

Grupo Catalana Occidente consolidated result increased by 8.1% to 386.4 million euros in 2018

The Group has continued driving activity based on its three strategic pillars: growth, return and solvency.

Grupo Catalana Occidente has closed 2018 with a consolidated result of 386.4 million euros, representing an 8.1% increase compared to the previous year. This growth has been motivated by a good turnover and technical performance.

During this year, the Group increased the number of policies in all lines of business. So, the turnover increases by 2.1% to 4,345.2 million euros. In addition, the performance of Grupo Catalana Occidente's two activity branches, traditional business and credit insurance, has been satisfactory. Traditional business represents 58.5% of the total turnover and credit insurance 41.5%.

The recurring profit of the **traditional business** in 2018 (Seguros Catalana Occidente, Plus Ultra Seguros, Seguros Bilbao and NorteHispana Seguros) grows 9.3% to 195.7 million euros, whereas the total volume of premiums charged stands at 2,541.2 million euros. The recurring turnover, without taking into account single life premiums, increases by 2.2% to 2,200.5 million, boosted by the positive evolution of other insurance products (+4.9%).

Furthermore, the recurring profit of the **credit insurance** (Atradius Crédito y Caución and Atradius Re) rose by 5.8% to 200.9 million euros. In addition, the turnover of this activity grows to 1,781 millions, 3.6% more than the previous year.

For the Managing Director of Grupo Catalana Occidente, Francisco Arregui, these results mean a further step in the profitable growth strategy. "The positive evolution of the Group's two activity branches in 2018, traditional business and credit insurance, has allowed us to consolidate our leading position in the long-term protection and forecasting of families and companies in Spain, and in the coverage of commercial credit risks at an international level", Arregui emphasises.

Combined ratio

The combined ratio in the traditional business (not life) reaches 91.2%, which represents an improvement of 0.2 p.p., whereas the combined ratio in the credit insurance business stands at 75.5%, increasing by 0.3 p.p.

With regard to the soundness of the Group's assets, the permanent resources at market value reach 3,908.7 million euros at the end of 2018, which means an increase of 4.1% compared to the previous year. The funds administered by the Group stand at 12,323.5 million, an increase of 2.8% compared to 2017. These figures guarantee a solid and sustainable coverage position for technical and solvency provisions.

About Grupo Catalana Occidente

Grupo Catalana Occidente is one of the leaders in the Spanish insurance sector and the global credit insurance sector. With steady growth and a broad reach, it has more than 7,300 employees, a presence in more than 50 countries and serves more than 4,000,000 customers. Its network consists of over 1,600 offices and nearly 18,000 mediators. It is currently ranked in sixth position in the Spanish market and second worldwide for credit insurance.

In addition, the Grupo Catalana Occidente Board of Directors agreed in its meeting today to propose at the General Meeting of the Shareholders an increase of 7.5% on the supplementary dividend, which will be paid on 8 May 2019. In this way, the Group would distribute a total of 98.69 million euros in dividends charged to the 2018 results.

Acquisition of Antares

Another milestone for the Grupo Catalana Occidente in 2018 was [the announcement of the acquisition of Antares](#) from Telefónica. This operation allows the Group to position itself in the top 10 of the health insurer groups. Specifically, *ranking* in ninth place with a 2% market share and a turnover of 165.7 million euros. Similarly, the purchase allows the Group to strengthen its overall offer of products and services for clients.

Additionally in the last quarter of the year, the agency [A.M. Best announced that it upgraded the rating for long-term credit issuer Atradius](#) from "A" to "A+" and reaffirms its *rating* for Grupo Catalana Occidente's traditional business.

| Main figures | 2017 | 2018 | % Var. 17-18 |
|---|----------|----------|--------------|
| Growth | | | |
| Turnover | 4,254.3 | 4,345.2 | 2.1% |
| - Traditional business | 2,516.1 | 2,541.2 | 1.0% |
| Recurring premiums traditional business | 2,153.2 | 2,200.5 | 2.2% |
| Single life premiums | 362.9 | 340.7 | -6.1% |
| - Credit Insurance business | 1,738.2 | 1,804.0 | 3.8% |
| Profitability | | | |
| Consolidated profit | 357.2 | 386.4 | 8.1% |
| - Traditional business | 179.1 | 195.7 | 9.3% |
| - Credit Insurance business | 190.0 | 200.9 | 5.8% |
| - Non-Recurring | -11.8 | -10.2 | |
| Attributable Result | 325.3 | 352.1 | 8.2% |
| Combined ratio traditional business | 91.4% | 91.2% | |
| Combined ratio credit insurance | 75.2% | 75.5% | |
| Solvency | | | |
| Permanent resources market value | 3,755.5 | 3,908.7 | 4.1% |
| Technical provisions | 9,425.2 | 9,567.7 | 1.5% |
| Funds under management | 11,988.2 | 12,323.5 | 2.8% |

For more information on the results please view [the 2018 Annual Report](#)

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If you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact us

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