

Research Update

First Securities Inc. Ratings Affirmed At 'twAA-/twA-1+'; Outlook Stable

August 28, 2019

Rating Action

Taiwan Ratings Corp. today affirmed its 'twAA-' long-term and 'twA-1+' short-term issuer credit ratings on **First Securities Inc.** The outlook on the long-term rating is stable. The ratings on First Securities reflect our view of potential financial support from the parent **First Financial Holding Co. Ltd.** group, if needed, given First Securities carries highly strategic importance to the parent group's business strategies. We also view First Securities to have very strong capitalization. The company's revenue concentration on domestic brokerage business where it has a scale disadvantage, and improving albeit higher than average risk tolerance, temper these strengths.

Related Criteria

- General Criteria: Group Rating Methodology July 01, 2019
- Understanding Taiwan Ratings' Rating Definitions, www.taiwanratings.com June 26, 2018
- Criteria | Financial Institutions | General: Risk-Adjusted Capital Framework Methodology July 20,
 2017
- Criteria | Financial Institutions | General: Nonbank Financial Institutions Rating Methodology December 09, 2014
- Criteria | Financial Institutions | Banks: Banking Industry Country Risk Assessment Methodology And Assumptions - November 09, 2011
- General Criteria: Methodology For Linking Long-Term And Short-Term Ratings April 07, 2017
- General Criteria: Use Of CreditWatch And Outlooks September 14, 2009

(Unless otherwise stated, these articles are published on www.standardandpoors.com, access to which requires a registered account)

Ratings List

Ratings Affirmed

| First Securities Inc. | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Issuer Credit Rating | twAA-/Stable/twA-1+ |

Certain terms used in this report, particularly certain adjectives used to express our view on rating relevant factors, have specific meanings ascribed to them in our criteria, and should therefore be read in conjunction with such criteria. Please see Ratings Criteria at www.taiwanratings.com for further information. Complete ratings information is available to subscribers of Rating Research Service at rrs.taiwanratings.com.tw. All ratings affected by this rating action can be found on Taiwan Ratings' public website at www.taiwanratings.com.

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