



## PRESS RELEASE

### QBE APPOINTS KIDNAP AND RANSOM SPECIALIST

**LONDON, 30 APRIL 2009**

QBE is pleased to announce the appointment of Jonathan Beck in the position of Class Underwriter for Kidnap and Ransom, within its Specialty division. Jonathan was previously a Senior Underwriter at Hiscox, where he also specialised in Kidnap and Ransom business; and where his achievements further included the development of a successful UK terrorism account.

At QBE Jonathan's role will include a remit to write business on both Lloyd's and Company paper and he will make use of QBE's global presence and capabilities to handle international K&R business. Jonathan will develop the Kidnap and Ransom book of business at QBE, with all underwriting managed from the desk in London.

*Graeme Rayner, Managing Director for QBE Specialty, said: "Jonathan brings with him a wealth of K&R experience that makes him a valuable addition to the Specialty underwriting business. In addition Jonathan's experience in building accounts into a sizeable business will stand him in good stead in our ambition to take the QBE K&R account to the next level."*

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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.

[www.QBEeurope.com](http://www.QBEeurope.com)