

Evaluating Insurers' Enterprise Risk Management Practice

Li Cheng, CFA, FRM, FSA Director Financial Services Ratings

October 3, 2013

Agenda

Overview of S&P's ERM Evaluation

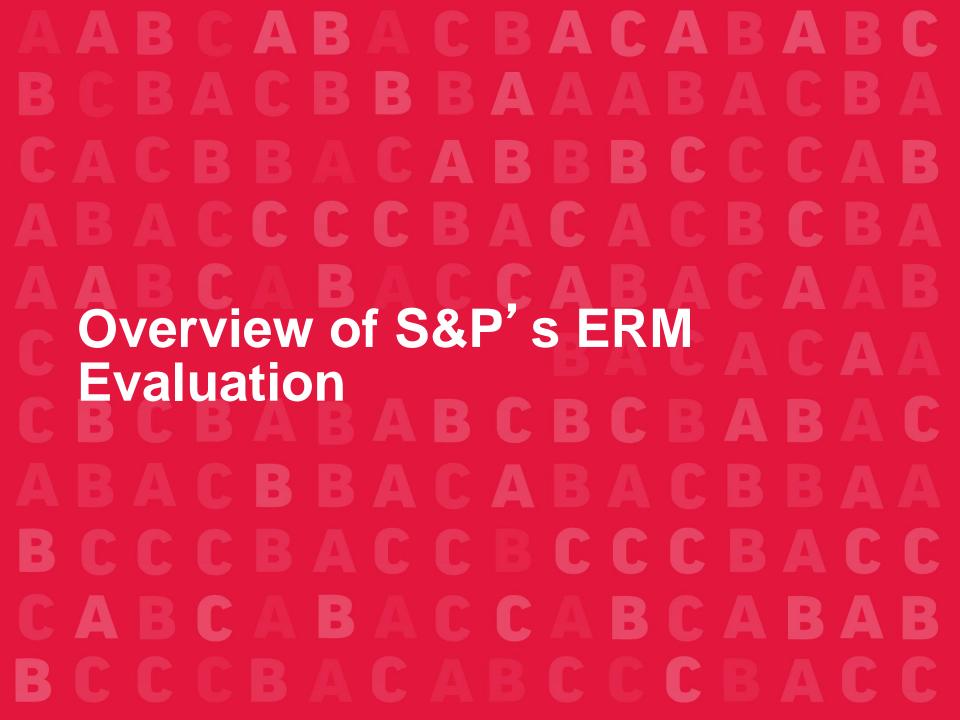
- The Value of ERM
- Importance of ERM evaluation in the rating process

S&P's ERM Evaluation Framework

Insurance Industry ERM Report Card

- ERM score distribution
- Current issues in play for ERM

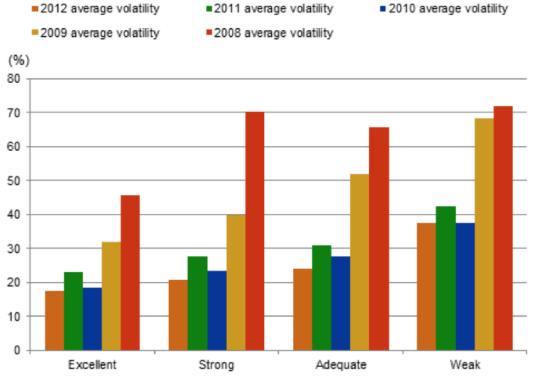




The Value of ERM

Stock Performance Relative to S&P's ERM Scores





*Price volatility calculated from weekly log normal returns over the past year. Excludes mortgage and title insurers. Source: Standard & Poor's and Capital IQ.

© Standard & Poor's 2013.



Overview of S&P's ERM Evaluation

S&P's ERM evaluation is:

- A component of the rating analysis
- Divided into three levels of evaluation
 - Level I and II
 - Level III (Economic Capital Model Review)
- A process that's tailored to the insurer's risk profile
- An evidence based approach
- A perspective view of an insurer's risk profile and capital needs

ERM examines whether insurers execute risk management practices in a systematic, consistent and strategic manner across the enterprise, which effectively limits future losses within an optimal risk/reward framework.



Overview of S&P's ERM Evaluation

S&P's ERM Level I and II reviews consist of five subfactors

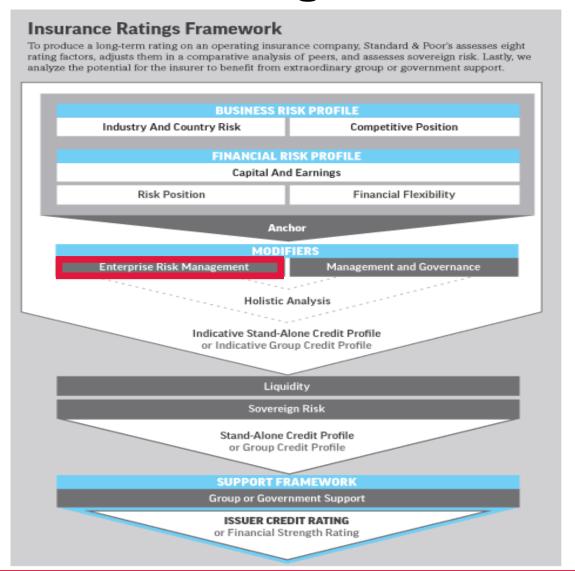


ERM Scores Classification

- Overall ERM Score: (1) Very Strong, (2) Strong, (3) Adequate w.
 Strong Risk Controls, (4) Adequate, (5) Weak
- Each subfactor: (1) Positive, (2) Neutral, (3) Negative



The Insurance Ratings Framework





The Importance of ERM In the Rating

The importance of ERM to the rating is high for insurers exposed to complex risks that:

- Could cause a significant loss of capital and earnings in a short period of time, or
- Are highly uncertain and usually long term in nature

Examples of high importance

 Significant exposures to natural catastrophes, volatility of reserves for long-tail casualty business, or financial market volatility

Examples of low importance

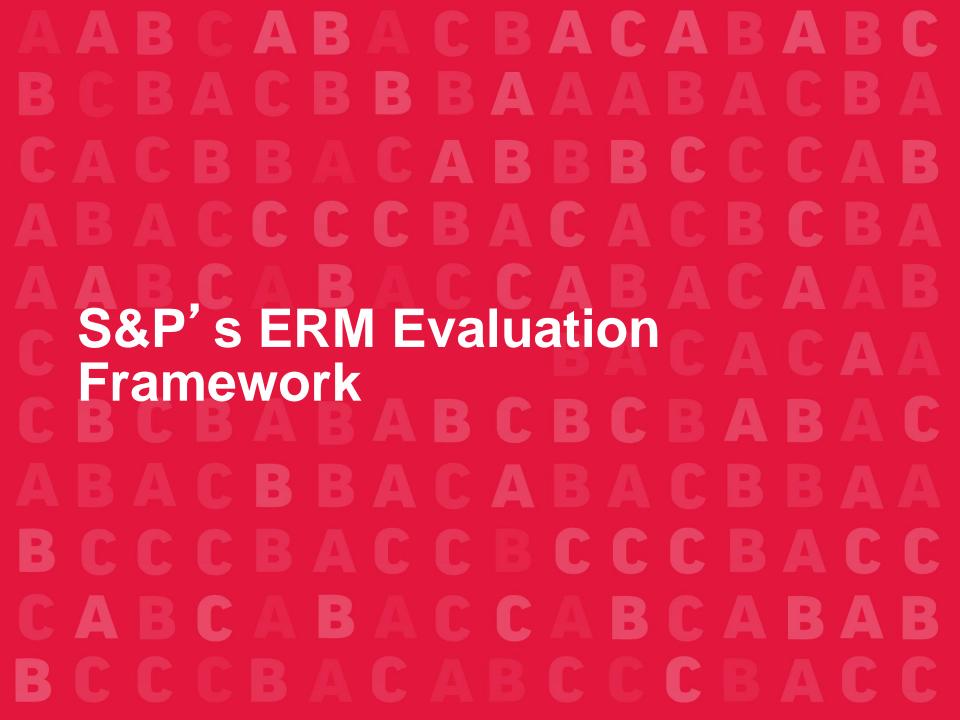
 No significant exposure to these types of risk or regularly retains excess capital relative to risk



The Importance of ERM In the Rating

Table 13: Indicative SACP or GCP Assessment					
	ERM and management assessment (from Table 14)				
Anchor (from Table 1)	Very strong	Strong	Adequate	Less than Adequate	Weak
aa+	aa+	aa+	aa-	а	bbb
aa	aa	aa	aa-	а	bbb
aa-	aa-	aa-	a+	а	bbb
a+	a+	a+	a+	a-	bbb-
а	a+	а	а	a-	bbb-
a-	а	а-	a-	bbb+	bbb-
bbb+	a-	bbb+	bbb+	bbb	bb+
bbb	bbb+	bbb	bbb	bbb-	bb+
bbb-	bbb	bbb-	bbb-	bb+	bb
bb+	bbb-	bb+	bb+	bb	bb-
bb	bb+	bb	bb	bb-	b+
bb-	bb	bb-	bb-	b+	b
b+	bb-	b+	b+	b	b-
b	b+	b	b	b-	b-
b-	b	b-	b-	b-	b-





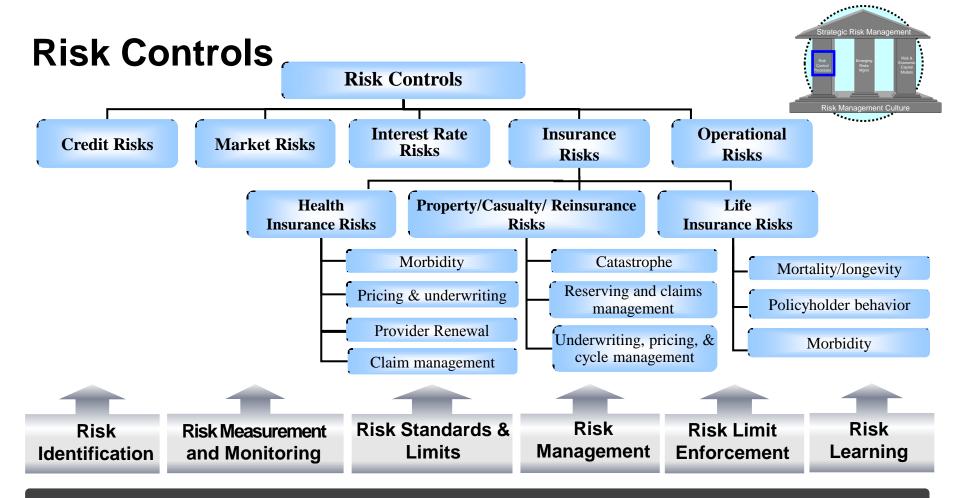


Risk Management Culture

- Risk governance and organization structure
- Risk appetite framework
- Risk reporting and communication
- Incentive compensation structures

The Risk Management Culture subfactor focuses on the importance placed on risk and ERM in all key aspects of the insurer's business operation and corporate decision-making.





The Risk Controls subfactor focuses on the importance given to risk and ERM in all key aspects of the insurer's business operation and corporate decision-making



Strategic Risk Management Risk Management Culture

Emerging Risk Management

- Risk Identification
- Risk measuring and monitoring
- Risk prioritizing
- Management's response

The Emerging Risk Management subfactor analyzes how the insurer addresses risks that are not a current threat to creditworthiness, but could become a threat in the future. It assesses the insurer's level of preparedness if those emerging risks materialize.



Emerging Risk Management



Positive

The insurer has wellestablished processes for identifying and monitoring emerging risks, analyzing their significance, and preparing for and/or potentially mitigating them.

Neutral

The insurer has some processes in place to identify and analyze the impact of emerging risks; but these processes are more ad-hoc and don't lead to risk mitigations.

Negative

The insurer doesn't have processes for identifying and evaluating emerging risks.

The Emerging Risk Management subfactor analyzes how the insurer addresses risks that are not a current threat to creditworthiness, but could become a threat in the future. It assesses the insurer's level of preparedness if those emerging risks materialize.



Emerging Risk Management – Informative Evidence



- Evidence that the insurer has a structured process to identify risks that could emerge as threats to continuing growth and success
- Evidence that such processes are performed regularly
- Documentation of well-established processes for assessing, addressing, and mitigating the threat of each potential emerging risk
- Evidence that such processes involve quantifying, whenever possible, the impact through stress testing and scenario analysis
- Evidence that mitigating processes, when possible, are implemented in anticipation of the potential contingency, not as a result of its occurrence
- Evidence that the insurer performs thorough post-mortem analyses of past problems and feeds the results of such analysis into its ERM process



Strategic Risk Management Risk Management Culture

Risk Models

- Robustness, consistency, completeness
- Model governance and validation
- Methodology/assumptions/data
- Incorporation of results in decision making processes
- Economic capital model

The Risk Model Subfactor focuses on assessing the robustness, consistency, and completeness of the insurer's risk models.



Strategic Risk Management

- Use of model results
- Prioritization of strategic options
- Optimization of risk-adjusted returns
- Key areas of analysis

Strategic Planning

Product Pricing

Strategic Asset Allocation

M&A/ New Market Entry

Reinsurance/Hedging Strategy

Capital / Economic Capital Allocation

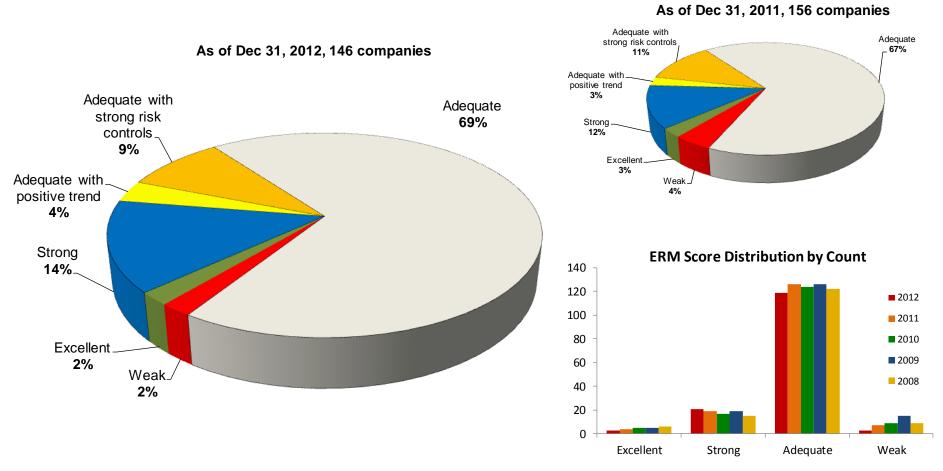
Risk-adjusted Return Optimization

The Strategic Risk Management subfactor assesses the insurer's program to optimize risk-adjusted returns and to evaluate and prioritize strategic options on a level playing field.





ERM Scores For North American and Bermudian Insurers

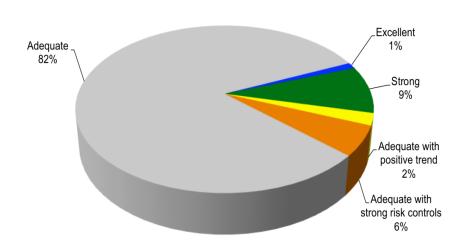


"Note: "Excellent" and "Adequate with positive trend" were ERM score categories at yearend 2012. They are no longer ERM score categories per S&P's Enterprise Risk Management Criteria (May 7, 2013).

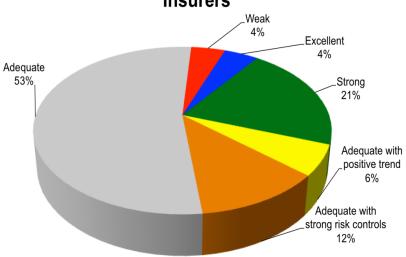


ERM Score: P&C vs. Life & Health

ERM Scores for Life & Health (including Multi-line) Insurers



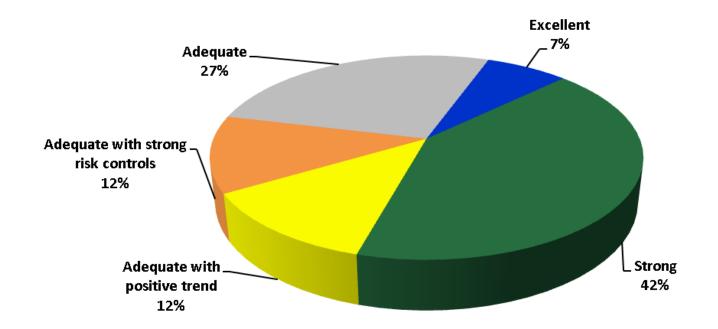
ERM Scores for P&C (including Multi-line) Insurers





ERM Level II Scores

Based on 41 companies as of yearend 2012





Current Issues In Play For ERM

Risk Management Culture

— ERM governance structure; Risk appetite framework

Risk Controls

- Market risk: variable annuity products and hedge programs
- Credit risk: 'de-risking' or 're-risking'
- Interest rate risk: sustained low interest rate / interest rate spikes
- P&C insurance risk: catastrophic losses
- Life insurance risk: mortality/longevity/policyholder behavior
- Operational risk

Risk Models

- Stress testing
- Economic Capital Model

Regulatory Changes

Solvency II / ORSA preparedness



References

- Criteria | Insurance | General: Enterprise Risk Management, May 7, 2013
- Criteria | Insurance | General: Insurers: Rating Methodology,, May 7, 2013
- Criteria | Insurance | General: A New Level Of Enterprise Risk Management Analysis: Methodology For Assessing Insurers' Economic Capital Models, Jan. 24, 2011
- Credit FAQ: What Informative Evidence Does Standard & Poor's Use In Its Updated Enterprise Risk Management Analysis? May 8, 2013
- Process Improvements And Regulation Drive ERM Of North American And Bermudian Insurers Forward, April 18, 2013
- Additional Resources:
 - www.standardandpoors.com
 - www.globalcreditportal.com





Thank You

Li Cheng Director

T: 212.438.1849

li.cheng@standardandpoors.com



Copyright © 2013 by Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC. All rights reserved.

No content (including ratings, credit-related analyses and data, valuations, model, software or other application or output therefrom) or any part thereof (Content) may be modified, reverse engineered, reproduced or distributed in any form by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior written permission of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC or its affiliates (collectively, S&P). The Content shall not be used for any unlawful or unauthorized purposes. S&P and any third-party providers, as well as their directors, officers, shareholders, employees or agents (collectively S&P Parties) do not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, timeliness or availability of the Content. S&P Parties are not responsible for any errors or omissions (negligent or otherwise), regardless of the cause, for the results obtained from the use of the Content, or for the security or maintenance of any data input by the user. The Content is provided on an "as is" basis. S&P PARTIES DISCLAIM ANY AND ALL EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE, FREEDOM FROM BUGS, SOFTWARE ERRORS OR DEFECTS, THAT THE CONTENT'S FUNCTIONING WILL BE UNINTERRUPTED OR THAT THE CONTENT WILL OPERATE WITH ANY SOFTWARE OR HARDWARE CONFIGURATION. In no event shall S&P Parties be liable to any party for any direct, incidental, exemplary, compensatory, punitive, special or consequential damages, costs, expenses, legal fees, or losses (including, without limitation, lost income or lost profits and opportunity costs or losses caused by negligence) in connection with any use of the Content even if advised of the possibility of such damages.

Credit-related and other analyses, including ratings, and statements in the Content are statements of opinion as of the date they are expressed and not statements of fact. S&P's opinions, analyses and rating acknowledgment decisions (described below) are not recommendations to purchase, hold, or sell any securities or to make any investment decisions, and do not address the suitability of any security. S&P assumes no obligation to update the Content following publication in any form or format. The Content should not be relied on and is not a substitute for the skill, judgment and experience of the user, its management, employees, advisors and/or clients when making investment and other business decisions. S&P does not act as a fiduciary or an investment advisor except where registered as such. While S&P has obtained information from sources it believes to be reliable, S&P does not perform an audit and undertakes no duty of due diligence or independent verification of any information it receives.

To the extent that regulatory authorities allow a rating agency to acknowledge in one jurisdiction a rating issued in another jurisdiction for certain regulatory purposes, S&P reserves the right to assign, withdraw or suspend such acknowledgement at any time and in its sole discretion. S&P Parties disclaim any duty whatsoever arising out of the assignment, withdrawal or suspension of an acknowledgment as well as any liability for any damage alleged to have been suffered on account thereof.

S&P keeps certain activities of its business units separate from each other in order to preserve the independence and objectivity of their respective activities. As a result, certain business units of S&P may have information that is not available to other S&P business units. S&P has established policies and procedures to maintain the confidentiality of certain non-public information received in connection with each analytical process.

S&P may receive compensation for its ratings and certain analyses, normally from issuers or underwriters of securities or from obligors. S&P reserves the right to disseminate its opinions and analyses. S&P's public ratings and analyses are made available on its Web sites, www.standardandpoors.com (free of charge), and www.ratingsdirect.com and www.globalcreditportal.com (subscription), and may be distributed through other means, including via S&P publications and third-party redistributors. Additional information about our ratings fees is available at www.standardandpoors.com/usratingsfees.

STANDARD & POOR'S, S&P, GLOBAL CREDIT PORTAL and RATINGSDIRECT are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC.