

Research Update

United Microelectronics Corp. Ratings Affirmed At 'twAA-/twA-1+'; Outlook Stable

September 26, 2019

Rating Action Overview

Taiwan Ratings Corp. today affirmed its 'twAA-' long-term and 'twA-1+' short-term issuer credit ratings on **United Microelectronics Corp.** (UMC). The outlook on the long-term rating is stable. At the same time, we affirmed our 'twAA-' issue rating on the company's unsecured corporate bonds. The ratings on UMC reflect the company's satisfactory market position in the global foundry business and low debt leverage. The strengths are partly offset by UMC's weaker technology capability compared to that of global leading peers, the high cyclicality and intensive capital nature of the semiconductor foundry industry, and rapid technological changes that could rapidly erode UMC's market position if the company fails to keep up with technology advancement.

Related Criteria

- Understanding Taiwan Ratings' Rating Definitions, www.taiwanratings.com June 26, 2018
- General Criteria: Methodology For National And Regional Scale Credit Ratings June 25, 2018
- Criteria | Corporates | General: Reflecting Subordination Risk In Corporate Issue Ratings March 28,
 2018
- General Criteria: Group Rating Methodology July 01, 2019
- Criteria | Corporates | General: Corporate Methodology: Ratios And Adjustments April 01, 2019
- Criteria | Corporates | General: Methodology And Assumptions: Liquidity Descriptors For Global Corporate Issuers - December 16, 2014
- Criteria | Corporates | Industrials: Key Credit Factors For The Technology Hardware And Semiconductors Industry - November 19, 2013
- General Criteria: Country Risk Assessment Methodology And Assumptions November 19, 2013
- General Criteria: Methodology: Industry Risk November 19, 2013
- Criteria | Corporates | General: Corporate Methodology November 19, 2013
- General Criteria: Methodology: Management And Governance Credit Factors For Corporate Entities
 November 13, 2012
- General Criteria: Use Of CreditWatch And Outlooks September 14, 2009

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Ratings List

Ratings Affirmed

United Microelectronics Corp.	
Issuer Credit Ratings	twAA-/Stable/twA-1+
Unsecured Corporate Bond Issue Rating	twAA-

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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