

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

CONTACTS: David Blades, CPCU

Senior Financial Analyst (908) 439-2200, ext. 5422 david.blades@ambest.com

Joseph Roethel
Assistant Vice President
(908) 439-2200, ext. 5630
joseph.roethel@ambest.com

October 1, 2010

Rachelle Morrow
Senior Manager, Public Relations
(908) 439-2200, ext. 5378
rachelle.morrow@ambest.com

Jim Peavy Assistant Vice President, Public Relations (908) 439-2200, ext. 5644 james.peavy@ambest.com

A.M. Best Upgrades Ratings of Praetorian Insurance and NAU Country; Affirms Ratings of Other QBE US Subsidiaries

Ratings Supplement

The FSR has been upgraded to A (Excellent) from A- (Excellent) and the ICR to "a" from "a-" with a stable outlook for **Praetorian Insurance Company**.

The FSR has been upgraded to A (Excellent) from A- (Excellent) and the ICR to "a" from "a-" for NAU Country Insurance Company. Both ratings have been removed from under review with positive implications and assigned a stable outlook.

The FSR of A (Excellent) and ICRs of "a" have been affirmed with a stable outlook for **QBE Re Group**- **US** and its following members:

- QBE Reinsurance Corporation
- QBE Insurance Corporation
- QBE Specialty Insurance Company

The ICRs have been upgraded to "a+" from "a" and the FSR of A (Excellent) has been affirmed with a stable outlook for **QBE Regional Insurance Group** and its following members:

- Blue Ridge Insurance Company
- Blue Ridge Indemnity Company
- Capital City Insurance Company, Inc.
- General Casualty Company of Wisconsin
- General Casualty Insurance Company
- Hoosier Insurance Company
- National Farmers Union Property and Casualty Company
- Regent Insurance Company



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- Southern Fire & Casualty Company
- Southern Guaranty Insurance Company
- Southern Pilot Insurance Company
- Unigard Insurance Company
- Unigard Indemnity Insurance Company
- United Security Insurance Company

The FSR of A- (Excellent) and ICRs of "a-" have been affirmed with a stable outlook for **North Pointe**Insurance Company.

The FSR of B++ (Good) and ICR of "bbb" have been affirmed with a stable outlook for **North Pointe**Casualty Insurance Company.

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"; and "Rating Members of Insurance Groups." Methodologies can be found at www.ambest.com/ratings/methodology.

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 www.ambest.com.

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