

R&Q announces opening of Bournemouth office

16th May 2017

R&Q Commercial Risk Services Ltd ('R&Q CRS'), the specialist MGA platform of Randall & Quilter, is pleased to announce the opening of its third regional office in the UK, located in Bournemouth, adding to the existing hubs of London, Manchester and Birmingham.

James Wheddon, Managing Director, R&Q CRS, commented:

"Our strategy is to support the UK's independent broker community by giving them local access to experienced underwriters and decision makers. We are looking to extend our distribution footprint into the Southern Counties and emulate the success that we have seen since opening our other regional offices."

"By combining local distribution with an innovative approach to product development, we believe R&Q CRS has an important role in supporting the underserved independent broker market. Today's announcement is the latest demonstration of this, following on from our involvement in BIBA's Commercial facility aimed at SMEs who find buying flood insurance challenging, the introduction of embedded cyber cover within the commercial combined product and the launch of www.mi-binder.com the very popular delegated authority platform for brokers."

The new Bournemouth office will be led by Simon Coulson with further new hires to follow shortly. Coulson joins R&Q from Towergate where he was business development director for the underwriting division.

James Wheddon added: "We are always on the lookout for quality people, and are pleased to welcome Simon, he joins us with a wealth of experience developed across various positions that he has held within the regional broker and composite insurer community. We look forward to developing this office with him."

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About R&Q Commercial Risk Services

R&Q Commercial Risk Services Limited ("R&Q CRS") provides a high quality underwriting solution to a select number of Independent Insurance Intermediaries in the UK.

R&Q CRS is focused on providing market leading product, service and knowledge to its distributed partners. Its brokers have direct access to the management and underwriting team for a fast, efficient and effective response to their proposals and ideas. R&Q CRS prides itself on designing exclusive service, product and underwriting solutions for its broker partners.

About R&Q

Randall & Quilter pursues a buy and build strategy and has created a comprehensive range of investment activities and services in the global non-life insurance market.

R&Q is focused on the following three areas:

- Insurance Investments
- Insurance Services
- Underwriting Management

The Group:

- provides a range of services to both the live and legacy (re)insurance markets to support growing businesses and address complex and challenging run-off issues;
- employs over 400 insurance professionals based in the UK, US, Bermuda, and Europe with wide service capability in both the 'live' and 'run-off' markets;
- owns and manages a portfolio of insurance companies, both active and in run-off, in the UK, US and Europe with net assets of £161m as at 31 December 2016;
- owns an admitted P&C Insurer, A- rated by AM Best, with licenses throughout the US; owns a Bermuda Class 3A insurance company;
- launched Syndicate 1991, which commenced underwriting from January 1, 2013 and has an agreed capacity of £127m for 2017, manages one RITC ('run-off') syndicate, 3330, and owns-and operates an MGA platform;
- acquires and manages a portfolio of insurance receivables, with a carrying cost of £5.6m as at 31
 December 2016

The Group was founded by Ken Randall and Alan Quilter in 1991.

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