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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Markel Specialty assigns new product development role to Mark Nichols

Richmond, VA, January 30, 2013 — Greg Thompson, President of Markel Specialty, announced today that Mark Nichols has assumed new responsibilities as the Executive Manager of Markel Specialty's new product development team. Markel is expanding its portfolio of property and casualty products supporting commercial and personal lines customers. Based in Richmond, VA, Mark has been an executive with Markel for thirty years and has a track record of developing new products and industry niches. He served most recently as the Managing Executive of Markel Specialty's Accident & Health business.

Mark is joined by Debbie Anglin, Director of new product development. Debbie came to Markel as a result of Markel's acquisition of Thompson Insurance Enterprises, LCC (dba THOMCO) in 2012.

"Mark is talented, creative, and uniquely suited to this role. We continuously look for ways to grow our book of business both organically and by acquisition. I am confident that Mark and Debbie will deliver desirable and profitable products and packages for our policyholders. They are working with our producers to identify SIC and NAICS codes with specialty insurance needs. It is my ongoing belief that we must continuously put new and improved products in front of our customers," commented Greg.

Mark added, "We are going to subject new product ideas to a systematic R&D process. Inspired by the Markel Style, our goals are to be dynamic, thoughtful, and supportive of retail agents and agencies. Markel has always been a niche-focused insurer, and this rededication to new products is consistent with our overall business strategy and approach."

For more specific information regarding Markel Specialty's product development efforts, contact Mark Nichols at 804-527-7622 or mnichols@markelcorp.com.

About Markel Specialty

Markel Specialty provides specialty commercial and personal lines insurance solutions to policyholders in all fifty states and the District of Columbia. Not all products are available in all jurisdictions. To learn more, visit our web sites at markelinsurance.com, firstcomp.com, thomcoins.com, markelprograms.com, and markelinsuresfun.com.

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