

NEWS RELEASE

A.M. BEST COMPANY, OLDWICK, NJ A.M. BEST INTERNATIONAL, LONDON A.M. BEST EUROPE, LONDON A.M. BEST CANADA, TORONTO A.M. BEST ASIA -PACIFIC, HONG KONG http://www.ambest.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACTS: Public Relations Jim Peavy +(1) (908) 439-2200, ext. 5644 james.peavy@ambest.com

> Rachelle Striegel +(1) (908) 439-2200, ext. 5378 rachelle.striegel@ambest.com

Analysts Jose Sanchez-Crespo +(44) 20 7626 6264 sanchezj@ambest.com

Stuart Shipperlee +(44) 20 7626 6264 shipperlees@ambest.com

A.M. Best Affirms Ratings of Zurich Financial Services Group and Its Core Operating Subsidiaries

Ratings Supplement

The financial strength ratings of A (Excellent) have been affirmed with a positive outlook

for the following subsidiaries of Zurich Financial Services Group:

- Eagle Star Life Assurance Company Ltd
- Zurich Life Assurance Company Limited
- Allied Dunbar Assurance plc
- Zurich Insurance Company
- Universal Underwriters Life Insurance Co
- Zurich Life Insurance Co of New York
- Kemper Investors Life Insurance Company
- Fidelity Lf Assn A Mut Legal Reserve Co
- Federal Kemper Life Assurance Company
- Empire Indemnity Insurance Company
- National Standard Insurance Company
- Maryland Casualty Company
- Maine Bonding and Casualty Company
- Assurance Company of America
- Maryland Lloyds
- Colonial American Casualty & Surety Company
- Zurich American Insurance Company of IL
- Valiant Insurance Company
- Steadfast Insurance Company
- American Zurich Insurance Company
- American Guarantee and Liability Ins Co
- Northern Insurance Company of New York
- Mountbatten Surety Company, Inc
- Zurich Life Insurance Company of America
- Universal Underwriters of Texas Ins Co



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- Universal Underwriters Insurance Company
- Zurich US
- Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland
- Maryland Insurance Company
- Farmers New World Life Insurance Company
- Empire Fire and Marine Insurance Company
- Zurich American Insurance Company
- Farmers Insurance Exchange
- Mid-Century Insurance Company
- Truck Insurance Exchange
- Fire Insurance Exchange
- Farmers Insurance Company of Oregon
- Farmers Insurance Company Washington
- Civic Property and Casualty Company
- Exact Property and Casualty Company
- Farmers Insurance of Columbus Inc
- Neighborhood Spirit P&C Co
- Texas Farmers Insurance Company
- Farmers Insurance Company of Idaho
- Farmers Insurance Company Inc
- Farmers New Century Insurance Company
- Illinois Farmers Insurance Company
- Farmers Insurance Company of Arizona
- Farmers Texas County Mutual Insurance Co
- Mid-Century Insurance Company of Texas

The following ratings on existing senior and subordinated debt instruments have been

affirmed with a positive outlook:

Zurich Insurance Company—

-- "a" rating on CHF1 billion 3.875% senior notes, due 2011

Zurich Finance (USA), Inc.

(guaranteed by Zurich Insurance Company)-

- -- "a" rating on USD 300 million 6% senior notes, due 2003
- -- "a" rating on CHF 300 million 3.5% senior notes, due 2008
- -- "a" rating on USD 150 million 4.75% senior notes, due 2003
- -- "a" rating on CHF 500 million 2.75% senior notes, due 2006

Zurich Capital Trust I

(guaranteed by Zurich Insurance Company)—

-- "a-" rating on USD 1,031 million 8.376% Capital Securities, due 2037 (issued 1997)



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3

Zurich Financial Services Inc-

-- "a-" rating on CHF 600 million market index-linked equity securities (MILES), due

2005

Zurich Financial Services (Jersey) Ltd

(backed by subordinated support agreement from Zurich Financial Services)-

-- "bbb+" rating on EUR 300 million 7.125% perpetual subordinated non-cumulative preferred shares

Zurich RegCaPS Funding Trust I—

-- "bbb+" rating on USD 200 million trust capital securities, due 2031

Zurich RegCaPS Funding Trust II—

-- "bbb+" rating on USD 150 million trust capital securities, due 2031

Zurich RegCaPS Funding Trust III—

-- "bbb+" rating on USD 225 million trust capital securities, due 2031

Zurich RegCaPS Funding Trust IV—

-- "bbb+" rating on USD 125 million trust capital securities, due 2031

Zurich RegCaPS Funding Trust V—

-- "bbb+" rating on USD 200 million trust capital securities, due 2031

Zurich RegCaPS Funding Trust VI—

-- "bbb+" rating on USD 225 million trust capital securities, due 2031

Farmers Group Capital (guaranteed by Farmers Group, Inc.)-

-- "bbb+" rating on USD 410 million 8.45% quarterly income preferred securities (QUIPS), due 2025

Farmers Group Capital II (guaranteed by Farmers Group, Inc.)-

-- "bbb+" rating on USD 90 million 8.25% quarterly income preferred securities (QUIPS), due 2025

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insurance rating and information source. For more information, visit A.M. Best's Web site

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