# Reinsurance – Helping Our Business Stay in Business





# Featured Speakers



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## **About Ascend With Argo**

# Education. Insight. Connections.

Training, support and mentorship for early-career insurance professionals:

- Webinars
- Shadow days with Argo employees
- Exclusive events and conferences
- Web-based training portal and content



# Agenda

# What we'll cover today:

- Reinsurance explained
- Managing volatility and capital
- Hedging objectives and considerations
- The goals of ceded reinsurance
- Questions and answers



### **Objectives**

- Understand the role of reinsurance overall, as well as the daily expectations of a reinsurer.
- Learn the need for managing volatility and capital.
- Know the goals of ceded re, including managing customer and shareholder expectations.



# What is reinsurance?



# Reinsurance explained

- Reinsurance is insurance for insurance companies.
- Reinsurance is a way of helping our business stay in business.

# Reinsurance explained



# The need for managing volatility and capital



# Predict the funds needed to cover losses

Buying insurance against unpredictable losses of your company is more efficient than keeping money stored to pay claims.

#### Predictable: theft, fire

- Events happen fairly regularly
- Usually similar size, affecting few properties
- There are numerous samples

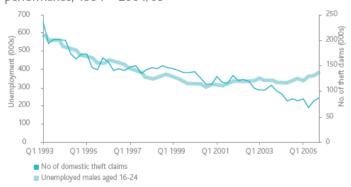
#### Unpredictable: natural hazards

- Events happen at random
- Could result in no loss or several losses
- Could affect a large number of properties

## What premium should I charge to cover these losses?

#### **Predictable**

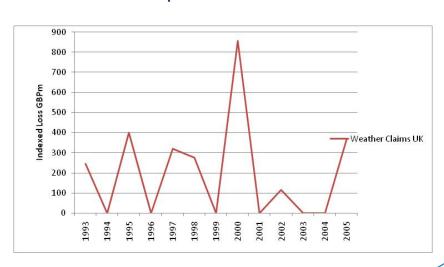
Figure 2: Trends in domestic burglary and economic performance, 1991 – 2004/05



Source: Home Office, Crime in England and Wales 2004/05, 2005 and Office for National Statistics.

Source: ABI Securing the Nation http://www.abi.org.uk/BookShop/ResearchReports/Securing%20the%20 Nation%20July%202006.pdf

#### Unpredictable



Source: ABI Weather claims 1993-2005

# The two risk management minds



#### 1. Managing "tail"

- Primary focus is capitalization levels relative to portfolio and various tolerance levels.
- "Capital preservation" is dominant.

#### 2. Managing return

- Primary focus is expected profitability of the portfolio(s) at a specific tolerance level.
- Profit generation/management of ROE is dominant.

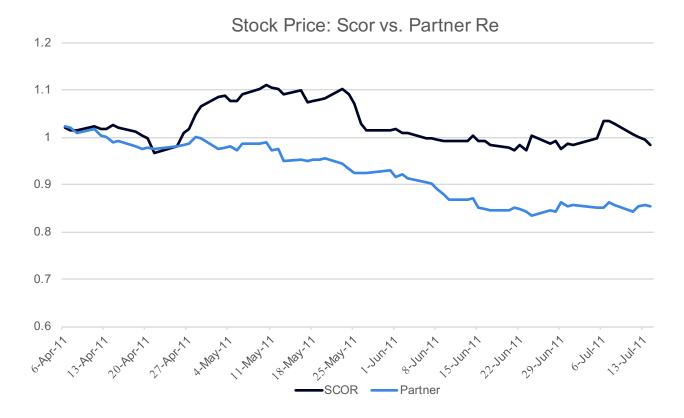


#### You have been given \$1,000. You now have to choose to either:

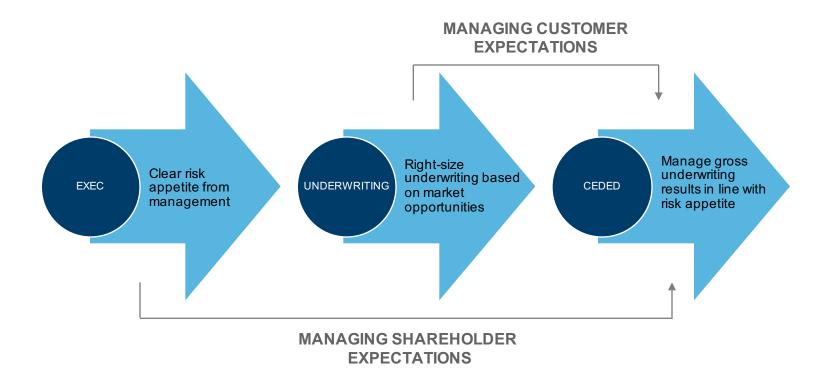
- Take a risk.
  - Heads: You get \$1,000 more.
  - Tails: You get \$0 more.
- Play it safe.
  - You get \$500 more with certainty.

#### You have been given \$2,000. You now have to choose to either:

- Take a risk.
  - Heads: You lose \$1,000.
  - Tails: You lose \$0.
- Play it safe.
  - You lose \$500 with certainty.



# Ceded re: the goals





- 1. Use ceded to minimize earnings volatility or outsize losses relative to peers.
- 2. Use ceded to ensure we operate within the Argo risk tolerance.
- 3. Assist with "capital-light" strategy.
- 4. Align ceded with business planning. Involve underwriters to understand their business and dynamics.

## Hedging objectives

- · Help meet enterprise and underwriting risk tolerances
- Provide P&L protection (e.g., quarterly earnings)
- · Trade upside for reduced capital, enhanced breakeven point and lighter tail
- · Meet regulatory tolerances
- Maintain gross line size through the cycle
- · Arbitrage vs. Inwards Portfolio Metrics on a per transaction basis

**UNDERWRITING LEVERAGE** 

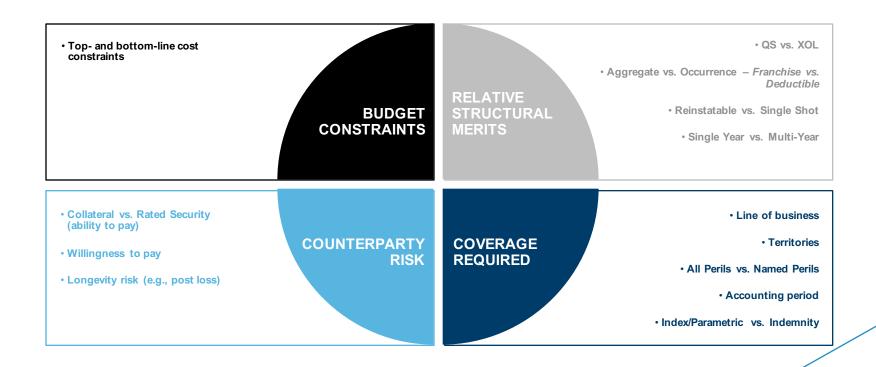
MEET RISK **TOLERANCES**  **ENHANCE RETURNS** 

- · Utilize third-party capital with lower return targets
- · Optimize capital between businesses
  - · Generate expense relief

**POST-LOSS** BENEFITS

- Ability to trade forward post event
  - Certainty of loss post event
- · Outperform peers in certain events
  - · Cede model uncertainty

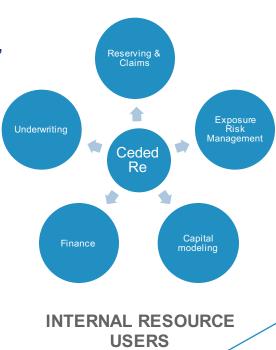
# **Hedging considerations**





### The many roles of ceded reinsurance

- Placements: submission preparation, program structuring, negotiations, wordings
- Managing claims collections, premiums payments and adjustments
- Business planning, financial planning, regulatory returns
- Managing relationships with reinsurers and brokers
- Exploring new structures and markets
- Providing internal information necessary for investor, shareholder or rating agency materials



### **Career Perspective**

One last piece of advice:
Always try to understand
the bigger picture,
balance the needs of your
customer and your
shareholder



# Q&A

# What questions do you have?



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# Thank you.

