



# **BENELUX RUN-OFF FORUM '19**

## **CHOICES, CHOICES, CHOICES**

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# AGENDA

- 03 Survey
- 04 Menu of Options
- 06 Each option – overview and considerations
- 13 Legal considerations
- 18 Wrap-up & Survey

# Let's Start with a Survey

**Join at Slido.com #1272**

**Q. What do you think of when you hear the word 'run-off'**

# RUN-OFF MENU OF OPTIONS

## Starter

### Outsourcing

(Operations, Fund Administration, Investment Management, others)

**Alter Strategy** (new products, stop new business, 'switch campaign')

## Main Course

**Reinsurance** (Biometric, asset intensive, out-of-the money)

**Portfolio Transfer**

**Sale**  
(of entity or Group)

## Dessert

**Mergers / Acquisitions**

**Insourcing**

# RUN-OFF FOCUS OF THIS PRESENTATION

## Starter

### Outsourcing

(Operations, Fund administration, Investment Management, others)

**Alter Strategy** (new products, stop new business, 'switch campaign')

## Main Course

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## Dessert

**Mergers / Acquisitions**

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# OVERVIEW AND CONSIDERATIONS

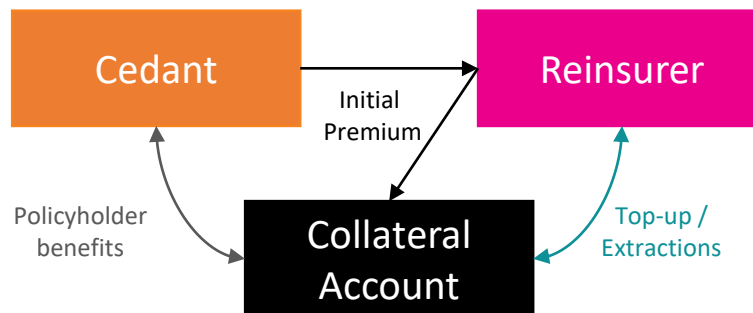
# RUN-OFF OPTIONS REINSURANCE – OVERVIEW

- Biometric and/or asset intensive reinsurance is relatively new in Europe. It has been employed for UK annuities for a number of years.

- **Typically involves**

- Payment of a reinsurance premium by the Cedant in return for full indemnification from the Reinsurer of the claims on a given portfolio
- Security Collateral granted to provide protection in case of reinsurer default, according to pre-agreed amounts and investment guidelines
- Payments to and from the Collateral Account to fund policyholder benefits and claims
- Payments to and from the Collateral Account by the reinsurer in respect of surplus / deficit arising

- **Structure**



# RUN-OFF OPTIONS REINSURANCE – KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- ① Are there any suitable portfolios that could be reinsured?
- ② Profit share allocations
- ③ Pricing (of course); impact on key metrics GAAP, SII Coverage
- ④ Counterparty...
  - Risk of default (over the very long-term)
  - Culture (this is going to be a long-term partnership)
  - Risk Appetite / Cost of Capital (looking for a partner who takes a different view, but not so different that the arrangement does not work)
  - Monitoring of counterparty
- ⑤ Collateral
  - How calculated? How often? Regular monitoring?
  - What investments are permitted? Need to balance Cedant and Reinsurer's Risk Appetite to reach optimal solution
- ⑥ Others:
  - Explaining the policyholder story
  - Regulatory 'non-objection'



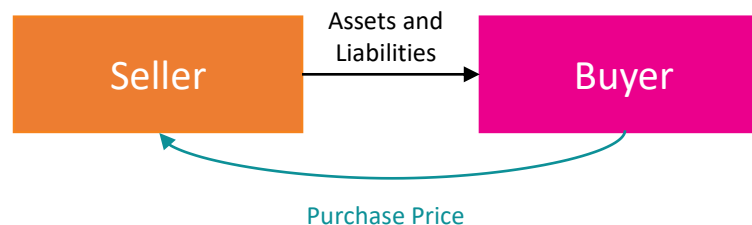
# RUN-OFF OPTIONS PORTFOLIO TRANSFER | OVERVIEW

- A 'Portfolio Transfer' is a concept that is more common in Europe. This involves a transfer of the insurance policies from the Seller to the Buyer. This can also result in staff and systems transferring.

- **Typically involves**

- Transfer of policies, assets backing those policies and associated liabilities and obligations to the Buyer
- The Buyer pays a purchase price for the portfolio (can be 1 Euro)
- After the transaction, the policyholders contract with the Buyer only. All dealings are with the Buyer
- Regulatory Approval (led by the Seller's regulator)

- **Structure**



# RUN-OFF OPTIONS PORTFOLIO TRANSFER | KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- ① Are there any suitable portfolios that could be sold?
- ② Profit share allocations and methodology pre and post sale
- ③ Pricing (of course); impact on key metrics GAAP, SII Coverage
- ④ Counterparty...
  - Are they a good home for the policyholders
  - Culture (this is going to be a long-term partnership, for your policyholders)
  - Risk Appetite / Cost of Capital (looking for a partner who takes a different view, but not so different that the arrangement does not work)
- ⑤ Others:
  - Explaining the policyholder story
  - Impact on existing staff and systems (if any)
  - Is cross-border (within EU) viable? Many barriers / differences between countries currently

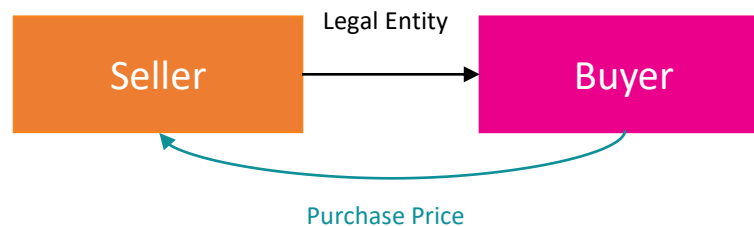
# RUN-OFF OPTIONS **OUTRIGHT SALE** | OVERVIEW

- An 'Outright Sale' refers to the sale of an entity or Group of entities to a Buyer. This typically results in staff and systems transferring.

- **Typically involves**

- Transfer of an entity, including its assets, liabilities and obligations to the Buyer
- The Buyer pays a purchase price for the entity (can be as low as 1 Euro, hopefully a lot more!)
- Policyholders continue to contract with the entity that is sold. From their perspective, it is 'only' a change in shareholder
- Regulatory Approval (led by the target Entity's regulator)

- **Structure**



# RUN-OFF OPTIONS **OUTRIGHT SALE** | **KEY CONSIDERATIONS**

- ① Are there any suitable entities that could be sold?
- ② Profit share allocations and methodology pre and post sale
- ③ Pricing (of course); impact on key metrics GAAP, SII Coverage of Seller
- ④ Counterparty...
  - Are they a good home for the policyholders
  - Culture (this is going to be a long-term partnership, for your policyholders and staff)
  - Risk Appetite / Cost of Capital (looking for a partner who takes a different view, but not so different that the arrangement does not work)
- ⑤ Others:
  - Explaining the policyholder story
  - Impact on existing staff and systems (if any)



# LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

# RUN-OFF OPTIONS REINSURANCE | LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

## ① No legal relationship between the Policyholder and the Reinsurer

- Independent (non-life) insurance contract
- Policyholder cannot claim an indemnity payment from the reinsurer (except cut through provision)
- Reinsurer cannot claim a premium payment from the policyholder (except article 1166 Belgian Civil Code)
- Right to terminate?

## ② Legal relationship between the Cedant and the Reinsurer

- Broad freedom to negotiate contractual terms
- Not strictly regulated in Belgium (>< to an insurance policy)
- Public law provisions should be strictly observed
  - Covering assets - > no lien/first ranking pledge
  - GDPR-regulation
- Scope of reinsurance to be explicitly defined for SII purposes

## ③ Regulatory process

- In principle, no formal approval procedure to be followed
- Strategic decision?

# RUN-OFF OPTIONS PORTFOLIO TRANSFER | LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

## ① Legal relationship between the Transferor and the Transferee

- Transferring Business?
- Staff - CBA 32bis (50% criterium)
- TSA / Outsourcing – back
- Tax implications – Swiss Re Case

## ② Relationship with the policyholder

- Automatically opposable upon publication of NBB's approval
- Right to terminate?
- Notification letter?

## ③ Regulatory process

- Formal approval procedure to be followed – protection for policyholders
- Time consuming: reinsurance agreement in awaiting closing?

# RUN-OFF OPTIONS OUTRIGHT SALE | LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

## ① Legal relationship between the Seller and the Purchaser

- Sale of shares
- Comfort re: the business: R&W and indemnities
- Tax implications – Transfer restrictions outside the EEA

## ② Relationship with the policyholder

- Automatically opposable upon publication of NBB's approval
- Right to terminate?
- Notification letter?

## ③ Regulatory process

- Formal approval procedure to be followed – protection for policyholders
- Time consuming: reinsurance agreement in awaiting closing?





# OVERVIEW AND CONSIDERATIONS

# WRAPPING UP, LET'S RACE THEM... WHICH IS BETTER?

	Reinsurance	Portfolio Transfer	Outright Sale
FOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attractive pricing - Good SII impact</li> <li>• Maintain customer relationship, no requirement for change</li> <li>• Can be tailored to the exact need</li> <li>• Can be executed swiftly</li> <li>• Minimal impact on staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Clean' break</li> <li>• Can have limited impact on staff</li> <li>• Good SII impact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean' break</li> <li>• Can have limited impact on staff</li> <li>• Can often sell a bunch of portfolios as one package</li> <li>• Less impact for policyholders</li> </ul>
AGAINST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counterparty default risk and monitoring</li> <li>• Agreeing investment guidelines can take time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likely to be less attractive pricing</li> <li>• Lose customer relationship, can be hard for policyholders to understand</li> <li>• Only certain portfolios may be viable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key strategic decision</li> <li>• Lose all future control</li> <li>• Impact on staff</li> </ul>

# Let's End with a Survey

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**Q. Which option do you think will be the most common over the next 5 years?**



 **MONUMENT** <sup>RE</sup>