



PRESS RELEASE

QBE NATIONAL CONTINUES GROWTH SIX APPOINTED TO MANCHESTER OPERATION

MANCHESTER, 9 OCTOBER 2009

As part of its UK-wide growth programme, QBE is pleased to announce that it has significantly expanded its Manchester office with six appointments from the local insurance market into underwriting roles across its commercial portfolio.

The new team will join Commercial Manager Antony Broome and his 31-strong force in Manchester to provide brokers and their clients in the region with bespoke insurance solutions from QBE's multi-line casualty, motor, property, professional indemnity and trade credit offering.

Antony Broome, Commercial Manager of QBE's Manchester office, said, "With their combined industry experience and local market expertise, the new additions will be a great asset to our business going forward. Their appointment marks yet another stage in the expansion of our Manchester operation and further demonstrates QBE's continued commitment to the extension of its specialist commercial offering around the UK.

The new additions to QBE's Manchester office

Property

Peter O'Grady, Underwriter – Peter brings over three decades of property insurance knowledge to the team, from his time with companies such as Trinity, Gan, St Paul and Groupama, and also a spell within broking. Peter is also well renowned as a local business interruption specialist.

James Fletcher, Assistant Underwriter – Joining from NIG in Manchester, James has specialised in writing commercial combined business and established relationships across a large number of North West brokers. **Casualty**



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Adrian Higgins, Underwriter – Most recently at Allianz Global Corporate & Specialty, where he worked for 6 years in the London Market. During that time, Adrian held a number of Senior positions in client and broker management. Adrian brings this experience to QBE and aims to assist in maximising retention and new business success.

Lindsey Heap, Assistant Underwriter – Latterly Senior Commercial Underwriter at NIG, Lindsey has developed strong broker relationships in the region whilst working across a breadth of commercial lines with a focus on casualty.

Professional Indemnity

Keith Miller, Underwriter – Having worked most recently as a PI broker at Towergate and with eleven years of industry experience, Keith brings with him a strong understanding of the regional PI market.

Motor

Jon Barnett, Assistant Underwriter – Joining from NIG's Fleet division, where he most latterly worked on the New Business team in Manchester. Jon will handle existing business but also use his experience in developing the account further.

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For further information please contact:

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ABOUT QBE

QBE Insurance Group is Standard & Poor's 'A+' rated and is one of the world's leading international insurers and reinsurers, headquartered in Sydney, Australia. We operate out of 45 countries across the globe, with a presence in all key insurance markets, and are lead underwriters within our chosen markets, setting rates and conditions. For the year ended 31 December 2008, the company underwrote gross written premium totaling £6,025 million and held shareholders' funds of £5,364 million.



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QBE's European Operations, which accounts for almost 40% of QBE Group turnover, is a leading specialist in London market and European commercial lines business. Active in both the Lloyd's and company market, QBE offers considerable diversity to the broking community, via eight product-focused underwriting divisions - casualty, QBE Re Europe, property, motor, marine & energy, specialty, aviation - all operations have the ability to write on both Lloyd's and company market paper.

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