

# **3Q 2015 Investor Presentation**

December 2015

Updated for 12/01/2015 Share Price

# **Forward-Looking Statements**

This presentation contains "forward-looking statements" which are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The forward-looking statements are based on the Company's current expectations and beliefs concerning future developments and their potential effects on the Company. There can be no assurance that actual developments will be those anticipated by the Company. Actual results may differ materially from those projected as a result of significant risks and uncertainties, including non-receipt of the expected payments, changes in interest rates, effect of the performance of financial markets on investment income and fair values of investments, development of claims and the effect on loss reserves, accuracy in projecting loss reserves, the impact of competition and pricing environments, changes in the demand for the Company's products, the effect of general economic conditions, adverse state and federal legislation, regulations and regulatory investigations into industry practices, developments relating to existing agreements, heightened competition, changes in pricing environments, and changes in asset valuations. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements as a result of events or developments subsequent to the presentation.



# **Argo Group at a Glance**

**Exchange / Ticker:** 

**Share Price:** 

\$64.28

**Market Capitalization:** 

\$1.8 billion

NASDAQ / "AGII"

Annual Dividend / Yield:

\$0.80 per share / 1.2%

**Gross Written Premium:** 

\$2.0 billion

Capital:

\$2.0 billion

**Analyst Coverage:** 

Raymond James (Strong Buy) - Greg Peters **KBW** (Market Perform) – Meyer Shields **Compass Point (Neutral) – Ken Billingsley Dowling & Partners (Neutral) – Aaron Woomer** William Blair (Market Perform) - Adam Klauber **Macquarie (Neutral) – Christopher Martin** 

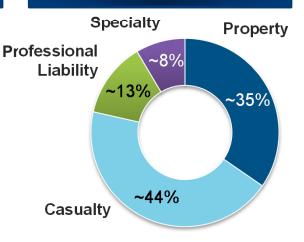
Atlanta • Bermuda • Boston • Brussels • Chicago • Dallas • Denver • Dubai • Fresno • Hamilton Township • Houston Irvine • Jersey City • London • Los Angeles • Malta • New York • Paris • Peoria • Portland • Richmond • Rio de Janeiro Rockwood • San Antonio • San Francisco • Sao Paulo • Scottsdale • Seattle • Singapore • Springfield • Zurich

# **Leading Specialty Franchise**

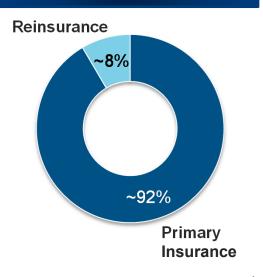
### **Argo Franchise Overview**

- Global underwriter of specialty insurance & reinsurance
- Strategically located in major insurance centers
  - U.S., Bermuda and London
- Established presence in attractive markets
  - Leader in U.S. Excess & Surplus Lines
  - Top Quartile Lloyd's Syndicate by stamp
  - Strong core Commercial Specialty franchise
  - Leading Bermuda reinsurance & excess casualty platform
- Diversified by geography, product & distribution
- Broad and strong producer relationships
  - Agents, brokers, wholesalers, and coverholders
- "A" (excellent) A.M. Best rating

### **TTM GWP by Business Mix**



### **TTM GWP by Business Type**





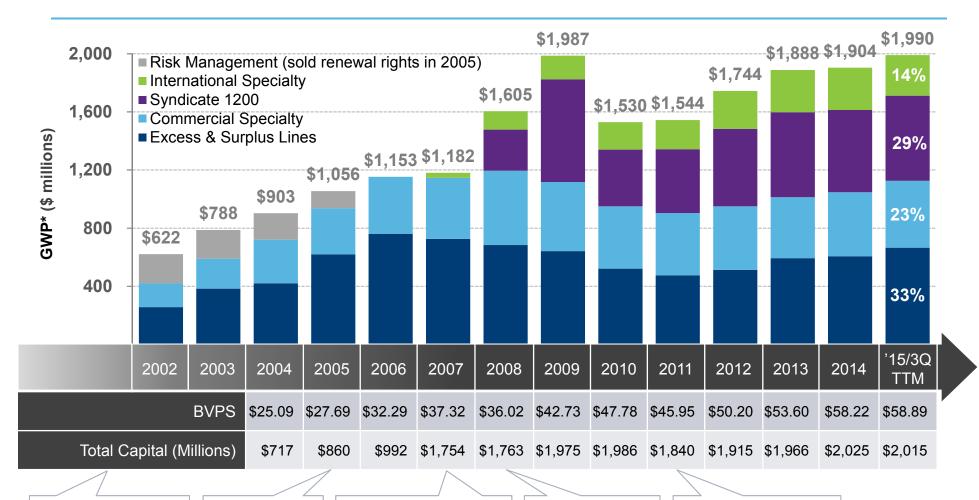
# Strategy Aligned Toward Shareholder Value

- Sustainable competitive advantage
  - Niche markets
  - Underwriting expertise
  - Superior customer service
  - Product innovation
- Profitable organic & strategic growth
  - Profitable through cycles
  - Key underwriters/teams
  - Deals that meet stringent criteria
- Deep, tenured management team
- Active capital management

Maximize
Shareholder
Value
through
growth in
Book Value
per Share



# **Evolution of Growth and Diversification**



### 2001

- Acquired Colony and Rockwood
- Founded Trident (Public Entity)

### 2005

Sold Risk
 Management
 business

### 2007

- Rebranded Argo Group
- Completed acquisition in Bermuda
- Formed Argo Re

### 2008

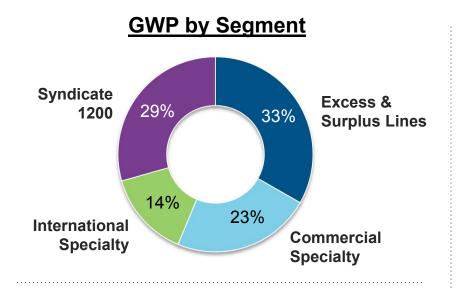
 Acquired Lloyd's Syndicate 1200

### 2011

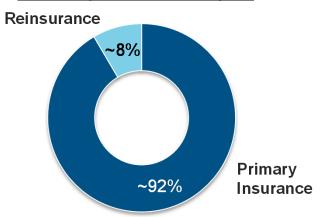
 Established local presence in Brazil



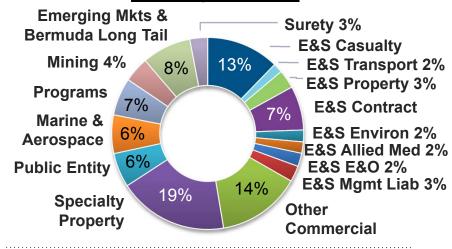
# **Argo Group Business Mix (\$2.0b in GWP)**



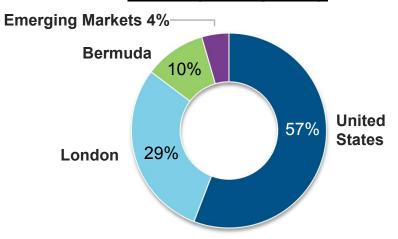
### **GWP by Business Type**



### **GWP by Product**



### **GWP** by Geography





# **Multi-Channel Distribution Strategy**

		<u>Retail Broker /</u> <u>Agent</u>	<u>General</u> <u>Agency</u>	<u>Wholesale</u> <u>Broker</u>	<u>Lloyd's</u> <u>Market</u>	<u>Reinsurance</u> <u>Broker</u>
Commercial Specialty	Rockwood	Х				
	Argo Insurance	x				
	Trident	x				
Spec	Surety	x		x		
0 "	Commercial Programs	x				
	Alteris		x			
	Contract		x			
nes	Transportation		X			
Excess & Surplus Lines	Casualty			х		
urplı	E&O	x		x		
න	D&O	x		x		
ess	Environmental			x		
EXC	Allied Medical	X		x		
	Specialty Property			X		
a)	Liability				х	
Syndicate 1200	Property				x	
	Aviation				x	
	Marine				X	
la /	Excess Casualty	x		x		
International Specialty	Professional Liability	x		x		
	Emerging Markets	x		x		
	Reinsurance					Х



# **Maximizing Shareholder Value – BVPS Growth**



- (1) Book value per common share:
  - Adjusted for June 2013 and March 2015 stock dividend
- 2008-2011 restated to reflect adoption of ASU 2010-26 (related to accounting for costs associated with acquiring or renewing insurance contracts); 2007 and prior not restated

- 2006 and prior years adjusted for PXRE merger

<sup>- 2003-2006</sup> includes impact of Series A Mandatory Convertible Preferred on an as-if converted basis. Preferred stock fully converted into common shares as of Dec. 31, 2007



# **Substantial Growth and Financial Strength**

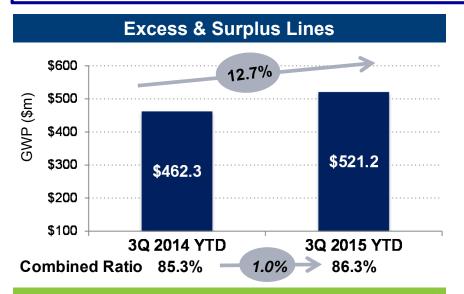
Scale (\$m)	2002	2006	TTM 3Q '15	'02-3Q'15 Factor	
Gross Written Premiums	\$622.1	\$1,155.6	\$1,990.9	3.2x	
Net Written Premiums	484.0	847.0	1,406.1	2.9x	
Net Earned Premiums	378.4	813.0	1,365.3	3.6x	

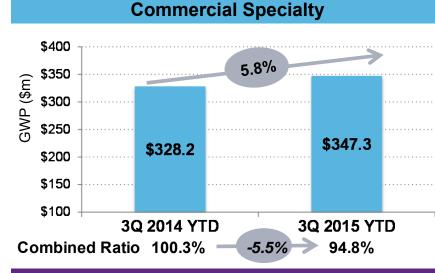
Financial Strength (\$m)	2002	2006	TTM 3Q '15	'02-3Q'15 Factor	
Total Assets	\$2,208.9	\$3,721.5	\$6,627.5	3.0x	
Total Investments	1,181.3	2,514.1	4,133.0	3.5x	
Shareholder's Equity	327.7	847.7	1,641.5	5.0x	
Total Capital	\$327.7	\$992.0	\$2,015.4	6.2x	
Debt+TRUPs / Total Capital	0.0%	14.5%	18.6%		
A.M. Best Rating	Α	A	A		



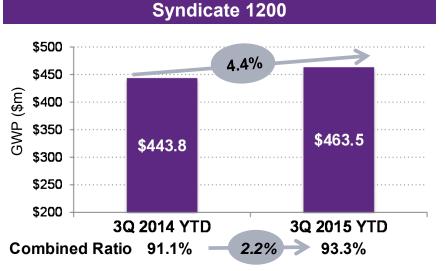
## 3Q YTD YoY Gross Written Premium & Combined Ratio

Consolidated GWP up 5.8% and Combined Ratio improved 1.0% in Q3 YTD 2015 vs. Q3 YTD 2014



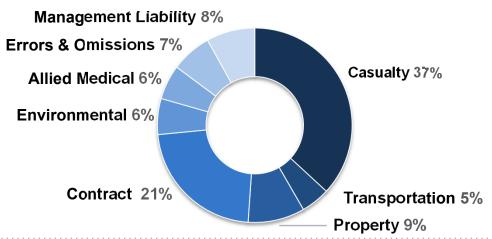






# Excess & Surplus Lines Segment (33% of TTM GWP)

### **GWP by Business Unit (TTM 9/30/15)**

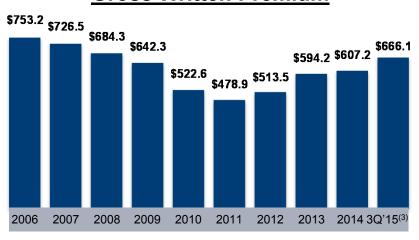


### PTOI<sup>(1)</sup> & Combined Ratio Combined Ratio PTOI \$112.3 \$112.7 \$101.4 \$98.3 \$96.3 \$83.2 \$79.9 \$71.0 \$74.2 84.4% 86.3% 88.9% 89.3% 93.3% 99.6% 97.4% 95.5% 91.9% 88.1% 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 3Q'15<sup>(2)</sup>

### **About Us**

- Leader in U.S. Excess & Surplus Lines
- Strong relationships with national, local and regional wholesale brokers
- Seasoned U/W expertise is a competitive advantage
- Target all sizes of non-standard (hard-to-place) risks, with focus on small/medium accounts
- Underwrites on both admitted & non-admitted basis and across all business enterprises via two brands:
  - Colony Specialty
  - Argo Pro

### **Gross Written Premium**

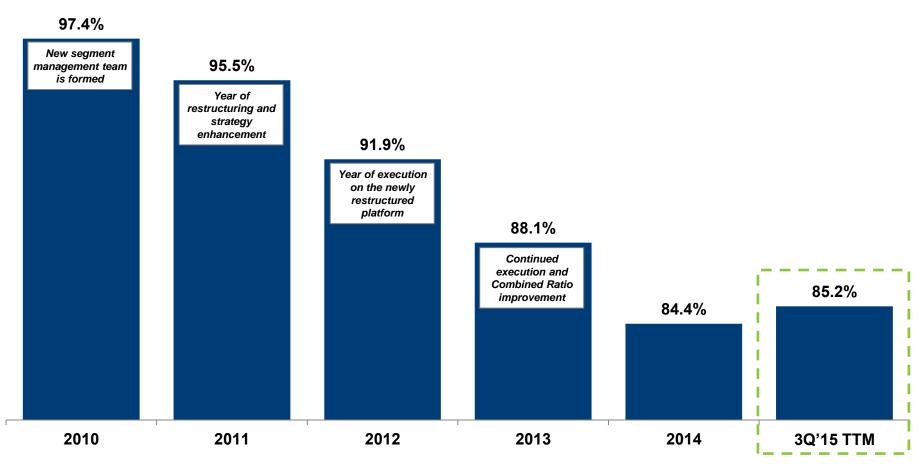




- (1) PTOI = Pre-Tax Operating Income. Excludes interest expense.
- (2) Data is based on year-to-date as of September 30, 2015.
- (3) Data is based on trailing twelve months as of September 30, 2015.

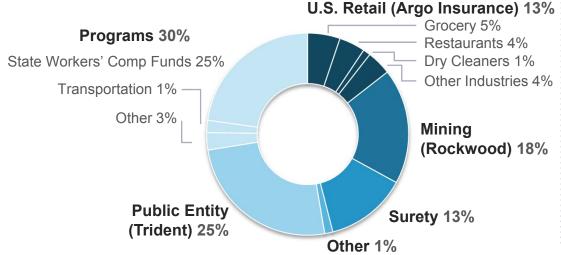
# **E&S Operating Platform Enhancement**

Restructuring initiatives and strategy enhancement has enabled Argo to become an industry-leading E&S underwriter



# Commercial Specialty Segment (23% of TTM GWP)

### **GWP by Business Unit (TTM 9/30/15)**

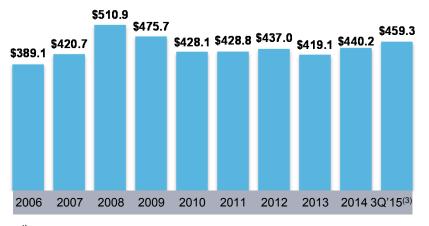


### PTOI<sup>(1)</sup> & Combined Ratio Combined Ratio PTOI \$61.3 \$50.4 \$45.8 \$43.0 \$36.3 \$25.2 \$23.2 \$15.5 (\$18.9)95.6% 98.1% 108.3% 115.1% 97.8% 100.2% 94.8% 96.5% 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 3Q'15<sup>(2)</sup>

### **About Us**

- Business primarily placed through retail distribution partners
- Argo Insurance designs customized commercial insurance programs for retail grocery stores
- Trident One of the largest specialty commercial insurance providers for small to middle market public-sector entities in the U.S.
- Rockwood 2<sup>nd</sup> largest provider of workers compensation for the Pennsylvania coal mining industry
- Programs provides fronting options for carriers to write business on Argo paper

### **Gross Written Premium**

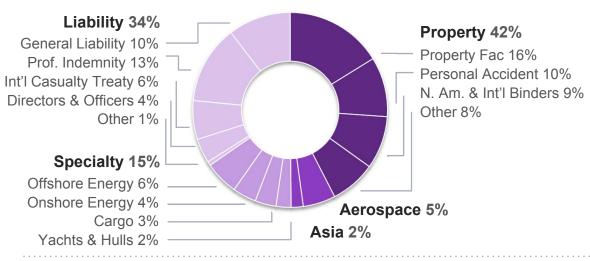




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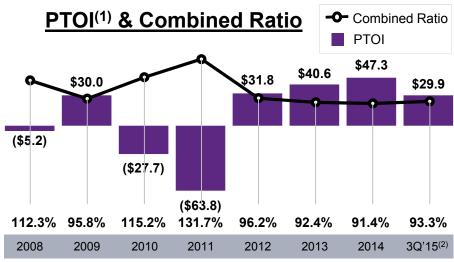
# Syndicate 1200 Segment (29% of TTM GWP)

### **GWP by Business Unit (TTM 9/30/15)**

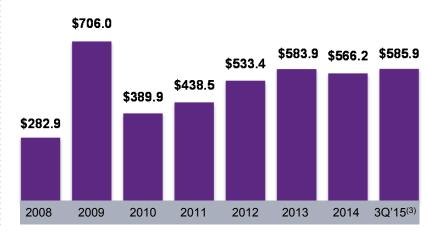


### **About Us**

- Well-established multi-class platform at Lloyd's of London
- Ranks among the largest Syndicates at Lloyd's by Stamp Capacity
- Lloyd's market ratings:
  - 'A' (Excellent) by A.M. Best
  - 'A+' (Strong) by S&P









- (1) PTOI = Pre-Tax Operating Income. Excludes interest expense.
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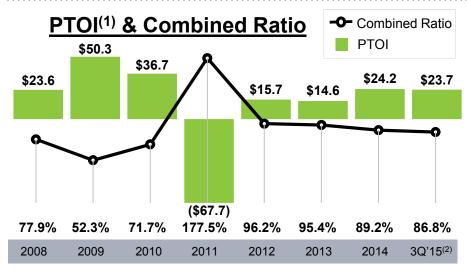
# International Specialty Segment (14% of TTMGWP)

### **GWP by Business Unit (TTM 9/30/15)**

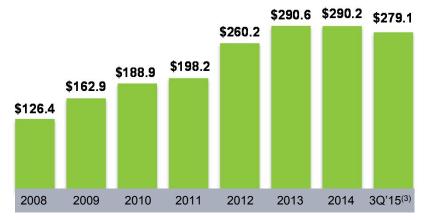


### **About Us**

- Bermuda team underwrites:
  - Property cat, short tail per risk and proportional treaty reinsurance worldwide
  - Excess casualty and professional liability for Fortune 1000 accounts
- Building diversity through international expansion:
  - Established primary operations in Brazil
  - Established operations in Eurozone
  - Established regional office in Dubai
- Distributes through brokers



### **Gross Written Premium**





- (1) PTOI = Pre-Tax Operating Income. Excludes interest expense.
- (2) Data is based on year-to-date as of September 30, 2015.
- (3) Data is based on trailing twelve months as of September 30, 2015.

# **3Q 2015 Operating Results**

	3Q 2015	3Q 2014
Gross Written Premiums	\$531.4	\$497.7
Net Written Premiums	386.2	380.5
Earned Premiums	346.0	337.6
Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses	200.0	191.9
Underwriting, Acquisition and Insurance Expenses	132.8	133.8
Underwriting Income	\$13.2	\$11.9
Net Investment Income	21.3	20.8
Fee and other income (expense), net	1.0	1.6
Interest Expense	4.8	4.9
Operating Income	\$30.7	\$29.4
Net Realized Investment and Other Gains	3.7	12.9
Foreign Currency Exchange Gain (Loss)	1.8	6.0
Income Before Taxes	\$36.2	\$48.3
Income Tax Provision	0.9	3.6
Net Income	\$35.3	\$44.7
Operating Income per Common Share (Diluted) <sup>1</sup>	\$0.86	\$0.81
Net Income per Common Share (Diluted)	\$1.24	\$1.54
Loss Ratio <sup>2</sup>	57.8%	56.8%
Expense Ratio <sup>3</sup>	38.4%	39.6%
Combined Ratio	96.2%	96.4%

3Q 2015	3Q 2014		
YTD	YTD		
\$1,565.9	\$1,480.4		
1,093.8	1,055.6		
1,026.6	999.4		
574.3	559.5		
401.9	399.3		
\$50.4	\$40.6		
63.9	64.7		
(0.1)	0.1		
14.3	15.0		
\$99.9	\$90.4		
25.0	42.5		
8.4	2.8		
\$133.3	\$135.7		
11.3	12.2		
\$122.0	\$123.5		
\$2.80	\$2.47		
\$4.28	\$4.21		
55.9%	56.0%		
39.1%	40.0%		
95.0%	96.0%		



Calculated using an assumed tax rate of 20%.
 Defined as Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses / Earned Premiums.

<sup>(3)</sup> Defined as Underwriting, Acquisition and Insurance Expenses / Earned Premiums.

# **Conservative Investment Strategy**

### As of September 30, 2015

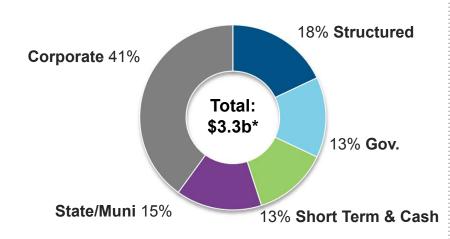
### **Portfolio Characteristics**

- Duration of 2.2 years
- Average rating of 'A1/A+'
- Book yield of 2.7%\*
- Very liquid
- Conservatively managed

\*Book yield is pre-tax & includes all fixed maturities

\*Duration includes cash & equivalents

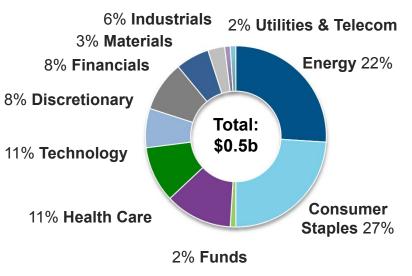
### **Fixed Maturities by Type**



\*\$2.8 billion in fixed maturities, \$0.4 billion in short term & cash

# Fixed 67% Maturities Total: \$4.2b

### **Equity Investments by Sector**





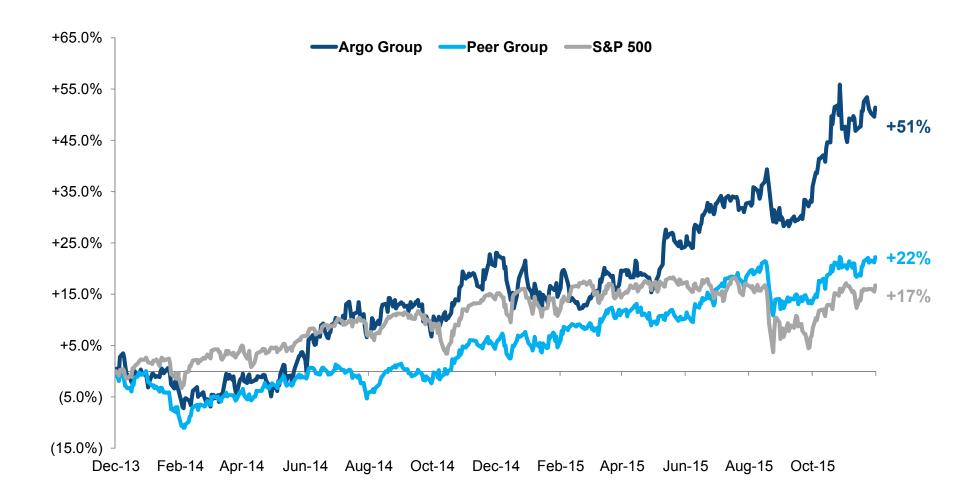
# **Active Capital Management**

Through share repurchases and dividends, we have returned \$419 million of capital and repurchased 29% of shares outstanding from 2010 through 3Q 2015

						Q3 YTD	2010-Q3 '15
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Total Shares Outstanding	31,206,796	31,285,469	31,384,271	34,066,889	34,318,224	37,056,534	
Less: Treasury Shares	3,363,560	4,971,305	6,459,613	7,558,345	8,606,489	9,181,544	
Net Shares	27,843,236	26,314,164	24,924,658	26,508,544	25,711,735	27,874,990	
Shares Repurchased	3,217,561	1,607,745	1,488,308	1,098,732	1,048,144	575,055	9,035,545
As % of Beg. Net Shares	10%	6%	6%	4%	4%	2%	29%
Avg. Repurchase Price per Share	\$33.05	\$30.69	\$29.89	\$41.02	\$48.45	\$51.55	\$36.04
Total Repurchased (\$m)	\$106.3	\$49.3	\$44.5	\$45.1	\$50.8	\$29.6	\$325.7
Dividends per Share	\$0.48	\$0.48	\$0.48	\$0.60	\$0.69	\$0.60	\$3.33
Dividend Payments (\$m)	\$15.3	\$14.2	\$13.4	\$16.1	\$17.9	\$16.8	\$93.7
Repurchases + Dividends (\$m)	\$121.7	\$63.6	\$57.9	\$61.1	\$68.7	\$46.4	\$419.4

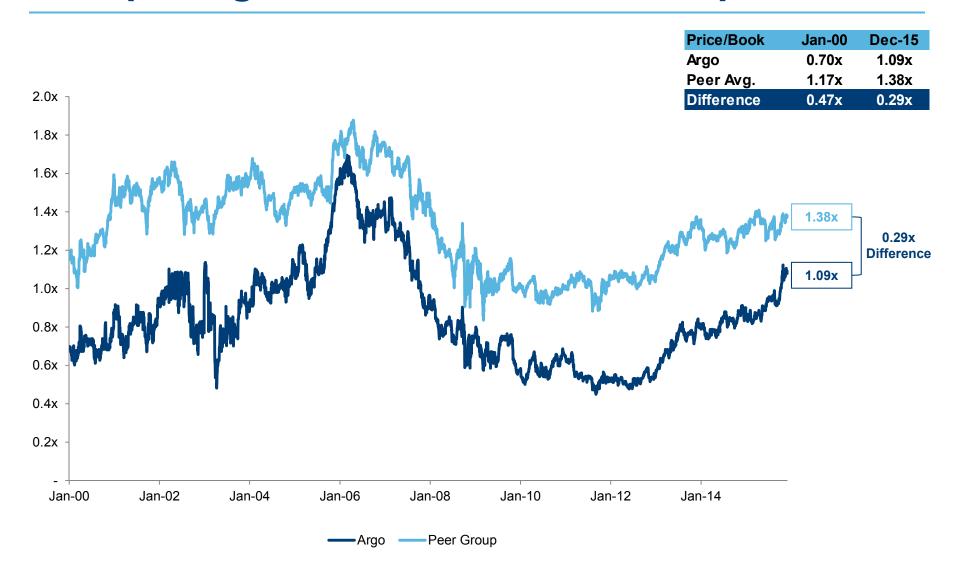


# **Stock Price Performance – Last 2 Years**





# Compelling Valuation vs. Peer Group





Source: SNL Financial (as of 12/1/15).

Note: Price to book is average price/book across all peer companies based on latest reported book value. Peer Group consists of: Allied World,

American Financial, Arch Capital, Aspen, AXIS Capital, Endurance, Global Indemnity, Markel, Navigators, OneBeacon, RLI Corp, Selective Group, W.R. Berkley.

# Operations

# Well Positioned for Value Creation in 2016 and Beyond

We believe that Argo Group has potential to generate substantial value for new and existing investors

### Significant changes to premium composition completed

- Results of re-underwriting efforts emerging in financials
- Continue to employ and attract some of the best talent in the industry
- Incremental yield improvements can have a favorable impact on ROE

Capital

- Moderate financial leverage
- Strong balance sheet with adequate reserves and excellent asset quality

Valuation

- Compelling investment case
- Stock trading at a discount to peers
- Upside potential as past and ongoing efforts continue