



NEWS RELEASE

A.M. BEST COMPANY, INC., OLDWICK, NJ • A.M. BEST EUROPE – RATING SERVICES LIMITED, LONDON
A.M. BEST EUROPE – INFORMATION SERVICES LIMITED, LONDON • A.M. BEST ASIA-PACIFIC, LTD., HONG KONG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A.M. Best Upgrades Issuer Credit Ratings of ACE Limited and Its Subsidiaries

Ratings Supplement

The ICR has been upgraded to “aa” from “aa-” and the FSR of A+ (Superior) has been affirmed for the following subsidiaries of **ACE Limited**. The outlook for the ICR has been revised to stable from positive and the outlook for the FSR is stable.

- **ACE Tempest Reinsurance Ltd.**
- **ACE Tempest Life Reinsurance Ltd.**
- **ACE INA Insurance**
- **ACE European Group Limited**
- **ACE Bermuda Insurance Ltd.**
- **ACE Bermuda International Insurance (Ireland) Limited**
- **ACE Bermuda International Reinsurance (Ireland) Limited**
- **Corporate Officers and Directors Assurance Ltd.**

ACE American Pool—

- **ACE American Insurance Company**
- **ACE Property & Casualty Insurance Company**
- **Pacific Employers Insurance Company**
- **Insurance Company of North America**
- **Bankers Standard Insurance Company**
- **Indemnity Insurance Company of North America**
- **Bankers Standard Fire and Marine Company**
- **ACE Fire Underwriters Insurance Company**
- **Agri General Insurance Company**
- **Westchester Fire Insurance Company**
- **Westchester Surplus Lines Insurance Company**
- **ACE Insurance Company of the Midwest**
- **ACE Insurance Company (Puerto Rico)**

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- **Atlantic Employers Insurance Company**
- **Illinois Union Insurance Company**

The ICR has been upgraded to “a+” from “a” and the FSR of A (Excellent) has been affirmed for **Combined Insurance Company of America** and **Combined Life Insurance Company of New York**. The outlook for the ICR has been revised to stable from positive and the outlook for the FSR is stable.

The FSR of B- (Fair) and ICR of “bb-” have been affirmed and withdrawn for **Century Indemnity Company**.

The FSR of A- (Excellent) and ICR of “a-” have been affirmed with a stable outlook for **ACE Life Insurance Company**.

The ICR has been upgraded to “a” from “a-” with a revised outlook to stable from positive for **ACE Limited** and **ACE INA Holdings Inc.**

The following debt ratings have been upgraded with a stable outlook:

ACE INA Holdings, Inc. (guaranteed by ACE Limited)—

- to “a” from “a-” on \$300 million of 5.8% senior unsecured notes, due 2018
- to “a” from “a-” on \$450 million of 5.6% senior unsecured notes, due 2015
- to “a” from “a-” on \$500 million of 5.7% senior unsecured notes, due 2017
- to “a” from “a-” on \$100 million of 8.875% senior unsecured debentures, due 2029
- to “a” from “a-” on \$500 million of 5.875% senior unsecured notes, due 2014
- to “a” from “a-” on \$300 million of 6.7% senior unsecured notes, due 2036
- to “a” from “a-” on \$500 million of 5.9% senior unsecured notes, due 2019
- to “a” from “a-” on \$700 million of 2.6% senior unsecured notes, due 2015

ACE Capital Trust II (guaranteed by ACE Limited)—

- to “bbb+” from “bbb” on \$300 million of 9.7% trust preferred capital securities, due 2030

The following indicative ratings under the shelf registration have been upgraded with a stable outlook:

ACE Limited and **ACE INA Holdings, Inc.**—

- to “a” from “a-” on senior unsecured debt
- to “a-” from “bbb+” on subordinated debt

ACE Limited—

- to “bbb+” from “bbb” on preferred shares

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ACE Capital Trust III & IV—

-- to “bbb+” from “bbb” on trust preferred securities

The principal methodology used in determining these ratings is [Best’s Credit Rating Methodology -- Global Life and Non-Life Insurance Edition](#), which provides a comprehensive explanation of A.M. Best’s rating process and highlights the different rating criteria employed. Additional key criteria utilized include: “Risk Management and the Rating Process for Insurance Companies”; “Understanding BCAR for Property/Casualty Insurers”; “Understanding BCAR for Life and Health Insurers”; “Understanding Universal BCAR”; “Rating Members of Insurance Groups”; “The Treatment of Terrorism Risk in the Rating Evaluation”; “Natural Catastrophe Stress Test Methodology”; “Catastrophe Risk Management Incorporated Within the Rating Process”; “Catastrophe Analysis in A.M. Best Ratings”; “Rating Health Insurance Companies”; and “A.M. Best’s Ratings & the Treatment of Debt.” Methodologies can be found at www.ambest.com/ratings/methodology.

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