THE CHANGING NATURE OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION: The Reinsurance Broker's Perspective

Casualty Actuarial Society 2001 Spring Meeting: May 7-9, 2001



#### **Introduction**

- 1 Market Overview
- 2 Capacity & Availability
- 3 Pricing & Decision Making
- 4 Market Mentality
- 5 Summary



1.1 Market Overview

#### The Players

- Property / Casualty Market (Following Form)
- Accident & Health Market (Carve Out)



1.2 Property / Casualty Market (Following Form)

- Property / Casualty Paper
- Mirrors Primary Coverage
- Working Layer Protection: Up to \$5M
- No Discounting of Loss Reserves



1.3 Accident & Health Market (Carve Out)

- Life Paper
- Coverage A Only (No 3rd Party Coverage)

#### Additional Limitations

- Sunset & Commutation Clauses
- Excludes Employers Liability

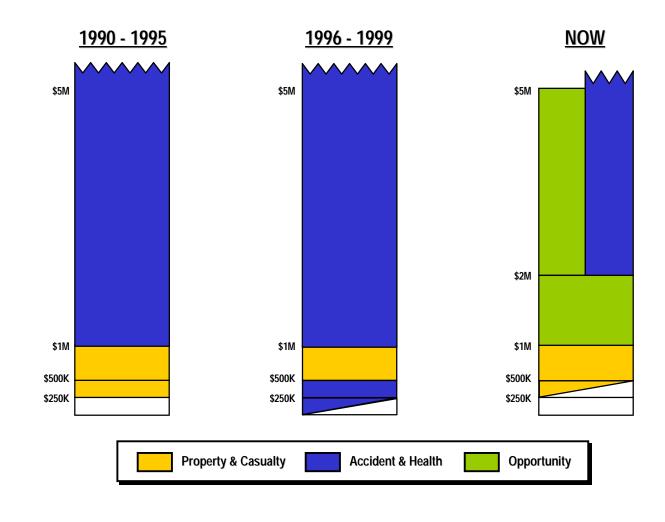
#### Catastrophic Protection

- Single Claimant (Per Person Coverage)
- Multi-Claimant (Per Occurrence Coverage)

#### Discounting of Loss Reserves



1.4 Market Overview: Where They Play



The information contained in this document is strictly proprietary and confidential.



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2.0 Capacity & Availability

- 2.1 Capacity is Not an Issue, But How Much Do You Want to Pay?
- 2.2 At 1/1/01, Majority of Accounts Had Doubleto Triple-Digit Rate Increases
  - Affected Both Working & Catastrophe Layers
  - Tail Wagging the Dog
  - Protracted Negotiations (Many Accounts Extended to 4/1)



50,000,000 45,000,000 Ceded 40,000,000 Net 35,000,000 30,000,000 \$ Dollars 25,000,000 20,000,000 15,000,000 10,000,000 5,000,000 0 1994 1990 1991 1992 1993 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 **Accident Years** 

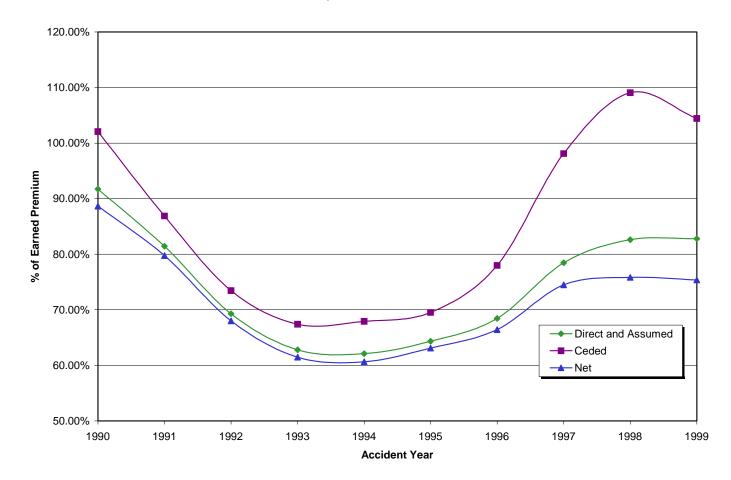
Workers Compensation Earned Premium

SOURCE: NAIC 1999 Industry Schedule P Data.

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Workers Compensation Loss and ALAE Ratios



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#### 2.0 Capacity & Availability

2.3 Big Gap Between Company Loss Pick and Reinsurer Loss Pick (Historical & Prospective)

#### 2.4 Terms and Conditions Are More Restrictive:

- 1. Loss Corridor
- 2. Swing Rates
- 3. Tiered Reinsurance Rating Structure (Tied to Increase in Primary Rate / Decrease in Credits)
- 4. Limitations on Size of Primary Credits
- 5. Reinstatements / Aggregate Limits
- 6. Annual Aggregate Deductibles
- 7. Restriction of Covered Classes



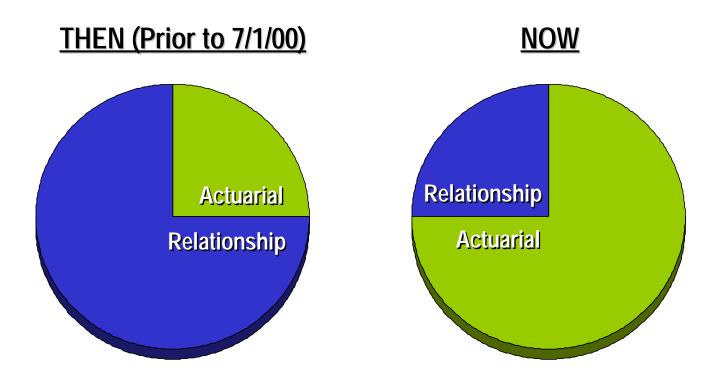
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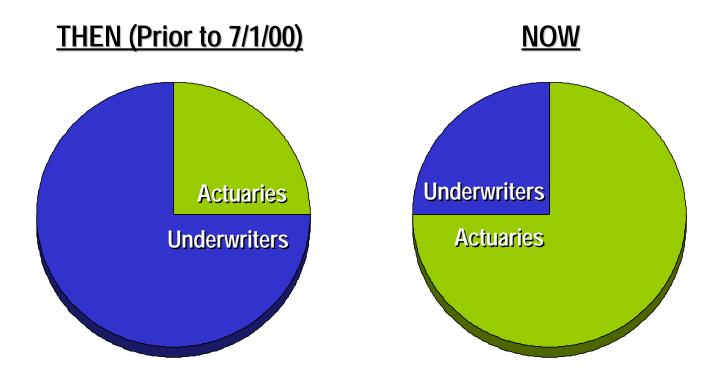


3.1 Market Pricing





3.2 Market Decision Making



EV 14

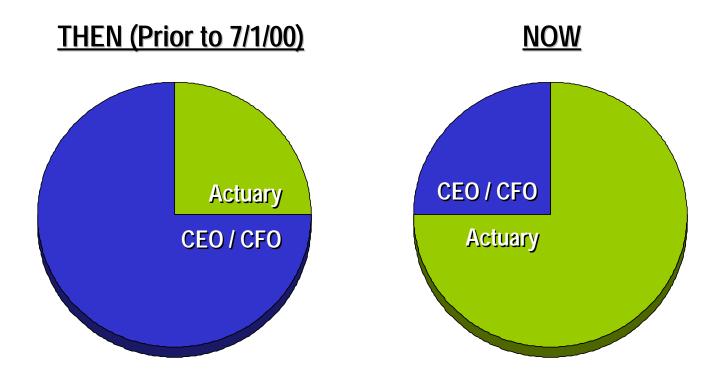
3.2 Market Decision Making - Key Phrase

# Bunker Mentality "Enemy at the Gates"

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3.3 Primary Decision Making



EV 16

3.3 Primary Decision Making - Key Phrase

# Buffet

#### VS.

# á la Carte Purchasing Style

17 EV

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#### 4.1 Market Mentality...Then & Now

#### THEN (Prior to 7/1/00)

- Corporate Risk Load
- Abundant Retro Capacity
- Production Oriented
- Top Line Emphasis
- Basic Information
- Quick Decision Making
- Aggressive Assumptions
- Just Show Up

#### <u>NOW</u>

- Personal Risk Load
- Collapse of Retro Market
- Profit Oriented
- Bottom Line Emphasis
- Detailed Rate / Exposure Information
- Underwriting by Committee
- Conservative Assumptions
- Just Say No



4.1 Market Preferences

- Regional Focus
- Homogenous Books of Business
- Niche Market Specialization
- More & Better Data
- Underwriting Discipline
- Strong Claims Handling / Loss Control Services



4.2 Less Preferred

- National Focus
- General Books of Business
- Start Ups
- MGAs
- Contractors
- Employee Leasing



4.3 Bottom of the Pile

- California
- California
- California
- California
- Not Too Crazy About Illinois



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#### 5.0 Summary

- Markets are Underwriting Each Account as if Their Jobs Depend on It
- Primary Companies are Paying More or Buying Less or Sometimes Both
- More of the Same at 7/1 Renewals
- Higher Prices Will Bring in New Players (But NOT Naïve Capacity)
- Alternative (Finite) Products Will Become More Attractive
- Reinsurers Will Pursue Offshore Discounting Facilities

