. KCC has maintained its non-performing loan (NPL) ratio (receivables overdue more than 90 days) for credit cards below 1%, lower than the industry average of 2%. Similarly for personal loans, KCC reported an NPL ratio of 2% at the end of 2022 and June 2023, also less than the industry average of 3%.

We expect the increase in minimum payment for credit card loans to 8% in 2024 and 10% in 2025 from the current 5% to have minimal impact on KCC's asset quality. Nonetheless, any potential rise in NPLs should be absorbed by KCC's high level of allowance for expected credit loss (ECL). At the end of December 2022, the company's NPL coverage ratio was healthy at 191%.

We expect KCC's capital to be maintained at a high level which should help support the company's business expansion and absorb any potential rise in credit losses amid uncertain economic environment.





RATING OUTLOOK

The "stable" rating outlook reflects our expectation that KCC will maintain its status as a core subsidiary of the BAY Group and will continue to receive strong support from BAY.

RATING SENSITIVITIES

The ratings on KCC could be revised downward if the BAY Group's credit profile changes or we see any material change in KCC's importance to the BAY Group or the degree of support provided by BAY to KCC.

RELATED CRITERIA

- Financial Institution Rating Methodology, 24 November 2023
- Group Rating Methodology, 7 September 2022
- Issue Rating Criteria, 15 June 2021

Krungsriayudhya Card Co., Ltd. (KCC)

Company Rating:	AAA
Issue Ratings:	
KCC243A: THB3,000 million senior unsecured debentures due 2024	AAA
KCC249A: THB5,500 million senior unsecured debentures due 2024	AAA
KCC259A: THB2,600 million senior unsecured debentures due 2025	AAA
Up to THB6,000 million senior unsecured debentures due within 3 years	AAA
Rating Outlook:	Stable

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