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Assurant, Inc. Q4 2007 Earnings Call Transcript

Earnings Call Excerpt

Assurant, Inc. (AIZ)

Q4 FY07 Earnings Call

February 07, 2008, 7:30 PM ET

Executives

Melissa Kivett - Sr. VP IR

Robert B. Pollock - President and CEO

Craig Lemasters - President and CEO, Assurant Solutions.

Michael J. Peninger - EVP; Interim CFO

Kerry Clayton - President and CEO (Emeritus), Assurant.

Analysts

Keith Walsh - Citigroup

Adam Klauber - Fox-Pitt Kelton

Mark Hughes - SunTrust

Elizabeth Malone - Keybanc Capital

John Hall - Wachovia Capital

William Wilt - Morgan Stanley

Jukka Lipponen - Keefe, Bruyette & Woods

Steven Schwartz - Raymond James

Dan Johnson - Citadel

Presentation

Operator

Welcome to the Assurant fourth quarter 2007 financial results conference call. All lines have been placed on mute to prevent any background noise. [Operator Instructions]. Thank you. I would now like to turn the call over to Ms. Melissa Kivett, Senior Vice President, Investor Relations. Please go ahead Ms. Kivett.

Melissa Kivett - Senior Vice President Investor Relations

Thank you Cheryl. Welcome to Assurant's 2007 fourth quarter and year-end conference call. Joining me with prepared remarks are Rob Pollock, President and Chief Executive Officer of Assurant; Mike Peninger, our Interim Chief Financial Officer; and Craig Lemasters, President and Chief Executive Officer of Assurant Solutions. I'm also pleased to be joined by other members of our senior leadership team, who'll be available for questions you have. Don Hamm, President and CEO of Assurant Health; Gene Mergelmeyer, President and CEO of Assurant Specialty Property; John Roberts, Interim President and CEO of Assurant Employee Benefit; Chris Pagano, our Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer; and Kerry Clayton, President and CEO Emeritus of Assurant.

Prepared remarks will last approximately 30 minutes, after which time we'll open the call to questions. This morning we issued a press release announcing our fourth quarter 2007 financial results. The press release as well as corresponding supplementary financial information may be found on our website at assurant.com. Some of the statements we make during this call may contain forward-looking information. Our actual results may differ materially from such statements. We advise you to read the discussions of risks and uncertainties associated with our business and results of operations contained in our SEC filings, which can be accessed from our website. Additionally, this presentation will contain non-GAAP financial measures, which we believe are meaningful in evaluating the company's performance. For more detailed disclosures on these non-GAAP measures, the most comparable GAAP measures, and a reconciliation of the two, please refer to this morning's earnings press release and supplementary financial information posted on our website. Before I turn the call over to Rob, let me mention that we continue to cooperate fully with the SEC in order to resolve the ongoing investigation. Timing is extremely difficult to predict, but we continue to focus on resolving this matter. While we understand that you may have questions, this confidential inquiry is still ongoing and therefore we cannot provide any further detail.

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