



July 12, 2012

W. R. Berkley Corporation Forms Berkley Custom Insurance Managers, LLC and Announces Executive Appointment

GREENWICH, Conn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- **W. R. Berkley Corporation (NYSE: WRB)** today announced the formation of Berkley Custom Insurance Managers, LLC. Headquartered in Stamford, CT, Berkley Custom Insurance Managers will focus on the excess casualty insurance market and will underwrite on behalf of W. R. Berkley Corporation member insurance companies rated A+ (Superior) by A.M. Best Company, Inc.

Michael P. Fujii has been named president of Berkley Custom Insurance Managers. Mr. Fujii has over 35 years of experience in the specialty property casualty insurance industry, including more than 20 years as a senior executive. He previously served as the president and chief executive officer of worldwide insurance operations at a major international insurer. Mr. Fujii holds a B.S. from Loyola University of Los Angeles.

William R. Berkley, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of W. R. Berkley Corporation, said: "We are very enthusiastic about Mike joining our enterprise. The experience and expertise that he brings to our Company will enhance our participation in the specialty segment. Berkley Custom Insurance Managers will offer products and services in markets that complement those of our existing excess casualty businesses, broadening our reach and enabling us to serve an even greater number of clients."

For further information about the products and services available from Berkley Custom Insurance Managers, please contact Michael P. Fujii at mfujii@BerkleyCustom.com. For employment opportunities, please submit resumes to HR@BerkleyCustom.com.

Founded in 1967, W. R. Berkley Corporation is an insurance holding company that is among the largest commercial lines writers in the United States and operates in five segments of the property casualty insurance business: specialty insurance, regional property casualty insurance, alternative markets, reinsurance and international.

This is a "Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Any forward-looking statements contained herein, including statements related to our outlook for the industry and for our performance for the year 2012 and beyond, are based upon the Company's historical performance and on current plans, estimates and expectations. The inclusion of this forward-looking information should not be regarded as a representation by us or any other person that the future plans, estimates or expectations contemplated by us will be achieved. They are subject to various risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to, the success of our new ventures or acquisitions and the availability of other opportunities, our ability to attract and retain key personnel and qualified employees, and other risks detailed from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These risks could cause actual results of the industry or our actual results for the year 2012 and beyond to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statement made by or on behalf of the Company. Any projections of growth in the Company's revenues would not necessarily result in commensurate levels of earnings. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which they are made, and the Company undertakes no obligation to update publicly or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.

W. R. Berkley Corporation

Karen A. Horvath, 203-629-3000

Vice President — External Financial Communications

Source: W. R. Berkley Corporation

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