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SOA International Experience Study Update

New Experience Study “Tool” Available

by Ronora Stryker and Bill Horbatt

The SOA has developed a new “tool” using Microsoft Access/Excel for international actuaries to conduct mortality and persistency studies in conjunction with the SOA’s international experience study initiative. Professionally programmed, this new tool facilitates the work of international actuaries.

- Company policy data, contained in an Access file, is easily input into the tool.
- The tool helps the actuary validate the quality of company data.
- The tool outputs persistency study and mortality studies in Excel spreadsheets.
- Data can be subdivided into meaningful categories for either company or international experience study purposes.

The tool was “beta” tested in Argentina, Brazil, Italy and Poland during the summer of 2005 and the first production version is now available (free of charge) to actuaries participating in the SOA’s international experience study. Comments made by users include:

“The tool was even able to find a few inconsistencies we had in the original data. The graphs and tables output looked very useful; we were able to compare it with the tables we had developed last year.”

“In our opinion, the interaction with Excel spreadsheets makes the tool practical and easy to use, and the validation screen makes it safe.”

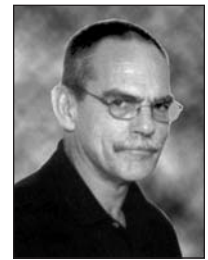
The SOA intends to assist local actuaries conduct experience studies during the winter of 2006 in:

- Argentina
- Brazil
- Chile
- Guatemala
- Mexico
- Poland
- South Korea
- Taiwan

More countries will be added to the experience study as additional contributing companies are recruited. Please contact Ronora Stryker (rstryker@soa.org) or Bill Horbatt (Horbatt@ActuarialConsortium.com) for more information on either the SOA’s international experience study or the new IES tool. Additional information about the initiative can also be found on the SOA Web site at: <http://www.soa.org/ccm/content/areas-of-practice/life-insurance/experience-studies/2004-intl-exp-survey-report/> □



Ronora E. Stryker, ASA, MAAA, is a research actuary at the Society of Actuaries in Schaumburg, Ill. She can be reached at rstryker@soa.org.



William R. Horbatt, FSA, MAAA, is a consulting actuary with Actuarial Consortium in Short Hills, NJ. He can be reached at Horbatt@ActuarialConsortium.com.

