# Tuesday 3rd June 2003 Professional Indemnity Cover

# A PII Insurers Dilemma

- What does an Actuary do?
- Key exposure Investment Advice (Pension Funds).
- Infrequent large losses (Catastrophe Risk).
- Small profession/premium pool.
- "Good for 10 years" then total loss.
- Little underwriting between good and bad.
- Notifications of claims increasing.
- Absence of data to set rates.

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# Legal/Claims Aspects

- 1. Plaintiffs include:
- Liquidators
- Purchasers of Insurance Companies
- Regulators
- Trustees

### 2.NRG:

- Claim for £400m dismissed.
- Substantial defence costs incurred.

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# Legal/Claims Aspects

- 3. Negligence in investment actuarial advice to Pension Fund
- 4. Negligent tax advice £300k.
- 5. Two paid claims same year pension fund related:
- £4.5m
- £7.5m
- Insurance £150k for £30m cover.

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### 6. General:

- Errors in calculation of funds required
- Incorrect setting of reserves
- Pension Scheme mis-management
- 7. Failure of Independent Insurance and HIH.
- 8. Watson Wyatt/Connecticut Carpenters Pension Fund:
- US\$40m paid (\$170m fund).
- Towers Perrin/LACERA seeking \$2bn damages (\$20bn funds).

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10. Alleged UK claim recently settled for £30m.

# **Insurance Market and Trends**

- 1. Insurers
- Chubb
- St. Paul
- RSA
- Great Lakes (Munich Re)
- XL
- Swiss Re
- Markel

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### **Insurance Market and Trends**

2. Capacity - up to £50m.

3. Trends:

- Prices and Retention Increasing (up to 4 times).
- Lack of Insurer Competition.
- Greater Disclosure required.
- Coverage Restrictions.
- Move by firms to examine Alternative Risk Transfer options.
- More Innovative Pricing Approaches.
- New markets for Catastrophe cover.

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# Alternative Insurance Approaches (larger firms)

- 1. Alternative Risk Transfer:
- Multi-year
- Limited Risk Transfer
- 2. Loss Rated Programmes.
- 3. Co-insurance.
- 4. Inner Aggregate Deductibles.

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# Alternative Insurance Approaches (larger firms)

- 5. Group Purchase.
- 6. Use of Retro-dates.
- 7. Commutation/Profit Commissions.
- 8. Employment Practices Liability.
- 9. Intellectual Property.
- 10. Directors' & Officers'.

# A Placement Strategy

- 1. Continuous dialogue with Existing Insurers on:
- The business
- Risk Management
- Claims
- Trends in the profession
- 2. Cultivate new Insurers to reduce reliance.
- 3. Develop formal strategy for risk retention (captives).

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- 4. Commence renewal process early.
- Assess Insurer security and desire/willingness to pay claims.
- Determine amount of cover required to meet clients reasonable expectations.
- 7. Use legitimate devices to limit liability.
- 8. Engage with regulator on PII requirements.

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# PI Options under Consideration by Regulators and Firms

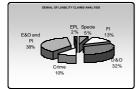
- 1. Minimum Requirements for PII (local and EU).
- 2. Affordability/cost versus consumer protection.
- 3. Two Tier System of consumer protection (PII and Capital).
- 4. A Mutual Fund.
- 5. Compensation Funds (insolvency).

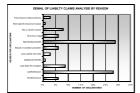
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# Do not Rely Solely on PII

- 1. Have conflict system.
- 2. Robust Terms of Engagement.
- 3. Limit liability and third party use.
- 4. Caveat and disclaim.
- 5. Methodology for contract disputes.
- 6. Understand client and his ability to digest complex advice.

# **Denial of Liability Claims**





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# **Pension Trustees Liability**

- 1. Up to 500% increase in cost:
- Previously £1,000 to £3,000 per million of cover.
- 2. Available Insurance Markets Receding.
- 3. Underfunding of Pension Funds.

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# **Pension Trustees Liability**

- 4. Insurers wish to see:
- Greater utilisation of consultants
- Regulator reviews of investment strategy and avoidance of high risk investments (high tech)
- More financial expertise of Trustees.
- 5. Still little claims activity.
- 6. Notifications mainly members not happy with passive role

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