

media release

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Australia and New Zealand Insurance Industry Awards finalists announced

The Australia and New Zealand Insurance Industry Awards Judging Panel are proud to announce the finalists for the 2008 awards.

The Awards, now in their fifth year, unite the entire insurance industry in celebration of excellence and achievement and are presented by the Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance and Finance (the Institute) and founding partners Asia Insurance Review (AIR).

Joan Fitzpatrick, Institute CEO and Chair of the Judging Panel said the calibre and the large number of submissions, the vast majority of which were made as a result of third party nomination, was exemplary and competition was fierce.

“Judging was a difficult task and acknowledging finalists was an important step in recognising an impressive field,” she said.

“I would like to acknowledge the finalists in each category and to pay tribute to the achievements of these high performing organisations within our industry. Being announced as a finalist is an achievement in itself and something to be very proud of,” she said.

Due to the individual nature of the Insurance Leader of the Year category, and the exemplary achievements and leadership of those nominated, five finalists have been named this year.

The finalists for the 2008 Australia and New Zealand Insurance Industry Awards are:

Reinsurance Company of the Year

Munich Re
Swiss Re
RGA

General Insurance Company of the Year

QBE Australia
NZI
Suncorp

Life Insurance Company of the Year

CommInsure
MLC
Zurich

Broker of the Year

Marsh
Crombie Lockwood
Aon

Loss Adjuster of the Year

Freemans
GAB Robins NZ
TJ Sinclair and Associates

Risk Manager/Team of the Year

Paul Kennedy – NAB
Annis Parisi
Guild

Innovation of the Year

Swiss Re
Stream Innovation
NZI

Service Provider of the Year

Finity Consulting
Proclaim
Ernst & Young

Law Firm/Practitioner of the Year

DLA Phillips Fox
Moray Agnew
Minter Ellison

Premium Funder of the Year

Macquarie Premium Funding
Pacific Premium
Premium Funding

Services to the Community

Ansvar Insurance
TIO
AMI

Insurance Leader of the Year

John Mulcahy
Peter Nash
Andrew Penn
Simon Swanson
Terry Towell

The winner in each category will be announced at the Insurance Industry Awards Gala at the Parkside Ballroom, Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Thursday 7 August, with VIP guest and keynote speaker, Minister for Finance and Deregulation, The Hon Lindsay Tanner MP.

Following last year's sell out event, tables for this year's awards night are going fast with a capacity crowd expected to attend.

James O'Loughlin, television and radio personality, will emcee the awards presentation dinner which brings together all sectors of the insurance industry and celebrates their professional excellence and achievements during the past year and acknowledges the insurance industry's ongoing commitment to recognising dedication to best practice and the highest standards of professionalism.

Those who haven't yet booked their place are urged to book now to avoid disappointment. Bookings can be made via the Institute website: www.theinstitute.com.au

Major sponsor for this year's event is A.M Best and award category sponsors include: Aon Australia, KPMG, Swiss Re, Zurich, SSP, Elders, Gen Re, QBE Australia and Munters. The awards are held in conjunction with Asia Insurance Review.

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