Investigations of Reinsurance Accounting

Potential Impact on the Reinsurance Market

Spencer M. Gluck, FCAS

Casualty Actuarial Society Spring Meeting, 2006

The Investigators

- The New York Attorney General (what's-hisname)
 - Investigations, lawsuits.
- The Securities & Exchange Commission

 Subpoenas, Wells notices.
- FBI assigns 50-75 agents in the Financial Crimes Section to probe finite reinsurance.
- State Insurance Regulators
- U.S. Attorneys
 - Southern District of New York
 - Eastern District of Virginia

The Investigations

- Most common issue is improper use, accounting, disclosure of "Finite Reinsurance"
 - Side agreements
 - Risk transfer
 - Accruals in multi-year contracts
- Investigations, inquiries, subpoenas may be factfinding – not necessarily implying misconduct or expected to lead to charges.
- Many companies investigated, including:

Some companies investigated (in alphabetical order)

- Ace
- Acordia Re
- AIG
- Alea London
- Axa
- Benfield Re
- Berkshire Hathaway
- BIG Re
- Chubb
- Converium
- Everest Re
- General Electric
- General Re

- Hanover Re
- Lloyds of London
- MBIA
- Met Life
- Munich Re
- One Beacon
- Platinum Underwriting
- Prudential Financial
- Renaissance Re
- St. Paul Travelers
- Swiss Re
- TIAA-CREF

Internal Investigations and Restatements

- Many companies launched internal audits/investigations.
 - Sometimes after being informed of external investigations.
- A number of companies issued restated financial statements for several prior years.
- Have restatements had significant impact on reputation and/or stock price?

Restated Financial Statements

Some specific examples (in time order):

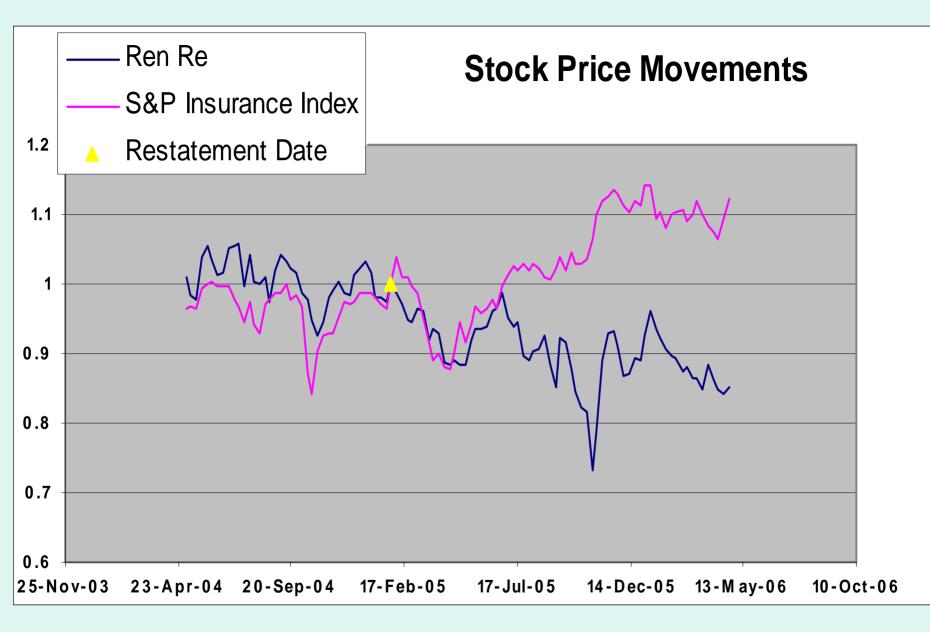
Company	Month of Announcement*	Years Affected	Approximate Cumulative Impact**
Renaissance Re	2/05	2001 - 2003	\$ +10 million
MBIA	3/05	1998 - 2004	\$ - 50 million
AIG	5/05	2000 - 2004	\$ - 1.2 billion***
Ace	8/05	2000 - 2004	\$ +1 million
Converium	12/05	1998 - 2004	\$ +70 million
CNA	2/06	2001 - 2004	\$ - 200 million****
Odyssey Re/Fairfax	2/06	2000 - 2004	\$ - 30 million
Max Re	3/06	Announced internal investigation	

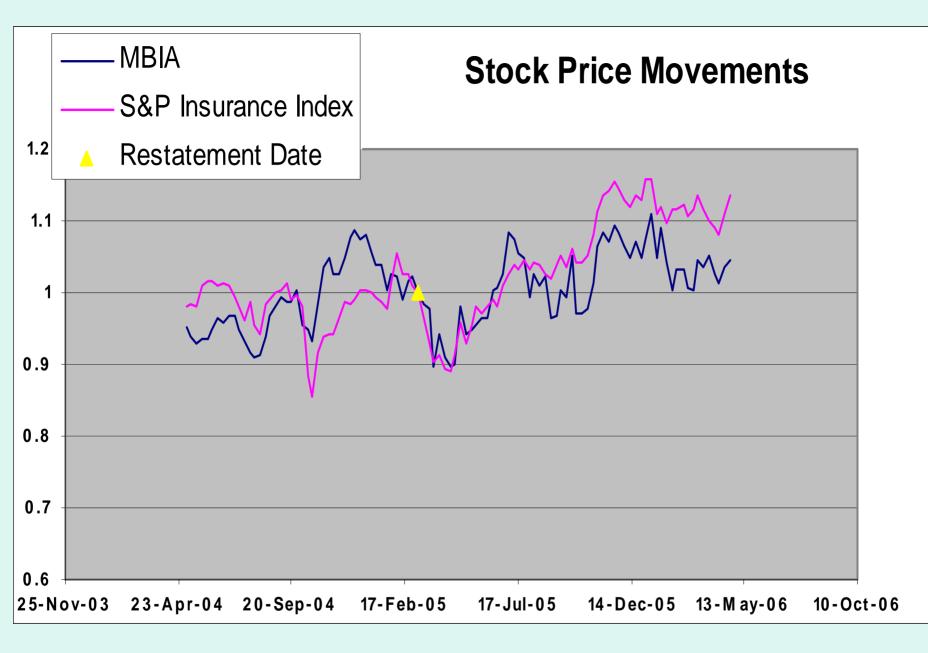
*In some cases there were earlier announcements of internal or external investigations and/or anticipated restatements

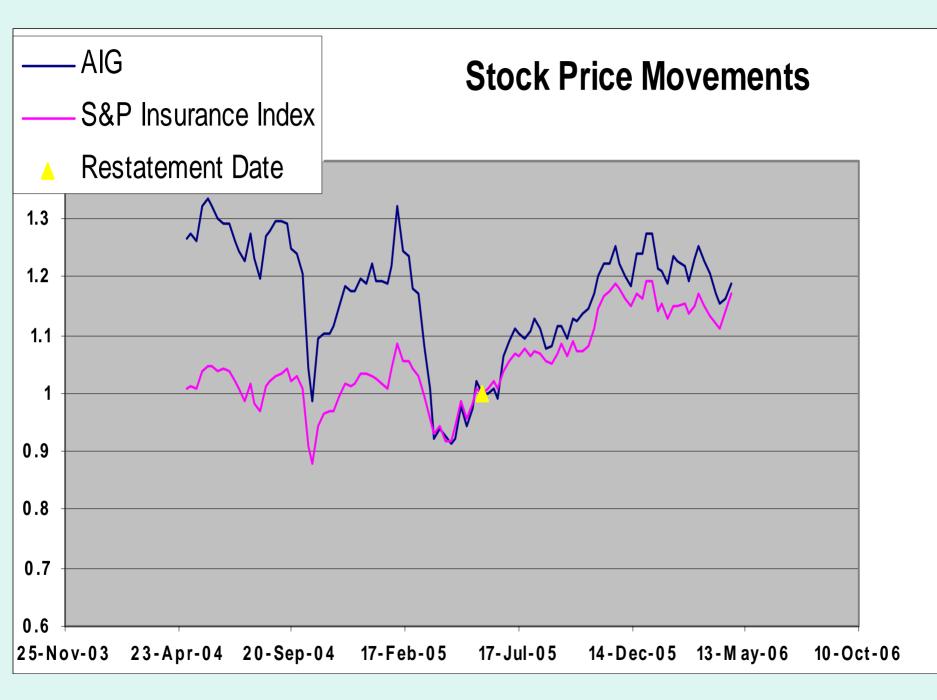
** Impact on reported income in the applicable periods may have been greater.

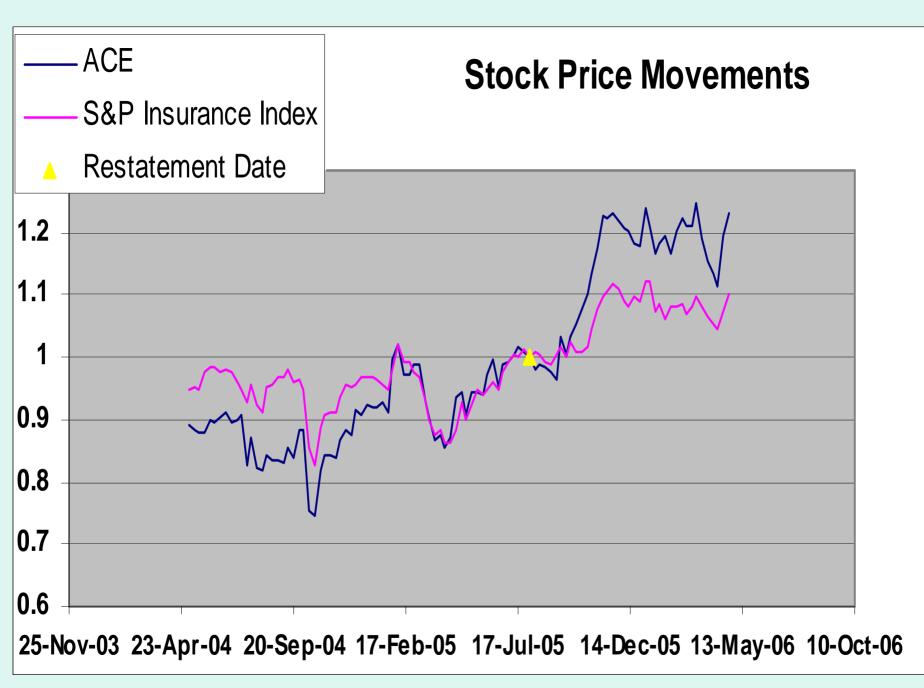
***Adjustment attributed to risk transfer out of a total announced adjustment of \$-2.7 billion.

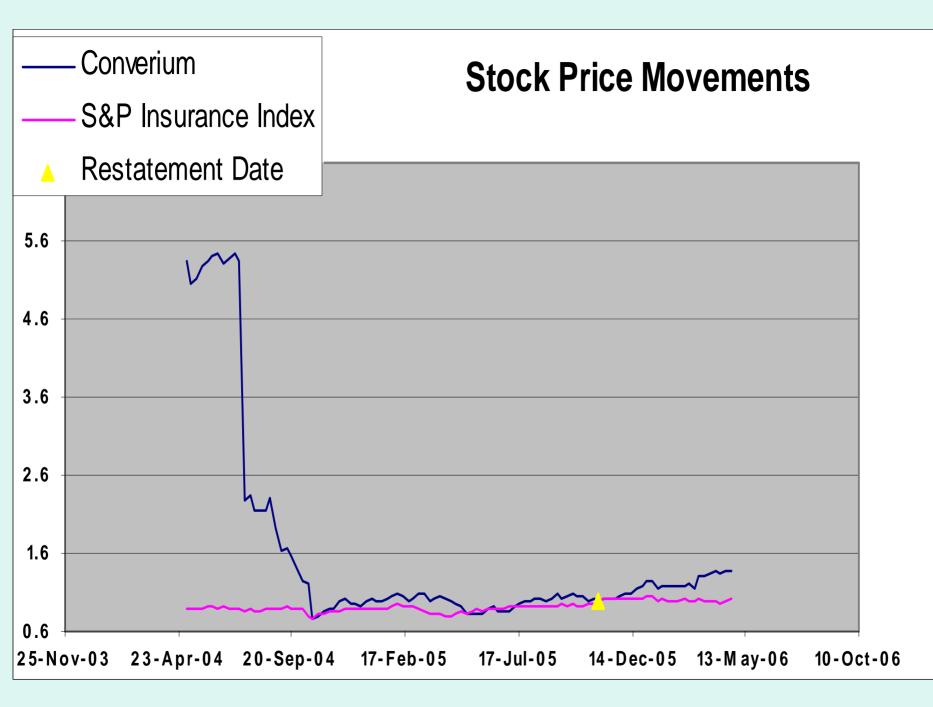
**** Additional loss of \$200+ million on commutation of finite reinsurance during 2005.

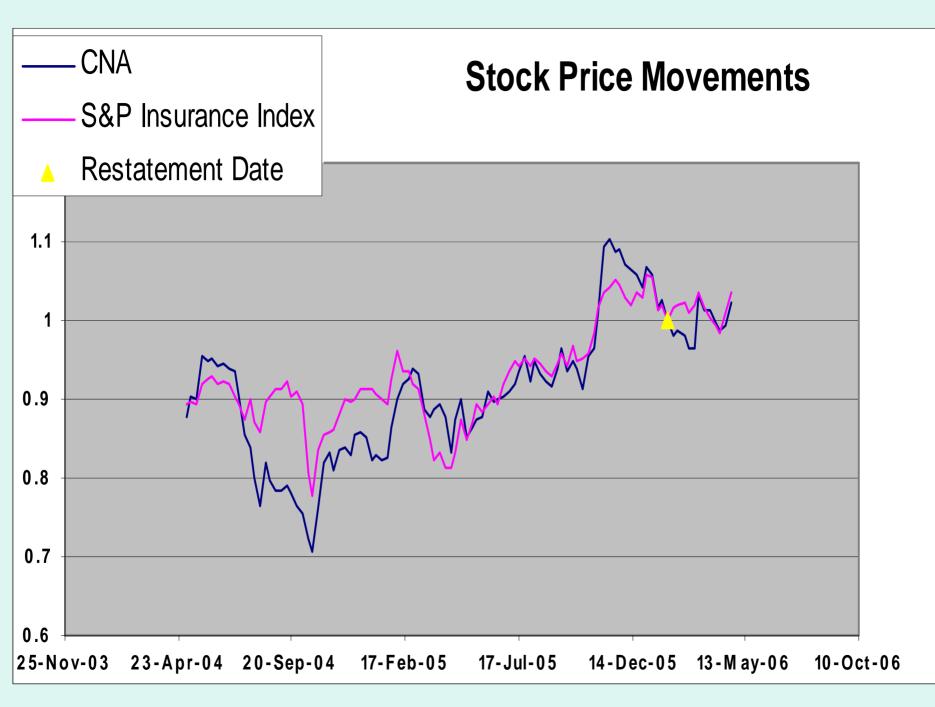


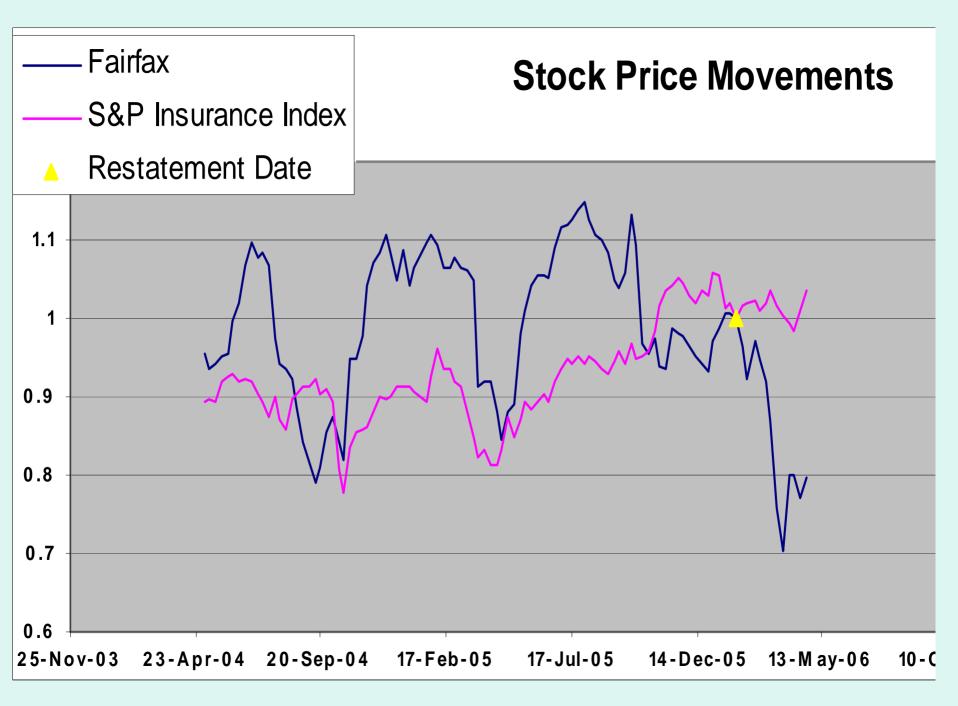


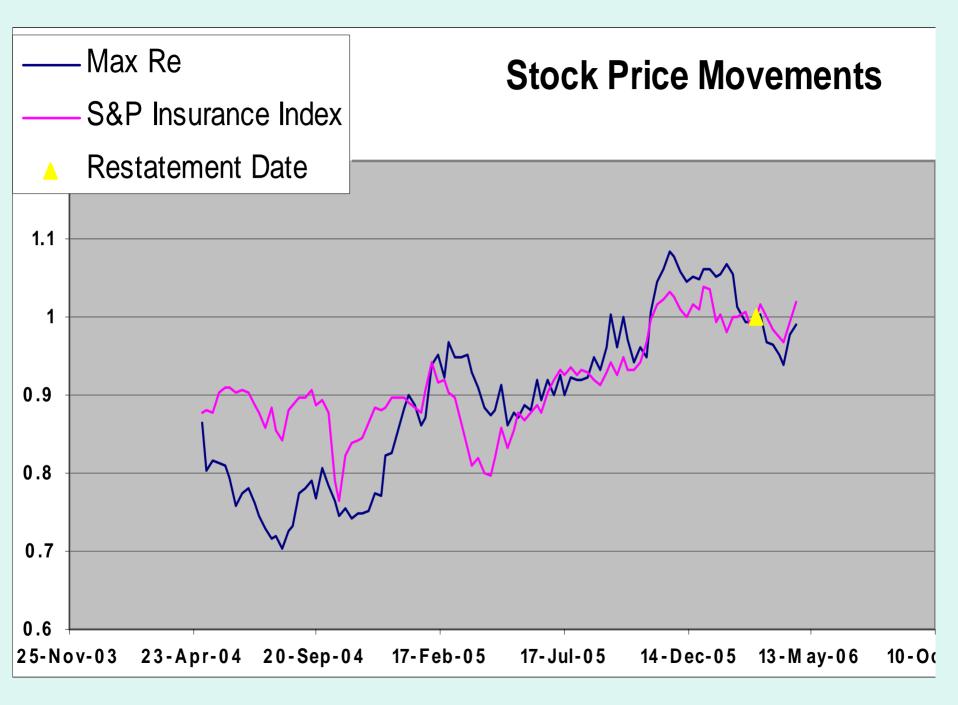












Should Accounting be Changed? Fixed? Clarified? Tightened Up?

- NAIC, FASB, looking into it.
- Actuarial opinions sought and received.
- New statutory disclosures and attestation required.
- NAIC and FASB continue to investigate possible accounting changes.

FASB Meeting of 12/20/05

- Strong sentiments expressed for some form of bifurcation (with one dissent):
 - Confidence level approach -- similar to the New York Insurance Department proposal.
 - Proportion of risk transferred approach -- included in several actuarial proposals.
- Agreed to issue an "Invitation to Comment"
 - A neutral discussion document.
 - Expressed a goal for document to be issued by March 2006.
 - It's not out yet.