

VIVAT N.V.

Insurance Entities
Full Rating Report

Ratings

Insurer Financial Strength Rating

Reaal Schadeverzekeringen NV
SRLEV N.V. BBB+
BBB+

Issuer Default Rating

VIVAT N.V. BBB

Long-Term Debt Ratings

Senior (XS1600704982) BBB-
Subordinated (XS1717202490) BB

Rating Outlooks

Stable

Financial Data

VIVAT N.V.

(EURbn)	2015	2016
Total equity	3.5	3.7
Total assets	60.3	58.8
Net income	0.11	0.16
Return on equity (%)	4	4
Solvency II ratio (%)	160	175

As of 31 December

Key Rating Drivers

Ratings Based on Standalone Profile: The ratings reflect Fitch Rating's view that VIVAT N.V.'s credit profile as a standalone Dutch insurer is not directly affected by that of its parent, Anbang Insurance Group Co. Ltd. (Anbang), which is below that of VIVAT.

Fitch believes that the regulatory and governance framework under which VIVAT operates protects its capitalisation and policyholders through restrictions on the minimum capital position and on capital flows to the shareholder. VIVAT's operations and credit metrics stabilised in 2015-2016, thereby establishing it as a financially and operationally independent Dutch insurer.

Strong Capitalisation: VIVAT scored 'Extremely Strong' in Fitch's Prism Factor-Based Capital Model (Prism FBM) at end-2016 (end-2015: 'Very Strong'). New subordinated capital (USD190 million) provided by Anbang in December 2016 lead to a slight improvement in the Prism score. We expect VIVAT to maintain its Prism FBM score at or near 'Extremely Strong'.

Increased Financial Leverage: Fitch expects VIVAT's financial leverage ratio (FLR) to have increased to more than 30% at end-1H17 from 21% at end-2016 due to a EUR650 million senior debt issue in May 2017. As a result, VIVAT's FLR is one of the highest among European peers. However, we view a further rise in the FLR in 2018 as being unlikely.

Stable Dutch Market Position: VIVAT has a stable presence in the Dutch insurance market, notably in life insurance. At end-2016, it ranked fourth in the Dutch life market with a 13% market share and was fifth in the non-life segment with a 5% market share based on gross premiums (excluding health). VIVAT has no international business diversification.

Volatile Profitability: VIVAT's underlying earnings improved to EUR73 million in 1H17 (1H16: EUR53 million) supported by significant cost savings and improved non-life combined ratio (1H17: 99%; 1H16: 112%). We estimate stable underlying earnings to translate to a run-rate net income return on equity (ROE) of 4%-5%. Actual results could be volatile because of life liabilities' sensitivity to adverse changes in market factors and technical parameters.

Improved Financial Flexibility: Our financial flexibility assessment reflects VIVAT's successful return to capital markets in 2017. VIVAT's fixed-charge coverage improved to 3.5x in 2016 from 2.5x in 2015. However, higher interest expenses due to new senior debt issuance in 2017 could negatively affect the ratio in 2018.

Rating Sensitivities

Improved Profitability, Lower Leverage: A sustained increase in net income ROE to more than 6% (2016: 4%) could lead to an upgrade. The ratings could also be upgraded if financial leverage falls below 25% while the Prism FBM score is maintained at 'Extremely Strong'.

Deteriorating Profitability, Capital: The ratings could be downgraded if VIVAT's net income ROE falls below 3%, or if the Prism FBM score falls to the low end of the 'Strong' category, or if the FLR increases to more than 35% for a sustained period.

Weaker Regulatory Oversight: An adverse change in our perception of the strength of the ring-fencing provided by the regulatory and governance framework under which VIVAT operates could also lead to a downgrade

Deteriorating Parent Credit Profile: Significant deterioration in Anbang's credit profile as assessed by Fitch could also lead to a downgrade of VIVAT's ratings.

Related Research

2018 Outlook: Dutch Insurance
(December 2017)

Dutch Insurance Dashboard 2018
Outlook, (January 2018)

Analysts

Willem Loots
+44 20 3530 1808
willem.loots@fitchratings.com

Andras Sasdi
+44 20 3530 1805
andras.sasdi@fitchratings.com

Business Profile

Strong Business Profile

- Composite insurer with Dutch focus
- Good Dutch life market position
- Strategic focus on client retention, new products

Composite Insurer with Dutch Focus

VIVAT is a composite insurer with broad product diversification in life insurance (annuities, endowments, term life and unit-linked), non-life insurance (property, casualty, disability), and pensions and asset management.

VIVAT’s operations are more sensitive to domestic economic developments in the Netherlands compared to its competitors because of its business focus on the Netherlands and lack of international diversification.

Good Dutch Life Market Position

VIVAT was the fifth-largest Dutch insurer based on end-2016 gross written premiums. It maintained a significant 13% market share based on end-2016 Dutch life insurance gross premiums through SRLEV NV. VIVAT’s non-life insurer REAAL Schade ranked fifth in the non-life segment with 5% end-2016 market share based on gross premiums (excluding health).

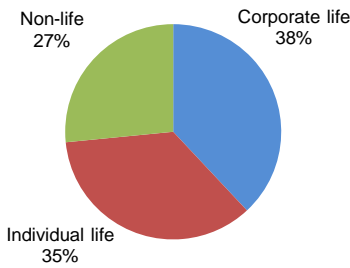
ACTIAM provides asset management services to VIVAT and external clients. Around 15% of the end-2016 EUR55 billion assets under management belonged to third parties.

Strategic Focus on Client Retention, New Products

Due to limited growth opportunities in the Dutch life market, VIVAT focused on retaining existing clients by concentrating on sales of new innovative savings and mortgage products and term-life policies. Growth in the corporate life segment is likely to come from acquisitions as VIVAT decided to stay out of the new general pension fund (APF) market.

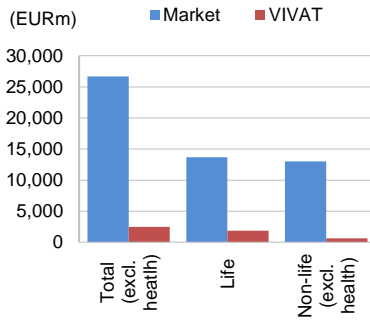
We do not expect significant changes in VIVAT’s strategic direction in the medium term.

VIVAT Premium Split
(End-16: EUR2.5bn)



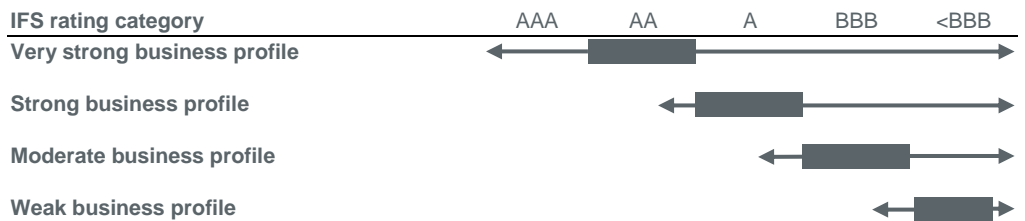
Source: Company, Fitch

Gross Written Premiums (Netherlands)



Source: Company, Fitch

Ratings Range Based on Business Profile



Source: Fitch

Related Criteria

[Insurance Rating Criteria \(November 2017\)](#)

Corporate Governance and Management

Corporate governance and management are adequate and neutral to the rating.

VIVAT maintains a two-tier board structure. Anbang delegated four out of seven members to VIVAT's executive board of directors and two out of five members to the supervisory board at end-2016.

VIVAT's board of directors are subject to Dutch legislation.

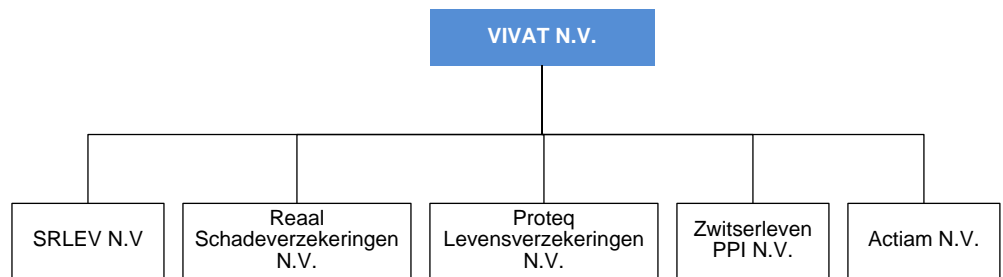
Ownership Is Neutral to Rating

VIVAT is wholly owned by Chinese insurance conglomerate Anbang. Fitch considers Anbang to be a committed shareholder of VIVAT, having provided capital support, and views VIVAT as a strategically 'Important' subsidiary to the parent, based on Fitch's insurance group rating methodology.

We view Anbang's credit profile as neutral to VIVAT's rating. We believe that the regulatory and governance framework under which VIVAT operates protects its capitalisation and policyholders through restrictions on the minimum capital position and on capital flows (i.e. dividend payments) to the shareholder.

VIVAT's operations and credit metrics stabilised in 2015-2016, thereby establishing it as a financially and operationally independent Dutch insurer. Following Anbang's acquisition of VIVAT in 2015, it provided a EUR1.35 billion equity capital injection and initiated a strategic review to return it to profitability. This included changes to the senior management and a large-scale cost-savings programme. The latter was supported by a one-third reduction in the workforce by end-2016.

Structure Diagram



Source: VIVAT

Sovereign and Country Related Constraints

Fitch rates the local-currency sovereign obligations of the Netherlands at 'AAA' with a Stable Outlook, and the Country Ceiling is also 'AAA'. At current levels, the ratings of Dutch insurance organisations are not directly constrained by sovereign or macroeconomic risks.

Industry Profile and Operating Environment

Insurers Responsive to Industry Change

Dutch insurers are well positioned to manage a macroeconomic environment of low interest rates, limited organic growth and strong competition from traditional and new companies. This position is supported by large Dutch insurers' strong capital, business diversification and improvements in operating efficiency.

Solvency II Strong, Sensitivities Manageable

Dutch insurers maintain strong group Solvency II (S2) ratios, supported by profitability and the gradual run-off of capital-intensive life closed books. Average S2 ratios improved to 181% and 175%, respectively, in the life and non-life segments at end-1H17. Key sensitivities include a widening of government bond spreads and a reduction in the ultimate forward rate.

Cost Savings Remain a Focus

We estimate further industry cost reductions of EUR650 million over 2018 to 2020, including cost synergies from the integration of Delta Lloyd into NN Group, following the former's acquisition in 2017.

Non-Life Premiums Set to Increase

Property and casualty (P&C) combined ratios could continue to improve and underwriting results could stabilise as insurers re-price policies for increased claims across most segments. However, those insurers that are more exposed to the challenging motor third-party liability segment could face further difficulties. We do not foresee any single insurer losing significant market share as a result of repricing, as price increases are likely to be across the market and are also being encouraged by the regulator, the Dutch central bank.

Focus on Client Retention

Life insurers increasingly focus on client retention in the shrinking Dutch individual life market by channelling existing customers to their bank savings products, newer savings and investment products and increasing focus on cross-selling and client relations. Pockets of growth in protection products, such as term-life policies, could partly offset revenue declines.

Profits from closed-book businesses (such as guaranteed products) support earnings. Closed books are tightly managed and optimised through cash-flow matching, hedges for interest rate risk and cost controls.

Ratings Range Based on Industry Profile/Operating Environment



Source: Fitch

Peer Analysis

Business Diversification, Profitability Weaker than Peers

VIVAT's peers are the large Dutch composite insurers. Although VIVAT has a strong position in the Netherlands, its size and scope compare less favourably to other Dutch insurers. VIVAT's business is not internationally diversified, unlike NN and Aegon, which have substantial non-Dutch operations. Achmea is a composite insurer with a market-leading position in Dutch health insurance.

VIVAT's profitability measured by net income ROE is somewhat below Dutch peers, partly resulting from a more conservative investment portfolio of mostly 'AAA' rated European sovereign bonds, while exposure to Dutch residential mortgages remains well below peers. The non-life combined ratio was at the higher end of the peer group, but we expect some improvement in 2017.

VIVAT's capitalisation measured by Prism FBM and S2 is in line with peers; however we estimate financial leverage to have increased to more than 30% at end 1H17, one of the highest in the peer group.

Peer Comparison Table

End-2016 (EURbn)	IFS Rating	Total assets	Total equity	Net income	Pre-tax ROA (%)	NI ROE (%)	Combined ratio (%)	Solvency II (%)	Financial leverage (%)
Aegon	A+/Stable	426	25	0.6	0.2	2	-	159	27
NN Group ^a	A+/Stable	169	23 ^b	1.2	1	6	100	241	22
Delta Lloyd ^a	NR	76	3	0.3	0.5	9	105	143	39
VIVAT	BBB+/Stable	59	4	0.2	0.4	4.5	105	175	21
Achmea	NR	93	8 ^b	-0.4	-0.3	-4	105	181	23
ASR	NR	57	4	0.7	1.2	15	95.6	189	25

GBP/EUR exchange rate used: 1.16735

^a Merged in April/2017

^b Excluding hybrid debt

Source: Companies, Fitch

Capitalisation and Leverage

(EURm)	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Fitch's expectation
Total equity	2,932	2,589	2,015	3,451	3,698	Fitch expects VIVAT to maintain very strong capitalisation and focus on managing S2 sensitivities. We do not expect a further increase in financial leverage in 2018.
Financial leverage ratio (%)	48	36	38	21	21	
Total financing and commitments ratio (x)	1.9	1.3	1.4	0.7	0.6	
Regulatory solvency ratio ^a (%)	176	172	136	160	175	
Operating leverage (%)	8	9	14	8	9	

^a 2012-2014 Insurance Groups Directive ratio, 2015-2016 S2 ratio

Source: Company, Fitch

Very Strong Capitalisation Supports Rating

- Capital protected by regulator
- ‘Extremely Strong’ capitalisation
- Increased financial leverage

Capital Protected by Regulator

We believe that the strong regulatory framework in which VIVAT operates protects its capitalisation and policyholders through restrictions on the minimum capital position and capital flows (i.e. dividend payments) to the parent. VIVAT’s future dividend policy is subject to approval by the Dutch central bank.

‘Extremely Strong’ Capitalisation

VIVAT scored ‘Extremely Strong’ in Fitch’s Prism FBM at end-2016 (end-2015: ‘Very Strong’) largely driven by higher available capital due to an additional USD190 million subordinated debt provided by Anbang in December 2016.

The group S2 ratio (standard formula) improved to 175% at end-2016, but declined slightly to 171% at end-1H17 because of unfavourable market movements.

VIVAT strengthened capitalisation of its main life operating subsidiary SRLEV, using proceeds from a new senior note issued in 1H17. For S2 purposes, SRLEV also added a new non-proportional mass lapse reinsurance contract effective end-2016. The estimated benefit of this contract on VIVAT’s S2 ratio is about 4 percentage points.

VIVAT hedges interest rate risk for S2 to keep sensitivity within 10%. Fitch estimates S2 sensitivity to other factors, such as widening credit spreads and ultimate forward rate reduction was at a manageable level.

Increased Financial Leverage

VIVAT’s Fitch-calculated financial leverage ratio remained little changed in 2016, but we estimate that it will have increased to more than 30% in 1H17 due to a new EUR650 million senior debt issue in May 2017. As a result, VIVAT’s financial leverage is one of the highest among European peers. VIVAT also issued USD575 million subordinated notes in November 2017, but we do not expect that this had a significant effect on the FLR as these notes were issued primarily to pre-fund the redemption of existing subordinated debt held by Anbang.

Debt Service Capabilities and Financial Flexibility

(EURm)	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 Fitch's expectation
Fixed-charge coverage ratio (including realised and unrealised gains/losses) (x)	0	-5	-6	3	4 Fitch expects VIVAT's interest expenses to increase in 2017 following additional debt issuance. We also expect VIVAT's financial flexibility to be supported by strong regulatory oversight in the Netherlands.

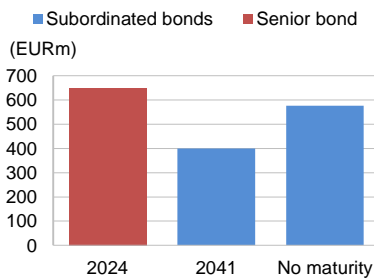
Source: Company, Fitch

Holding Company Liquidity

VIVAT's liquidity was adequate at end-1H17, in our view. The standalone holding company held about EUR700 million liquid assets at end-1H17 including EUR34 million cash; EUR1 billion subordinated and senior liabilities consisted of private loans issued by Anbang maturing in 2026, and EUR650million senior debt maturing in 2024.

Holding company debt interest expenses are mainly financed from proceeds on internal loans VIVAT provided to its operating subsidiaries.

VIVAT Estimated Debt Maturities (End-2017)



Source: Company, Fitch

Modest Fixed-Charge Coverage Constrains Rating

- Stabilising fixed-charge coverage
- Improved financial flexibility

Stabilising Fixed-Charge Coverage

VIVAT's fixed-charge coverage ratio has stabilised in recent years at a modest level. There was a slight improvement in 2016 from improved profitability and favourable funding costs.

Fixed-charge coverage could benefit from the planned replacement of the subordinated loans held by Anbang with less expensive external debt. However, this improvement could be offset by additional interest expenses on new debt, and potential earnings volatility. Modest profitability remains a major hurdle for a further improvement in VIVAT's debt-servicing capabilities.

Improved Financial Flexibility

Fitch believes strong regulatory oversight in the Netherlands supports VIVAT's financial flexibility by mitigating investor concerns about Anbang's weakened credit profile. In addition, Fitch believes that Anbang's credit profile has recently stabilised.

The successful issuance of senior and subordinated debt in May and October 2017 reflects VIVAT's improved standalone financial flexibility. The planned redemption of subordinated loans held by Anbang will further reduce VIVAT's reliance on its parent for funding.

Financial Performance and Earnings

(EURm)	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Fitch's expectation
Net income	-149	-625	-612	109	159	Fitch expects VIVAT's profitability to improve, supported by cost savings, and strengthened underwriting performance. We estimate normalised net income ROE around 4%-5%, although actual results could be volatile.
Net income return on equity (%)	-4	-23	-27	4	4	
Pre-tax operating return on assets (%)	0.0	-1.1	-1.3	0.5	0.6	
Published combined ratio (%)	97	108	111	109	105	
Gross LAT reserve addition/(release)	n.a.	147	829	-69	-76	

Source: Company, Fitch

Modest and Volatile Profitability

- Volatile life insurance result
- Non-life margins improved
- Focus on cost savings

Volatile Life Insurance Result

The profitability of VIVAT's life segment has been volatile in recent years, as adverse changes in market factors (i.e. interest rates, credit spreads) and technical assumptions (i.e. mortality rates, expenses) had an immediate effect on life results through the outcome of the IFRS liability adequacy test (LAT).

The favourable change in the LAT requirement (end-2016: EUR828 million; end-2015: EUR907 million) supported life-segment earnings through a EUR79 million reserve release in 2016. However adverse market movements in 1H17 triggered an increase in the LAT requirement, eventually leading to a EUR60 million net loss for the period (1H16: EUR578 million profit). When normalised for volatility in the LAT requirement, net income in 1H17 would have been positive and improved compared to 1H16.

Fitch views that cost savings and the re-risking of the investment portfolio could support VIVAT's underlying life performance.

Non-Life Margins Improved

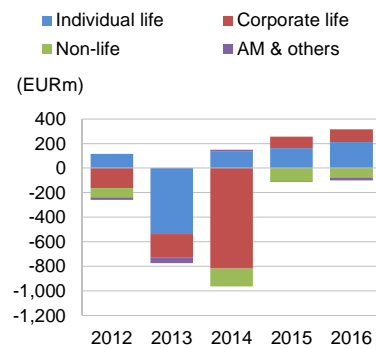
The non-life combined ratio improved in 2016 to 105% from 109% in 2015 despite hailstorm losses (3 percentage-point negative impact), and continued to improve in 1H17 to 99.1% due to cost savings and the absence of significant claims in the period. We expect VIVAT to maintain a combined ratio below 100% for full-year 2017.

Around one-third of VIVAT's non-life business is Dutch motor insurance, a highly competitive segment with weak margins, which puts pressure on the combined ratio. VIVAT manages profitability in the motor segment through premium increases and more selective underwriting.

Focus on Cost Savings

Fitch believes that cost savings are crucial for VIVAT to protect its profitability from shrinking revenues in Dutch individual life, and strong competition in non-life markets. Although VIVAT significantly slashed its workforce in 2016, restructuring expenses mostly offset the benefits of cost savings. Fitch expects VIVAT to maintain strict cost controls, and cost savings to increasingly support financial performance as restructuring expenses decrease.

Pre-Tax Result by Segment



Source: Company, Fitch

Investment and Asset Risk

(%)	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 ^a	Fitch's expectation
Risky assets to equity	75	61	76	65	37	Fitch expects that incremental investment risk arising from the re-risking of the investment portfolio to be limited.
Unaffiliated shares to equity	42	45	66	57	25	
Non-investment grade bonds to equity	31	16	10	8	12	

^a Excludes low-risk investment funds
Source: Company, Fitch

Low Investment Risk Supports Rating

- Conservative re-risking
- Concentrated fixed-income investments
- Relatively small mortgage portfolio

Conservative Re-Risking

VIVAT has further room to re-risk its investment portfolio, mainly by replacing low-yielding 'AAA' sovereign bonds with higher-yielding assets, such as investment-grade credits, mortgages, investment funds, and real estate.

There has been no significant change to the investment portfolio as at 1H17. The proportion of 'AAA' rated bonds decreased slightly in favour of 'AA' and 'A' rated debt, while non-investment-grade exposure remained negligible.

Although the re-risking strategy could contribute positively to long-term earnings, portfolio diversification, and the reduction of credit-spread sensitivity under S2 and IFRS, it adds incremental investment risk.

Concentrated Fixed-Income Investments

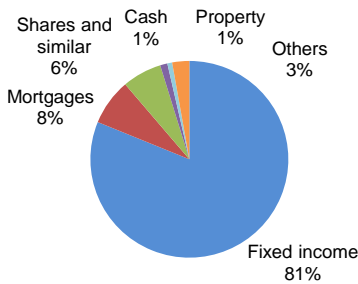
VIVAT's own account investments¹ are concentrated on German and Dutch government bonds, which represented 70% of the fixed-income portfolio at end-2016. However, the high credit quality of these securities mitigates concentration risk to these assets from a credit risk perspective.

Relatively Small Mortgage Portfolio

VIVAT's mortgage exposure – at 8% of the investment portfolio – remains well below large Dutch insurers' mortgage exposures. VIVAT has substantial room to build its mortgage position. However, this is likely to be done through portfolio acquisitions from Dutch banks as VIVAT does not have its own banking subsidiary.

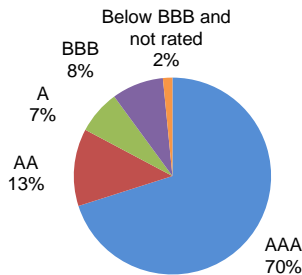
The Dutch residential mortgage market is stable with historically low credit losses reflecting prudent underwriting standards and a creditor-friendly legal system. Based on Fitch's insurance rating criteria, residential mortgages are not included in the risky asset ratio.

VIVAT Own Account Investment Split
(End-16: EUR35bn)



Source: Company, Fitch

VIVAT Own Account Fixed Income Rating Split
(End-16: EUR28bn)



Source: Company, Fitch

¹ Own account investments exclude the fair value of hedging derivatives, and investments related to savings mortgages, which are entirely at the policyholder's risk.

Asset/Liability and Liquidity Management

(%)	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Fitch's expectation
Liquid assets to net technical reserves excl. unit linked	130	131	97	99	91	Fitch expects VIVAT will maintain a strong liquidity position, and continued focus on the reduction of ALM sensitivities.
Technical reserves with an expected term to maturity over 20 years/total reserves	n.a.	37	38	41	40	

Source: Company, Fitch

Active ALM, Adequate Liquidity

- Interest rate risk closely managed
- Credit spread risk creates IFRS, S2 volatility
- Substantial liquidity buffer

Interest Rate Risk Closely Managed

VIVAT uses hedging derivatives and cash-flow matching of assets and liabilities to manage interest rate risk. However, as the hedging strategy is focused on insulating the S2 ratio, IFRS equity remains more exposed to rate fluctuations.

VIVAT continues to report a high duration mismatch between its assets and liabilities. This, together with profit-sharing features and guaranteed returns on traditional life and unit-linked policies, contributes to material interest-rate-risk exposure. Like all life insurers writing long-tail business, VIVAT is exposed to persistently low interest rates for new money investments and reinvestments.

Credit Spread Risk Creates IFRS, S2 Volatility

VIVAT's IFRS equity and S2 ratio are sensitive to widening credit spreads due to the risk of mismatching movements in the interest rate used to value assets and the swap curve used to measure insurance liabilities.

VIVAT is most sensitive to the widening of government bond spreads (i.e. the credit deterioration of high-quality eurozone government bonds) due to its significant sovereign bond investments.

While the S2 volatility adjuster (VA) reduces the spread-risk sensitivity of the S2 ratio, it does not fully eliminate it as the composition of VIVAT's own investment portfolio differs from the S2 reference portfolio on which the VA calculation is based.

VIVAT does not hedge credit spread risk, but the sale of German and Dutch government bonds as part of the re-risking strategy contributes to a further reduction of this sensitivity.

Substantial Liquidity Buffer

VIVAT maintains adequate liquidity, with substantial liquid assets of EUR22 billion after haircuts compared to VIVAT's stress scenario liquidity requirements of EUR10 billion as at end-2016. The liquidity requirement increased year-on-year, driven by a larger book of hedging derivatives. Unfavourable market movements could lead to higher collateral posting requirements for derivative contracts.

Reserve Adequacy

(%)	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Fitch's expectation
Loss reserves/incurred losses	2.1	1.9	1.8	2.4	2.3	Fitch expects VIVAT's non-life reserving to remain strong. No major future reserve releases or increases are expected.
Loss reserves/equity (non-life)	1.6	3.3	4.5	2.9	2.8	
Change in ratio of loss reserves/earned premiums	4	6	11	5	3	
One-year reserve development to prior-year equity	-1.3	-0.2	-0.7	-0.3	-0.2	
One-year reserve development to prior-year loss reserves	-5.2	-0.7	-1.8	-0.5	-0.5	

Source: Company, Fitch

Prudent Reserving Practices

- Strong non-life reserving
- Positive claims run-off

Strong Non-Life Reserving

VIVAT follows a prudent approach to reserving. The group uses generally accepted actuarial methods for projecting ultimate losses and calculating reserves for claims incurred but not yet reported, therefore material reserve deficiencies are unlikely. In the past five years it has not reported either the need for additional reserve strengthening or unfavourable claims developments.

Positive Claims Run-Off

The development of non-life claims has been positive in the past three years, with the claims run-off result averaging 0.4% of prior-year equity and 0.9% to prior-year loss reserves. Consistent favourable run-off results reflect appropriate and accurate estimation of non-life loss reserves.

Reinsurance, Risk Management and Catastrophe Risk

Adequate Catastrophe Protection, Low Counterparty Risk

- Independent risk management
- Catastrophe risk retention in line with peers
- Good quality reinsurance panel

Independent Risk Management

VIVAT's risk-management processes are fully independent of Anbang's risk-management framework. The adequacy of risk-management processes are ensured by regular interactions with the Dutch central bank.

Catastrophe Risk Retention in Line With Peers

Fitch believes VIVAT's reinsurance programme provides adequate protection against large losses. The catastrophe programme capacity was established to protect the group against natural disasters, with an expected return period of 200 years. The EUR20 million-per-event retention for non-life catastrophe risk is set in line with Dutch peers, approximately equalling a 1-in-9 year event. Both non-life and life retention levels for catastrophe risk were unchanged year-on-year.

Good Quality Reinsurance Panel

Ceded reinsurance is placed with a diverse panel of reinsurers with which VIVAT maintains long-term relationships. All reinsurers have a minimum credit rating of 'A-' and no single group accounted for more than 25% of the ceded business. The lead reinsurer on the insurance panel is Munich Re (Fitch IFS: AA/Stable).

Appendix: Other Ratings Considerations

Below is summary of additional ratings considerations of a “technical” nature, that are also part of Fitch’s ratings criteria.

Group IFS Rating Approach

Fitch rates VIVAT on a stand-alone basis independent of the financial strength of Anbang, due to the de facto regulatory ring-fencing of VIVAT from the parent.

Fitch views both REAAL Schadeverzekeringen NV and SRLEV NV as core subsidiaries of VIVAT and applies a group rating methodology, rating each entity based on a consolidated group assessment.

Notching

For notching purposes, the regulatory environment of the Netherlands is assessed by Fitch as being Effective, and classified as following a Group Solvency approach.

Notching Summary

IFS Ratings

A baseline recovery assumption of ‘Good’ applies to the IFS rating, and standard notching was used from the IFS “anchor” rating to the operating company IDR.

Operating company debt

Not applicable (no rated issues).

Holding company IDR

Standard notching was applied between the insurance operating company and holding company IDRs for a group solvency regulatory environment.

Holding company debt

A baseline recovery assumption of ‘Below Average’ was applied to VIVAT N.V.’s EUR650 million senior debt issue. Standard notching relative to the IDR was used.

Hybrids

For USD575 million tier 2 subordinated debt issued by VIVAT N.V., a baseline recovery assumption of ‘Poor’ and a non-performance risk assessment of ‘Moderate’ were used. Notching of three was applied relative to the IDR, which was based on two notches for recovery and one notch for non-performance risk.

Source: Fitch

Short-Term Ratings

N/A.

Hybrids – Equity/Debt Treatment

Hybrids Treatment

Hybrid	Amount	CAR Fitch (%)	CAR reg. override (%)	FLR debt (%)
VIVAT N.V.				
Subordinated private loans (Anbang)	EUR302m	0	100	100
Subordinated private loan (Anbang)	USD190m	0	100	100
SRLEV N.V.				
Subordinated bond	EUR400m	0	100	100
Perpetual subordinated bond	CHF105m	0	100	100

CAR – Capitalization ratio; FLR – Financial leverage ratio. N.A. – Not Applicable

For CAR % tells portion of hybrid value included as Available Capital, both before (Fitch %) and the Regulatory Override

For FLR, % tells portion of hybrid value included as debt in numerator of leverage ratio

Source: Company, Fitch

Exceptions to Criteria/Ratings Limitations

None.

The ratings above were solicited and assigned or maintained at the request of the rated entity/issuer or a related third party. Any exceptions follow below.

ALL FITCH CREDIT RATINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CERTAIN LIMITATIONS AND DISCLAIMERS. PLEASE READ THESE LIMITATIONS AND DISCLAIMERS BY FOLLOWING THIS LINK: [HTTPS://FITCHRATINGS.COM/UNDERSTANDINGCREDITRATINGS](https://fitchratings.com/understandingcreditratings). IN ADDITION, RATING DEFINITIONS AND THE TERMS OF USE OF SUCH RATINGS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE AGENCY'S PUBLIC WEB SITE AT WWW.FITCHRATINGS.COM. PUBLISHED RATINGS, CRITERIA, AND METHODOLOGIES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS SITE AT ALL TIMES. FITCH'S CODE OF CONDUCT, CONFIDENTIALITY, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, AFFILIATE FIREWALL, COMPLIANCE, AND OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE CODE OF CONDUCT SECTION OF THIS SITE. FITCH MAY HAVE PROVIDED ANOTHER PERMISSIBLE SERVICE TO THE RATED ENTITY OR ITS RELATED THIRD PARTIES. DETAILS OF THIS SERVICE FOR RATINGS FOR WHICH THE LEAD ANALYST IS BASED IN AN EU-REGISTERED ENTITY CAN BE FOUND ON THE ENTITY SUMMARY PAGE FOR THIS ISSUER ON THE FITCH WEBSITE.

Copyright © 2018 by Fitch Ratings, Inc., Fitch Ratings Ltd. and its subsidiaries. 33 Whitehall Street, NY, NY 10004. Telephone: 1-800-753-4824, (212) 908-0500. Fax: (212) 480-4435. Reproduction or retransmission in whole or in part is prohibited except by permission. All rights reserved. In issuing and maintaining its ratings and in making other reports (including forecast information), Fitch relies on factual information it receives from issuers and underwriters and from other sources Fitch believes to be credible. Fitch conducts a reasonable investigation of the factual information relied upon by it in accordance with its ratings methodology, and obtains reasonable verification of that information from independent sources, to the extent such sources are available for a given security or in a given jurisdiction. The manner of Fitch's factual investigation and the scope of the third-party verification it obtains will vary depending on the nature of the rated security and its issuer, the requirements and practices in the jurisdiction in which the rated security is offered and sold and/or the issuer is located, the availability and nature of relevant public information, access to the management of the issuer and its advisers, the availability of pre-existing third-party verifications such as audit reports, agreed-upon procedures letters, appraisals, actuarial reports, engineering reports, legal opinions and other reports provided by third parties, the availability of independent and competent third-party verification sources with respect to the particular security or in the particular jurisdiction of the issuer, and a variety of other factors. Users of Fitch's ratings and reports should understand that neither an enhanced factual investigation nor any third-party verification can ensure that all of the information Fitch relies on in connection with a rating or a report will be accurate and complete. Ultimately, the issuer and its advisers are responsible for the accuracy of the information they provide to Fitch and to the market in offering documents and other reports. In issuing its ratings and its reports, Fitch must rely on the work of experts, including independent auditors with respect to financial statements and attorneys with respect to legal and tax matters. Further, ratings and forecasts of financial and other information are inherently forward-looking and embody assumptions and predictions about future events that by their nature cannot be verified as facts. As a result, despite any verification of current facts, ratings and forecasts can be affected by future events or conditions that were not anticipated at the time a rating or forecast was issued or affirmed.

The information in this report is provided "as is" without any representation or warranty of any kind, and Fitch does not represent or warrant that the report or any of its contents will meet any of the requirements of a recipient of the report. A Fitch rating is an opinion as to the creditworthiness of a security. This opinion and reports made by Fitch are based on established criteria and methodologies that Fitch is continuously evaluating and updating. Therefore, ratings and reports are the collective work product of Fitch and no individual, or group of individuals, is solely responsible for a rating or a report. The rating does not address the risk of loss due to risks other than credit risk, unless such risk is specifically mentioned. Fitch is not engaged in the offer or sale of any security. All Fitch reports have shared authorship. Individuals identified in a Fitch report were involved in, but are not solely responsible for, the opinions stated therein. The individuals are named for contact purposes only. A report providing a Fitch rating is neither a prospectus nor a substitute for the information assembled, verified and presented to investors by the issuer and its agents in connection with the sale of the securities. Ratings may be changed or withdrawn at any time for any reason in the sole discretion of Fitch. Fitch does not provide investment advice of any sort. Ratings are not a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold any security. Ratings do not comment on the adequacy of market price, the suitability of any security for a particular investor, or the tax-exempt nature or taxability of payments made in respect to any security. Fitch receives fees from issuers, insurers, guarantors, other obligors, and underwriters for rating securities. Such fees generally vary from US\$1,000 to US\$750,000 (or the applicable currency equivalent) per issue. In certain cases, Fitch will rate all or a number of issues issued by a particular issuer, or insured or guaranteed by a particular insurer or guarantor, for a single annual fee. Such fees are expected to vary from US\$10,000 to US\$1,500,000 (or the applicable currency equivalent). The assignment, publication, or dissemination of a rating by Fitch shall not constitute a consent by Fitch to use its name as an expert in connection with any registration statement filed under the United States securities laws, the Financial Services and Markets Act of 2000 of the United Kingdom, or the securities laws of any particular jurisdiction. Due to the relative efficiency of electronic publishing and distribution, Fitch research may be available to electronic subscribers up to three days earlier than to print subscribers.

For Australia, New Zealand, Taiwan and South Korea only: Fitch Australia Pty Ltd holds an Australian financial services license (AFS license no. 337123) which authorizes it to provide credit ratings to wholesale clients only. Credit ratings information published by Fitch is not intended to be used by persons who are retail clients within the meaning of the Corporations Act 2001.