

# M Associate Carrier Due Care Snapshot



## Financials (as of 12/31/2016) and Ratings

All Values in \$000s

Total U.S. L&H Insurance			Ratings			Last reviewed	
Total Admitted Assets, excluding sep. accts.		30,437,891	AM Best	A	Excellent	3 of 15	11/22/2016
Total Liabilities, excluding sep. accts.		28,348,419	Fitch	A	Strong	6 of 21	5/2/2017
Total Surplus & Asset Valuation Reserve (AVR)		2,421,584	Moody's	A2	Good	6 of 21	4/14/2017
Surplus & AVR / Total Admitted Assets		8.0%	S&P	A	Strong	6 of 20	7/19/2016
Peer Group Surplus & AVR / Total Admitted Assets <sup>1</sup>		9.6%	Comdex	77			5/15/2017

  

Member Companies		Assets	Surplus & AVR	Invested Assets		Peer Group Avg.
Symetra Life Ins Co		28,965,941	2,413,265	Total	29,315,744	79,735,295
First Symetra National Life Ins Co		1,577,382	118,884	Bonds	78.1%	72.9%
Symetra National Life Ins Co		17,816	8,184	Preferred Stock	0.3%	0.2%
				Common Stock	2.4%	2.6%
				Mortgages	17.5%	13.1%
				Real Estate	0.0%	0.7%
				Policy Loans	0.2%	4.0%
				Cash & Short-Term Inv.	1.0%	2.3%
				Other	0.6%	4.2%

Source: A.M. Best Statement File

## News/Commentary

### May 2, 2017 – Fitch Affirms Symetra Life's Insurer Financial Strength at 'A'; Outlook Stable

Fitch Ratings affirmed the 'A' insurer financial strength rating of Symetra Life Insurance Co. The rating outlook is stable. According to Fitch, the affirmation followed the April 27 revision of Fitch's outlook on Symetra's parent, Sumitomo Life Insurance Co, to stable from negative. The outlook revision for Sumitomo Life was a result of the revision in Fitch's outlook on the sovereign rating for Japan to stable from negative. Fitch said Symetra's rating reflects its strong balance sheet, diversified earnings, and moderate financial leverage. An additional strength for the company in Fitch's opinion is its strong competitive position in the group medical stop-loss and fixed annuity markets.

### November 22, 2016 – A.M. Best Affirms Ratings of Symetra Financial Corporation and its Subsidiaries

A.M. Best affirmed the 'A' financial strength rating of Symetra Life Insurance Co. The rating outlook is stable. According to A.M. Best, the affirmation reflects Symetra's very good risk-adjusted capitalization, strong balance sheet, and favorable operating earnings. A.M. Best noted that while the company has been a market leading carrier in the medical stop-loss business, Symetra has focused on diversifying its business by working to grow its group benefits, individual life and retirement segments. A.M. Best said it expects Symetra may be challenged to report significant growth in its individual life segment due to intense competition in the market, but that the company has "enhanced greatly its distribution and its product suite" more recently. A.M. Best commented that it remains concerned regarding the sustainability of Symetra's earnings across key product lines due to the continued low interest rate environment.

### February 1, 2016 – Moody's Upgrades Symetra Financial and Operating Subs; Stable Outlook

Moody's Investors Service upgraded the insurance financial strength rating of Symetra Life Insurance Co. to 'A2' from 'A3'. The outlook for the rating is stable. The affirmation concluded Moody's review for upgrade on Symetra's rating initiated on August 12, 2015, following the announcement of its acquisition by Sumitomo Life Insurance Co. According to Moody's, the upgrade was driven by Symetra's improving market position, low level of expected impairments in its investment portfolio, solid capitalization, and improved financial flexibility from its higher rated parent. Partially offsetting these strengths in Moody's opinion are the interest rate sensitivity of Symetra's liabilities and continued pressure from spread compression due to the persistent low interest rate environment.

### August 12, 2015 – S&P: Symetra Financial Corp. Ratings Affirmed; Outlook Stable

Standard & Poor's affirmed the 'A' financial strength rating of Symetra Life Insurance Co. and maintained a stable outlook following the announcement that Sumitomo Life Insurance Co. of Japan plans to acquire Symetra Financial Corp. for \$3.76 billion. S&P said the acquisition is consistent with Sumitomo Life's strategy to expand its international insurance business while maintaining strong financial strength. S&P said it expects Symetra to be operated as a stand-alone company.

<sup>1</sup> 30 life and health insurance groups representing over 80% of issued face amounts in permanent policies in 2016

