



News Release

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RUPERT C. HALL ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE SURPLUS LINE ASSOCIATION

SAN FRANCISCO, California – (February 7, 2005) -- The members of the Surplus Line Association of California (SLA) unanimously elected Rupert Hall as their Chairman during the SLA Annual meeting. Rupert Hall is the President and CEO of M.J. Hall & Company, Inc., a surplus line brokerage headquartered in Stockton, California. The SLA Annual Meeting was held January 25, 2005 in San Francisco and January 27, in Beverly Hills, California.



RUPERT C. HALL

Elected Vice Chairman was James Pettipas of ECM Insurance Services, Inc., San Francisco. Elected Secretary-Treasurer was Ceil Norton of Burns & Wilcox, Fresno, CA. In addition, ten Executive Committee members were elected as follows: Chris Brown of Brown & Riding Insurance Brokers, Greg Crouse of Crouse & Associates, John Edack of Arch Specialty Insurance Agency, Inc., Katie Freeman of Katie Freeman Insurance Services, Hank Haldeman of Gerald J. Sullivan & Associates, Inc., Horst Lechler of Anderson & Murison, Les Ross of Tri-City Brokerage, Inc., Stacey Shurson of IIW Insurance Services of California, Joan Spiegel of Marsh Risk & Insurance Services, and Warren Stanley of Canon Insurance Services.

The SLA is an organization of 990 surplus line brokers licensed by the State of California to negotiate and place insurance with nonadmitted insurers. The SLA serves as the official surplus line advisory organization to the California Department of Insurance under California Insurance Code Sec. 1780.50 et seq. With few exceptions, all California surplus line insurance policies must be filed with the SLA for analysis, regulatory compliance, record keeping, and statistical reporting. In addition, the SLA is responsible for reviewing, analyzing, and evaluating the suitability of non-admitted insurers seeking to become eligible surplus line carriers in the state of California.
