30th December, 2023

Electronic Filing

National Stock Exchange of India Limited
"Exchange Plaza" Bandra-Kurla Complex,
Bandra (E),
Mumbai-400051

NSE Symbol : APLAPOLLO

Department of Corporate Services/Listing
BSE Limited
Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Tower,
Dalal Street, Fort,
Mumbai-400001

Scrip Code : 533758

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Intimation of Revision in Ratings under the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements), Regulations, 2015

Pursuant to Regulation 30 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 ("SEBI Listing Regulations"), it may please be noted that CARE Ratings Ltd. and ICRA Limited have revised its ratings. Respective credit rating letters are attached for your kind reference.

We request you to kindly take the above information on your record.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully
For APL Apollo Tubes Limited

DEEPAK CHARUVIL SANKUNNI
Digitally signed by DEEPAK CHARUVIL SANKUNNI
Date: 2023.12.30 11:45:44 +05'30'

Deepak C S
Company Secretary
M. No.: FCS-5060

Encl: a/a

No. CARE/NRO/RL/2023-24/2588

Shri Deepak Goyal
Group Chief Financial Officer
APL Apollo Tubes Limited
36, Kauhambi, Near Anand Vihar Terminal,
Ghaziabad
Uttar Pradesh 201010

December 29, 2023

Confidential

Dear Sir,

Credit rating for bank facilities

On the basis of recent developments including operational and financial performance of your Company for FY23 (Audited) and H1FY24 (Unaudited), our Rating Committee has reviewed the following ratings:

Facilities	Amount (Rs. crore)	Rating[1]	Rating Action
Long Term Bank Facilities	420.00	CARE AA; Positive (Double A; Outlook: Positive)	Reaffirmed; Outlook revised from Stable
Short Term Bank Facilities	155.00	CARE A1+ (A One Plus)	Reaffirmed
Total Facilities	575.00 (Rs. Five Hundred Seventy-Five Crore Only)		

2. Refer **Annexure 1** for details of rated facilities.
3. A write-up (press release) and the rationale for the rating will be communicated to you separately.
4. CARE Ratings Ltd. reserves the right to undertake a surveillance/review of the rating from time to time, based on circumstances warranting such review, subject to at least one such review/surveillance every year.

[1]Complete definitions of the ratings assigned are available at www.careedge.in and in other CARE Ratings Ltd.'s publications.

5. CARE Ratings Ltd. reserves the right to revise/reaffirm/withdraw the rating assigned as also revise the outlook, as a result of periodic review/surveillance, based on any event or information which in the opinion of CARE Ratings Ltd. warrants such an action. In the event of failure on the part of the entity to furnish such information, material or clarifications as may be required by CARE Ratings Ltd. so as to enable it to carry out continuous monitoring of the rating of the bank facilities, CARE Ratings Ltd. shall carry out the review on the basis of best available information throughout the life time of such bank facilities. In such cases the credit rating symbol shall be accompanied by "ISSUER NOT COOPERATING". CARE Ratings Ltd. shall also be entitled to publicize/disseminate all the afore-mentioned rating actions in any manner considered appropriate by it, without reference to you.

6. Our ratings do not take into account the sovereign risk, if any, attached to the foreign currency loans, and the ratings are applicable only to the rupee equivalent of these loans.

7. Our ratings do not factor in any rating related trigger clauses as per the terms of the facility/instrument, which may involve acceleration of payments in case of rating downgrades. However, if any such clauses are introduced and if triggered, the ratings may see volatility and sharp downgrades.

8. Users of this rating may kindly refer our website www.careedge.in for latest update on the outstanding rating.

9. CARE Ratings Ltd. ratings are **not** recommendations to sanction, renew, disburse or recall the concerned bank facilities.

If you need any clarification, you are welcome to approach us in this regard.

Thanking you,

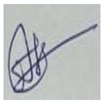
Yours faithfully,

Sanchit Agarwal
Lead Analyst
sanchit.agarwal@careedge.in

Akhil Kumar
Associate Director
akhil.kumar@careedge.in

Encl.: As above

Disclaimer
The ratings issued by CARE Ratings Limited are opinions on the likelihood of timely payment of the obligations under the rated instrument and are not recommendations to sanction, renew, disburse or recall the concerned bank facilities or to buy, sell or hold any security. These ratings do not convey suitability or price for the investor. The agency does not constitute an audit on the rated entity. CARE Ratings Limited has based its ratings/outlooks based on information obtained from reliable and credible sources. CARE Ratings Limited does not, however, guarantee the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of any information and is not responsible for any errors or omissions and the results obtained from the use of such information. Most entities whose bank facilities/instruments are rated by CARE Ratings Limited have paid a credit rating fee, based on the amount and type of bank facilities/instruments. CARE Ratings Limited or its subsidiaries/associates may also be involved with other commercial transactions with the entity. In case of partnership/proprietary concerns, the rating /outlook assigned by CARE Ratings Limited is, inter-alia, based on the capital deployed by the partners/proprietor and the current financial strength of the firm. The rating/outlook may undergo a 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. CARE Ratings Limited is not responsible for any errors and states that it has no financial liability whatsoever to the users of CARE Ratings Limited's rating. Our ratings do not factor in any rating related trigger clauses as per the terms of the facility/instrument, which may involve acceleration of payments in case of rating downgrades. However, if any such clauses are introduced and if triggered, the ratings may see volatility and sharp downgrades.



Annexure 1

Details of Rated Facilities

1. Long Term Facilities

1.A. Fund Based Limits

Sr. No.	Name of Bank / Lender	Rated Amount (Rs. crore)	Remarks
1.	State Bank of India	250.00	one way interchangeability to non-fund based
2.	Axis Bank Ltd.	170.00	both way interchangeability between fund-based and non-fund based
	Total	**420.00**	

Total Long Term Facilities : Rs.420.00 crore

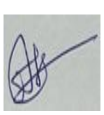
2. Short Term Facilities

2.A. Non-Fund Based Limits

Sr. No.	Name of Bank / Lender	Rated Amount (Rs. crore)	Remarks
1.	Axis Bank Ltd.	80.00	both way interchangeability between fund-based and non-fund based
2.	State Bank of India	75.00	
	Total	**155.00**	

Total Short Term Facilities : Rs.155.00 crore

Total Facilities (1.A+2.A) : Rs.575.00 crore



December 29, 2023

APL Apollo Tubes Limited: Ratings reaffirmed; Outlook revised to Positive

Summary of rating action

Instrument*	Previous Rated Amount (Rs. crore)	Current Rated Amount (Rs. crore)	Rating Action
Commercial Paper	300.0	300.0	[ICRA]A1+; reaffirmed
Fund-based: Working Capital Facilities	1405.00	1,330.00	[ICRA]AA (Positive)/[ICRA]A1+; Ratings reaffirmed and outlook revised to Positive from Stable
Fund-based (FB): Term Loan	115.34	101.56	[ICRA]AA (Positive); Rating reaffirmed and outlook revised to Positive from Stable
Short term Non-fund Based Facilities	1000.00	1000.00	[ICRA]A1+; reaffirmed
Unallocated	--	88.78	[ICRA]AA (Positive)/[ICRA]A1+; Ratings reaffirmed and outlook revised to Positive from Stable
Total	**2820.34**	**2820.34**	

*Instrument details are provided in Annexure-1

Rationale

ICRA has taken a consolidated view of the business and financial risk profiles of APL Apollo Tubes Limited (AATL), its wholly-owned subsidiaries, including Apollo Metalex Private Limited (AMPL) and APL Apollo Building Products (ABPPL) to arrive at the ratings. Collectively referred to as the Group/APL/company, these entities are in the similar lines of businesses and have significant operational and financial linkages. Details of various entities operating under the Group, which have been consolidated, are given in Annexure II.

The revision in the outlook on the Group's long-term rating to Positive from Stable reflects ICRA's expectation of healthy volume growth in the near-to-medium term, driven by ramp-up of the recently commissioned Raipur capacity. The volume increase is expected to support the Group's sustained healthy operating performance, financial risk profile and a comfortable liquidity position, owing to its low working capital intensity. The Group is expected to report more than 20% revenue growth in the current fiscal, following a robust 24% YoY revenue growth (on the back of 30% volume growth) reported in FY2023. Further, the Group's profitability is likely to remain healthy over the medium term with expected OPBITDA/tonne of Rs.4,500-5,000, supported by the likely increase in the proportion of value-added products and better operational efficiency arising from higher scale. ICRA expects the Group's financial risk profile to improve further owing to higher cash flow generation (resulting from increased scale of operations and sustained profitability), scheduled amortisation of debt and no major capex plans in the upcoming fiscals. Besides, the Group has been able to sustain its low gross working capital cycle in the recent fiscals on the back of an efficient working capital management, which has supported its cash flow generation. ICRA expects the Group to continue to report robust debt coverage metrics, as corroborated by an interest cover of more than ~11 times and DSCR of more than ~4 times likely in FY2024. The rating also reflects the Group's leadership position in the domestic electric resistance welded (ERW) pipes segment, corroborated by its sizeable steel tube/pipes making capacity across its geographically diversified manufacturing base in India and a large network of more than 800 dealers across the country. In addition, the Group's recently commissioned capacities in Raipur (Chhattisgarh) have increased the Group's total domestic capacity to ~4.1 MTPA from ~2.65 MTPA earlier, enhancing its leadership position in the industry.

Despite the Group's established position in the steel tubes and pipes industry, the ratings are constrained by the intense competition in the industry due to the presence of a large number of both organised and unorganised players. This moderates the Group's pricing power, making it more vulnerable to the volatility in steel prices. In addition, the Group's ability to ramp up the Raipur capacity to optimal levels in the near-to-medium term remains a key rating monitorable.

Key rating drivers and their description

Credit strengths

Healthy growth in revenues and volumes in FY2023; momentum likely to continue in the current fiscal – The Group reported a sustained growth in performance in FY2023, recording its highest ever sales volume of 2.28 mtpa, which was 30% higher on a YoY basis. It also recorded the highest ever revenues of Rs. 16,166 crore (consolidated) in FY2023, a YoY growth of 24%. Similarly, the Group reported a robust growth in the current fiscal, reporting sales volume of 1.34 mtpa (a YoY growth of 30%) and revenues of Rs.9,175 crore in H1 FY2024. The growth has largely been driven by the continued pick-up in sales volumes from ABPPL. The Group continues to report a robust improvement in the return on capital employed (RoCE) from the previous years (~36% in H1 FY2024 and 31% in FY2023 against ~28% in FY2021) on the back of its sustained healthy performance in the last few fiscals. With a steady ramp-up of the Raipur facility to its full potential, the RoCE is expected to remain healthy in the medium term.

Market leadership in ERW pipes segment with regular enhancement in capacities and extensive distribution network – The Group has a well-established position in the domestic ERW pipes segment and controls a substantial market share. The Group has been able to consistently expand its manufacturing capacities over the years to keep pace with the market growth and is now one of the largest structural steel tubes and pipes players, globally having capacity of 4.4 mtpa (including Dubai). Additionally, the Group has established a large network of more than 800 dealer distributors and over 50,000 retailers across the country over three decades of its existence.

Geographically diversified manufacturing presence and product profile – The Group has an established manufacturing base with 11 plants in 10 locations across the country through organic as well as inorganic expansions. The company has also been strengthening its product portfolio from standard MS Black, GI and GP pipes to new value-added products such as large-diameter pipes (500x500 mm), color-coated pipes and products, patented products for building material applications as well as products to cater to the retail requirements in the home décor segment like door frame, staircase steps, furniture, plank, designer tubes etc. Besides facilitating better margins due to higher OPBITDA/tonne from value-added products, the diversification allows the company to be better placed to serve new market segments. This apart, the Group has set up a 0.3-mtpa ERW pipe plant in Dubai in the current fiscal to diversify globally and enter new markets.

Sustained low working capital intensity – The Group has been able to consistently maintain low working capital intensity, as corroborated by its net working capital, which stood at ~2% of its operating income (NWC/OI), over the last three fiscals. This has been achieved on the back of a fall in its gross working capital cycle by reducing its receivable as well as inventory turnover period over the past three fiscals. The Group's receivable days have remained at less than 10 from FY2021 from ~30 days in the prior fiscals, led by its strategic shift to the cash-and-carry model. Further, the inventory turnover period has also come down in the recent fiscals and stood at 30 days in H1 FY2024 and 37 days in FY2023, from more than 40 days in the prior fiscals on the back of better planning and management.

Strong financial risk profile – The Group has a strong financial risk profile, characterised by a conservative capital structure (debt/net worth of 0.4 times as on September 30, 2023 [provisional/unaudited] and total debt/OPBDITA of 0.9 times in H1 FY2024 [provisional/unaudited]) and healthy coverage metrics (interest cover and DSCR of ~12 times and ~6 times in H1 FY2024 , respectively [provisional/unaudited]). A healthy growth in turnover along with improved profitability and prudent working capital management enabled the company to generate robust free cash flows. Owing to the incremental debt drawn for the ongoing capex in Raipur, the Group's debt level increased in the current fiscal. However, expectations of healthy cash flow from operations and sustained profitability in the medium term are likely to reduce the company's reliance on debt with ongoing scheduled repayments. Its capitalisation and coverage metrics are likely to remain healthy.

Credit challenges

Vulnerability of operating profitability to raw material price movement – The Group, being a steel convertor, is exposed to the volatility in steel prices on account of a lag in price adjustments following fluctuations in the price of hot-rolled coils, in addition to inventory maintenance. Hence, prudent working capital management is crucial to safeguard against any significant price movement. The company's focus on working capital management and increasing the proportion of value-added products in the revenue mix mitigate the risk to some extent. Nevertheless, in case of an adverse demand-supply scenario, inability to pass on the raw material price hike to its buyers could adversely impact the profitability.

Intense competition from organised as well as unorganised players – The ERW pipes market is inherently competitive with the presence of several established players. As ERW pipe manufacturing is not a capital-intensive process, the entry barriers are low and hence, the industry has many unorganised players.

Risks associated with additional capacities and scaling up of volume under the subsidiary – Although with the commissioning of ABPPL's capacities, the Group's consolidated operational profile is expected to strengthen, it is exposed to execution and stabilisation risks in the near term, given the sizeable addition to capacities (~55% addition to the Group's earlier 2.65-mtpa capacity). Therefore, the Group's ability to steadily ramp up production and ensure healthy scale-up of operations, will remain crucial for its return and coverage metrics, going forward. However, ICRA draws comfort from the Group's demonstrated track record of successful implementation and ramp-up of the past capacity expansion/acquisitions.

Liquidity position: Strong

The Group's liquidity position is strong, corroborated by free cash and bank balances and liquid investments (including FDs of more than 12 months) of ~Rs.812 crore as on September 30, 2023. With no major capex plans in the upcoming fiscals, ICRA expects the company's cash flow from operations to be adequate to meet the scheduled debt repayment obligations in the upcoming fiscals. The liquidity profile is also supported by adequate cushion in the form of undrawn working capital limits, averaging ~Rs. 276 crore against the drawing power in the six-month period ended in November 2023. The scheduled repayment obligations are expected to be ~Rs.77 crore in H2 FY2024 and ~Rs.149 crore in FY2025.

Rating sensitivities

Positive factors – ICRA could upgrade the company's rating if it demonstrates a sustained robust growth in its operating income while maintaining healthy profitability, along with strong liquidity profile and coverage metrics.

Negative factors – A rating downgrade is unlikely in near term, given the Positive outlook. However, downward pressure on the rating could emerge in case of a sustained deterioration in profitability and cash accruals, or if any sizeable debt-funded capex/ investment/ acquisition results in an increase in total debt/OPBDITA to more than 1.0 times on a sustained basis.

Analytical approach

Analytical Approach	Comments
Applicable Rating Methodologies	Corporate Credit Rating Methodology
Parent/Group Support	Not Applicable
Consolidation/Standalone	For arriving at the ratings, ICRA has combined the business and financial profiles of various Group entities (as mentioned in Annexure-2), given the close business, financial and managerial linkages among these.

About the company

APL Apollo Tubes Limited (AATL) was incorporated in February 1986 as Bihar Tubes Private Limited with its headquarters in Delhi-NCR. AATL is among the largest ERW pipe/ structural steel tube manufacturer in India. The company operates 11 manufacturing facilities across India with a total installed capacity of 4.1 mtpa. The Group's product offerings include 1,100+ varieties for structural steel applications. These tubes have a wide spectrum of usages in urban infrastructure and real estate, rural housing, commercial construction, greenhouse structures and engineering applications. The Group has also established a large pan-India distribution network of more than 800 dealer distributors and over 50,000 retailers over the years.

Key financial indicators (audited)

Consolidated	FY2022	FY2023	H1 FY2024*
Operating Income (Rs. crore)	13,063	16,166	9,175
PAT (Rs. crore)	619	642	398
OPBDIT/OI (%)	7.2%	6.3%	6.9%
PAT/OI (%)	4.7%	4.0%	4.3%
Total Outside Liabilities/Tangible Net Worth (times)	0.9	0.9	0.9
Total Debt/OPBDIT (times)	0.6	0.9	0.9
Interest Coverage (times)	21.3	15.2	11.8

*PAT: Profit after Tax; OPBDIT: Operating Profit before Depreciation, Interest, Taxes and Amortisation   *Unaudited*

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable

Any other information: None

Rating history for past three years

	Instrument	Current rating (FY2024)				Chronology of rating history for the past 3 years					
		Type	Amount rated (Rs. crore)	Amount outstanding (Rs. crore)*	Date & rating in FY2024	Date & rating in FY2023			Date & rating in FY2022	Date & rating in FY2021	
					Dec 29, 2023	Mar 30, 2023	Nov 17, 2022	Jun 29, 2022	Nov 18, 2021	Mar 08, 2021	Dec 31, 2020
1	CP	ST	300.0	-	[ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]A1+
2	FB: Term Loan	LT	101.56	76.26	[ICRA]AA (Positive)	[ICRA]AA (Stable)	[ICRA]AA (Stable)	[ICRA]AA (Stable)	[ICRA]AA (Stable)	[ICRA]AA- (Positive)	[ICRA]AA- (Positive)
3	FB: Working Capital Facilities	LT/ST	1,330.00	-	[ICRA]AA (Positive) / [ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]AA (Stable)/ [ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]AA (Stable)/ [ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]AA (Stable)/ [ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]AA (Stable)/ [ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]AA- (Positive)/ [ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]AA- (Positive) / [ICRA]A1+
4	Non-fund Based Facilities	ST	1,000.00	-	[ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]A1+
5	Unallocated limits	LT/ST	88.78		[ICRA]AA (Positive) / [ICRA]A1+	-	[ICRA]AA (Stable)/ [ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]AA (Stable)/ [ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]AA (Stable)/ [ICRA]A1+	[ICRA]AA- (Positive)/ [ICRA]A1+	-

**Outstanding as on September 30, 2023 LT: Long term ST: Short term*

Complexity level of the rated instrument

Instrument	Complexity Indicator
Commercial Paper	Very Simple
Fund - based-Term Loan	Simple
Fund- based - Working Capital Facilities	Simple
Short term Non-fund Based Facilities	Very Simple
Unallocated	Not Applicable

The Complexity Indicator refers to the ease with which the returns associated with the rated instrument could be estimated. It does not indicate the risk related to the timely payments on the instrument, which is rather indicated by the instrument's credit rating. It also does not indicate the complexity associated with analysing an entity's financial, business, industry risks or complexity related to the structural, transactional, or legal aspects. Details on the complexity levels of the instruments, are available on ICRA's website: Click Here

Annexure-1: Instrument details

ISIN No.	Instrument Name	Date of Issuance / Sanction	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Amount Rated (Rs. crore)	Current Rating and Outlook
Unplaced	Commercial Paper	NA	NA	NA	300.00	[ICRA]A1+
NA	Fund - based-Term Loan	FY2018-FY2022	7.00%-8.00%	FY2024-FY2027	101.56	[ICRA]AA (Positive)
NA	Fund- based - Working Capital Facilities	NA	NA	NA	1,330.00	[ICRA]AA (Positive)/ [ICRA]A1+
NA	Short term Non-fund Based Facilities	NA	NA	NA	1,000.00	[ICRA]A1+
NA	Unallocated	NA	NA	NA	88.78	[ICRA]AA (Positive)/ [ICRA]A1+

Source: Company and Group Financials

Please click here to view the lender wise details rated by ICRA

Annexure-2: List of entities considered for consolidated analysis

Company Name	Ownership	Consolidation Approach
APL Apollo Tubes Limited	100.00%	Full Consolidation
Apollo Metalex Private Limited	100.00%	Full Consolidation
Blue Ocean Projects Private Limited	100.00%	Full Consolidation
APL Apollo Building Products Private Limited	100.00%	Full Consolidation
APL Apollo Tubes FZE.	100.00%	Full Consolidation
APL Apollo Mart Limited	100.00%	Full Consolidation
APL Apollo Tubes Company LLC	100.00%	Full Consolidation

Source: *Company and Group Financials*

Note: *ICRA has taken a consolidated view of the parent (AATL), its subsidiaries and step-subsidiaries while assigning the ratings*

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info@icraindia.com

About ICRA Limited:

ICRA Limited was set up in 1991 by leading financial/investment institutions, commercial banks and financial services companies as an independent and professional investment Information and Credit Rating Agency.

Today, ICRA and its subsidiaries together form the ICRA Group of Companies (Group ICRA). ICRA is a Public Limited Company, with its shares listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange. The international Credit Rating Agency Moody's Investors Service is ICRA's largest shareholder.

For more information, visit www.icra.in

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Branches