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# **Risk Management for Captives: An Overview**

Speakers:

- Craig Cairns, President, Howe & Rusling
- David T. Kilborn, Chief Investment Officer, P.R.P. Performa
   LTD

Moderator:

• Carl E. Terzer, Principal, CapVisor Associates

# Terminology

#### **Strategic Asset Allocation**

- Intermediate to long-term horizon
  - Typically 3-5 Years measured in "business cycles"
- Utilizes underwriting, claims, expected return projections
- Incorporates customized risk and return measures
- Governed by broad tax, statutory, and company-specific guidelines
- Defines range of allocations

#### **Tactical Asset Allocation**

- Short to intermediate-term horizon
  - Typically 3-18 months measured in weeks, months & quarters
- Utilizes actual underwriting results
- Incorporates current capital market pricing and relative valuations
- Governed by "temporary" modifications to portfolio based on market conditions
- Defines specific allocation

## Asset Allocation: What is an Asset Class

## Strategic

Cash US Bonds TIPs High Yield Hedge Funds US Equities Global Equities

Emerging Mkt. Equities Commodities Real Estate Natural Resources Etc.



## Asset Allocation – From Beginning to Never Ending

- Initial Asset Allocation is the MOST important decision the Client and Advisor make
- Clients must be honest with themselves:
  - Eliminate noise and understand what your Captive needs vs. unnecessary influences and conventional wisdom



\* Source: Financial Analysts Journal, May/June 1991. Returns are based on historical performance; however, historical performance is no guarantee of future performance.

## **Strategic Asset Allocation**

#### **New/Small Captive**



# **Establishing Lines of Defence**



- Captives are not like other main line insurance companies
- Capital preservation and building surplus is the most important defense to maintaining a healthy captive
- Unrealized underperformance due to style or market conditions are not the main determinants of a bad manager – Impairments are

#### It is imperative within the asset allocation process to have:

- Investment Managers with historically superior downside protection
  - Independent, fundamentally driven investment process
  - Unwillingness to be sucked into "new paradigms"
  - Focused on eliminating impairments the total loss of a particular investment as opposed to unrealized losses or underperformance
- The ongoing ability to analyze sectors, strategies, and styles to help ensure best-in-class management

## **Asset Allocation Process**



immediately trigger a total asset allocation review

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# Asset Allocation Process Overview

## **Bottom Up: Client Inputs and Characteristics**

#### 

- Policy liability
- Shareholder turnover / duration more focus needed from sponsors as shareholder risk tolerance fall
- Risk Tolerance
  - Psychological
  - Structural
- Liquidity Needs
  - Expenses Known
  - Claims Actuarial
  - Shareholder redemptions Wildcard

#### Surplus

- Current vs. Target
- Restrictions
  - Regulatory
    - Domicile
    - International
      - Basel II-III/Dodd Frank
  - Letter Of Credit
  - 114 Trust
- Life Cycle



## **Bottom Up and the Captive Business Model**

F	Formation	Development	Maturity			
S	Short-term Spending Needs	Intermediate Term Objectives	Long-Term Goals			
Î	Specific Cash Flow Support	Growth Asset Strategies	Durable Growth Strategy			
		Liquid Growth Strategy Goal: Optimization of returns on	<b>Goal:</b> Optimization of returns on <u>surplus</u> funds, within the constraints/ risk tolerance of the client <b>Orientation:</b> Total Return, Highe Risk Tolerance			
	Reserve Strategy	funds, within the constraints/ risk tolerance of collateral providers and regulators				
	<b>Goal:</b> Supports short-term cash flow and liabilities <b>Orientation:</b> Zero Risk <b>Initial Sectors:</b> Cash & Equivalents	Orientation: Moderate Risk Additional Sectors: Investment Grade Bonds, Global Bonds, High Yield, Market Neutral Hedged and Long-only Equities	Additional Sectors: Emerging Markets Bonds and Equities, Commodities, REITS, Other Alternative Strategies			

**INVESTMENT TIME HORIZON** 

5+ years

## **Portfolio Construction (Top Down)**



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## **Efficient Frontier Analysis**



## Determining the Risk Profile (Fixed Income)

More Risk —			Less Risk
<ul> <li>Junk Bonds</li> <li>Emerging Debt</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Sovereigns</li> <li>Preferreds</li> <li>Convertibles</li> <li>Commercial Mortgage-backed securities</li> <li>Asset-backed securities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Mortgage-Backed Securities</li> <li>Investment Grade Corp. Bonds</li> <li>Municipal Bonds</li> </ul>	•U.S. Treasuries •U.S. Agencies

## **Fixed Income Sector Returns**



Source: Barclavs Capital. FactSet. J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

# **Equity Returns**



2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	4011	'02 - '11
REITs	DJ UBS Cmdty	M SCI EM E	REITS	M SCI EM E	REITS	M SCI EM E	Barclays Agg	M SCI EM E	REITs	REITS	Russell 2000	M SCI EM E
13.9%	23.9%	56.3%	31.6%	34.5%	35.1%	39.8%	5.2%	79.0%	28.0%	8.3%	15.5%	277.2%
Market Neutral	Barclays Agg	Russell 2000	M SCI EM E	DJUBS Cmdty	M SCI EM E	M SCI EAFE	Market Neutral	M SCI EAFE	Russell 2000	Barclays Agg	REITS	REITs
9.3%	10.3%	47.3%	26.0%	17.6%	32.6%	11.6%	1.1%*	32.5%	26.9%	7.8%	15.3%	164.2%
Barclays Agg	Market Neutral	M SCI EAFE	M SCI EAFE	MSCI EAFE	M SCI EAFE	DJ UBS Cmdty	Asset Alloc.	REITS	M SCI EM E	Market Neutral	S&P 500	Barclays Agg
8.4%	7.4%	39.2%	20.7%	14.0%	26.9%	11.1%	/23.8%	28.0%	19.2%	5.0%	11.8%	75.4%
Russell 2000	REITS	REITS	Russell 2000	REITS	Russell 2000	Market Neutral	Russe   2000	Russell 2000	DJUBS Cmdty	S&P 500	Asset Alloc.	Asset Alloc.
2.5%	3.8%	37.1%	18.3%	12.2%	18.4%	9.3%	-33.8%	27.2%	16.7%	2.1%	6.5%	73.5%
M SCI EM E	Asset Afloc	S&P 500 28.7%	Asset Afloc.	Asset Alloc.	S&P 500 15.8%	Asset Alloc. 7.3%	DJ UBS Cmdty	S&P 500	S&P 500 15.1%	Asset Affoc.	MSCI EME 4.5%	Russell 2000 72.8%
Asset Alloc. -3.4%	M SCI EM E -6.0%	Ascet Alloc. 25.2%	S&P 500 10.9%	Market Neutral 6.1%	Asset Alloc. 14.9%	Barclays Agg 7.0%	S&P 500 -37.0%	Asset Alloc. 22.5%	Asset Alloc. 12.7%	Russell 2000 -4.2%	MSCI EAFE 3.4%	Market Neutral 72.7%
S&P 500 -11.9%	M SC I EAFE -15.7%	DJ UBS Cmdty 22.7%	DJ UBS Cmdty 7.6%	S&P 500 4.9%	Market Neutral 11.2%	S&P 500 5.5%	REITs -37.7%	DJUBS Cmdty 18.7%	MSCI EAFE 8.2%	MSCI EAFE -11.7%	Market Neutral 2.9%	MSCI EAFE 64.8%
MSCI EAFE -21.2%	Russell 2000 -20.5%	Market Neutral 7.1%	Market Neutral 6.5%	Russell 2000 4.6%	Barclays Agg 4.3%	Russell 2000 -1.6%	MSCI EAFE -43.1%	Barclays Agg 5.9%	Barclays Agg 6.5%	DJUBS Cmdty -13.4%	Barclays Agg 1.1%	DJ UBS Cmdty 58.0%
DJ UBS Cmdty -22.3%	S&P 500 -22.1%	Barclays Agg 4.1%	Barclays Agg 4.3%	Barclays Agg 2.4%	DJ UBS Cmdty -2.7%	REITs -15.7%	M SCI EM E -53.2%	Market Neutral 4.1%	Market Neutral -2.5%	M SCI EM E -18.2%	DJ UBS Cmdty 0.3%	S&P 500 33.4%

Source: Russell, MSCI, Dow Jones, Standard and Poor's, Credit Suisse, Barclays Capital, NAREIT, FactSet, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

## **10 Year Asset Class Correlations**

	Large Cap	Small Cap	EAFE	EME	Core Bonds	Corp. HY	EMD	Cmdty.	REITs	Hedge Funds	Eq Market Neutral*
Large Cap	1.00	0.94	0.92	0.87	-0.32	0.79	0.65	0.43	0.74	0.79	0.49
Small Cap		1.00	0.88	0.83	-0.37	0.73	0.56	0.36	0.79	0.74	0.46
EAFE			1.00	0.91	-0.22	0.75	0.63	0.51	0.73	0.85	0.66
EME				1.00	-0.20	0.80	0.70	0.54	0.64	0.86	0.53
Core Bonds					1.00	-0.11	0.16	-0.23	-0.04	-0.22	-0.02
Corp. HY						1.00	0.85	0.51	0.68	0.78	0.40
EMD							1.00	0.42	0.59	0.64	0.34
Commodities								1.00	0.39	0.69	0.49
REITs									1.00	0.60	0.50
Hedge Funds										1.00	0.58
Eq Market Neutral*											1.00

Source: Standard & Poor's, Russell, Barclays Capital Inc., MSCI Inc., Credit Suisse/Tremont, NCREIF, DJ UBS, J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

# **Model Inputs**



#### Constraints

Risk tolerance/guidelines Regulatory, tax, and accounting issues

### Data

Balance sheet Income statement Projected premiums, claims, etc. Reinsurance

## **Objective Functions**

Preservation of principal Maximization of surplus Preserve AM Best ratings Limit 1 yr. negative return

## **Scenarios & Portfolios**

Interest rate movements Market up/down Adding assets classes

Bad claims year Premium up/down

## Model Building and Data Requirements

Dynamic Financial Analysis Study						
Current and Pro-Forma Financials	<ul> <li>Statutory or GAAP Financial Statements         <ul> <li>Balance Sheet</li> <li>Income Statement</li> <li>Cash Flow</li> </ul> </li> <li>Pro-Forma Business Plan         <ul> <li>Periodicity and Horizon to match analysis (e.g. 5 forward years in annual increments)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>					
Underwriting & Actuarial Data	<ul> <li>Forward-Looking Underwriting Assumptions         <ul> <li>Premium written / earned by line of business</li> <li>Fixed and variable expense ratios or levels</li> <li>Expected loss ratios</li> </ul> </li> <li>Loss detail         <ul> <li>Opening reserve runoff expectations</li> <li>Expected payment pattern by line of business</li> <li>Loss volatility model (simple or frequency/severity) or sufficient historical data to estimate parameters</li> <li>Reinsurance detail (if applicable)</li> <li>Treaty type (XOL, Quota-Share, Stop-Loss)</li> <li>Treaty terms</li> </ul> </li> </ul>					
Investment Data	<ul> <li>Current investment policy / guidelines</li> <li>Investment goals &amp; objectives</li> <li>Acceptable investments</li> <li>Asset allocation guidelines and limits</li> <li>Current investment portfolio</li> <li>CUSIP level or asset-class level</li> </ul>					

# **Dynamic Financial Analysis (DFA)**

## Features

- Casualty Actuarial Society
- Sophisticated capabilities
- Expensive and rigorous process
- Best for large insurers

## Characteristics

- Enterprise
   – wide risk
   modeling
- Stochastic analysis
- Monte Carlo simulations
- Data optimization
- Visualization

## **Simplified Actuarial Based**

## Features

- Casualty Actuarial Society
- Sophisticated match to most Captives' requirements
- Inexpensive and less rigorous process
- Best for small medium sized insurers

## Characteristics

- Scenario testing or Monte Carlo analysis
- Asset class testing
- Manual data optimization
- Balance sheet/Income statement projections

# **Asset Only**

## Features

- Ease of use and generally available
- Same sophistication but without application of liability structure
- Inexpensive and less
   rigorous process
- Best for new captives
   or surplus portfolios

# Characteristics

- Scenario testing or Monte Carlo analysis
- Asset class testing
- Manual data optimization
- Liabilities and income projections assigned assumptions

## **Asset Allocation Process Overview**

#### Illustrative Shift in Asset Allocation as Captive Matures



#### **INVESTMENT TIME HORIZON**

# **The Case For High Yield**

- High Yield Investors Can Benefit from both Relatively Attractive Yields and the Possibility of Price
   Appreciation if the Credit Quality of the Company Improves
- Despite First Quarter Rally, Spreads in High Yield Remain Above the Historic Tight Levels (2006-07)
- Moody's Is Forecasting Continued Low Default Rates
- High Yield Delivers Highly Competitive Returns vs. Equities on a Risk Adjusted Basis
- High Yield Correlations are in the Middle of the Risk Spectrum between Long and Hedge Equities
- As Interest Rates Begin to Rise, High Yield Typically Outperforms Investment Grade Bonds
- The Addition of an Allocation to High Yield Increases Diversification and Can Improve a Portfolio's Total Risk and Return Profile

## **Asset Allocation Optimization**



10 years – 3/02-3/12



15+ years - 1/96-3/12





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# **Risk/Return Attributes**



## **High Yield Benefits for Captives**

- Reduce volatility
- Act as a hedge against higher interest rates
- Increase portfolio diversification
  - With an additional asset class
  - Reduce manager concentration
- Increase LTV % from several LOC providers
  - 85% LTV can release collateral and increase free cash
- Reduce fees
- Potential to increase portfolio yield and expected return

## When to Revise Allocations

## Strategic Allocation

- Anomalously high claims
- Evolution of the Captive
- Major business changes (M&A, major tax change)
- Change in premium, reinsurance
- Very good/bad investment performance

## Tactical Allocation

- Changing market conditions
- Rebalancing
- New opportunities
- Fine-tuning asset liability structure