

# **NEWS RELEASE**

A.M. BEST COMPANY, INC., OLDWICK, NJ • A.M. BEST EUROPE, LTD., LONDON A.M. BEST ASIA-PACIFIC, LTD., HONG KONG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 25, 2008

**CONTACTS:** Analysts

Joyce Sharaf

(908) 439-2200, ext. 5046 joyce.sharaf@ambest.com

**Public Relations Jim Peavy** 

(908) 439-2200, ext. 5644 james.peavy@ambest.com

**Andrew Colannino** 

(908) 439-2200, ext. 5706 andrew.colannino@ambest.com

Rachelle Morrow

(908) 439-2200, ext. 5378 rachelle.morrow@ambest.com

A.M. Best Upgrades Ratings of Crum & Forster Group; Upgrades Debt Ratings of Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited

### **Ratings Supplement**

The FSR has been upgraded to A (Excellent) from A- (Excellent) and ICRs to "a" from

"a-" with a stable outlook for **Crum & Forster Insurance Group** and its following members:

- Crum and Forster Insurance Company
- Crum & Forster Indemnity Company
- The North River Insurance Company
- United States Fire Insurance Company
- Crum & Forster Specialty Insurance Company

The FSR has been upgraded to A (Excellent) from A- (Excellent) and ICRs to "a" from

"a-" with a stable outlook for **Seneca Insurance Group** and its following members:

- Seneca Insurance Company, Inc.
- Seneca Specialty Insurance Company

The FSR of B+ (Good) and ICRs of "bbb-" have been affirmed with a stable outlook for

### **TIG Insurance Group** and its following members:

- TIG Insurance Company
- TIG Indemnity Company

The FSR of B++ (Good) and ICRs of "bbb" have been affirmed with a stable outlook for

### Fairmont Specialty Group and its following members:

- Fairmont Specialty Insurance Company
- Fairmont Premier Insurance Company
- Fairmont Insurance Company



# **NEWS RELEASE**

A.M. BEST COMPANY, INC., OLDWICK, NJ • A.M. BEST EUROPE, LTD., LONDON A.M. BEST ASIA-PACIFIC, LTD., HONG KONG

—2—

The ICR has been upgraded to "bbb" from "bbb-" with a stable outlook for **Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited**.

The ICR has been upgraded to "bbb" from "bbb-" with a stable outlook for **Crum &**Forster Holdings Corp.

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

### Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited—

- -- to "bbb" from "bbb-" on USD 466 million 7.75% senior unsecured notes, due 2012
- -- to "bbb" from "bbb-" on USD 100 million 8.25% senior unsecured notes, due 2015
- -- to "bbb" from "bbb-" on USD 225 million 7.375% senior unsecured notes, due 2018
- -- to "bbb" from "bbb-" on USD 125 million 8.3% senior unsecured notes, due 2026
- -- to "bbb" from "bbb-"on USD 125 million 7.75% senior unsecured notes, due 2037
- -- to "bbb" from "bbb-" on USD 282 million7.75% senior unsecured notes, due 2017

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

#### Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited—

- -- to "bbb" from "bbb-" on senior unsecured debt
- -- to "bbb-" from "bb+" on subordinated debt
- -- to "bb+" from "bb" on preferred shares

The following debt rating has been upgraded with a stable outlook:

### Crum & Forster Holdings Corp.—

-- to "bbb" from "bbb-" on USD 330 million 7.75% unsecured senior notes, due 2017

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

#### TIG Capital Trust I—

-- "b" on USD 125 million 8.597% preferred capital securities, due 2027

Founded in 1899, A.M. Best Company is a global full-service credit rating organization dedicated to serving the financial and health care service industries, including insurance companies, banks, hospitals and health care system providers. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.ambest.com">www.ambest.com</a>.