



Rating Agency of the Year

FitchRatings

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An innovative approach to environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues, partnerships with leading regional insurers and a strong track record of industry outreach and engagement helped Fitch Ratings secure the Rating Agency of Year award.

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One area where Fitch displayed an innovative approach was in the field of ESG issues. In October 2020, the Fitch Ratings ESG Relevance Scores Data Feed was launched to allow market participants to access this key data via a feed, an Excel add-in, an API and the web. Fitch also launched an ESG Heat Map and interactive ESG dashboards to help investors better understand the credit impact of ESG factors.

Fitch was also a thought leader and published a range of Asia-focused research and reports addressing a range of issues including "The Next Phase: Chinese Insurers Embracing the Digital Transformation Era"; "Japanese Life Insurance Is Blueprint for Managing Low Interest Rates"; "Developed Market Insurers in APAC Pioneer Climate Risk Initiatives" and "Indonesian Government, Economic Recovery to Support Takaful Sector Growth".

In a period of unprecedented uncertainty, Fitch produced insightful reports to help the insurance market navigate through the pandemic, including the reports "APAC Insurance Regulators' Response During Coronavirus Crisis" and "Pandemic-led Economic Fallout Hits Australian Insurers' Earnings". In addition, Fitch published cutting-edge reports of global themes that are highly relevant for the APAC insurance market, covering topics such as the spectator ban at the Tokyo Olympics, the Suez Canal blockage, ransomware attacks and rising cyber insurance claims.

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) is another area where Fitch showed leadership through the creation of a Global CSR committee that oversaw charitable donations and other volunteer activities. In Asia, the Hong Kong team came together to raise funds for Plan International by joining the Hong Kong Virtual Marathon. In addition, a "Building an Inclusive Culture" workshop was attended by over 500 Fitch managers across the globe and several eLearning training modules were introduced to promote Diversity and Inclusion within the organisation.



Jeff Liew