

Institute of Actuaries of Australia

Actuarial Involvement in Wider Fields

An Australian Perspective Tony Coleman, IAAust Immediate Past President

Actuaries in Australia

- All actuaries belong to one Institute
- Less than 50% now say Life Insurance or Pensions is their main practice area
- Increasing number of actuaries are working in General Insurance, Health, Finance, Banking, Investment Management & Other Fields
 - Profession is growing at 6% p.a.



Actuaries in Wider Fields

- IAAust encourages research and policy development in "wider fields"
- "Turning Risk into Value" where risk exists actuaries can add value
- Work with other professions and interest groups to solve problems
- Examples Climate Change, Electricity Markets and Infrastructure Financing



Climate Change

- Kyoto Protocol
- Cost and competitive implications
- Complex, long term risks to model
- Assessing expected impacts of emissions trading on existing operations
- Evaluating the impact of Climate Change on new investment projects
- Examples Power Generator, LPG export



Electricity and Energy Markets

- Volatility in supply and demand factors
- Competitive market creates new financial risks for buyers and sellers
- Actuaries can advise market participants on risk management and apply stochastic analysis
- Consider alternative risk approaches e.g. weather derivatives
- Does Enron provide further opportunities for actuaries ?



Infrastructure Investment

- Projects such as roads, airports, power stations, mines and pipelines
- Alternative sources of finance
- Complex financial analysis and cash flow modelling required
- Risk allocation puzzle between investors, lenders, operators, governments, users
- Use scenario and Monte Carlo analysis or other advances quantitative techniques
- Examples Telstra undersea cable, Tollroads, Airports



Other New Fields for Actuaries

- Valuation of Biodiversity and value of pharmaceutical products
- Environmental management and Sustainability - eg Timber logging
- Evaluation of offers for TV rights for Sydney 2000 Olympics
- Socially Responsible Investment Funds
- All of these have already been done by actuaries in Australia at least once

