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For Immediate Release

## **Bermuda Insurance Institute announces winners of the Twelfth Annual Insurance Industry Awards**

Hamilton, Bermuda (April 1, 2010) - The Bermuda Insurance Institute (“BII”) is pleased to announce the winners the Twelfth Annual Insurance Industry Awards. The recipients will be honored at a gala dinner to be held on May 29, 2010 at the Fairmont Hamilton Princess.

The **Lifetime Achievement Award** recognizes a person who has distinguished his/herself in the industry over the course of their career. The recipient of the 2009 Award is **David Ezekiel M.Sc., F.C.A.**, in recognition of his career long efforts to promote a sound business environment for the international business community in Bermuda. For many years, David has influenced and driven change through partnerships with regulatory, government and professional organizations. He is Chairman of the Association of Bermuda International Companies (“ABIC”). He was also the founding partner and CEO of International Advisory Services (“IAS”), which was acquired by Marsh at the end of 2009 but served as the largest independent in the captive management field for many years, and was recently appointed as MMC Chairman, Bermuda.

The **(Re)insurance Person of the Year Award** recognizes a person from the executive ranks who has made a significant contribution to his/her own organization, or the Bermuda insurance market as a whole, over the previous year. The recipient of the 2009 Award is **Mike McGavick**, for his outstanding leadership as CEO of XL Capital during the most tumultuous time in the Company’s history. In 2009, XL moved from the position of 499 on the S&P 500 to the top performer, with a stock price gain of 395%. Under Mike’s leadership XL was able to reemerge as a leaner, more transparent entity focused on its core business, with an emphasis on enterprise risk management. Mike serves as the Second Deputy Chairman of the Association of Bermuda Insurers and Reinsurers (“ABIR”) and he has spoken at many conferences locally and abroad to highlight a range of issues impacting the industry.

The **Young (Re)insurance Person of the Year Award** recognizes an individual under the age of 35 who, over the previous year, has made a significant contribution to his/her own organization, the Bermuda insurance market or through promoting professionalism through education, conduct or ethics. The recipient of the 2009 Award is **Kirsten Faria**, Senior Vice President, Healthcare Lines at Allied World Assurance Company. Kirsten joined Allied World in 2002 as an assistant underwriter and rapidly ascended through the underwriting ranks, building upon her industry knowledge and assuming increased responsibilities. As product line manager and member of the senior management team of Allied World's Bermuda & International platform, Kirsten is responsible for the P&L of a significant premium portfolio which routinely proves to be the company's highest ROE producing unit. She maintains a high profile within her industry specialty, routinely representing Allied World and the Bermuda market with distribution partners throughout the US and Europe as well as at industry conferences such as RIMS and ASHRM. Kirsten has proven to be an excellent teacher, coach, manager and role model for individuals of all ages who believe in the virtues of work ethic, determination and professionalism.

BII President Mrs. Laurie Orchard congratulated the recipients and said, “It is important that we recognize the outstanding efforts these individuals have put forth in support of our market. Their achievements are representative of the strong commitment of our industry to create lasting value and a gold standard reputation for Bermuda.”

The Bermuda Insurance Institute is a registered charity and educational institution, funded by its insurance industry members. The institute facilitates insurance studies, and insurance-related studies, organizes discussion of industry matters and other interaction among industry participants. Incorporated under The Bermuda Insurance Institute Act 1984, the organization has been preparing Bermudians for the insurance industry since 1970.

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