

# 評等準則 | 保險業 | 通用準則: 評等方法論

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## 評等準則 | 保險業 | 通用準則:

## 評等方法論

標準普爾評級服務(Standard & Poor's Ratings Services)的評等方法論,係針對一家企業從事廣泛業務活動所面臨的財務風險之評估。對保險公司而言,標準普爾係運用此一方法論來協助評估與以往承作之業務活動與新業務方案相關的財務風險。標準普爾評等方法論的關鍵,在於對保險業者的質化因素與其面臨的風險程度進行評估。與管理階層進行互動式的討論,將有助於標準普爾更佳瞭解一個組織體系的業務、營運與財務策略如何影響其財務實力。標準普爾會在進行對該公司未來的信用矩陣預測且授予評等之前,利用與公司管理階層進行的這些討論來瞭解受評公司的業務概況。

雖然標準普爾會藉由檢視保險業者當前與以往的績效表現,得到對其未來財務績效可能情況的看法,但標準普爾對保險業者策略、風險管理能力、營運模式、作業效率以及風險容忍度,以及業者在市場上享有之競爭優勢的評估,才是影響標準普爾對該公司未來財務績效看法最主要的因素所在。

標準普爾持續更新其運用於保險公司的評等方法論,並調整其在2007年6月26日公布於RatingsDirect(www.ratingsdirect.com)與標準普爾網站(www.standardandpoors.com),標題爲「Criteria: Principles Of Corporate And Government Ratings」一文中的方法論與相關假設。標準普爾發表本文,期望能幫助市場人士更佳瞭解標準普爾在檢視保險公司時所採用的方法論。本文係反映標準普爾先前公布於RatingsDirect(www.ratingsdirect.com)與標準普爾網站(www.standardandpoors.com)上之相關評等準則的部分修訂,並將取而代之;該些評等準則包括:2004年4月20日公布的「Property/Casualty Insurance Criteria: Interactive Rating Methodology」、2004年4月21日公布的「Life Insurance Criteria: Interactive Rating Methodology」、以及2004年4月22日公布於「Health Insurance Criteria: Interactive Rating Methodology」。

本文係標準普爾爲提升本身管理、分析深度、訊息傳遞、與投資人教育等方面,而自去年(2008年)以來推動之各項行動方案中的一部分。採取這些行動方案的目的是希望能提升標準普爾的獨立性、強化評等程序、並增進標準普爾的透明度,以爲全球市場提供更好的服務。

基本上,標準普爾的評等意見是對各公司特有之重要因子的綜合考量結果。因此即便是評等等級較高之公司,其在部分分析項目中的評估結果可能不盡理想。信用評等並非能顯示一家公司在各項分析項目中之評分結果各爲如何的評分卡,因爲信用評等反映的是標準普爾對於將爲一家公司帶來重大影響之關鍵性信用評等因素的判斷。

標準普爾將其評等方法論用於所有的保險評等分析中,且不分保險公司的型態均一體適用。標準普爾評等方法論中考量的因素包括:競爭地位、管理與公司策略、企業風險管理能力、營運分析、投資管理、資本水準、流動性、與財務彈性等。

在運用標準普爾評等方法論對保險與再保險業進行評等分析時,標準普爾會對業者承作的保單類型(依業務類別或產業類別)及其地理區域分佈概況進行評估。另外,標準普爾亦會就全國性與地區性因素變動對受評保險業者之營運可能產生的影響納入考量,因爲整體產業與個別公司所面臨的風險,很容易因監理機制或法規環境的變動而改變。

此外,對隸屬於大型且經營範疇較廣之集團旗下的保險公司而言,標準普爾會就其非保險相關業務部分進行檢視,以評估其可能的有利性或不利性,以及其對集團整體營運的潛在影響力。

標準普爾在保險公司產業風險分析中考量的幾項要點如下:

● 來自市場新進業者的潛在威脅。

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- 來自替代商品或服務的威脅。
- 各公司在各自產業中的競爭優勢與波動。
- 保單負債的潛在責任期間(即指退出市場的難易度)或發生大額虧損的風險。在某些情況下, 保險公司有可能無法退出某些保險業務險種,因爲根據各地區國家的規定,如此做必須先取得 主管機關批准或被處以罰款。
- 保險業務買方與供應方各自的議價能力。
- 保險業者所處營運環境中,主管機關的監管機制、法令環境及會計架構的強度。

一般來說,產業風險愈低,該產業或業務類別之公司可能獲得的評等等級就愈高。就競爭地位的角度來看,低產業風險意味著營運環境對保險業者較爲有利、監理機制有助於支持保險業者的償付能力、以及採行較爲保守的會計處理方式。在此情況下,標準普爾會預期業者將有更好且波動較小的營運績效表現。雖然高產業風險並不必然對評等造成限制,但對具有此一特性之公司而言,要展現與高受評公司相當的獲利實力與穩定特性,恐怕較爲困難。

### 相關研究

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