



PRESS RELEASE

QBE APPOINTS SENIOR MOTOR TRADE UNDERWRITER TO ITS MANCHESTER OPERATION

Manchester, 19 January 2010

QBE, the specialist business insurer, has appointed Martin Nixon to the position of Senior Motor Trade Underwriter in its Manchester office.

Martin joins QBE's 32-strong team in Manchester, which is led by Commercial Manager Antony Broome, from Fusion Insurance, where he was Deputy Regional Underwriting Manager for the North West region.

With nearly two decades of industry experience, Martin is ACII qualified and has worked in a wide range of commercial insurance roles, including positions at Allianz in motor trade development underwriting and surveying.

This appointment is the latest step in QBE's expansion of its Manchester-based underwriting operation and it follows the recruitment of casualty specialist Jon Hesketh to the team. Providing a breadth of specialist commercial insurance solutions, the Manchester office is one of QBE's seven regional underwriting centres across the UK.

Terry Whittaker, Managing Director, National Division, QBE European Operations, commented, "2009 was a significant year of growth for our Manchester office and this latest appointment demonstrates QBE's continued commitment to the development of its regional proposition. With his strong industry-wide and regional market experience, Martin will be a valuable asset in the effort to further enhance our offering to brokers and their clients in the North West."

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Notes to editors

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.

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.