

What Makes a Good Rate Filing? A Modeler's Perspective



Christopher Cooksey, FCAS, MAAA, CSPA
Head Actuary, Data & Analytics

20 March 2018



What makes a good rate filing?

Well, from a modeler's perspective...

- It gets approved.
- It gets approved efficiently, quickly.
- It is actually correct.



How do you make a good rate filing?

First and foremost, know your own work.



How do you make a good rate filing?

In your own work, you should have already had to convince all sorts of audiences.

Convince Yourself
 • How did you validate the model?

First of all, convince yourself that you are the best because the rest of your life is going to go proving this to others.
 Wasim Akram
 LIKESUCCESS.com


Page 1

How do you make a good rate filing?

In your own work, you should have already had to convince all sorts of audiences.

Convince Yourself
 • How did you validate the model?

Convince Your Peers and/or Supervisor
 • What did you need to show them to have them understand and agree?



Page 2


How do you make a good rate filing?

In your own work, you should have already had to convince all sorts of audiences.

Convince Yourself
 • How did you validate the model?

Convince Your Peers and/or Supervisor
 • What did you need to show them to have them understand and agree?

Convince Your Internal Executives
 • What level of information was necessary and effective for them?



Page 3

How do you make a good rate filing?

In your own work, you should have already had to convince all sorts of audiences.

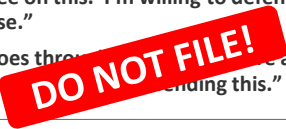


Convince Your Regulators
• Not really all that different.
• At this point, you should already have everything you need.

How do you make a good rate filing?

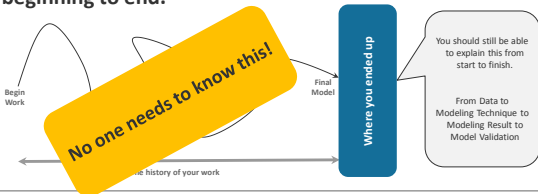
When asked to file something, check your gut.

- “The work is solid. No reason it shouldn’t be approved. I’ll defend it all day long.”
- “The work is solid, but reasonable people could disagree on this. I’m willing to defend this and make the case.”
- “If it goes through, there are questions, I’m not sure about ending this.”



How do you make a good rate filing?

In creating the filing, provide enough information for a qualified professional to follow your work from beginning to end.



How do you make a good rate filing?

Filings should have a logical flow...

- What data was used?
- What modeling techniques were used?
- What were the results?
- How did they validate?
- Why are you filing something different than the model results?

This kind of thing is key.

Make the connection.

If you did something reasonable, just describe it.

Use narratives to give the whole thing some structure!

Page 11

How do you make a good rate filing?

A couple of final comments:

- Don't tell people things they don't need to know.



Page 12

How do you make a good rate filing?

A couple of final comments:

- Don't tell people things they don't need to know.
- Don't use internal terms that outsiders won't know.



Page 13

How do you make a good rate filing?



- Peer review and checking are different, but both necessary.
 - Peer review is having a peer evaluate your work.
 - Checking is making sure the numbers in the filing match your internal output.

Page 11

Summary

- Make sure you know your own work – what, why and how.
- Convince yourself and others of your work before convincing regulators.
- Be ready, willing and able to defend your work, or don't file it.
- Organize your work into a logical flow, and provide enough information for someone to follow it.
- Know that the filing is correct through peer review and checking.

Page 12

Questions?

Christopher Cooksey, FCAS, MAAA, CSPA
 Head Actuary, Data and Analytics
 Guidewire Software
 cooksey@guidewire.com

Page 13
