



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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Small Talk

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SmallCo at the 2013 Annual Meeting

By Mark Rowley

At the SOA annual meeting (San Diego, Oct. 20–23, 2013), the Smaller Insurance Company Section (SmallCo) sponsored three sessions:

- Hot Breakfast
- What Small Company Actuaries Should Know About PBR
- Current Topics Impacting the Smaller Insurance Company (Buzz Group).

Tim Cardinal did an excellent job at the hot breakfast speaking about the *PBA Implementation Guide*. Norm Hill and Shane Leib spoke on a similar topic in the principle-based reserves (PBR) session, focusing on the VM20 exclusion tests. I received some very positive comments about the PBR presentations. Specifically, I was told that these were some of the best presentations about PBR they have ever heard. Among the many presentations about PBR the comment was that these presentations were more practical and made sense. The comments came from both small and larger company actuaries.

SmallCo's constituents in many cases are small company actuaries, but also anyone who wants to keep up on statutory financial reporting issues. At times we are the section that focuses the most on statutory financial reporting.

The Buzz Group session continues to be very popular, because it is extremely focused on discussing the topics that the participants want to talk about! Thanks to the facilitators, which included Bill Sayre, Phil Ferrari, Leon Langlitz,

Don Walker, Norm Hill, Grant Hemphill and Terry Long, and the contributions of the participants, we had another successful session. A wide range of topics was discussed, including the usual topics of product development, cash flow testing, additional reserves for asset adequacy analysis, reinsurance and PBR. There was one new and somewhat unique topic that we found very interesting—pet insurance. After several questions and a joke or two, we found that the actuary was dealing with issues that were similar to those faced by actuaries in more traditional roles.

At the Hot Breakfast we also discussed our plans for SmallCo in 2014 and encouraged all in attendance to consider becoming involved. There are a lot of good things happening in SmallCo, which will be even better if you are involved. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions about SmallCo. At the end of the breakfast the role of chairperson was passed from Mark Rowley to Don Walker as Don recited the SmallCo cheer:

e to the x dx dy

radical transcendental pi

secant cosine tangent sine

three point one four one five nine

two point seven one eight two eight

Actuaries! Actuaries! WE ARE GREAT!

YEAH, ACTUARIES!

(Thanks to former SOA President Dave Holland who inspired our cheer!) ●



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