

IRONSHORE INC.



IRONSHORE
your safe harbour

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**IRONSHORE ANNOUNCES HIRING OF
INDUSTRY EXPERT GEOFFREY SMITH TO RUN
NEW EXCESS LIABILITY DIVISION**

Hamilton, Bermuda, January 15, 2009 – Ironshore Inc. today announced that Geoff Smith has joined as Worldwide Head of its newly launched Excess Liability facility. In his role, Geoff will provide global strategic direction and consistency across all of Ironshore’s platforms writing this product set. A new unit will be established to write catastrophic excess casualty insurance for Ironshore Bermuda, targeting Fortune 2000 and other clients purchasing cat excess coverages. Geoff is based out of New York and reports to Shaun Kelly, CEO of Ironshore’s US Operations, and to Kevin Kelley, CEO of Ironshore.

Geoff has 24 years of liability underwriting experience in the insurance and reinsurance markets. Since December 2000, Geoff had been the President of AIG Cat Excess Liability. From February 1998 to December 2000, Geoff was a Vice President at General Reinsurance Corporation in the National Account Casualty Treaty area. Prior to that, he served as Vice President and Excess Casualty Product Line Manager for AIG Cat

Excess Liability from 1995 to 1998. Prior to joining AIG in 1995, Geoff was a Vice President at Zurich Reinsurance Center as the manager of its New York facultative branch operations. Geoff began his career in 1985 as a Casualty Facultative Underwriter with General Re in Dallas and New York and served in that role until he joined Zurich in 1994.

“Hiring Geoff is a big win for Ironshore as we expand into the cat excess liability arena. He brings a wealth of expertise in underwriting and managing excess liability portfolios,” said Shaun Kelly. “The launch of this cat excess liability unit will further add to Ironshore’s product and geographic diversification.”

Ironshore provides broker-sourced specialty commercial property and casualty coverages for risks located throughout the world. Through its platform in Bermuda, Ironshore writes property catastrophe and property all-risk coverage for commercial risks. Ironshore’s US operations write commercial property risks, as well as a variety of commercial liability coverages in the Management & Professional Liability, Healthcare Liability, Construction and Environmental specialty market sectors. Specialty coverages are underwritten at Lloyd’s through Ironshore’s Pembroke Syndicate 4000. The Ironshore group of insurance companies is rated A- (Excellent) by A.M. Best with a Financial Size Category of Class XI. Syndicate 4000 operates within Lloyd's where the market rating is A (Excellent) by A.M. Best and A+ (Strong) from both Standard & Poor’s and Fitch. For more information, please visit www.ironshore.com.