

The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

Rating Report

Mughal Iron & Steel Industries Limited | PPCP | PKR 2 bln | Apr-23

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Rating History								
Dissemination Date	Long Term Rating	Short Term Rating	Outlook	Action	Rating Watch			
22-May-2023	A+	A1	Stable	Initial	-			
12-Dec-2022	A+	A1	Stable	Preliminary	-			

Rating Rationale and Key Rating Drivers

Mughal is a known name in the steel industry. The Company's business profile has sustained and improved, over the last few years. The governance framework is strengthened by the presence of independent oversight on the board. The Company has a diversified product slate as its operating both in ferrous & non-ferrous segments. The ferrous segment comprises Billets, Rebars & Girders while the non-ferrous segment comprises Copper ingots mainly. Furthermore, the establishment of strong brands like 'Mughal Supreme' gives a competitive edge to the Company. The ratings incorporate the essence of material advancement that Mughal achieved in terms of further diversityin revenue streams. During 9MFY23, topline was reported at PKR 48,479mln (9MFY22: PKR 47,221mln; FY22: PKR 66,153mln) and has attained a bottom line of ~PKR 2,647mln in 9MFY23(9MFY22: ~PKR 4,370mln; FY22: PKR 5,411mln). The decline in profitability is attributable to PKR depreciation and increased commodity prices and finance cost. The overall debt of the Company has been witnessing an increasing trend on account of ongoing expansions and supplementary cushion for the shortcomings of working capital, due to which short-term borrowing contributed a significant portion to the total debt. While the Company is also planning to finance its short-term working capital needs through the issuance of unsecured commercial papers. However, comfort can be drawn from a strong equity base of PKR 23,353mln driven by healthy profits.

The ratings are dependent upon the Company's ability to sustain its healthy business profile amidst strong competition, herein, effective and prudent management of financial risk indicators remains important. Moreover, upholding of governance framework is vital.

Disclosure				
Name of Rated Entity	Mughal Iron & Steel Industries Limited PPCP PKR 2 bln Apr-23			
Type of Relationship	Solicited			
Purpose of the Rating	Debt Instrument Rating			
Applicable Criteria	Methodology Corporate Rating(Jun-22),Methodology Debt Instrument Rating(Jun-22),Methodology Correlation Between Long-term & Short-term Rating Scales(Jun-22),Methodology Rating Modifiers(Jun-22)			
Related Research	Sector Study Steel(Sep-22)			
Rating Analysts	Muhammad Atif Chaudhry Atif.Chaudhry@pacra.com +92-42-35869504			



The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

Issuer Profile

Profile Mughal Iron & Steel Industries Ltd. is a listed Company since March 2015. Its shares are traded on Pakistan Stock Exchange Limited (PSX). The Company's shares are quoted under the Engineering Sector. Incepted in the early 1950s in the form of a proprietorship firm, the company was incorporated in 2010. The company operates through its registered head office located in Lahore while the factory is located at 17 KM's Sheikhupura Road with sales centers located at Badami Bagh Lahore. Its products are used in the housing sector in both rural and urban and hi-tech industrial complexes and infrastructural projects. Mughal Iron & Steel Industries Limited (Mughal) is primarily engaged in the manufacturing and sale of billets, girders, and rebars and has also diversified into non-ferrous segment through exports of copper.

Ownership Presently, the company is majority (~76%) owned by Mughal family, followed by Financial Institutions, and general public. The ownership structure of the Company is seen as stable as no ownership changes are expected in near future. The majority stake will rest with Mughal family. The sponsors – the Mughal family – carry over five decades of experience in steel and allied business. The sponsors have demonstrated their commitment towards the company by injecting funds on as and when required basis. Given that Mughal is the flagship entity of sponsors, willingness to support the company in case need arises is considered high.

Governance The overall control of the Company vests in the nine members' board of directors, wherein six are from sponsoring family including the Chairman and the CEO, while three are independent members. Mughal's Board Members carry requisite skills, competence, diversified knowledge background, and experiences, which is considered positive. Two board committees in place, include (i) Audit, and (ii) Human Resource & Remuneration. Furthermore, presence of independent directors and good attendance in board meetings reflect on good governance framework of the company. M/s Fazal Mahmood & Company, Chartered Accountants, classified in category 'C' by SBP in 2017 and having a QCR rating, are the external auditors of the company. They have expressed an unqualified opinion for the Financial statements of end-Dec22. M/s Fazal Mahmood & Company is a member of prime global.

Management Mughal has a streamlined organizational structure with clearly demarcated roles and a high degree of delegation. The reporting lines are segregated between two executive directors and CEO which in turn report to the BoD. The current structure results in strong decision-making and brings operational efficiencies. Mr. Khurram Javaid (CEO) has been instrumental in improving the overall HR quality of the company. He is supported by a team of experienced individuals equipped with the necessary technical skills and relevant industry experience. Mughal has no formal management committees in place. All departments have their own meetings and their heads review key performance areas of the department and report to respective executive directors. MIS reports are customized as per the requirements of the management on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis. Some of the reports generated include re-ordering sheets, financial facilities status, etc. The Company has an ERP system deployed which is currently being used for reporting purposes.

Business Risk Pakistan Steel Sector is largely fragmented with over ~170 player registered with The Pakistan Steel Re-Rolling Mills Association. Key players in the industry are, however, less than 20 in number, yet account for over ~40-50 production capacity of the sector. Out of these, 12 players are listed on the PSX. Domestic steel industry has undergone through recent expansion phase. According to the PSX data of listed companies in the long steel sector, the net margins of the steel sector shrunk during the last five years, and leading players declared losses during FY 2019-2020. The steel sector came out of crisis during the years 2020-21 and 2021-22 for a brief span of time. However, the steel sector has once again landed into crisis after the drastic increase in interest rates during the first half of FY 2022 by the SBP, high scrap prices in international markets and increase in energy cost, rupee depreciation, slash in PSDP and dip in demand due to havoc created by recent floods tragedy. Mughal is a known name in the steel industry. The company has diversity in its product slate and its profiling has significantly improved post listing on PSX. The expansion projects related to 'Additional power and melting capacity' and 'Replacement of Re-Rolling Bar Mill' have enabled Mughal to further strengthen its market positioning. During 9MFY23, topline was recorded at PKR 48,479mln (9MFY22: PKR 47,221mln; FY22: PKR 66,153mln). The Company managed to maintain its topline in absolute terms, however, there was decline in volumes as compared to corresponding six months period. Finance cost increased significantly by 64% mainly due to significant hike in base discount rate during same period. Resultantly, net profit for 9MFY23 decreased to PKR 2,647mln as compared to PKR 4,370mln in 9MFY22. During 9MFY23, Mughal's gross and operating margins witnessed decline as per reported figures (Gross: 9MFY23: 13.6%; 9MFY22: 15.9%, FY22: 15.3%), (Operating: 9MFY23: 12.3%; 9MFY22: 14.4%, FY22: 13.9%), (Net: 9MFY23: 5.5%; 9MFY22: 9.3%, FY22: 8.3%). Overall margins witnessed sharp decline as compared to the corresponding nine months period since the impact of increase in input costs could not completely be transferred into sale prices. The company has been taking many steps to lead ferrous as well as non-ferrous segments. In respect of ferrous segment, it has expanded its melting and grid load capacity and has also carried out BMR of re-rolling mill. As a part of diversification strategy and to increase global footprints, it has also ventured in non-ferrous segment in order to increase copper exports and to commence exports of Aluminium ingots.

Financial Risk During 9MFY23, Mughal's working capital requirements, represented by net cash cycle (net working capital days) increased to 146days (end-Mar22: 140days; end-Jun22: 119days). This is due to considerable increase in inventory days to 113 (Inventory days: end-Mar22: 108days; end-Jun22: 94days) and slight increase in trade receivables days to 40(end-Mar 22: 36days, end-Jun 22: 30days). The company manages its working capital requirements through mix of internal generation and short-term borrowings. As at end-Mar23, STB have decreased to PKR 19,711mln (9MFY22: PKR 22,883mln; FY22: PKR 20,619mln) while FCFO's were recorded at PKR 6,064mln (9MFY22: PKR 6,801 mln; FY22: PKR 8,726 mln). Due to upwelling in debt levels and increased key policy rates, finance cost increased to PKR 2,906mln during 9MFY23 (9MFY22: PKR 1,768mln; FY22: PKR 2,622mln). Resultantly dip has been witnessed in Interest coverage ratio which was recorded at 2.2x in 9MFY23 (9MFY22: 4x, FY22: 3.4x). The company has a gearing of 51.8% in 9MFY23 (9MFY22: 58.2%, FY22: 55.5%). The current ratio of 10.6x in 9MFY23 (9MFY22: 11x). The overall debt of the company has been witnessing an decreasing trend clocked in at PKR 25,026mln during 9MFY23 (9MFY22: PKR 27,573mln; FY22: PKR 25,941mln). However, comfort can be drawn from strong equity base of PKR 23,353mln driven by healthy profits at the end 9MFY23 (9MFY22: PKR 19,814mln; FY22: PKR 20,847mln).

Instrument Rating Considerations

About The Instrument Mughal Iron & Steel Industries Limited issued a Rated, Unsecured, Privately Placed Short Term Conventional Commercial Paper (CP) of PKR 2,000mln at face value to finance the company's working capital requirements. The tenor of ICP is 9 months and carrying a profit rate of 6MK+150bps. Profit payment and principal would be made in a bullet payment at the time of maturity.

Relative Seniority/Subordination Of Instrument

Credit Enhancement The instrument is unsecured.





4 Capital Structure

b Interest or Markup Payable (Days)

c Entity Average Borrowing Rate

a Total Borrowings / (Total Borrowings+Shareholders' Equity)

ancial Summary The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited PKR mln Mughal Iron & Steel Industries Limited Mar-23 Jun-22 Mar-22 Jun-21 Jun-20 Steel 9M **12M** 9M 12M 12M A BALANCE SHEET 17,218 16,533 15,859 1 Non-Current Assets 15,666 9,966 2 Investments 52 3 Related Party Exposure 38,107 36,553 25,941 4 Current Assets 38,273 15,640 a Inventories 18,991 21,043 23,968 13,181 6,732 h Trade Receivables 5 574 7.145 5.259 2.182 8.686 5 Total Assets 55,378 53,085 53,940 41,800 25,606 3,314 3,774 6 Current Liabilities 1,992 3,580 1,553 a Trade Payables 1,344 1,357 880 455 684 7 Borrowings 25,026 25,941 27,573 20,809 15,045 8 Related Party Exposure 24 25 55 9 Non-Current Liabilities 3,396 2,959 2,779 2,494 795 10 Net Assets 23,353 20,847 19,814 16,505 8,158 23,353 11 Shareholders' Equity 20,847 19,814 16,505 8,158 **B INCOME STATEMENT** 47,221 44,972 27.305 1 Sales 48.479 66.153 a Cost of Good Sold (41,865)(56,025)(39,716)(38, 280)(24,688)7,505 6,691 2,617 6,614 10,128 2 Gross Profit a Operating Expenses (645)(951)(715)(792)(551)3 Operating Profit 5,969 9,177 6,790 5,899 2,067 a Non Operating Income or (Expense) (83)(353)(280)(367)(169)4 Profit or (Loss) before Interest and Tax 5,886 8,824 6,510 5,532 1,897 a Total Finance Cost (2,906)(2,622)(1,768)(1,370)(1,344)b Taxation (332)(791)(372)(732)39 6 Net Income Or (Loss) 2,647 5,411 4,370 3,429 593 C CASH FLOW STATEMENT a Free Cash Flows from Operations (FCFO) 6,064 8,726 6,801 5,564 1,370 b Net Cash from Operating Activities before Working Capital Changes 3.453 3,885 6.233 5.196 (111)(3,500)(6,247)(10,878)(9,982)(1,050)c Changes in Working Capital 1 Net Cash provided by Operating Activities (48)(15)(5,682)(6,097)(1,161)(1,025)(1,171)Net Cash (Used in) or Available From Investing Activities (213)(1,263)(1,470)1,908 Net Cash (Used in) or Available From Financing Activities (911)4,126 5,685 7,235 4 Net Cash generated or (Used) during the period (1,983)2,941 (211)(125)(722)**D RATIO ANALYSIS** 1 Performance a Sales Growth (for the period) -2.3% 47.1% 40.0% 64.7% -11.4% b Gross Profit Margin 13.6% 15.3% 15.9% 14.9% 9.6% 8.2% 9.3% 2.2% c Net Profit Margin 5.5% 7.6% d Cash Conversion Efficiency (FCFO adjusted for Working Capital/Sales) 5.3% 3.7% -8.6% -9.8% 1.2% e Return on Equity [Net Profit Margin * Asset Turnover * (Total Assets/Sh 16.0% 29.0% 32.1% 27.8% 7.6% **Working Capital Management** 153 124 144 a Gross Working Capital (Average Days) 111 113 b Net Working Capital (Average Days) 146 119 140 106 106 c Current Ratio (Current Assets / Current Liabilities) 10.6 11.0 10.1 13.0 10.1 3 Coverages a EBITDA / Finance Cost 2.4 3.8 4.3 4.6 1.8 b FCFO/Finance Cost+CMLTB+Excess STB 1.5 2.3 2.5 2.6 0.6 c Debt Payback (Total Borrowings+Excess STB) / (FCFO-Finance Cost) 1.2 0.9 0.7 1.1 88.7

51.8%

65.5

14.3%

55.5%

54.5

10.1%

58.2%

66.1

9.2%

55.8%

69.1

7.0%

64.9%

0.0

9.4%



Corporate Rating Criteria

Scale

Credit Rating

Credit rating reflects forward-looking opinion on credit worthiness of underlying entity or instrument; more specifically it covers relative ability to honor financial obligations. The primary factor being captured on the rating scale is relative likelihood of default.

	Long-term Rating
Scale	Definition
AAA	Highest credit quality. Lowest expectation of credit risk. Indicate exceptionally strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments
AA+	
AA	Very high credit quality. Very low expectation of credit risk. Indicate very strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.
AA-	
A +	
A	High credit quality. Low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions.
<u>A</u> -	
BBB+	
ввв	Good credit quality. Currently a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse changes in circumstances and in economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.
BBB-	
BB+	Moderate risk. Possibility of credit risk developing. There is a possibility of credit risk
ВВ	developing, particularly as a result of adverse economic or business changes over time; however, business or financial alternatives may be available to allow financial commitments to be met.
BB-	Commitments to be medi
\mathbf{B} +	
В	High credit risk. A limited margin of safety remains against credit risk. Financial commitments are currently being met; however, capacity for continued payment is contingent upon a sustained, favorable business and economic environment.
B-	
CCC	Very high credit risk. Substantial credit risk "CCC" Default is a real possibility.
CC	Capacity for meeting financial commitments is solely reliant upon sustained, favorable business or economic developments. "CC" Rating indicates that default of some kind appears probable. "C" Ratings signal imminent default.
C	appears probable. C. Ratings signal infinitient default.
D	Obligations are currently in default.

Short-term Rating Scale **Definition** The highest capacity for timely repayment. A1+ A strong capacity for timely A1 repayment. A satisfactory capacity for timely repayment. This may be susceptible to **A2** adverse changes in business. economic, or financial conditions An adequate capacity for timely repayment. **A3** Such capacity is susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial The capacity for timely repayment is more susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial conditions. Liquidity may not be sufficient.



*The correlation shown is indicative and, in certain cases, may not hold.

Outlook (Stable, Positive, Negative, Developing) Indicates the potential and direction of a rating over the intermediate term in response to trends in economic and/or fundamental business/financial conditions. It is not necessarily a precursor to a rating change. 'Stable' outlook means a rating is not likely to change. 'Positive' means it may be raised. 'Negative' means it may be lowered. Where the trends have conflicting elements, the outlook may be described as 'Developing'.

Rating Watch Alerts to the possibility of a rating change subsequent to, or, in anticipation of some material identifiable event with indeterminable rating implications. But it does not mean that a rating change is inevitable. A watch should be resolved within foreseeable future, but may continue if underlying circumstances are not settled. Rating watch may accompany rating outlook of the respective opinion.

Suspension It is not possible to update an opinion due to lack of requisite information. Opinion should be resumed in foreseeable future. However, if this does not happen within six (6) months, the rating should be considered withdrawn.

Withdrawn A rating is withdrawn on a) termination of rating mandate, b) the debt instrument is redeemed, c) the rating remains suspended for six months, d) the entity/issuer defaults., or/and e) PACRA finds it impractical to surveill the opinion due to lack of requisite information.

Harmonization A change in rating due to revision in applicable methodology or underlying scale.

Surveillance. Surveillance on a publicly disseminated rating opinion is carried out on an ongoing basis till it is formally suspended or withdrawn. A comprehensive surveillance of rating opinion is carried out at least once every six months. However, a rating opinion may be reviewed in the intervening period if it is necessitated by any material happening.

Note. This scale is applicable to the following methodology(s):

- a) Broker Entity Rating
- b) Corporate Rating
- c) Debt Instrument Rating
- d) Financial Institution Rating
- e) Holding Company Rating
- f) Independent Power Producer Rating
- g) Microfinance Institution Rating
- h) Non-Banking Finance Companies Rating

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Regulatory and Supplementary Disclosure

(Credit Rating Companies Regulations, 2016)

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(1) Rating is just an opinion about the creditworthiness of the entity and does not constitute recommendation to buy, hold or sell any security of the entity rated or to buy, hold or sell the security rated, as the case may be | Chapter III; 14-3-(x)

2) Conflict of Interest

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- ii. PACRA, the analysts involved in the rating process and members of its rating committee, and their family members, do not have any conflict of interest relating to the rating done by them | Chapter III; 12-2-(e) & (k)
- iii. The analyst is not a substantial shareholder of the customer being rated by PACRA [Annexure F; d-(ii)] Explanation: for the purpose of above clause, the term "family members" shall include only those family members who are dependent on the analyst and members of the rating committee

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- (5) PACRA does not make proposals or recommendations regarding the activities of rated entities that could impact a credit rating of entity subject to rating | Chapter III; 10-7-(k)

Conduct of Business

- (6) PACRA fulfills its obligations in a fair, efficient, transparent and ethical manner and renders high standards of services in performing its functions and obligations; | Chapter III; 11-A-(a)
- (7) PACRA uses due care in preparation of this Rating Report. Our information has been obtained from sources we consider to be reliable but its accuracy or completeness is not guaranteed. PACRA does not, in every instance, independently verifies or validates information received in the rating process or in preparing this Rating Report | Clause 11-(A)(p).
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- (9) PACRA ensures before commencement of the rating process that an analyst or employee has not had a recent employment or other significant business or personal relationship with the rated entity that may cause or may be perceived as causing a conflict of interest; | Chapter III; 11-A-(r) (10) PACRA maintains principal of integrity in seeking rating business | Chapter III; 11-A-(u)
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- (12) PACRA receives compensation from the entity being rated or any third party for the rating services it offers. The receipt of this compensation has no influence on PACRA's opinions or other analytical processes. In all instances, PACRA is committed to preserving the objectivity, integrity and independence of its ratings. Our relationship is governed by two distinct mandates i) rating mandate signed with the entity being rated or issuer of the debt instrument, and fee mandate signed with the payer, which can be different from the entity
- (13) PACRA does not provide consultancy/advisory services or other services to any of its customers or to any of its customers' associated companies and associated undertakings that is being rated or has been rated by it during the preceding three years unless it has adequate mechanism in place ensuring that provision of such services does not lead to a conflict of interest situation with its rating activities; | Chapter III; 12-2-(d)
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- (19) PACRA reviews all the outstanding ratings on semi-annual basis or as and when required by any creditor or upon the occurrence of such an event which requires to do so; | Chapter III | 18-(b)
- (20) PACRA initiates immediate review of the outstanding rating upon becoming aware of any information that may reasonably be expected to result in downgrading of the rating; | Chapter III | 18-(c)
- (21) PACRA engages with the issuer and the debt securities trustee, to remain updated on all information pertaining to the rating of the entity/instrument; | Chapter III | 18-(d)

Probability of Default

(22) PACRA's Rating Scale reflects the expectation of credit risk. The highest rating has the lowest relative likelihood of default (i.e, probability). PACRA's transition studies capture the historical performance behavior of a specific rating notch. Transition behavior of the assigned rating can be obtained from PACRA's Transition Study available at our website. (www.pacra.com). However, actual transition of rating may not follow the pattern observed in the past | Chapter III | 14-(f-VII)

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Regulatory and Supplementary Disclosure

Nature of Instrument	Size of Issue (PKR)	Tenor	Security	Book Value of Assets (PKR mln)	Nature of Assets	Trustee
Rated, Unsecured, Privately Placed, Short Term	PKR 2bln	9 months	Unsecured	N/A	N/A	
	Mughal Iron & Steel Industries Li 06-Apr-23 01-Jan-24 6M KIBOR + 1.5%	mited				

Mughal Iron & Steel Industries Limited | PPCP | PKR 2 bln | Apr 23 | Redemption Schedule

Sr.	Due Date Principal	Opening Principal	6M Kibor	Markup/Profit Rate (6MK + 1.5%)	Markup/Profit Payment	Principal Payment	Total	Principal Outstanding
		PKR (mln)		,		PK	IR (mln)	
Issue Date	06-Apr-23	1,704			•	-		1,704
1	01-Jan-24	1,704	21.98%	23.48%	296	1,704	2,000	-
			·	,	296	1,704	2,000	