XL GROUP PLC

Form 10-K

February 25, 2015

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

x ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF

THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014

OR

"TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)

OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to Commission file number 1-10804

XL GROUP

Public Limited Company

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ireland

(State or other jurisdiction of

incorporation or organization) (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

XL House, 8 St. Stephen's Green,

Dublin 2, Ireland +353 (1) 400-5500

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OF THE ACT:

Title of each class Name of each exchange on which registered

Ordinary Shares, Par Value \$0.01 per Share

XLIT Ltd. 2.30% Senior Notes due 2018

XLIT Ltd. 5.75% Senior Notes due 2021

XLIT Ltd. 5.25% Senior Notes due 2043

New York Stock Exchange

New York Stock Exchange

New York Stock Exchange

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(g) OF THE ACT:

None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act. Yes "No x

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No "Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. x Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. Large accelerated filer x Accelerated filer "Non-accelerated filer "Smaller reporting company" Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes "No x

The aggregate market value of the voting common equity of the registrant held by non-affiliates of the registrant on June 30, 2014 was approximately \$8.8 billion computed upon the basis of the closing sales price of the ordinary shares on June 30, 2014. For purposes of this computation, ordinary shares held by directors and officers of the registrant have been excluded. Such exclusion is not intended, nor shall it be deemed, to be an admission that such persons are affiliates of the registrant.

As of February 19, 2015, there were 255,239,522 outstanding Ordinary Shares, \$0.01 par value per share, of the registrant.

Documents Incorporated By Reference

Portions of the Registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Regulation 14A not later than 120 days after the end of the fiscal year covered by this report relating to the annual meeting of ordinary shareholders to be held on May 8, 2015 are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

XL GROUP PLC TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page			
PART I					
<u>Item 1.</u>	Business	<u>1</u>			
Item 1A.	Risk Factors	<u>27</u>			
Item 1B.	Unresolved Staff Comments	<u>49</u>			
<u>Item 2.</u>	Properties	<u>49</u>			
<u>Item 3.</u>	Legal Proceedings	<u>50</u> <u>50</u>			
<u>Item 4.</u>	Mine Safety Disclosures	<u>50</u>			
<u>PART II</u>					
Item 5.	Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer				
	Purchases of Equity Securities	<u>53</u>			
<u>Item 6.</u>	Selected Financial Data	<u>56</u>			
Item 7.	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of	<u>58</u>			
	Operations	<u> 30</u>			
Item 7A.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	<u>112</u>			
<u>Item 8.</u>	Financial Statements and Supplementary Data	<u>120</u>			
Item 9.	Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial	<u>205</u>			
	Disclosure	<u> 203</u>			
Item 9A.	Controls and Procedures	<u>205</u>			
<u>Item 9B.</u>	Other Information	<u>205</u>			
<u>PART III</u>					
<u>Item 10.</u>	Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance	<u>206</u>			
<u>Item 11.</u>	Executive Compensation	<u>206</u>			
Item 12.	Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related	<u>206</u>			
	Stockholder Matters	<u> 200</u>			
Item 13.	Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence	<u>206</u>			
<u>Item 14.</u>	Principal Accounting Fees and Services	<u>206</u>			
PART IV					
<u>Item 15.</u>	Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules	<u>207</u>			

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains "Forward-Looking Statements" as defined in Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in such Forward-Looking Statements are set forth herein under Item 1A, "Risk Factors," and Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," under the caption "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

History

XL Group plc, through its subsidiaries, is a global insurance and reinsurance company providing property, casualty and specialty products to industrial, commercial and professional firms, insurance companies and other enterprises on a worldwide basis. We were incorporated with limited liability under the Cayman Islands Companies Act on March 16, 1998, as EXEL Merger Company. On August 7, 1998, EXEL Limited and Mid Ocean Limited merged to create EXEL Limited. EXEL Limited and Mid Ocean Limited were incorporated in the Cayman Islands with principal operations in Bermuda in 1986 and 1992, respectively. At a special general meeting held on February 1, 1999, the shareholders of EXEL Limited approved a resolution changing the name of the company to XL Capital Ltd. On June 18, 1999, XL Capital Ltd merged with NAC Re Corp. ("NAC"), a Delaware corporation organized in 1985, in a stock merger.

On July 25, 2001, we acquired certain Winterthur International insurance operations to extend globally our predominantly North American-based large corporate insurance business.

Effective January 1, 2002, we increased our shareholding in Le Mans Ré from 49% to 67% in order to expand our international reinsurance operations. On September 3, 2003, we exercised our option to buy the remaining 33% from Les Mutuelles du Mans Assurances ("MMA") and changed the name of Le Mans Ré to XL Re Europe S.A. On October 18, 2006, we received approval to form a new European company, XL Re Europe Limited, based in Dublin, Ireland, which is licensed to write all classes of reinsurance business; during 2013, that company re-registered as a European public limited liability company and changed its name to XL Re Europe SE. XL Re Europe SE is the headquarters of the Company's European reinsurance platform with branch offices in France, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (the "U.K."). On April 17, 2014, we received approval to open a branch office in Dubai.

On August 4, 2006, we completed the sale of approximately 37% of our then financial guarantee reinsurance and insurance businesses through an initial public offering of 23.4 million common shares of Syncora Holdings Ltd. ("Syncora") (formerly Security Capital Assurance Ltd. or "SCA"). On June 6, 2007, we completed the sale of an additional portion of Syncora's common shares still owned by the Company through a secondary offering and thereby reduced our ownership of Syncora's outstanding common shares further from approximately 63% to approximately 46%. On August 5, 2008, we closed an agreement (the "Master Agreement") with Syncora and its subsidiaries, as well as certain counterparties to credit default swap agreements, in connection with the termination of certain reinsurance and other agreements. As part of the Master Agreement, we transferred all of the shares we owned in Syncora to a trust and, as a result, have no further ownership interest in the company.

On July 1, 2010, XL Group plc, a newly formed Irish public limited company ("XL-Ireland") and XL Capital Ltd (now known as XLIT Ltd.), an exempted company organized under the laws of the Cayman Islands ("XL-Cayman"), completed a redomestication transaction in which all of the ordinary shares of XL-Cayman were exchanged for all of the ordinary shares of XL-Ireland (the "Redomestication"). As a result, XL-Cayman became a wholly-owned subsidiary of XL-Ireland. On July 23, 2010, the Irish High Court approved XL-Ireland's creation of distributable reserves, subject to the completion of certain formalities under Irish company law. These formalities were completed in early August 2010. For further detailed information on this transaction and its impacts on shareholder rights, shareholders' equity, debt and notes then outstanding and employee stock plan awards, see the Company's Report on Form 8-K filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") on July 1, 2010.

On May 1, 2014, our wholly-owned subsidiary, XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd ("XLIB"), entered into a sale and purchase agreement with GreyCastle Holdings Ltd ("GreyCastle") providing for the sale of 100% of the common shares of XLIB's wholly-owned subsidiary, XL Life Reinsurance (SAC) Ltd ("XLLR"), to GreyCastle (subsequent to the transaction, XLLR changed its name to GreyCastle Life Reinsurance (SAC) Ltd ("GCLR")). This transaction closed on May 30, 2014. As a result of the transaction, we have ceded the majority of our life reinsurance business to GCLR via 100% quota share reinsurance (the "Life Retro Arrangements"). This transaction covers a substantial portion of our life reinsurance reserves. We ceased writing new life reinsurance contracts in 2009 and since that time have been managing the run-off of our life reinsurance operations ("Run-Off Life Operations"). The designated investments that support the Life Retro Arrangements on a funds withheld basis ("Life Funds Withheld Assets") are

managed pursuant to agreed investment guidelines that meet the contractual commitments of the Company's ceding subsidiaries and applicable laws and regulations. All of the investment results associated with the Life Funds Withheld Assets ultimately accrue to GCLR.

1

On January 9, 2015, we entered into an implementation agreement (the "Implementation Agreement") with Catlin Group Limited ("Catlin") and Green Holdings Limited, a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of XL-Ireland ("Green Holdings"), pursuant to which we will acquire the entire issued and to be issued share capital of Catlin (the "Acquisition") for cash and newly-issued ordinary shares of XL-Ireland. Under the terms of the Acquisition, Catlin shareholders will be entitled to receive 388 pence in cash and 0.130 ordinary shares of XL-Ireland, in exchange for each Catlin common share, par value \$0.01 per share ("Catlin Shares"), subject to the proration and adjustment mechanisms set forth in the Implementation Agreement. On the basis of the closing price of an ordinary share of XL-Ireland on January 8, 2015 of \$35.42, the Acquisition values Catlin at 693 pence per Catlin Share, representing a transaction equity value of approximately \$4.1 billion. The Acquisition is intended to be effected by means of a two-step, integrated process comprising a scheme of arrangement (the "Scheme") under Section 99 of the Companies Act 1981 Bermuda, as amended (the "Companies Act"), required to be sanctioned by the Supreme Court of Bermuda, followed immediately by a merger of Catlin with and into Green Holdings under Section 104H of the Companies Act. The Scheme will require that a meeting of Catlin's shareholders be convened at the direction of the Supreme Court of Bermuda to approve the Scheme (the "Court Meeting") as well as a special general meeting to be held immediately thereafter to approve certain related implementation matters in connection with the Acquisition (the "General Meeting"). To become effective, the Scheme requires the approval of Catlin shareholders of the resolutions to be proposed at the Court Meeting by a majority in number representing not less than three-fourths of the voting rights of the holders of the Catlin Shares (or the relevant class or classes thereof, if applicable) present and voting, either in person or by proxy, at the Court Meeting. The related resolutions to be proposed at the General Meeting require approval by not less than three-fourths of the votes cast by holders of Catlin Shares present and voting at the General Meeting (either in person or by proxy), at the General Meeting. For further information on the Acquisition, see the Company's Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on January 9, 2015 under Items 1.01, 2.03, 8.01 and 9.01.

On January 9, 2015, in connection with the Acquisition, XL-Cayman, as borrower, XL-Ireland, X.L. America, Inc., XLIB, XL Re Ltd, and XL Life Ltd, as guarantors, Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc., as administrative agent, and the lenders party thereto entered into a senior unsecured 364-Day Bridge Loan Agreement (the "Bridge Loan Agreement") providing for a £1.6 billion bridge loan facility (the "Bridge Facility"). The proceeds of the Bridge Facility may be used to finance the payment of the cash consideration in connection with the Acquisition and to pay fees and expenses related thereto. For further information on the Bridge Facility, see the Company's Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on January 9, 2015 under Items 1.01, 2.03, 8.01 and 9.01.

Unless the context otherwise indicates, references herein to the "Company", "we", "us" or "our" are to, and the Consolidated Financial Statements herein include, the accounts of, XL-Ireland and its consolidated subsidiaries.

See further information under Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

Segments

We are organized into two operating segments: Insurance and Reinsurance. Our general investment and financing operations, and our Run-Off Life Operations, are reflected in Corporate and Other.

As noted above, GCLR reinsures the majority of our life reinsurance business via the Life Retro Arrangements. This transaction covered a substantial portion of our life reinsurance reserves. Therefore, we determined that the Run-Off Life Operations no longer should be considered a separate operating segment. Prior period information has been re-presented to reflect the current presentation. See Item 8, Note 3, "Sale of Life Reinsurance Subsidiary," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

We evaluate the performance of both the Insurance and Reinsurance segments based on underwriting profit. Other items of our revenue and expenditure are not evaluated at the segment level for reporting purposes. In addition, we do not allocate investment assets by segment for our property and casualty ("P&C") operations. Investment assets related to our Run-Off Life Operations, and certain structured products included in our Insurance and Reinsurance segments, are held in separately identified portfolios. As such, net investment income from these assets is included in the contribution from the applicable segment or, with respect to our Run-Off Life Operations, included in Corporate and Other.

The following table sets forth an analysis of gross premiums written by segment for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012. Additional financial information about our segments, including financial information about geographic areas, is included in Item 8, Note 5, "Segment Information," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

(U.S. dollars in thousands)	Gross Premiums	Percentage Change					
(U.S. donars in thousands)	2014	2013	2012	2014 to 2013		2013 to 2012	
Insurance	\$5,976,011	\$5,523,181	\$5,166,973	8.2	%	6.9	%
Reinsurance	1,785,479	1,893,611	2,008,157	(5.7)%	(5.7)%
Corporate and Other	333,436	324,343	355,753	2.8	%	(8.8))%
Total	\$8,094,926	\$7,741,135	\$7,530,883	4.6	%	2.8	%

Insurance Segment

General

Our insurance operations are organized into four business groups: International Property and Casualty, North America Property and Casualty, Global Professional Lines and Global Specialty Lines.

Our insurance operations provide customized insurance policies for complex corporate risks that may require large limits and are marketed and distributed through a wide variety of local, national and international producers. Large deductibles and self-insured retentions are incorporated into these policies to further manage risk along with stringent underwriting guidelines. While our insurance operations are known for insuring large complex risk, certain of our products are targeted to small and midsize companies and organizations, such as our professional liability and program business. We focus on those lines of business that we believe will provide the best return on capital over time.

The Insurance segment's most significant operating legal entities in 2014 based on revenues were as follows: XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Insurance Company SE, XL Specialty Insurance Company, Indian Harbor Insurance Company, Greenwich Insurance Company and XL Insurance America, Inc., as well as our Lloyd's syndicate. The excess nature of many of our insurance products, coupled with historically large policy limits, results in a book of business that can have losses characterized as low frequency and high severity. As a result, large losses, though infrequent, can have a significant impact on our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity. We attempt to mitigate this risk by, among other things, using strict underwriting guidelines, effective risk management practices (e.g., monitoring of aggregate exposures) and various reinsurance arrangements, as discussed below. International Property and Casualty ("IPC")

IPC includes the following lines of business: property, primary and excess casualty, and environmental liability. Property and casualty products are typically written as global insurance programs for large and medium sized multinational companies and institutions and include property and liability coverages. Property and casualty products generally provide large capacity on a primary, quota share or excess of loss basis. Global insurance programs are targeted to large multinational companies in major industry groups including aerospace, automotive, consumer products, pharmaceutical, pulp and paper, high technology, telecommunications, transportation and basic metals. The primary casualty programs generally require customers to take large deductibles or self-insured retentions. For the excess business, our liability attaches after large deductibles, including self insurance or insurance layers provided by other companies. Policies are written on an occurrence, claims-made and occurrence reported basis. Our property business, which also includes construction projects, is short-tail by nature and written on both a primary and excess of loss basis. Property business includes exposures to man-made and natural disasters.

Environmental liability products include pollution and remediation legal liability, general and project-specific pollution and professional liability, and commercial general property redevelopment and contractor's pollution liability. Business is written for both single and multiple years on a primary or excess of loss, claims-made or, less frequently, occurrence basis. Targeted industries include environmental service firms, contractors, healthcare facilities, manufacturing facilities, real estate development, transportation and construction.

North America Property and Casualty ("NAPC")

NAPC includes the following lines of business: property, primary and excess casualty, environmental liability, excess and surplus lines, construction, surety, and program business.

In addition to the property, casualty and environmental products described under IPC, the NAPC business unit also includes 100% property products for the large account risk engineered markets and general liability, United States ("U.S.") workers' compensation and auto liability for the risk management accounts, which require customers to take large deductibles or self-insured retentions.

Excess and surplus lines products include general liability property, excess auto and excess liability coverages where most Insurance Services Office, Inc. ("ISO") products are written. Targets include a variety of classes, with a focus on "one-off" risks generated by contracted wholesale brokers.

Construction products include property coverages (builders risk, contractors equipment, property and inland marine), general liability, U.S. workers' compensation and commercial auto, as well as professional liability for contractors and owners, excess umbrella, subcontractor default insurance, and primary casualty wrap ups.

Surety products include contract bonds, including bid, performance, payment and contractor qualification bonds, as well as commercial surety bonds, including appeal, court and qualification bonds. Products in general provide large capacity and are written on a sole surety, co-surety or shared surety basis.

Our program business specializes in insurance coverages for distinct market segments in North America, including program administrators and managing general agents who operate in a specialized market niche and have unique industry backgrounds or specialized underwriting capabilities. Products encompass mostly property and casualty coverages.

Global Professional Lines ("Professional")

Professional includes directors' and officers' liability, errors and omissions liability, employment practices liability, and technology and cyber liability coverages. Policies are written on both a primary and excess of loss basis. Directors' and officers' coverage includes primary and excess directors' and officers' liability related to both public and private companies and employment practices liability. Products are targeted at a variety of different sized companies, with a heavy concentration on small to medium-sized firms when written on a primary basis. Employment practices liability is written primarily for very large corporations on an excess of loss basis and covers those firms for legal liability in regard to the treatment of employees. Errors and omissions coverage is written on a primary and excess basis. Errors and omissions insurance written on a primary basis is targeted to small and medium-sized firms and coverage is provided for various professional exposures, including, but not limited to, architects and engineers, insurance brokers, consultants, lawyers, public entities and real estate agents.

Global Specialty Lines ("Specialty")

Specialty includes the following lines of business: aviation and satellite, marine and offshore energy, fine art and specie, equine, product recall, political risk and trade credit, North America inland marine, political violence, and kidnap and ransom.

Aviation and satellite products include comprehensive airline hull and liability, airport liability, aviation manufacturers' product liability, aviation ground handler liability, large aircraft hull and liability, corporate non-owned aircraft liability, space third party liability and satellite risk including damage or malfunction during ascent to orbit and continual operation, and aviation war. Aviation liability and physical damage coverage is offered for large aviation risks on a proportional basis, while smaller general aviation risks are offered on a primary basis. Satellite risks are generally written on a proportional basis. The target markets for aviation and satellite products include airlines, aviation product manufacturers, aircraft service firms, general aviation operators and telecommunications firms.

Marine and offshore energy coverage includes marine hull and machinery, marine war, marine excess liability, cargo and offshore energy insurance. Fine art and specie coverages include fine art and other collections, jewelers block, cash in transit and related coverages for financial institutions. Equine products specialize in providing bloodstock and livestock insurance. Product recall coverages include product contamination for the food and beverage sector and end-product consumer goods and product guarantee aimed at component part manufacturers.

Political risk and trade credit coverages include contract frustration, foreign direct investment, trade credit and trade receivable insurance for clients involved in international business. North America inland marine coverages include property, builders risk, transportation, warehouse liability and other marine coverages. Finally, our Crisis Management business - which includes the product recall coverages noted above - also includes insurance to protect assets that are exposed to war, terrorism and political violence attacks, as well as kidnap, ransom and extortion crisis protection.

4

XL Global Asset Protection Services ("XL GAPS")

Also included as part of the Insurance segment is XL GAPS, a fee for service loss prevention consulting service that offers individually tailored risk management solutions to risk managers, insurance brokers and insurance company clients operating on a global basis. Services are offered on an "unbundled" (services not tied to an insurance contract) and "bundled" basis.

Underwriting

We underwrite and price most risks individually following a review of the exposure and in accordance with our underwriting guidelines. Most of our insurance operations have underwriting guidelines that are industry-specific. We seek to serve our clients while controlling our exposure on individual insurance contracts through terms and conditions, policy limits and sublimits, attachment points and facultative and treaty reinsurance arrangements on certain types of risks.

Our underwriters generally evaluate each industry category and subgroups within each category. Premiums are set and adjusted for an insured based, in large part, on the industry group in which the insured is placed and the perceived risk of the insured relative to the other risks in that group. Rates may vary significantly according to the industry group of the insured as well as the insured's risk relative to the group. Our rating methodology for individual insureds seeks to set premiums in accordance with claims potential as measured by past experience and future expectations, the attachment point and amount of underlying insurance, the nature and scope of the insured's operations, exposures to loss, including natural hazard exposures, risk management quality and other specific risk factors relevant in the judgment of our underwriters to the type of business being written.

Underwriting and loss experience is reviewed regularly for, among other things, loss trends, emerging exposures, changes in the regulatory or legal environment as well as the efficacy of policy terms and conditions.

As our insurance products are primarily specialized coverages, underwriting guidelines and policy forms differ by product offering as well as by legal jurisdiction. Liability insurance is written on both a primary and excess of loss basis, on occurrence, occurrence reported and claims-made policy forms. Occurrence reported policies typically cover occurrences causing unexpected and unintended personal injury or property damage to third parties arising from events or conditions that commence at or subsequent to an inception date, or retroactive date, if applicable, and prior to the expiration of the policy provided that proper notice is given during the term of the policy or the discovery period. Claims-made policies typically cover only claims made during the policy period or extended reporting period and are generally associated with professional liability and environmental coverages. Traditional occurrence coverage is also available for restricted classes of risk and is generally written on a follow-form basis for excess of loss coverage, where the policy adopts the terms, conditions and exclusions of the underlying policy. Property insurance risks are written on a lead or follow-form basis that usually provides coverage for all risks of physical damage and business interruption. Maximum limits are generally subject to sublimits for coverage in critical earthquake and flood zones, where we seek to limit liability in these areas.

Engineering

Property engineering for our insurance operations includes conducting on-site inspections and consulting services related to loss prevention, reviews of building plans for fire protection design, computer assisted drawings (diagrams) of facilities, recommendations on how to improve site protection, reviews of existing loss prevention reports/information for underwriters, summarizing multiple sources of information into an account summary, and providing underwriters an opinion on the risk to assist with risk selection, pricing and other underwriting decisions. The property engineering team consists of staff located in over 20 countries.

Other engineering resources support casualty, environmental, specialty and construction lines and serve as internal consultants to their respective underwriting teams, assisting them with making underwriting decisions, as well as helping their customers improve their local site or account protection.

Reinsurance Ceded

In certain cases, the risks insured by us in the Insurance segment are partially reinsured by third party reinsurers. Reinsurance ceded varies by location and line of business based on a number of factors, including market conditions. The benefits of ceding risks to third party reinsurers include reducing exposure on individual risks, protecting against catastrophic risks, maintaining acceptable capital ratios and enabling the writing of additional business. Reinsurance

ceded does not legally discharge us from our liabilities to the original policyholder in respect of the risk being reinsured.

We use reinsurance to support the underwriting and retention guidelines of each of our subsidiaries as well as to control our aggregate exposure to a particular risk or class of risks. Reinsurance is purchased at several levels ranging from reinsurance of risks assumed on individual contracts to reinsurance covering the aggregate exposure on a portfolio of policies issued by

5

groups of companies. See Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," for further information.

Premiums

Premium rates and underwriting terms and conditions for all lines of business written vary by jurisdiction principally due to local market conditions, competitor product offerings and legal requirements.

The following table provides an analysis of gross premiums written, net premiums written and net premiums earned for the Insurance segment for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012:

(U.S. dollars in	2014			2013 (1)			2012 (1)		
	Gross	Net	Net	Gross	Net	Net	Gross	Net	Net
	Premiums	Premiums	Premiums	Premiums	Premiums	Premiums	Premiums	Premiums	Premiums
	Written	Written	Earned	Written	Written	Earned	Written	Written	Earned
Professiona	1\$1,550,929	\$1,076,209	\$1,075,420	\$1,465,689	\$1,161,045	\$1,370,196	\$1,460,018	\$1,395,694	\$1,350,319
Casualty	2,150,302	1,437,889	1,422,684	1,975,330	1,434,967	1,389,851	1,745,356	1,254,161	1,165,753
Property	874,198	538,027	544,856	875,773	568,575	544,278	782,339	483,682	489,739
Specialty	1,013,592	791,024	737,281						