

CCXAP assigns first-time long-term credit rating of BBB_g- to Jiangsu Fuxuan Industrial Co., Ltd., with stable outlook.

Hong Kong, 23 August 2024 – China Chengxin (Asia Pacific) Credit Ratings Company Limited (“CCXAP”) has assigned first-time long-term credit rating of BBB_g- to Jiangsu Fuxuan Industrial Co., Ltd. (“JSFX” or the “Company”), with stable outlook.

The BBB_g- long-term credit rating of JSFX reflects the Binhai County Government’s strong capacity to provide support, and the local government’s very high willingness to provide support, based on our assessment of the Company’s characteristics. Our assessment of the local government’s capacity to provide support reflects Binhai County’s ongoing economic and fiscal growth. However, its fiscal balance ratio is moderate.

The rating also reflects the local government’s willingness to provide support, which is based on the Company’s (1) full ownership by the Binhai County Government; (2) essential role in infrastructure and industrial development in Jiangsu Binhai Economic Development Zone (“Binhai EDZ”); and (3) track record of receiving support from the local government in terms of financial subsidies and asset injections. However, the rating is constrained by the Company’s (1) moderate exposure to commercial activities; (2) increased debt leverage driven by construction investments; and (3) moderate financing ability.

Corporate Profile

Established in 2013, JSFX is the primary local infrastructure investment and financing company (“LIIFC”) in Binhai EDZ, a provincial-level EDZ in Binhai County, Yancheng City. It is mainly responsible for infrastructure construction and industrial property development in the Industrial Park Area of Binhai EDZ, and also undertakes the asset liquidation and revitalization in the area in alignment with the local government’s development strategy. Meanwhile, the Company has developed a range of commercial activities, including property leasing, trading and processing. In October 2020, the Company’s shareholder was transferred from the Jiangsu Binhai Economic Development Zone Industrial Park Investment Service Centre to the Binhai State-owned Assets Operation and Service Centre (“Binhai SAOSC”). As of 31 December 2023, Binhai SAOSC was the sole shareholder and the Binhai County Government was the actual controller of the Company.

Rating Rationale

Credit Strengths

Essential role in infrastructure and industrial development of Binhai EDZ. JSFX is one of the important LIIFCs wholly owned by the Binhai County Government, having an important and clear strategic position. Designated by the Management Committee of Binhai EDZ, the Company has undertaken a series of infrastructure construction projects within the Industrial Park Area. Apart from that, it also promotes regional investment attraction and industrial upgrades.

Track record of receiving government support. JSFX has a track record of receiving government support in the form of asset injections and financial subsidies. Also, it is expected that the Company will receive government project repayments, given the large scale of receivables from the government and agency construction costs recorded in inventories. We believe that the local government will continue to provide support to JSFX over the next 12 to 18 months, underpinned by its important position in Binhai EDZ.

Credit Challenges

Moderate exposure to commercial activities. JSFX's commercial activities include property leasing, trading and processing. Based on our assessment, the Company has moderate exposure to commercial activities, which accounted for approximately 20% to 25% of its total assets. The commercial activities have become a significant source of revenue for the Company, and the associated commercial risks are manageable given that most of them are conducted for the development strategies of Binhai EDZ.

Increased debt leverage due to investments in construction projects. JSFX's debt burden increased fast, primarily due to large investments in both asset acquisition and construction projects. Meanwhile, the Company has a relatively large short-term debt burden. Considering the continuous investment in project construction, we anticipate the Company will rely on external financing and its debt level and the leverage ratio will heighten in the near future.

Moderate access to funding channels with modest financial flexibility. JSFX has moderate access to funding and has a relatively high reliance on non-standard products. In addition, the relatively weak asset liquidity will constrain JSFX's financial flexibility. JSFX's assets were primarily comprised of receivables, inventories, and investment properties. Overall, the Company's restricted assets amounted to RMB2.6 billion, accounting for 17.7% of the total assets.

Rating Outlook

The stable outlook on JSFX's rating reflects our expectation that the Binhai County Government's capacity to provide support will remain stable, and the Company will maintain its important position in Binhai County and Binhai EDZ over the next 12-18 months.

What could upgrade the rating?

The rating could be upgraded if (1) the local government's ability to provide support strengthens; or (2) the Company's characteristics change in a way that strengthens the local government's willingness to provide support, such as strengthened policy importance or improved financing channels.

What could downgrade the rating?

The rating could be downgraded if (1) the local government's ability to provide support weakens; or (2) the Company's characteristics change in a way that decreases the local government's



willingness to provide support, such as materially increased exposure to risky commercial activities or a deterioration in its debt management or asset liquidity.

Rating Methodology

The methodology used in this rating is the Rating Methodology for [China's Local Infrastructure Investment and Financing Companies \(July 2022\)](#).

Regulatory Disclosures

CCXAP's Rating Symbols and Definitions are available on its website at:
http://www.ccxap.com/en/rating_services/category/6/

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