

Nationwide Variable Insurance Trust

Gartmore NVIT Developing Markets Fund

FundProspectus

May 1, 2009

As with all mutual funds, the Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved or disapproved the Fund's shares or determined whether this prospectus is complete or accurate. To state otherwise is a crime.

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This prospectus provides information about one fund (the “Fund”) offered by Nationwide Variable Insurance Trust (the “Trust”):

Gartmore NVIT Developing Markets Fund

The following sections summarize key information about the Fund, including information regarding its investment objective, principal strategies, principal risks, performance and fees. **As with any mutual fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time.**

The Fund’s investment objective can be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days written notice to shareholders.

A NOTE ABOUT SHARE CLASSES

The Fund offers the following share classes:

Gartmore NVIT Developing Markets Fund

- Class I
- Class II

This prospectus provides information with respect to each of the classes offered by the Fund. The share classes have different expenses and are available through different variable insurance contracts.

For more information about who may purchase the different share classes, see Section 2, Investing with Nationwide Funds: Choosing a Share Class. Further information about the Fund, including its investment strategies and risks, is available in the Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) which you may obtain as directed on the back page of this Prospectus.

The Fund employs a “multi-manager” structure, which means that Nationwide Fund Advisors (“NFA” or the “Adviser”), as the Fund’s investment adviser, may hire, replace or terminate one or more unaffiliated subadvisers for the Fund without shareholder approval. NFA believes that this structure gives it increased flexibility to manage the Fund in your best interests and to operate the Fund more efficiently. See Section 4, Multi-Manager Structure for more information.

Section 1 | Gartmore NVIT Developing Markets Fund

SUMMARY AND PERFORMANCE

OBJECTIVE

The Fund seeks long-term capital appreciation.

PRINCIPAL STRATEGIES

Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of the value of its net assets in **equity securities** of companies of any size, including **small-** and **mid-cap companies**, based in the world's developing market countries. Some countries included among **developing market countries** are:

- **Latin America:** Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela
- **Asia:** China/Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam
- **Eastern Europe:** Czech Republic, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Poland, Russia, Slovakia and Turkey
- **The Middle East:** Israel and Jordan
- **Africa:** Egypt, Morocco and South Africa

The Fund typically maintains investments in at least six countries at all times, with no more than 35% of the value of its net assets invested in securities of any one country. The Fund generally allocates its assets among developing market countries that the subadviser believes have stable or improving macroeconomic environments and exhibit high potential for capital appreciation. In addition, the subadviser conducts in-depth analysis and review of individual companies, based on available financial information and on-site evaluation of management and facilities.

The Fund's subadviser looks for foreign developing markets that it believes offer the potential for strong economic growth, and assesses the valuation and growth rates both of a particular company and of the market where the company is located. The subadviser conducts proprietary research in order to form an independent perspective that provides a basis for valuing stocks. By comparing its own valuations of individual companies to those of the market, the subadviser seeks to pinpoint companies whose prospects appear different from the market's consensus.

The Fund also may use **derivatives**, such as futures and options, either as a substitute for taking a position in an underlying asset, to increase returns or as part of a hedging strategy. The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of portfolio securities.

NFA has selected Gartmore Global Partners as subadviser to manage the Fund's portfolio on a day-to-day basis.

Terms highlighted above are defined in the Appendix.

PRINCIPAL RISKS

The Fund cannot guarantee that it will achieve its investment objective.

As with any fund, the value of the Fund's investments – and therefore, the value of Fund shares – may fluctuate. These changes may occur because of, among other things:

Foreign securities risk – foreign securities may be more volatile, harder to price and less liquid than U.S. securities. The prices of foreign securities may be further affected by other factors, such as changes in the exchange rates between the dollar and the currencies in which the securities are traded.

Developing markets risk – a magnification of the risks that apply to all foreign investments. These risks may be greater for securities of companies in developing market countries because the countries may have less stable governments, more volatile currencies and less established markets.

Stock market risk – the Fund could lose value if the individual stocks in which it invests or overall stock markets in which such stocks trade go down.

Small- and mid-cap securities risk – in general, stocks of small- and mid-cap companies may trade in lower volumes, may be less liquid, and are subject to greater or more unpredictable price changes than stocks of large-cap companies or the market overall. Small- and mid-cap companies may have limited product lines or markets, be less financially secure than larger companies, or depend on a smaller number of key personnel. If adverse developments occur, such as due to management changes or product failure, the Fund's investment in a small- or mid-cap company may lose substantial value. Investing in small- and mid-cap companies requires a longer term investment view and may not be appropriate for all investors.

Derivatives risk – the Fund may experience a significant loss or otherwise lose opportunities for gains if it uses certain derivatives (e.g., options, futures, forwards and forward commitments, and swap agreements) when the security prices, interest rates, currency values or other such measures underlying derivatives change in unexpected ways. In addition, derivatives may involve additional expenses, which can reduce any benefit or increase any loss to the Fund from using a derivatives strategy. Derivatives also present default risks if the counterparty to a derivatives contract fails to fulfill its obligations to the Fund.

Section 1 | Gartmore NVIT Developing Markets Fund (*cont.*)

Portfolio turnover – a higher portfolio turnover rate increases transaction costs and as a result may adversely impact the Fund’s performance and may increase share price volatility.

If the value of the Fund’s investments goes down, you may lose money.

Please see the Appendix for additional information on the Fund’s investments and associated risks.

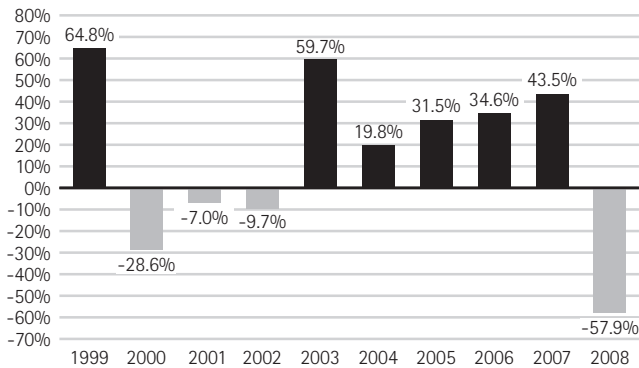
Section 1 | Gartmore NVIT Developing Markets Fund (cont.)

PERFORMANCE

The following bar chart and table show two aspects of the Fund: volatility and performance. The bar chart shows the volatility or variability of the Fund's annual total returns over time and shows that Fund performance can change from year to year. The table shows the Fund's average annual total returns for certain time periods compared to the returns of a comparable broad-based securities index. The returns shown in the bar chart and table do not include charges that will be imposed by variable insurance contracts. If these amounts were reflected, returns would be less than those shown. The bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. Remember, however, that past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future.

Annual Total Returns – Class II Shares

(years ended December 31)



Best Quarter: 34.8% - 4th qtr. of 1999
Worst Quarter: -31.1% - 3rd qtr. of 2008

Average Annual Total Returns

As of December 31, 2008:

	1 YR	5 YRS	10 YRS
Class I Shares ¹	-57.86%	5.10%	7.32%
Class II Shares	-57.86%	5.10%	7.32%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index ²	-53.18%	-8.02%	9.31%

- 1 Returns until the first offering of Class I shares (June 23, 2003) are based on the previous performance of Class II shares but do not reflect the lower expenses of Class I shares. Excluding the effect of any fee waivers or reimbursements, the prior performance is similar to what Class I shares would have produced during the applicable periods because all classes of shares invest in the same portfolio of securities.
- 2 The MSCI Emerging Markets Index is an unmanaged index that is designed to measure the performance of the stocks in emerging country markets. Unlike mutual funds, the Index does not incur expenses. If expenses were deducted, the actual returns of the Index would be lower. Individuals cannot invest directly in an index.

Section 1 | Gartmore NVIT Developing Markets Fund (cont.)

FEES AND EXPENSES

The following table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay when buying and holding shares of the Fund, depending on the share class you select. The fees and expenses do not include sales charges and other expenses that may be imposed by variable insurance contracts. If these amounts were reflected, the fees and expenses would be higher than shown. Such sales charges and other expenses are described in the variable insurance contract's prospectus.

	Class I	Class II
Shareholder Fees (paid directly from your investment)	N/A	N/A
Annual Fund Operating Expenses (deducted from Fund assets)		
Management Fees ¹	0.95%	0.95%
Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees	N/A	0.25%
Other Expenses ²	0.43%	0.43%
TOTAL ANNUAL FUND OPERATING EXPENSES³	1.38%	1.63%

1 Management fees have been restated to reflect the elimination of a performance-based management fee and implementation of an asset-based management fee equal to the lowest possible management fee under the previous performance-based fee structure, as approved by the Board of Trustees on September 18, 2008. Under no circumstances, during a six-month transition period, as described on page 7, will the management fee under the new fee structure exceed what the Adviser would have received under the old structure assuming maximum penalty for underperformance.

2 "Other Expenses" include administrative services fees which currently are 0.25% and 0.25% for Class I and Class II shares, respectively.

3 The Trust and the Adviser have entered into a written contract limiting operating expenses to 1.20% for all share classes until at least May 1, 2010. This limit excludes certain Fund expenses, including interest, taxes, brokerage commissions, Rule 12b-1 fees, fees paid pursuant to an Administrative Services Plan, short sale dividend expenses, and other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and other non-routine expenses not incurred in the ordinary course of the Fund's business. The Trust is authorized to reimburse the Adviser for management fees previously waived or reduced and/or for expenses previously paid by the Adviser provided, however, that any reimbursements must be paid at a date not more than three years after the fiscal year in which the Adviser waived the fees or reimbursed the expenses and the reimbursements do not cause the Fund to exceed the expense limitation in the agreement. Currently, all share classes are operating below the expense limit.

EXAMPLE

This Example is intended to help you to compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The Example, however, does not include

charges that are imposed by variable insurance contracts. If these charges were reflected, the expenses listed below would be higher.

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then sell all of your shares at the end of those time periods. It assumes a 5% return each year, no change in expenses and the expense limitations for one year only (if applicable). Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

	1 YR	3 YRS	5 YRS	10 YRS
Class I Shares	\$140	\$437	\$755	\$1,657
Class II Shares	\$166	\$514	\$887	\$1,933

INVESTMENT ADVISER

Nationwide Fund Advisors ("NFA" or the "Adviser"), 1200 River Road, Suite 1000, Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428, manages the investment of the Fund's assets and supervises the daily business affairs of the Fund. Subject to the supervision of the Trust's Board of Trustees, NFA also determines the allocation of Fund assets among one or more subadvisers and evaluates and monitors the performance of any such subadvisers. NFA was organized in 1999 as an investment adviser for mutual funds. NFA is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Nationwide Financial Services, Inc.

SUBADVISER

Subject to the supervision of NFA and the Board of Trustees, a subadviser will manage all or a portion of the Fund's assets in accordance with the Fund's investment objective and strategies. With regard to the portion of the Fund assets allocated to it, each subadviser makes investment decisions for the Fund and, in connection with such investment decisions, places purchase and sell orders for securities.

GARTMORE GLOBAL PARTNERS ("GGP") is the subadviser for the Fund and is located at 8 Fenchurch Place, London, England, United Kingdom. GGP is ultimately owned by a Cayman Islands registered private equity fund sponsored by Hellman & Friedman LLC, a private equity firm based in the United States, together with a significant portion of GGP's employees.

A discussion regarding the basis for the Board of Trustees' approval of the investment advisory and subadvisory agreements for the Fund is in the Fund's semiannual report to shareholders, which covers the period from January 1, 2009 to June 30, 2009.

MANAGEMENT FEES

The Fund pays NFA an annual management fee based on the rates listed in the table below, which are expressed as

Section 1 | Gartmore NVIT Developing Markets Fund (cont.)

a percentage of the Fund's average daily net assets and not taking into account any applicable fee waivers:

FUND	ASSETS	FEE
Gartmore NVIT Developing Markets Fund	\$0 up to \$500 million	0.95%
	\$500 million up to \$2 billion	0.90%
	\$2 billion and more	0.85%

Prior to December 1, 2008, the Fund paid a performance-based management fee to NFA. This performance-based fee varied depending on the Fund's performance relative to its benchmark. This fee was intended to reward or penalize NFA (and the subadviser) for outperforming or underperforming, respectively, the Fund's benchmark. The Fund's benchmark for determining these performance-based fees was the MSCI Emerging Markets Index. The actual management fee paid by the Fund for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008, expressed as a percentage of the Fund's average daily net assets and taking into account any applicable fee waivers or reimbursements, was 0.94%. NFA pays GGP a subadvisory fee from the management fee it receives.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees held in-person on September 18, 2008, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to eliminate the performance-based management fee and to implement an asset-based management fee equal to the lowest possible management fee at each breakpoint under the previous performance-based fee structure, to take effect on December 1, 2008. In eliminating the performance-based fee structure, the Adviser (and subadviser, as applicable) are subject to a six-month transition period. If during this transition period the Fund's assets are declining and the Fund underperforms its benchmark, the new management fee may be higher than the amount the Adviser would have been entitled to collect under the previous performance-based fee structure. If this occurs during the transition period, the Adviser will reimburse the Fund by the amount of the difference between the new management fee and the amount it would have been entitled to collect under the previous fee structure. Under no circumstances, during this transition period, will the management fee under the new fee structure exceed what the Adviser would have received under the old structure assuming maximum penalty for underperformance.

For further information regarding the previous performance-based fee structure, including the methodology of the calculation of the performance-based fee, please refer to the previously effective prospectus and Statement of Additional Information of the Fund dated May 1, 2008, which was filed on the Securities and Exchange Commission's ("SEC") EDGAR database on April 14, 2008 and may be accessed at:

<http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/353905/000089322008001065/n48420e485bpos.htm>.

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

Christopher Palmer, CFA, is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund, including the selection of the Fund's investments. He has managed the Fund since June 2006.

Mr. Palmer joined GGP in 1995. He graduated from Colgate University in 1986 and in 1988 completed an MBA in Finance at New York University.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGER

The SAI provides additional information about the portfolio manager's compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio manager and the portfolio manager's ownership of securities in the Fund, if any.

SECTION 2 | Investing with Nationwide Funds

CHOOSING A SHARE CLASS

Shares of series of the Trust (the “Funds”) are currently sold to separate accounts of insurance companies, including Nationwide Life Insurance Company and its affiliated life insurance companies (collectively, “Nationwide”) to fund benefits payable under variable insurance contracts. The Trust currently issues Class I, Class II, Class III, Class IV, Class V, Class VI, Class VIII and Class Y shares. Each Fund offers only certain share classes; therefore, many share classes are not available for certain Funds.

Insurance companies, including Nationwide, that provide additional services entitling them to receive 12b-1 fees may sell Class II, Class VI and Class VIII shares. Class III, Class VI and Class VIII shares may be subject to a short-term trading fee as described below. Class Y shares are sold primarily to other mutual funds, such as “funds-of-funds” that invest in the Funds, including the NVIT Investor Destinations Funds and the NVIT Cardinal Funds. Class IV shares are sold to separate accounts of:

- Nationwide Life Insurance Company of America (formerly Provident Mutual Life Insurance Company) (“NLICA”)
- Nationwide Life and Annuity Company of American (formerly Provident Mutual Life and Annuity Company of America) (“NLACA”)

to fund benefits payable under the NLICA and NLACA variable insurance contracts. Class IV shares will only be offered through separate accounts previously offering shares of the Market Street Fund portfolios (prior to April 28, 2003). Class V shares are currently sold to certain separate accounts of Nationwide to fund benefits payable under corporate owned life insurance (“COLI”) contracts.

Shares of the Funds are not sold to individual investors.

The separate accounts purchase shares of a Fund in accordance with variable account allocation instructions received from owners of the variable insurance contracts. A Fund then uses the proceeds to buy securities for its portfolio.

Because variable insurance contracts may have different provisions with respect to the timing and method of purchases and exchanges, variable insurance contract owners should contact their insurance company directly for details concerning these transactions.

Please check with Nationwide to determine if a Fund is available under your variable insurance contract. This prospectus should be read in conjunction with the prospectus of the separate account of your specific variable insurance contract.

The Funds currently do not foresee any disadvantages to the owners of variable insurance contracts arising out of

the fact that the Funds may offer their shares to the separate accounts of various other insurance companies to fund benefits of their variable insurance contracts. Nevertheless, the Board of Trustees of the Trust will monitor events in order to identify any material irreconcilable conflicts which may arise (such as those arising from tax or other differences), and to determine what action, if any, should be taken in response to such conflicts. If such a conflict were to occur, one or more insurance companies’ separate accounts might be required to withdraw their investments in one or more of the Funds and shares of another fund may be substituted. This might force a Fund to sell its securities at disadvantageous prices.

The distributor for the Funds is Nationwide Fund Distributors LLC (“NFD” or the “Distributor”).

PURCHASE PRICE

The purchase price of each share of a Fund is its net asset value (“NAV”) next determined after the order is received in good order by the Fund or its agent. No sales charge is imposed on the purchase of a Fund’s shares; however, your variable insurance contract may impose a sales charge. Generally, net assets are based on the market value of the securities and other assets owned by a Fund, less its liabilities. The NAV for a class is determined by dividing the total market value of the securities and other assets of a Fund allocable to such class, less the liabilities allocable to that class, by the total number of that class’ outstanding shares.

In calculating the NAV for the NVIT Money Market Fund and the NVIT Money Market Fund II, the Fund’s securities are valued at amortized cost, which approximates market value, in an effort to maintain a stable NAV of \$1 per share in accordance with Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940.

NAV is determined at the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (usually 4 p.m. Eastern Time) (“Exchange”) on each day the Exchange is open for trading. Each Fund may reject any order to buy shares and may suspend the sale of shares at any time.

The Funds do not calculate NAV on the following days:

- New Year’s Day
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Presidents’ Day
- Good Friday
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day
- Other days when the Exchange is closed.

SECTION 2 | Investing with Nationwide Funds (*cont.*)

To the extent that a Fund's investments are traded in markets that are open when the Exchange is closed, the value of the Fund's investments may change on days when shares cannot be purchased or redeemed.

FAIR VALUATION

The Board of Trustees of the Trust has adopted Valuation Procedures governing the method by which individual portfolio securities held by the Funds are valued in order to determine each Fund's NAV. The Valuation Procedures provide that a Fund's assets are valued primarily on the basis of market quotations or the last quoted bid price. Where such market quotations are unavailable, or such market quotations and bid prices are deemed by the Adviser to be unreliable, a Fair Valuation Committee, consisting of employees of the Adviser, meets to determine a manual "fair valuation" in accordance with the Valuation Procedures. In addition, the Fair Valuation Committee will "fair value" securities whose value is affected by a "significant event." Pursuant to the Valuation Procedures, any "fair valuation" decisions are subject to the review of the Board of Trustees.

A "significant event" is defined by the Valuation Procedures as an event that materially affects the value of a domestic or foreign security that occurs after the close of the principal market on which such security trades but before the calculation of the Fund's NAV. Significant events that could affect individual portfolio securities may include corporate actions such as reorganizations, mergers and buy-outs, corporate announcements on earnings, significant litigation, regulatory news such as government approvals and news relating to natural disasters affecting an issuer's operations. Significant events that could affect a large number of securities in a particular market may include significant market fluctuations, market disruptions or market closings, governmental actions or other developments or natural disasters or armed conflicts that affect a country or region.

Due to the time differences between the closings of the relevant foreign securities exchanges and the time that a Fund's NAV is calculated, a Fund may fair value its foreign investments more frequently than it does other securities. When fair value prices are utilized, these prices will attempt to reflect the impact of the financial markets' perceptions and trading activities on a Fund's foreign investments since the last closing prices of the foreign investments were calculated on their primary foreign securities markets or exchanges. For these purposes, the Board of Trustees of the Trust has determined that movements in relevant indices or other appropriate market indicators, after the close of the foreign securities exchanges, may demonstrate that market quotations are unreliable, and may trigger fair value pricing for certain securities. Consequently, fair value pricing of foreign securities may occur on a daily basis, for instance, using

data furnished by an independent pricing service that draws upon, among other information, the market values of foreign investments. Therefore, the fair values assigned to a Fund's foreign investments may not be the quoted or published prices of the investments on their primary markets or exchanges.

By fair valuing a security whose price may have been affected by significant events or by news after the last market pricing of the security, the Funds attempt to establish a price that they might reasonably expect to receive upon the current sale of that security. These procedures are intended to help ensure that the prices at which Fund shares are purchased and redeemed are fair, and do not result in dilution of shareholder interests or other harm to shareholders. In the event a Fund values its securities using the procedures described above, the Fund's NAV may be higher or lower than would have been the case if the Fund had not used its Valuation Procedures.

IN-KIND PURCHASES

Each Fund may accept payment for shares in the form of securities that are permissible investments for such Fund.

SELLING SHARES

Shares may be sold (redeemed) at any time, subject to certain restrictions described below. The redemption price is the NAV per share next determined after the order is received in good order by the Fund or its agent. Of course, the value of the shares redeemed may be more or less than their original purchase price depending upon the market value of a Fund's investments at the time of the redemption.

Because variable insurance contracts may have different provisions with respect to the timing and method of redemptions, variable insurance contract owners should contact their insurance company directly for details concerning these transactions.

RESTRICTIONS ON SALES

Shares of a Fund may not be redeemed or a Fund may delay paying the proceeds from a redemption when the Exchange is closed (other than customary weekend and holiday closings) or if trading is restricted or an emergency exists (as determined by the SEC).

If the insurance company issuing the variable insurance contract is willing to provide notice to investors, a Fund may delay forwarding the proceeds of your redemption for up to 7 days. Such request may be delayed if the investor redeeming shares (other than shares of the NVIT Money Market Fund II) is engaged in excessive trading, or if the amount of the redemption request otherwise would

SECTION 2 | Investing with Nationwide Funds (cont.)

be disruptive to efficient portfolio management or would adversely affect the Fund.

EXCESSIVE OR SHORT-TERM TRADING

Each Fund (except the NVIT Money Market Fund II) seeks to discourage excessive or short-term trading (often described as “market timing”). Excessive trading (either frequent exchanges between Funds or redemptions and repurchases of Funds within a short time period) may:

- disrupt portfolio management strategies;
- increase brokerage and other transaction costs and
- negatively impact Fund performance for all variable insurance contract owners indirectly investing in a Fund.

A Fund may be more or less affected by short-term trading in Fund shares, depending on various factors such as the size of the Fund, the amount of assets the Fund typically maintains in cash or cash equivalents, the dollar amount, number and frequency of trades in Fund shares and other factors. Funds that invest in foreign securities may be at greater risk for excessive trading. Investors may attempt to take advantage of anticipated price movements in securities held by the Funds based on events occurring after the close of a foreign market that may not be reflected in the Fund’s NAV (referred to as “arbitrage market timing”). Arbitrage market timing may also be attempted in funds that hold significant investments in small-cap securities, high-yield (junk) bonds and other types of investments that may not be frequently traded. There is the possibility that arbitrage market timing, under certain circumstances, may dilute the value of Fund shares if redeeming shareholders receive proceeds (and buying shareholders receive shares) based on NAVs that do not reflect appropriate fair value prices. The Board of Trustees of the Trust has adopted and implemented policies and procedures to detect, discourage and prevent excessive short-term trading in all classes of the Funds (except the NVIT Money Market Fund II) and does not accommodate such excessive short-term trading. These procedures are described below. In addition, Class III, Class VI and Class VIII shares of the Funds, with their associated short-term trading fees, were established specifically for use with newer variable insurance contracts where state law may prohibit the application of new fees to already existing contracts.

MONITORING OF TRADING ACTIVITY

It is difficult for the Funds to monitor short-term trading because the insurance companies that issue variable insurance contracts that invest in the Funds typically aggregate the trades of all of their respective contract holders into a single purchase, redemption or exchange transaction. Additionally, most insurance companies combine all of their contract holders’ investments into a single omnibus account in each Fund. Therefore, the

Funds typically cannot identify, and thus cannot successfully prevent, short-term trading by an individual contract holder within that aggregated trade or omnibus account but must rely instead on the insurance company to monitor its individual contract holder trades to identify individual short-term traders.

Subject to the above-described limitations, each Fund (except the NVIT Money Market Fund II) does, however, monitor significant cash flows into and out of the Fund and, when unusual cash flows are identified, will request that the applicable insurance company investigate the activity, inform the Fund whether or not short-term trading by an individual contract holder is occurring and take steps to prevent future short-term trades by such contract holder.

With respect to the Nationwide variable insurance contracts which offer the Funds, Nationwide monitors redemption and repurchase activity, and as a general matter, Nationwide currently limits the number and frequency of trades as set forth in the Nationwide separate account prospectus. Other insurance companies may employ different policies or provide different levels of cooperation in monitoring trading activity and complying with Fund requests.

RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSACTIONS

As described above, each insurance company has its own policies and restrictions on short-term trading. Additionally, the terms and restrictions on short-term trading may vary from one variable insurance contract to another even among those contracts issued by the same insurance company. Therefore, contract holders should consult their own variable insurance contract for the specific short-term trading periods and restrictions.

Whenever a Fund is able to identify short-term trades and or traders, such Fund (except the NVIT Money Market Fund II) has broad authority to take discretionary action against market timers and against particular trades and uniformly will apply the short-term trading restrictions to all such trades which that Fund identifies. As described above, however, the Fund typically requires the assistance of the insurance company to identify such short-term trades and traders. In the event the Fund cannot identify and prevent such trades, these may result in increased costs to all Fund shareholders as described below. When identified, a Fund (except the NVIT Money Market Fund II) has sole discretion to:

- restrict purchases or exchanges that it or its agents believe constitute excessive trading and
- reject transactions that violate a Fund’s excessive trading policies or its exchange limits.

SECTION 2 | Investing with Nationwide Funds (cont.)

SHORT-TERM TRADING FEES

Because of the potential costs to a Fund from short-term trading, those Funds that offer Class III, Class VI and Class VIII shares have adopted short-term trading fees in an effort to minimize, as fully as possible, the impact short-term trading in those share classes may have on the costs that affect all classes of shares and shareholders in the Funds. Accordingly, the Funds will assess a short-term trading fee uniformly on certain transactions in Class III, Class VI and Class VIII shares that a separate account makes on behalf of a variable insurance contract owner unless an exception applies as enumerated below. A separate account that redeems Class III, Class VI or Class VIII shares on behalf of a variable insurance contract owner will be subject to a short-term trading fee equal to 1.00% of the redemption amount if the separate account held the Class III, Class VI or Class VIII shares for 60 days or less. For this purpose, if Class III, Class VI or Class VIII shares were purchased on separate days, the shares that were held for the longest time on behalf of the variable insurance contract owner will be treated as having been redeemed first and the Class III, Class VI or Class VIII shares that were held for the shortest time on behalf of the variable insurance contract owner as having been redeemed last.

The short-term trading fees are deducted from the proceeds of the redemption of the affected Fund shares. Short-term trading fees are paid directly to a Fund, and are intended to offset the cost to that Fund and its other contract owners of the excess brokerage commissions and other costs associated with fluctuations in Fund asset levels and cash flow caused by short-term trading in shares subject to the fees. There is no guarantee that these fees will completely offset the costs associated with short-term trading. In addition, to the extent that short-term trading in a Fund occurs in a variable insurance contract that offers one of the classes of shares without a redemption fee, all contract owners in the Fund may be negatively affected by such short-term trading and its related costs. This short-term trading fee will not apply to redemptions made by a separate account on behalf of a variable insurance contract owner that are not defined by a Fund as "short-term trading." These exceptions include, but are not limited to, the redemptions made by the separate account for the following variable insurance contract owner transactions:

- scheduled and systematic redemptions, including asset rebalancing and dollar-cost averaging;
- variable insurance contract withdrawals or loans, including required minimum distributions and
- redemptions due to the movement of funds at annuitization of a variable insurance contract or resulting from the death of a variable insurance contract owner.

DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICES PLANS

Because these fees are paid out of a Fund's assets on an ongoing basis, these fees will increase the cost of your investment over time and may cost you more than paying other types of charges.

Distribution Plan

In addition to expenses that may be imposed by variable insurance contracts, the Trust has adopted a Distribution Plan under Rule 12b-1 of the Investment Company Act, which permits the Funds to compensate the Distributor for expenses associated with distributing and selling Class II, Class VI and Class VIII shares of a Fund and providing shareholder services. Under the Distribution Plan, a Fund pays the Distributor from its Class II, Class VI or Class VIII shares a fee that is accrued daily and paid monthly. The amount of this fee shall not exceed an annual amount of 0.25% of the average daily net assets of a Fund's Class II or Class VI shares and 0.40% of the average daily net assets of a Fund's Class VIII shares. The Distribution Plan may be terminated at any time as to any share class of a Fund, without payment of any penalty, by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of that share class.

Administrative Services Plan

In addition to 12b-1 fees, shares of the Funds are also subject to fees pursuant to an Administrative Services Plan adopted by the Trust's Board of Trustees. These fees are paid by a Fund to insurance companies or their affiliates who provide administrative support services to variable insurance contract holders on behalf of the Funds. Under the Administrative Services Plan, a Fund may pay an insurance company or its affiliate a maximum annual fee of 0.25% with respect to Class I, Class II, Class III, Class VI and Class VIII shares, 0.20% with respect to Class IV shares, and 0.10% with respect to Class V shares; however, many insurance companies do not charge the maximum permitted fee or even a portion thereof. Class Y shares do not pay an administrative services fee.

REVENUE SHARING

NFA and/or its affiliates (collectively "Nationwide Funds Group" or "NFG") often makes payments for marketing, promotional or related services provided by:

- insurance companies that offer subaccounts in the Funds as underlying investment options in variable annuity contracts or
- broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries that sell variable insurance contracts that include such investment options.

These payments are often referred to as "revenue sharing payments." The existence or level of such payments may

SECTION 2 | Investing with Nationwide Funds (cont.)

be based on factors that include, without limitation, differing levels or types of services provided by the insurance company, broker-dealer or other financial intermediary, the expected level of assets or sales of shares, the placing of some or all of the Funds on a recommended or preferred list, access to an intermediary's personnel and other factors. Revenue sharing payments are paid from NFG's own legitimate profits and other of its own resources (not from the Funds) and may be in addition to any Rule 12b-1 payments that are paid. The Board of Trustees of the Trust will monitor these revenue sharing arrangements as well as the payment of advisory fees paid by the Funds to ensure that the level of such advisory fees do not involve the indirect use of the Funds' assets to pay for marketing, promotional or related services. Because revenue sharing payments are paid by NFG, and not from the Funds' assets, the amount of any revenue sharing payments is determined by NFG.

In addition to the revenue sharing payments described above, NFG may offer other incentives to sell variable insurance contract subaccounts in the form of sponsorship of educational or other client seminars relating to current products and issues, assistance in training or educating an intermediary's personnel, and/or entertainment or meals. These payments may also include, at the direction of a retirement plan's named fiduciary, amounts to a retirement plan intermediary to offset certain plan expenses or otherwise for the benefit of plan participants and beneficiaries.

The recipients of such incentives may include:

- the Distributor and other affiliates of NFA;
- broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries that sell such variable insurance contracts and
- insurance companies, such as Nationwide, that include shares of the Funds as underlying subaccount options.

Payments may be based on current or past sales of subaccounts investing in shares of the Funds, current or

historical assets, or a flat fee for specific services provided. In some circumstances, such payments may create an incentive for an insurance company or intermediary or their employees or associated persons to:

- recommend a particular variable insurance contract or specific subaccounts representing shares of a Fund instead of recommending options offered by competing insurance companies or
- sell shares of a Fund instead of shares of funds offered by competing fund families.

Notwithstanding the revenue sharing payments described above, NFA and all subadvisers to the Trust are prohibited from considering a broker-dealer's sale of any of the Trust's shares, or the inclusion of the Trust's shares in an insurance contract provided by an insurance affiliate of the broker-dealer, in selecting such broker-dealer for the execution of Fund portfolio transactions, except as may be specifically permitted by law.

Fund portfolio transactions nevertheless may be affected with broker-dealers who coincidentally may have assisted customers in the purchase of variable insurance contracts that feature subaccounts in the Funds' shares issued by Nationwide Life Insurance Company or Nationwide Life & Annuity Insurance Company, affiliates of NFA, although neither such assistance nor the volume of shares sold of the Trust or any affiliated investment company is a qualifying or disqualifying factor in NFA's or a subadviser's selection of such broker-dealer for portfolio transaction execution.

The insurance company that provides your variable insurance contract may also make similar revenue sharing payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries in order to promote the sale of such insurance contracts. Contact your insurance provider and/or financial intermediary for details about revenue sharing payments it may pay or receive.

SECTION 3 | Distributions and Taxes

DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

Each Fund has qualified, or intends to qualify, to be treated as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code. As a regulated investment company, a Fund generally pays no federal income tax on the income and gains it distributes. Substantially all of a Fund's net investment income, if any, will be paid as a dividend each quarter in the form of additional shares of the Fund. Any net realized capital gains of a Fund will be declared and paid to shareholders at least annually. A Fund may distribute such income dividends and capital gains more frequently, if necessary, in order to reduce or eliminate federal excise or income taxes on the Fund. The Funds automatically reinvest any capital gains. The amount of any distribution will vary, and there is no guarantee a Fund will pay either an income dividend or a capital gains distribution.

TAX STATUS

The tax treatment of payments made under a variable insurance contract is described in the prospectus for the contract. Generally, the owners of variable insurance contracts are not taxed currently on income or gains realized under such contracts until the income or gain is distributed. However, income distributions from such contracts will be taxable at ordinary income tax rates. In addition, distributions made to an owner who is younger than 59 1/2 may be subject to a 10% penalty tax. Investors should ask their own tax advisers for more information on their own tax situation, including possible state or local taxes. For more information on taxes, please refer to the accompanying prospectus of the annuity or life insurance program through which a Fund's shares are offered.

Please refer to the SAI for more information regarding the tax treatment of the Funds.

This discussion of "Distributions and Taxes" is not intended or written to be used as tax advice. Contract owners should consult their own tax professional about their tax situation.

Section 4 | Multi-Manager Structure

NFA and the Trust have received an exemptive order from the SEC for a multi-manager structure that allows NFA to hire, replace or terminate a subadviser (excluding hiring a subadviser which is an affiliate of NFA) without the approval of shareholders. The order also allows NFA to revise a subadvisory agreement with an unaffiliated subadviser with the approval of the Board of Trustees but without shareholder approval. If a new unaffiliated subadviser is hired for a Fund, shareholders will receive information about the new subadviser within 90 days of the change. The exemptive order allows the Funds greater flexibility enabling them to operate more efficiently.

NFA performs the following oversight and evaluation services to a subadvised Fund:

- initial due diligence on prospective Fund subadvisers;
- monitoring subadviser performance, including ongoing analysis and periodic consultations;
- communicating performance expectations and evaluations to the subadvisers and
- making recommendations to the Board of Trustees regarding renewal, modification or termination of a subadviser's contract.

NFA does not expect to frequently recommend subadviser changes. Where NFA does recommend subadviser changes, NFA periodically provides written reports to the Board of Trustees regarding its evaluation and monitoring of the subadviser. Although NFA monitors the subadviser's performance, there is no certainty that any subadviser or Fund will obtain favorable results at any given time.

Section 5 | Gartmore NVIT Developing Markets Fund Financial Highlights

The financial highlights tables are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the past five years ended December 31 or, if the Fund or a class has not been in operation for five years, for the life of that Fund or class. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned (or lost) on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). THE TOTAL RETURNS DO NOT INCLUDE CHARGES THAT ARE IMPOSED BY VARIABLE INSURANCE CONTRACTS. IF THESE CHARGES WERE REFLECTED, RETURNS WOULD BE LOWER THAN THOSE SHOWN. Information has been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Trust's annual reports, which are available upon request.

Selected Data for a Share of Capital Stock Outstanding Throughout the Years Indicated	Operations				Distributions			Ratios/Supplemental Data						
	Net Asset Value, Beginning of Year	Net Investment Income	Net Realized and Unrealized Gains (Losses) from Investments	Total from Operations	Net Investment Income	Net Realized Gains	Total Distributions	Net Asset Value, End of Year	Total Return	Net Assets at End of Year	Ratio of Expenses to Average Net Assets	Ratio of Investment Income to Average Net Assets	Ratio of Expenses (Prior to Reimbursements) to Average Net Assets (a)	Portfolio Turnover
Class II Shares														
Year Ended December 31, 2008	\$19.34	0.11	(8.85)	(8.74)	(0.10)	(6.75)	(6.85)	\$3.75	(57.86%)	\$109,116,091	1.62%	0.89%	1.85%	67.43%
Year Ended December 31, 2007	\$15.68	0.09	6.17	6.26	(0.08)	(2.52)	(2.60)	\$19.34	43.51%	\$543,834,621	1.56%	0.50%	1.56%	98.49%
Year Ended December 31, 2006	\$13.04	0.08	3.96	4.04	(0.08)	(1.32)	(1.40)	\$15.68	34.57%	\$364,233,390	1.65%	0.57%	1.65%(b)	133.28%
Year Ended December 31, 2005	\$11.83	0.07	3.17	3.24	(0.07)	(1.96)	(2.03)	\$13.04	31.52%	\$313,051,603	1.77%	0.49%	1.77%(b)	157.77%
Year Ended December 31, 2004	\$10.39	0.07	1.90	1.97	(0.06)	(0.47)	(0.53)	\$11.83	19.78%	\$194,898,336	1.78%	0.69%	1.78%(b)	167.98%

(a) During the year, certain fees were waived and/or reimbursed. If such waivers/reimbursements had not occurred, the ratios would have been as indicated.
(b) There were no fee reductions during the year.

Appendix

KEY TERMS

In an effort to help you better understand the many concepts involved in making an investment decision, we have defined the following terms:

Derivative – a contract or investment with its value based on the performance of an underlying financial asset, index or economic measure.

Developing market countries – developing and low or middle income countries. Developing market countries may be found in regions such as Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

Equity securities – securities, including common stock, preferred stock, securities convertible into common stock or securities (or other investments) with prices linked to the value of common stocks, foreign investment funds or trusts and depositary receipts that represent an ownership interest in the issuer.

Mid-cap companies – companies that have market capitalizations similar to those of companies included in the Russell Midcap Index, ranging from \$43.3 million to \$15.4 billion as of March 31, 2009.

Small-cap companies – companies that have market capitalizations similar to those of companies included in the Russell 2000® Index, ranging from \$1.7 million to \$4.3 billion as of March 31, 2009.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT INVESTMENTS, INVESTMENT TECHNIQUES AND RISKS

The following information provides additional details about the principal investment strategies and risks identified for the Fund in “Section 1: Summary and Performance.”

CURRENCY RISK – securities in which a Fund invests may be denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates affect the value of the Fund’s portfolio. Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency loses value because the currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar decreases in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency gains value because the currency is worth more U.S. dollars.

DEPOSITARY RECEIPTS – the Fund may invest in securities of foreign issuers in the form of depositary receipts, such as American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”), European Depositary Receipts (“EDRs”) and Global Depositary Receipts (“GDRs”), which typically are issued by local financial institutions and evidence ownership of the underlying securities.

Depositary receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted. Depositary receipts may or may not be jointly sponsored by the underlying issuer. The issuers of unsponsored depositary receipts are not obligated to disclose information that is, in the United States, considered material. Therefore, there may be less information available regarding these issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the depositary receipts. Certain depositary receipts are not listed on an exchange and therefore may be considered to be illiquid securities.

DERIVATIVES – a derivative is a contract with its value based on the performance of an underlying financial asset, index or other measure. For example, an option is a derivative because its value changes in relation to the performance of an underlying stock. The value of an option on a futures contract varies with the value of the underlying futures contract, which in turn varies with the value of the underlying commodity or security. Derivatives present the risk of disproportionately increased losses and/or reduced opportunities for gains when the financial asset to which the derivative is linked changes in unexpected ways. Some risks of investing in derivatives include:

- the other party to the derivatives contract may fail to fulfill its obligations;
- their use may reduce liquidity and make the Fund harder to value, especially in declining markets;
- the Fund may suffer disproportionately heavy losses relative to the amount invested and
- when used for hedging purposes, changes in the value of derivatives may not match or fully offset changes in the value of the hedged portfolio securities, thereby failing to achieve the original purpose for using the derivatives.

EMERGING MARKETS RISK – the risks of foreign investments are usually much greater for emerging markets. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets are riskier because they develop unevenly and may never fully develop. They are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, the securities markets in many of these countries have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets. Since these markets are so small, they may be more likely to suffer sharp and frequent price changes or long term price depression because of adverse publicity, investor perceptions or the actions of a few large investors. Many emerging markets also have histories of political instability and abrupt changes in policies. Certain emerging markets may also face other significant internal or external risks,

Appendix (cont.)

including the risk of war, and ethnic, religious and racial conflicts.

FOREIGN CUSTODY RISK – a Fund that invests in foreign securities may hold such securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories. Some foreign banks and securities depositories may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business. In addition, there may be limited or no regulatory oversight over their operations. Also, the laws of certain countries may put limits on the Fund's ability to recover its assets if a foreign bank, depository or issuer of a security, or any of their agents, goes bankrupt. In addition, it is often more expensive for the Fund to buy, sell and hold securities in certain foreign markets than in the United States. The increased expense of investing in foreign markets reduces the amount the Fund can earn on its investments and typically results in a higher operating expense ratio for the Fund.

FOREIGN SECURITIES RISK – the Fund may invest in foreign securities, which may be more volatile, harder to price and less liquid than U.S. securities. Foreign investments involve some of the following risks as well:

- political and economic instability;
- the impact of currency exchange rate fluctuations;
- reduced information about issuers;
- higher transaction costs;
- less stringent regulatory and accounting standards and
- delayed settlement.

Additional risks include the possibility that a foreign jurisdiction might impose or increase withholding taxes on income payable with respect to foreign securities; the possible seizure, nationalization or expropriation of the issuer or foreign deposits (in which the Fund could lose its entire investment in a certain market) and the possible adoption of foreign governmental restrictions such as exchange controls. To the extent the Fund invests in countries with emerging markets, the foreign securities risks are magnified since these countries often have unstable governments, more volatile currencies and less established markets.

LIQUIDITY RISK – the risk that the Fund may invest to a greater degree in instruments that trade in lower volumes and may make investments that may be less liquid than other investments. Also, the risk that the Fund may make investments that may become less liquid in response to market developments or adverse investor perceptions. When there is no willing buyer and investments cannot be readily sold at the desired time or price, the Fund may have to accept a lower price or may not be able to sell the instruments at all. An inability to sell a portfolio position can adversely affect the Fund's value or prevent the Fund from being able to take advantage of other investment opportunities. Liquidity risk may also refer to

the risk that the Fund will not be able to pay redemption proceeds within the allowable time period because of unusual market conditions, an unusually high volume of redemption requests, or other reasons. To meet redemption requests, the Fund may be forced to sell securities at an unfavorable time and conditions. Funds that invest in non-investment grade fixed income securities, small and mid-capitalization stocks, REITs and emerging country issuers will be especially subject to the risk that during certain periods, the liquidity of particular issuers or industries, or all securities within particular investment categories, will shrink or disappear suddenly and without warning as a result of adverse economic, market or political events, or adverse investor perceptions, whether or not accurate.

SMALL-CAP AND MID-CAP RISK – the Fund may invest in stocks of small-cap and mid-cap companies that trade in lower volumes, may be less liquid and are subject to greater or more unpredictable price changes than securities of large-cap companies or the market overall. Small-cap and mid-cap companies may have limited product lines or markets, be less financially secure than larger companies, or depend on a smaller number of key personnel. If adverse developments occur, such as due to management changes or product failure, the Fund's investment in securities of a small-cap or mid-cap company may lose substantial value. Investing in small-cap and mid-cap companies requires a longer term investment view and may not be appropriate for all investors.

STOCK MARKET RISK – the Fund could lose value if the individual equity securities in which it has invested and/or the overall stock markets on which the stocks trade decline in price. Stocks and stock markets may experience short-term volatility (price fluctuation) as well as extended periods of price decline or little growth. Individual stocks are affected by many factors, including:

- corporate earnings;
- production;
- management;
- sales and
- market trends, including investor demand for a particular type of stock, such as growth or value stocks, small- or large-cap stocks, or stocks within a particular industry.

Stock markets are affected by numerous factors, including interest rates, the outlook for corporate profits, the health of the national and world economies, national and world social and political events, and the fluctuation of other stock markets around the world.

The Fund may invest in or use still other types of non-principal investments or strategies not described in this prospectus. The SAI, which can be requested by calling

Appendix *(cont.)*

the telephone number on the back of this prospectus, contains information about such investments or strategies.

SELECTIVE DISCLOSURE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS

The Fund posts onto the Trust's internet site (www.nationwide.com/mutualfunds) substantially all of its securities holdings as of the end of each month. Such portfolio holdings are available no earlier than 15 calendar days after the end of the previous month, and remain available on the internet site until the Fund files its next quarterly portfolio holdings report on Form N-CSR or Form N-Q with the SEC. A description of the Fund's policies and procedures regarding the release of portfolio holdings information is available in the Fund's SAI.

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Information from Nationwide Funds

Please read this prospectus before you invest, and keep it with your records. This prospectus is intended for use in connection with variable insurance contracts. The following documents – which may be obtained free of charge – contain additional information about the Funds:

- Statement of Additional Information (incorporated by reference into this prospectus)
- Annual Reports (which contain discussions of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected each Fund's performance during its last fiscal year)
- Semiannual Reports

To obtain a document free of charge, call 800-848-6331 or contact your variable insurance provider. Because the Funds are intended for use only in connection with the sale of variable insurance contracts, Nationwide Funds does not make the Prospectuses and Statements of Additional Information available on its website.

Information from the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC")

You can obtain copies of Fund documents from the SEC

- on the SEC's EDGAR database via the Internet at www.sec.gov
- by electronic request to publicinfo@sec.gov
- in person at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. (call 202-551-8090 for their hours of operation)
- by mail by sending your request to Securities and Exchange Commission Public Reference Section, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102 (the SEC charges a fee to copy any documents.)

Nationwide Funds Group

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The Trust's Investment Company Act File No.: 811-3213

The Nationwide framemark is a federally registered service mark of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. *On Your Side* is a service mark of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company.