# SCHEDULE 14A Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

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| Check the  | appropriate box:   |
|            | Preliminary Proxy Statement<br>Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))<br>Definitive Proxy Statement<br>Definitive Additional Materials<br>Soliciting Material Under Rule 14a-12 |

# Argo Group International Holdings, Ltd.

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Voce Capital Management LLC
Voce Capital LLC
Voce Catalyst Partners LP
J. Daniel Plants
Carol A. McFate
Bernard C. Bailey
Kathleen M. Dussault
Nicholas C. Walsh
Charles H. Dangelo

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

| $\overline{\checkmark}$ | No fee req   | uired.   |
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|                         | 4)           | Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:   |
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|                         | Fee paid p   | reviously with preliminary materials.  |
|                         | the offsetti | if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which ng fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or and the date of its filing. |
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|                         | 2)           | Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:  |
|                         | 3)           | Filing Party:  |
|                         | 4)           | Date Filed:  |
|                         |              |  |

Payment of Filing Fee (check the appropriate box):

| On April 30, 2019, Voce Capital<br>Group International Holdings, Ltd. | Management LLC provided (the "Presentation"). A cop | d a presentation to Institut<br>by of the Presentation is file | ional Shareholder Services ed herewith as Exhibit 1. | regarding Argo |
|---|---|--|--|----------------|
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D Voce Capital Management LLC: April 30,2019



# **Righting The Ship**

**Discussion Materials** 

April 30, 2019



### Disclaimer

The views expressed herein represent the subjective opinions of Voce Capital Management LLC and certain of its affiliates and controlling persons (collectively, "Voce"), who beneficially own shares of Argo Group International Holdings, Ltd. (the "Company"). These views are based on publicly available information with respect to the Company Certain financial information and data used herein have been derived or obtained from whitch independent verification, publicly available information inducing filings made with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), or other regulatory authorities and from other third party reports, by the Company or other companies Voce deams relevent. Voce has neither sought nor obtained consent from any third party for the use of previously published information. Any such statements or information should not be viewed as indicating the support of such hird party for the views expressed herein. Voce shall not be responsible or have any liability for any misinformation contained in any third party report, SEC or other regulatory filing. All registered or unregistered service marks, trademarks and trade names referred to in this presentation are the property of their respective owners, and Voce's use herein does not imply an affiliation with, or endorsement by, the owners of these service marks, trademarks and trade names.

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# **Executive Summary**

"I commend your shareholder letter and efforts regarding Argo, You are dead on in your conclusions."

 Former Argo Senior Executive email to Voce, February 26, 2019



#### Culture Expenses Business Capital Performance Opportunity

# Argo: Interrelated Issues ... and Opportunities

· Lavish and indulgent culture Long-term inability to meet own ROE targets Imperial, unchecked CEO Inappropriate personal use of Company assets such as aircraft and corporate · Failure to cover cost of capital Expense and capital changes represent 570 bps ROE opportunity ROE Culture Portfolio review represents · Vanity sponsorships 220 bps additional opportunity ARGO GROUP Corporate and other underwriting expenses substantially exceed peers Docile, over-tenured Board leadership Capital Governance Lack of independence (\$100mm) Severe misalignment with Investment portfolio shareholders improperly positioned Anti-shareholder governance Business portfolio must be machinery optimized Entrenchment

### **Executive Summary**



- Argo Group International Holdings, Ltd. ("Argo" or the "Company") is an international underwriter of specialty and reinsurance products in property and casualty insurance
- · We believe Argo's corporate governance is shockingly deficient
  - Significant misuse use of corporate employees and assets, including a fleet of company aircraft and global network of corporate housing, being used for personal benefit
  - Wasteful spending on corporate art collections and lavish office space
  - "Vanity" sponsorships that further the CEO's aspirations and lifestyle that serve little or no corporate purpose
  - Rank <u>inability to oversee CEO or hold him accountable</u>; compensation amounts and structure very troubling
- Argo's current <u>Board leadership is weak, deeply entrenched and must be held accountable</u> for the Company's myriad failures, in our view
  - Aged and over-tenured five legacy Directors we seek to replace have an average tenure of 18 years
  - <u>Lacking independence</u> long tenures, conflicts of interest and overlapping relationships among legacy members with each other and with CEO
  - Misaligned with shareholders independent Directors own <u>0.5% of common stock</u>, all of which has been granted to them
  - Entrenchment recent Director appointments were reactive and violate Company Bye-laws
  - Voce seeks to remove and replace the "Big 5" Woods, Browne, De Leon, Josephson and Power

Note: All share price information will be as of 2/1/19, the last market trading day prior to Voce's public involvement, unless otherwise indicated

## **Executive Summary (Cont.)**



- · Argo's expenses significantly exceed those of its peers
  - Argo's purported expense reductions are illusory; it has simply transferred costs from its underwriting business and buried them in its investment portfolio
- As a result of its profligacy, Argo has <u>failed over a long period to earn an acceptable Return on Equity</u>
  ("ROE")
  - 2018 ROE: 3.6%
- 10-Year Average ROE: 5.7%
- Argo has long traded at a meaningful valuation discount to its peers due to its inferior ROE and inability to earn its cost of capital
  - P/BV of ~1.2x vs. Peers ~1.7x
- While Argo stock has recently appreciated, skepticism is warranted about the sustainability of this increase
  - "Rising Tide" Argo's stock increase has been merely in-line with its industry and peers
  - Almost entirely from expansion of its book value multiple (P/BV), rather than fundamentals
    - Large amount of "spec" imbedded due to rapid rise of M&A in the insurance sector
    - Risen 14% since our investment became public (2/4/19 through 4/26/19)
  - In the absence of sustained improvement in operations and ROE, Argo is likely to revert to its previous valuation
- Immediate, substantial expense reductions (\$100 million) are possible and necessary to boost Argo's ROE by 460 bps
  - Run-off we believe Argo could boost its ROE by divesting its portfolio of legacy liabilities
  - Corporate expenses we believe Argo could boost its ROE through significant expense reduction
  - Investment portfolio Argo's investment expense ratio is 3x its peers

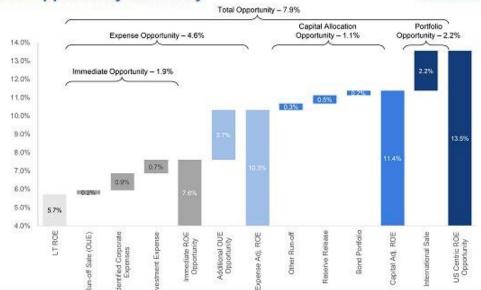
### **Executive Summary (Cont.)**



- We believe a top-to-bottom investigation is urgently required
  - Immediate investigation into expenses, compensation and corporate perquisites by a credible external law firm and overseen by a special committee of independent Directors
  - Reconstitution of the Board and all committees; removal and replacement of five legacy Directors
- A thorough <u>review of Argo's capital allocation and portfolio of businesses</u> is also required, including a
   <u>potential divestiture of its international business</u>, exit of underperforming businesses and potential major
   capital return
  - Our analysis suggests 110 bps of ROE opportunity from enhanced capital allocation and 220 bps from portfolio rationalization
- Voce has nominated five highly-qualified, experienced and independent Director candidates to replace the "Big 5" and bring credibility and expertise to the investigation and business review
  - Bernard C. Bailey, Ph.D
  - Charles H. Dangelo
  - Rear Admiral (ret) Kathleen M. Dussault
  - Carol A. McFate, CFA
  - Nicholas C. Walsh
- While Voce is not seeking "control" of Argo in any sense, we include a few "starter kit" recommendations for the new Board to consider in its early days
- Voce presents <u>multiple potential paths</u> herein to <u>value creation</u>
  - Opportunities to boost ROE 190 bps 790 bps
  - Could result in share price appreciation to \$83 \$126 (26% 90% above current)

# **ROE Opportunity Summary**

Summary Comp Cultura Expenses Business Capital Performance Occontunity



Expense reductions alone can allow Argo to earn a double digit return on equity; adding capital allocation and potential sale of the international business would allow Argo to hit 13%+ ROE

# Our Nominees: Highly experienced, fully independent





- Currently the President of the Committee for Economic Development ("CED"), a business-led, nonpartisan economic think tank
- Previously Chairman and CEO of Authentix (Sold by the Carlyle Group to Blue Water Energy in 2017)
- Previously ran his own consulting company, Paraquis Solutions, LLC
- Previously served as President and CEO of Visage Technology, Inc. (Nasdaq: VISG), where under his four years of leadership, Visage's market capitalization grew from \$60 million to over \$1 billion
- Corporate governance expert with a Ph.D. in Management from Case Western Reserve University



- Previously served in senior executive and director roles at subsidiaries of Starr Companies and played a pivotal role in growing the scale and performance of Starr's insurance operations
  - President and COO of Starr Insurance Holdings, Inc.
  - President, CEO and Director of Starr Indemnity & Liability Company
  - President, CEO and Director of Starr Surplus Lines Insurance Company
  - Vice Chairman of Bermudabased Starr Insurance & Reinsurance Limited
- Served in various senior management roles at AIG, including Head of Global Reinsurance



- Previously Senior Vice President for Corporate Services of United Services Auto Association (USAA)
- Former Senior Executive in the United States Navy with 34 years of distinguished military service
  - Director, Logistics Programs and Corporate Operations in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
  - of the Chief of Naval Operations

     Commander, Joint Contracting
    Command in Iraq and Afghanistan
  - Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for acquisition and Logistics Management
- Previously served on the Board of the Military Officers Association of America, Chairman of the Governance Committee

All of the Nominees are completely independent – none have any financial ties to Voce nor are they receiving any compensation from Voce

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# Our Nominees: Highly experienced, fully independent



- Previously the Chief Investment Officer at Xerox Corporation (NYSE: XRX) where she oversaw >\$12 billion in retirement assets for North America and UK plans
- Previously Executive Vice President & Global Treasurer for XL Global Services, Inc., a subsidiary of XL Capital Ltd., a leading Bermuda-based global insurance and reinsurance company
- Previously held various positions with AIG and The Prudential Insurance Company of
- Received the Corporate Plan Sponsor Industry Innovation Award and was named to the Chief Investment Officer Power 100 by Chief Investment Officer Magazine and honored by Institutional Investor



- Until April 2019, was previously a Director at Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group plc (LSE: JLT), a London-based global insurance broker, where he was a member of the Remuneration. Compensation and Audit and Risk committees, which was sold to Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. (NYSE: MMC) for £4.2 billion (US\$5.6 billion).
- Previously served in a variety of underwiting, distribution and senior management roles at AIG during a 40+ year tenure as well as a Director on numerous AIG subsidiaries
- Previously served as a Director of Ascot Underwriting Ltd., a Lloyd's syndicate and continues to serve on the Advisory Board of Norton Rose Fulbright

All of the Nominees are completely independent - none have any financial ties to Voce nor are they receiving any compensation from Voce

#### **About Voce**



- Voce Capital Management LLC and its Nominees own 1,905,469 shares of Argo
  - 5.6% of shares outstanding; #4 shareholder and largest actively managed investor
- Voce is an SEC-registered investment adviser founded by J. Daniel Plants in 2011
  - Voce pursues a value-driven, governance-focused investment strategy
  - Particular expertise in healthcare, technology and financials
  - Investor base comprised of leading foundations, institutions and family offices
- · Voce's principals have extensive experience in corporate governance and shareholder value creation
  - Voce principals: Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan, Morgan Stanley, TPG, Moelis, Sullivan & Cromwell
- · Voce selectively uses activism to create value for all shareholders
  - Majority of investments are passive or involve cooperative partnerships with management
- Voce has led numerous successful campaigns for change examples:







- Voce's efforts have secured numerous important governance victories, such as de-staggering of Boards, repeal of poison pills, adoption of majority voting and defeat of dilutive equity issuances
- Average return to public shareholders across all 14 of Voce's activist investments is 18.6% (vs. 8.8% for the Russell 2000 and 12.4% for the S&P 500), with an average duration of 512 days



# **Argo's Indulgent Culture**

"The place is a morgue on the inside...and to its employees and on the outside, a frat party....The egregious culture that Mark Watson has created is nothing short of appalling. When you begin as an employee you are required to read a self-published book by Mark Watson (you have to laugh-the publishing company is "Mark Watson the third,")....As a shareholder I wanted to explain what goes on at the ground level."

- Current Argo employee email to Voce, March 26, 2019

### Argo's Indulgent Culture: Summary



- There is no demarcation between CEO Watson's private interests and Argo's corporate assets and priorities
  - His "personal website" (owned and operated by Argo) describes himself as a "sailor, runner, climber and car racing enthusiast"
  - · Argo has long sponsored many regatta yacht races, Grand Prix cars and the like
  - · Argo's entire corporate identity, branding and image are nautically-themed
  - CEO Watson travels around the world on Argo's G-5 to these events, not as a corporate sponsor, but as a participant and direct beneficiary of corporate largesse
- © CEO's obsession with art and architecture has led him to personally select, design and furnish lavish office space around the world
  - · Voce estimates the NYC Office alone cost shareholders at least \$47M in incremental capital
- © CEO Watson's lifestyle and hobbies are underwritten by Argo under the guise of corporate marketing (i.e., vanity sponsorships)
- Fleet of private aircraft is indefensible for a company of this size
- Global network of corporate homes for CEO Watson including the glass penthouse duplex in NYC Argo tried to conceal
- Argo's attempted justifications of these items are not credible

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# Argo's Code of Conduct & Business Ethics





#### Code of Conduct & Business Ethics

#### 2. Conflicts of Interest

A "conflict of interest" exists when a person's private interest in any way interferes, (or might appear to interfere), with the business interests of the Company, its shareholders and its policy holders....Conflicts of interest may also rise when a key functionary or employee, or a member of his or her family, receives improper personal benefits as a result of his or her position in the Company or any of its affiliates (Outside Financial Interest).

#### 13. Protection and Proper Use of Company Assets

Key functionaries and employees shall protect the Company's assets and ensure their efficient use. Theft, carelessness, and waste have a direct impact on the Company's profitability. All Company assets are to be used for legitimate Company purposes.

Source: Argo Group Code of Conduct & Business Ethics



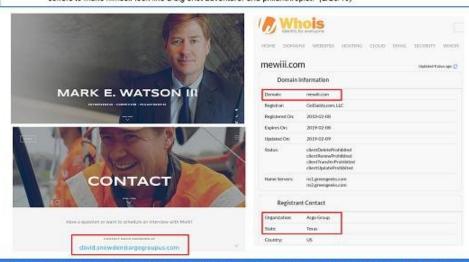
#### No demarcation between CEO and company

## Argo resources pay for CEO's "personal" website





"[C]hief executive of Bermuda-based insurance company Argo Group abruptly shuttered his web site, mewiii.com, on the same day hedge fund investor Voce Capital Management blasted it as proof that he has been using the company's coffers to make himself look like a big shot adventurer and philanthropist." (2/26/19)



CEO Watson's personal website domain is owned and operated by Argo and Argo's Senior Vice President of Corporate Communications is listed as his publicist

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# No demarcation between CEO and company Our CEO in his own words...





#### WINNING CHANGES EVERYTHING

Mark Watson learned early in life that fierce competition forces people to be their best, As a sallor, runner, climber and car racing enthusiast, Mark has proved that athletic excellence builds a combination of drive and discipline that can inform every aspect of life. From the long-distance trial of the Boston Marathon to team victory in a TransAtlantic salling rece, Mark has tested himself in the heat of professional competition. An avid advocate of team sports of all stripes, Mark believes that lessons learned at the helm, on the track, on the slopes and at the wheel are never forgotten.

Source: www.mewil.com; can be viewed at www.Argo-SOS.com



#### No demarcation between CEO and company

## Why are CEO hobbies shareholder responsibility?



#### **CEO Hobby**

#### Architecture

INTERIOR DESIGN 'Watson was intimately involved in the office's design from before the space even

Source



- CEO has meticulously served as lead designer on several ostentatious office renovation projects
- Company has made expensive, long-term office space commitments in ultra-premium global

Art



enge
(IIIn his free time you can find him

on the water. He skippered a 90-foot boat...

Report company's CEO and chief

- Argo maintains a corporate art collection
- CEO utilizes corporate jet for art buying junkets Company's "art title" insurance unit writes ~\$20k net premium
- Argo donates to museum where CEO is a Trustee

Race Cars



- Argo has sponsored two separate ePrix race car teams
- CEO travels around the world on corporate jet to participate in races

Yachting



What to do on Fathers Day? Go racing.



- CEO is an avid sailor who appears to have skippered Argo-sponsored teams
- Argo title-sponsors multiple sailing teams and races
- CEO travels around the world on corporate jet to
- participate in races Even Argo "charitable contributions" go to sailingrelated groups

CEO Watson: "You should never confuse social and business objectives." We agree.

#### Lavish, award-winning office designs and locations

#### **New York Office**





INTERIOR

"Watson was intimately involved in the office's design from before the space even had functional floors."







#### Report

"An avid climber and yachtsman, Watson is both the architect of the international holding company and the design-conscious maestro of the downtown offices."

"I really wanted to be in this building." = CEO Watson





"We're more well-known in London and New York than we are here in San Antonio." – CEO Watson

#### ARCHITECT

"TPG has worked with the company on a number of projects over the years, including their Boston office."



#### ② Design, art and architecture

#### NYC Office: ~\$50 million



By our calculations, Argo committed at least \$47 million of shareholder capital on the NYC office lease alone, and likely much more

- What we know:
  - Argo moved from a 17,000 square foot office at 610 Broadway
  - Argo moved into a 48,000 square foot office at 413 West 14th Street
  - The asking rent in the new space was \$100 per sq. ft. annually, and Argo committed to a 15-year lease
  - Even at rent parity very, very unlikely this implies a net increase of \$46,500,000
  - Argo's annual rent expense increased from \$12.2mm in 2016 to \$21.0mm in 2017 and \$21.6mm in 2018
    - Argo's 2016 10-K expected 2017 lease expense \$11.3mm, so actual rent was 2x the expected amount; we believe that delta was driven by the NY office
- What Argo should explain:
  - How much additional shareholder capital was invested in the renovation?
  - How much capital was spent on the extensive custom furniture, lighting, etc.?

### **CRAIN'S**

"Bermuda-based Argo Group is set to lease <u>48,000 square feet at 413 West 14th St. . . . Asking rent for the Meatpacking District space was \$100 per square foot.</u> Argo was represented in the <u>15-year deal</u> by CBRE brokers Christopher Mansfield and Gerry Miovski. The <u>insurance firm was attracted to the historic details</u>, large windows, exposed brick and timber, and high ceilings at the building. . . The firm's <u>new fifth-level penthouse</u> will be roughly 2,800 square feet and could be used for executive offices or a conference room." – *Crain's New York Business* (3/5/2017)

'When we started working on this space, we never imagined that our target tenant would be an insurance firm." – Paul Amrich, Vice Chairman, CBRE (Seller Rep)

"Argo executives could've just renewed their lease and taken another 10,000 square feet down the block. <u>But Mark's not about the safe bet." - Michel Fiechter, Managing Executive, TPG (Design Firm)</u>

# NYC Office: No expenses spared

# Summary Comp Culture Expenses Business Capital Performance Occontunity Governance Conclusion

#### **Built From Scratch**

## INTERIOR

"It was past raw," [TPG's managing executive] Fiechter notes, "literally just a shell."







#### Custom Furniture

## INTERIOR

"[C]ommodious gray sectional sofa by Francesco Rota and enveloping Hayon Studio lounge chairs, some upholstered in an Argo-blue polyester. . . . Arne Jacobsen Swan chairs and Isamu Noquchi table . . . . . Charles and Ray Eames Aluminum Group task chairs covered in yet more Argo blue."





#### **Custom Fixtures**

# INTERIOR

"[W]orkstations are illuminated by LED downlights that cast a soft brightness. They're more often used in museums on ancient texts," Flechter says of the linear features, 'but we liked the quality of light."





Caught red-handed? "Mark Watson is in the NYC office with what appears to be an interior designer and they just took away all the lounge chairs and \$10K couches." – Current Argo employee email to Voce (4/10/19)

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# 2 Design, art and architecture Art





#### Report Report

'Argo Group... and others have invested in art because their CEOs want to share their personal passions with employees and clients... Woodcut prints, photographs, digital images, pen and ink drawings, and even art furniture serve as a 'good stimulant' for employees and clients alike, said Mark E. Watson III, the company's CEO and chief art lovet.' (77/0/17)

### Report

"[H]ome to one of the city's best corporate art collections . . . it includes stunning pieces . . Recently, Watson traveled to Florida to add to the impressive collection at Art Basel Mismi Basch, a major contemporary art show. . Watson's artistic stamp on the Argo office. . . Watson looks at it as a 'blank canvas'" (12/5/16)





The Company's "ARIS" art title business (~\$20k NWP per year) in no way justifies the time, energy and money Argo and its CEO dedicate to corporate art

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CEO Watson: "It's fun to be in the middle of it all." Apparently so.







Location: Marrakesh, Transport: Unknown



fedox Watson III O

( felow ) v

We're ready to watch @DragonRacing hit the Looking forward to watching @DragonRacing live in action this weekend at the #ParisePrix!



Arga Group ® Quings (policy)

- GRA-formulat races in Parts National dily center tomorpos Give
- Q Diagonifacing a #Sentingst Plannishs #Termital

Mark E. Watson III O

The #ParisePrix is about to begin and @DragonRacing looks ready. Good luck!

Date: 5/20/2017

<u>Event:</u> Paris ePrix
<u>Team:</u> Dragon Racing
<u>Location:</u> Paris, France
<u>Transport:</u> Argo's G-5





"We like the innovation and the sustainability of Formula E. We found the team that we think is a really good fit with us and that's Dragon Racing." - CEO Watson



Date: 4/14/2018

Event Rome ePrix Team: Dragon Racing Location: Rome, Italy Transport Argo's G-5

It was great to see Jay and the @DragonRacing team at the #NYCePrix. Good luck in Montreal. #FormulaE

track here at the #RomeEPrix. Good luck, team! #FormulaE





I enjoyed walking the grid before the race. The competition will be fierce today. I wish

@TeamAguri the best. #LondonePrix





It was great meeting the @TeamAguri drivers. I look forward to seeing them out on the track, #LondonePrix



Date: 7/3/2016 Event: London ePrix Team: Dragon Racing Location: London, UK Transport Unknown



### Vanity sponsorships Yachting



Mark E. Watson III of Castin Newport. RI Transport: Argo G-5

It's great to see the @Vestas11thHour team at the #VOR Newport stopover. We're ready for the in-port race.



Mark E. Watson III 6

Sailing Sponsorships: Vestas 11th Hour Racing

Alvimedica

Great race in #LegZero and the guys did a great job of staying focused right 'till the end. Way to go team! Thank you for having me aboard.

I'm thrilled to be joining @Vestas11thHour for #LegZero to Lisbon. A big announcement to follow tomorrow...

Date: 8/17/2017 Event: Volvo Ocean Race (CEO Watson joins the Team: Vestas 11th Hour Racing
Location: Sant Malo, France to Lisbon, Portugal
Transport: Arga G-6

Mark E. Watson III O

The 35th #AmericasCup finals are finally herel Ready to cheer on @ArtemisRacing through the qualifiers and playoffs.



Date: May-Jun 2017 (Tweet from 5/26/2017)

Event: America's Cup Team: Artemis Location: Bermuda Transport: Argo G-5

Recipients of Argo Funding:

Sponsored Races:

· Argo Group Gold

Cup Argo Group Pro Am Regatta

Team Tiburon

Sailing Charities:

Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation (ASSF)
 Endeavour Community Sailing

Sloop Foundation

Mark E. Watson III O

A great day of races as @ArtemisRacing finishes with the lead. Great job team!

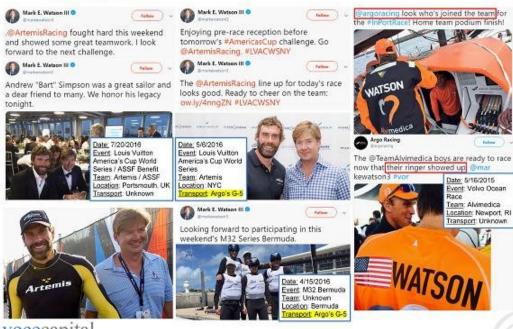


Glad I have the opportunity to observe today's races with a great group of young sailors from the C.O.Y.C.H.



# Vanity sponsorships Yachting (Cont.)







### Corporate sponsorships

Summary Comp Culture Expenses Business Coordinary Performance Occordinary Covernances Conclusion

"In our industry, everyone goes on a golf outing, so we're always trying to find ways to be unique and different." – CEO Watson

### Illustrative America's Cup Team Costs

| Team Name              | Total Amt.<br>(US\$M) | Est.<br>Per Year<br>(US\$M) |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Oracle Team USA (2013) | \$115                 | \$29                        |
| Luna Rossa (2021)      | \$80                  | \$20                        |
| Team New Zealand       | \$100                 | \$25                        |
| Artemis Racing (2013)  | \$140                 | \$35                        |
| Land Rover BAR Team    | \$116                 | \$29                        |
| NEOS Team UK (2021)    | \$153                 | \$38                        |
| Team Australia         | \$150                 | \$38                        |
| Average                | \$122                 | \$21                        |

#### The New Hork Times

"Wealthy titans have always steered the mythic 156-year-old America's Cup, from JP Morgan and Harry Vanderbilt to Ted Turner and Ernesto Bertarelli....The floating playground of the rich is expanding dramatically to make room for a corporate convention of sponsors..." – New York Times (04/07/07)

# Outside

"The boats alone cost between \$8 million to \$10 million, and most teams have a backup just in case. However, the boats are only part of the story, because you also have to take into account the entry fee (\$3 million), the staff (Oracle Team USA had 130 people in 2013), the cost of shipping all that sailing equipment around the world, plus costs of maintenance, operations, and incidentals. It has been estimated that mounting a successful America's Cup campaign costs over \$100 million...[To transport the ships, teams] typically disassemble them, package them up, and ship them on larger boats or planes to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars in transport and insurance fees." – Outside Online (6/2/16)

#### The New Zealand Herald

"Big teams such as holders Alinghi, Team NZ, BMW Oracle and Luna Rossa are estimated to spend \$3 million to \$3.5 million a month on their campaigns, with some of the main sponsors investing \$30 million to \$40 million over four years." – New Zealand Herald (6/24/07)

Given all of its sponsorships, Argo's claim to spend less than \$1 million per year in aggregate is simply not credible

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# Why does Argo need a fleet of 3 corporate jets?



"People often ask: 'where do you spend most of your time?' My short answer is, 'In the air.'" – CEO Watson

Argo's G-5



- Argo has a Gulfstream V (Tail No. N17ND)
- Over the last 3 calendar years, the G-5 has logged more than 584 flights and 1,484 hours of flight time
- Argo also has two additional fractional jet ownerships

Argo's Recent G-5 Destinations 1



Even if Argo's G-5 were being used exclusively for business purposes, the expense for a company of Argos' size to carry such an aircraft would be completely unjustified

Source: FlightAware

1. From Insurance Insider, represents flight activity of prior three years on G-5 jet only

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# Suspicious use of corporate aircraft



# As detailed in our February 25 letter, flight logs reveal egregious use of Argo's corporate G-5 jet (one of its three planes)

| Cara-annia di Ca |                     |                      |                      |   |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| Location   | # Flights<br>Origin | # Flights<br>Destin. | # Flights<br>To/From | Comment   |
| San Antonio, TX  | 149                 | 143                  | 292                  | Mr. Watson resides here, making these trips personal commuting expenses (even when on business)     |
| Hamilton, Bermuda  | 58                  | 57                   | 115                  |   |
| North Kingstown, RI  | 28                  | 28                   | 56                   | Serve nearby Newport, where Mr. Watson has a home and<br>an active community and social presence    |
| Providence, RI   | 9                   | 9                    | 18                   | These would be personal commuting expenses     According to his November 2018 Employment Agreement, |
| Total Rhode Island   | 37                  | 37                   | 74                   | his principal place of business is Bermuda  |
| South Florida  | 23                  | 23                   | 46                   | <ul> <li>Most frequently Miami, where Argo owns three residential<br/>condominium units</li> </ul>  |
| Aspen  | 6                   | 5                    | 11                   |   |
| France   | 13                  | 14                   | 27                   | <ul> <li>Includes 3 trips for the Nice-Monte Carlo insurance industry<br/>conference</li> </ul>     |
| Puerto Vallarta  | 6                   | 6                    | 12                   |   |

Other Notable Destinations:

Jamaica, The Bahamas, Anguila, St. Maarten, Marco Island, Ixtapa, Santa Barbara and Sonoma

Source: Flight/ware





# Business or pleasure?

| Summary      | Comp           |
|--------------|----------------|
| Culture      | Expenses       |
| Gistassa.    | Desputation of |
| Remonitation | Cooperfunity   |
| Governance   |                |

| W  | e believe the G-5 corp | orate jet use is freq      | uently for personal rea | sons  |          |  |
|--|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|----------|--|
| Example: Watson Family Christmas Holiday Vacation 2017 |                        |                            |                         |       |          |  |
| Origin   | Departure Time         | Destination                | Arrival Time            | Hours | Day      |  |
| San Antonio Intl                                       | 2017-12-14 08:48AM CST | Bermuda Int'l              | 2017-12-14 02:12PM AST  | 3:23  | Thurs.   |  |
| Bermuda Int'l  | 2017-12-15 02:43PM AST | Teterboro                  | 2017-12-15 04:12PM EST  | 2:29  | Fri.     |  |
| Teterboro  | 2017-12-15 10:10PM EST | Copenhagen                 | 2017-12-16 11:16AM CET  | 7:06  | Fri.     |  |
| London Stansted  | 2017-12-17 04:23PM GMT | Copenhagen                 | 2017-12-17 06:41PM CET  | 1:17  | Sun      |  |
| Copenhagen   | 2017-12-18 10:40PM CET | Cochin Int'l (Kochi Int'l) | 2017-12-19 12:04PM IST  | 8:53  | Mon/Tues |  |
| Cochin Int'l (Kochi Int'l)                             | 2017-12-21 09:29AM IST | Hindustan Airport          | 2017-12-21 10:05AM IST  | 0:35  | Thurs.   |  |
| Hindustan Airport                                      | 2017-12-21 05:22PM IST | Udaipur                    | 2017-12-21 07:13PM IST  | 1:50  | Thurs    |  |
| Udaipur  | 2017-12-24 01:04PM IST | Jaipur (Sanganer)          | n/a                     | n/a   | Sun      |  |
| Agra   | 2017-12-31 01:32PM IST | Amsterdam Schiphol         | 2017-12-31 05:44PM CET  | 8:42  | Sun      |  |
| Amsterdam Schiphol                                     | 2018-01-02 03:50PM CET | Teterboro                  | 2018-01-02 05:25PM EST  | 7:35  | Tues.    |  |
| Teterboro  | 2018-01-03 03:47PM EST | San Antonio Inti           | 2018-01-03 06:02PM CST  | 3:15  | Wed.     |  |

Source: FlightAware

- We were able to confirm much of CEO Watson's travel by matching flight logs to his hyperactive social media presence
- Twitter feed and "personal" website confirm suspicions of personal use of corporate jet
- As a courtesy, we concealed family member identities from the photo



#### 3 Argo's global network of corporate housing

### The Argo-Watson NYC Penthouse Apartment

Summary Comp
Culture Expenses
Business Capital
Performance Occontunity
Covernance Conclusion

Argo's artful defense – "The Company did not build, nor have we ever had, a penthouse apartment above our New York offices" – failed to mention that it actually does own exactly such a home for Mr. Watson, a mere six blocks away

- Just as we originally wrote, Argo does in fact own a "glass penthouse apartment" for CEO Watson
   177 Ninth Ave, Penthouse E, New York, NY 10011; 3 BR / 3BA duplex home
- Purchased for \$5.795 million in 2016 by AGI Properties, Inc. the same entity that owns the Miami "investment properties"
- · We have independently confirmed Mr. Watson lives here
- Located in the exclusive Chelsea Enclave, "open views and beaming light from the continuous walls of glass pull you from the entry through to the large living room and dining room and out onto the 41 foot long terrace."





Argo should be ashamed for attempting to mislead shareholders by omitting this material information from its response

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# 6 Justifications not credible Argo's justifications for this abuse are untenable

|                   | Argo's Justification  | Reality   |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Art               | Corporate art collection and art boondoggles required by Argo's "art title" business, ARIS  Art Basel, which was also attended by Argo clients, relates to the company's art-title business" – According to a person familiar with Argo's thinking by The WSJ (2/25/19)  Cost is less than a million dollars" (4/12/19) | "Vanity business" – ARIS kept only \$20k of net premiums in 2018 of the \$207k it wrote  In the last five years, ARIS has written \$1.5M of premiums and suffered \$5,3mm of losses  Even \$1 million is absurd for a small company like Argo to waste on artwork   |
| Yachting          | "Company sponsorships are not a significant portion of sales and expenses" (2/25/19)     "Sponsorships are effective marketing tools They allow us to align our marketing with our target clients (4/12/19)   | Recent America's Cup sponsorship benchmarking indicates \$20 - \$30mm per year required from all sponsors     Sponsors two separate boat racing teams     Sponsors 45k nautical mile Volvo Ocean Race   |
| Race<br>Cars      | "The owner of the Formula E race-car team the<br>company sponsors is a client who generates<br>more in premiums than the cost of the<br>sponsorship" (2/25/19)  | Siven Argo's ~98% combined (expense) ratio,<br>justifying sponsorship costs with premiums<br>suggests both wildly unprofitable spend and<br>questionable ROI methodology – would need to<br>generate 50x just to break even   |
| Corporate<br>Jets | "Jet use is normal for a company like Argo with offices all over the world" (2/25/19) "Executives arrange for use of corporate aircraft for personal trips, they do so at their own expense" (4/12/19)  | <ul> <li>We have documented countless trips to locales with<br/>no Argo offices, personal commutes, family vacations<br/>– many of which match CEO Watson's Twitter feed</li> <li>Unlike housing, there has never been any disclosure<br/>of aircraft reimbursement – suggesting to us there<br/>has been none</li> </ul> |

We believe the costs of these are far greater than Argo's attempted depiction of them as immaterial

# **Business Overview**



## Argo snapshot

#### **Business Overview**

- Argo provides commercial specialty insurance and reinsurance products globally Company segments:

| US Operations<br>(62% GWP,<br>58% of BV) |
|--|
|--|

- · Excess and Surplus (E&S) lines focused on US-based risks that standard market is unwilling or unable to underwrite
- Mainly sold through Colony Specialty
   Also underwrites admitted business through
- retail brokers / agents

   Mostly targets business classes and industries with distinct risk profiles

| 38% |        |  |
|-----|--------|--|
| 42% | of BV) |  |

- Over two-thirds of premiums represent Lloyd's Syndicate platform based in London and focused on underwriting global property, non-US liability, marine, energy and specialty
- os lability, manne, energy and specially insurance

  Other international includes Bermuda, Seguros and Global SE, which are properties based in Bermuda, Brazil and Matta, respectively offering casualty, property and professional lines
- Additional presence in Singapore, Shanghai and Dubai

Includes outstanding liabilities associated with discontinued lines previously underwritten by insurance subsidiaries, risk management policies written by a business unit that has since been sold to a third party; and other legacy accounts

#### Financial Snapshot

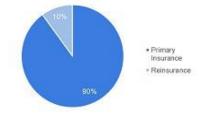
| Capitalization:                            | 2/1/19       |
|--|--------------|
| Share Price (as of unaffected date 2/1/19) | \$66.01      |
| Shares Outstanding                         | 34.0         |
| Market Value                               | \$2,243      |
| Plus Debt                                  | \$580        |
| Less Cash and Investments                  | (\$139)      |
| Enterprise Value                           | \$2,684      |
| Financial Metrics                          | 2018A        |
| Revenue                                    | \$1,802      |
| Gross Written Premiums                     | \$2,955      |
| Underwriting Income                        | \$36         |
| Investment Income                          | \$133        |
| Book Value                                 | \$1,747      |
| Valuation:                                 | As of 2/1/19 |
| P/BV                                       | 1.23x        |
| Key Operating Metrics                      | 2018A        |
| Combined Ratio                             | 97.9%        |
| Dividend Yield                             | 1.6%         |
| Return on Equity                           | 3.6%         |

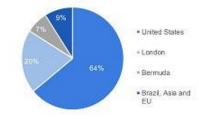


## Argo business overview

- Focus on non-standard risks that the admitted insurance markets have difficulty underwriting
  - Tends to be areas where pricing still supported by good experience
- Recent entry into re-insurance through acquisition of Ariel Re
- Global operations
  - US: admitted / licensed in all 50 US states
  - Two Lloyd's Syndicates
  - Multiple global centers (Dubai, Shanghai, Sao Paolo, Singapore)
  - Bermuda reinsurance platform
  - Selected entities / subsidiaries in EMEA, LatAm and Asia
- · Diversified distribution relationships
- Financially strong ("A" rating from A.M. Best)
- · Diversified by geography, product and strategy







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# US Operations Segment overview



| Summary                  |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Culture                  | Emenses              |
| Business                 | Despite a            |
| Performance              | Cooperation          |
| Construction of the last | TERRITOR DESIGNATION |

#### Overview

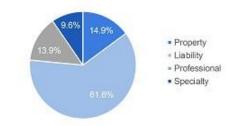
- · 20+ year underwriting history
- · Underwrites on largely non-admitted basis
- · Strong brand and reputation in E&S lines
- Differentiated distribution, wholesalers and coverholders
  - Strong relationships with national, local and regional wholesale brokers
  - Across all business enterprises
  - Focused on small and medium accounts
- U.S. Operations include the following riskbearing business units:
  - Colony Specialty
  - Argo Pro
  - Argo Insurance
  - Rockwood Casualty
  - U.S. Commercial Programs
  - Argo Surety
  - Trident Public Risk Solutions

Source: Voce research, Company Hings
Vocecapital





#### Gross Written Premium Mix



# US Operations Colony Specialty





- Argo acquired Colony as part of its \$200 million Front Royal acquisition in 2001 for ~2x P / BV
- Colony is an established provider of Excess & Surplus lines with a long and seasoned track record and recognized brand
- Top 10 E&S line carrier in the US
- · Licensed in all 50 states, DC and US Virgin Islands
- · Provides primary and excess P&C and professional liability coverage
  - Mostly focused on non-admitted markets
  - Casualty, transportation, property, contract and environment units
  - For hard-to-place risks and/or distressed businesses that typically fall outside of the standard insurance market's risk appetite
- Target accounts across industry sectors, including tractors, manufacturers, distributors, property owners, retailers and restaurants
- · Focused on small and medium sized enterprises
- Colony distributes through a network of appointed wholesale agents and brokers
  - ~2/3 brokers, ~1/3 agents

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36.

## **US Operations** Retail distribution



#### Argo offers a wide variety of packaged specialty products tied to certain distributors



- Mid-market professional lines platform that provides a broad portfolio of errors and omissions, and management liability Indicated policies products for our wholesale and retail distribution partners
   Underwriting focus provides risk management solutions for accountants, architects and engineers, commercial crime, directors
- and officers, employment practices, fiduciary, lawyers, miscellaneous professionals, technology, privacy and security



- Offers insurance and risk management services to Grocery. Restaurants and other Specialty Retail industries
- · Provides property, liability, workers compensation, automobile and umbrella coverage throughout the United States



- · Specialty underwriter of workers compensation for the mining industry
- Also offers commercial auto, general liability and inland marine for mining
   Underwrites coverage for small commercial businesses, including retail, light manufacturing, services and restaurants
- Approximately 52% of its premiums are written in Pennsylvania, but licensed in 34 states

- Offers specialized commercial niche programs customized to meet the specific insurance needs of targeted businesses. The business includes both risk-bearing and non-risk bearing solutions, crafted specifically for each program opportunity
- Its internal and external network includes experienced program administrators with successful track records in specialized
- programs



- · Provides surety solutions to businesses that must satisfy various eligibility conditions in order to conduct commerce, such as licensure requirements required by government statute or regulation, counterparty conditions found in private or public construction projects, or satisfactory performance of contracted services.
- Top 20 Commercial surety writer



- . One of the largest providers of primary insurance products and risk management solutions for public-sector entities such as
- counties, municipalities, public schools, and other local government units and special districts

  Its product lines include general liability, automobile liability, automobile physical damage, property, inland marine, crime, public officials liability, educators legal liability, employment practices liability, law enforcement liability and workers compensation

# International Operations Segment overview



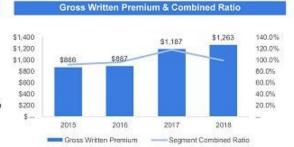
| Summary      |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| Clabbre      | Emenses     |
| Business     | September 1 |
| Performance  | Coontuning  |
| CONTRACTOR S | Conniusion  |

#### Overview

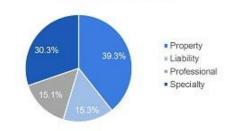
- Specializes in insurance and reinsurance through the broker market
- Specialty property, catastrophe reinsurance, primary / excess casualty and professional liability
- Multi-class Bermuda platform underwrites excess casualty, property and professional lines insurance as well as property reinsurance
- Lloyd's platform includes Syndicate 1200 and Syndicate 1910
  - Based in London, these syndicates have regional operations in Bermuda, Dubai, Singapore and Shanghai
  - Managed by the Argo Managing Agency and trade under Lloyd's of London capital and licensing framework
- International Operations includes the following riskbearing business units:
  - Syndicate 1200
  - Syndicate 1910
  - Argo Insurance Bermuda
  - ArgoGlobal SE
  - Argo Seguros

Source: Voce research, Company flings





#### Gross Written Premium Mix



# International Operations Business units



| Joyd's          | Syndicate<br>1200            | <ul> <li>Underwrites worldwide property, non-US liability, marine, energy and specialty insurance</li> <li>Large portion of business is underwritten through the use of binding authorities</li> <li>Approximately 50% of capital comes through third parties</li> </ul>  |
|-----------------|------------------------------|---|
| (O)7            | Syndicate<br>1910            | Underwrites property insurance exposures through Argo Insurance Bermuda and reinsurance through Ariel Re (2017 acquisition) operating in two areas – freaty property and specialty Business is written on an open market basis on both primary and excess basis   |
| 9               | Argo<br>Insurance<br>Bermuda | <ul> <li>Offers casualty, property and professional lines with the following coverages: property, general and products liability,<br/>directors and officers liability, errors and omissions liability and employment practices liability</li> </ul>  |
| Int'l Specialty | ■ ARGOGLOBAL                 | Based in Malta and underwrites professional liability, surety and property and casualty business in continental Europe  |
| Ξ               | ARGO SEGUNDS                 | <ul> <li>Property and casualty insurance company base on Sao Paolo, Brazil focused on serving the country's domestic commercial insurance market</li> <li>Primary lines are cargo and marine, property and engineering and financial lines</li> <li>Also participates in Brazil's federal motor third-party liability insurance pool</li> </ul> |





- \* Total Investment Portfolio: \$4.8B (12/31/2018); Net Investment Income: \$133mm (2.8% yield)
- · Argo's investment expenses are 3x those of peers
- . The duration of Argo's investment assets are mismatched with its liabilities
- Argo is over-allocated to higher risk alternatives and individual (direct) assets, such as corporate apartments and speculative VC investments



As we detail later, we see an easily attainable 70 bps ROE opportunity in the investment portfolio

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## **Decentralized Management Structure**

#### **US Operations** International Operations Matt Harris Kevin Rehnberg Chief Admin. Officer, Jose Hernandez Head of International (UK, Europe, Asia, Middle East, Bermuda) Chair, International President, Americas Operations Chief Underwriting Head of Colony Officer Specialty Managing Director, ArgoGlobal Chief Claims Officer President, Argo Pro Head of Argo Insurance Bermuda Chief Administrative Officer President, Argo Surety Chief Underwriting Officer SVP, US Specialty SVP, General Counsel Programs Ariel Re Head of Reinsurance President, Trident SVP, Argo Public Risk Solutions Construction Chief Actuary President ARIS Title President, Rockwood Insurance

Each business unit is independently operated and managed and could be easily separated from one another or from corporate

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# **Underwriting Income Contribution**

|   | Years Ended December 31, |         |          |          |          |  |  |  |
|---|--------------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|--|--|--|
| USSmm                                       | 2015A                    | 2016A   | 2017A    | 2016A    | '15-'18  |  |  |  |
| US;   |                          |         |          |          |          |  |  |  |
| Property                                    | \$138                    | \$125   | 8113     | \$126    | (2.9%)   |  |  |  |
| Liability                                   | \$571                    | \$575   | \$619    | \$707    | 7.4%     |  |  |  |
| Professional                                | 54                       | 79      | 411      | 132      | 34.5%    |  |  |  |
| Specialty                                   | 52                       | 70      | 93       | 114      | 29.5%    |  |  |  |
| Total US Earned Premiums                    | \$815                    | \$850   | 5937     | \$1,079  | 9.8%     |  |  |  |
| Y/Y Growth                                  |                          | 4.256   | 10.3%    | 15.2%    |          |  |  |  |
| Loss and Loss Adj. Expense                  | 471                      | 468     | 529      | 628      | 10.1%    |  |  |  |
| Loss Ratio                                  | 57.8%                    | 55,0%   | 56.4%    | 50.2%    |          |  |  |  |
| Underwriting, Acquisition and Other Expense | 259                      | 271     | 319      | 355      | 11.0%    |  |  |  |
| UAE Ratio                                   | 31.8%                    | 31.8%   | 34.1%    | 32.9%    |          |  |  |  |
| US Underwriting Income                      | \$45                     | \$112   | \$89     | \$96     | 4.1%     |  |  |  |
| Y/Y Growth                                  |                          | 31.9%   | (19.8%)  | 7.9%     |          |  |  |  |
| let1:                                       |                          |         |          | 200.0001 |          |  |  |  |
| Property                                    | 8200                     | \$206   | 8224     | \$211    | 1,8%     |  |  |  |
| Liability                                   | \$87                     | \$66    | \$80     | \$100    | 4.9%     |  |  |  |
| Professional                                | 101                      | 103     | 101      | 103      | 0.9%     |  |  |  |
| Specialty                                   | 169                      | 155     | 231      | 238      | 12.1%    |  |  |  |
| Total Int'l Earned Premiums                 | \$556                    | \$561   | 5636     | \$653    | 5.5%     |  |  |  |
| Y/Y Growth                                  |                          | 0.9%    | 13.4%    | 2.6%     |          |  |  |  |
| Loss and Loss Atj. Expense                  | 286                      | 324     | 506      | 400      | 11.8%    |  |  |  |
| Loss Ratio                                  | 51.5%                    | 57.0%   | 79,456   | 61.3%    |          |  |  |  |
| Underwriting, Acquisition and Other Expense | 220                      | 211     | 242      | 246      | 3.7%     |  |  |  |
| DAE Rano                                    | 39.6%                    | 37.6%   | 38.1%    | 37.7%    |          |  |  |  |
| Int1 Underwriting Income                    | \$49                     | 526     | (\$111)  | \$6      | (49, 4%) |  |  |  |
| Y/Y Growth                                  |                          | (47.7%) | (531.0%) | (105.8%) |          |  |  |  |
| Run-off Lines                               | (\$14)                   | (526)   | (\$26)   | (\$16)   | 4.1%     |  |  |  |
| Total Segment Underwriting Income           | \$120                    | \$112   | (\$48)   | \$86     | (10.4%)  |  |  |  |
| Y/Y Growth                                  |                          | (6.6%)  | (142.3%) | (201.9%) |          |  |  |  |







| 23   | Years Ended December 31, |         |          |          |         |  |  |
|--|--------------------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|--|--|
| US\$mm   | 2015A                    | 2016A   | 2017A    | 2018A    | '15-'18 |  |  |
| US Underwriting Income                             | 85                       | 112     | 89       | 96       | 4,1%    |  |  |
| Int'l Underwriting Income                          | 49                       | 26      | (111)    | 6        | (49.4%  |  |  |
| Run-off Income                                     | (14)                     | (25)    | (26)     | (16)     | 4.1%    |  |  |
| Total Segment Underwriting Income                  | \$120                    | \$112   | (\$48)   | \$86     | (10.4%  |  |  |
| Y/Y Growth   |                          | (6.6%)  | (142.3%) | (281.9%) |         |  |  |
| Corporate Expense                                  | (51)                     | (99)    | (66)     | (50)     | (0.5%   |  |  |
| Net investment income                              | 89                       | 115     | 140      | 133      | 14.5%   |  |  |
| Realized Gains / Losses and Net Fee & Other Income | \$21                     | \$28    | \$47     | (\$70)   |         |  |  |
| Operating Income                                   | \$178                    | \$197   | 574      | \$99     | (17.7%  |  |  |
| Y/Y Growth   |                          | 10.5%   | (62.5%)  | 34.2%    |         |  |  |
| Interest Expense                                   | (19)                     | (20)    | (28)     | (32)     |         |  |  |
| Currency / Other                                   | 18                       | 5       | (6)      | 0        |         |  |  |
| Income Taxes                                       | (514)                    | (\$35)  | \$10     | (\$4)    |         |  |  |
| Net Income   | \$163                    | \$147   | \$50     | \$64     | (27.0%  |  |  |
| Y/Y Growth   |                          | (10.1%) | (65,7%)  | 26.4%    | - 50    |  |  |
| Selected Other Items                               |                          |         |          |          |         |  |  |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents                          | 333                      | 492     | 545      | 622      |         |  |  |
| Investable Assets                                  | 4,118                    | 4.324   | 4,743    | 4,754    |         |  |  |
| Loss Reserves                                      | 3,124                    | 3,351   | 4,201    | 4,655    |         |  |  |
| Shareholder's Equity                               | 1,668                    | 1,793   | 1,820    | 1,747    |         |  |  |
| Return on Equity                                   | 9.8%                     | 8.5%    | 2.8%     | 3.6%     |         |  |  |
|  |                          |         |          |          |         |  |  |



# Assessing Argo's Long-Term Performance

- 1. Total Shareholder Return
- 2. Return on Equity
- 3. Argo's Peers

# Annotated Stock Price Chart Strong Chart S

Voce filed its 13D pre-market on Monday 2/4/19, making the closing price on Friday 2/1/19 (\$66.01) the unaffected stock price

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# Argo's TSR is not materially different from its peers





Argo has appreciated in-line with its peers, as rising markets, activism and a boom in insurance M&A have put a bid under the entire sector

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# 1-Year TSR Bridge



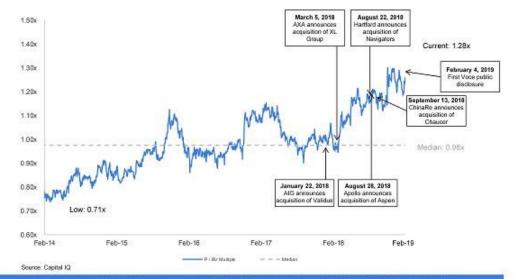


More than 100% of Argo's recent stock returns have come from expansion of its P/BV multiple, while actual book value per share has shrunk over that period of time

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# **Argo Historical BV Multiples**

Summary Comp
Culture Expenses
Business Capital
Performance Conclusion
Covernances Conclusion

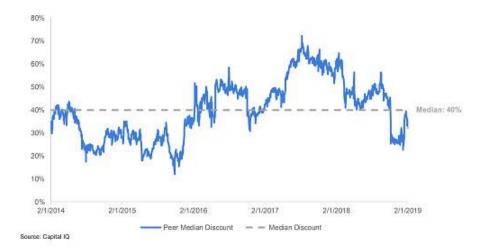


Most of Argo's P/BV expansion is due to speculation of M&A and Voce's activism









Argo's historical discount to the multiple of its peers is persistent and ongoing

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# Prior to this contest, Argo itself frequently bemoaned its valuation discount





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# Peer valuations

Summary Comp Culture Expenses Business Capital Performance Opportunity

# Despite its stock appreciation, Argo still trades at the bottom of its peer set because its ROE is also at the bottom

(USD in millions, except per share data)

|                                   | Techni     | Capital | ization  | n Fundamental |       |       |       |       |       |       |      |      | Fact. |       |
|-----------------------------------|------------|---------|----------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|
|                                   | USD        | % of    |          |               |       |       | _     | Price |       |       | 88   |      |       |       |
|                                   | 2/1/19     | 52W     | Equity   | Book          | EVIE  | bovs  | Earn  | ings  | Book  | 2018  | Gro  | with | Div.  | Conc. |
|                                   | Price      | High    | Value    | Value         | 2019E | 2020E | 2019E | 2020E | Value | ROE   | EPS  | Rev. | Yield | Own.  |
| Peers                             |            |         |          |               |       |       |       |       |       | 1     |      |      |       |       |
| Kinsale Capital Group, Inc.       | \$58.22    | 90%     | \$1,266  | \$264         | 1.0x  | 0.9x  | 26.1x | 23.3x | 4.79x | 13.5% | 12%  | 15%  | 0.5%  | NA    |
| The Navigators Group, Inc.        | \$69.54    | 98%     | \$2,080  | \$1,187       | 0.0x  | 0.8x  | 20.9x | 17.9x | 1.69x | 2.8%  | 17%  | 3%   | 0.4%  | 11.6% |
| RLI Corp.                         | \$66.16    | 83%     | \$2,970  | \$807         | 0.9x  | 0.8x  | 29.1x | 26.5x | 3.65x | 7.7%  | 10%  | 5%   | 2.8%  | NA    |
| Selective Insurance Group, Inc.   | \$62.28    | 93%     | \$3,724  | \$1,792       | 0.6x  | 0.6x  | 15.3x | 14.3x | 2.05x | 10.2% | 7%   | 5%   | 1.3%  | NA    |
| The Hanover Insurance Group, Inc. | \$113.62   | 86%     | \$4,874  | \$2,955       | 0.6x  | 0.6x  | 14.0x | 12.5x | 1.63x | 8.0%  | 12%  | 6%   | 2.1%  | NA    |
| W. R. Berkley Corporation         | \$51.82    | 90%     | \$9,984  | \$5,438       | 0.0x  | 0.8x  | 20.1x | 18.5x | 1.75x | 11.8% | 9%   | 3%   | 2.7%  | 20.6% |
| James River Group Holdings, Ltd.  | \$38.50    | 89%     | \$1,169  | \$709         | 0.8x  | 0.8x  | 14.3x | 13.9x | 1.65x | 9.1%  | 2%   | 3%   | 3.1%  | NA    |
| Arch Capital Group Ltd.           | \$29.74    | 95%     | \$12,197 | \$8,660       | 1.8x  | 1.8x  | 12.1x | 11.2x | 1.40x | 8.7%  | 8%   | 2%   |       | 11.6% |
| AXIS Capital Holdings Limited     | \$55.29    | 91%     | \$4,621  | \$4,255       | 0.9x  | 0.9x  | 10.6x | 9.8x  | 1.09x | 0.0%  | 8%   | 2%   | 2.9%  | NA    |
| Markel Corporation                | \$1,060.29 | 86%     | \$14,755 | \$9,081       | 1.2x  | 1.1x  | 27.0x | 25.9x | 1.50x | -1.4% | 4%   | 3%   |       | NA    |
| Median                            | \$80.25    | 90%     | \$4,173  | \$2,373       | 0.9x  | 0.8x  | 17.7x | 16.1x | 1.67x | 8.3%  | 8%   | 3%   | 1.7%  | 11.6% |
| Mean                              | \$160.58   | 91%     | \$5,764  | \$3,515       | 0.9x  | 0.9x  | 18.9x | 17.4x | 2.12x | 7.0%  | 9%   | 5%   | 1.6%  | 14.6% |
| 11.                               |            |         |          |               |       |       |       |       |       |       | li I |      |       |       |
| Argo                              | \$66.01    | 94%     | \$2,238  | \$1,747       | 0.8x  | 0.8x  | 16.4x | 14.9x | 1,23x | 3.6%  | 10%  | 5%   | 1,6%  | NA.   |
| Source: Capital IQ                |            |         |          |               |       |       |       |       |       |       | B.   |      |       |       |

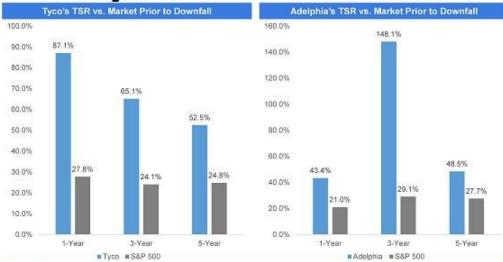
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# TSR isn't everything...

Summary Comp
Culture Expenses
Business Capital
Performance Coopstumer
Governances Conclusion

# tyco

# Adelphia



Troubling corporate governance practices should be a flashing red light – gains may be unsustainable or even subject to rapid reversal

# Assessing Argo's Long-Term Performance

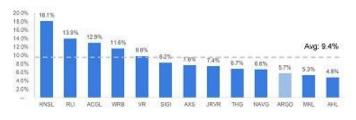
- 1. Total Shareholder Return
- 2. Return on Equity
- 3. Argo's Peers

## Argo's inferior Return on Equity

#### Summary Comp Culture Expenses Business Capital Performance Copportunity







#### Commentary

- ROE is the operating and financial metric for insurance companies
- Despite constantly moving and lowering the goal posts, Argo has achieved its own ROE target once in the past decade
- Argo has failed to cover its cost of capital – meaning it is destroying shareholder value
- While there are undeniably puts and takes in any given year (e.g., cat losses) over an entire decade a company's ROE performance should be very representative of its current earnings power
- Argo remains at the bottom of its peer set on ROE – explaining its relative valuation discount



# Long-term failure to meet own ROE targets

|           | CEO Watson's Commitments to Shareholders   | Reality   |
|-----------|--|---|
| 2008      | <ul> <li>Reaffirms 13-15% ROE (1Q08 Earnings Call,<br/>5/6/08)</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>2008 ROE was 4.6%</li> <li>Backed away from target range by end of year</li> </ul>   |
| 2009      | <ul> <li>Asserts that "double-digit ROE" was achievable<br/>for 2009 (4Q08 Eamings Call, 2/13/09)</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>2009 ROE was 7.9%</li> <li>Asked investors to focus on 10% as "more realistic than a 15% ROE"</li> </ul>   |
| 2011      | <ul> <li>Reintroduces long-term goal of 12% vs. previous<br/>target of 15% due to "current economic<br/>environment" (2Q11 Earnings Call, 8/5/11)</li> </ul>                                 | <ul> <li>2010 ROE was 5.4%</li> <li>2011 ROE was (5.3%)</li> <li>2012 ROE was 3.5%</li> </ul>   |
| 2014      | <ul> <li>Moves goalposts, sets new target of *700 basis points over the risk-free rate" (3Q14 Eamings Call, 10/31/14)</li> <li>Rationale for this novel target / hurdle has never</li> </ul> | 2014 ROE was 11.4%, the only year within the<br>past 10 that a double-digit ROE was achieved,<br>ironically   |
| 2015-2018 | <ul> <li>Makes the "700 bps+" a "long-term ROE target"<br/>that Argo is "moving towards" (most recently<br/>4Q18 Earnings Call, 2/12/19)</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Even using Argo's novel "700 bps+" goal, Argo only once narrowly achieved this in 2015, and missed it by &gt;600 bps in 2017 and 2018</li> <li>BVPS actually shrunk in 2018</li> </ul> |

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## ROE is much more important than BVPS

Argo's preference for "Book Value Per Share" is understandable given its inability to generate ROE, but misguided

#### Industry Standard: Return on Equity

- Return on equity is the key metric for insurance companies
  - Unifies both operational (expenses) and capital (equity) analysis
- Majority of Argo's <u>peers incorporate ROE</u> in their compensation methodology
- Focusing on <u>ROE aligns management incentives</u> with those of shareholders
- ROE is empirically predictive of P / BV multiple

#### Argo's Preferred Measure: BVPS

- Argo is a <u>significant outlier</u>
  - Only 4 of Argo's 12 peers ignore ROE
  - Similar to Argo, these companies generally have inferior ROEs (median 2018 ROE = 5.4%, hence preference for BVPS)
  - Companies typically use BVPS growth for only a portion of comp and it is measured long-term
  - Argo's LTIP only measures 1-year BVPS growth
  - Median BVPS growth target of peers using BVPS: 11.0% (Argo = 7.0%)
- Argo likely prefers BVPS because it rarely meets its own ROE targets
- BVPS as the sole metric can incentivize bad behavior
  - Capital hoarding
  - Not closing / divesting unproductive business
  - Over-reserving
  - No penalty for expense laxity
- Growing book value when not covering cost of capital is value destructive





|      |        | 100   |          |        | Annual GA         | AP ROE                    |                                |       |  |        | Avg.  | Current |
|------|--------|-------|----------|--------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|--|--------|-------|---------|
| - 5  | 2009   | 2010  | 2011     | 2012   | 2013              | 2014                      | 2015                           | 2016  | 2017   | 2018   | ROE   | P/BV    |
| NSL  |        |       |          |        |                   | 28.0%                     | 21.6%                          | 16.2% | 11.1%  | 13.5%  | 18.1% | 4.79    |
| WVG  | 8.5%   | 8.5%  | 3.1%     | 7.6%   | 7.1%              | 9.9%                      | 7.6%                           | 7.3%  | 3.4%   | 2.8%   | 6.6%  | 1.69:   |
| BLII | 12.2%  | 15.8% | 16.0%    | 13.0%  | 15.5%             | 16.2%                     | 16.5%                          | 14.0% | 12.5%  | 7.7%   | 13,9% | 3.65    |
| iGI  | 4.7%   | 6.8%  | 2.1%     | 3.5%   | 9.6%              | 11.7%                     | 12.4%                          | 10.8% | 10.4%  | 10.2%  | 8.2%  | 2.06    |
| HG   | 8.8%   | 6.2%  | 1.3%     | 1.8%   | 9.5%              | 10.4%                     | 11.6%                          | 2.4%  | 7.4%   | 8.0%   | 6.7%  | 1.63    |
| VRB  | 9.3%   | 12.2% | 10.2%    | 12.4%  | 11.6%             | 14.5%                     | 11.0%                          | 12.5% | 10.5%  | 11.8%  | 11.6% | 1.75    |
| RVR  |        |       |          | 2.2%   | 9.1%              | 6.4%                      | 7.8%                           | 10.8% | 6.3%   | 9.1%   | 7.4%  | 1.656   |
| CGL  | 22.9%  | 20.0% | 9.7%     | 12.2%  | 13.5%             | 14.6%                     | 8.9%                           | 10.9% | 8.0%   | 8.7%   | 12.9% | 1,40    |
| XS   | 10.3%  | 16.2% | 0.2%     | 9.7%   | 13.1%             | 14.8%                     | 11.5%                          | 9.0%  | (8.6%)   | 0.0%   | 7.6%  | 1.09    |
| KI.  | 7,3%   | 9.0%  | 4.3%     | 6.9%   | 5.4%              | 4.4%                      | 7.6%                           | 5.4%  | 4.0%   | (1.4%) | 5,3%  | 1,50    |
| R    | 22.1%  | 10.5% | 0.4%     | 10.8%  | 13.3%             | 13.0%                     | 10.3%                          | 9.8%  | (1.8%)   | (611)  |       |         |
| HL.  | 16.3%  | 9.9%  | (4.7%)   | 8.6%   | 10.0%             | 11.3%                     | 9.9%                           | 5.7%  | (11.9%)  | (7.8%) |       |         |
| RGO  | 7.9%   | 5.4%  | (6.3%)   | 3.5%   | 9.3%              | 11.4%                     | 9.8%                           | 8,5%  | 2.8%   | 3.6%   | 5.7%  | 1.23    |
|      | 6.00x  |       |          |        |                   |                           |                                |       |  |        |       |         |
|      |        |       |          |        |                   |                           |                                |       |  |        |       |         |
|      | 5.00x  |       |          |        |                   |                           |                                |       |  | KNSL   |       |         |
|      |        |       |          |        |                   |                           |                                |       |  | * KNSL |       |         |
|      | 4.00x  |       |          |        |                   |                           |                                |       | 81 = 0   | 084,   |       |         |
|      | ****** |       |          |        |                   |                           |                                | • SU  | - Section Sect | 11.71  |       |         |
| 2    | 3.00x  |       |          |        |                   |                           | THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO |       |  |        |       |         |
|      |        |       |          |        | 110000            | A Designation of the last |                                |       |  |        |       |         |
|      | 2.05   |       |          | * SIG( | and particular to |                           |                                |       |  |        |       |         |
|      |        | * MSL | NAMES OF |        |                   | • WILL                    | · ACG.                         |       |  |        |       |         |
|      | 1.00x  |       |          | 100    |                   |                           |                                |       |  |        |       |         |
|      | 201    |       |          |        |                   |                           |                                |       |  |        |       |         |
|      | 4.0%   | 9.09  |          | 8.0%   | 10.0%             | 12.0%                     | 14                             | .0%   | 16.0%  | 18.0%  | 20.0% |         |

Argo's anemic ROE explains its long-term valuation discount, and improving ROE is the only pathway to sustainable increase in value

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# Assessing Argo's Long-Term Performance

- 1. Total Shareholder Return
- 2. Return on Equity
- Argo's Peers

# Argo understates peer TSRs by excluding acquired companies



| 2014                                  | 2015                                  | 2016   | 2017                                  | 2018   |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Alied World                           | Allied World                          | Allied World   | Alter World                           | Alled World  |
| American Financial<br>Amfin           | American Financial                    | American Financial   | American Financial                    | American Financial   |
| Arch Capital Group<br>Aspen Insurance | Arch Capital Group<br>Aspen Insurance | Arch Capital Group<br>Aspen Insurance  | Arch Capital Group<br>Aspen Insurance | Arch Capital Group   |
| Axis Capital                          | Axis Capital                          | Axis Capital   | Axis Capital                          | Axis Capital   |
| Beazley<br>Catin Group                | Beazley                               | Beazley  | Beazley                               | Beazley  |
| Endurance<br>HCC Insurance            | Endurance                             | Endurance<br>HCC Instrument  |                                       |  |
| Hiscox                                | Hisoax                                | Hiscox   | Hiscox                                | Hscox  |
| Markel                                | Markel                                | Markel   | Markel                                | Markel   |
| RLI                                   | RLI                                   | RLI  | RU                                    | RLI  |
| Renaissance Re<br>Validus             | Renaissance Re<br>Validus             | Renaissance Re<br>Validus  | Renaissance Re<br>Validus             | Renaissance Re   |
| W.R. Berkley                          | W.R. Berkley                          | W.R. Berkley<br>AmTrust Financial  | W.R. Berkley<br>AmTrust Financial     | W.R. Berkley   |
|                                       |                                       | Navigators   | Navigators                            | Navigators (TSR: +137%<br>Alleghany                          |
|                                       |                                       | Argo excludes<br>Navigators, even<br>though it is <u>still</u><br>publicity-traded |                                       | Enstar<br>James River<br>ProAssurance<br>Selective Insurance |

Black Proxy peer from prior year Blue Newly-Added Green Announced M&A Grey Acquired

9 out of Argo's 18 Proxy peers used in the last 5 years have either been acquired or have announced M&A (excluding the 5 added in 2019 due to M&A)

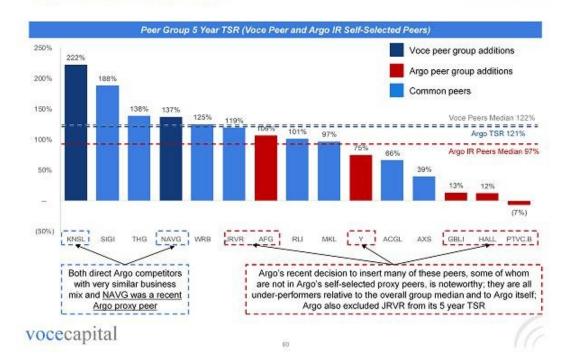
|              | M&A    | Share   | Price   | Total  |
|--------------|--------|---------|---------|--------|
|              | Date   | 2/1/14  | Takeout | Return |
| Amlin        | Feb-16 | £4.18   | £6.85   | 85%    |
| Catin Group  | May-15 | £5.28   | £6.93   | 50%    |
| HCC          | Oct-15 | \$42.91 | \$78.00 | 88%    |
| Allied World | Jul-17 | \$34,31 | \$47.85 | 68% (  |
| Endurance    | Mar-17 | \$52.39 | \$93.00 | 91% 1  |
| Aspen        | Feb-19 | \$38.90 | \$42.75 | 21%    |
| Validus      | Jul-18 | \$35.92 | \$68.00 | 116%   |
| AmTrust      | Nov-18 | \$16.14 | \$14.75 | 4%     |

The specialty insurance space is very acquisitive and Argo's Proxy Peer TSRs are understated as Argo chose to exclude the returns of acquired companies

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## Argo's selective peering







# Musical peers: Argo uses different peer groups

Argo has a separate peer group from its Proxy Peers to benchmark its operating performance and TSRs for investors; companies added to this group were generally small, sub-scale underperformers

| - training  |                      | Equity   | Book             | P/    | 2018   | Added company differen  |
|-------------|----------------------|----------|------------------|-------|--------|-------------------------|
| Ticker      | Company              | Value    | Value            | BV    | ROE    | From Argo's Proxy Peers |
| Y           | Alleghany            | \$9,422  | \$7,693          | 1.11x | 0.5%   |                         |
| AFG         | American Financial   | \$8,451  | \$4,970          | 1.63x | 10.3%  |                         |
| ACGL        | Arch Capital         | \$12,197 | \$8,660          | 1.40x | 8.7%   |                         |
| AXS         | AXIS Capital         | \$4,621  | \$4,255          | 1.09x | 0.0%   |                         |
| GBLI        | Global Indemnity     | \$476    | \$629            | 0.68x | -8.4%  |                         |
| HALL        | Hallmark Financial   | \$178    | \$256            | 0.67x | 4.1%   |                         |
| JRVR        | James River          | \$1,169  | \$709            | 1.65x | 9.1%   |                         |
| MKL         | Markel               | \$14,755 | \$9,081          | 1.50x | -1.4%  |                         |
| PTVC.B      | Protective Insurance | \$275    | \$356            | 0.71x | -8.8%  |                         |
| RLI         | RLI Corp.            | \$2,970  | \$807            | 3.65x | 7.7%   |                         |
| SIGI        | Selective Insurance  | \$3,724  | \$1,792          | 2.05x | 10.2%  |                         |
| THG         | Hanover              | \$4,874  | \$2,955          | 1.63x | 8.0%   |                         |
| WRB         | W. R. Berkley        | \$9,964  | \$5,438          | 1.75x | 11.8%  |                         |
| Average     |                      | \$5,623  | \$3,661          | 1.50x | 4.0%   |                         |
| Median      |                      | \$4,621  | \$2,955          | 1.50x | 7.7%   |                         |
| Average of  | Added Peers          | \$1,451  | <u>\$1.049</u> - | 0.92x | -1.3%  |                         |
| Median of A |                      | \$376    | \$493            | 0.70x | -2.2%1 |                         |



61:



## Why would Argo include these companies?

|  | USD      | % of |         |         |       |       |       | Price |       |       |     |      |       |
|--|----------|------|---------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------|-------|
|  | 2/1/19   | 52W  | Equity  | Book    | EVIE  | levs  | Earn  | ings  | Book  | 2018  | Gra | wth  | Div.  |
| (USD in millions, except per share data) | Price    | High | Value   | Value   | 2019E | 2020E | 20100 | 20206 | Value | ROE   | EPS | Rev. | Yield |
| Alleghany Corporation                    | \$639.00 | 97%  | \$9,422 | \$7,093 | NA    | NA.   | 16.7x | NA.   | 1.11s | 0.5%  | NM  | NM   |       |
| American Financial Group, Inc.           | \$94.00  | 79%  | \$8,451 | \$4,970 | 1.0x  | 0.94  | 10.9x | 10.6x | 1.634 | 10.3% | 3%  | 5%   | 3.3%  |
| Slobal Indomnity Limited                 | 833.76   | 79%  | \$476   | 9829    | NA.   | NA    | NA.   | NA.   | 0.684 | -8.4% | NM  | NM   | 3.0%  |
| Hallmark Financial Services, Inc.        | 89.87    | 85%  | 8178    | 8256    | 0.74  | 0.6×  | 9.64  | 8.24  | 0.674 | 4.1%  | 17% | 7%   |       |
| Protective Insurance Corporation         | \$18.53  | 72%  | \$275   | \$350   | NA    | NA.   | NA    | NA    | 0.714 | -0.0% | NM  | NM   | 6.0%  |

- Significant differences in
- 3 of the 5 trading meaningfully below book value
- Large differences in
- Technical trading discounts

Almost 80% of insurance revenues are reinsurance related

Alleghany • Alleghany Capital segment includes assets such as specially machine tool manufacturer, custom trailers and truck bodies for moving and storage industry and a toy and entertainment and musical instrument company



- 20%+ insider owned company
- AMERICAN PROMOCIAL \* Embedded annuity business makes it less comparable



- Writes less than 1/3 of Argo's net premiums (~\$500mm)
  - Over 50% of premiums are in Personal and Reinsurance
  - < 20% of shares outstanding are considered in the public float given insider and controlling ownership</p>



- Writes only ~\$360mm of net premiums, or just over 20% of Argo's
  - . 25% of business is personal lines and standard commercial segment



- PROTECTIVE \* Writes only ~\$430mm of premiums, < 25% of Argo's
  - Non-voting Class B share structure



# Opportunity #1: Revitalize Corporate Governance





## Revitalize Corporate Governance: Summary

### Over-tenured and concentrated Board

- . The same Big 5 directors have on average almost 20 years' tenure
- · The Big 5 wield almost all of the Board's power
- No retirements: last Director to leave Board died in office at age 79 (also after 20 years on Argo Board)
- Board has demonstrated an unwillingness or inability to oversee and hold CEO Watson accountable over a very long period

## Lack of alignment

- <u>Limited stock ownership</u> by independent directors and <u>inveterate insider selling</u> betray a lack of confidence in Argo's prospects and a stark misalignment with stockholders
- · Pledging policy further reduces alignment

#### Entrenchment

 Recent Board appointments made during discussions with Voce were reactive and invalid under the Company's Bye-laws and Bermuda law

#### Poor governance processes

- · Bermuda law limits shareholder rights and protections
- · Staggered Board, limiting accountability
- · Voting mechanics put shareholders at a disadvantage

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## Over-tenured and controlling Board

# Who are the Big 5?

| Eummary       | Comp        |
|---------------|-------------|
| O. bire       | Expenses    |
| Busness       |             |
| Serietina neo | Opportunity |
| Covernmence   | DOMESTIC OF |

| Director           | Years on Argo<br>Board | Additional<br>Overlapping<br>Years at Tita<br>Holdings |                        | Comment   |
|--------------------|------------------------|--|------------------------|---|
| F. Sedgwick Browne | 20                     |  | NA.                    | Chair of Risk & Capital Committee (since its creation in 2017); member of Audit Committee and Nom & Gov Committee in a Lof last 10 years.     |
| John R. Power, Jr. | 19                     |  | The Patrician Group    | Chair of HR Committee (7 of last 15 years), member of Audit Committee, HR<br>Committee, Nom 8 Gov Committee in all or last 10 years           |
| Hector De Leon     | 18                     | 5  | De Leon &<br>Washbum   | Member of Audit Committee, HR Committee, and Executive Committee' in all of last 10 years.  |
| Mural R. Josephson | 15                     |  | NA                     | Chair of Audit Committee (9 of last 10 years); member of Audit Committee in all of last 10 years  |
| Gary V Woods       | 19                     | В  | McComes<br>Enterprises | Chairman of the Roand and manifer of HR Committee, Investment Committee, Nom & Gov Committee and Executive Committee* in all of ast 10 years. |
| Average            | 18                     | 6  |                        |   |
| Mark E. Watson III | 20                     | 8  | Argo                   | Member of I westment Committee, Risk & Capita, Committee, and Executive Committee   |



"Six of the 13 incumbent directors have been on the board since August 2007, when Argo formed following the merger of equals between specialty insurer Argonaut Group and reinsurer PXRE Group. Most of the six had also served on the boards of either Argonaut or PXRE for six to eight years prior to the merger. This points to a possible domination of the board's judgements and decisions by the group of long-serving members. This hypothesis further grows in strength when the average tenure of directors on the remaining seats of Argo Group's board is added to the consideration. . . . [This creates potential for unwanted subordination, hierarchy and cosy relationships, as well as occurrence of social proof, conservativism and other related biases on the board that may hurt its objectivity and eventually lead to decisions that fall short of shareholders' best interests." – Insurance Insider (4/9/19)

<sup>\*</sup>Escablise Committee was removed from Auges 2019 Energ Absonant

1. Years on Ango Board Include time served on the Board of PXRE for Wr. Browne (5 years) and Mr. Josephson (5 years) prior to its merger with Argonaul in 2007

# Over-tenured and controlling Board Window dressing

Summary Comp Culture Expenses Business Capital Performance Opportunity Sovernance Conclusion

Argo's Proxy Statement attempts to mask its Board Committee concentration issues with superficial tweaks in response to our letter

#### Voce's 2/25/19 Letter

- \*Mr. Woods is the Board's Chairman, but he also sits on four other committees (more than any other Director), and just for good measure is also the Chairman of the Nominating Committee"
- "While the Board will likely tout its recent Director appointments, each of them were allowed only one committee assignment and none chairs a committee"
- \*Messrs. De Leon and Woods comprise the Executive Committee, along with Mr. Watson\*

#### 2019 Proxy Statement Dated 3/26/19

- Mr. Woods removed from Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee after more than 10 straight years
- B Mr. Bradley made Chair of Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, first change in Chair since 2014, which was the first year a Chair of the committee was disclosed
- © Executive Committee abolished, after more than 10 straight years of existence and no change in composition

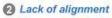
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# Over-tenured and controlling Board Death Grip



|             | 2009                | 2010             | 2011               | 2012          | 2013   | 2014          | 2015          | 2016           | 2017             | 2018         |
|-------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|--|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| Audit Com   |                     |                  |                    |               | 2010   |               |               |                |                  |              |
| #1          |                     | Josephson (C)    | Josephson (C)      | Josephson (C) | Josephson (C)  | Josephson     | Josephson (C) | Josephson (C)  | Josephson ICI    | Josephson (C |
| #2          | - Landon [4]        |                  | - Los              |               | and the same of th | El-Hage [C]   | - Total       | accelingon (a) | - Total Sour Lot |              |
| #3          | Maresh              | - 44             |                    | - 44          |  | an regulary   | - 4           | as .           | - 4              | -            |
| 84          | Browne              | Browne           | Browne             | Browne        | Browne   | Browne        | Browne        | Browne         | Browne           | Browne       |
| 45          | De Leon             | De Leon          | De Leon            | De Leon       | De Leon  | De Leon       | De Leon       | De Leon        | De Leon          | De Leon      |
| #6          | Power               | Power            | Power              | Power         | Power  | Power         | Power         | Power          | Power            | Power        |
| 67          |                     | 244              | Nealon             | Nesion        | Nealon   | Nealon        | Nealon        | Nealon         |                  | -            |
| #8          | _                   |                  | 14-11              |               | -  |               | _             | -              | 4                | Bradley      |
|             | sources Committe    | ee (i.e., Compen | sation Committe    | rel           |  |               |               |                |                  |              |
| #1          | Power [C]           | Power [C]        | Power [C]          | Power [C]     | Power [C]  | Power         | Power         | Power          | Power [C]        | Power [C]    |
| #2          | De Leon             | De Leon          | De Leon            | De Leon       | De Leon  | De Leon       | De Leon       | De Leon        | De Leon          | De Leon      |
| #3          | Woods               | Woods            | Woods              | Woods         | Woods  | Woods         | Woods         | Woods          | Woods            | Woods        |
| #4          | Browne              | Browne           | Browne             | Browne        | Browne   | Browne        | Browne        | Browne         |                  |              |
| #5          | Cash                | Cash             | Cash               | Cash          | Cash   | Cash [C]      | Cash (C)      | Cash [C]       | Cash             | -            |
| #6          | -                   |                  | -                  | -             | Toneli   | Toneli        | -             | -              | 0.20             | Test 1       |
| #7          | -                   |                  | ***                | ***           |  | Josephson     | -             | **             | -                | **           |
| Investment  | Committee           |                  |                    |               |  | 27-19-10-10-1 |               |                |                  |              |
| #1          | -                   | Tonelli          | Tonelli            | Tonelli       | Tonell   | Tonell [C]    | Tonell [C]    | Toneli (C)     | Tonelli [C]      | Tonell [C]   |
| #2          | Woods [C]           | Woods [C]        | Woods [C]          | Woods [C]     | Woods [C]  | Woods         | Woods         | Woods          | Woods            | Woods        |
| #3          | Cash                | Cash             | Cash               | Cash          | Cash   | Cash          | Cash          | Cash           | Cash             | -            |
| #4          | Watson              | Watson           | Watson             | Watson        | Watson   | Watson        | Watson        | Watson         | Watson           | Watson       |
| A5          | Control of the same | El-Hage          | El-Hage            | El-Hage       | El-Hage  | El-Hage       |               | 100 April 100  | Ramji            | Ramji        |
| Nominating  | y and Corporate 6   | Sovernance Com   | omittee            |               |  |               |               |                |                  | ALL COMMENTS |
| m1          | Woods               | Woods            | Woods              | Woods         | Woods  | Woods [C]     | Woods [C]     | Woods [C]      | Woods [C]        | C            |
| #2          | -                   | -                | -                  | **            |  | -             | -             | -              | 46.5             | Bradley [C]  |
| #3          | Power               | Power            | Power              | Power         | Power  | Power         | Power         | Power          | Power            | Power        |
| #4          | Browne              | Browne           | Browne             | Browne        | Browne   | Browne        | Browne        | Browne         | Browne           | Browne       |
| A5          |                     | 944              | 22 <del>4</del> 33 |               | +-   |               |               | Tonelli        | Tonelli          | Toneli       |
| Risk & Cap  | Ital Committee      |                  |                    |               |  |               |               |                |                  |              |
| #1          | -                   | **               | 2.00               | ***           | ***  | **            |               | ***            | Browne [C]       | Browne [C]   |
| #2          |                     | -                |                    | -             | -  | -             | -             | -              | Lehane           | Lehane       |
| #3          | -                   | -                |                    | 44            |  | ***           | -             | -              | Nealon           | Nealon       |
| #4          | 2                   |                  | 20                 |               | 20   | 2             | 22            | _              | Toneli           | Toneli       |
| #5          | Separation 7:       | 0.77             | 750                | 0.277         | 55.0   | 770           | 100           | 975.3          | Watson           | Watson       |
| Executive ( |                     |                  |                    |               |  |               |               |                |                  | _            |
| #1          | Woods [C]           | Woods [C]        | Woods [C]          | Woods [C]     | Woods [C]  | Woods         | Woods         | Woods          | Woods            | -            |
| 4.0         | De Leon             | De Leon          | De Leon            | De Leon       | De Leon  | De Leon       | De Leon       | De Leon        | De Leon          | -            |
| #2<br>#3    | Watson              |                  | Watson             | Watson        | Watson   | Watson        | Watson        | Watson         | Watson           |              |



# Rampant insider selling



#### Buy / Sell History Last 10 Years 1

|                       | Purch   | a 50 5         | Sal     | 05             |          | Common Shares Owned |      |  |
|-----------------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|----------|---------------------|------|--|
| Person                | Shares  | Most<br>Recent | Shares  | Most<br>Recent | Net Sold | Shares              | %    |  |
| Board of Directors    |         |                |         |                |          |                     |      |  |
| Gary V. Woods         | 23,000  | Dec-17         | 40,561  | Aug-18         | 17,561   | 61,174              | 0.2% |  |
| Mark E. Watson II     | 82,915  | Aug-10         | 669,018 | Mar-19         | 576,103  | 610,418             | 18N  |  |
| F. Sedgwick Browne    | 3,060   | May-11         | 30,928  | Nov-18         | 27,868   | 16,195              | 0.0% |  |
| Mural R. Josephson    |         |                | 35,299  | Dec-18         | 35,299   | 8,048               | 0.0% |  |
| John R. Power, Jr     |         |                | 48,461  | Aug-18         | 48,481   | 9,964               | 0.0% |  |
| John H. Tonelli       |         |                | 10,630  | Aug-18         | 10,630   | 13,919              | 0.0% |  |
| Hector De Leon        |         |                | 30,077  | Aug-18         | 30,077   | 14,925              | 0.0% |  |
| Dymphna A. Lehane     |         |                |         |                | /        | -                   | 1    |  |
| Kathleen A. Nealon    |         |                | 10,894  | Nov-18         | 10,894   | 13,355              | 0.0% |  |
| Thomas A. Bradley     | 2,000   | Aug-18         |         | /              | (2,000)  | 2,000 /             | 0.0% |  |
| Al- Noor Ramji        |         |                |         |                | 0.25/193 | -/                  | -    |  |
| Total Directors       | 110,975 |                | 865,867 |                | 754,892  | 149,998             | 2.2% |  |
|                       |         |                |         |                |          | *                   |      |  |
| Independent Directors | 28,060  |                | 206,849 |                | 178,789  | 139,580             | 0.4% |  |

 Nearly 8x as much sale of stock vs open market purchases

 Independent directors have sold more than 50% of granted stock and options

> Argo attempts to exclude net shares sold after stock option exercises or to fulfill tax obligations - highly misleading and inaccurate

Source: Company Form 4, 2018 Proxy

1. Includes open market acquisitions, sales to meet tax obligations, open market dispositions and sales netting for the option exercise price

2. Beneficial ownership less SARs and RSUs

Argo's initial proxy trading history was deficient and failed to disclose several insider transactions – not corrected until the definitive proxy



# Argo understates pledging and its risks

- Summary Comp
  Culture Empenses
  Business Capital
  Performance Occontunity
  Coverns code Conclusion
- . The Board's allowance of pledging half of beneficial ownership is concerning
- The Board's disclosure of inside ownership is misleading because it reports shares gross of pledging, materially overstating ownership
- CEO Watson's pledging has been substantial must measure in relation to vested common stock ownership, which is the only equity that can actually be pledged
- Previous examples where CEO pledging has been disastrous for shareholders include Chesapeake, Valeant and WorldCom

|   | Mark E. Watson III Ownership & Pledging Activity |         |         |           |         |           |           |                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|---------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|   | 2012   | 2013    | 2014    | 2015      | 2016    | 2017      | 2018      | Average<br>Since '12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reported Ownership                      | 687,508  | 654,873 | 744,170 | 1,063,731 | 995,880 | 1,011,138 | 1,187,634 | 906,419              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reported Pledged Shares 1               | 150,000  | 123,600 | 118,600 | 130,460   | 12      | 120,000   | 165,031   | 115,384              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pledged as a % of Reported<br>Ownership | 21.8%  | 18.9%   | 15.9%   | 12.3%     | -       | 11.9%     | 13.9%     | 13.5%                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less: SARs, Unvested Shares             | 363,512  | 340,643 | 417,352 | 771,488   | 507,799 | 521,948   | 577,216   | 499,994              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Actual Common Ownership                 | 323,996  | 314,230 | 326,818 | 292,243   | 488,081 | 489,190   | 610,418   | 406,425              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pledged as a % of Actual<br>Common      | 46.3%  | 39.3%   | 36.3%   | 44.6%     | -       | 24.5%     | 27.0%     | 31.2%                |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. Pledging of shares was not disclosed prior to 2012



| Summary     | Come        |
|-------------|-------------|
| Culture     | Expenses    |
| STEMPS W    | Design of   |
| Performance | Opportunity |
| Governance  | Conclusion  |

| Action   | Reaction  |
|--|---|
| Voce requests meeting with management<br>multiple times during research process  | Argo never responds and later disowns previous IR modes o communication (e.g., "unmonitored email box")   |
| Voce requests meeting again after becoming shareholder   | Argo puts Voce through several hoops before making executives available   |
| Voce schedules meeting with Chairman to discuss "corporate governance" concerns after indicating it may seek changes to "Board composition, which could include the nomination of director candidates" | Argo attempts to appoint two new directors days before the governance meeting, filling the Board to capacity, despite only shareholders being permitted by Company Bye-laws to fill such vacancies  No legacy directors retire  |
| Voce sends detailed public letter to<br>shareholders chronicling misuse of corporate<br>assets at Argo, including corporate funding and<br>ownership of CEO's personal website                         | Argo admits to taking down "personal" website within hours of Voce letter Argo provides shareholders with few responses – clever, hair-splitting denials that aren't credible Grounds corporate air force – but for how long? Board has been silent as to what steps, if any, it has taken to investigate |
| Voce criticizes leadership and composition of key Committees, especially Human Resources (i.e. "Compensation") in 2/25/19 letter   | 3/26/19 Proxy Statement makes marginal changes:  - Claims to have eliminated CEO Housing and Travel   |

- (i.e., "Compensation"), in 2/25/19 letter
- Voce challenges housing, travel and aircraft
- allowances despite no change in contract vs. prior Employment Agreement
- Altered or abolished Board Committees
- Altered language around corporate aircraft

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# Reactive and Dysfunctional Nomination Process

Summary Comp
Culture Empenses
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Performance Coochungs
Coverns and Conclusion

- On 2/5/19, Voce requested a meeting with Argo's Board explicitly to discuss our corporate governance concerns
  - Our 13D filing on 2/1/19 specified that we intended to discuss "corporate governance, including management and Board composition, which could include the nomination of director candidates for election to the Board"
- Despite having scheduled a meeting with us in NYC for 2/27/19, Argo's Board unilaterally attempted to expand the size of its Board from 11 to 13 by appointing 2 new Directors
  - Prior to even hearing our concerns
  - Failed to adequately disclose key information such as Director class assignments
  - No retirements announced
- Argo's Bye-laws limit Board appointments to "casual vacancies" only – meaning death or resignations between AGMs
  - Otherwise, only shareholders can fill empty seats
- At the time of Liss and Latham appointments there were no casual vacancies for the Board to fill. Only remaining vacancies were from expiration of prior Directors' terms

#### Argo's Bye-Laws Sec. 22 (6)

"The Directors shall ... have the power ... to appoint any Person as a Director to fill a <u>casual vacancy</u> on the Board. . ."



"Argo Group, facing criticism from Voce Capital... appointed two board members....Adding additional friendly directors is one strategy corporate executives can use to thwart or diminish the influence of activists or other outside voice." – Insurance Insider (2/26/19)

#### Munster v. Cammell Co. (1882) 21 Ch. D 183

"What is the meaning of the expression "any casual vacancy"? "Any casual vacancy," in my judgment, is any vacancy in the office of directors arising . . . otherwise than by the retirement in rotation."

Director Bradley took the last "casual vacancy," which was created by Director Cash's death

We believe that Argo's two recent purported Board appointments were blatant attempts at entrenchment – and also were legally and facially invalid

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## Director-Gate: Zzzzz



 Voce's counsel TWICE advised Argo's counsel that Voce would agree to confirmatory interviews of any Voce Nominee Argo agreed to place on its Board

"Our client . . . strongly believes that meaningful engagement requires constructive dialogue by the Board with Voce to address Voce's myriad concerns with Argo, including its corporate governance. As previously stated, in the absence of agreement between the parties to resolve these concerns, interviewing Voce's Nominees at this time is premature. We also reiterate that Voce's Nominees, all of whom are substantial and highly-experienced individuals, have already provided all disclosure and information required by the applicable securities laws and the Company's organizational documents, which requirements are extensive. As it has done in every previous situation, Voce will make available for customary, confirmatory interviews any Nominee that the Board has agreed with Voce to appoint to the Board." — Voce's Counsel (3/22/19)

- A similar email was sent by Voce's counsel on March 4, 2019
- This is customary practice in activism and in Voce's experience "exploratory" interviews are unproductive "fishing expeditions"
- In the prior 5 years, Voce has entered into 7 different cooperation agreements with its portfolio companies that resulted in Board appointments
  - In EVERY instance, Voce's nominee was interviewed by the Board <u>after</u> a framework for settlement was agreed upon by the parties
  - And EVERY one of those Nominees was subsequently added to the Board without issue
- Voce's distrust of Argo's Board and its process has been corroborated by the fact that the Board claims in its Proxy Statement to have UNANIMOUSLY opposed EVERY Voce removal proposal and EVERY Voce Nominee

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Summary Comp Culture Expenses Business Countal Performance Occontunity Governance Conclusion

Provision
Argo
Comments

Election of Directors

Majority voting with no carve-out for \_\_\_\_\_
contested elections
No cumulative voting

No consent solicitation allowed
No ability to amend Bye-laws

Domicile

Under Bermuda law, Directors' only fiduciary duty is to the Company, not shareholders

"Bermuda law follows the English common law principle that such [Common Law] duties are owed to the company and not individual shareholders." – International Comparative Legal Guides

"[A] poorly designed majority voting standard can be used to entrench a board rather than increase its accountability. . . . [S]ix of every seven companies with a majority vote standard . . . therefore include a carve-out for a plurality standard in contested elections, ensuring that the nominees with the most shareholder support will be elected. . . . [I]n an election where some seats are not filled by a nominee receiving majority support, the incumbent board is elected . . . [I]n an election where some seats will holdover in those chairs, regardless of how many votes those appointees received relative to other incumbents or the dissident nominees. . . [Wijthout the carve-out, these companies effectively raised the bar for shareholder efforts to replace directors, "protecting the incumbent directors in precisely the situation where there was actual risk of removal."

— ISS Special Situations Research, "Majority Voting as a Potential Entrenchment Device" (11/17/15)

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# Governance: Recommended "Starter Kit" for New Board



- · Remove 5 legacy Directors and replace with fully-independent Directors
- · Reconstitute all Committees, adding new members and Chairs
- Launch independent investigation into issues raised by our February 25 letter
  - Specifically provide for it to be able to obtain independent legal advice separate and apart from regular Company counsel
- Rescind invalid Liss and Latham appointments if Nominating Committee wishes to fill those two seats, must be done at next AGM or at an EGM for this purpose and <u>approved by shareholders</u>
- Conduct a comprehensive assessment, with the help of an outside consultant, of the Board's corporate governance and the effectiveness of each individual Director and every committee
- Commit to recommend and put to a vote at the 2020 Annual Meeting a binding proposal to immediately
  de-stagger the Board (not a multi-year phase-out) so that all Directors must stand for reelection every year
  beginning in 2020 (the first year possible)
- · Establish a plurality carve-out to majority voting in contested elections
- · Prohibit pledging and hedging by Directors & Officers



\*One tempting way to think about the <u>sensational letter sent to Argo's investors by activist investor Voce Capital</u> is to dismiss it as an amusing but inconsequential sideshow from an external investor that doesn't get the uniqueness of our market....
But I think this is wrong. It <u>should be seen as a warning shot across the bow of the entire Bermuda (re)insurance industry....</u>
[D]espite the business changes, the industry's corporate governance <u>practices appear to have lagged what is appropriate for the more mature phase of its industry lifecycle." – Insurance Insider (2/26/19)</u>

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# Opportunity #2: Executive Compensation

"You might want to know that rather than cutting his own expenses, [Watson's] putting unachievable cost cutting measures on the underwriting staff and has targeted them cutting expenses 1% better than plan. You might want to make some enquiries about the 'business trip' be made to Mexico not so long ago in his personal chariot, all at the expense of Argo,"

- Current Argo employee email to Voce, April 10, 2019



## **Executive Compensation: Summary**

# Severely compromised "Human Resources" (i.e., Compensation) Committee

- Argo's Compensation Committee is stale and ineffective
- Same 4 key members have controlled Compensation Committee for 10+ years (and its 3 current members have been there for >16 years)

#### Excessive CEO compensation

### Flawed compensation structure

- Focused on "Book Value Per Share" rather than ROE
- <u>Unambitious targets</u> (Meet budget, 7% year-over-year BVPS growth vs. peer median target of 11%)
- Permits Committee too much discretion (Individual Performance Modifier can make up for missed targets)
- Utilize wrong peer set

#### Improper CEO benefits

- · Excessive, lavish perquisites
- ~\$28 million Golden Parachute (>1% of Company's entire equity value)
- · Unreimbursed personal use of corporate assets, including aircraft and housing

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#### Compromised Compensation Committee

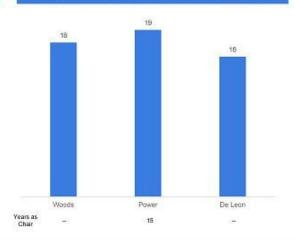
# CEO Watson's egregious employment agreement



#### November 5, 2018 Agreement Details

- Human Resources Committee agreed to a 5-year employment agreement with CEO Watson in November 2018 (pre-Voce involvement)
- Base salary increased to \$1.2 million, the highest of all Voce Peers and among the highest in Argo's self-selected Proxy Peers and IR peers
- For early termination by Company without "Cause," CEO Watson's unvested equity awards would continue to vest as if no termination had occurred
  - AND 2x base salary + target cash bonus as severance
- After 5 year agreement expires, <u>CEO Watson</u> continues to be entitled to vesting of any unvested equity awards – even if he leaves the Company
- In a change of control, CEO Watson's "Golden Parachute" would be \$28,387,706
- CEO Watson's total compensation vs. the median of all Argo employees more than doubled to 67:1 in 2018 from 29:1 in 2017

#### Current Human Resources Committee Tenure (Years)



Watson's gratuitous November 2018 Employment Agreement is very revealing as it was awarded to him by the Compensation Committee prior to knowledge that Voce was scrutinizing Argo's practices

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...

Compromised Compensation Committee

# History of Munificence: CEO comp over time

#### 2007 Agreement

- 3.5 Year Term
- \$1mm Base Salary
- \$2.9mm Bermuda relocation payments
- \$360k Housing Allowance
- \$40k Home Leave Allowance

#### 2010 Agreement

- · 3.6 Year Term
- \$1.0mm Base Salary
- \$3.0mm Retention Bonus (Cash)
- \$360k Housing Allowance
- \$40k Home Leave Allowance
- \$48k Education

#### 2013 Agreement

- 5 Year Term
- \$1.0mm Base Salary
- No mention of "Allowances" though these continued to be paid, as disclosed by Argo's Proxy Statements

# 2018 Agreement

- 5.2 Year Term
- \$1.2mm Base Salary (12% Raise vs. Base set 2/18/14) effective immediately
- No mention of "Allowances," consistent with 2013 Agreement, when they continued to be paid

#### 2015 Proxy

\$1.07mm Base Salary (7% Raise vs. 2013 Agreement) effective 2/18/14, only ~3 months after signing his new 5-year Employment Agreement

#### 2019 Proxy

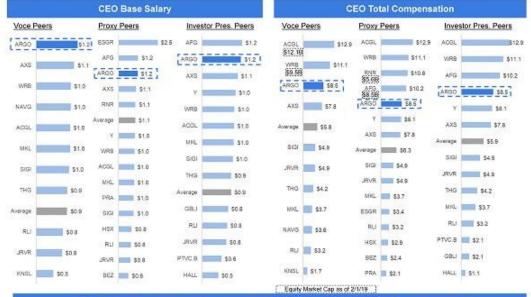
Argo claims "in conjunction with the renegotiation and renewal of Mr. Watson's employment agreement in November of 2018, the Board determined that Mr. Watson would no longer be eligible to receive housing and home leave and travel allowances effective 1/1/19" – WHEN was decision actually made?

|    | Human Resources (i.e., Compensation) Committee |            |           |           |           |           |           |               |          |          |           |           |  |
|----|--|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|--|
|    | 2007   | 2016       | 2009      | 2010      | 2011      | 2012      | 2013      | 2014          | 2015     | 2016     | 2017      | 2018      |  |
| #1 | Power [C]                                      | Power [C]  | Power (C) | Power [C] | Power [C] | Power [C] | Power (C) | Power         | Power    | Power    | Power (C) | Power [C] |  |
| #2 | De Leon  | De Leon    | De Leon   | De Leon   | De Leon   | De Leon   | De Leon   | De Leon       | De Leon  | De Leon  | De Leon   | De Leon   |  |
| 83 | Woods  | Woods      | Woods     | Woods     | Woods     | Woods     | Woods     | Woods         | Woods    | Woods    | Woods     | Woods     |  |
| #4 |  | -          | Browne    | Browne    | Browne    | Browne    | Browne    | Browne        | Browne   | Browne   |           | -         |  |
| A5 | -  | Cash       | Cash      | Cash      | Cash      | Cash      | Cash      | Cash (C)      | Cash (C) | Cash (C) | Cash      |           |  |
| #6 | Control de la control                          |            |           |           |           |           | Tonelli   | Tonelli       |          |          | 0.000     |           |  |
| A7 |  | **         |           |           |           | **        | -         | Josephson     |          | -4       | -         | -         |  |
| #8 | McLoughlin                                     | McLoughlin | -         |           | -         | and I     | -         | 1000 - 1000 M | -        | -        | -         |           |  |
|    |  |            |           |           |           |           |           |               |          |          |           |           |  |



### ② Excessive CEO compensation Most recent CEO pay

#### Summary Comp Culture Expenses Business Capital Performance Cooperations Covernance Cooperations



CEO Watson's compensation is excessive in our opinion, regardless of peer set

Note: Argo CEO Compensation based on \$1.2 million Base Salary and 2018 disclosure of all other compensation

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### Flawed compensation structure

## Misaligned Compensation

Summary Comp
Culture Expenses
Business Capital
Performance Coopitunity
Governanced Conclusion

#### No Concept of ROE in LTIP

- Rather than incorporating ROE into the compensation structure, the <u>LT incentive plan is based on BVPS</u>
- For peers that use BVPS growth, the median hurdle is 11%
- Only 4 out of 12 peers ignore ROE in its compensation methodology
- Argo's BVPS hurdle was 8% with a minimum payout at 5% until 2013 when it was lowered to 7%, with a minimum payout at 4%
  - Consider the Company's stated LT ROE target of Risk free + 700 bps (or 9%+)
- The Committee has discretion over the individual modifier which can adjust up or down 100% the LTI award while the BVPS hurdle only applies to 50% of the award
- In 2015, the reported BVPS was suspiciously 4.0%, exactly meeting the already recently lowered hurdle. But the individual modifier brought CEO's compensation back to the target award (\$1.6mm)
  - By Voce's math, the BVPS just met the minimum hurdle by ~\$0.7mm that year
- Even worse, in 2017 the BVPS growth was a tepid 4.7%, but as a result of the Committee's discretionary modifier, the award was actually higher than the target

Committee has repeatedly used discretion to circumvent plan targets

2015 Long-Term Incentive Awards

|                          |                   |   | 2.0                           | 15 Long-Turm In | icentive Awards       |             |   |                          |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|---|--------------------------|
|                          | 2015 LTI          |   | BVPS Me                       | differ          | Individua             | Modifier    |   | Performance<br>Modified  |
| Name                     | Target<br>Award   | + | % Applied to<br>50% of Target | Amount          | +/-25%<br>+ of Target | Amount      | _ | Grant Date<br>Fair Value |
| Mark E. Watson III       | \$1,557,813       |   | -50%                          | \$(389,453)     | 25%                   | \$389,453   |   | \$1,557,813              |
| Jay S. Bullock           | \$ 397,030        |   | -50%                          | \$ (22,258)     | ncentive Availas      | S 79,406    |   | \$ 377,179               |
| Kevin J. Rehnberg        | \$ 377,755        |   | -50%                          | \$ (94.439)     | 20%                   | \$,75,551   |   | SPerformative            |
| Axel Schmidt             | \$ 29574,086      |   | BA3950                        | Helief 88,522)  | +/-25%                | ng ngging 2 |   | S M541986                |
| Name                     | Award             | + | % Applied to<br>50% of Turget | Amount          | + of Turget           | Amount      | - | Grant Date<br>Fair Value |
| Mark E. Watson III       | \$1,569,333       |   | -38%                          | \$(298,173)     | 25%                   | \$392,333   |   | \$1,663,493              |
| Jayour Bullockpany Proxy | State Sne 420,000 |   | -38%                          | \$ (79,800)     | 15%                   | \$ 63,000   |   | \$ 403,200               |
| Jose Hernandez           | \$ 600,000        |   | -38%                          | \$(114,000)     | 15%                   | \$ 90,000   |   | \$ 576,000               |
| Kevin J. Rehnberg        | \$ 450,000        |   | -38%                          | \$ (85,500)     | 20%                   | \$ 90,000   |   | \$ 454,500               |
| Axel Schmidt             | \$ 333,300        |   | -38%                          | \$ (63,327)     | 15%                   | \$ 49,995   |   | \$ 319,968               |
|                          |                   |   |                               |                 |                       |             |   |                          |

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# Housing and Travel: Yet Another CEO Gratuity

Summary Comp
Culture Expenses
Business Countainny
Performance Opportunity
Covernmence Conclusion

- In 2007, CEO Watson was paid \$2,900,000 to relocate to Bermuda
  - This consisted of "a relocation allowance of \$1,500,000" AND
  - An "additional payment of \$1,400,000" which Argo's Proxy Statement described as \* \$1,400,000 in connection with the signing of his employment agreement and agreement to Argo Group's request that he and his family move to Bermuda"
- Nevertheless, from 2007-2018, CEO Watson was paid an additional \$2,781,327 in allowances for "housing" and "home travel leave" 1
- · Argo's corporate housing program is likely more expensive than believed
  - We believe Mr. Watson resides in Company-rented housing in Bermuda Argo has a long-term lease on an exotic waterfront villa (including a yacht dock) known as "The Jungle", where government records indicate Mr. Watson resides
  - Watson Argo duplex penthouse in NYC
- · Argo's housing disclosures are incomplete
  - Argo does not disclose the address or location of any of its leased properties anywhere in its fillings this is highly
    unusual and has the effect of concealing the existence and extent of corporate-owned housing
  - Curiously, Argo's 2019 Proxy Statement (3/26/2019) says that "In conjunction with the renegotiation and renewal of Mr. Watson's employment agreement in November of 2018, the Board determined that Mr. Watson would no longer be eligible to receive housing and home leave and travel allowances effective January 1, 2019" and fails to disclose the date the Board actually made that determination
    - The Agreement itself, signed in November 2018, makes no mention of this change
  - Voce's February 25, 2019 letter was highly critical of Mr. Watson's housing benefits
  - Shareholders are entitled to know when and why the Board suddenly rescinded this benefit after 12 years of paying it

"Given Argo's (lack of) response to Voce's expense concerns and the recent proxy disclosure of CEO Mark Watson's housing (\$72,000) and home leave and travel (\$18,000) allowance removals - which appears to be more than offset by Mr. Watson's \$130,000 base salary increase (New: \$1.20 million; Prior: \$1.07 million) - lends some credence to Voce's claims of weak expense management oversight." - Chris Campbell, KBW (4/7/19)



1. Includes the associated "tax gross-up" paid by the Company to him to cover the income taxes he would have otherwise owed for these benefits

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# Compensation: Recommended "Starter Kit" for the New Board



- · Reconstitute the leadership and membership of the Compensation Committee
  - Engage a new compensation consultant
  - Review the compensation peer set
- Amend CEO employment agreement
- Pay for performance
  - Eliminate 100% time-based vesting
  - Set competitive and ambitious targets for hurdles on performance-based compensation
  - Reduce impact of qualitative judgment of the committee for performance based compensation
  - Tie short-term compensation plans to ROE and long-term compensation plants to TSR
- Continue to prohibit all personal use of Company assets, and actually enforce existing policies and the Code of Conduct
- · Prohibit any pledging or hedging of shares

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# Opportunity #3: Reduce Expenses

Dear Voce

Been watching your Argo battle with interest. Your detailed review of the expense pattern of Argo and the Board Composition (all friends of his dad), has been right on point. His abuse of expenses has been going on for 15 years, thank you for finally pointing it out."

- Former Argo Senior Executive email to Voce, March 25, 2019





## **Expense Reductions: Summary**

### Argo's expenses significantly exceed its peers

## Investment portfolio expense manipulation

- Argo's claims that it has significantly reduced underwriting expenses are false much of the overhead has been shifted into investment expense
- Underwriting expense ratios are heavily tracked and monitored by investors
- Investment expense is only disclosed annually in SEC filings and less likely to draw investor scrutiny because investment income is usually presented net of expenses

### Corporate expense excess

- · Terminate wasteful spending to support the CEO's lifestyle and hobbies
- · Freeze expansion of corporate offices and explore terminating significant leases

#### Run-off lines opportunity



\*[F]urther value could be extracted from more rigorous expense management at Argo. Argo has been operating at an expense ratio that is highest in comparison to both Bermudian peers and US specialty peers excluding RLI Corp." – Insurance Insider 12/19/191



[W]e are not entirely certain on whether or not the significant corporate expense reduction in 2018 is a recurring reduction or it has been achieved by one-time items and a shift of some expenses to subsidiaries." – Bijan Moszami, Compass Point (3/19/19)

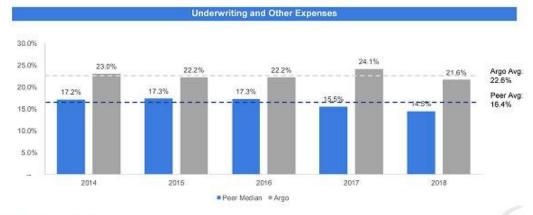
Normalizing Argo's expense ratio to that of its peer average implies a \$100M expense opportunity (half of which we have already identified)



#### Expenses exceed peers

# Argo's OUE lags its peers

- Summary Comp
  Culture Expenses
  Business Cooling
  Performance Occarbunity
  Sovermance Conclusion
- Other Underwriting Expenses ("OUE") includes all other expenses (excluding Acquisition Costs and Losses) such as management, consulting arrangements, travel & entertainment and employees
- Argo's <u>OUE ratio has consistently underperformed its peers</u> and represents its largest opportunity for improvement
- Argo has a worse average OUE ratio than every single one of its peers
- Bringing Argo OUE expenses in line with peers would potentially yield ~\$100mm in savings

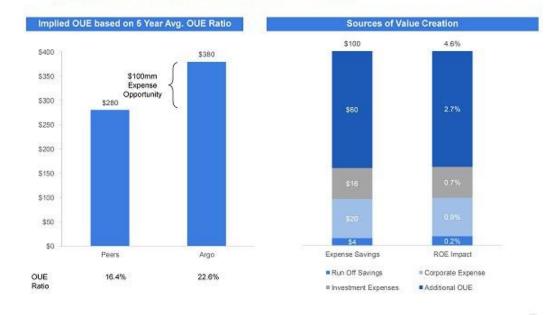


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### Expenses exceed peers

# Significant expense savings opportunity





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#### Expenses exceed peers

# Reasonable other expense opportunity



 In October 2017, close Argo peer Aspen Insurance Holdings announced a cost savings program of approximately \$80mm per year

"The program is the result of a rigorous bottom up operational review of our organization which balanced both risks and rewards. The planned actions are highly achievable and will enable our underwriters to focus more of their time on client and broker facing activities rather than on routine and duplicative tasks. The majority of the expected savings will benefit our Insurance segment where we continue to build on the business line assessment we conducted in 2016 and the drive to improve profitability. As a result of this program, we believe Aspen will be a more nimble organization with faster decision-making ability, a competitive expense ratio and the ability to serve our clients even better than we do today."

— Aspen CEO (10/26/17)

- Voce believes a \$60mm additional OUE reduction is reasonable relative to Aspen's announced plan

| Aspen Cost Saving Financials |         |         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|                              | 2016    | 2017    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net Earned Premiums          | \$2,637 | \$2,307 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OUE                          | \$490   | \$502   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OUE Ratio                    | 18.6%   | 21.8%   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Run-Rate Savings             | (\$80)  | (\$80)  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Savings as % of Total OUE    | 16.3%   | 15.9%   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pro Forma OUE                | \$410   | \$422   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pro Forma OUE Ratio          | 15.5%   | 18.3%   |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| Argo Comparison           |         |         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|                           | 2017    | 2018    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net Earned Premiums       | \$1,572 | \$1,732 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OUE                       | \$380   | \$374   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OUE Ratio                 | 24.1%   | 21.6%   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Run-Rate Savings          | (\$60)  | (\$60)  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Savings as % of Total OUE | 15.8%   | 16.0%   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pro Forma OUE             | \$320   | \$314   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pro Forma OUE Ratio       | 20.3%   | 18.1%   |  |  |  |  |  |  |

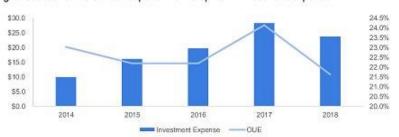


#### ② Investment expense manipulation

# Hiding expenses by shifting them into investments

Summary Comp
Culture Expenses
Business Capital
Performance Occontumity
Governances Conclusion

· Argo's slight reductions in OUE correspond with its spike in investment expense



- In addition to being significantly above its peer group's investment expense ratio (more than 3x), Argo is currently more than 2x its own historical expense ratio from 2010 – 2014
- We believe that <u>additional corporate overhead may be concealed</u> here and provides further opportunity for expense reduction
- Investment expenses were restated in 2015 10-K, increasing 2013 and 2014 investment expense by ~50%
- In our meetings with management, CEO Watson and CFO Bullock admitted that the change in expense
  was due to a change to how it allocates CEO Watson's time
  - Incredibly, CEO Watson claims to now spend over 30% of his time on the investment portfolio

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# 2 Investment expense manipulation

# Investment expenses growing faster than assets



|   | 2009    | 2010           | 2011           | 2012           | 2013           | 2014           | 2015            | 2016            | 2017            | 2018            | 10 Year<br>CAGR |
|---|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Investment Portfolio                            | \$4,334 | \$4,215        | \$4,148        | \$4,201        | \$4,061        | \$4,097        | \$4,108         | \$4,320         | \$4,743         | \$4,787         | 1.0%            |
| Investment Expense<br>% of Investment Portfolio | \$9.4   | \$8.3<br>0.19% | \$9.4<br>0.22% | \$9.2<br>0.22% | \$9.4<br>0.23% | \$9.8<br>0.24% | \$16.1<br>0.39% | \$19.7<br>0.47% | \$28.2<br>0.62% | \$23.7<br>0.50% | 9.7%            |
| Net Investment Income                           | \$125.8 | \$133.6        | \$125,8        | \$118.8        | \$119.2        | \$106.1        | \$88.6          | \$115.1         | \$140.0         | \$133.1         | 0.6%            |



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#### 2 Investment expense manipulation

# \$16 million immediate expense opportunity



- Argo's investment portfolio expenses have skyrocketed, growing much faster than its assets
- · There are no logical explanations for this:
  - Argo's portfolio is neither larger nor more complex than others'
  - Its expenses are already net of a third-party management fees



- Bringing Argo's investment expenses in line with peers would yield \$16mm in savings

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#### Corporate expense excess

# Corporate expense opportunities - ~\$20 million



#### Corporate aircraft

- Under pressure from Voce, the Company has now confirmed it "maintains fractional leasehold interests and a term lease in private aircraft"
- We believe the term lease to be a Gulfstream 5 (Tail #N17ND), and the fractional leasehold interests to be an Embraer 300 and Bombardier 5000
- Voce estimates that based on the prior 3 years of flights, the Gulfstream 5 alone is costing almost \$3
  million annually (and prior to lease payments)

# Sponsorships

- Vanity corporate sponsorships believed to generate little benefit and primarily for CEO's amusement
- Includes Formula E racing, America's Cup team, Argo's Gold Cup and Vestas 11th Hour Racing competing in the 45,000 nautical mile Volvo Ocean race
- Company claims of premiums generated around the sponsorships must take into account the net underwriting margin (<5%) of those premiums to calculate the true ROI</li>

# Other

CEO compensation

- Audit fees in 2018 of \$7.4mm vs. Aspen's latest fees of \$4.4mm
- Corporate apartments in NYC, Bermuda, Miami...



"[T]here are significant upside opportunities in reducing corporate expenses..., While many of corporate expenses such as public company cost as well as CEO and CFO salaries exist in any corporate structure, ARGO can further reduce its corporate overhead by consolidating leases, cancel corporate sponsorships, reduce usage of expensive corporate jet etc." – Bijan Moazami, Compass Point (3/19/19)

We believe these opportunities represent at least \$20 million in additional expense savings

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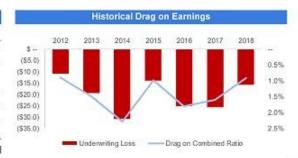




#### Overview

- · Argo run-off lines segment includes:
  - Outstanding liabilities associated with <u>discontinued lines previously underwritten by their insurance subsidiaries</u>, such as those arising from liability policies dating back to the 1960s, 1970s and into the 1980s
  - Risk management policies written by a business unit that has since been sold to a third party
  - Other legacy accounts previously written by their reinsurance subsidiaries
- · Argo could and should have put the impact of run-off behind it years ago
- Argo has had unfavorable reserve development in each of the last 8 years, resulting in a <u>cumulative drag to pre-tax profits</u> of nearly \$100 million
- Voce believes a potential sale of the run-off business would be accretive to ROE by 0.6%, even with a \$50mm write-off

| Pro Forma In            | ipact of Pote | nuai Said     |           |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|
|                         | Current       | PF<br>Changes | Pro Forma |
| Belance Sheet (6/30/16) | 77 (100%)     | 777.00        |           |
| Reserve for Losses      | \$4,656       | (8178)        | 84,477    |
| Cash + Cash Equivalents | 9822          | (8228)        | 5394      |
| Book Value of Equity    | \$1,747       | (\$50)        | \$1,697   |
| Income Statement (2018) | 01200002      | 0.000         |           |
| Net Premiums Earned     | \$1,732       | (0)           | \$1,731   |
| Loss fixpense           | \$1,041       | (12)          | \$1,029   |
| Loss Ratio              | 60.1%         |               | 59,416    |
| Acquisition Expense     | \$280         | -             | \$280     |
| % of Premiums           | 16.2%         |               | 16.2%     |
| Underwriting and Other  | 8374          | (4)           | 8370      |
| % of Framiums           | 21.6%         | -             | 21.4%     |
| Investment Income       | 8133          | (8)           | \$125     |
| Net Income              | 864           | \$6           | 870       |
| Return on Equity        | 3.6%          | 0.56%         | 4.1%      |







# Run-off resolution options



- Reinsurers offer multiple options to solve the issue, with the most likely solution being a Loss Portfolio Transfer
  - Any buyer of the portfolio operates in a \$550B worldwide market a highly accepted and proven process
  - The reinsurer would have the assets and solvency to pursue different, higher yielding investments with the funds represented by the reserves
  - The reinsurer would also possess specialist case management capabilities in order to settle cases within what was reserved
- Recent 4/16/19 example: Zurich Financial / Enstar (\$500 million)
- · Potential counterparties for such a transaction include



ENSTAR



ARMOUR



Swiss Re





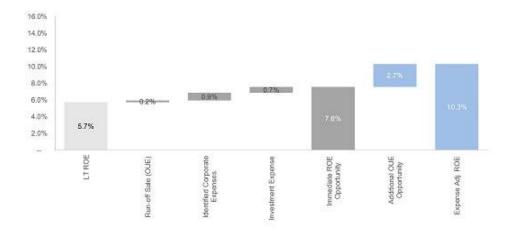


- The reinsurer would accept the existing ~\$180 million reserve and related obligations
- The reinsurer would probably charge an additional premium to offset the risk of further adverse development (estimating \$50mm)



# **Expense ROE Opportunity Summary**

Summary Comp
Culture Expenses
Business Coolid
Performance Coolidanity
Sovermance Conclusion



In aggregate, expense opportunities represent a 460 bps ROE improvement

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# Expenses: Recommended "Starter Kit" for the New Board



- Immediately announce intention to pursue "low-hanging expense fruit" \$40 million of identified savings
  - Terminate all yachting, racing and similar sponsorships
  - Align investment portfolio expenses with those of peers
  - Divest "run-off" portfolio
- Establish expense reduction program to <u>bring OUE in-line with peer set</u>
  - Sell / terminate corporate aircraft arrangements
  - Sell / terminate corporate housing
- Explore early lease terminations/consolidations of office locations (especially NYC)
- Review vendor relationships
- Auction corporate art collection
- · Reform executive compensation



"The complexity of insurance and heavy regulation of the industry long kept activists at bay. . . . But the tide is changing now thanks to certain business trends – an abundance of capital, ample M&A opportunities, and lacklustre returns. For many insurers, corporate expenses have run high, creating an easy entry point for an activist to swoop in. 'This is a very inefficient industry. It does have a legitimate expense problem,' Meyer Shields, an analyst with Keefe, Bruyette & Woods. . . . Bermuda insurers in particular could be ripe for the picking on that count." – Insurance Insider (4/2/19)

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# Opportunity #4: Reallocate Capital

Thank you for exposing the excessive waste at the CEO level at Argo. As a long-time Argo employee I have been disgusted by the total disregard for the hard-working employees on the front lines. Inspired by your open letter to shareholders, I wanted to make sure you are investigating ARIS Title Insurance. This business unit is nothing but a dumping ground for corporate allocations. The business presents itself as 'the global authority on legal title risks in the fine art and collectibles market' however it only exists to allow our CEO to travel the world on a corporate jet at the company's expense (in my opinion)....[A]s an employee and shareholder, my recommendation would be to shut down this business unit immediately. How can you justify these results?"

- Argo employee letter to Voce, March 15, 2019

## Capital Allocation: Summary



- Top-to-bottom review of individual business lines is essential
  - Even within attractive US segment, Voce has identified individual business lines that are questionable; Argo must conduct a <u>complete review of all business lines</u>
- Conduct an independent capital reserve study to evaluate a partial release of excess domestic reserves
- Investment portfolio re-allocation
  - · Reduce exposure to riskier, and more volatile, alternative assets
  - · Shift fixed-income portfolio to better align assets and liabilities
  - Consider 100% <u>outsourced model</u>
- 6 Eliminate and liquidate "Argo Ventures"
- Strategic review of international business
  - · Poor long-term track record of managing international business
  - · Opportunity to divest international business and refocus capital on strong US segment

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# ARIS Title Insurance: Why does it exist?

In our view, in the same way that Argo's allocation of its sponsorship and charitable dollars have been skewed by the CEO's aspirational lifestyle, so too have some of its business decisions

#### Corporate Structure



#### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

"A person familiar with Argo's thinking said.... Art Basel...relates to the company's art-title business." (2/25/19)

#### 2018 Entity Financials

- Gross written premium: \$207,758
   Net written premium: \$20,776
   Net Income: (\$531,866)
- Losses: \$130,368
  - Operating Expense: \$430,749
- Net Investment Income: \$9,080

#### 2013 - 2018 Direct Entity Financial Stats

- Only \$1,464,673 of written premiums
- Total expenses of \$5,154,748
  - \$491,647 of "travel related expenses"
  - \$451,047 OF traver related expense
  - \$402,149 of "rent"
  - \$2,582,434 of "legal and auditing expenses," significantly more than the \$1,673,843 personnel costs

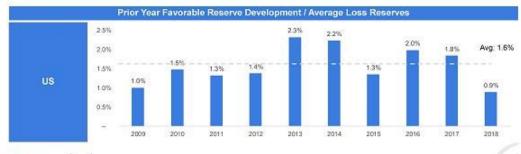
If this entity / line of business exists under these circumstances, then <u>what else could a thorough review</u> of all subscale entitles / lines of business uncover?

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# **Excess reserve opportunity**

- Summary Comp Culture Expenses Business Capital Performance Opportunity Governances Conclusion
- · Argo's US business has had a long history of favorable prior year reserve development
  - Has averaged 1.6% of average loss reserves over the last 10 years
- Voce believes that the Board should <u>commission a reserve study</u> to evaluate whether there is a <u>capital</u> reserve opportunity
  - Approximately \$70 million could potentially be released
  - Would still allow Argo to average half its average favorable reserve development (0.8% annually)
  - 0.8% applied to US loss reserve of \$2.5B over estimated US liability duration of 3.5 years
  - Assumes run-off sale has occurred and is no longer a drag on consolidated reserve development
- This conservative assumption is significantly below the conclusions reached by several industry analysts (see next page)



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# Others also view Argo as over-reserved





[W]e estimate that ARGO's analyzable aggregate GAAP loss reserves (excluding run-off lines) were overstated at year-end 2018 (about \$1.56/share, or 3.0% of its YE18 BVPS of \$51.43)... With the modest exception of Specialty Admitted – Liability, we estimate strong redundancies across Argo's U.S. segment, led by Excess & Surplus Liability...which have developed favorably in each of the last seven years.... Beyond E&S, we estimate its second-largest source of U.S. reserve redundancies is in Specialty Admitted Specialty (surety and inland marine), where each of the last six years has developed favorably." – Christopher Campbell, Keefe Bruyette & Woods (03/12/19)

|   | *                |                    | ASS PC                           |       |                        |                             |           |
|---|------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| it a allowi                             | 2018<br>Reserves | MONT As of<br>2018 | MOST on N<br>of 2018<br>Beserves |       | Deficiency<br>(Reduct) | As % of<br>DOCE<br>Reserves |           |
| 3- Booker and Surplus Links (Lister) by | 18103            | 1622.0             | 133%                             |       | 3 (38.40)              | 4.7%                        |           |
| 3 Specialty Adverted tight try          | 412.6            | 214.7              | -51%                             | 10.0  | (2130)                 | 4.75                        |           |
| 3 - Specially Admitted Professional     | 252.5            | 90.8               | 60%                              | -     | (13.46)                | 0.7%                        | ► \$108mn |
| 4- Specialty Adverted Specialty         | 12.0             | 45.4               | 87%                              | - 1   | (32.0)                 | 42.7%                       |           |
| 5: Belmsteinen Property                 | 97.2             | 19.11              | 4%                               | -     | 16.5                   | 36.8%                       |           |
| B: Avgo Incurance Remode: Cability      | 10.2             | 16.7               | 87%                              |       | 1.2                    | 2.3%                        |           |
| 7. Sandicate 1300-Eulerity              | 94.5             | 16.1               | 38%                              |       | 21.6                   | 25.7%                       |           |
| 8: Sandinsky 13/00: Professional        | 36.4             | 65.0               | 63%                              |       | 11.6                   | TRANS                       |           |
| 8- Symplecial Edition Prograwity        | 378.0            | 48.6               | 88%                              |       | (21.2)                 | 20.8%                       |           |
| 50-Syndicate 1200: Specialty            | 3468             | 75.9               | 49%                              |       | 155-80                 | -38,8%                      |           |
| 31: All Other Reserves                  | 450.6            |                    |                                  | 14550 |                        | 200                         |           |
| Total or Amenage                        | \$ 2,562.9       |                    | 52.3N                            | Kun   | \$ 1150.00             | 4.9%                        |           |

"We performed a reserve analysis using information available in ARGO's 2018 Form 10K. We believe the company's \$2.6 billion in loss reserves are about \$151 million redundant. That adds up to an average of 8.3% of each line's reserves.... We compare payout patterns of each accident year to its historical average. If an accident-year is paying out faster than historical average, we consider it deficient. Vice versa, an accident year paying out slower than historical average is considered redundant. We calculate overall deficiency/(redundancy) by calculating what reserves would be if payouts would have been at historical level." – Bijan Moezami, Compass Point (3/19/19)



"We estimate the loss reserves of ARGO's U.S.-domiciled subsidiaries were 10% redundant at YE17."

- Robert Farnam, Boenning & Scattergood (10/2/18)



#### (3) Investment portfolio re-allocation

### De-risk investment portfolio

- Summary Comp Culture Expenses Business Capital Performance Opportunity Governance Conclusion
- · Argo's investment portfolio is over-allocated to "alternative" investments
  - Almost 25% is in alternatives such as private equity and hedge funds, elevating volatility
  - Argo invests in the funds of CEO Watson's insurance industry friends, such as <u>Aquiline Capital</u>
     Partners further concentrating insurance risk rather than diversifying it
- Argo's <u>liabilities and assets are mismatched</u>
  - Argo's fixed income asset portfolio duration is shorter than that of its liabilities
  - Argo should be <u>neutral</u> it has no basis for making a proprietary or contrarian call on rates
  - Voce believes there's at least a \$5 million annual opportunity in improved yield by matching the bond portfolio duration with current liability duration
- Argo should also consider shifting to a 100% outsourced model rather than spending time and resources attempting a proprietary investment strategy

BOUNNING ČK

"ARGO's total investment results are more volatile than the overall P&C industry, partially due to a higher-than-average investment allocation to equities and alternative investments." (10/2/18) KEEFE, BRITTE & WOODS
A DOOR COMPANY

\*[CFO] Bullock expects Argo's investment portfolio's short duration, which at 2.5 years is significant below its 4-year claims duration, will likely remain relatively constant...,which partly contributes to its peer ROE underperformance...\* (3/19/19)

COMPASS POINT

"Despite a liability tail of over 4 years, investment portfolio duration is only 2.4 years, a significant mismatch that brings down the investment income as compared to other insurers." (1/15/19) William Blan

"Argo's bond portfolio duration is only 2.5 years compared with 3 to 4 years for most peers." (8/7/18)

Like almost everything else at Argo, we believe its investment portfolio has been influenced by the CEO's personal relationships and pet projects, resulting in undue amounts of risk



50.1

#### Investment portfolio re-allocation

# Individual Condo "Investment Properties"?

#### Summary Comp Culture Expenses Business Copinium Percemanos Occontunity

#### Overview

#### Voce uncovered 3 Miami uber-luxury condominiums purchased by Argo subsidiary AGI Properties in 2014 – 2015 – the same entity that owns the Watson-Argo NYC penthouse

- Over \$15 million purchase price
- Voce estimates ~\$350,000 annual expense related to property taxes, HOA fees and insurance.
- Argo will not answer whether executives ever use these properties
  - High intensity of Argo's G-5 activity and Watson family personal activity in Miami
- The Setai website describes "[b]reathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean [that] can be enjoyed from the floor-to-ceiling glass windows...." Does this sound familiar?
- Given at least two of the three condos appear to be available to rent on Zillow, what kind of return is Argo generating from these supposed investment assets?

### Photos of Argo's Miami Condos in Setal Resort & Residences:









Voce believes that, even if Argo demonstrates the properties were exclusively for income generation and not for internal use, acquiring three Miami luxury condo properties in the same building represents a terrible capital allocation decision and is very risky from a diversification standpoint, especially given Argo's high exposure to P&C catastrophe losses

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Argo's venture capital arm – a dedicated team investing in highly-valued technology start-ups – is yet another example of the triumph of dilettantism over economic reality at Argo

#### **Current Portfolio**

# bitpay

payments

yallacompare

Middle East

Personal

Finance

(\$8M Jan 2019)

Borrowell





POS Terminal



Data Automation



Canadian Personal Finance

Blockchain Funding Platform



#### mulberry

eCommerce Product Protection Plans

#### Commentary

"We've invested alongside some of our venture capital partners, some of the leading funds in the world in artificial intelligence businesses that look to automate data entry that we can apply in our own business; tech-enabled brokerages with whom we can test our automatic pricing technology; and companies in emerging categories, such as crypto and blockchain in order to stay close to these types of markets and technologies. Our latest investment in a leading crypto currency payment processor allows us to potentially partner with the leader in the space, monitor how insurance and crypto currency continues to evolve and helps us assess opportunities to engage. This investment does not directly harness the risk of any individual crypto currency, and has the potential to generate a strong return on invested capital on a stand-alone basis at the same time" - CEO Watson, 4Q17 Earnings Call (2/14/18)

Argo has no "Midas Touch" as an Angel Investor; it can obtain whatever digital technology it requires by purchasing it as a customer

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# 3 Strategic review of international business





|              | "Crown Jewel<br>US | <b>"</b> . |                     | "Step-Child"<br>International |       | "Orphan"<br>Run-Off |        |  |
|--------------|--------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------|---------------------|--------|--|
| us           | US 2018            |            | Internatio          | nal                           |       | Runoff              |        |  |
| Net Earned   | Premiums           | \$1,079    | Net Earned          | Premiums                      | \$653 | Premiums            | \$0    |  |
| Loss Exper   | nse                | \$628      | Loss Expe           | nse                           | \$400 | Loss Expense        | \$12   |  |
| UAE          | JAE \$355          |            | UAE \$246           |                               |       | UAE                 | \$4    |  |
| Underwriting | g Profit           | \$96       | Underwriting Profit |                               | \$6   | Underwriting Profit | (\$16) |  |
| Net Investm  | nent Income        | \$83       | Net Investr         | nent Income                   | \$33  | Investment Income   | \$8    |  |
| Net Fee Inc  | ome                | (\$1)      | Net Fee Inc         | come                          | \$3   | Net Fee Income      |        |  |
| Interest Exp | pense              | (\$16)     | interest Ex         | pense                         | (\$9) | Interest Expense    | (\$2)  |  |
| Pre-Tax Pro  | ofit               | \$161      | Pre-Tax Pr          | rofit                         | \$33  | Pretax              | (\$9)  |  |
| Tax          | 6.1%               | (\$10)     | Tax                 | 6.1%                          | (\$2) |                     |        |  |
| Net Income   |                    | \$152      | Net Income          | 9                             | \$31  |                     |        |  |
| ROE          |                    | 15.2%      | ROE                 |                               | 3.9%  | Negative ROE        |        |  |

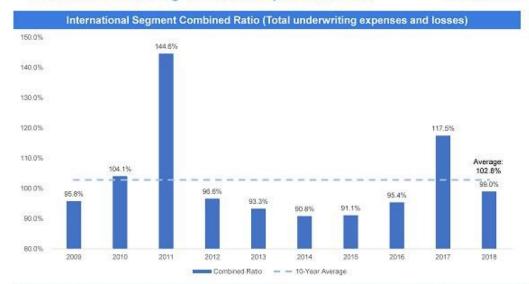
Argo's US business contributes a significant portion of the consolidated entity's profitability; International and Run-Off represent a drag on the overall ROE

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### 6 Strategic review of international business

## International: Long-term underperformance





Over the last 10 years, Argo's International Segment has averaged a Combined Ratio of 103% and has lost \$85mm cumulatively, despite serial restructurings and re-underwritings

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## International: Enough excuses

#### What CEO Watson Said

#### Lloyds / London Market

"In Heritage we gain an established Lloyd's franchise with approximately \$800 million of controlled premium in this syndicate, 54% of which is backed by Heritage capital . . . Heritage has a track record of generating 20% to 25% return on capital." (8/8/08)

"Significant in our Lloyd's operation, however, is that we believe our arms are now around the things that were creating volatility . . Much more confident the Syndicate will perform in line with our expectations going forward." (8/5/11)

"We've been very vocal about the need for scale to effectively compete in this market and the acquisition of Ariel Re provides us with much-needed scale." (2/14/17)

#### What Actually Happened (CEO Watson quotes)

Results were disappointing relative to where we believe this business has the potential to perform ... repositioning our Lloyd's book ... Last week, we announced the appointment of Julian Enoizi as the new CEO of Heritage" (5/6/09)

"[P]ainful but necessary steps to reshape our portfolio, especially in our syndicate . . . still have a lot of work to do." (2/18/11)

"Whole account quota share reinsurance transactions at our Lloyd's business. . . . will free up capital, which can be deployed to better return opportunities." (2/7/13)

"How challenging it is to participate in the Lloyd's market . . . wrote a bit more business in the market than we should have. ... 80% of our property CAT risk now is supported by third-party capital at one of our syndicates at Lloyd's." (2/14/18)

Argo bought its Lloyd's business in 2008, re-underwrote it for 3 years, then did a WAQS transaction to get it behind them, and promptly wrote a bad book of business that they dumped on capital providers

#### Dubai, Brazil

'During the quarter we opened our office in Dubai, the world's fastest growing financial center." (11/4/11)

When we were thinking about Brazil it was 5 years ago... At the time, Brazil was growing high-single digit; insurance as a percent of GDP was growing almost twice as fast." (2/13/14)

almost 2/3 of our business . . . remainder is primarily underwritten in either London or in Bermuda; and then to a lesser extent, Continental Europe, Dubai, Singapore and Brazil." (2/13/19)

International investments beyond Lloyd's have yet to bear meaningful fruit

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# Strategic review of international business Even within Lloyds, very different profiles



|                           | 2017        | 2018    |  |  |
|---------------------------|-------------|---------|--|--|
| Gross Written Premium     | \$439.5     | \$469.0 |  |  |
| % Grawth                  |             | 6.7%    |  |  |
| Net Earned Premium        | \$184.9     | \$183.4 |  |  |
| % Growth                  |             | (0.8%)  |  |  |
| Loss / LAE                | \$111.2     | \$129.8 |  |  |
| Loss Ratio                | 60.1%       | 70.8%   |  |  |
| Acquisition Costs / DAC   | \$40.6      | 552.4   |  |  |
| Acquisition Expense Ratio | 22.0% 28.6% |         |  |  |
| OUE                       | \$27.6      | \$21.6  |  |  |
| OUE Ratio                 | 14.9%       | 11.8%   |  |  |
| Reinsurance Commission    | (\$21.3)    | (\$29.4 |  |  |
| % of Ceded Premium        | 13.5%       | 14.9%   |  |  |
| Other Expenses            | \$46.9      | 344.7   |  |  |
| Expense Ratio             | 25.4%       | 24.4%   |  |  |
| Underwriting Income       | 526.8       | 58.9    |  |  |
| Underwriting Margin       | 14.5%       | 4.8%    |  |  |
| NI                        | \$2.3       | \$4.0   |  |  |
| Other                     | \$1.5       | (\$2.7  |  |  |
| Pre-tax Profit            | \$30.7      | \$10.2  |  |  |

|                           | 2017        | 2018     |  |  |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------|--|--|
| Gross Written Premium     | \$712.1     | \$759.2  |  |  |
| % Growth                  |             | 6.6%     |  |  |
| Net Premiums Earnings     | \$488.9     | \$508.9  |  |  |
| % Growth                  |             | 4.1%     |  |  |
| Loss / WE                 | \$446.1     | \$344.8  |  |  |
| Loss Ratio                | 91.2%       | 67.8%    |  |  |
| Acquisition Costs / DAC   | \$171.4     | \$171.6  |  |  |
| Acquisition Expense Ratio | 35.1% 33.7% |          |  |  |
| OUE                       | \$26.7      | \$31.6   |  |  |
| OUE Ratio                 | 5.5%        | 6.2%     |  |  |
| Reinsurance Commission    | 1 5-        | S-       |  |  |
| % of Ceded Premium        |             | -        |  |  |
| Other Expenses            | \$198.1     | \$203.2  |  |  |
| Expense Ratio             | 40.5%       | 39.9%    |  |  |
| Underwriting Income       | (\$149.2)   | (\$34.9) |  |  |
| Underwriting Margin       | (30.5%)     | (6.9%)   |  |  |
| NI                        | \$1.5       | \$6.7    |  |  |
| Other                     | \$3.0       | (\$18.0) |  |  |
| Pre-tax Profit            | (\$144.7)   | (\$46.3) |  |  |

- · Syndicate 1200 continues to suffer from poor acquisition expense ratios
- · Lack of reinsurance commissions exacerbates their combined ratio issues and offers immediate expense ratio opportunity
- · As a result there are stark differences in profitability

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#### 6 Strategic review of international business

## Attractive assets, poorly run business

Voce believes Argo has done nothing to demonstrate that it is qualified to manage a successful international business...

- Serial "re-underwriting" of book
  - ~5x in five years
- · Inflexible, sticky cost structure
  - Lloyd's fixed costs very high
  - High-cost locales with larger peers exiting Dubai (e.g., Zurich Insurance Group)
- Subscale
- · Continuous leadership changes
- · Questionable acquisitions (Ariscom)
- · Failure to capture attractive business locally
- · Expensive and distracting for a small company

...Yet its International assets might be much more valuable in the hands of a skilled operator

#### Lloyds

- Offers immediate international diversification for buyers with limited access to overseas markets
- Offers immediate access to North America for companies unable to buy or receive licenses in the US (e.g., Chinese insurers)
- Potential to add incremental Lloyds capacity for existing international operators
- ArgoGlobal
  - Malta license allows for post-Brexit European access

#### Brazil

- Unique local requirements for retention of minimum overall net premiums could make this business attractive to a buyer who needs Argo's high net premium % lines of business
- Argo Insurance Bermuda
  - Could be attractive as part of the US business or to a third party

Several of Argo's larger peers have recognized that they lack competitive advantage internationally and have either avoided international (e.g., W. R. Berkley) or successfully monetized their assets and retrenched to a domestic focus (e.g., The Hanover Group)

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# Strategic review of international business Selected precedent international transactions



| Year             | Acquirer          | Target       | Book Value | Price    | P/BV           |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|----------|----------------|
| 2018             | <b>⊗</b> CHINA RE | Chaucer      | \$651      | \$950    | 1.46x          |
| 2018             | ANA               | X-           | \$9,850    | \$15,150 | 1.54x          |
| 2018             | AIG               | () validus   | \$3,500    | \$5,580  | 1.59x          |
| 2017             | AXIP              | Novæ         | \$417      | \$804    | 1.45x          |
| 2016             | ARGO              | 7            | \$260      | \$325    | 1.25x          |
| 2015             | <b>♦</b> MSIG     | <i>Amlin</i> | \$2,208    | \$5,300  | 2.40x          |
| 2016             | FAIRFAX           | BRIT         | \$1,267    | \$1,900  | 1.50x          |
| 2015             | Xr.               | CATLIN       | \$3,417    | \$4,100  | 1.20x          |
| verage<br>ledian |                   |              |            |          | 1.55x<br>1.48x |

Recent relevant data point for potential interest in international business

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### Strategic review of international business US stand-alone opportunity



## Even at a below market 1.2x P / BV multiple, selling the international business would be accretive to the ROE of the remaining US-focused entity

| Transaction Summary            |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| 2018A International Book Value | \$743 |
| Memo: Segment ROE              | 3.9%  |
| Acquisition P / BV Multiple    | 1.25  |
| Transaction Value              | \$891 |
| Embedded Gain                  | \$149 |

| 0000                     | %     | \$    |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| Potential Taxes          | 3.3%  | \$30  |
| Retained Capital         | 11.2% | \$100 |
| Share Repurchase Program | 85.4% | \$762 |

| Book Value          | 2018             | Pro Forma<br>Sale Adj. | 2018PF        | Buyback<br>Adj. | 2018PF        |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| US<br>International | \$1,004<br>\$743 | \$891<br>(\$743)       | \$1,895<br>\$ | (\$762)         | \$1,134<br>\$ |
| Run-off / Rese      | rve Adj.         | (\$119)                | (\$119)       |                 | (\$119)       |
| Total               | \$1,747          | \$30                   | \$1,776       | (\$762)         | \$1,015       |

| Earning Premiums         | \$1,079       |  |  |
|--------------------------|---------------|--|--|
| Loss Expense             | \$628         |  |  |
| UAE                      | \$355         |  |  |
| Underwriting Profit      | \$98          |  |  |
| Corporate Expenses       | (\$2X<br>\$92 |  |  |
| Net Investment Income    |               |  |  |
| Net Fee Income / Other   | (\$1)         |  |  |
| Interest Expense         | (\$21         |  |  |
| Pre-Tax Segment Profit   | \$146         |  |  |
| Taxes 20%                | (\$29)        |  |  |
| Net Income               | \$117         |  |  |
| ROE                      | 11.5%         |  |  |
| ROE (2018 Argo Tax Rate) | 13.5%         |  |  |

COMPASS POINT

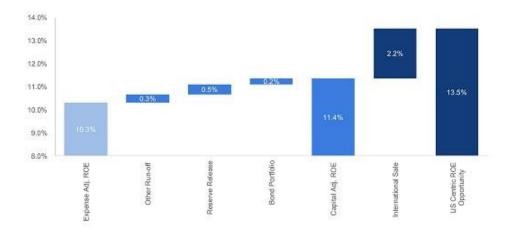
"US operation of Argo generates and ROE of 15.3%, more than twice the corporate entity. Argo's US domestic operation is a gem. While ARGO, as a corporate entity, generated an ROE of 6.3% in 2018, the company's US operation, by our calculation, generated returns that were more than twice as large, or 15.3%." — Bijan Moazami, Compass Point Research (3/19/19)

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Transaction Summary

## **Capital Allocation Opportunity Summary**





In aggregate, capital allocation opportunities represent a 320 bps ROE improvement

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## **Opportunity Summary**



# Improving Argo's ROE is a prerequisite to re-rating its valuation



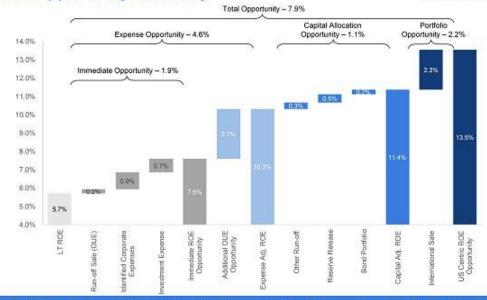
"We believe the company has the right mix of business for the market at hand (predominantly specialty insurance), that its core E&S business is a valuable franchise, and that ongoing investments in digital capabilities and emerging growth markets across the globe will pay dividends down the road. However, until we see a path to modest upside from the projected 8% 2019 ROE, we view ARGO as fairly valued, currently trading at 1.3x book value and 16.5x 2019E EPS. To become more constructive on the shares, we would like to be able to identify a catalyst that will improve ROE toward double-digit levels in the near/intermediate term, which we believe could warrant an upward re-rating in the multiple." — Matthew Carletti, JMP, February 11, 2019



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## **ROE Opportunity Summary**

Summary Comp Culture Expenses Business Copital Performance Oppositunity



Expense reductions alone can allow Argo to earn a double digit return on equity; adding capital allocation and potential sale of the international business would allow Argo to hit 13%+ ROE

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...





"Argo's US domestic business is twice the size and significantly more profitable than RLI's. RLI on the other hand trades at 4.1x TBV as compared to 1.6x for ARGO. In other words, we believe ARGO's international operation, its corporate holding company structure, volatility generated from catastrophe exposed reinsurance business and expenses associated with a small company operating out of far flung places such as Shanghai, Dubai and Sao Paolo, negatively impacts shareholder value. A retrenchment of the company's Lloyd's and international business back into domestic operations because of activist pressure can also increase valuation from 1.6x tangible book value to the comparable group average of 3.1x." — Bijan Moazami, Compass Point Research (3/19/19)



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## Value creation potential

Summary Comp Culture Expenses Business Capital Performance Opportunity Governances Conclusion



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## Conclusion: Righting the Ship



"[W]hat happens at Argo may have significant consequences for the industry. Though once seen as too complicated due to regulation and capital requirements, the sector is now seeing a surge of activist interest that is likely only to increase if a successful model of change is demonstrated." – Insurance Insider (4/9/19)



## New Board Can Make an Immediate Impact



- · Reconstitute committee members and Chairs
- · Launch independent investigation into misuse of corporate assets
- Provide for access to independent legal advice
- · Elect a new Chairman
- · Prohibit pledging and hedging of shares
- Conduct a comprehensive assessment of the Board's corporate governance profile
- · Create a carve-out to majority election standard in contested elections
- Commit to de-stagger the Board by 2020
- · Eliminate time-based vesting
- Tie compensation to ROE
  - · Reduce impact of qualitative judgment of the Committee for performance based compensation
  - · Set competitive and ambitious targets for hurdles on performance-based compensation
  - · Prohibit all personal use of corporate assets
  - · Reconstitute membership of the Human Resources Committee
  - · Review the compensation peer set
  - · Select a new compensation consultant

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## New Board Can Make an Immediate Impact (cont.)

| Operations      | Align investment expenses to be comparable to peers     Terminate all yachting, racing and similar sponsorships     Explore early lease terminations     Sell / terminate corporate aircraft arrangements     Sell / terminate corporate housing |
|-----------------|--|
| Cabital Cabital | Divest run-off portfolio Conduct independent capital reserve study Exit Aris "Art Title" business Auction off corporate art collection Reduce risk in investment portfolio Close and liquidate Argo Ventures                                     |
| Strategy        | <ul> <li>Evaluate a sale of the international business</li> <li>Analyze whether value can be created by using proceeds to recapitalize the Company to become a focused domestic player</li> </ul>  |

Bringing fresh, experienced and independent perspectives into the Boardroom is a crucial prerequisite to progress

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## Bernard C. Bailey, Ph.D





#### Directorships:

- Telos Corporation (Private) Audit and Strategy Committee Chair
- Analogic Corporation (Nasdaq: ALOG) Chairman

#### Key skills:

- ✓ Public CEO experience
- ✓ Strategic M&A transactions
- Public company directorial experience

Dr. Bernard Bailey's career spans over three decades of business and management experience. Since September 2018, he has served as President of the Committee for Economic Development ("CED"), a business-led, nonpartisan economic think tank. Prior to CED, he served as Chairman and CEO of Authentix, a private equity- backed global enterprise. Since its sale by the Carlyle Group to Blue Water Energy, he has continued to serve as Chairman of the Board of Authentix. Prior to that, he ran his own consulting company, Paraquis Solutions, LLC. Dr. Bailey also served as President and CEO of Viisage Technology, Inc. (Nasdaq: VISG), where under his four years of leadership, Viisage's market capitalization grew from \$60 million to over \$1 billion. During that period, the company executed nine acquisitions, eventually culminating in the formation of L1 Identity Solutions (NYSE: ID). Dr. Bailey's additional experience includes various executive roles, including COO at Art Technology Group, and a variety of finance, sales, marketing and operations positions at IBM.

Dr. Bailey has written and spoken extensively on corporate governance issues, and has served as a financial expert witness in Delaware's Court of Chancery. Dr. Bailey earned his Ph.D. in Management from Case Western Reserve University where his dissertation focused on corporate governance, and also earned an MBA from The George Washington University School of Business as well as degrees in engineering and systems management from the University of California, Berkeley, University of Southern California, and the United States Naval Academy.

"During my tenure as CEO of two public companies, and as a Director or Chairman of ten others, I'm absolutely certain that sound corporate governance is a non-negotiable prerequisite for sustainable shareholder value. While Argo appears to have assembled some attractive assets, I believe its corporate governance practices are deeply concerning and require significant reform."

Bernard Bailey



## Charles H. Dangelo





#### Directorships:

Starr Companies (Private) Director

#### Key skills:

- ✓ CEO experience
- Domestic insurance operating expertise

Charles H. Dangelo most recently served in a variety of senior executive and director roles at subsidiaries of Starr Companies from February 2009 to January 2018, including, as President and COO of Starr Insurance Holdings, Inc. from December 2012 to January 2018; President, CEO and Director of Starr Indemnity & Liability Company from 2009 to January 2018; President, CEO and Director of Starr Surplus Lines Insurance Company from 2009 to January 2018; and Vice Chairman Bermuda- based Starr Insurance Company from 2009 to January 2018. At Starr, Mr. Dangelo played a pivotal role in growing the scale and performance of Starr's insurance operations, including by developing numerous distinct business units and practices. From 1995 to 2009, Mr. Dangelo served in various senior management roles at American International Group (NYSE: AIG), a global insurance and financial services holding corporation, including as the Head of Global Reinsurance from 2005 to 2009. Mr. Dangelo began his professional career at CNA Insurance (Nasdaq: CNA), a leading commercial property and casualty insurance company, where he eventually became Senior Vice President of National Accounts, building expertise in insurance underwriting while managing large, complex risks for major accounts, from 1971 to 1995.

Mr. Dangelo received a B.A. in Mathematics, summa cum laude, from the University of Illinois Chicago. He has been a fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society since 1977. He was also an honoree at the UJA General Insurance Annual Dinner in 2016.

"The insurance industry is a highly competitive industry around the world. In my 47 years in the business I have helped lead companies that have successfully outperformed their competition, and seen competitors underperform or fail. One important key, especially for mid-sized companies, is to drive an effective expense control culture throughout the firm that can generate both a competitive advantage and effective return to shareholders."

- Chuck Dangelo

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## Rear Admiral (ret.) Kathleen M. Dussault





#### Directorships:

 Military Officers Association of America (Private) Chair of Governance Committee

#### Key skills:

- ✓ Global accountability
- Corporate governance and anticorruption practices

Admiral Kathleen M. Dussault is a former Senior Executive in the United States Navy, having served in a variety of leadership positions during 34 years of distinguished military service. Admiral Dussault served as Senior Vice President for Corporate Services of the United Services Automobile Association (USAA) from 2013 to 2014, where her responsibilities included management of USAA's fleet of corporate aircraft. Her military experience includes the following: Director, Logistics Programs and Corporate Operations in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations where she oversaw the planning and implementation of a multi-billion dollar budget resulting in improved financial management and decision making across the Naval enterprise; Commander, Joint Contracting Command in Iraq and Afghanistan, where she was responsible for all contracting in support of 150,000 US Forces deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan, overseeing over \$7 billion of commodity, services and construction capabilities; Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Acquisition and Logistics Management, where she oversaw the performance and credentialing of an acquisition workforce of over 8,000 contracting professionals, developing policy and governance for approval of acquisition plans, strategies and post- award execution of contracting actions in excess of \$70 billion. She also spent time in Afghanistan focused on anti- corruption practices for the military's contracting dollars.

Admiral Dussault earned an M.S. in National Resource Management from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, an M.S. in Contracts and Procurement Management from Saint Mary's College and a B.A. in American Government from the University of Virginia. She has also completed the Senior Executive Program at Columbia University Graduate School of Business.

"Honor. Service. Accountability. Many of the same essential characteristics that I drew upon in my 34 years in the US Navy are the same ones that I believe effective governance requires of corporate directors. I see a multitude of operational and leadership deficiencies at Argo today. Shareholders can expect me to ask questions, demand results and at all times to act in full recognition of my duty to them as their representative."

- Kathleen Dussault



### Carol A. McFate, CFA





#### Key skills:

- Public company CIO experience
- Capital allocation
- Global insurance expertise

Carol A. McFate served as the Chief Investment Officer of Xerox Corporation (NYSE: XRX), a global provider of print and digital products and services, where she oversaw over \$12 billion in retirement investment assets for North American and U.K. plans, from November 2006 to October 2017. Prior to Xerox, Ms. McFate served as Executive Vice President & Global Treasurer for XL Global Services, Inc., a US- based subsidiary of XL Capital, Ltd., a leading Bermuda- based global insurance and reinsurance company, from January 2003 to November 2006, Previously, Ms. McFate held various positions with AIG and The Prudential Insurance Company of America, a major, diversified insurance and financial services company.

Ms. McFate has been recognized throughout her career for her exemplary professional achievements, including with a Corporate Plan Sponsor Industry Innovation Award from Chief Investment Officer Magazine, a print and digital international finance magazine, in 2012 and being named to the Chief Investment Officer Power 100 by the Chief Investment Officer Magazine, from 2011 to 2016. Ms. McFate has also been honored by Institutional Investor, a leading global finance magazine, focused primarily on international finance and known for its extensive industry research and rankings, in 2014, winning two awards: the Investor Intelligence Network Thought Leadership Award and the Small Corporate Plan Sponsor Award.

Ms. McFate earned an MBA from Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration and a B.S. in Economics from Juniata College. She is also a Chartered Financial Analyst.

"My career has concentrated in finance and investment management, with much of this experience in the insurance industry. This experience developed the skills to efficiently and productively allocate capital. In insurance, effective capital allocation is critical to building a successful franchise. I believe my expertise, in concert with the operational and strategic insurance skills of my colleagues, will provide more effective oversight of capital allocation process at Argo, thereby enhancing shareholder returns."

- Carol McFate

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#### Nicholas C. Walsh





#### Directorships:

- Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group plc (LSE: JLT) Director
- Ascot Underwriting Ltd (Private) Director

#### Key skills:

- International insurance operating expertise
- √ Public company board experience

Nicholas C. Walsh served in a variety of underwriting, distribution and senior management roles at AIG over his 40+ year tenure there, including most recently as Vice Chairman of AIG Property Casualty Inc. from April 2012 to September 2014. Prior to that, he served as an Executive Vice President of AIG Inc. and President of American International Underwriters.

Mr. Walsh was a Director at Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group plc (LSE: JLT) ("JLT"), a London-based multinational insurance broker, from 2014 - 2019. Mr. Walsh was a member of the Remuneration. Compensation and Audit and Risk committees. He also served as member of the Board of JLT's US Specially business where he was the Chairman of the Audit and Risk Committee and as a Director of JLT's US Reinsurance business where he was the Chairman of the Audit and Risk Committee and attends meetings of the Executive Committee. Mr. Walsh previously served as a Director of AIG Property and Casualty Inc., Chairman of American International Underwriters Overseas Ltd., Director of American International Reinsurance Company Ltd. (AIRCO), Chairman of the Supervisory Board of AIG Europe SA, Chairman of AIG Europe Ltd., Chairman of AIG South East Asia Ltd., and Director of Tata- AIG General Insurance Company, Mr. Walsh also served as a Director of Ascot Underwriting Ltd., a Lloyd's syndicate. He continues to serve on the Advisory Board of Norton Rose Fullbright.

Mr. Walsh was educated at Wellington College before studying Business Administration and Management at CEPAC.

"I know from 40 years of experience how rewarding, but also how challenging, the international property and casualty business can be. Given its lack of scale and seeming diluted focus, Argo's serially disappointing international results are not surprising. Argo has some profound choices to make regarding the future of its international business, and I believe I can help guide the Company through these decisions as a Board member."

- Nic Walsh



## **Contact Information**

## **Shareholders**

If you have any questions, or need assistance voting your BLUE proxy card, please contact.



1212 Avenue of the Americas, 24th Floor New York, NY 10036

Telephone for Banks, Brokers, and International Shareholders: +1 212-297-0720 Shareholders may call toll-free (from the U.S. and Canada): 877-795-5274 Email: info@okapipartners.com

#### Media

Sloane & Company
Dan Zacchei / Joe Germani, 212-486-9500
Dzacchei@sloanepr.com / JGermani@sloanepr.com

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#### Sources

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