

S&P affirms ACS at BBB rating with a stable outlook amid COVID19 crisis

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Standard and Poor's "S&P" has affirmed ACS, Actividades de Construcción y Servicios S.A., and its German subsidiary Hochtief, BBB in the long term and A-2 in the short term. The arguments declared by this agency to affirm this rate is that ACS is one of the largest engineering and construction companies worldwide, which should resist recession derived from COVID-19 during 2020.

S&P forecasts in its valuation an investment decrease between 10%-15% in 2020 which will lead Funds from Operations (FFO) to drop during 2020 and then recover. Therefore, the stable outlook shows that the progressive recover of the macroeconomic environment in 2020 second half and during 2021 should easily keep ACS FFO ratio over debt above 30% in 2021, which is in balance with the current rating.

The Group's strong backlog, its broad geographical diversification and the positive outlook for construction and civil infrastructures should foster, according to S&P, ACS operative performance and support it during the current crisis.

Furthermore, S&P considers in its valuation that ACS commitment to maintain a conservative financial policy is positive for its rating outlook.