# **News Release**



### Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

21-D-0492 August 19, 2021

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. (JCR) announces the following credit rating.

### TOMONY Holdings, Inc. (security code: 8600)

<Outlook Change>

Long-term Issuer Rating: A-

Outlook: from Stable to Positive

#### Rationale

- (1) TOMONY Holdings, Inc. (the "Company") is a financial holding company having an extensive branch network covering Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto and seven other prefectures with The Tokushima Taisho Bank, Ltd. based in Tokushima City and The Kagawa Bank, Ltd. based in Takamatsu City (the "Two Banks") under its umbrella. Total fund volume of the TOMONY Holdings Group (the "Group") is approximately 4 trillion yen. The Two Banks have been strengthening sales promotion in the Osaka and Tokyo regions, thereby expanding their business. Tokushima Taisho Bank was created in January 2020 through a merger between then The Tokushima Bank, Ltd. and The Taisho Bank, Ltd. in the Group (the "Merger"), upon which the Company carried out system integration and reorganized branches and organizational structures, successfully reducing costs and streamlining operations.
- (2) JCR's rating for the Company reflects the creditworthiness of the Group having the Two Banks at the core. The Group maintains top-ranking profitability among the banks in JCR's "A" rating category. JCR assumes that this high profitability can be ensured for a while because, for one thing, the Two Banks are increasing loans not only in their respective local markets but also in Osaka and Tokyo. Also, the consecutive booking of large credit costs is unlikely as loan assets are well-diversified into small amounts and well-covered. The Group's capital is at a decent level relative to the risk amount and will probably build up steadily with the reporting of a stable net income. Based on the above, JCR changed the rating outlook to Positive. The rating does not reflect the structurally subordinated nature of creditors of the holding company to those of the subsidiaries in light of the factors including the double leverage ratio and cash flow balance. Close attention will be paid to, among others, changes in core net business income and credit costs, which will be reflected in the rating.
- (3) Core net business income (on a combined basis for the Two Banks; the same applies hereinafter, unless otherwise noted) grew significantly in the fiscal year ended March 2021 (FY2020) as the previous year's one-time expenses associated with the Merger were eliminated and system costs borne by Taisho Bank decreased. ROA based on this income, even with gains on cancellation of investment trusts excluded, is high at 0.4%. Loans have been on the steady rise, especially with respect to highly profitable SME lending and personal loans. Given also the relatively long lending periods for COVID-related loans, which accumulated in FY2020, and so forth, interest on loans and discounts is hardly likely to drop sharply from the current level. With growth in non-interest income, core net business income kept improving in the first quarter of FY2021. Expected future expenditures for digitalization will not put heavy downward pressure on the income, and JCR assumes that core earnings will remain solid into the near future.
- (4) Non-performing loans ratio disclosed under the Financial Reconstruction Act as of June 30, 2021 stood good at 1.66%. With credit cost ratio staying at 10 bps or less, the first quarter of FY2021 posted the reversal of credit costs. Although the assets requiring caution are increasing for the Two Banks alike due to the COVID crisis, only a few are left with large uncovered claims relative to core net business income; therefore, the risk of a rise in credit costs is low. Loans to the real estate industry, which constitute a large part of the total, are well-diversified into small amounts, and the risk of credit concentration is controlled, while attention must be paid to the impact of changes in market conditions amid the COVID crisis. As for securities-to-deposit ratio, it is low in the upper 10% range, and market-related risks are basically low against capital. The Company retains the conservative stance in securities investment and will likely continue control risks appropriately.
- (5) Loan-to-deposit ratio is high, and so is the ratio of SME lending in total loans; therefore, the percentage of risk assets in total assets is also high. The Group's consolidated core capital ratio adjusted for general allowance for bad loans, etc. was in the lower 8% range as of June 30, 2021,



which somewhat pales compared to other banks in JCR's "A" rating category. Even so, the Company secures a decent level of capital in light of factors including the results of stress tests assuming major debtors' bankruptcy and the amount of risk from securities investment.

Hidekazu Sakai, Akira Minamisawa

Rating

Issuer: TOMONY Holdings, Inc.

<Outlook Change>

Long-term Issuer Rating: A- Outlook: Positive

Rating Assignment Date: August 17, 2021

The assumptions for the credit ratings and the definitions of the rating symbols are published as "Types of Credit Ratings and Definitions of Rating Symbols" (January 6, 2014) in Information about JCR Ratings on JCR's website (https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/).

Outline of the rating methodology is shown as "JCR's Rating Methodology" (November 7, 2014), "Banks" (May 8, 2014) and "Rating Methodology for Financial Groups' Holding Companies and Group Companies" (March 29, 2019) in Information about JCR Ratings on JCR's website (https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/).

#### Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

Jiji Press Building, 5-15-8 Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-0061, Japan Tel. +81 3 3544 7013, Fax. +81 3 3544 7026

Information herein has been obtained by JCR from the issuers and other sources believed to be accurate and reliable. However, because of the possibility of human or mechanical error as well as other factors, JCR makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, as to accuracy, results, adequacy, timeliness, completeness or merchantability, or fitness for any particular purpose, with respect to any such information, and is not responsible for any errors or omissions, or for results obtained from the use of such information. Under no circumstances will JCR be liable for any special, indirect, incidental or consequential damages of any kind caused by the use of any such information including but not little to, lost opportunity or lost money, whether in contract, tort, strict liability or otherwise, and whether such damages are foreseeable or unforesceable. JCR's ratings and credit assessments are statements of JCR's current and comprehensive opinion regarding redemption possibility, etc. of financial obligations assumed by the issuers or financial products, and not statements of opinion regarding any risk other than credit risk, such as market liquidity risk or price fluctuation risk. JCR's ratings and credit assessments are statements of polinion, and not statements of fact as to credit risk decisions or recommendations regarding decisions to purchase, sell or hold any securities such as individual bonds or commercial paper. The ratings and credit assessments may be changed, suspended or withdrawn as a result of changes in our unavailability of information as well as other factors. JCR receives a rating fee paid by issuers for conducting rating services in principle. JCR retains all rights pertaining to this document, including JCR's rating data. Any reproduction, adaptation, alteration, etc. of this document, including such rating data, sprohibited, whether or not wholly or partly, without prior consent of JCR.

JCR is registered as a "Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization" with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission with respect to the following four classes. (1) Financial institutions, brokers and dealers, (2) Insurance Companies, (3) Corporate Issuers, (4) Issuers of government securities, municipal securities and foreign government securities.

JCR publishes its press releases regarding the rating actions both in Japanese and in English on the same day. In case that it takes time to translate rating rationale, JCR may publicize the summary version, which will be replaced by the full translated version within three business days. (Regarding Structured Finance products, JCR only publicize the summary version in English.)

Copyright © Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. All rights reserved.



### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE FORM

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

### Disclosure Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of Rule 17g-7

Issuer:	TOMONY Holdings, Inc.
Rating Publication Date:	August 19, 2021

- The Symbol, Number, or Score in the Rating Scale used to Denote Credit Rating Categories and Notches and, the Identity of the Obligor or the Identity and a Description of the Security or Money Market Instrument as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(A) of Rule 17g-7
  - Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.
- The version of the procedure or methodology used to determine the credit rating; as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(B) of Rule 17g-7
  - Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.
- The Main Assumptions and Principles used in Constructing the Procedures and Methodologies used to Determine the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(C) of Rule 17g-7
  - The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, to be applied to assess the likelihood of a given debt payment in light of its issuer's condition and business environment, etc. in the relevant future. There is certain limitation, however, in the time horizon that the rating foresees.
  - The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, that the factors posted in the below are particularly important for such likelihood to be determined, and that the rating determination is made by evaluating each of them not only quantitatively but also employing qualitative analyses.

#### A) Business Bases

The likelihood of a given debt payment is highly conditional to its issuer's business bases - how they can be maintained/ expanded into the future and thereby secure earnings and cash flows in adequacy and in a sustainable way.

### B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the degree of the issuer's indebtedness and loss absorption capacity in terms of equity capital. Also notable is that a financial institution might see a significant loss of financial grounds as a result of changes in value of the assets under its possession.

### C) Liquidity Positions

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the adequacy of the issuer's cash and other sources of repayment (liquidity positions).



### D) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment

The likelihood of debt payment can be different between given debts of the same issuer. The likelihood of debt payment for an individual debt is dependent on the issuer's discretion, and/ or its rank relative to other debts of the same issuer in the order of seniority in principal/ interest payment which is determined by design as financial product or by laws, etc.

### 4

The Potential Limitations of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(D) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- The objective of the credit rating herewith presented does not include any concerns other than the likelihood of debt payment, such as risks of price changes, market liquidity, etc.
- The credit rating herewith presented is necessary to be reviewed along with possible changes of the issuer of rated objects in its business performance and/ or circumstances which include regulatory environment, and hence subject to possible alteration.

# Information on the Uncertainty of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(E) of Rule 17g-7

• The information used for the determination of credit rating as herewith presented is obtained by JCR from the issuer of rated objects and other sources that JCR trusts in terms of accuracy and reliability but possibly contains errors due to human, non-human or other causes. Consequently, the credit rating determined on the grounds of such information does not constitute, explicitly or implicitly, any representation or warrant of JCR on the information itself or any consequences of its use in terms of accuracy, relevance, timeliness, wholeness, market value, or usefulness for any specific purposes.

# 6

Use of Due Diligence Services of a Third Party in Taking the Rating Action as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(F) of Rule 17g-7

• There is no use of any third-party due diligence service in the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.

### 7

Use of Servicer or Remittance Reports to Conduct Surveillance of the Credit Rating Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(G) of Rule 17g-7

• There is no use of any servicer or remittance report to conduct surveillance of the credit rating herewith presented.

## 8

The Types of Data Relied Upon for the Purpose of Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(H) of Rule17g-7

- The information posted in the below, which includes data, is used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.
  - A) Audited financial statements presented by the rating stakeholders



B) Explanations of business performance, management plans, etc. presented by the rating stakeholders

### 9

Overall assessment of the Quality of Information Available and Considered in Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(l) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR holds its basic policies for securing the quality of information as a base of due diligence for the determination of credit ratings. The information used as a base for the determination of credit rating herewith presented satisfies such policies, which include the audit by an independent auditor, the warranty made by the issuer, the publication by the issuer, some independent media or, otherwise, JCR analyst's scrutiny, etc.
- JCR sees no particular weakness in the quality of information used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented as compared to the information used in other cases of the credit rating for comparable issuers or ratable objects.
- · If the credit rating is an Indication, please see the report for Indication.

### 10

Information Relating to Conflicts of Interest as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(J) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR receives payment of compensation for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented from either one of those parties who are issuer, underwriter, depositor or sponsor.
- JCR did not receive in the last fiscal year in the past payment of compensation from the same party for any kind of JCR's service other than the determination of public or private credit rating, such as one in the ancillary business.

## 11

Explanation or Measure of the Potential Volatility of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(K) of Rule 17g-7

### A) Business Bases

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases, since its revenue, etc. may improve or deteriorate by the change in its business management policies, clients' preferences, competitive situation, or a technological innovation. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the business bases is large.

### B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating is subject to alteration if the issuer increases/ decreases its debt/ capital or vice versa and thereby makes its individual debt payment liability less or more bearable and its loss absorption capacity into the future decreased or increased. Also, the changes in the quality of asset under the issuer's holding may affect the credit rating, since such changes could raise or lower the likelihood of future loss of the issuer's financial grounds. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the financial grounds and/ or asset quality is large.

### C) Liquidity Positions

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's financial management policy or in the relations with fund procurement sources and the change thereby makes its liquidity positions improve or deteriorate. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.

### D) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment and Non-Payment Forgiven by Contract

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the rated debt's status in the order of seniority relative to other debts caused by the improvement/ deterioration of the issuer's financial condition. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually a notch, with possibility of a few



notches if and when the change is large. Also, in case of the financial products for which non-payment of interest/ principal is contractually permissible, the credit rating is subject to alteration if and when the likelihood of such non-payment is projected to increase or decrease. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but often as much as a few notches.

#### E) Rise and Fall in General Economy and Markets

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a rise/ fall in the general economy and/ or the markets inducing the issuer's revenues/ expenses to increase/ decrease and vice versa, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is exceptionally large.

#### F) Various Events

The credit rating is subject to alteration on occurrence of various events, such as change in the issuer's major shareholders, M&A and other organizational change, accident, violation of the law, litigation, legal/ regulatory change, natural disaster, etc., which are unforeseeable at the time when the credit rating is determined, causing a significant change on the issuer's business bases, financial grounds, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but more often than not as much as a few notches.

12

Information on the Content of the Credit Rating, Including the Historical Performance of the Credit Rating and the Expected Probability of Default and the Expected Loss in the Event of Default as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(L) of Rule 17g-7

- · Historical records of the credit rating herewith presented are posted in the end of this paper.
- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- Facts of the probability of default are posted as Form NRSRO Exhibit 1 on the JCR website under the URL:

https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/service/company/regu/nrsro/

13

Information on the Sensitivity of the Credit Rating to Assumptions Made as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(M) of Rule 17g-7

#### A) Business Bases

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's business bases and powers of earning or cash flow generation, etc. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases on some drastic change in the operational environments, etc.

### B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's financial grounds and asset quality. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's financial grounds and/ or asset quality on some drastic change in its business bases.

### C) Liquidity Risks

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's liquidity positions. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's liquidity positions on some drastic change in its financial management policy or relations with fund procurement sources, etc.



- D) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment and Non-Payment Forgiven by Contract

  The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the order of seniority in repayment of interests and principal. JCR assumes the resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch. The change could be as much as a few notches if the issuer's financial structure differs so much and thereby the balance between debts shifted so greatly. Rating change is also possible in case of the financial products for which non-payment of interest/ principal is contractually permissible, if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turns out to be inaccurate. The change of the credit rating is assumed to be by a notch but often as much as a few notches.
- E) Rise and Fall in General Economy and Markets

  The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the prospects of general economy and markets. JCR expects the change should be most likely by a notch but could be as much as a few notches, should the economy or the markets change so greatly.
- 14 Information on the Representations, Warranties, and Enforcement Mechanisms of an Assetbacked Security as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(N) of rule 17g-7
  - The credit rating herewith presented is not for an ABS product, and hence no relevant issue.

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

Jiji Press Building, 5-15-8 Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-0061, Japan Tel. +81 3 3544 7013, Fax. +81 3 3544 7026



# The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

Issuer Name	Issue Name	Publication Date	Rating	Outlook/Direction
TOMONY Holdings, Inc.	Issuer(Long-term)	April 22, 2011	A-	Stable
TOMONY Holdings, Inc.	Issuer(Long-term)	May 30, 2012	A-	Stable
TOMONY Holdings, Inc.	Issuer(Long-term)	July 4, 2013	A-	Stable
TOMONY Holdings, Inc.	Issuer(Long-term)	July 10, 2014	A-	Stable
TOMONY Holdings, Inc.	Issuer(Long-term)	July 8, 2015	A-	Stable
TOMONY Holdings, Inc.	Issuer(Long-term)	September 8, 2016	A-	Stable
TOMONY Holdings, Inc.	Issuer(Long-term)	September 5, 2017	A-	Stable
TOMONY Holdings, Inc.	Issuer(Long-term)	September 5, 2018	A-	Stable
TOMONY Holdings, Inc.	Issuer(Long-term)	August 8, 2019	A-	Stable
TOMONY Holdings, Inc.	Issuer(Long-term)	August 25, 2020	A-	Stable

# Attestation Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of Rule 17g-7

- I, Shozo Matsumura, have responsibility to this Rating Action and to the best of my knowledge:
- A) No part of the credit rating was influenced by any other business activities.
- B) The credit rating was based solely upon the merits of the obligor, security, or money market instrument being rated.
- C) The credit rating was an independent evaluation of the credit risk of the obligor, security, or money market instrument.

松村省三

Shozo Matsumura

General Manager of Financial Institution Rating Department