

Press Release

Beazley strengthens presence in U.S. healthcare professional liability market

London, 13 March, 2007 – Beazley Group (BEZ.L) has agreed to acquire Sapphire Blue, an agency specializing in professional liability insurance for U.S. healthcare institutions, particularly long term care facilities. The transaction significantly strengthens Beazley's presence in this market.

Sapphire Blue has built a strong reputation as an underwriter of professional liability coverage for long term care institutions for over six years, founded on deep industry knowledge and experience, very broad understanding of the influences on potential claims and superior service delivery. Gross premiums written by Sapphire Blue in 2006 exceeded \$20m. Beazley has supported the business since 2003.

Beazley already ranks as a leading insurer of U.S. healthcare risks, having been writing such business since 1986 and creating a dedicated healthcare team in 2003. The company currently numbers among its clients five of the top ten U.S. hospitals and three of the top paediatric hospitals as ranked by *U.S. News and World Report*.

"This acquisition underlines our commitment to the U.S. healthcare professional liability market," said Johnny Rowell, head of Specialty Lines at Beazley. "We know the management of Sapphire Blue well and have the greatest respect for the quality of their underwriting and client service standards. We look forward to working with them as we continue to build our healthcare practice."

Kieran Dempsey, founding partner at Sapphire Blue, added: "We have partnered with Beazley for many years and are looking forward to joining forces with the Beazley healthcare team. Their commitment to sound underwriting and responsive service mirrors our own."



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Following the acquisition, Beazley's healthcare team will operate from offices in both London and the United States.

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Note to Editors:

Beazley Group, plc (BEZ.L), based in London, is the parent company of global, specialist insurance businesses with operations in the UK, US, France, Singapore and Hong Kong. Beazley manages two Lloyd's syndicates (Syndicate 2623 and Syndicate 623) with aggregate underwriting capacity in 2007 of £860m (US\$1.7bn). Both syndicates are rated A by A.M. Best. In the US, Beazley's underwriters focus on writing specialist insurance products in the admitted market, backed by Beazley Insurance Company, Inc., an admitted carrier in all 50 states; and surplus lines risks, backed by the Beazley syndicates at Lloyd's. Beazley Insurance Company is rated A- by A.M. Best.

Beazley is a market leader in many of its chosen lines including professional indemnity, commercial property, marine, reinsurance, and personal lines.

For more information please go to: www.beazley.com