

An Invitation from GONTHIER GROUP SA



Strategic Annuities™

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Edition For International English

Strategic Annuities™

An Investment Structure for The
21st Century



What Is A Swiss Strategic Annuity™

Having the word annuity in the name shows that a capital accumulation account with an insurance company is involved. Yet, that is essentially where the similarity with a standard deferred or immediate annuity ends.

In a standard, or as we like to refer to them, Classic Annuity™, your funds are invested with and managed by the insurance company. This is not so with a Strategic Annuity™.

A Strategic Annuity™ can best be described as a structure created by a Swiss insurer which gives you all the privacy and creditor protection features of an annuity, at the same time allowing you to determine and control what is held as an investment.

You may well ask at this point, “Just how flexible a structure is this?” And the answer would be: extremely flexible. You can hold virtually any type of financial asset from anywhere in the world, including, stocks, bonds, hedge fund shares, business interests, real estate, and much more.

As long as you are not a resident of Switzerland, you are never liable for Swiss taxes.

The Basic Structure

All Swiss Strategic Annuities™ are issued through the wholly owned Liechtenstein subsidiaries of major Swiss insurers. Liechtenstein was chosen on account of both its close ties to Switzerland and insurance law which allows separately structured annuity accounts.

A life insurance option is available. This optional life insurance feature can serve two purposes. First, there are those who desire a life insurance feature because they want the death benefit to provide for their family in the event of death. Secondly, in certain national jurisdictions, if an annuity is structured as a life insurance policy it receives favorable tax treatment.

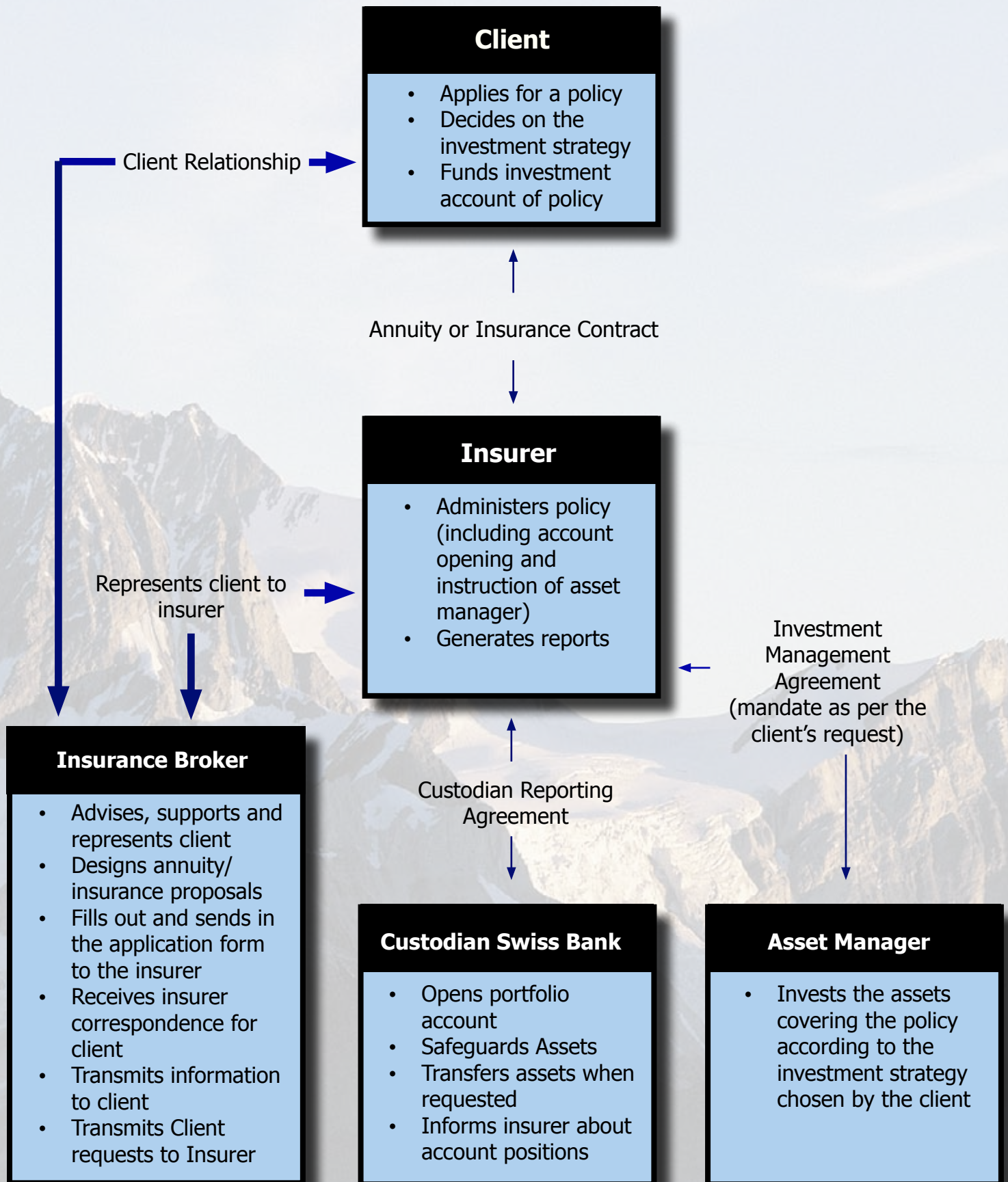


A diagram of the structure of a Strategic Annuity™ is presented in **Exhibit 1**.

The first step in setting up a Strategic Annuity™ is to determine your investment profile. In other words, you decide what types of assets you wish to hold in your annuity.

Strategic Annuity™

HOW IT WORKS



The insurer will provide the annuity structure. This gives you complete asset protection and coverage under the Swiss and Liechtenstein privacy laws. Based upon your goals and objectives, we at GONTHIER GROUP SA will assist you with specific insurer recommendations. The next step is to select your custodian Swiss bank. Naturally, should you wish we at GONTHIER GROUP SA will organize a custodian bank for you.

While the assets of the Strategic Annuity™ are titled in the name of the insurer, they are physically held by the custodian bank. The use of a custodian bank adds yet another layer of privacy, confidentiality and security to the Strategic Annuity™.

You select the investment manager for your Strategic Annuity™. The investment manager is then appointed by the insurer to manage your annuities assets.

Solving the Beneficial Ownership Dilemma

Today, banks the world over require disclosure of the beneficial owner behind all investment structures. This means that if you have a trust, foundation, corporation, limited liability company, or other structure, the banks these structures deal with must know who the beneficial owner is. Thus, for these structures, an important element of privacy and confidentiality has been lost.



With a Strategic Annuity™, the beneficial owner of the assets is the insurance company. As the policyholder of the Strategic Annuity™, you have a contractual claim upon your annuities assets. However, the insurer, not you, is the legal beneficial owner. Thus, the Strategic Annuity™ restores the privacy lost by these other structures.

While we at GONTHIER GROUP SA are not investment managers and do not make investment recommendations, should you wish, it would be our pleasure to assist you in identifying a qualified investment manager who suits your needs.

An interesting comparison of Strategic Annuities™ and Swiss bank accounts will be found in **Exhibit 2**.

Strategic Annuities™ versus Swiss Banks	
Strategic Annuity™ Advantages	Swiss Banks
The beneficial owner of the assets is the insurance company.	The account owner is the beneficial owner.
Strategic Annuity™ policies have very strong creditor protections. Absent a fraudulent conveyance, it is next to impossible for a creditor to take possession of your policy.	No creditor protection whatsoever.
Bank custodial fees for Strategic Annuity™ policies are very low.	Custodial fees for securities tend to be up to several times higher than for Strategic Annuity™ & Strategic Life Insurance™ policies.
No taxes are paid until funds are actually withdrawn.	No income tax deferral. All gains subject to annual taxation.
No Swiss taxes are ever paid as long as you are not a resident of Switzerland.	35% withholding tax applies.
Insurer provides legal defense of policy.	Legal defense provided from your own funds.

Exhibit 2

Holding Assets in a Strategic Annuity™

Strategic Annuities™ are designed to hold assets which can easily be valued by the insurer and which do not require any on- going management. These include, cash, shares, bonds and other marketable financial instruments. What insurers are not prepared to own directly are assets such as apartment buildings which require active and continuous management.

To hold assets which require on-going management, you need to utilize a personal holding structure. This is a legal structure, similar to a trust or hedge fund. This personal holding structure is then incorporated as an asset into your Strategic Annuity™. The assets in the holding structure are titled in its name and the structure titled in the name of the insurer. As you can see, a personal holding structure also will provide yet another layer of confidentiality as to the true beneficial owner of the assets. Naturally, if desired, we at GONTHIER GROUP SA, will be glad to assist you in the creation of such a holding structure.

In Summary

The internationally focused investor, as well as the investor interested in serious asset protection, will find Strategic Annuities™ an excellent investment holding structure.

An Invitation from GONTHIER GROUP SA

We invite you to join the world of GONTHIER GROUP SA clients. In this world, a portion of your assets are domiciled in Switzerland, safe from the prying eyes of bureaucrats and attorneys. In our world, you make the decisions regarding your investments. You are always in control. Your assets live in the safest investment structures possible.

We are a firm of international annuity and insurance brokers. We welcome the opportunity to work with you in the development of the investment structure which best suits your needs. We are not investment advisors; however, if you wish, we can introduce you to outstanding investment professionals. As with everything we do, you the investor make all decisions regarding your assets and how they are managed.

We also welcome you to visit us at our website and, of course, at our offices in Montreux. Our contact information is:

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As with any financial decision, we at GONTHIER GROUP SA, recommend that you seek the advice and counsel of your tax and legal advisors.



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