

NEW ZEALAND PREMIER INBOUND POLICY

This is your New Zealand Inbound Travel Policy, which is made up of this wording, the Table of Benefits, the declarations you made in the application and the policy certificate completed on the basis of information which you have provided to us. You should carefully check the details contained in these documents because they are the terms and conditions that apply to your policy. If there is an error of any sort, if your needs are not met or if you are in doubt then please tell us. We will be happy to assist you.

No insurance is granted under any section of this policy unless the full premium has been paid and the policy certificate has been issued prior to your departure from your country of residence or has been issued to you by an authorised agent after your arrival in New Zealand. Where an individual premium has been paid, the individual limits in the Table of Benefits apply. Each section and the extra cover provided under the Special Benefits for each section, is subject to the general conditions, exclusions, obligations and limits of this policy.

In this policy, some words are in bold, e.g. you. This may indicate that the words have a special meaning. To find out the meaning, please refer to the Section – Meanings of Words. These and the other obligations in this policy are important. It is essential that all statements made are correct before we have any liability under this policy. We must receive all relevant information. No claim shall be false or fraudulent in any way. If any relevant circumstances change or may change during the time we provide your insurance then you must tell us.

All sums insured and policy limits are expressed in New Zealand currency and include Goods and Services Tax (GST) and all other taxes where applicable. The New Zealand courts have exclusive jurisdiction in relation to legal proceedings about this policy. The laws of New Zealand shall apply to this policy. We will only pay over and above the cover provided by any other existing policy, private or reciprocal government medical scheme (this does not apply to Section 9 Accidental Death and Permanent Disablement).

If you are age 71 years or over, a 50% premium surcharge will apply. No Insurance is granted under any section of this policy to travellers 81 years or over.

All dates in the policy certificate are expressed in the time zone of your country of residence.

This policy provides cover under two Plans. Plan A provides cover whilst in New Zealand. Plan B provides cover whilst in either New Zealand or Australia.

SECTION 1 MEDICAL INCLUDING REPATRIATION TO COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

WHAT YOU ARE COVERED FOR

Illness or injury suffered by you while you are outside your country of residence. We will pay the reasonable necessary costs incurred outside your country of residence for unexpected medical treatment including surgical, hospital, nursing, additional accommodation and related medical expenses up to \$5,000,000.

Please note any accident-related conditions that occur in New Zealand are in the first instance, the responsibility of the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC). If liability is declined - or the reimbursement of costs does not cover the treatment charges – the balance of such charges shall be admissible as a claim.

In all cases we:

- will only pay costs incurred within 6 months of the illness or injury;
- have the option of returning you to your country of residence. We will pay all costs relating to your medical repatriation

FOLLOW ON MEDICAL EXPENSES AFTER REPATRIATION – Special Benefit

We will reimburse you up to \$2000 for your reasonable and necessary medical expenses after we have repatriated you to your country of residence, provided you are not otherwise insured.

INCIDENTAL HOSPITAL EXPENSES- Special Benefit

We will reimburse you up to \$100 per full day for incidental non-medical necessities after the third day of your hospitalisation during your period of insurance as a result of an illness or injury, up to a maximum of \$2,000.

ACCOMPANYING PERSON -Special Benefit

We will pay for reasonable additional travel and accommodation expenses incurred by one person, who because of your severe illness or injury and on approval of our medical advisers travels to you, remains with you or escorts you back to your country of residence.

FUNERAL EXPENSES -Special Benefit

We will pay up to \$15,000 for the reasonable funeral, cremation or burial expenses in the area where death occurred, or for the costs of returning your body or ashes to your country of residence excluding funeral and interment costs.

DENTAL TREATMENT- Special Benefit

We will pay up to \$1,500 for reasonable costs for treatment to sound natural teeth incurred as the result of an injury.

PREGNANCY- Special Benefit

We will pay the reasonable costs incurred for emergency treatment for extraordinary medical complications occurring during the first 28 weeks of your pregnancy. We will only pay costs incurred within 6 months of the occurrence.

SECTION 2 LOSS OF DEPOSITS/ CANCELLATION

WHAT YOU ARE COVERED FOR

Cancellation or amendment of your travel arrangements due to any unexpected event outside your control.

We will pay up to \$100,000 for your irrecoverable travel or accommodation deposits or expenses paid in advance in your country of residence or purchased from a TAANZ bonded agent in New Zealand. In the event of a claim under this section, you will need to provide a summary of loss from your Travel Agent outlining details of the refund they have obtained on your behalf.

CURTALMENT- Special Benefit

We will pay up to \$100,000, less any refund of your cancelled return ticket, for the reasonable additional accommodation and travel expenses incurred by you in returning directly to your country of residence due to the curtailment of your travel resulting from any Unexpected Events outside your control that have occurred in your country of residence, provided that you purchased a return ticket to your country of residence prior to your departure.

RESUMPTION OF TRAVEL- Special Benefit

We will pay up to \$5,000 for the economy class transport costs to enable you to return overseas to continue your original travel arrangements within 12 months of an occurrence, provided you have returned to your country of residence, as a result of a life threatening illness, injury or death of your relative in your country of residence and:

- your policy duration was at least 14 days;
- less than 50% of your policy duration has been used;
- the illness, injury or death was unexpected and first occurred after your departure from your country of residence;
- you have not otherwise claimed for cancellation or curtailment for the same event;
- a pre-paid return ticket to your country of residence had been purchased before departure from your country of residence.

SECTION 3 TRAVEL DELAY OR MISSED CONNECTION

WHAT YOU ARE COVERED FOR

We will reimburse you up to \$5,000 for the irrecoverable reasonable additional travel costs necessarily incurred due to your licensed commercial transport being delayed at least 12 hours. In all cases:

- you must supply written confirmation from the carrier stating the length and reason for any delay and that no alternative transport was available. The period of delay will be calculated from the published departure time;
- you must check in according to your itinerary;

WEDDINGS & CONFERENCES - Special Benefit

We will pay up to \$5,000 for the reasonable additional travel costs on an alternate route to your planned destination, if travel can not be delayed due to an occasion like a wedding or conference.

SECTION 4 STRIKES AND HI-JACKS

WHAT YOU ARE COVERED FOR

We will pay up to \$5,000 for irrecoverable additional travel and accommodation costs due to the cancellation or curtailment of public transport services being delayed at least 12 hours a result of a strike or hi-jack.

SECTION 5 PERSONAL BAGGAGE

WHAT YOU ARE COVERED FOR

Sudden and unforeseen accidental physical loss or damage to your personal baggage. We will pay the present day value up to the amount shown in the Table of Benefits, with a limit of \$1,000 per item or \$2,500 for a video camera, other than the cover provided under the Optional Special Benefit Specified Items. In all cases an item, pair, or set of articles e.g. a camera with attached or unattached lenses or accessories shall be deemed to be one item.

Claims will be settled at our option, by payment, repair or replacement.

EMERGENCY BAGGAGE - Special Benefit

We will reimburse you up to \$1000 for emergency purchase of essential items of clothing and requisites, should you be deprived of your personal baggage for at least 12 hours from the time of arrival at your overseas destination. If you are deprived of your personal baggage for an additional 72 hours, we will reimburse you a further \$1,000 for any additional costs.

SPECIFIED ITEMS - Optional Special Benefit

If you have selected this benefit and have any item, pair or set of articles individually shown in the application form we will settle claims for these items for their present day value up to the amount specified, provided you hold a valuation or receipt dated prior to the loss. Total limit \$20,000. Maximum specified amount for any one item \$5,000.

SECTION 6 MONEY & TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

WHAT YOU ARE COVERED FOR

We will pay up to \$1000 for loss from your person, locked accommodation or locked vehicles of your cash, travellers cheques, postal notes, credit cards, money orders, petrol coupons, travel tickets, or vouchers for pre-paid travel or accommodation.

PASSPORT- Special Benefit

We will pay the reasonable replacement costs if you suffer the loss of your passport.

SECTION 7 RENTAL VEHICLE INSURANCE EXCESS

WHAT YOU ARE COVERED FOR

We will reimburse you up to \$1,700 for any insurance excess you are required to pay.

In all cases:

- the vehicle must be hired from a licensed rental vehicle agency;
- you must comply with the conditions of your rental vehicle hire contract.

EXTENDED RENTAL EXCESS – Optional Special Benefit

If you have selected this benefit the amount we will reimburse you for any insurance excess you are required to pay is increased to \$4000.

- The cost of this Optional Special Benefit is \$10 per day.

SECTION 8 ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND PERMANENT DISABLEMENT

WHAT YOU ARE COVERED FOR

We will pay you or your estate \$50,000 for your accidental death or permanent disablement, as a direct result of an injury suffered outside your country of residence during the period of insurance, which occurs within 6 months of the injury.

In all cases:

- in the event of death, a death certificate and a post mortem report must be produced;
- we will not pay any benefit if you are under the age of 16 years or over 80 years, however we will pay \$10,000 if you are under 16 years and have paid a full individual premium.

SECTION 9 PERSONAL LIABILITY PROTECTION

WHAT YOU ARE COVERED FOR

We will pay up to \$1 million for your legal liability in respect of loss or damage to property including injury, death or illness arising from accidents in New Zealand (under Plans A or B) or Australia (under Plan B) provided such legal liability is established in a New Zealand court and is with our written consent. This benefit does not cover liability as a result of your trade, business or profession.

LEGAL COSTS -Special Benefit

We will pay up to \$100,000 for all costs incurred by you with our consent in defending claims.

WRONGFUL ARREST - Special Benefit

We will pay up to \$2,500 in reimbursement for your legal costs as the direct result of your false arrest or wrongful detention by any legally recognised foreign government or government agency.

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS (Applies to all sections)

You must:

1. comply with all our requests relating to your claim including providing all co-operation, information and assistance;
2. provide original documentary proof to substantiate your claim;
3. establish that you have complied with all your obligations under this policy and that none of the exclusions apply;

4. at all times act in a prudent manner and take all reasonable steps for the care, safety, security and supervision of **your** property and to prevent further loss or damage;
5. inform the Police within 24 hours and obtain a written report if it appears that there has been loss, theft, burglary or malicious damage;
6. immediately notify the carrier and obtain a written report of any loss or damage to **your personal baggage** if the loss or damage occurred when under their custody or control. Please lodge a claim with the carrier in the first instance.
7. not cause or facilitate loss or damage or incur liability by any unreasonable, reckless or wilful act or omission;
8. consult immediately and follow the advice of a registered medical practitioner if **you** have suffered any **injury or illness**;
9. contact Southern Cross Worldwide Assistance prior to incurring medical expenses (other than of a minor nature) and if possible within 48 hours.
10. provide at **your** expense any medical certificate or report that **we** may require to consider **your** claim. **We** may conduct a post mortem examination at **our** expense;
11. obtain a medical report and blood test to substantiate **your** claim if **you** are drugged involuntarily;
12. not incur any expense over \$1,500 without **our** prior approval;
13. inform us if you are permanently migrating. The period of insurance will expire 7 days after your arrival in the country of your migration destination.
14. allow **us** to take over for **our** own benefit and settle any legal right of recovery **you** may have and **you** must co-operate fully in any recovery action;
15. not discuss a claim made on **you** by another person with them. Instead, refer them to **us**;
16. provide **us** immediately with full particulars of any claim made against **you** by another person, all legal documents served on **you** and allow **us** to instruct a solicitor of **our** choice to conduct **your** defence. **You** must follow the recommendations of that solicitor as to the conduct or continuation of the defence. That solicitor shall be entitled to confer with **us** when necessary as to the details of the case and the conduct or continuation of **your** defence.
17. hold a valid return ticket to your country of residence prior to the commencement of your period of insurance.

Otherwise we can decline your claim and/or recover any payment already made.

GENERAL EXCLUSIONS (applies to all sections)

WHAT YOU ARE NOT COVERED FOR

The excess of \$75

Loss, damage or liability arising directly or indirectly from:

1. (a) any pre-existing condition, physical defect or infirmity or recurring medical or physical condition.
- (b) any condition for which **you** are receiving, or are on a waiting list to receive in-patient hospital treatment, examination or investigation or for which **you** are travelling overseas to obtain medical treatment, examination or investigation;
- (c) continued or re-supply of medication, drugs or treatment;
- (d) any medical costs and other expenses incurred overseas after the date when **you** can, in the opinion of **our** medical advisers, be safely repatriated to **your** country of residence;
- (e) pregnancy known to exist at the date of purchase of this policy for which **you** have been receiving medical treatment or medication, childbirth or postnatal medical care other than the cover provided in the Special Benefit Pregnancy;
- (f) any terminal condition;
- (g) depression, anxiety, nervous or emotional disorders or mental illness;
- (h) acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or sexually transmitted diseases; chronic alcoholism
- (i) asbestosis or any related disease;
- (j) self-inflicted illness or injury, suicide, voluntary abortion, influence of alcohol or drugs;
2. (a) any professional sporting activity, extreme versions of any sport, training, competing or racing other than on foot;
- (b) mountaineering or rock climbing necessitating the use of ropes and guides, skiing or snow boarding unless at a recognised commercial field, rock climbing, pot holing, rodeo activities, hunting, hang or tow gliding, microlite flying.
- (c) parachuting, skydiving, paragliding and or parasailing, white/black water river activities unless with a licensed operator.
- (d) underwater activities involving the use of artificial breathing apparatus unless an internationally recognised diving qualification is held;
- (e) high altitude or remote area touring except as part of a licenced organised tour group;
- (f) ocean yachting, whether or not **you** have actually entered international waters; **you** are not covered if **you** are 25 nautical miles from the mainland except as a fare paying passenger on a licensed cruise ship;
3. deliberate exposure to exceptional danger except in an attempt to save a human life;
4. air travel unless **you** are a ticketed passenger on a regular scheduled airline or established charter service;
5. any consequential loss, loss of enjoyment or loss of income;
6. any person lawfully in **your** accommodation premises or **your** criminal activities;
7. depreciation, mildew, mould, rot, corrosion, rust, insects, vermin, wear and tear, gradual deterioration, fusion, any process of cleaning, dyeing, repairing, restoring or action of sunlight;
8. receivership, statutory management, administration, bankruptcy, liquidation, financial collapse or adverse financial position of an airline transport provider, travel agent, tour operator or wholesaler;
9. confiscation, detention, requisition or destruction by customs or other authorities;
10. Losses occurring in any country where **you** ordinarily reside other than the cover provided in Section 2 Loss of Deposits and Cancellation;
11. **your** disregard for, or **your** failure to comply with, any provision in or notice or order under any form of legislation;
12. nuclear weapons material or ionising radiation or contamination by radioactivity from any nuclear waste or from the combustion of nuclear fuel including any self sustaining process of nuclear fission or fusion;
13. war, invasion, act of foreign enemy, hostilities or warlike operations (whether war be declared or not), civil war, mutiny, civil commotion assuming the proportions of or amounting to a popular rising, military rising, rebellion, revolution, insurrection, military or usurped power;
14. heavy manual work, hazardous work, or military, naval or air service operations;
15. any time or date device or any item of which it forms a part, arising from its failure to recognise any date, character or value as the correct date character or value (e.g. Year 2000)
16. any claim where the directions of Southern Cross Worldwide Assistance have not been observed.
17. any activity as an aircraft crew member.
18. any act of terrorism which includes any act, or preparation in respect of action or threat of action designed to influence the government or any political division in pursuit of political, religious, ideological purposes to intimidate the public.

SECTION 1 MEDICAL INCLUDING REPATRIATION TO COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

WHAT YOU ARE NOT COVERED FOR

Loss arising from, or claims for:

1. any expenses incurred in **your** country of residence; unless accepted under "Follow on Medical Expenses after repatriation" – Special Benefit.
2. any medical or dental treatment or surgery of an elective nature.
3. the normal maintenance of dental health other than the cover provided in the Dental Treatment - Special Benefit.
4. the costs of private medical care where free or reduced cost care is available to **you**.

SECTION 2 LOSS OF DEPOSITS/CANCELLATION/SECTION 3 TRAVEL DELAY AND MISSED CONNECTION

WHAT YOU ARE NOT COVERED FOR

Loss arising from, or claims for:

1. **your** disinclination to travel, **your** personal wishes or **your** financial circumstances;
2. **your** curtailment or **your** cancellation for medical reasons unless on written medical advice;
3. **your** failure to check-in at correct departure time;
4. processing of or incorrect visas or passport;
5. cancellation due to lack of numbers;
6. costs resulting from rescheduling or cancelling of travel arrangements by any supplier;
7. the default or error of a travel agent;
8. the inability or negligence of a tour operator, charter airline or wholesaler to complete your travel arrangements;
9. government prohibition or regulation other than grounding of aircraft by government agency.

SECTION 5 PERSONAL BAGGAGE

WHAT YOU ARE NOT COVERED FOR

Loss or damage to, or claims for:

1. theft or deliberate damage of **your personal baggage** left unattended in a public place or left in any unlocked vehicle, unlocked room or unlocked building;
2. depreciation, wear and tear, any process of cleaning, or action of sunlight;
3. unaccompanied **personal baggage** sent by post, courier service or cargo;
4. bicycles, snowboards, skis, surfboards, windsurfers or similar water equipment, any form of motorised transport other than when they are in transit on licensed commercial transportation or for fire or burglary from locked accommodation premises;
5. sporting equipment when in actual use;
6. breakage of glass, fragile or brittle articles;
7. household effects, home appliances, works of art and vehicle accessories;
8. bonds, negotiable instruments, vouchers, deeds, stamps, manuscripts, securities of any kind, bullion, gold, precious metals or precious stones;
9. electronic data or software including reinstatement or replacement.

SECTION 6 MONEY & TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

WHAT YOU ARE NOT COVERED FOR

Loss:

1. if left unattended in a public place or left in any unlocked vehicle, unlocked room or unlocked building;
2. if sent by post, courier service or cargo or checked in **personal baggage**;
3. Depreciation in value or shortages due to error or omission.

SECTION 7 RENTAL VEHICLE INSURANCE EXCESS

WHAT YOU ARE NOT COVERED FOR

Loss:

1. arising from wear, tear, gradual deterioration, damage by insects and vermin, inherent vice or damage.

SECTION 8 ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND PERMANENT DISABLEMENT

WHAT YOU ARE NOT COVERED FOR

Loss arising from, or claims for:

1. accidental death or permanent disablement resulting from or occurring whilst engaged in work for a business, trade or profession, or any activity for financial return whether for profit or not;
2. death or permanent disablement directly or indirectly resulting from disease or natural causes or medical or surgical treatment unless rendered necessary by an **injury** covered by this policy.

SECTION 9 PERSONAL LIABILITY PROTECTION

WHAT YOU ARE NOT COVERED FOR

Liability for or arising from:

1. aggravated, punitive or exemplary damages, fines and/or other penalties or reparation orders;
2. injury, death or illness to **you**, **your** employees or members of **your** family;
3. loss or damage to property belonging to **you** or any employee or member of **your** family or under **your** or their control;
4. **your** trade, profession or business or any activity for financial return whether for profit or not;
5. the ownership or use of any land or building, aircraft or aerial device other than model aircraft, vehicles other than push cycles, watercraft other than a rowboat, surfboard, sailboard, bodyboard, water-ski or model boat.

CANCELLING THIS POLICY

You may cancel this insurance at any time before **your** departure by returning **your** policy certificate to **us**. If **you** have suffered no loss or damage and incurred no liability during this period, **we** will refund **your** paid premium less the Loss of Deposits premium of \$35.

You may cancel this insurance at any time after **your** departure by writing to **us** or notifying **us** by Email and returning **your** policy certificate. If **you** have suffered no loss or damage and incurred no liability during this period, the unused portion of **your** premium will be refunded less a \$40 administration charge.

We may cancel the insurance at any time by writing to **your** postal address for this policy on **our** records, **your** Email address, or if **you** have left **your** country of residence, **your** current overseas address if known to **us**. The letter will contain at least 14 days notice. **We** will refund **your** unused premium.

If **you** make a claim which is false or fraudulent in any way, **we** may avoid **your** policy or cancel it effective immediately.

MEANINGS OF WORDS

- "Country of residence" means the country of origin nominated by you as being the country in which you principally resided prior to applying for cover and the country you nominate to be medically repatriated to under section 1 of this policy should a medical emergency arise.
- "Excess" means the amount of any claim, which **you** must pay. The excess applies per person to each separate event giving rise to a claim. Known in some countries as the "deductible".
- "Illness" means an unexpected illness, sickness or disease.
- "Individual" means one person travelling alone or together with up to two of their children who are under the age of 21 years and who are not self-supporting.
- "Injury" means an unexpected external or internal bodily injury caused solely and directly by violent, accidental, external and visible means.
- "Period of insurance" means the date this policy commences as shown in the policy certificate and ceases on the date **you** return to **your** country of residence or the date shown in the policy certificate which ever occurs first. The period of insurance is automatically extended free of charge until **you** return to **your** country of residence if **your** travel is delayed due to circumstances beyond **your** control. Irrecoverable travel or accommodation deposits are covered as soon as the policy is issued. **You** are covered by this insurance for up to 6 days in order to travel from **your** country of residence to New Zealand (under Plans A or B) or Australia (under Plan B) and up to 6 days for **your** return journey to **your** country of residence from New Zealand (under Plans A or B) or Australia (under Plan B). This policy is non-renewable but further insurance may be approved at the discretion of the Underwriter.

- **"Permanent disablement"** means an **injury** which within 6 months of the occurrence results in paraplegia, quadriplegia, tetraplegia, the loss of one or more limbs, loss of sight in one or both eyes, loss of hearing or speech.
- **"Personal baggage"** means all items normally worn or carried by and belonging to **you** and taken with or purchased by **you** on **your** journey. It does not include items sent in advance, any unaccompanied baggage or motor vehicles, motorcycles, trailers, caravans, watercraft, aerial devices and their accessories, household effects or items covered under Section 6 Money & Travel Documents.
- **"Policy certificate"** means the policy certificate first issued to **you** and any endorsement certificates that have been added.
- **"Plan"** means the cover you have selected and is shown in the **policy certificate**. **Plan A provides cover whilst in New Zealand. Plan B provides cover whilst in either New Zealand or Australia.**
- **"Pre Existing Condition"** means any medical or physical conditions or circumstances which you are aware of, or ought to be aware of, or for which advice, care, treatment or medication has been sought, given or recommended prior to the inception of this policy.
- **"Present day value"** means the cost at the time of loss or damage of replacing or repairing **your personal baggage** to a condition no better than new, less an appropriate allowance for depreciation and deferred maintenance. Depreciation may be measured by using the current second-hand value of the lost or damaged item.
- **"Relative"** means a spouse or partner who you have been living with for at least 3 continuous months prior to purchasing the policy or a parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child, or a grandchild, who is under the age of 80 at the time we issued your certificate of insurance.
- **"Terminal condition"** means the last stage of a fatal illness.
- **"Unexpected Event"** means your death, serious injury or serious illness; or the unexpected death, serious injury or serious illness of any **Relative**.
- **"You", "your" or "named person"** means the insured person(s) named in the **policy certificate**. Where **you** jointly own any of the property this policy insures **you** jointly.
- **"We", "us" or "our"** means Southern Cross Benefits Limited the underwriter of this policy.

HOW TO MAKE A CLAIM

It is important that **you** tell **us** immediately when **you** become aware of any circumstances that may give rise to a claim. If **you** require assistance with a claim while overseas please call **us** and **we** will give **you** advice on what to do. If **you** are asked to fill in a claim form, **we** must receive the completed claim form within a reasonable time. To reduce delays with **your** claim please attach to **your** claim form police reports, proof of delay, receipts and proof of ownership documents for any items lost, stolen or damaged.

HOW WE WILL SETTLE YOUR CLAIM

Once we receive advice of your claim we:

- will acknowledge that **we** have received it and ask **you** for further information or assistance **we** may require to enable **us** to consider **your** claim;
- may appoint an assessor, investigator or **our** medical adviser to look after **your** claim;
- will arrange at **our** option for the repair or replacement or pay for the loss, once **your** claim has been accepted;

Your claim will be settled either while **you** are in New Zealand or **Australia** or when **you** have returned to your country of residence except for **overseas medical claims**. **We may, at our option, settle urgent claims whilst you are in New Zealand or Australia.**

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM: -While **we** make every effort to get things right, problems may sometimes occur. **We** have in place a complaint procedure that is intended to resolve any problem quickly and fairly. A copy of these procedures is available on request.

CLAIMS PAYING RATING

Southern Cross Benefits Limited "A+" (Good) claims paying rating affirmed by Standards & Poor (Australia) Pty Ltd at 21 February 2002. The Rating scale is: AAA (Extremely Strong), AA (Very Strong), A (Strong), BBB (Good), BB (Marginal), B (Weak), CC (Extremely Weak), CCC (Very Weak), R (Regulatory Action). The ratings from "AA" to "CCC" may be modified by the addition of a plus or minus sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories.