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## **Crown Holding Kft.**

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Crown Holding Kft.		Initial Rating	Review	Review	Review	Monitoring
Date of Rating Committee:		20.01.2022	24.01.2023	17.02.2023	25.01.2024	25.09.2024
Date of Publication:		04.02.2022	25.01.2023	17.02.2023	26.01.2024	25.09.2024
Issuer Rating	Long-term rating:	BB-	BB-	BB-	BB-	BB-
	Outlook:	Stable	Stable	Stable	Positive	Positive
Bond Rating	Long-term rating:	BB-	BB-	BB-	BB-	BB-
ISIN: HU0000361472	Outlook:	Stable	Stable	Stable	Positive	Positive

1) The credit rating and the rating outlook were disclosed to the rated entity or related third party. Following that disclosure amendments in the credit rating and rating outlook have not been executed;

2) During the last 2 years, BCRA Credit Rating Agency EAD has not provided ancillary services to the rated entity or a related third party.

**BCRA – CREDIT RATING AGENCY AD (BCRA)** is the third fully recognized rating agency in the EU, registered pursuant to Regulation No. 1060/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council. The credit ratings, assigned by the BCRA are valid throughout the EU and are fully equal to those, of the other agencies, recognized by the European Securities and Markets Authority, without any territorial or other limitations.

On 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2024, the Rating Committee of BCRA had a session, in which the new circumstances related to the ratings of Crown Holding were discussed. The session was headed by Dr. Kiril Grigorov - chairmen of the Rating Committee. The Committee members concluded that if the projected revenue targets are met, the presented acquisition project will be capable of servicing its debt independently while contributing positively to Crown Holding's financial results.

BCRA hereby **affirms** both the Long-term issuer rating and the Bond rating of Crown Holding Kft. at **"BB-**" and maintains the **Positive Outlook** related to them.

The official Methodology of BCRA for assigning a Corporate Credit Rating (effective as of February 2023) has been applied:

https://bcra.eu/files/corporate\_methodology\_2023\_en.pdf

The users of the rating can find information on the meaning of each rating category, including the definition of default in the published Global rating scale on the BCRA's website:

https://bcra.eu/files/global\_scale\_en.pdf

Information from the rated entity, the BCRA database, and other sources of public information has been used.

Table 1: General information about the rated entity

Issuer:	Crown Holding Kft.				
Head Office:	1052 Budapest, Deák Ferenc tér				
Head Office.	3., Hungary				
Main Activities:	Renting and operating of own or				
Main Activities.	leased real estate				
Registration number:	01-09-207175				
LEI:	2330007B46WU4T654359				
Bond ISIN:	HU0000361472				



Crown Holding is a limited liability company, founded in 2015 and headquartered in Hungary. It is active in the commercial real estate sector in Hungary and Romania. The main field of activity of Crown Holding is asset management but indirectly through its subsidiaries, it is engaged in real estate development, real estate investment, and real estate management. The group has a diversified portfolio of commercial real estate- shopping malls, hotels, and office buildings at different locations in Romania and Hungary.

On the monitoring line, **Crown Holding has** promptly notified BCRA of its intention to enter into new loan agreements totaling EUR 8.625 mln, aimed at financing new acquisitions. Accordinglly, this rationale is issued to evaluate the potential impact of this additional financing on the credit ratings of Crown Holding.

The rated entity **plans to acquire two four-star hotels**– one located in Győr and the other in Budapest. Both properties will be managed by Novoop, a subsidiary of Crown Holding, under a franchise agreement with one of the world's leading hospitality companies. With two hotels already in operation (in Szeged and Budapest), the Crown Group has experience in this business activity, and the considered strategic expansion will **further solidify its market position in Hungary's competitive hotel industry**.

The total purchase price for the two properties amounts to EUR 11.15 mln. **The project is set to be financed through a combination of equity** (25%) and debt (75%). In this regard, Crown Holding plans to secure a subsidized euro loan of EUR 8 mln (with a 10-year term and a fixed interest rate of 3% p.a.) and an additional euro loan of EUR 0.625 mln (also with a 10-year term and a fixed interest rate of 3% p.a.).

According to management's estimates, the operations of the two hotels will generate min. EUR 1.3 mln adjusted EBITDA per annum. With the adjusted DSCR projected to strictly sustain above 1.3x, the project is expected to contribute **at least EUR 0.3 mln in yearly free cash flow** to Crown Group throughout the loans' term, further enhancing the company's financial performance and liquidity.

The financial forecast prepared by BCRA does not indicate a possibility for a breach of the financial covenants tied to Crown Holding's bond issue (HU0000361472). Following the accumulation of new debt, Crown Group's financial leverage, as measured by the Net Financial Debt-to-Equity ratio, is expected to marginally increase to approximately 0.25x by the end of 2024 (up from the previously projected 0.2x), **remaining comfortably below that of similarly rated peers.** 

Moreover, the company is projected to generate more than sufficient cash flow to sustain operations and service its debt obligations in a timely manner over the medium term. With EBITDA-to-interest coverage expected to range between 4.7x and 8x, and a Net Debt-to-EBITDA ratio anticipated to fall below 1x by 2026, Crown Group's financial stability and ability to meet its commitments remain strong.

Accordingly, the proposed EUR 8.625 mln financing is not considered a material factor that would negatively impact the current credit ratings of Crown Holding Kft. BCRA hereby affirms both the long-term issuer rating and the bond rating of Crown Holding Kft. at "BB-", with a Positive Outlook.

## General Conclusions:

The **issuer credit rating** of Crown Holding is backed by its sound financial metrics, namely high profitability, and moderate leverage, as well as by track record of successful business development. On the other hand, the company operates in the highly cyclical real estate industry with a small relative market share which represents a rating constraint.

The **rating of the bond** (HU0000361472) issued by Crown Holding corresponds to the rating assigned to the issuer.

The **positive outlook** reflects improved profitability of operations and better financial results achieved after the successful deployment of newly acquired assets.

The following factors could lead to a **rating upgrade**:

- strengthening of the company's market position through a decline in concentration, better cash flow visibility, and increase in relative market share;
- 2) sustaining favourable financial results and high profitability;
- 3) reduction in indebtedness.

The following factors could lead to a **negative change in outlook** and/or **rating downgrade**:

- 1) material increase in leverage;
- 2) unreached revenue targets, resulting in negative EBITDA



## APPENDIX

Table 2: Key financial indicators (based on consolidated FS) of Crown Holding Ltd: 2020 – H1 2024								
TEUR	H1 2024	2022	2022	2021	2020			
Total Assets	176 719	177 208	165 545	128 830	127 236			
Fixed Assets	143 751	143 109	145 055	116 557	107 266			
Equity	78 817	76 064	68 841	82 465	68 329			
Net Financial Result	4 519	3 733	5 133	3 259	4 369			
EBITDA	6 737	12 171	10 883	3 996	6 442			
Financial Debt*	56 277	58 693	59 783	32 796	20 607			
Net Debt	42 847	41 807	51 787	25 457	14 065			
EBITDA margin	51.3%	45.8%	47.5%	24.9%	44.6%			
EBITDA-to-Interest coverage	382%	333%	367%	604%	877%			
Leverage	55.4%	57.1%	58.4%	36.0%	46.3%			
Net Debt-to-Equity	54.4%	55.0%	75.2%	30.9%	20.6%			
Net Debt-to-EBITDA	-	3.43	4.76	6.37	2.18			
Net Debt-to-Total Assets	24.2%	23.6%	31.3%	19.8%	11.1%			
Current Liquidity	131.1%	123.6%	66.2%	85.3%	85.1%			
Cash Liquidity	59.1%	66.4%	30.3%	56.7%	30.0%			

\*Total amount of outstanding interest-bearing financial liabilities (bonds, loans, leases), excluding loans provided by the shareholders.