

Global Indemnity plc  
Form 10-K  
March 16, 2011

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**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
Form 10-K**

- þ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2010  
OR**
- o TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the Transition Period From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_**

**001-34809  
Commission File Number  
Global Indemnity Plc  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**Ireland**  
*(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation or organization)*

**98-0664891**  
*(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)*

**ARTHUR COX BUILDING  
EARLSFORT TERRACE  
DUBLIN 2  
IRELAND**  
*(Address of principal executive office including zip code)*

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 353 (0) 1 618 0517  
Securities Registered Pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:**

<b>Title of Each Class</b>	<b>Name of Exchange on Which Registered</b>
Common A Ordinary shares, \$0.0001 Par Value	The Nasdaq Global Select Market

**Securities Registered Pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None**

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.  
YES  NO

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. YES  NO

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was

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required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. YES  NO

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). YES  NO

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company   
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). YES  NO

The aggregate market value of the common equity held by non-affiliates of the registrant, computed by reference to the price of the registrant's Class A Ordinary shares as of the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter (based on the last reported sale price on the Nasdaq Global Select Market as of such date), was \$247,112,574. Class A ordinary shares held by each executive officer and director and by each person who is known by the registrant to beneficially own 5% or more of the registrant's outstanding Class A ordinary shares have been excluded in that such persons may be deemed affiliates. The determination of affiliate status is not necessarily a conclusive determination for other purposes.

As of February 28, 2011, the registrant had outstanding 18,295,188 Class A Ordinary shares and 12,061,370 Class B Ordinary shares.

**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the Registrant's Proxy Statement relating to the 2011 Annual Meeting of Shareholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this report.

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As used in this annual report, unless the context requires otherwise:

- 1) Global Indemnity refers to Global Indemnity plc, an exempted company incorporated with limited liability under the laws of Ireland, and its U.S. and Non-U.S. Subsidiaries;
- 2) we, us, our, and the Company refer to Global Indemnity and its subsidiaries or, prior to July 2, 2010, to United America Indemnity;
- 3) ordinary shares refers to Global Indemnity Class A and Class B ordinary shares, or, prior to July 2, 2010, to United America Indemnity Class A and Class B common shares;
- 4) United America Indemnity refers to United America Indemnity, Ltd. (formerly Vigilant International, Ltd., a Cayman Islands exempted company that, on July 2, 2010, became a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Global Indemnity plc, and its subsidiaries;
- 5) our U.S. Subsidiaries refers to Global Indemnity Group, Global Indemnity Group Services, LLC, AIS, Penn-America Group, Inc., and our Insurance Operations;

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- 6) our **United States Based Insurance Operations** and **Insurance Operations** refer to the insurance and related operations conducted by the U.S. Insurance Companies, American Insurance Adjustment Agency, Inc., Global Indemnity Collectibles Insurance Services, LLC, United America Insurance Services, LLC, and J.H. Ferguson & Associates, LLC;
- 7) our **U.S. Insurance Companies** refers to the insurance and related operations conducted by United National Insurance Company, Diamond State Insurance Company, United National Casualty Insurance Company, United National Specialty Insurance Company, Penn-America Insurance Company, Penn-Star Insurance Company and Penn-Patriot Insurance Company;
- 8) our **Non-U.S. Subsidiaries** refers to Global Indemnity Services Ltd., Global Indemnity (Gibraltar) Ltd., Global Indemnity (Cayman) Ltd., Global Indemnity (Luxembourg) Ltd., Wind River Reinsurance, the Luxembourg Companies, and U.A.I. (Ireland) Ltd.;
- 9) **Wind River Reinsurance** refers to Wind River Reinsurance Company, Ltd.;
- 10) the **Luxembourg Companies** refers to U.A.I. (Luxembourg) I S.à r.l., U.A.I. (Luxembourg) II S.à r.l., U.A.I. (Luxembourg) III S.à r.l., U.A.I. (Luxembourg) IV S.à r.l., U.A.I. (Luxembourg) Investment S.à r.l., and Wind River (Luxembourg) S.à r.l.;
- 11) **AIS** refers to American Insurance Service, Inc.;
- 12) our **Predecessor Insurance Operations** refers to Wind River Investment Corporation, which was dissolved on May 31, 2006, AIS, American Insurance Adjustment Agency, Inc., Emerald Insurance Company, which was dissolved on March 24, 2008, United National Insurance Company, Diamond State Insurance Company, United National Casualty Insurance Company, United National Specialty Insurance Company, and J.H. Ferguson & Associates, LLC;
- 13) our **International Reinsurance Operations** and **Reinsurance Operations** refer to the reinsurance and related operations of Wind River Reinsurance;
- 14) **Global Indemnity Group** refers to Global Indemnity Group, Inc., (fka United America Indemnity Group, Inc.);
- 15) **Penn-America** refers to our product classification that includes property and general liability products for small commercial businesses distributed through a select network of wholesale general agents with specific binding authority;
- 16) **United National** refers to our product classification that includes property, general liability, and professional liability lines products distributed through program administrators with specific binding authority;
- 17) **Diamond State** refers to our product classification that includes property, casualty, and professional liability lines products distributed through wholesale brokers and program administrators with specific binding authority;
- 18) the **Statutory Trusts** refers to United National Group Capital Trust I, United National Group Capital Statutory Trust II, Penn-America Statutory Trust I, whose registration was cancelled effective January 15, 2008, and Penn-America Statutory Trust II, whose registration was cancelled effective February 2, 2009;
- 19) **Fox Paine & Company** refers to Fox Paine & Company, LLC and affiliated investment funds;
- 20) **Funds** refers to Fox Paine Capital Fund II International, L.P. together with its affiliates.

- 21) Wind River refers to Wind River Holdings, L.P. (formerly The AMC Group, L.P.)
- 22) Global Indemnity Cayman refers to Global Indemnity (Cayman) Ltd.
- 23) GAAP refers to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and
- 24) \$ or dollars refers to U.S. dollars.

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**PART I**

**Item 1. *Business***

Some of the information contained in this Item 1 or set forth elsewhere in this report, including information with respect to our plans and strategy, constitutes forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Please see *Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements* at the end of Item 7 of Part II and *Risk Factors* in Item 1A of Part I for a discussion of important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results described in or implied by the forward-looking statements contained herein.

**Our History**

Global Indemnity is a holding company formed on March 9, 2010 under the laws of Ireland. On July 2, 2010, Global Indemnity became our ultimate parent company pursuant to a scheme of arrangement whereby all United America Indemnity, Ltd. ordinary shares were cancelled and all holders of such shares received ordinary shares of Global Indemnity plc on a one-for-two basis. United America Indemnity, Ltd. was a holding company formed on August 26, 2003 under the laws of the Cayman Islands to acquire our Predecessor Insurance Operations.

**General**

Global Indemnity, one of the leading specialty property and casualty insurers in the industry, provides its insurance products across a full distribution network binding authority, program, brokerage, and reinsurance. We manage the distribution of these products in two segments: (a) Insurance Operations and (b) Reinsurance Operations.

**Business Segments**

***Our Insurance Operations***

The United States Based Insurance Operations distribute property and casualty insurance products and operate predominantly in the excess and surplus lines marketplace. Our insurance products target specific, defined groups of insureds with customized coverages to meet their needs. To manage our operations, we differentiate them by product classification. These product classifications are:

Penn-America distributes property and general liability products for small commercial businesses through a select network of wholesale general agents with specific binding authority;

United National distributes property, general liability, and professional lines products through program administrators with specific binding authority; and

Diamond State distributes property, casualty, and professional lines products through wholesale brokers that are underwritten by our personnel and selected brokers with specific binding authority.

See *Marketing and Distribution* below for a discussion on how our insurance products are underwritten.

These product classifications comprise our Insurance Operations business segment and are not considered individual business segments because each product has similar economic characteristics, distribution, and coverages. Our Insurance Operations provide property, casualty, and professional liability products utilizing customized guidelines,



rates, and forms tailored to our risk and underwriting philosophy. Our Insurance Operations are licensed to write on a surplus lines (non-admitted) basis and an admitted basis in all 50 U.S. States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, which provides us with flexibility in designing products, programs, and in determining rates to meet emerging risks and discontinuities in the marketplace. In 2010, gross premiums written were \$245.5 million compared to \$268.0 million for 2009.

We distribute our insurance products through a group of approximately 103 professional wholesale general agencies that have specific quoting and binding authority, as well as a number of wholesale insurance brokers who in turn sell our insurance products to insureds through retail insurance brokers.

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Our United States Based Insurance Operations are rated A (Excellent) by A.M. Best, which assigns credit ratings to insurance companies transacting business in the United States. A (Excellent) is the third highest rating of sixteen rating categories. These ratings are based upon factors of concern to policyholders, such as capital adequacy, loss reserve adequacy, and overall operating performance, and are not directed to the protection of investors.

### ***Our Reinsurance Operations***

Our Reinsurance Operations segment provides reinsurance solutions through brokers, primary writers, including regional insurance companies, and program managers and consists solely of the operations of Wind River Reinsurance. Wind River Reinsurance is a Bermuda-based treaty reinsurer of excess and surplus lines carriers, specialty property and casualty insurance companies and U.S. regional insurance writers. Wind River also participates as a retrocessionaire on business assumed by other reinsurers. Wind River Reinsurance began offering third party reinsurance in the third quarter of 2006 and entered into its initial third party reinsurance treaty effective January 1, 2007. Wind River Reinsurance also provides quota share and stop-loss reinsurance to our Insurance Operations. In 2010, gross premiums written from third parties were \$100.3 million compared to \$73.0 million for 2009. Wind River Reinsurance is listed with the International Insurers Department ( IID ) of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners ( NAIC ). Although Wind River Reinsurance does not currently offer direct third party excess and surplus lines insurance products, it is eligible to write on a surplus lines basis in 31 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

Wind River Reinsurance conducts business in Bermuda. While we believe many reinsurers in Bermuda continue to focus on catastrophe oriented reinsurance solutions, Wind River Reinsurance is part of a smaller group of companies seeking niche and casualty oriented treaty opportunities. While Wind River Reinsurance will consider unique catastrophe oriented placements, this is a very selective process and is not its primary focus. Given the pricing environment of the larger casualty oriented organizations, Wind River Reinsurance continues to cautiously deploy and manage its capital while seeking to position itself as a niche reinsurance solution provider. We believe the current market dictates that growth will be very measured.

As part of the aforementioned reinsurance that Wind River Reinsurance provides to our Insurance Operations, our Insurance Operations cede 50% of their net unearned premiums, plus 50% of the net retained insurance liability of all new and renewal business to Wind River Reinsurance under a quota share reinsurance agreement. Wind River Reinsurance also provides stop-loss protection for our Insurance Operations in a 70% through 90% loss ratio corridor.

Wind River Reinsurance is rated A (Excellent) by A.M. Best.

### **Available Information**

We maintain a website at [www.globalindemnity.ie](http://www.globalindemnity.ie). We will make available, free of charge on our website, our most recent annual report on Form 10-K and subsequently filed quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as soon as reasonably practicable after we file such material with, or furnish it to, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

### **Recent Trends in Our Industry**

The property and casualty insurance industry has historically been a cyclical industry. During periods of reduced underwriting capacity, which is characterized by a shortage of capital and reduced competition, underwriting results are generally more favorable for insurers due to more favorable policy terms and conditions and higher rate levels. During periods of excess underwriting capacity, which is characterized by an abundance of capital and increased

competition, underwriting results are generally less favorable for insurers due to an expansion of policy terms and conditions and lower rate levels. Historically, several factors have affected the level of underwriting capacity, including industry losses, catastrophes, changes in legal and regulatory guidelines, investment results, and the ratings and financial strength of competitors. As underwriting capacity increases, the standard insurance markets begin to expand their risk selection criteria to include risks that have typically been placed in the

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non-standard excess and surplus lines market. This tends to shrink the demand for insurance coverage from insurers that are focused on writing in the excess and surplus line marketplace, such as Global Indemnity.

Currently we believe we are in a period of excess underwriting capacity, and we continued to see rate decreases throughout 2010. Insurers and reinsurers 2010 growth, if any, became very selective as new business prices remained competitive and renewals saw little overall price increases. Non-catastrophe segments of the reinsurance market continued to be strained further as many opposing market forces failed to allow upward rate pressures to take root. Reinsurers and carriers alike clearly observed that competition has contributed to the adequacy in underlying prices, terms, and conditions to be eroded over the past several years calling for a flight to improved pricing, terms, and conditions adequacy.

For property and casualty reinsurance and insurance companies to generate an acceptable return on capital in the current interest rate environment, companies are focusing on generating acceptable underwriting returns. The industry is making increased use of risk management tools to adequately compensate for the risks being written. We believe the industry continues to focus on investment yields and the credit-worthiness of investment portfolios.

The Federal Funds rate remained at extremely low levels during 2010 causing investment yields on short-term and overnight investments to be low. Given low interest rates for Federal Funds and current yields on investment grade fixed income securities, we seek to position our investment portfolio to protect against a rising interest rate environment by including fixed maturity investments with low durations and continuing re-investment in our floating rate corporate loans portfolio. Our fixed income portfolio continues to be biased toward high quality assets with an average rating of AA. Our corporate loans portfolio is primarily made up of corporate loans which are typically below investment grade; however provide a higher return and shorter duration.

In addition, continuing developments in the regulatory environment could have some impact on our industry. On July 21, 2010, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the Act) was enacted into law in the United States. The Act includes a number of provisions having a direct impact on the insurance industry, most notably, the creation of a Federal Insurance Office to monitor the insurance industry, streamlining of surplus lines insurance, credit for reinsurance, and systemic risk regulation. The Federal Insurance Office is empowered to gather data and information regarding the insurance industry and insurers, including conducting a study for submission to the U.S. Congress on how to modernize and improve insurance regulation in the United States. With respect to surplus lines insurance, the Act gives exclusive authority to regulate surplus lines transactions to the home state of the insured, and the requirement that a surplus lines broker must first attempt to place coverage in the admitted market is substantially softened with respect to large commercial policyholders. Significantly, the Act provides that a state may not prevent a surplus lines broker from placing surplus lines insurance with a non-U.S. insurer, such as our Wind River subsidiary, that appears on the quarterly listing of non-admitted insurers maintained by the International Insurers Department of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. Regarding credit for reinsurance, the Act generally provides that the state of domicile of the ceding company (and no other state) may regulate financial statement credit for the ceded risk. The Act also provides the U.S. Federal Reserve with supervisory authority over insurance companies that are deemed to be systemically important. Regulations to implement the Act are currently under development and we are continuing to monitor the impact the Act may have on our operations.

## **Excess and Surplus Lines Market**

Our Insurance Operations operate in the excess and surplus lines market. The excess and surplus lines market differs significantly from the standard property and casualty insurance market. In the standard property and casualty insurance market, insurance rates and forms are highly regulated, products and coverages are largely uniform and have relatively predictable exposures. In the standard market, policies must be written by insurance companies that are admitted to transact business in the state in which the policy is issued. As a result, in the standard property and

casualty insurance market, insurance companies tend to compete for customers primarily on the basis of price, coverage, value-added service, and financial strength. In contrast, the excess and surplus lines market provides coverage for businesses that often do not fit the underwriting criteria of an insurance company operating in the standard markets due to their relatively greater unpredictable loss patterns and unique niches of exposure requiring

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rate and policy form flexibility. Without the excess and surplus lines market, certain businesses would have to self insure their exposures, or seek coverage outside the U.S. market.

Competition in the excess and surplus lines market tends to focus less on price and more on availability, service, and other considerations. While excess and surplus lines market exposures may have higher perceived insurance risk than their standard market counterparts, excess and surplus lines market underwriters historically have been able to generate underwriting profitability superior to standard market underwriters.

The excess underwriting capacity felt in the standard property and casualty insurance industry is impacting the excess and surplus lines market as standard insurers continue to search for acceptable risks in the excess marketplace. According to A.M. Best, direct premiums written for the excess and surplus lines market fell 4.1% in 2009, a larger decrease than the 3.3% drop felt by the overall property and casualty insurance industry. The excess and surplus market is also being impacted by companies who choose to self-insure their risks rather than purchase third-party insurance.

Within the excess and surplus lines market, we write business on both a specialty admitted and surplus lines basis. Surplus lines business accounts for approximately 70.6% of the business that our Insurance Operations writes, while specialty admitted business accounts for the remaining 29.4%.

When writing on a specialty admitted basis, our focus is on writing insurance for insureds that engage in similar but often highly specialized types of activities. The specialty admitted market is subject to greater state regulation than the surplus lines market, particularly with regard to rate and form filing requirements and the ability to enter and exit lines of business. Insureds purchasing coverage from specialty admitted insurance companies do so because the insurance product is not otherwise available from standard market insurers. Yet, for regulatory or marketing reasons, these insureds require products that are written by an admitted insurance company.

**Products and Product Development**

Our Insurance Operations distribute property and casualty insurance products and operate predominantly in the excess and surplus lines marketplace. To manage our operations, we seek to differentiate our products by product classification. See Our Insurance Operations above for a description of these product classifications. We believe we have significant flexibility in designing products, programs, and in determining rates to meet the needs of the marketplace.

Our Reinsurance Operations offer third party treaty reinsurance for excess and surplus lines carriers, specialty property and casualty insurance companies and U.S. regional insurance writers. Our Reinsurance Operations also provide reinsurance to our Insurance Operations in the form of quota share and stop-loss arrangements.

The following table sets forth an analysis of Global Indemnity's gross premiums written, which is the sum of direct and assumed premiums written, by operating segment during the periods indicated:

(Dollars in thousands)	For the Years Ended December 31,					
	2010		2009		2008	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Insurance Operations	\$ 245,481	71.0%	\$ 267,992	78.6%	\$ 353,130	93.2%
Reinsurance Operations	100,282	29.0	73,006	21.4	25,570	6.8

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Total	\$ 345,763	100.0%	\$ 340,998	100.0%	\$ 378,700	100.0%
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For a discussion of the variances between years, see Results of Operations in Item 7 of Part II of this report.

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The following table sets forth an analysis of Global Indemnity's net premiums written, which is gross premiums written less ceded premiums written, by operating segment during the periods indicated:

(Dollars in thousands)	For the Years Ended December 31,					
	2010		2009		2008	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Insurance Operations	\$ 196,065	66.1%	\$ 218,264	75.0%	\$ 305,479	98.8%
Reinsurance Operations	100,439	33.9	72,731	25.0	3,601	1.2
Total	\$ 296,504	100.0%	\$ 290,995	100.0%	\$ 309,080	100.0%

For a discussion of the variances between years, see Results of Operations in Item 7 of Part II of this report.

**Geographic Concentration**

The following table sets forth the geographic distribution of Global Indemnity's gross premiums written by its Insurance and Reinsurance Operations for the periods indicated:

(Dollars in thousands)	For the Years Ended December 31,					
	2010		2009		2008	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
California	\$ 31,215	9.0%	\$ 28,264	8.3%	\$ 39,793	10.5%
Florida	28,072	8.1	34,061	10.0	41,893	11.1
Texas	22,133	6.4	24,292	7.1	26,029	6.9
New York	16,009	4.6	17,224	5.1	26,045	6.9
Louisiana	10,981	3.2	12,339	3.6	13,214	3.5
Pennsylvania	9,903	2.9	9,506	2.8	12,446	3.3
Massachusetts	9,181	2.7	11,948	3.5	16,956	4.5
Illinois	8,687	2.5	8,630	2.5	11,766	3.1
New Jersey	8,582	2.5	8,918	2.6	13,617	3.5
Michigan	6,540	1.9	6,927	2.0	8,467	2.2
Subtotal	151,303	43.8	162,109	47.5	210,226	55.5
Reinsurance Operations	100,282	29.0	73,006	21.4	25,570	6.8
All others	94,178	27.2	105,883	31.1	142,904	37.7
Total	\$ 345,763	100.0%	\$ 340,998	100.0%	\$ 378,700	100.0%

**Marketing and Distribution**

We provide our insurance products across a full distribution network binding authority, program, brokerage, and reinsurance. For our binding authority and program product classifications, we distribute our insurance products through a group of approximately 103 wholesale general agents and program administrators that have specific quoting



and binding authority. For our brokerage business, we distribute our insurance products through wholesale insurance brokers who in turn sell our insurance products to insureds through retail insurance brokers. For our reinsurance business, we distribute our products through reinsurance brokers.

Of our non-affiliated professional wholesale general agents and program administrators, the top five accounted for 39.3% of our Insurance Operations gross premiums written for the year ended December 31, 2010. No one agency accounted for more than 12.1% of our Insurance Operations gross premiums written.

Our distribution strategy is to seek to maintain strong relationships with a limited number of high-quality wholesale professional general agents and wholesale insurance brokers. We carefully select our distribution sources based on their expertise, experience and reputation. We believe that our distribution strategy enables us to effectively access numerous markets at a relatively low cost structure through the marketing, underwriting, and administrative support of our professional general agencies and wholesale insurance brokers. We believe these

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wholesale general agents and wholesale insurance brokers have local market knowledge and expertise that we believe enables us to access business in these markets more effectively.

**Underwriting**

Our insurance products are underwritten in two ways: (1) specific binding authority in which we grant underwriting authority to our wholesale general agents and program administrators, and (2) brokerage in which our internal personnel underwrites business submitted by our wholesale insurance brokers.

***Specific Binding Authority*** Our wholesale general agents and program administrators have specific quoting and binding authority with respect to a single insurance product and some have limited quoting and binding authority with respect to multiple products.

We provide our wholesale general agents and program administrators with a comprehensive, regularly updated underwriting manual that specifically outlines risk eligibility which is developed based on the type of insured, nature of exposure and overall expected profitability. This manual also outlines (a) premium pricing, (b) underwriting guidelines, including but not limited to policy forms, terms and conditions, and (c) policy issuance instructions.

Our wholesale general agents and program administrators are appointed to underwrite submissions received from their retail agents in accordance with our underwriting manual. Risks that are not within the specific binding authority must be submitted to our underwriting personnel directly for underwriting review and approval or denial of the application of the insured. Our wholesale general agents provide all policy issuance services in accordance with our underwriting manuals.

We regularly monitor the underwriting quality of our wholesale general agents and program administrators through a disciplined system of controls, which includes the following:

- automated system criteria edits and exception reports;

- individual policy reviews to measure adherence to our underwriting manual including: risk selection, underwriting compliance, policy issuance and pricing;

- periodic on-site comprehensive audits to evaluate processes, controls, profitability and adherence to all aspects of our underwriting manual including: risk selection, underwriting compliance, policy issuance and pricing;