Summary: Koppers Inc. Dec 08

Description: Abstract
The rating on Koppers Inc. reflects the company's weak business position, which is attributable to a relatively narrow scope of operations and concentration of sales by customer base and end market, and a highly leveraged financial profile. The company's leading market shares, high percentage of long-term contracts, and good geographic diversity only partially offset these factors. With annual sales of approximately $1.4 billion, Koppers is a leading provider of carbon compounds and commercial wood treatment products. The company operates two divisions: carbon materials and chemicals (64% of 2007 sales) and railroad and utility products (36% of sales). The aluminum, chemicals, and steel industries use carbon-compound products. Within this segment, one of the company's primary chemical products is phthalic anhydride (PAA),...

Companies mentioned in this report are:
- Koppers Inc.

Action: Review

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This product consists of a Summary Analysis: Bi-annual (at least). An abbreviated analysis containing Standard & Poor’s issuer credit ratings as of the time the article was published. The analysis includes a rating rationale - the basis on which the rating was assigned - and an outlook section if the issuer is not on CreditWatch. Financial statistics are not included.

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