

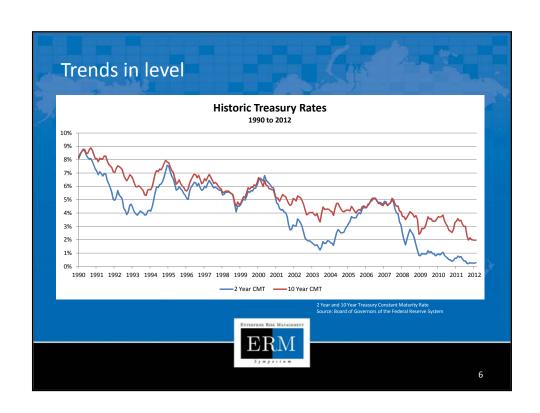
# The Current Situation • 5 and 10 Year treasury rates as of March 27 were 1.04% and 2.20%, respectively • Numerous analyst calls have cited lower profitability due to squeezed interest margins. • Typical insurance company balance sheets are a short straddle — Short call options on assets — Short put options on liabilities — Business will perform poorly in either very high or very low interest rate environments • Thus, for many, the ideal situation from an interest rate perspective would be for rates to increase gradually back to more "normal" levels. The current economic environment and associated uncertainties about the future pose a number of challenges for life insurers

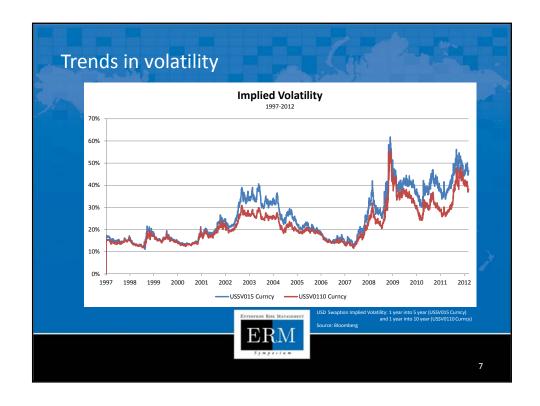
## **Industry Response**

- Life insurance companies benefit from having a robust risk management framework
  - Defining risk appetite is key
- Very low interest rates is the current issue
  - However, there are other threats on the horizon
  - Risk metrics can be used to help identify and evaluate impacts of interest rate
    risk that are not necessarily intuitive things such as the relative steepening
    of the curve and timing of movements, both of which can adversely affect
    insurers through the interplay of assets and liabilities

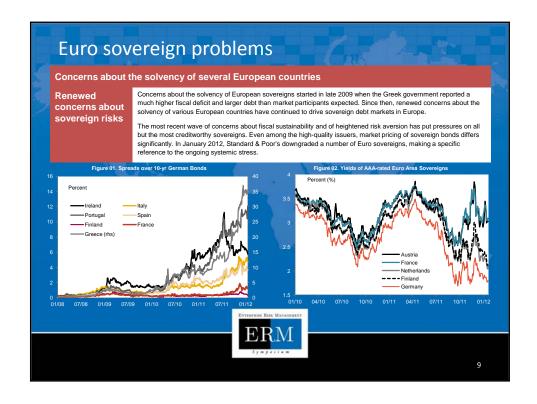
Doing nothing and hoping for things to return to "normal" is not a defensible strategy







# Assertions • Many believe the future interest rate environment is unlikely to follow a clear trend • Fat tail risk seems to have gone up - extreme scenarios now appear to be more likely • Even in the short term, the direction of rates is completely uncertain • Volatility rather than trend is the order of the day. • The most frequently mentioned plausible adverse scenarios for U.S. rates are: • A Japan-type very low rate environment persisting for a long period of time amid a disinflation or possibly even deflation economic prognosis. • An inflationary environment with a rapid resurgence in the economy (similar to what occurred in the late 1970s), forcing the Fed to reverse course in a hurry as it tries to undo the stimulus now being pumped in.





## **Need for Improved Analysis**

- It has become increasingly necessary for insurers to look at these types of extreme scenarios and to plan their portfolios for optimization under either case.
  - Interest rates stay at their relatively low level and remain low for a long period of time (with potentially significant non-parallel movements).
  - Interest rates spike up suddenly across the board in line with rampant inflationary expectations (with potentially significant non-parallel movements).
- Virtually all life insurers perform some basic scenario analysis on interest rates through their asset-liability management (ALM) analyses and cash-flow testing.
  - A wider range of possible interest rate scenarios and to examine the resultant potential impact on earnings as well as value may be useful
- For many life insurers, earnings volatility is a significant concern
  - Risk analytics tend to be focused more on balance sheet measures

### There is a need to expand current analysis





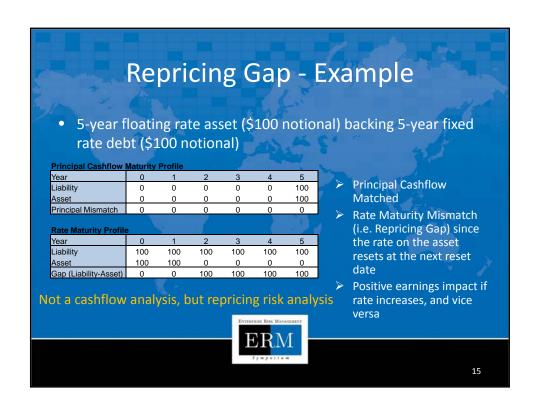
Gap Analysis	Method	Note		
Classical Cashflow Gap Analysis	<ul> <li>Aggregating cash flows into maturity buckets</li> <li>Checking to see if cash flows in each bucket net to 0</li> </ul>	There is an inherent assumption that all cash flows occur with certainty. (i.e. no embedded options)  Not practical to do perfect cash flow matching  Matching cashflow implies that there are no liquidity/repricing gaps		
Liquidity Gap Analysis	•Focus on cash flows at maturities	•5-year floater has cash flow maturities in 5 years		
Repricing Gap Analysis	•Focus on the timing when the rate resets (i.e. rate maturity) instead of cashflow maturities	•More details to follow		

# **Repricing Gap**

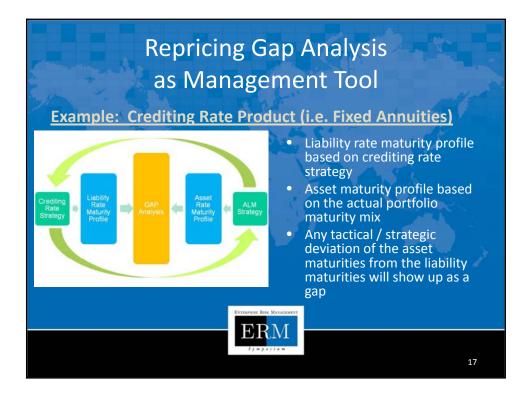
Rate Maturity Profiles show the outstanding balances of assets/liabilities that are outstanding at the current rate on multiple future dates.

Repricing Gap measures the relative difference between the rate maturity profiles of interest bearing liabilities and interest earning assets.







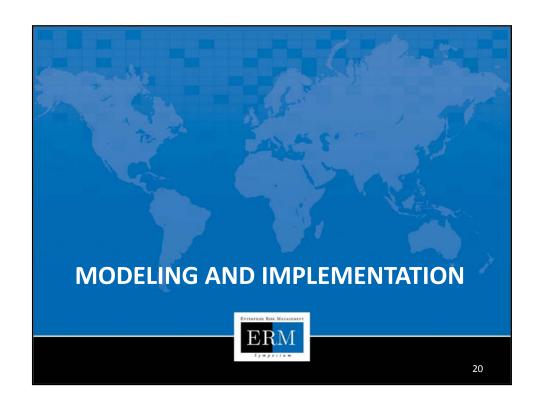


# Repricing Gap Analysis Strengths

- Provides an objective measure of interest rate earnings risk against current positions, as a static instantaneous view
- Clearly identifies the source of the earnings risk and indicates how to mitigate this risk
- Does not require any assumption about reinvestment or disinvestment strategy
- Simple and transparent, and relatively easy to implement



Shortcomings	Shortcomings solutions		
Only considers parallel shifts in the yield curve	•The earnings impact under the non-parallel shift can be obtained by the incremental cost of eliminating the re-pricing gap by swaps and FRA's after the interest rate shock occurs, and looking at the emergence of earnings. (More details in Appendix)		
Does not capture the asset/liability convexities	•Similar to above. The earnings impact due to changing rate maturities can be obtained by assuming that the additional gap due to convexity is eliminated by swaps and FRA's after the shock occurs		
Does not capture the impact from Guaranteed Minimum Rate (GMR)	•The additional impact can be measured by projecting future crediting rates and comparing them to the guaranteed minimum rates to determine the extent of margin compression		
Does not capture basis (spread) risk	•This risk can be quantified by keeping track of different benchmark rindex for floating assets/liabilities		
Does not include New Business	•The analysis can be augmented to include new business by inputting volume and rate characteristics associated with the new business.		



# Repricing Gap Analysis Implementation Overview

- This is used as a framework to quantify interest rate earnings risk primarily for ERM purposes
- This implementation involves characterizing rate maturity profile for all interest rate earning assets and all interest rate bearing liabilities (mostly accrual based general account products) on the Company's Balance Sheet
- However, the FAS 133 benefit riders (i.e. VA living benefit guarantees) are excluded since they are not spread-based products and the interest rate earnings risk emerges differently. This particular risk is addressed in a separate analysis
- Initially focused on one Business Unit as a proof of concept, and currently rolling out to the remaining Business Units within the Company
- In-house system infrastructure is currently being built to streamline processes involved this analysis



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# Rate Maturity Profile Modeling Insurance Liabilities

Туре	Example	FASB	Methodology	
Future Policy Benefit	•Immediate Annuity •Term Life Reserve •Structural Settlement	FAS60 FAS97 LP	Use expected reserve runoff based on expected mortality/lapse	
Fixed Term & Rate Products	•Retail Notes •Funding Agreements	FAS97 Investment	Rate maturity profile based on contractual terms & rates	
Crediting Rate Products	•Fixed Annuity •Stable Value Product •Universal Life	FAS97 Investment FAS97 UL	Rate Maturity profile modeled based on crediting rate strategy	
Participating Products	Any product where the asset yields are passed to policyholders	FAS97 Investment	Rate Maturity profile to be the same as that of the supporting assets	

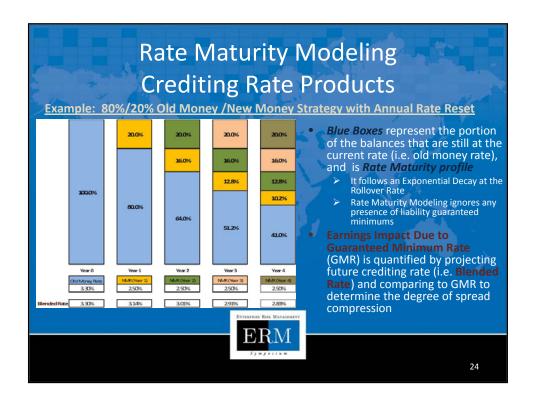


# Rate Maturity Profile Modeling Swaps

- Viewed as a portfolio of a pay leg and a receive leg
  - Receive Fix / Pay Float is treated as a combination of a fixed rate bond and a floating rate debt
- Example: 5-year fixed receiver swap

Rate Maturity Profile									
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Liability	100	0	0	0	0	0	0 Pay-float Leg 0 Receive-Fix Leg		
Asset	100	100	100	100	100	100	O Receive-Fix Leg		
Gap	0	-100	-100	-100	-100	-100	O		

 Contribute to negative gap → negative earnings impact if rate increases

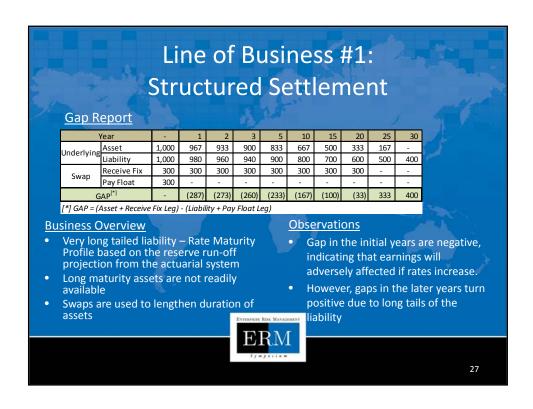


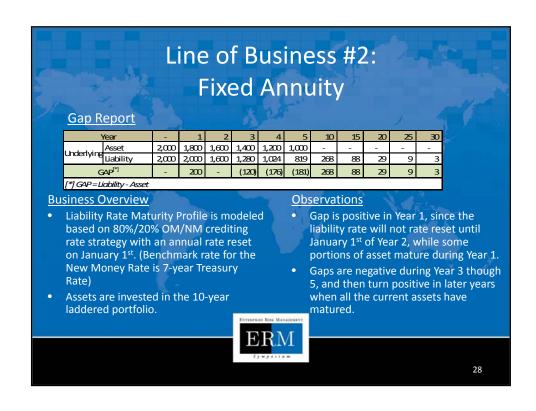
# **Lessons Learned**

- Clear communication to all levels of management is a key, as this analysis is not familiar to an insurance organization.
- Modeling liability rate maturity profile requires collaboration with Business Unit actuaries, while modeling assets is relatively straightforward.
- Effective management of massive data (particularly liabilities) is crucial for timely periodic production of this analysis

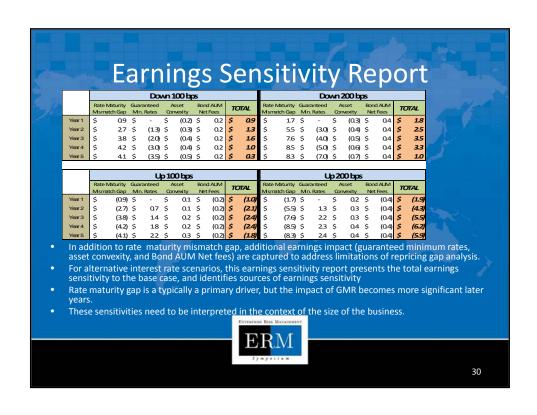




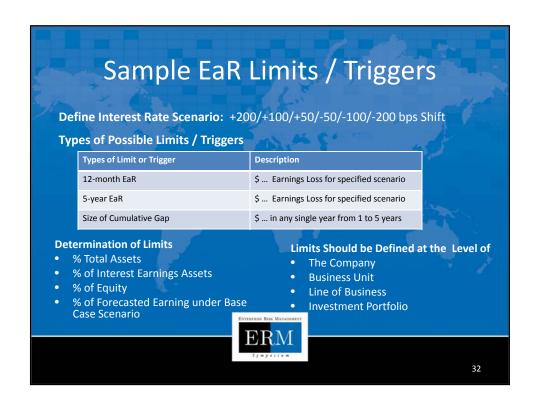


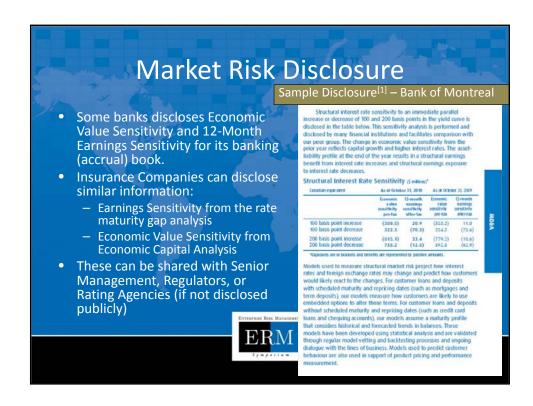


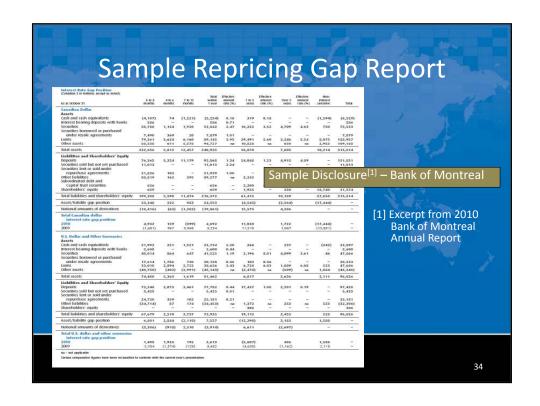


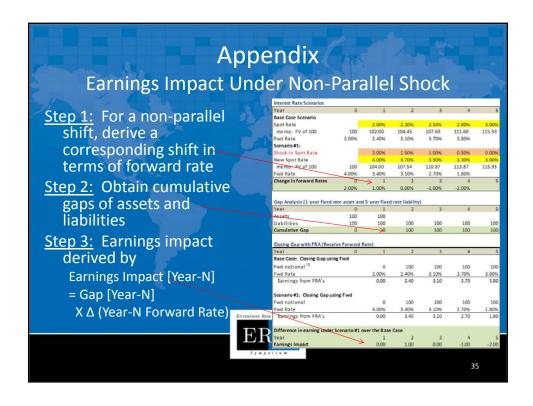














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