

ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD
Form DEFA14A
July 16, 2014

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

(RULE 14a-101)

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

**Revocation Solicitation Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Payment of Filing Fee (check the appropriate box):

- x No fee required.
- .. Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
 - (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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 - (4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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- .. Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
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PRESS

RELEASE

GLASS LEWIS RECOMMENDS ASPEN SHAREHOLDERS REJECT ENDURANCE PROPOSALS

Glass Lewis Joins ISS and Egan-Jones in Recommending Shareholders Execute and Return Aspen's BLUE Revocation Card

Hamilton, Bermuda July 16, 2014 Aspen Insurance Holdings Limited (Aspen) (NYSE:AHL) noted today that Glass, Lewis & Co., LLC, a leading independent proxy advisory firm, has recommended that Aspen shareholders REJECT both proposals made by Endurance Specialty Holdings Ltd. (Endurance) (NYSE:ENH) and REVOKE any authorizations submitted on such proposals by executing and returning Aspen's BLUE revocation card.

Chris O Kane, Aspen's Chief Executive Officer, said, "With Glass Lewis's recommendation, all three leading independent proxy advisory firms are recommending that Aspen shareholders reject both of Endurance's proposals. Endurance's inadequate offer continues to weaken as Aspen delivers strong operating results and increases shareholder value. But rather than offering real value, Endurance continues to pursue coercive legal tactics in a forlorn effort to buy Aspen at the lowest possible price. We urge shareholders to reject both of Endurance's proposals.

In its July 15 analysis, Glass Lewis advised that there were few if any reasons for Aspen shareholders to support Endurance's authorization proposals, noting:

In our view, given that the Aspen board appears to have acted in good faith with Endurance, the Aspen board considered Endurance's proposals on multiple occasions and formed a reasonable basis to reject such proposals and the Company continues to report solid performance on a stand-alone basis, shareholder authorization of an attempt to override the board's conclusions by seeking a court-ordered special meeting is not warranted.

The report concluded that: *we believe Endurance has failed to make a compelling case for Aspen shareholders to support the proposed authorizations.*

Aspen's Board of Directors urges shareholders to REJECT both of Endurance's proposals by promptly signing, dating and returning Aspen's BLUE revocation card and disregarding Endurance's white authorization card.

1. **Do NOT sign Endurance's white authorization card.**
2. **Sign, date and return the BLUE revocation card.**

3. Even if Aspen shareholders have already signed Endurance's white authorization card, shareholders have every right to revoke their authorizations by signing, dating and returning the BLUE revocation card. If Aspen shareholders have questions or need assistance revoking their authorizations for their shares, they may contact Aspen's agent Innisfree M&A Incorporated: Shareholders call toll-free: (877) 717-3930; Banks and Brokers call collect: (212) 750-5833.

Information on Aspen's response to Endurance's unsolicited offer, including links to press releases, presentations, and other important documents and SEC filings are available at <http://aspen.shareholderresource.com>, or on Aspen's website at <http://www.aspen.co>.

Goldman, Sachs & Co. is acting as financial advisor and Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz and Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP are acting as legal advisors to Aspen.

About Aspen Insurance Holdings Limited

Aspen provides reinsurance and insurance coverage to clients in various domestic and global markets through wholly-owned subsidiaries and offices in Bermuda, France, Germany, Ireland, Singapore, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. For the year ended December 31, 2013, Aspen reported \$10.2 billion in total assets, \$4.7 billion in gross reserves, \$3.3 billion in shareholders' equity and \$2.6 billion in gross written premiums. Its operating subsidiaries have been assigned a rating of A (Strong) by Standard & Poor's, an A (Excellent) by A.M. Best and an A2 (Good) by Moody's.

Cautionary Statements Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains written, and Aspen may make related oral, forward-looking statements within the meaning of the U.S. federal securities laws. These statements are made pursuant to common law doctrine and (as applicable) the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include all statements that do not relate solely to historical or current facts, and can be identified by the use of words such as expect, intend, plan, believe, do not believe, aim, project, anticipate, seek, will, likely, continue, guidance, objective, outlook, trends, future, could, would, should, target, and similar expressions or forward-looking nature.

All forward-looking statements rely on a number of assumptions, estimates and data concerning future results and events and are subject to a number of uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside Aspen's control that could cause actual results to differ materially from such statements.

Forward-looking statements do not reflect the potential impact of any future collaboration, acquisition, merger, disposition, joint venture or investments that Aspen may enter into or make, and the risks, uncertainties and other factors relating to such statements might also relate to the counterparty in any such transaction if entered into or made by Aspen.

All forward-looking statements address matters that involve risks and uncertainties. Accordingly, there are or will be important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated in these statements. Aspen believes these factors include, but are not limited to: our ability to successfully implement steps to further optimize the business portfolio, ensure capital efficiency and enhance investment returns; the possibility of greater frequency or severity of claims and loss activity, including as a result of natural or man-made (including economic and political risks) catastrophic or material loss events, than our underwriting, reserving, reinsurance purchasing or investment practices have anticipated; the assumptions and uncertainties underlying reserve levels that may be impacted by future payments for settlements of claims and expenses or by other factors causing adverse or favorable development; the reliability of, and changes in assumptions to, natural and man-

made catastrophe pricing, accumulation and estimated loss models; decreased demand for our insurance or reinsurance products and cyclical changes in the highly competitive insurance and reinsurance industry; increased competition from existing insurers and reinsurers and from alternative capital providers and insurance-linked funds and collateralized special purpose insurers on the basis of pricing, capacity, coverage terms, new capital, binding authorities to brokers or other factors and the related demand and supply dynamics as contracts come up for renewal; changes in general economic conditions, including inflation, deflation, foreign currency exchange rates, interest rates and other factors that could affect our financial results; the risk of a material decline in the value or liquidity of all or parts of our investment portfolio; evolving issues with respect to interpretation of coverage after major loss events; our ability to adequately model and price the effect of climate cycles and climate change; any intervening legislative or governmental action and changing judicial interpretation and judgments on insurers' liability to various risks; the effectiveness of our risk management loss limitation methods, including our reinsurance purchasing; changes in the total industry losses, or our share of total industry losses, resulting from past events and, with respect to such events, our reliance on loss reports received from cedants and loss adjustors, our reliance on industry loss estimates and those generated by modeling techniques, changes in rulings on flood damage or other exclusions as a result of prevailing lawsuits and case law; the impact of one or more large losses from events other than natural catastrophes or by an unexpected accumulation of attritional losses; the impact of acts of terrorism, acts of war and related legislation; any changes in our reinsurers' credit quality and the amount and timing of reinsurance recoverables; changes in the availability, cost or quality of reinsurance or retrocessional coverage; the continuing and uncertain impact of the current depressed lower growth economic environment in many of the countries in which we operate; the level of inflation in repair costs due to limited availability of labor and materials after catastrophes; a decline in our operating subsidiaries' ratings with S&P, A.M. Best or Moody's; the failure of our reinsurers, policyholders, brokers or other intermediaries to honor their payment obligations; our ability to execute our business plan to enter new markets, introduce new products and develop new distribution channels, including their integration into our existing operations; our reliance on the assessment and pricing of individual risks by third parties; our dependence on a few brokers for a large portion of our revenues; the persistence of heightened financial risks, including excess sovereign debt, the banking system and the Eurozone debt crisis; changes in our ability to exercise capital management initiatives (including our share repurchase program) or to arrange banking facilities as a result of prevailing market changes or changes in our financial position; changes in government regulations or tax laws in jurisdictions where we conduct business; changes in accounting principles or policies or in the application of such accounting principles or policies; Aspen or Aspen Bermuda Limited becoming subject to income taxes in the United States or the United Kingdom; loss of one or more of our senior underwriters or key personnel; our reliance on information and technology and third party service providers for our operations and systems; and increased counterparty risk due to the credit impairment of financial institutions. For a more detailed description of these uncertainties and other factors, please see the Risk Factors section in Aspen's Annual Report on Form 10-K as filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on February 20, 2014 and in Aspen's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q as filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on May 1, 2014. Aspen undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the dates on which they are made.

In addition, any estimates relating to loss events involve the exercise of considerable judgment and reflect a combination of ground-up evaluations, information available to date from brokers and cedants, market intelligence, initial tentative loss reports and other sources. The actuarial range of reserves and management's best estimate represents a distribution from our internal capital model for reserving risk based on our then current state of knowledge and explicit and implicit assumptions relating to the incurred pattern of claims, the expected ultimate settlement amount, inflation and dependencies between lines of business. Due to the complexity of factors contributing to the losses and the preliminary nature of the information used to prepare these estimates, there can be no assurance that Aspen's ultimate losses will remain within the stated amounts.

Additional Information

This communication does not constitute an offer to buy or solicitation of an offer to sell any securities or a solicitation of any vote or approval. This communication is for informational purposes only and is not a substitute for any relevant documents that Aspen may file with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Endurance has commenced an exchange offer for the outstanding shares of Aspen (together with associated preferred share purchase rights). Aspen has filed with the SEC a solicitation/recommendation statement to its shareholders on Schedule 14D-9. Endurance is also soliciting authorizations from Aspen's shareholders. Aspen has filed a revocation statement to its shareholders on Schedule 14A with the SEC in opposition to Endurance's solicitation of authorizations.

INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS OF ASPEN ARE URGED TO READ THIS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC CAREFULLY IN THEIR ENTIRETY AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION. Investors and security holders will be able to obtain free copies of these documents (when available) and other documents filed with the SEC by Aspen through the web site maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>. These documents will also be available at <http://aspen.shareholderresource.com> or on Aspen's website at <http://www.aspen.co>.

Certain Information Regarding Participants

Aspen and certain of its respective directors and executive officers may be deemed to be participants under the rules of the SEC. Security holders may obtain information regarding the names, affiliations and interests of Aspen's directors and executive officers in Aspen's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, which was filed with the SEC on February 20, 2014, and its proxy statement for the 2014 Annual Meeting, which was filed with the SEC on March 12, 2014. These documents can be obtained free of charge from the sources indicated above.

For further information:

Please visit www.aspen.co or contact:

Investors

Kerry Calaiaro, Senior Vice President, Investor Relations, Aspen

Kerry.Calaiaro@aspen.co

+1 (646) 502 1076

Kathleen de Guzman, Vice President, Investor Relations, Aspen

kathleen.deguzman@aspen.co

+1 (646) 289 4912

Innisfree M&A Incorporated

Arthur Crozier/Jennifer Shotwell/Larry Miller

+1 (212) 750 5833

Media

Steve Colton, Head of Communications, Aspen

Steve.Colton@aspen.co

+44 20 7184 8337

North America Sard Verbinnen & Co

Paul Scarpetta, Jamie Tully or Jared Levy

+1 (212) 687 8080

International Citigate Dewe Rogerson

Patrick Donovan or Caroline Merrell

patrick.donovan@citigatedr.co.uk

caroline.merrell@citigatedr.co.uk

+44 20 7638 9571

i Glass, Lewis & Co., LLC, July 15, 2014.

TEXT OF E-MAIL TO ASPEN EMPLOYEES

COMMUNICATIONS ON ASPEN AND ENDURANCE PROXY MATERIALS

Dear Aspen Employee and Director Shareholders:

For employees who hold their shares through Merrill Lynch, and to the extent you haven't received any of your materials yet from your broker, you may contact **Charles Schorpp at 1-404-231-8025** at Merrill Lynch to provide your voting instructions. We have been informed that Merrill Lynch's Proxy Department will need the instruction no later than **Wednesday, July 23, 2014**.

For employees who hold their shares as a result of the UK SAYE Plan, you appear as a registered shareholder with Computershare, the Company's registrar and transfer agent. You should have received these materials directly. If you have not received any of the materials, you may contact our proxy solicitor, **Innisfree M&A Incorporated**, toll-free at **1 (877) 717-3930**.

For employees who hold their shares as a result of the US ESPP or the International ESPP, as these shares are held by Computershare as nominee, we understand that no consent materials were sent to you by Endurance Specialty Holdings, and as a result you would also not be getting materials from us.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact either Mike Cain or myself.

Kind regards,

Patricia

TEXT OF E-MAIL TO ASPEN EMPLOYEES

THIRD PROXY ADVISORY FIRM RECOMMENDS ASPEN SHAREHOLDERS REJECT

ENDURANCE PROPOSALS

GLASS LEWIS RECOMMENDS VOTING AGAINST SUPPORTING ENDURANCE S PROPOSALS

Proxy advisory firm, Glass Lewis, has recommended that shareholders vote against supporting Endurance s proposals to increase the size of our Board and to apply to the Bermuda Supreme Court for a Scheme of Arrangement. This follows similar recommendations from Institutional Shareholder Services and Egan-Jones Proxy Services at the end of last week.

We have issued the attached announcement to the market today and as always, if you have further questions about this or any related matters, please direct these to Mike Cain or Patricia Roufca in the first instance.