# **Press Release**

# Creditreform C Rating

#### Rated entity / Rating / Rating Outlook:

EUR Floating Rate Asset Backed Class A and Class B Notes as following, issued by VCL Master S.A., acting with respect to its Compartment 1

Series	ISIN	Note Balance Before Tap Issuance (EUR)	Note Balance After Tap Issuance (EUR)	Rating / Outlook
Class A 2010-2	XS0480715548	287,100,000	287,100,000	AAA <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class A 2011-2	XS0646441575	84,400,000	109,400,000	AAA <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class A 2012-2	XS0857705353	169,200,000	210,800,000	AAA <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class A 2012-3	XS0857705866	116,100,000	149,400,000	AAA <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class A 2012-4	XS0857706161	288,800,000	300,000,000	AAA <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class A 2013-1	XS0950403229	96,100,000	100,000,000	AAA <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class A 2015-1	XS1309693643	498,600,000	500,000,000	AAA <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class A 2017-1	XS1577438135	71,900,000	75,000,000	AAA <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class A 2017-3	XS1675945577	462,900,000	500,000,000	AAA <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class A 2018-1	XS1894806360	76,700,000	80,000,000	AAA <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class A 2020-1	XS2230884061	89,200,000	114,200,000	AAA <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class B 2014-1	XS1112835910	27,400,000	31,300,000	AA- <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class B 2014-3	XS1112837379	27,100,000	27,100,000	AA- <sub>sf</sub> / stable
Class B 2018-1	XS1894834818	6,000,000	7,400,000	AA-sf / stable

#### Rating summary:

Following a tap issuance on October 26, 2020, Creditreform Rating (CRA) confirms the ratings of all Series of Class A and B Notes listed as above, issued by VCL Master S.A., acting for and on behalf of its Compartment 1 (VCL Master).

The outstanding note volume has increased by EUR 190.2m. The credit enhancements of the Series of Class A and B Notes remain above the minimum credit enhancements, which Creditreform Rating assumed in its initial rating analysis (current total CE after the tap issuance are 11.60% and 9.17% for Class A and Class B Notes, respectively). Therefore, the ratings of the existing Series of Class A and Class B Notes are not affected by the tap issuance.

To size the credit risk of the portfolio and to derive base case assumptions about loss rates and expected recovery performance, Creditreform Rating used data provided by Volkswagen Leasing GmbH (VWL) as well as internal databases. CRA set the total expected net losses at 6.41% (AAA $_{sf}$ ) and 4.47% (AA- $_{sf}$ ). These scenario-specific assumptions were tested in CRA's proprietary cash flow model, which was tailored to reflect the structure of VCL Master and to assess the Issuer's ability to service its debt in a full and timely manner.

## Primary key rating driver:

- + VCL securitises only the finance portion of the leases; residual values are not securitised by the Issuer
- + Risks related to the Issuer are limited, the compartment structure being ring-fenced and with limited recourse to other creditors of the Issuer, including non-petition provisions
- + Downgrade collateral and replacement provisions mitigate counterparty risk exposure w.r.t. the Swap Counterparties and Account Bank
- No specified back-up servicer, even though contractual provisions enable the replacement of the servicer
- Extended 12-month revolving period until September 2021 may affect portfolio quality
- Term takeouts increase the share of delinquent contracts in the portfolio
- Potentially indirect negative impact of Volkswagen AG diesel emission manipulations on future (portfolio) recovery performance
- Increased macroeconomic uncertainty and potential market decline due to the coronavirus crisis may have adverse effect on VWL's ABS strategy and future portfolio performance

#### **Rating sensitivities:**

Best-case scenario: In this scenario, we stressed (ceteris paribus) the base case default rate by an amount of -25% and the base case recovery rate by an amount of +25%, resulting in a rating of AAA $_{sf}$  for Class A Notes and AA $_{sf}$  for Class B Notes.

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Worst-case scenario: In this scenario, a severe 100% stress is applied to the base case default rate in combination with a 50% stress on the base case recovery rate, resulting in a rating of  $A_{sf}$ . for Class A Notes and  $BB_{sf}$  for Class B Notes. In our view, this rating would represent a scenario with higher default correlation and market decline in a stressed pandemic scenario.

#### ESG-criteria:

CRA generally takes ESG-relevant factors (environmental, social and governance) into account when assessing the rating object. Overall, ESG factors have a mild impact on the current ratings of the Class A and B Notes. Nevertheless, CRA identifies macroeconomic factors (particularly with regard to potential changes in consumer behaviour) to have a high significant impact on the stability of the ratings. Increased macroeconomic uncertainty and potential market decline due to the coronavirus crisis may have adverse effect on VWL's ABS strategy and future portfolio performance. Governance is relevant to the ratings with respect to counterparty risk, but downgrade collateral and replacement provisions mitigate counterparty risk exposure with respect to the Swap Counterparties and Account Bank. Other individual factors with a potential key rating influence were not identified, and therefore did not affect the final rating.

On the subject of ESG (environment, social and governance), Creditreform Rating AG has published the basic document ("The Impact of ESG Factors on Credit Ratings"), which is available on the homepage under the following link:

https://creditreform-rating.de/en/about-us/regulatory-requirements.html

## Rating Date / disclosure to rated entity / maximum validity:

October 21, 2020 / October 21, 2020 / September 25, 2027

Between the disclosure of the credit rating to the rated entity and the public disclosure, no amendments were made to the credit rating.

#### **Initial rating date:**

September 23, 2016

#### Lead-analyst - position / Person approving (PAC):

Stephan Giebler (Lead) - Senior Analyst

Philipp J. Beckmann (PAC) - Senior Analyst

#### Name & address of legal entity:

Creditreform Rating AG, Europadamm 2-6, 41460 Neuss, Germany

### Status of solicitation:

The rating is a solicited rating. The degree of participation was as follows:

With Rated Entity or Related Third Party Participation: Yes

With Access to Internal Documents: Yes

With Access to Management: Yes

#### Rating methodology / Version / Date of application / Link:

Rating Criteria and Definitions, Version 1.3, January 2018

Technical Documentation Portfolio Loss Distributions, Version 1.4, July 2018

Rating Methodology Auto ABS Securitizations, Version 1.4, July 2018

Information on the meaning of a rating category, definition of default and sensitivity analysis of relevant key rating assumptions can be found at "Creditreform Rating AG, Rating Criteria and Definitions".

https://creditreform-rating.de/en/about-us/regulatory-requirements.html

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### **Regulatory requirements:**

In 2011 Creditreform Rating AG was registered within the European Union according to EU Regulation 1060/2009 (CRA-Regulation). Based on the registration Creditreform Rating AG (CRA) is allowed to issue credit ratings within the EU and is bound to comply with the provisions of the CRA-Regulation.

### Conflict of Interests

No conflicts of interest were identified during the rating process that might influence the analyses and judgements of the rating analysts involved or any other natural person whose services are placed at the disposal or under the control of Creditreform Rating AG and who are directly involved in credit rating activities or approving credit ratings and rating outlooks. In case of providing ancillary services to the rated entity, CRA will disclose all ancillary services in the credit rating report.

Rules on the Presentation of Credit Ratings and Rating Outlooks

The approval of credit ratings and rating outlooks follows our internal policies and procedures. In line with our policy "Rating Committee," all credit ratings and rating outlooks are approved by a rating committee based on the principle of unanimity. To prepare this credit rating, CRA has used following substantially material sources:

- 1. Transaction structure and participants
- 2. Transaction documents
- 3. Issuing documents
- 4. Other rating relevant documentation

There are no other attributes and limitations of the credit rating or rating outlook other than displayed on the CRA website. Furthermore CRA considers satisfactory the quality and extent of information available on the rated entity. In regard to the rated entity Creditreform Rating AG regarded available historical data as sufficient.