

BLAIS EXCESS & SURPLUS **AGENCY OF TEXAS, LTD.**

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 10, 2010

A.M. BEST INSURANCE COMPANY RATINGS (AS OF April 16, 2010)

INSURER	BEST'S RATING	FINANCIAL SIZE CATEGORY	OUTLOOK
<u>ACE American Ins. Co</u>	A+	XV	Stable
<u>Admiral Indemnity</u>	A +	XIII	Stable
<u>AEGIS Group</u>	A-	XI	Stable
<u>Chartis (National Union Fire, PA)</u>	A	XV	Negative as of December 16, 2009
<u>Allegheny (Darwin Pro)</u>	A-	V	Stable
<u>Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, Ltd.</u>	A	XV	Stable
<u>Arch Excess & Surplus Insurance Co</u>	A	XV	Stable
<u>AXIS Specialty</u>	A	XV	Stable
<u>Beazley</u>	A	VIII	Stable
<u>Berkley Insurance Company</u>	A+	XV	Stable
<u>Carolina Casualty Insurance Company</u>	A+	XIII	Stable
<u>Chubb</u>	A++	XV	Stable
<u>CNA Insurance Co.</u>	A	XV	Stable
<u>Crum & Forster Specialty Ins. Co.</u>	A	XIV	Stable
<u>Darwin National Assurance Company</u>	A	XV	Stable
<u>Darwin Select Insurance Company</u>	A	XV	Stable
<u>Deerfield Insurance Company</u>	A	XIII	Stable
<u>Energy Ins. Mutual Ltd (Barbados)</u>	A	IX	Stable
<u>Executive Liability (XL) Insurance Company</u>	A	XV	Stable
<u>Fireman's Fund</u>	A	XV	Stable
<u>Gotham Insurance Company</u>	A	VIII	Stable

Great American	A	XIII	Stable
Hartford Fire Insurance Cos.	A	XV	Stable
HCC Specialty Insurance Co.	A+	XIV	Stable
Houston Casualty Co TX	A+	XIV	Stable
Hudson Specialty Ins. Co	A	XV	Stable
Illinois Union Inss. Co.(ACE INA)	A+	XV	Stable
Insight Ins Svcs (Everest Indemnity)	A+	XV	Stable
Ironshore Insurance	A-	XI	Stable
Lexington Ins Company (Chartis)	A	XV	Negative as of December 16, 2009
Liberty Insurance Underwriters	A	XV	Negative as of April 9, 2009
Lloyd's of London	A	XV	Stable
Markel Insurance Company	A	XIII	Stable
Mt Hawley (RLI)	A+	XI	Stable
Mount Vernon Fire Insurance Company	A++	IX	Negative as of November 6, 2009
Navigators Insurance Co	A	X	Stable
North River Insurance	A	XIV	Stable
Old Republic Group	A +	XI	Negative as of 9/29/09
One Beacon	A	XIV	Stable
Philadelphia Ins. Cos.	A+	XIV	Stable
Platte River Insurance Company	A	VIII	Stable
RLI Group	A+	XI	Stable
Scottsdale	A+	XV	Negative as of 3/25/10
State National Insurance Company	A	VIII	Stable
Travelers Casualty & Surety Co of AM	A+	XV	Stable
USLIG	A++	IX	Negative as of November 6, 2009
U. S. Specialty Ins Company (USSIC)	A+	XIV	Stable
Westchester	A+	XI	Stable
Zurich	A	XV	Stable

EXPLANATION OF A.M. BEST RATINGS

A++, A+	SUPERIOR
A, A-	EXCELLENT
B++, B+	VERY GOOD

“Superior – Assigned to companies which have, on balance, superior balance sheet strength, operating performance and business profile when compared to the standards established by the A. M. Best Company. These companies, in our opinion, have a very strong ability to meet their ongoing obligations to policyholders.”

“Excellent – Assigned to companies which have, on balance, excellent balance sheet strength, operating performance and business profile when compared to the standards established by the A. M. Best Company. These companies, in our opinion, have a strong ability to meet their ongoing obligations to policyholders.”

“Very Good – Assigned to companies which have, on balance, very good balance sheet strength, operating performance and business profile when compared to the standards established by the A. M. Best Company. These companies, in our opinion, have a very good ability to meet their ongoing obligations to policyholders.”

FINANCIAL SIZE CATEGORIES
(Based on Capital, Surplus and Conditional Reserve Funds)

FSC VII	\$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000
FSC VIII	\$100,000,000 to \$250,000,000
FSC IX	\$250,000,000 to \$500,000,000
FSX X	\$500,000,000 to \$750,000,000
FSC XI	\$750,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000
FSC XII	\$1,000,000,000 to \$1,250,000,000
FSC XIII	\$1,250,000,000 to \$1,500,000,000
FSC XIV	\$1,500,000,000 to \$2,000,000,000
FSC XV	More than \$2,000,000,000

As a wholesale broker specializing in financial service products, Blais Excess & Surplus Agency of Texas, Ltd's knowledgeable and experienced staff assists agents/brokers with the acquisition, placement and service of Directors & Officers Liability (D&O), General Partners Liability (GPL), Employment Practices Liability (EPLI), Crime (Fidelity), Kidnap & Ransom (K&R), Errors & Omissions (E&O), Media Liability and Loss Mitigation products for a variety of industries. Clients assisted include but are not limited to energy, biotech, high tech, financial institutions, profit and non-profit entities, partnerships, healthcare, companies making Initial Public Offerings and companies in the process of merger or acquisition.

Contact: Philip L. Blais
Phil@blaisexcess.com

Houston Office
820 Gessner, Suite 1750
Houston, Texas 77024

Dallas Office
14643 Dallas Parkway, Suite 700
Dallas, Texas 75254

(713) 780-7787 Phn (713) 780-3533 Fax

(972) 818-4090 Phn (972) 818-4088 Fax

Austin Office

P.O. Box 92824

Austin, Texas 78709

(512) 894-3460 Phn (512) 858-1266 Fax