Corporate Credit Market Snapshot

Key Takeawa

- High yield market has proven itself resilient despite recent events in Libya and rising oil prices
- High yield new issuance robust in first half of month but fell off as companies entered their blackout period ahead of earnings
- CCC and distressed credits outperformed in February, but lagged higher quality, non-distressed credits towards month end

High Yield Technicals

US Retail Fund Flows *

- ~\$2.3 billion of retail inflows in February (only includes weekly reporting funds).
- ~\$7.2 billion of retail inflows YTD (includes monthly reporting funds).

Main Market Driver

Demand outpacing supply.

New Issuance *	US	EUR	Default Rates**	US	EUR
YTD	\$54.9 bn	EUR 10.1 bn	LTM	1.5%	1.9%
MTD	\$21.8 bn	EUR 3.0 bn	Default rates are dollar weighted. Through 1.	31.11.	

New Issuance Names (500 mn and above) MTD ***

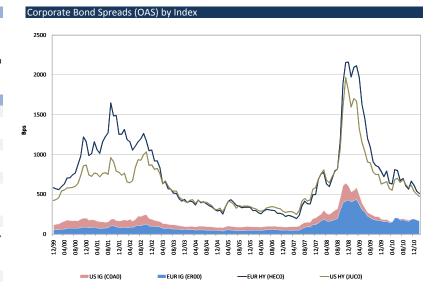
Aleris International, Avaya Inc., Chesapeake, Clear Channel Comm., Country Garden, Del Monte Foods, Fibria Overseas, Ford Motor Credit, Ply Gem, UPCB Finance, Valeant Pharmaceuticals, Venoco Inc.

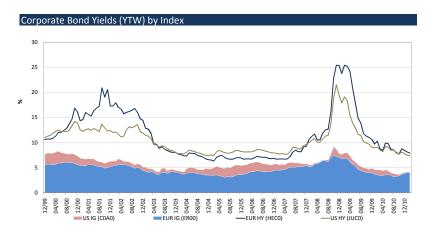
New Issuance Pipeline (Announced)***

Headwaters, Healthsouth, Huntington Ingalls Industries, JMC Steel Group, Jo-Ann Stores, Jones Group, MEMC Electronic, Perry Ellis, SandRidge Energy, Windstream

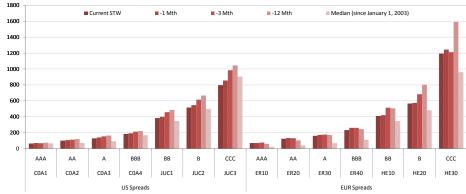
* JP Morgan for U.S. and Credit Suisse for Europe; ** Moody's; ***Muzinich & Co.

Market I	Performance % and Statistics as of	2011-02-28						
			Previous		D	uration	Yield	Spread
High Yield		MTD	Mth	QTD	YTD	DTW	YTW	STW
JUC0	US HY Cash Pay Constr.	1.33	2.07	3.43	3.43	3.84	6.87	497
JC4N	US HY BB/B Non-Fncl. Constr.	1.22	1.80	3.03	3.03	3.93	6.35	441
HEC0	Euro HY Constr.	1.92	2.41	4.38	4.38	3.34	7.62	528
HEC5	Euro HY BB/B Non-Fncl. Constr.	1.38	1.99	3.40	3.40	3.38	5.99	377
IBOXLTRI	USD Leveraged Loan	0.40	2.07	2.47	2.47			
Investme	ent Grade							
C0A0	US Corp Master	0.71	0.24	0.95	0.95	6.21	4.04	145
C4NF	US Corporate BBB Non-Financial	0.70	0.29	0.99	0.99	6.62	4.42	161
ER00	EMU Corp	0.73	-0.47	0.25	0.25	3.99	3.98	163
EN40	EMU Corp BBB Non-Financial	0.85	-0.55	0.30	0.30	4.03	3.88	151
Governments (7-10 Yr Indices)								
G402	U.S. Treasuries 7-10 Yrs	-0.23	0.09	-0.15	-0.15	7.29	3.14	
G4L0	UK Gilts 7-10 Yrs	0.56	-1.56	-1.02	-1.02	7.05	3.49	
G4D0	German Fed Govt 7-10 Yrs	0.28	-1.30	-1.02	-1.02	7.31	3.04	
Equities								
S&P	S&P 500 incl. Dividends	3.43	2.37	5.88	5.88			
DAX	DAX Index	2.75	2.36	5.18	5.18			





Corporate Bond	Spreads (STW)						
US Spreads	Index	Rating	Current STW	-1 Mth	-3 Mth	-12 Mth V	ledian (since .	lanuary 1, 2003
	COA0	IG	145	155	169	178	125	
	JUC0	HY Constrained	497	523	600	663	490	
	JUC4	BB/B	445	469	531	567	422	
US Spreads	COA1	AAA	65	70	68	75	67	
	COA2	AA	100	106	112	120	71	
	COA3	Α	129	140	155	165	93	
	COA4	BBB	185	194	213	221	169	
	JUC1	BB	383	401	458	487	348	
	JUC2	В	516	547	615	668	499	
	JUC3	CCC	799	857	985	1045	904	
EUR Spreads								
	ER00	IG	163	176	177	161	68	
	HEC0	HY Constrained	528	542	634	753	474	
EUR Spreads	ER10	AAA	70	70	77	60	22	
	ER20	AA	125	132	130	105	40	
	ER30	Α	161	173	176	171	68	
	ER40	BBB	232	261	261	244	112	
	HE10	BB	409	420	515	506	346	
	HE20	В	566	575	684	802	483	
	HE30	CCC	1193	1244	1211	1592	960	



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Credit Market Update

High yield markets remained exceptionally resilient in February despite continued unrest in the Middle East and rising oil prices. While high yield underperformed U.S. and European equity markets for the month, the high yield asset class proved more resilient towards month end, when news out of Libya lead to a sharp pull-back in risk assets. U.S. and European high yield generated strong, positive returns in February, outperforming investment grade corporates, governments and emerging market equities. Within high yield, CCC and distressed credits outperformed in February but lagged higher quality, non distressed credits towards month end.

In past months' commentary, we have highlighted the strong fundamentals of the high yield market, paying particular attention to the rising cash balances and overall strength of high yield company balance sheets. Recent data published by BofA Merrill Lynch supports what we have long known as a result of our fundamental research. High yield companies have been extremely aggressive in de-leveraging. Net leverage came down to 3.3x LTM EBITDA in Q42010, compared to 3.4x in Q32010, and close to historical lows. Interest coverage ratios have improved as well, up to 3.5x from 3.4x in the previous quarter and approaching historical highs. Leverage ratios have improved largely as a result of new issue proceeds being used primarily for the purposes of paying down or refinancing existing debt. While we have seen a modest comeback of dividend deals and LBOs, the primary use of new issue proceeds remains refinancing. We remain highly constructive on the U.S. high yield market given the asset class's strong fundamentals and attractive risk-adjusted spreads.

Disclaimer

The following indices referenced in the snapshot are BofA Merrill Lynch indices. BofA Merrill Lynch data downloaded from Bloomberg: JUCO – BofA ML U.S. High Yield, Cash Pay, Constrained Index; JUC1 - BofA ML U.S. High Yield, Cash Pay, BB Rated, Constrained Index; JUC2 - BofA ML U.S. High Yield, Cash Pay, B Rated Constrained Index; JUC2 - BofA ML U.S. High Yield, Cash Pay, B Rated Constrained Index; JUC3 - BofA ML U.S. High Yield, Cash Pay, BB/B Rated Constrained Index; JC4N – BofA ML BB/B U.S. Non-Financial, Cash Pay, High Yield Constrained Index; HEC0 – BofA ML Euro High Yield Constrained Index; HE10 – BofA ML Euro High Yield, BB Rated; HE20 – BofA ML Euro High Yield, B Rated; HE30 – BofA ML Euro High Yield, CCC and Lower Rated; HEC5 – BofA ML BB/B Euro Non-Financial High Yield Constrained Index; COA0 – BofA ML U.S. Corporate Master; COA1 - BofA ML U.S. Corporates, AAA Rated; COA2 - BofA ML U.S. Corporates, AAR Rated; COA3 - BofA ML U.S. Corporates, AAR Rated; COA3 - BofA ML U.S. Corporates, AAR Rated; COA4 - BofA ML U.S. Corporates, AAR Rated; COA5 - BofA ML EMU Corporates, AAR Rated; COA5 - BofA ML EMU Corporates, AAR RATED, CAND - BofA ML EMU COrporates, BAB RATED, CAND - BOFA ML EMU

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