

December 31, 2024

Neptunus Power Plant Services Private Limited: Ratings reaffirmed

Summary of rating action

Instrument*	Previous Rated Amount (Rs. crore)	Current Rated Amount (Rs. crore)	Rating Action		
Long term/Short term- Fund	2.90	2.90	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)/ [ICRA]A2+;		
based – Overdraft facilities	2.50	2.50	reaffirmed		
Short term - Non-fund based -	0.50	0.50	[ICRA]A2+; reaffirmed		
Others	0.30	0.50	[lenvij, vz., realiililied		
Total	3.40	3.40			

^{*}Instrument details are provided in Annexure-I

Rationale

The rating reaffirmation factors in the technical expertise and established track record of Neptunus Power Plant Services Private Limited (NPPSPL) in providing engine management services in marine and oil and gas segments. The ratings favourably consider the company's tie-ups with reputed engine manufacturers, such as IHI Power Systems Co Ltd. and Electro-Motive Diesel Inc, as the sole distributor of their engines and spare parts in India.

The ratings continue to derive comfort from the company's strong financial profile, reflected in its comfortable capital structure owing to the low reliance on external debt and consequently its healthy debt protection metrics. ICRA takes note of the company's robust liquidity position with cash and cash equivalents of Rs. 50.5 crore as on March 31, 2024 and cushion in undrawn working capital limits. While the company has undertaken a buyback of Rs. 9 crore in FY2024 and can undertake similar buybacks in the future, the liquidity continues to be strong. Further, ICRA expects NPPSPL's profits to remain healthy as the company attempts to improve its service offerings for clients which are relatively more margin accretive.

The ratings are, however, constrained by NPPSPL's modest scale of operations and net worth and the vulnerability of its revenues to the inherent cyclicality in the shipping industry, as well as the oil and gas exploration sector. The lower scale of operations constrains NPPSPL's ability to benefit from the economies of scale and weighs on its competitive position vis-à-vis the larger entities. Being an exclusive distributor of IHI Power Systems Co Ltd (Japan) and Electro-Motive Diesel Inc (USA), ICRA notes a high supplier dependence, and any unavailability of critical components can adversely impact the business.

The Stable outlook on the [ICRA]BBB+ rating reflects ICRA's opinion that NPPSPL will continue to maintain its market position by being the exclusive distributor for global equipment players and its established relations and long-term association with its key customers, translating into a comfortable credit profile even as the scale of operations remains low.

Key rating drivers and their description

Credit strengths

Technical expertise in providing engine management services for marine and oil and gas industries – The Neptunus Group started operations from 1996 and is present in the machine reliability business. The management has over two decades of experience in providing engineering services in the marine and oil and gas segments, among others. NPPSPL benefits from the extensive experience and proven track record of its promoters, which has enabled the Group to establish its position in the export market.

Established relationships with reputed engine manufacturers — NPPSPL is an authorised and exclusive Indian distributor of IHI Power Systems Company Limited (erstwhile Niigata Power Systems Company Limited), Japan, for the spares and services of the gas and diesel engines supplied by the manufacturer in India. It is associated with Electro-Motive Diesel Inc (EMD), USA,

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for the supply of spares for EMD's diesel engines. The company is also the distributor of the spare parts of other engine manufactures such as Caterpillar Marine Asia Pacific Pte Ltd (Singapore), Triple R Overseas Corporation (Japan) and Alpha Diagnostics Ltd (Switzerland).

High entry barriers- The entry barriers in the engine repair services segment, especially for oil and gas assignments, remain high owing to stringent pre-qualification norms in terms of a service provider's operating track record, technical expertise, and the availability of trained personnel. Further, the requirement of various certifications for operating in the industry, the receipt of which takes long, makes the entry to the industry more difficult.

Comfortable financial risk profile characterised by healthy capital structure and adequate liquidity — The company's capital structure remains healthy with a tangible net worth of Rs. 70.7 crore as on March 31, 2024, and nil debt on its book as on that date. This has resulted in strong coverage indicators of over 9 times for FY2024 and TOL/TNW of 0.28 times for the year. Further, the company has a strong liquidity position with healthy cash and cash equivalents of Rs. 50.5 crore as on March 31, 2024, coupled with undrawn working capital limits. NPPSPL is expected to generate stable cash flow in the coming years with a reasonable scale-up in its overall business. Further, with a moderate level of capex, the expected revenue growth along with healthy profitability is likely to keep the company's reliance on debt low and its capitalisation and coverage metrics are likely to remain comfortable.

Credit challenges

Modest scale of operations; exposure to cyclicality inherent in shipping and oil and gas industries — The company's scale of operations continues to be modest with fluctuating revenues in the past. The company's revenue growth declined in FY2021 and FY2022 following the vulnerability in its trading business and the engineering services division coupled with the exit from the metal trading business. The company reported a revenue of Rs. 67.2 crore in FY2024 with an operating profit margin of 15.63%. Further, the company sells components with various applications in the marine and oil and gas industries. The oil and gas industry is prone to a high degree of cyclicality, leading to periods of sharply reduced volumes and margin pressure. However, factors such as rising digitisation and expanding infrastructure investments are anticipated to boost the market growth in the medium term.

High supplier dependence - NPPSPL is an exclusive distributor for IHI Power Systems Co Ltd (Japan) and Electo Motive Diesel Inc (USA) for the supply of engines and spare parts in India. The other major suppliers for the company include reputed large players such as Nigata Power Systems (Singapore) PTE Limited and Caterpillar Marine Asia Pacific PTE Limited, among others, with the top five suppliers contributing to over 60-70% of the total purchases over the past few fiscals, thus making the dependence on a few suppliers quite significant.

Trading nature of operations and stiff competition limit pricing flexibility – NPPSPL's value addition to products remains limited, given its trading nature of operations for some reputed engine manufacturers. Further, akin to other players in the business, the company witnesses intense competition from original equipment spares (OES) and other organised and unorganised distributors/dealers, which restricts NPPSPL's pricing flexibility. However, the company is the authorised and exclusive Indian distributor of IHI Power Systems Company Limited for the supply of spares and services for its gas and diesel engines. It is also the exclusive distributor of spares for Electro Motive Diesel Inc's (EMD) diesel engines. These tie-ups with reputed manufacturers and the company's sound technical capabilities and the cost plus model mitigate the risk to some extent.

Liquidity position: Strong

The company has a strong liquidity position, supported by healthy free cash and cash equivalents of Rs. 50.5 crore as on March 31, 2024 coupled with comfortable cushion available in the form of undrawn working capital limits. The absence of external debt on the company's books of accounts and the minimal capex provide comfort to its overall liquidity position. The liquidity position is expected to remain strong, led by healthy cash accrual generation with a reasonable scaling up of the business operations and modest working capital requirements with the management's conscious efforts to improve its service offerings

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to the clients, even as the company has done a buy-back of around Rs. 9-10 crore, which can continue in the near future as well.

Rating sensitivities

Positive factors – ICRA could upgrade NPPSPL's ratings if the company demonstrates a significant improvement in its scale of operations while maintaining a healthy margin profile, strong coverage metrics and a robust liquidity position.

Negative factors – Pressure on NPPSPL's ratings could arise if there is a steep decline in revenues and profit margins. Moreover, any deterioration in the debt protection metrics due to increased debt levels to fund the working capital gap could exert pressure on the ratings.

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 considered the consolidated financials of Neptunus Power Plant and Services Private Limited; as on March 31, 2024, the company had one subsidiary, which is enlisted in Annexure II	

About the company

Neptunus Power Plant Services Private Limited (NPPSPL) was incorporated in 1996 by Mr. Uday Purohit to provide engine-related services to shipping companies. It later diversified its operations into trading in engine spare parts, training activities and refurbishment of old engines. At present, the company is involved in two major business verticals viz. i) trading of engine spare parts, and ii) providing services related to gas and diesel-based engines. It caters to the oil and gas segment, marine as well as industrial customers and is an exclusive distributor for IHI Power Systems Co Ltd (Japan) and Electro-Motive Diesel Inc (USA) for the supply of engines and spare parts in India. It also has a subsidiary - Neptunus Global Trading FZE - based in the United Arab of Emirates that supplies spare parts of engines to the marine industry and oil and gas customers.

Key financial indicators (audited)

Neptunus Power Plant Services Private Limited (Consolidated)	FY2023	FY2024
Operating income (Rs. crore)	92.9	67.2
PAT (Rs. crore)	8.7	7.5
OPBDIT/OI (%)	11.0%	15.6%
PAT/OI (%)	9.4%	11.2%
Total outside liabilities/Tangible net worth (times)	0.2	0.3
Total debt/OPBDIT (times)	0.0	0.0
Interest coverage (times)	33.8	9.9

Source: Company, ICRA Research; All ratios as per ICRA's calculations; Amount in Rs. crore; PAT: Profit after tax; OPBDIT: Operating profit before depreciation, interest, taxes and amortisation

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable

Any other information: Not applicable

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Rating history for past three years

	Current (FY2025)			Chronology of rating history for the past 3 years						
			FY2025		FY2024		FY2023		FY2022	
Instrument	Туре	Amount rated (Rs crore)	Date	Rating	Date	Rating	Date	Rating	Date	Rating
Fund based – Cash credit	Long term/ Short term	-	Dec 31, 2024	-	Sep 25, 2023	-	Oct 07, 2022	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)/ [ICRA]A2+	Sep 28, 2021	[ICRA]BBB (Stable)/ [ICRA]A2
Fund-based overdraft facilities	Long term/ Short term	2.90	Dec 31, 2024	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)/ [ICRA]A2+	Sep 25, 2023	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)/ [ICRA]A2+	Oct 07, 2022	-	Sep 28, 2021	-
Fund-based standby limit	Short term	-	Dec 31, 2024	-	Sep 25, 2023	-	Oct 07, 2022	[ICRA]A2+	Sep 28, 2021	[ICRA]A2
Non-fund based - Others	Short term	0.50	Dec 31, 2024	[ICRA]A2+	Sep 25, 2023	[ICRA]A2+	Oct 07, 2022	[ICRA]A2+	Sep 28, 2021	[ICRA]A2
Interchangeabl e limits - Others	Short term	-	Dec 31, 2024	-	Sep 25, 2023	-	Oct 07, 2022	[ICRA]A2+	Sep 28, 2021	[ICRA]A2
Unallocated amount	Long term/ Short term	-	Dec 31, 2024	-	Sep 25, 2023	-	Oct 07, 2022	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)/ [ICRA]A2+	Sep 28, 2021	[ICRA]BBB (Stable)/ [ICRA]A2

Complexity level of the rated instruments

Instrument	Complexity Indicator		
Long term/Short term - Fund based – Overdraft facilities	Simple		
Short term – Non-fund based - Others	Very Simple		

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

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Annexure I: Instrument details

ISIN	Instrument Name	Date of Issuance	Coupon Rate	Maturity	Amount Rated (Rs. crore)	Current Rating and Outlook
NA	Long term/Short term- Fund based – Overdraft facilities	-	-	-	2.90	[ICRA]BBB+(Stable)/ [ICRA]A2+
NA	Short term- Non-fund based - Others	-	-	-	0.50	[ICRA]A2+

Source: Company

Please click here to view details of lender-wise facilities rated by ICRA

Annexure II: List of entities considered for consolidated analysis

Company Name	Ownership	Consolidation Approach
Neptunus Power Plant Services Private Limited	100.00% (Rated Entity)	Full Consolidation
Neptunus Global Trading FZE	100.00%	Full Consolidation

Source: Company

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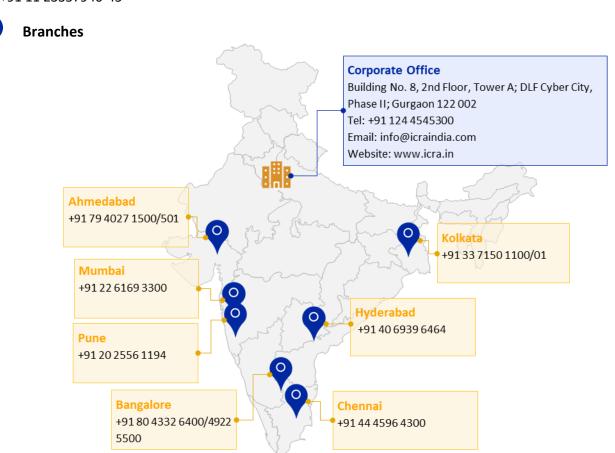


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