



# D&O Insurance

## 2022



PROFILED:

**OLIVER WHEELER**

Beazley





## D&O Insurance



### OLIVER WHEELER

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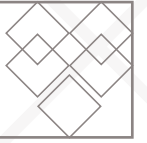
#### PERSONAL BIOGRAPHY

**Oliver Wheeler** is an experienced underwriter in Beazley's international management liability team. Having worked in the financial lines market for over 26 years, his vast experience has seen him take varied roles at AON London as D&O practice leader, management liability positions at Liberty and AXIS, and experience in developing international financial lines portfolios while living in Madrid and New York. He joined Beazley in November 2021 and is an integral leader within the team.

The Beazley logo, featuring the word 'beazley' in a lowercase, serif font with a thin horizontal line above and below the letters, set against a dark grey rectangular background.

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## Q&amp;A WITH OLIVER WHEELER

**What strengths and characteristics do you, your team and your firm strive to demonstrate to clients?**

◆ The last two years have been extremely difficult and at Beazley we are determined to provide the correct support to help our brokers and clients adapt to the numerous challenges they continue to face. Yes, we offer innovative insurance solutions, but our role is more than that. We have been working to advise our clients on risk management and how to build resilience to protect against emerging risks pre-loss. As one of the largest international management liability teams in London, all our underwriters are empowered to make decisions based on what is right for our clients. In the face of even more uncertainty and complex challenges, I think this is the right approach for our brokers and clients, and certainly what we want to be known for.

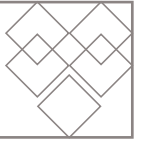
**Reflecting on your area of expertise, how do you see this sphere of the market shaping up over the coming months? Are any exciting trends or developments on the horizon?**

◆ When it comes to directors and officers (D&O), I do not believe we are out of the woods yet. It is a longtail line and there are still significant threats facing businesses: inflation will squeeze wages and supply, complex logistic challenges will remain, environmental, social and governance (ESG) and 'greenwashing' threats will increase, as will class actions and litigation, along with employer risks and the need to reshape workplace culture post-pandemic. It is not an easy time for anyone, and the threat of corporate mismanagement remains high – putting reputations under the spotlight. These are difficult market conditions and I fully expect our clients and businesses in general to demand more transparency on how their insurance



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will respond. Insurers should be stepping in to help mitigate this raft of business risks. The exposures and threats certainly have not gone away, so rate reductions and broader terms could well come back to bite. Now more than ever, we should look to build new partnerships and strengthen existing ones, to help clients navigate the shifting sands of liability.



### **In what ways do you endeavour to support the career development of your colleagues rising through the ranks?**

◆ We want our workforce to reflect the diversity of our customers and communities where we work around the world. I am proud that Beazley has set measurable and clear targets and objectives to become a truly diverse and inclusive organisation. The market has changed beyond recognition from when I was a young graduate. I have been fortunate to have worked with some of the very best and I want to share my experiences with the brilliant talent here at Beazley. Diversity of thought is hugely important and being bold helps us to deliver great outcomes. After a long period of remote working, I am so happy to share my experiences with colleagues, encourage them to ask questions and to challenge decisions. All our employees have a unique skillset and life experience, and our mentoring scheme is one of the greatest ways for them to develop. ■

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