ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE CO HOLDINGS LTD Form 8-K November 17, 2008

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

#### FORM 8-K

Current Report
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): November 17, 2008

#### ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, LTD

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

**Bermuda** (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

001-32938

(Commission File Number)

98-0481737 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

#### 27 Richmond Road Pembroke HM 08, Bermuda

(Address of Principal Executive Offices and Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (441) 278-5400

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

#### Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure

Beginning on November 18, 2008, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, Ltd (the Company) and the Chief Financial Officer of Darwin Professional Underwriters, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, will present to various investors the information about the Company described in the slides attached to this report as Exhibit 99.1. The slides set forth in Exhibit 99.1 are incorporated by reference herein.

The information in Item 7.01 of this report is being furnished, not filed, pursuant to Regulation FD. Accordingly, the information in Item 7.01 of this report will not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement filed by the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, unless specifically identified therein as being incorporated therein by reference. The furnishing of the information in this report is not intended to, and does not, constitute a determination or admission by the Company that the information in this report is material or complete, or that investors should consider this information before making an investment decision with respect to any security of the Company.

#### **Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

Any forward-looking statements made in the presentation in Exhibit 99.1 reflect our current views with respect to future events and financial performance and are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements involve risks and uncertainties, which may cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in these statements. For example, our forward-looking statements could be affected by the ability to recognize the benefits of the Darwin Professional Underwriters, Inc. acquisition; pricing and policy term trends; increased competition; the impact of acts of terrorism and acts of war; greater frequency or severity of unpredictable catastrophic events; investigations of market practices and related settlement terms; negative rating agency actions; the adequacy of our loss reserves; the Company or its subsidiaries becoming subject to significant income taxes in the United States or elsewhere; changes in regulations or tax laws; changes in the availability, cost or quality of reinsurance or retrocessional coverage; adverse general economic conditions; and judicial, legislative, political and other governmental developments, as well as management s response to these factors, and other factors identified in our filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date on which they are made. We are under no obligation (and expressly disclaim any such obligation) to update or revise any forward-looking statement that may be made from time to time, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits. (d) Exhibits

Exhibit

**Number Description** 

99.1 Slides from presentation by management.

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#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

# ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, LTD

Dated: November 17, 2008 By: /s/ Wesley D. Dupont

Name: Wesley D. Dupont

Title: Senior Vice President and General

Counsel

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### **EXHIBIT INDEX**

## Exhibit Number Description

99.1 Slides from presentation by management.

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