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Ratings Update on ING U.S. Life Companies

On August 12, Moody's completed a review of the ING U.S. Life Companies. We are pleased that our rating remains unchanged at A1, with a stable outlook. This affirmation is recognition of our U.S. insurance entities' capital strength, expense structure and earnings improvement since the beginning of 2009.

Following months of reviews and ratings revisions, all financial services companies, distributors and customers are adjusting to the general realignment of financial strength ratings. This is driven by the challenging financial and market conditions and a more conservative posture adopted by the agencies. As a result, we are very pleased with Moody's decision to affirm our current rating.

Also, Fitch has downgraded the U.S. Life Companies to A (Strong). We disagree with Fitch's decision to make this change. ING Groep N.V.'s ("ING Group or ING") capital strength, expense structure, and earnings trajectory for its U.S. insurance operations have all improved since the beginning of 2009. ING's capital position continues to exceed regulatory requirements. ING's U.S. insurance operating entities do not have a contract with Fitch (Fitch covers ING U.S. through its contract with ING Group), so there is not the same kind of rigorous dialogue about strategy and execution that we have with the other agencies.

Here are our ratings as of August 12, 2009:

- **Standard & Poor's** rates the US Insurance operating entities as A+
A+ (Strong) is 5th highest of 20 ratings
- **Fitch Ratings** rates the US Insurance operating entities as A
A (Strong) is the 6th highest of 19 ratings
- **Moody's** rates the US Insurance operating entities as A1
A1 (Good) is the 5th highest of 21 ratings
- **A.M. Best** rates the US Insurance operating entities as A
A (Excellent) is the 3rd highest of 15 ratings

Overall, ING and its U.S. insurance operating entities' financial strength ratings remain investment grade and competitive with the majority of other insurance companies. If you have any questions, please contact your ING representative or ING Life Sales Support at 866-ING-SELL (866-464-7355). Thank you for your continued trust and partnering with the ING Life Companies.

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A.M. Best Company assigns ratings from A++ to F based on a company's financial strength and ability to meet obligations to contract holders. A (Excellent) is the 3rd highest of 15 ratings. Fitch assigns ratings from AAA to C based on company's financial strength. A (Strong) is the 6th highest of 19 ratings. Moody's Investor Service (Moody's) assigns ratings from Aaa to C based on a company's financial security. A1 (Good) is the 5th highest of 21 ratings. Standard & Poor's assigns ratings from AAA to CC based on a company's financial security. A+ is the 5th highest of 20 ratings. Independent rating services evaluate insurance company financial strength. The ratings relate to an insurance company's ability to meet its claims and guarantees. The ratings do not apply to the safety or performance of any specific insurance product or any obligations of the variable investment option. The ratings are as of August 12, 2009 and are subject to change. Life insurance products are issued by ReliaStar Life Insurance Company (Minneapolis, MN), ReliaStar Life Insurance Company of New York (Woodbury, NY) and Security Life of Denver Insurance Company (Denver, CO). Within the state of New York, only ReliaStar Life Insurance Company of New York is admitted, and its products issued. All are members of the ING family of companies. © 2009 ING North America Insurance Corporation