



## 2016 major losses: 1 January – 1 September

Date	Event	Location	Loss (\$mn)	Notes
01-Sep	Spacecom Amos-6 loss	US	300	The explosion of a SpaceX Falcon 9 launcher during a static test firing on the launch pad at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral is a total loss for Spacecom, the owner of the rocket's payload, the \$300mn Amos-6 communications satellite. The launch was due to take place on 3 September. The Amos-6 satellite is said to be insured for around \$300mn on the SpaceX launch policy. However, SpaceX is not typically covered for static test firings via the launch policy, which suggests the loss may fall to the pre-launch/cargo market. SpaceX also tends not to test fire with the payload in place, so it is possible that a launch endorsement could have been added in this instance
08-Aug	Transocean Winner grounding	UK	110	The drilling rig owned by Switzerland-headquartered oil and gas contractor Transocean that ran aground off the coast of Scotland could prove to be a total loss of \$110mn. The <i>Transocean Winner</i> semi-submersible rig, which has since been re-floated, was being towed from Norway to Malta when it slipped its line in rough seas and drifted ashore onto the western coast of the Isle of Lewis. Sources told <i>Inside FAC</i> that the rig is insured for property damage on a QBE-led policy, placed by Aon. There are also reports that the <i>Transocean Winner</i> , having completed its contract with Marathon in Norway, was on its way to Malta to be stripped down in preparation for scrapping in Turkey
28-Jul	Colorado hailstorm	US	352.8	The hailstorm that struck Colorado Springs could land insurers with a claim of \$352.8mn, according the Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association (RMIIA). The RMIIA said an estimated 32,300 property claims could amount to an \$188.2mn loss to insurers, while 51,300 auto claims were likely to cost \$164.6mn. This would make the event the sixth most costly to ever hit the state in real terms
6-29 Jun	Thunderstorms	US	350	Extreme weather that hit the US in June is expected to lead to insured losses of more than \$350mn, according to Aon Benfield cat modelling unit Impact Forecasting, as thunderstorms caused damage from the Rockies to the mid-Atlantic
05-Jun	East Coast rainstorms	Australia	173	Insured losses related to the storms, which caused damage in four states, more than tripled by the middle of June to A\$235m (\$173mn), according to the Insurance Council of Australia (ICA). The ICA said 32,000 claims have now been received by insurers across Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania
26 May - 6 Jun	Storms Elvira and Friederike	Northern Europe	2,620	Insured losses from storms Elvira and Friederike, which hit Germany and France between late May and early June, are likely to reach up to \$2.9bn, according to AM Best. The rating agency cited state-backed reinsurer Caisse Centrale de Réassurance and the French Insurance Association estimates in the range of EUR0.9bn-EUR1.4bn (\$1bn-\$1.56bn). And according to the German Insurance Association (GDV), the country's total insured losses from both storms are likely to reach EUR1.2bn
19 May	EgyptAir MS804 crash	Mediterranean	18	The aviation war market is facing the prospect of another significant claim following the tragic loss of EgyptAir flight MS804, en route from Paris to Cairo. It is understood that Talbot Underwriting leads the hull war policy for EgyptAir, which could result in a claim in the region of \$18mn for the Airbus A320, if reports of a terrorist attack are confirmed.
16-17 May	Thunderstorms	US	125	Impact Forecasting said a series of powerful thunderstorms impacted parts of Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma, spawning several tornadoes and producing large hail. There were no reports of any fatalities or serious casualties, with damage to homes, businesses and vehicles caused by hail or fallen trees. Flooding was also reported in some southern parts of Texas
10-12 May	Hailstorms, tornadoes	US	325	Severe weather across parts of the Plains and Midwest regions of the US brought golf ball-sized hail, damaging winds and isolated tornado touchdowns in the hardest-hit states of Missouri, Illinois, Nebraska and Texas, according to Impact Forecasting. Insurers have reported losses approaching \$325mn
7-10 May	Storm damage	US	400	According to Impact Forecasting, a severe weather outbreak that swept across the Plains, portions of the Midwest, and the Mississippi Valley, killing two people and injuring dozens of others, is expected to cause insured losses of \$400mn
May-Jun	Alberta wildfires	Canada	5,000	Insured losses from the wildfires around Fort McMurray, also dubbed the Horse Creek Wildfires, were estimated to be in excess of C\$4bn (\$3.1bn) by Impact Forecasting. The Aon Benfield estimate followed those from Property Claim Services (PCS), which put the cost to (re)insurers at C\$4.6bn (\$3.5bn); AIR Worldwide, which forecast losses of C\$4.4bn-C\$9bn (\$3.4bn-\$6.9bn); and Morgan Stanley equities analyst Kai Pan, who predicted losses of \$3bn-\$7bn
20-Apr	Mexichem plant explosion	Mexico	TBC	A massive explosion at the Petroquímica Mexicana de Vinilo facility in the southern state of Veracruz killed at least 24 people and injured 136 more, 13 of them seriously. The facility is a joint venture between Mexican petrochemicals consortium Mexichem and state-owned energy firm Pemex, but the plant in question is operated by Mexichem
16-Apr	Central Pacific Coast quake	Ecuador	850	Insured losses from the magnitude 7.8 earthquake in Ecuador could be as much as \$850mn, according to catastrophe modeller AIR Worldwide. The firm suggested that industry insured losses will be in the \$325mn-\$850mn range
16-Apr	Kumamoto earthquakes	Japan	3,200	Claims from the earthquake that struck Japan's Kumamoto prefecture edged up 3.6 percent in late June to hit 329bn yen (\$3.2bn), according to the General Insurance Association of Japan. The losses now exceed the top estimate of modelling agency AIR Worldwide, which put claims at \$1.7bn-\$2.9bn
12, 25, 29 Apr	Texas hailstorms	US	2,000	The Insurance Council of Texas (ICT) has estimated that the three hailstorms that struck the south-central city of San Antonio in April are likely to cost insurers over \$2bn
08-Apr	Kwame Nkrumah FPSO damage	Ghana	645	Insured losses from damage to the Tullow-operated FPSO on the Jubilee field off the coast of Ghana could exceed \$735mn at the top end of estimates. A BI claim of between \$258mn and \$386mn could emerge for the expected downtime of 8-12 weeks while work is carried out on the FPSO's mooring system at a cost of \$4.65m a day, in addition to any BI for reduced production
2-4 April	Spring storms	US	350	Indiana is expected to take the highest share of insured losses, at \$71mn, from the estimated \$350mn total loss burden stemming from a two-day spring storm outbreak across a number of east coast and Midwestern US states in April, according to PCS
19-Mar	Flydubai crash	Russia	49	Chubb Global Markets (formerly Ace Global Markets) leads the hull policy for Flydubai Flight 981, which missed the runway as it attempted to land in the southern Russian city of Rostov-on-Don and crashed, killing all 55 passengers and seven crew on board. The hull loss for the Boeing 737-800 is \$40.8mn. There was also a total loss only policy that has triggered an \$8.2mn payout
16 & 24 March	Texas hailstorms	US	1,100	Insured losses from the hailstorm that hit North Texas on 24 March are likely to reach \$500mn, taking total insured hail losses in the state to over \$1bn for the month, according to the ICT. ICT spokesperson Mark Hanna said the latest storm losses, when added to the \$600mn loss from an earlier event on 16 March, would cost insurers \$1.1bn in total
13-15 March	Storms	US	125	A Pacific storm system that hit northern California and the Pacific Northwest on 13 March before spawning strong thunderstorms in the Midwest on 15 March led to total economic losses estimated at \$175mn, according to Aon Benfield's Impact Forecasting unit. Insurance claims were estimated at more than \$125mn
13-14 March	Storms	US	125	Aon Benfield's Impact Forecasting unit said a storm system across parts of the Mississippi Valley and Midwest caused damage in multiple states, causing total economic losses of \$175mn and estimated insurance claims of more than \$125mn
05-Mar	Drilling equipment loss	Canada	225	Severe weather caused UK drilling firm Stena Drilling to drop a piece of equipment down to the sea bed off the coast of Nova Scotia. Stena has notified the market that it expects to make a claim of \$150mn-\$225mn
4-12 March	Storms and flooding	US	500	Aon Benfield's Impact Forecasting unit reported that a series of convective storms and flooding that hit California, the Plains and Mississippi Valley as well as Louisiana, Texas and other states across the southeast, Midwest and west of the US caused total economic losses of around \$1.25bn, with insured losses expected to approach \$500mn
04-Feb	Pingtung quake	Taiwan	1,000	(Re)insurers are increasingly concerned that the cost of the earthquake could breach the \$1bn mark as business interruption (BI) costs start to mount. A number of semiconductor plants are understood to have notified insurers of potential PD and BI losses
7-Jan	Yarloop bushfires	Australia	42	Bushfires in the southwest region of the state of Western Australia resulted in claims of A\$60mn (\$42mn), according to the Insurance Council of Australia (ICA). The ICA said on 11 January that the estimated insured loss is expected to rise
		<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$19.63bn</b>	

Note: Midpoints are used where range of loss figures is given

Source: *Inside FAC*