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Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG Form 8-K August 08, 2011

# 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): August 7, 2011

## ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Switzerland (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) **001-32938** (Commission File Number)

**98-0681223** (I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

Lindenstrasse 8 6340 Baar Zug, Switzerland

(Address of Principal Executive Offices and Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: 41-41-768-1080

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:

- b 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 8.01. Other Events.

On August 7, 2011, Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG ( Allied World ) issued a press release in response to the August 5, 2011 unsolicited acquisition proposal sent by National Indemnity Company to Transatlantic Holdings, Inc. ( Transatlantic ). Allied World, GO Sub, LLC and Transatlantic entered into a previously announced agreement and plan of merger, dated as of June 12, 2011, providing for a merger of equals of Allied World and Transatlantic. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated by reference herein.

#### Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

**Exhibit** 

**Number Description** 

99.1 Press release, dated August 7, 2011.

### **SIGNATURES**

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

## ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG

Dated: August 8, 2011 By: /s/ Wesley D. Dupont

Name: Wesley D. Dupont

Title: Executive Vice President, General Counsel and

Corporate Secretary

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# **EXHIBIT INDEX**

**Exhibit** 

**Number Description** 

99.1 Press release, dated August 7, 2011.