



17th Annual Credit Risk Management Conference

ESG impact on Credit Risk: Navigating through challenges

Managing Credit Risk in the face of Continuing Economic Instability.



#### Because we operate in a complex business universe:

- Inflation rate still high
- Energy still expensive
- Financing still expensive
- Weak consumption power
- Insolvencies rise worldwide
- Geopolitical developments
- Trade wars likely to escalate
- Big economies do not grow as expected
- Global economy remains in a fragile balance ...

#### ... and because:

It is our job to facilitate global trade...



## Quarter 4 - 2024

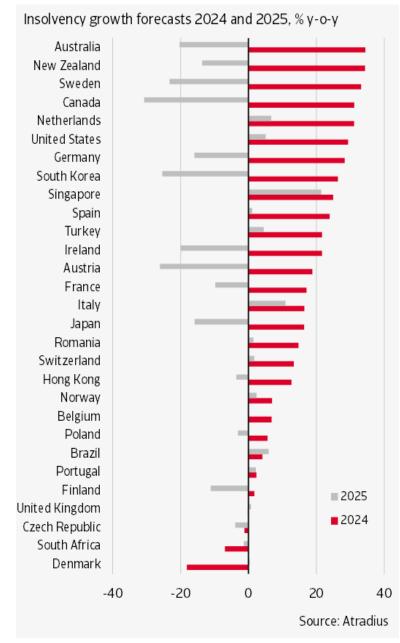


## **Insolvency Trends**

 In most markets, insolvency rates have either recovered or exceeded pre-Covid levels. Most countries have seen a significant claims increase.

- Globally, 2023 insolvencies increased by 31%, increased trend during the first half of 2024.
- Globally, we expect insolvencies to increase by 23% in 2024, followed by a slight decline in 2025.

- Increased number of claims by 26% as well as their total value by 70% the period
  2021-2023
- For the first 8 months 2024 we noticed an increase of claims by 28% (frequencywise)





## Geopolitical Threats ...











Managing Credit Risk in the face of Continuing Economic Instability.

## Credit Insurance: a stabilisation factor for our company



- **Unbiased credit control**
- **Prophylaxis**
- Safe growth
- Indemnification
- Financing tool



## Benefits Of Credit Insurance / Unbiased Credit Control

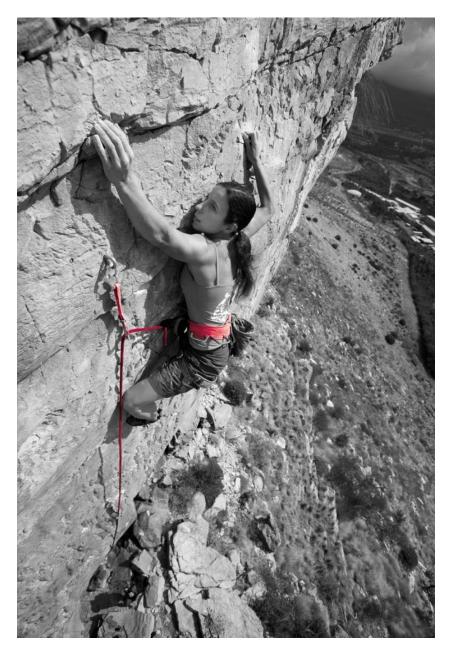


- In order to reach a credit limit decision for a buyer we use information of:
- Financial data
- Empirical data
- Decisions taken by Credit Insurance Experts / Underwriters
- Each supplier has only his own view / experience
- The Credit Insurer has a spherical view of the credit behaviour of each buyer via insuring multiple suppliers of him

**Unbiased Credit Control offered!** 



## Benefits Of Credit Insurance / Prophylaxis



- After approving a limit our real job begins
- Credit Insurers maintain a buyer base of many hundreds of millions of buyers worldwide
- We enrich our buyer database periodically.
- Qualified UWers monitor the development of the buyer portfolio (majority of staff is UWers)
- For every new adhere information we **notify** the supplier (policyholder) either **not to sell further or to reduce sales**
- In this way we protect him from suffering a non payment

We offer prophylaxis not indemnification!



## Benefits Of Credit Insurance / Indemnification



- In case of a **non payment** from a buyer the customer informs us
- We pay the unpaid receivables <u>either</u>
- When the buyer goes bust <u>or</u>
- Max 6 months after the due date of the unpaid invoice (whichever comes first)!
- In any case after the NNP, the Insurer takes over the Inkasso procedure on the behalf of the supplier / The supplier does nothing!!!
  - **Inkasso costs are usually born by the Insurer** (no out of court or legal actions are required by the supplier) / beneficial for the exporter!!!
- In the Event of Loss we pay even the 90% of the value of the outstanding receivables
  - **Unique** product in the Insurance industry that you know **the date of payment** of the indemnification



## Benefits of Credit Insurance / Safe growth



Credit insurance operates as a tool to:

- assist you in penetrating **new markets** or start relationships with new customers on credit terms and not on a cash basis terms
- This is a **competitive alternative and much more commercial** than requiring customers to provide **LCs** or similar collaterals
- enables you to sell more goods / services, and possibly on longer credit terms, while mitigating the risk of non-payment from your buyers

Be more competitive!



## Benefits of Credit Insurance / Safe growth



#### **Competitive advantage for the exporters**

The norms and modus operandi of the export countries are usually unknown to the exporters

Limited knowledge for the insolvency rates currency devaluation risks the legal practice of the market ... we do not even speak the language

(the above restrain us from exporting **on credit** to new countries)



## Benefits Of Credit Insurance / Cheaper and easier Working Capital



### **Cheaper and easier Working Capital**

Having Credit Insured your clientele, minimises the likelihood of a fatal claim.

Improves the impact of the IFRS9 on the P&L. How?

The above improve the position of the company to the eyes of the financial institutions.

Or else lower the interest financing rates



## Benefits Of Credit Insurance / Cheaper and easier Working Capital



#### **Cheaper and easier Working Capital**

Credit insurance is provided via credit limits which are **A rated collaterals.** Why?

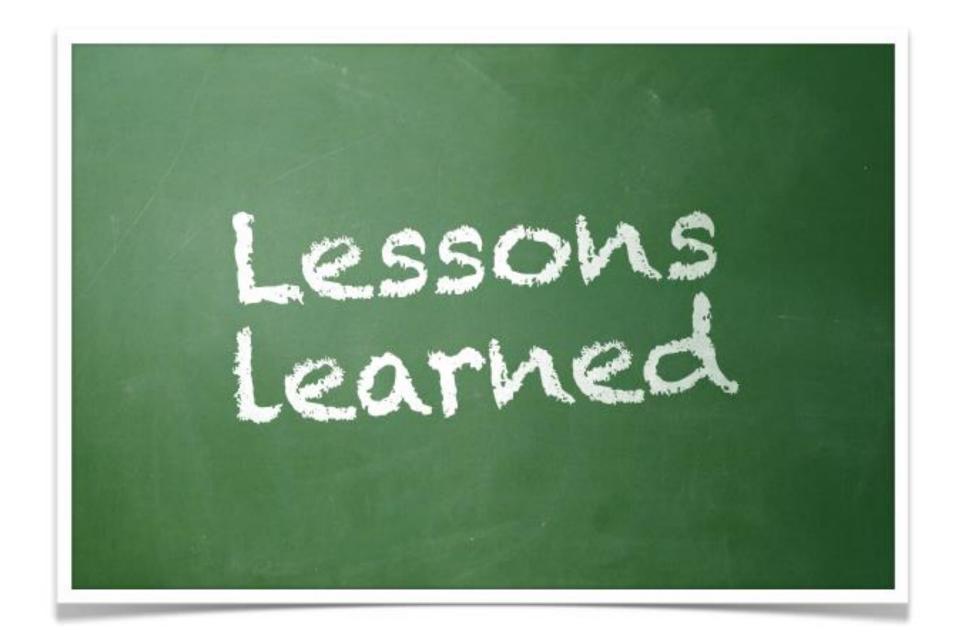
The time of the indemnification is guaranteed (**Protracted Default**) allows for these limits to be assigned to financial institutions for reasons of financing.

Factoring Houses and / or Banks and / or Funds accept our limits and provide invoice discounting to the insured ARs

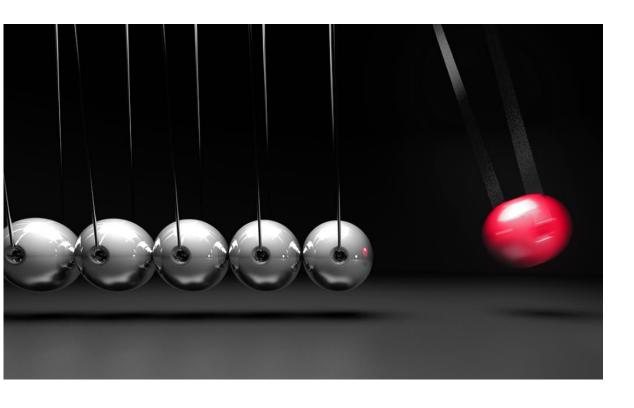
Easier and cheaper financing / Working Capital is provided

**25% of the customers** proceed to TCI in order to benefit from this mechanism





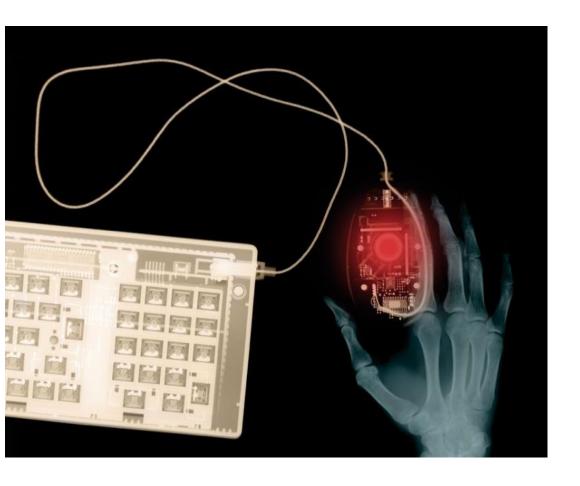
## Razor thin margins / Bad debts Vs. Profitability



- For every bad debt the additional turnover needed to digest the loss is:
   bad debt / profit margin
- Example: if we operate with a profit margin of 4%, a bad debt of \$50.000 requires an additional turnover of: \$50.000 / 4% = \$1,25m to be digested...!
- The less the profit margin is the more catastrophic the impact of the bad debt becomes
- Credit Insurance safeguards the liquidity of our company
- Corporates die <u>only</u> because of lack of liquidity!



## "Set Up" Claims: ...20% we will be hit ...

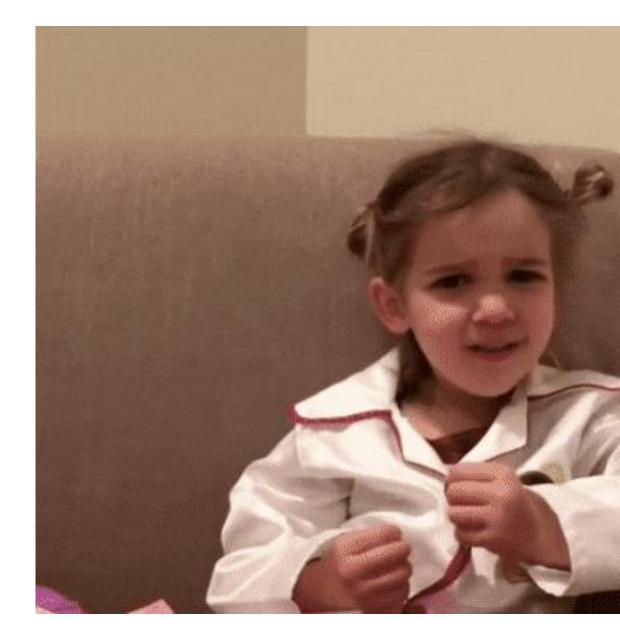


- Approximately the 20% of the cases are "set up / fraud"
  cases
- These "set up / fraud" cases can hardly been predicted / diagnosed by the supplier.
- Credit Insurance operates as a safety net to protect the most valuable organ of every financial organisation:
   liquidity

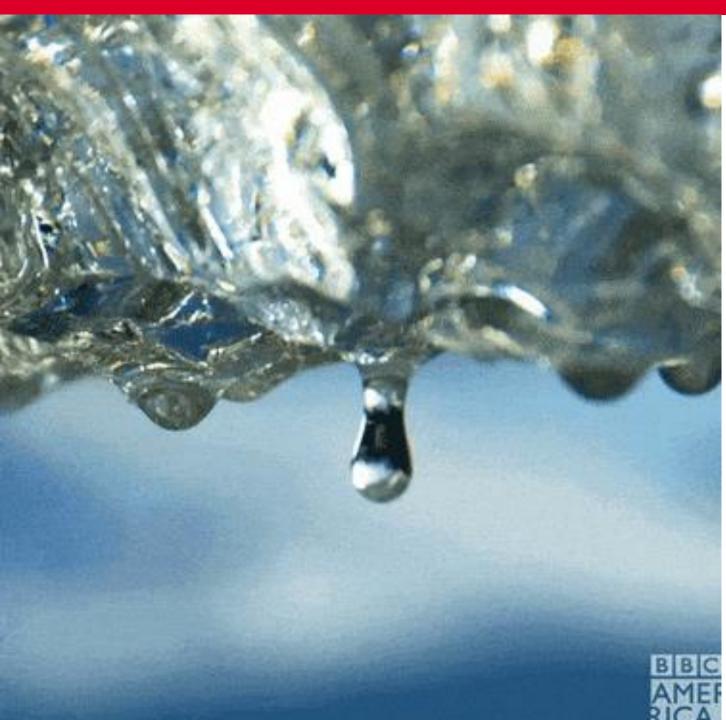
## Is Credit Insurance necessary today?

### **Arguments usually brought forward <u>against</u> Credit Insurance**

- "I know my buyers for so many years, I will be the last to lose money..."
- "I am very experienced, I know the market..."
- "I have a friend who has a friend in the bank ..."
- "My buyer is too big to fail..."







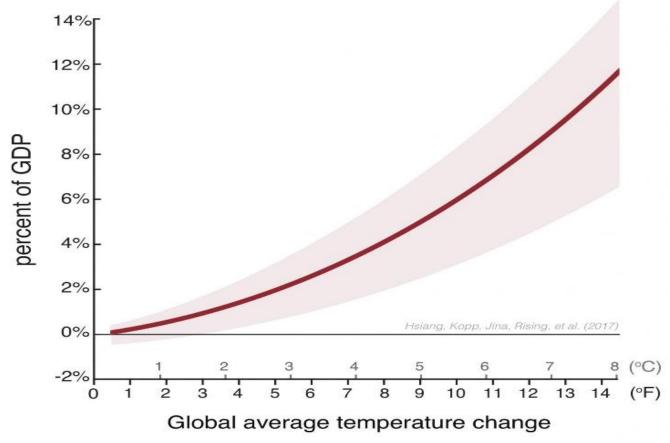
ESG is not a "nice to have" KPI anymore but a "must have" precondition ...!

## **Climate Change...**





#### National average economic damage in USA



## **Climate Change...**







## What are we going to do about it?



 Integrate ESG criteria in our decision-making process, including among others:

risk underwriting, policy underwriting

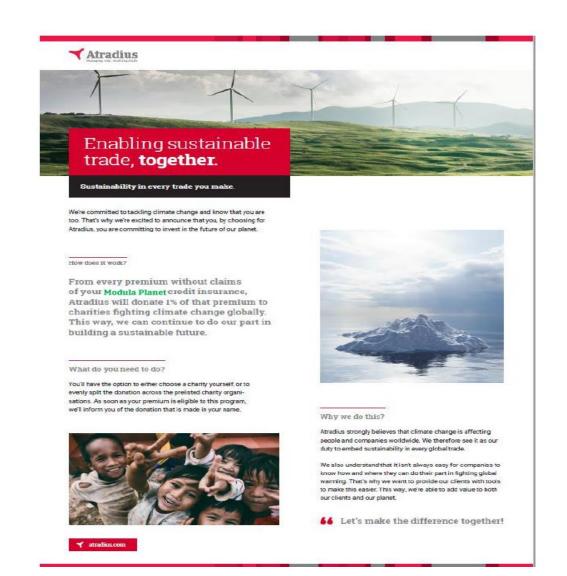
We have promised our stakeholders (re-insurers, global customers, rating agencies, brokers etc) to:

- •withdraw from thermal coal and other fossil fuel related risks till a specific year (eg 2035)
- •Get no new business from these sectors

**Influence Global Trade accordingly** 



## ESG in Atradius – Walking the Talk ...



# Modula Planet: Enabling sustainable trade, together.

#### How does it work?

Every Premium, with zero claim, from the Modula Planet Credit Insurance policy comes with a 1% donation to projects / charities focusing on fighting of climate change, globally.

#### What do you need to do?

- Choose your own project / charity for donation, or
- Split your donation to eligible projects that are pre-chosen by Atradius

#### Why do we do this?

... to embed sustainability in every global trade and provide our customers with an easy way to contribute to fighting global warming.

~ Let's make the difference together! ~





