

Revision of Rating Symbols and Definitions

CRISIL has revised the symbols and definitions of its long-term and short-term credit ratings on debt instruments, structured finance instruments, and debt mutual fund schemes. This is in compliance with a June 15, 2011, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) circular, “Standardisation of Rating Symbols and Definitions,” which mandates the use of common rating symbols and rating definitions by all credit rating agencies (CRAs). As per the circular, all CRAs are required to revise their rating symbols and definitions as recommended by SEBI. Accordingly, CRISIL has effected changes in rating symbols and definitions with effect from July 11, 2011. The rating symbols and definitions of the following class of instruments have been revised:

- a) Long-term debt instruments;
- b) Short-term debt instruments;
- c) Long-term structured finance instruments;
- d) Short-term structured finance instruments;
- e) Long-term mutual fund schemes; and
- f) Short-term mutual fund schemes.

Below are the revised rating symbols as they correspond to earlier rating symbols:

Long-Term Debt instruments	
Earlier Rating Symbol	Revised Rating Symbol
AAA	CRISIL AAA
AA	CRISIL AA
A	CRISIL A
BBB	CRISIL BBB
BB	CRISIL BB
B	CRISIL B
C	CRISIL C
D	CRISIL D

Short-Term Debt instruments	
Earlier Rating Symbol	Revised Rating Symbol
P1	CRISIL A1
P2	CRISIL A2
P3	CRISIL A3
P4	CRISIL A4
P5	CRISIL D

Long-Term Structured Finance instruments	
Earlier Rating Symbol	Revised Rating Symbol
AAA (so)	CRISIL AAA (SO)
AA (so)	CRISIL AA (SO)
A (so)	CRISIL A (SO)
BBB (so)	CRISIL BBB (SO)
BB (so)	CRISIL BB (SO)
B (so)	CRISIL B (SO)
C (so)	CRISIL C (SO)
D (so)	CRISIL D (SO)

Short-Term Structured Finance instruments	
Earlier Rating Symbol	Revised Rating Symbol
P1 (so)	CRISIL A1 (SO)
P2 (so)	CRISIL A2 (SO)
P3 (so)	CRISIL A3 (SO)
P4 (so)	CRISIL A4 (SO)
P5 (so)	CRISIL D (SO)

Long-Term Mutual Fund Schemes	
Earlier Rating Symbol	Revised Rating Symbol
AAAf	CRISIL AAAmfs
AAf	CRISIL AAfms
Af	CRISIL Afms
BBBf	CRISIL BBBmfs
BBf	CRISIL BBfms
Bf	CRISIL Bfms
Cf	CRISIL Cfms

Short-Term Mutual Fund Schemes	
Earlier Rating Symbol	Revised Rating Symbol
P1f	CRISIL A1mfs
P2f	CRISIL A2mfs
P3f	CRISIL A3mfs
P4f	CRISIL A4mfs

CRISIL's Revised Rating Symbols and Definitions:

Long-Term Debt Instruments	
Revised Rating symbol	Revised rating definition as stipulated by SEBI in its Circular No. CIR/MIRSD/4/2011 dated June 15, 2011
CRISIL AAA (Highest Safety)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have the highest degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations. Such instruments carry lowest credit risk.
CRISIL AA (High Safety)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have high degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations. Such instruments carry very low credit risk.
CRISIL A (Adequate Safety)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have adequate degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations. Such instruments carry low credit risk.
CRISIL BBB (Moderate Safety)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have moderate degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations. Such instruments carry moderate credit risk.
CRISIL BB (Moderate Risk)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have moderate risk of default regarding timely servicing of financial obligations.
CRISIL B (High Risk)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have high risk of default regarding timely servicing of financial obligations.
CRISIL C (Very High Risk)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have very high risk of default regarding timely servicing of financial obligations.
CRISIL D (Default)	Instruments with this rating are in default or are expected to be in default soon.
Note :	<p>1) CRISIL may apply '+' (plus) or '-' (minus) signs for ratings from 'CRISIL AA' to 'CRISIL C' to reflect comparative standing within the category.</p> <p>2) CRISIL may assign rating outlooks for ratings from 'CRISIL AAA' to</p>

'CRISIL B'. Ratings on Rating Watch will not carry outlooks. A rating outlook indicates the direction in which a rating may move over a medium-term horizon of one to two years. A rating outlook can be 'Positive', 'Stable', or 'Negative'. A 'Positive' or 'Negative' rating outlook is not necessarily a precursor of a rating change.

3) A suffix of 'r' indicates investments carrying non-credit risk.

The 'r' suffix indicates that payments on the rated instrument have significant risks other than credit risk. The terms of the instrument specify that the payments to investors will not be fixed, and could be linked to one or more external variables such as commodity prices, equity indices, or foreign exchange rates. This could result in variability in payments, including possible material loss of principal, because of adverse movement in value of the external variables. The risk of such adverse movement in price/value is not addressed by the rating.

4) CRISIL may assign a rating of 'NM' (Not Meaningful) to instruments that have factors present in them, which render the outstanding rating meaningless. These include reorganisation or liquidation of the issuer, the obligation being under dispute in a court of law or before a statutory authority.

Short-Term Debt Instruments	
Revised Rating symbol	Revised rating definition as stipulated by SEBI in its Circular No. CIR/MIRSD/4/2011 dated June 15, 2011
CRISIL A1	Instruments with this rating are considered to have very strong degree of safety regarding timely payment of financial obligations. Such instruments carry lowest credit risk.
CRISIL A2	Instruments with this rating are considered to have strong degree of safety regarding timely payment of financial obligations. Such instruments carry low credit risk.
CRISIL A3	Instruments with this rating are considered to have moderate degree of safety regarding timely payment of financial obligations. Such instruments carry higher credit risk as compared to instruments rated in the two higher categories.
CRISIL A4	Instruments with this rating are considered to have minimal degree of safety regarding timely payment of financial obligations. Such instruments carry very high credit risk and are susceptible to default.
CRISIL D	Instruments with this rating are in default or expected to be in default on maturity.
Note :	<p>1) CRISIL may apply '+' (plus) sign for ratings from 'CRISIL A1' to 'CRISIL A4' to reflect comparative standing within the category.</p> <p>2) A suffix of 'r' indicates investments carrying non-credit risk.</p> <p>The 'r' suffix indicates that payments on the rated instrument have significant risks other than credit risk. The terms of the instrument specify that the payments to investors will not be fixed, and could be linked to one or more external variables such as commodity prices, equity indices, or foreign exchange rates. This could result in variability in payments, including possible material loss of principal, because of adverse movements in value of the external variables. The risk of such adverse movements in price/value is not addressed by the rating.</p> <p>3) CRISIL may assign a rating of 'NM' (Not Meaningful) to instruments that have factors present in them, which render the outstanding rating meaningless. These include reorganisation or liquidation of the issuer, the obligation being under dispute in a court of law or before a statutory authority.</p>

Long-Term Structured Finance Instruments	
Revised Rating symbol	Revised rating definition as stipulated by SEBI in its Circular No. CIR/MIRSD/4/2011 dated June 15, 2011
CRISIL AAA (SO) (Highest Safety)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have the highest degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations. Such instruments carry lowest credit risk.
CRISIL AA (SO) (High Safety)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have high degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations. Such instruments carry very low credit risk.
CRISIL A (SO) (Adequate Safety)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have adequate degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations. Such instruments carry low credit risk.
CRISIL BBB (SO) (Moderate Safety)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have moderate degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations. Such instruments carry moderate credit risk.
CRISIL BB (SO) (Moderate Risk)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have moderate risk of default regarding timely servicing of financial obligations.
CRISIL B (SO) (High Risk)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have high risk of default regarding timely servicing of financial obligations.
CRISIL C (SO) (Very High Risk)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have very high likelihood of default regarding timely payment of financial obligations.
CRISIL D (SO) (Default)	Instruments with this rating are in default or are expected to be in default soon.
Note :	<p>1) CRISIL may apply '+' (plus) or '-' (minus) signs for ratings from 'CRISIL AA(SO)' to 'CRISIL C(SO)' to reflect comparative standing within the category.</p> <p>2) CRISIL may assign rating outlooks for ratings from 'CRISIL AAA(SO)' to 'CRISIL B(SO)'. Ratings on Rating Watch will not carry outlooks. A rating outlook indicates the direction in which a rating may move over a medium-term horizon of one to two years. A rating outlook can be 'Positive', 'Stable', or</p>

'Negative'. A 'Positive' or 'Negative' rating outlook is not necessarily a precursor of a rating change.

3) A suffix of 'r' indicates investments carrying non-credit risk.

The 'r' suffix indicates that payments on the rated instrument have significant risks other than credit risk. The terms of the instrument specify that the payments to investors will not be fixed, and could be linked to one or more external variables such as commodity prices, equity indices, or foreign exchange rates. This could result in variability in payments, including possible material loss of principal, because of adverse movement in value of the external variables. The risk of such adverse movement in price/value is not addressed by the rating.

4) CRISIL may assign a rating of 'NM' (Not Meaningful) to instruments that have factors present in them, which render the outstanding rating meaningless. These include reorganisation or liquidation of the issuer, the obligation being under dispute in a court of law or before a statutory authority.

Short-Term Structured Finance Instruments	
Revised Rating symbol	Revised rating definition as stipulated by SEBI in its Circular No. CIR/MIRSD/4/2011 dated June 15, 2011
CRISIL A1(SO)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have very strong degree of safety regarding timely payment of financial obligation. Such instruments carry the lowest credit risk.
CRISIL A2(SO)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have strong degree of safety regarding timely payment of financial obligation. Such instruments carry low credit risk.
CRISIL A3(SO)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have moderate degree of safety regarding timely payment of financial obligation. Such instruments carry higher credit risk as compared to instruments rated in the two higher categories.
CRISIL A4(SO)	Instruments with this rating are considered to have minimal degree of safety regarding timely payment of financial obligation. Such instruments carry very high credit risk and are susceptible to default.
CRISIL D(SO)	Instruments with this rating are in default or expected to be in default on maturity.
Note :	<p>1) CRISIL may apply '+' (plus) sign for ratings from 'CRISIL A1(SO)' to 'CRISIL A4 (SO)' to reflect comparative standing within the category.</p> <p>2) A suffix of 'r' indicates investments carrying non-credit risk.</p> <p><i>The 'r' suffix indicates that payments on the rated instrument have significant risks other than credit risk. The terms of the instrument specify that the payments to investors will not be fixed, and could be linked to one or more external variables such as commodity prices, equity indices, or foreign exchange rates. This could result in variability in payments, including possible material loss of principal, because of adverse movements in value of the external variables. The risk of such adverse movements in price/value is not addressed by the rating.</i></p> <p>3) CRISIL may assign a rating of 'NM' (Not Meaningful) to instruments that have factors present in them, which render the outstanding rating meaningless. These include reorganisation or liquidation of the issuer, the obligation being under dispute in a court of law or before a statutory authority.</p>

Long-Term Debt Mutual Fund Schemes	
Revised Rating symbol	Revised rating definition as stipulated by SEBI in its Circular No. CIR/MIRSD/4/2011 dated June 15, 2011
CRISIL AAAmfs	Schemes with this rating are considered to have the highest degree of safety regarding timely receipt of payments from the investments that they have made.
CRISIL AAmfs	Schemes with this rating are considered to have the high degree of safety regarding timely receipt of payments from the investments that they have made.
CRISIL Amfs	Schemes with this rating are considered to have the adequate degree of safety regarding timely receipt of payments from the investments that they have made.
CRISIL BBBmfs	Schemes with this rating are considered to have the moderate degree of safety regarding timely receipt of payments from the investments that they have made.
CRISIL BBmfs	Schemes with this rating are considered to have moderate risk of default regarding timely receipt of payments from the investments that they have made.
CRISIL Bmfs	Schemes with this rating are considered to have high risk of default regarding timely receipt of payments from the investments that they have made.
CRISIL Cmfs	Schemes with this rating are considered to have very high risk of default regarding timely receipt of payments from the investments that they have made.
Note:	<i>The ratings from 'CRISIL AAmfs' to 'CRISIL Cmfs' may be modified by the addition of a '+' (plus) or '-' (minus) sign to reflect comparative standing within the category.</i>

Short-Term Debt Mutual Fund Schemes	
Revised Rating symbol	Revised rating definition as stipulated by SEBI in its Circular No. CIR/MIRSD/4/2011 dated June 15, 2011
CRISIL A1mfs	Schemes with this rating are considered to have very strong degree of safety regarding timely receipt of payments from the investments that they have made.
CRISIL A2mfs	Schemes with this rating are considered to have strong degree of safety regarding timely receipt of payments from the investments that they have made.
CRISIL A3mfs	Schemes with this rating are considered to have moderate degree of safety regarding timely receipt of payments from the investments that they have made.
CRISIL A4mfs	Schemes with this rating are considered to have minimal degree of safety regarding timely receipt of payments from the investments that they have made.
Note:	<i>The ratings from 'CRISIL A1mfs' to 'CRISIL A4mfs' may be modified by the addition of a '+' (plus) sign to reflect comparative standing within the category.</i>