

TOA valued at B48.7bn as trade begins

STOCK NAME	STA-TUS	BID	OFFER	EXECUTE
SET		40838	812.56	880.76
SET50		84843	810.96	881.03
SET100		84843	828.72	880.91
AGRI		84843	880.42	880.77
BANK		84843	884.40	880.80
BUILD		84843	896.22	881.49
COMUN		84843	881.32	880.77
FIN				

In their first day of SET trade, TOA shares closed at 32.50 baht, up 8.50 baht, in trade worth 12.6 billion baht. PORNPROM SATRABHAYA

Paint maker raises cash on SET to fuel growth

NUNTAWUN POLKUAMDEE
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TOA Paint Plc, a maker of decorative paint and coating products, began trading yesterday on the Stock Exchange of Thailand, aiming to raise funds to expand three factories around the region.

Chief executive Jatuphat Tangkaravakoon voiced confidence that TOA's shares on the SET would attract investors who believe in the company's fundamentals and potential to expand domestically and internationally.

In August, the company launched an initial public offering (IPO) through the issue of 507.6 million shares at a price of 24 baht each and a par value of one baht each.

TOA shares closed yesterday at 32.50 baht, up 8.50 baht, in trade worth 12.6 billion baht.

At 48.7 billion baht, TOA is the second-largest SET-listed company by market capitalisation in 2017, trailing TPI Polene Power Plc (58.8 billion) and ahead of B Grimm Power Plc (40.7 billion).

TOA plans to expand Indonesia and Myanmar plants that are under construction and promote a project in Cambodia that is in the feasibility phase, Mr Jatuphat said. The combined investment sum is 1.18 billion baht.

All three plants are expected to begin commercial operations in 2018, at which time TOA's production capacity will rise from 88 million gallons a year (excluding TOA Skim Coat Cambodia Co Ltd) to 102.5 million gallons.

"TOA also expects to increase its market share in order to be the leader in the Asean paint market," Mr Jatuphat said.

TOA is the biggest maker of retail decorative paint and coatings in Thailand by revenue. In 2016, TOA had an 48.7% market share in Thailand and a 13% share in Asean, according to Frost & Sullivan Singapore.

Pichet Sithi-Amnuai, president of Bualuang Securities, TOA's financial adviser and joint lead underwriter, said successful fund-raising on the SET will help increase the company's operating capacity and strengthen its financial position, as well as support expansion in Asean.

Separately, the SET remains confident of market capitalisation for new IPOs reaching 300 billion baht this year, up from

280 billion projected previously, citing upbeat market sentiment stemming from Thailand's economic recovery.

SET president Kesara Manchusree said buoyant investor confidence should attract an increase in fund inflows to the stock market.

She said the timing is right for newly listed firms and investors because the firms will be able to get a good premium price and investors will have new options for investment allocation.

Some 22 companies have newly listed on the SET and the Market for Alternative Investment (MAI) this year, with a total market cap of 249 billion baht, Mrs Kesara said.

The expectation is that market cap from IPOs this year will reach 300 billion baht, she said.

Two big IPOs are still to be listed on the SET this year, namely Gulf Energy Development Plc and Thonburi Healthcare Group Plc.

According to SET senior executive vice-president Santi Kiranand, about 10 companies intend to list on the SET and MAI in this year's fourth quarter and next year's first quarter.