




CAS Actuaries Working Overseas



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Agenda


- Work Life in Europe
- Liability Coverage in Europe compared to US
- Reinsurance Inflation Clause
- Solvency II

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 **Work Life in Europe**


- When in a country with a different language, colleagues will speak English with you while they use their native language with their colleagues.
- Work customs are often different. In Europe, the local work culture may have different and often restricted hours (e.g., in Zurich, generally everyone leaves at 5pm. In Spain, there is a long mid-day break with evening work hours as late as 7pm)
- Overtime, regardless of project deadlines, may not be customary. You may have to adjust to projects taking longer than normal.
- On the other hand, due to the work hour issue, work and personal life are usually much more balanced
- In Europe, summer vacation time is customarily taken by everyone at the same time

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 **Work Life in Europe**

- As a US actuary you will be used to having data to analyze
- Data systems and data availability may be much more limited (changing with Solvency II)
- Standard actuarial methods may not be possible
- Actuaries are considered mathematicians. In the absence of data, there is usually more emphasis on very theoretical and mathematical modeling in their analyses.

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 **EU Liability Insurance Coverages**

Vary by country but some generalizations:

- Workers Compensation largely government provided
- Auto liability essentially unlimited
 - Example: Selby Train Crash in UK – Auto Liability Loss of £ 30 million – driver falls asleep goes off road onto a train track and causes two trains to derail, killing 10, injuring 82.
- Leads to index clause in excess of loss reinsurance (discuss later)

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Selby Train Disaster



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EU Liability Insurance Coverages


Vary by country but some generalizations:

- General Liability less significant than US
 - Collective Redress (Class action) gaining traction but carefully controlled
 - Punitive damages rare, but changing
 - High Primary Limits, essentially unlimited compared to US coverage
 - Tail is shorter
- Liability premiums (non Motor) much lower than US
- What would be a huge liability loss in US may be a non-event in Europe
 - Example: SE Fireworks explosion in Enschede, Netherlands, in 2000. 177 tons of fireworks exploded, killing 23, injuring 947. The \$302m of insured loss covered property and BI only.


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SE Fireworks Explosion in Netherlands



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EU Commercial Liability Premiums¹

(USD Billions)

	Commercial Liability ²	Total Non-Life	% Liability
US	77.2	492.9	15.7%
Europe (Top 5)	34.8	424.7	8.2%
Rest of World	30.0	667.4	4.5%

1. 2008 Data
2. Excludes Motor and WC but includes GI, E&O, DMO and Environmental
Source: Swiss Re, "Commercial Liability - a challenge for business and their insurers"

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EU Liability Class Action Process


Collective Redress (Class Action)

Distinction between European and US class actions

European Type of Class Action	US Class Action
— Class actions limited to small area of the law, in general	— No restrictions in bringing class actions
— Opt-in procedure	— Opt-out procedure
— Lead plaintiff chosen by court	— "Beauty contests" of plaintiff counsels
— Pressure element on defendant not significant	— Widely used to exert pressure on defendant ("settlement class actions")
— Costs to be shared between plaintiffs	— Defense costs borne by defendant
— Recovery of costs only in case of winning trial	— No reimbursement of costs in case of winning trial

Source: Swiss Re

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EU Inflation Clauses (Reinsurance)

Unlimited (or effectively unlimited) Liability Insurance means inflation disproportionately affects reinsurer's excess layers

- ❑ Example: take a \$10 million xs \$10 million reinsurance layer and a \$10 million claim in today's dollars. Assume the claim inflates to \$15 million over the course of payment. Originally, \$0 are ceded. With inflation, \$5 million is ceded.
- ❑ Inflation clause attempts to return the proportion ceded to that expected at inception
- ❑ Usually index is tied to CPI. To the extent that the CPI does not track with claims inflation, there is basis risk for the cedent or reinsurer
- ❑ This clause typically not used in the US

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Solvency II
Market Value When Portfolio Distressed

- ❑ No Correlation Scenario: expected future payments in years 2,...,n are unaffected by a payment in year 1 that falls into the 99.5th percentile
- ❑ SCR, as originally calculated, is sufficient to provide BEL and MVM – portfolio can be transferred to a reinsurer at end of year
- ❑ Correlation Scenario: expected payments in years 2,...,n increase when the payment in year 1 is higher than expected
- ❑ Parameter risk – misestimation of expected value. New estimate is revised upward
- ❑ Higher than expected BEL(2), BEL(3),...,BEL(n) → Higher SCR(2),...,SCR(n) → Higher MVM(2),...,MVM(n)
- ❑ SCR (1) needs to be augmented by $\Delta T(2), \dots, \Delta T(n)$ in order to have sufficient funds to transfer portfolio to reinsurer at end of year

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Solvency II
Illustration of SCR – No Correlation

$BEL(n) = E[L(n)], L(n) = \text{Paid loss in Year } n$

Source: Intransure, "The One-Year Risk Horizon"

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Solvency II
SCR – Correlation of Future Payments

$SCR = VaR_{99.5\%}(1) + \Delta TP(2) + \Delta TP(3) + \dots + \Delta TP(n)$

Source: Intransure, "The One-Year Risk Horizon"

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Solvency II

Reserve Risk

- SCR_t is the 99.5th percentile of the BEL remaining at year t (run-off basis)
- Takes on a new value at each year-end as portfolio runs off
- Difficult to model. Actuaries have the skill set
- Can use factors determined by CEIOPS by LOB and member state if using the standard formula

Premium Risk

- Inforce Policies + Policies written over the next 12 months
- Discounted combined ratio approach
 - Recognizes profit immediately
 - Recognizes loss on a discounted basis

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Solvency II - Reinsurance

Benefit of Excess of Loss Reinsurance is not fully reflected using the standard formula

- Standard formula fits lognormal to historical gross and net results to derive the 99.5th VaR
 - Lognormal may not fully reflect the tail of the distribution
- Many contract features disqualify incorporation of reinsurance
 - Limited or no reinstatements
 - Loss limiting features: Annual Aggregate Deductible, Aggregate limits, sliding scale ceding commissions, sublimits
- Historical reinsurance programs may differ significantly from going forward programs
- Full reflection allowed in Internal Model

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Solvency II – Implementation Timeline

SOLVENCY II TRANSITIONAL MEASURES - OMNIBUS II DIRECTIVE

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Systems and policy regarding reporting to supervisors	3 or 5 years									
Governance	3 years									
Public reporting	2 years									
Valuation of assets and liabilities	10 years									
Calculation of technical provisions	10 years									
Tiering of own funds	10 years									
SCR	10 years									
Group SCR	10 years									
Equivalence of Third Countries	5 years									

Source: Draft Omnibus II Directive, Guy Carpenter

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