

A How the Financial Services Industry Will Change

Tuesday, 29 September 2009

Risk Management Implications for Investment Banking

Robert Stribling
Managing Director, Beyond Sigma





Institute of Actuaries of Australia

Investment Banking – changed forever?

- # Bulge Bracket Investment Banks: NIL
- Still many specialist niche players
- Universal banks are now the big players



My view: no major paradigm shifts

- Still need M&A, intermediation, innovation...
- Opportunist sector: creative minds will create
- Different cultural mindsets will continue to challenge



Institute of Actuaries of Australia

What will be Different?

- 1. Capital (more, more, more...)
- 2. Compensation Arrangements (Bonuses)
- 3. Chinese Walls
- 4. Liquidity Management
- 5. Valuation Models
- 6. VaR Models
- 7. Securitisation



Institute of Actuaries of Australia

Liquidity Management

- Cost of Liquidity: used to be "cheap" or "free"
 - A natural mindset, if balance sheet available for sale
 - A world awash in cash chasing yield
- GFC: a serious wake-up call
 - ♥ Collateral Calls
 - ♦ Downgrade Triggers
 - Silent obligations for off-balance sheet vehicles
- AUS Banks (and their Investment Banking units):
 - Relatively well-positioned
 - ♥ Constructive dialogue between APRA/banks





Institute of Actuaries of Australia

Valuation Models

- Gaussian Copula Model: A "crash & burn" victim?
 - ♥ Useful as another anxiety index?
- Mark-to-Market
 - only works in a market, and
 - when positions can be moved via "normal size" parcels
- Mark-to-Model
 - ♦ Who's model?
 - Can buyer & seller both report a profit?
 - ₩ Will we see a day when all valuations are done by independent utilities (e.g., exchanges/clearinghouses)?



Institute of Actuaries of Australia

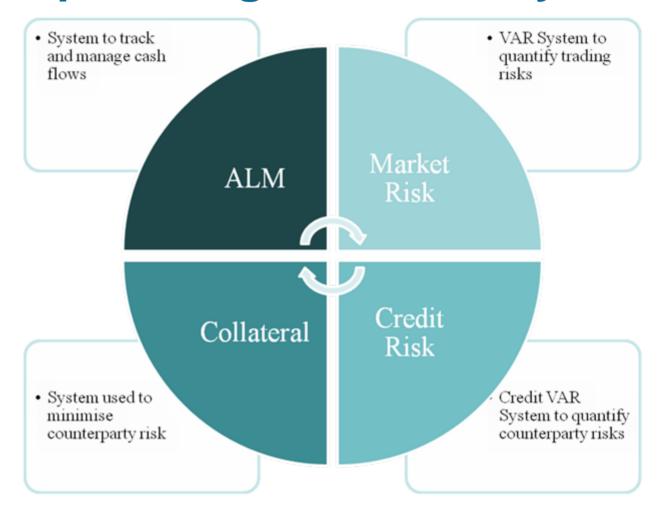
VAR Models

- VAR Models: flawed, or just lousy implementation?
 - \$\to\$ Lots of misinformation circulating
 - ☼ Too much academic focus versus workflow mgmt
 - \$\to\$ Only a compliance process for many organisations
 - Increased use of multi-pass analysis to address procyclicality
- Counterparty Risk: A new mantra (...again)?
 - ♦ More deals processed thru clearinghouses
 - high limited by the second sec
- Evolving integration of risk systems



Institute of Actuaries of Australia

Example: Integrated Risk Systems





Institute of Actuaries of Australia

Securitisation

Originate-to-Distribute model

- No longer acceptable as a means to fund credit that an institution will not hold
- Market will require Originator to stand behind the risk and participate...

Ratings and Rating Agencies

- Sector will become regulated
- Increased scrutiny of ratings by investors, banks, and regulators.
- "Investor Pays" rather than "Issuer Pays" model?