Summary: Cardinal Health Inc. Aug 03

Description:

Abstract
The ratings on Cardinal Health Inc. reflect the company’s strong business position in the health care supply business, consistent profitability, and moderate financial policy. Dublin, Ohio-based Cardinal is a leading provider of products and services to hospitals, health systems, retail drug stores, surgery centers, and other health care providers. The company has amassed a national presence through acquisitions and internal growth, and has diversified its operations to include higher-margin service businesses as well as drug and medical supply wholesaling. This mitigates ongoing pressure on its distribution gross margins, which continue dropping as managed-care providers press for lower prices. Cardinal’s operating margins lead the industry. Important service businesses include pharmacy management for hospitals and retailers, drug delivery and packaging services for...

Companies mentioned in this report are:
- Cardinal Health Inc.

Action: Review

Standard and Poors RatingsXpress Credit Research provides in-depth coverage of international corporates, financial institutions, insurance companies, utilities, sovereigns and structured finance programs. RatingsXpress Credit Research lets users determine the credit rating of holdings and identify key factors underlying an issuer’s creditworthiness, distinguishes the different risk exposures for new and existing deals, and provides an understanding of how their analysts interpret key regulatory, political and environmental events and their economic impact.

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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