



News Release

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CALIFORNIA SURPLUS LINE PREMIUMS TOP \$6 BILLION

SAN FRANCISCO, California – (January 31, 2007) – Ted Pierce, Executive Director of the Surplus Line Association of California (SLA) released the annual filed premium analysis demonstrating that \$6,025,090,595 in California surplus line insurance premiums were processed in calendar year 2006.

The \$6.02 billion in surplus line premium represents 509,302 insurance policies written for California insurance consumers. “These figures are higher than predicted for the surplus line market and reverses the trend from the previous year. At the end of 2005, the SLA experienced a 1 percent decrease in premium volume compared to 2004,” Pierce said.



TED PIERCE

The top five surplus line brokers in 2006 in terms of premium volume were Western Risk Specialists, Swett & Crawford, Marsh USA, AmWINS Insurance Brokers, and AON Risk Services. The top five lines of coverage written in the surplus line market were General Liability, Errors & Omissions, Commercial DIC/Stand Alone Earthquake, Commercial Property, and Excess Liability. The top five surplus line insurers were Lexington Insurance Company, American International Specialty Lines Insurance Company, Scottsdale Insurance Company, Landmark American Insurance Company, Arch Specialty Insurance Company. The combined Lloyd’s syndicates wrote 14 percent of California premiums.

The SLA is an organization of 1,400 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 -- California Insurance Code Sec. 1780.50 et seq. With few exceptions, all California surplus line insurance policies must be filed with the Surplus Line Association of California for analysis, regulatory compliance, record keeping, and statistical reporting.
