

**PRESS RELEASE**

24 May 2016

**SOMPO CANOPIUS HIRES BERNIE DE HALDEVANG AS  
GLOBAL HEAD OF SPECIALTY**

Sompo Canopus AG (“Sompo Canopus”) today announces that Bernie de Haldevang is joining the group as Global Head of Specialty. He will be responsible for developing the group’s already successful political risks lines and reinvigorating its accident & health and casualty lines, as it looks to diversify its book with more non cat related business.

Bernie has a stellar reputation as a market leader and more than three decades of experience in the insurance industry, focusing on credit & political risk, war, terrorism & political violence and kidnap for ransom. Most recently, he spent over eight years at Aspen where he was head of financial & professional lines, a member of the insurance executive committee and sat on the Lloyd’s political risk business panel.

Mike Duffy, Group Chief Underwriting Officer, commented, “We are enjoying a renewed sense of purpose for Sompo Canopus, despite the worst market we’ve seen in 20 years. We’d like to be known for doing the products that we write in a more meaningful and less passive way; so we’ve simplified our business to give us space to breathe and focus more on what’s happening in our markets. We’re also hiring the smartest people possible to add to those already here. Bernie ticks every box and we look forward to welcoming him to the team.”

Bernie de Haldevang commented, “Mike Duffy and CEO Stuart Davies presented me with some compelling reasons why I should join Sompo Canopus. I found their down to earth, fundamental reassessment of the business refreshing, infectious and inspiring. The aspirations for the group are exciting and I will be part of, and leading, a great team of highly talented people. I’m looking forward to what we can achieve together.”

– Ends –

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**Biography:**

Bernie de Haldevang has more than three decades of underwriting, broking and management experience in the insurance industry, his original core practice including credit & political risk, war, terrorism, political violence and kidnap & ransom. Beginning in 1983 as a political risk broker at Hogg Robinson Group plc, his career has included board, senior management and executive committee positions at Berry Palmer & Lyle Limited, Wellington Underwriting plc, Atrium Underwriters Ltd and at the African Trade Insurance Agency, the Nairobi based multilateral insurer, which he founded for the World Bank as Chief Executive & Head of Mission. Most recently, he spent over eight years at Aspen Insurance Group where he was head of financial & professional lines, running traditional FINPRO lines as well political risk, cyber, and kidnap and ransom. He was also a member of the Lloyd's political risk business panel and a founder member of the IUA Political Risk panel. Alongside some other non-executive positions, Bernie is also a Global Fellow of Project for the Study of the 21st Century (PS21), a non-traditional think tank formed in 2015.

**About Sompo Canopus AG (“Sompo Canopus”)**

1. Sompo Canopus is a global specialty (re)insurer which is wholly-owned by Sompo Japan Nipponkoa Insurance Inc., one of the top three Japanese insurers with a market share in Japan of 28%. This company is a subsidiary of Sompo Japan Nipponkoa Holdings, Inc. (“Sompo Holdings”) which is listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange (No. 8630).
2. As at 31 March 2015 Sompo Holdings had total assets of \$84.9 billion, ordinary income of \$27.3 billion, profit after tax of \$452 million and a solvency margin ratio of 803.4%. As of 31 March 2016 the company had a market capitalization of \$11.8 billion.
3. Sompo Canopus has underwriting operations in the UK, Netherlands, Switzerland, Bermuda, US and Singapore. It underwrites through Lloyd's Syndicate 4444 (managed by Canopus Managing Agents limited); a US surplus lines insurer, Canopus US Insurance, Inc.; and a Zurich-based reinsurance company, Sompo Japan Canopus Reinsurance AG.
4. Sompo Canopus offers the following specialist lines:

**Property**

- Direct and facultative commercial property
- North American excess and surplus lines binding authorities, including commercial property, SME commercial package, casualty, homeowners, auto

**Reinsurance**

- Property treaty
- Casualty treaty
- Marine treaty

**Marine, Energy & Engineering**

- Marine insurance, including cargo, liability, property, specie, niche hull and space
- Energy insurance, including property, liability, OEE/COW, construction, renewable
- Construction and engineering

### **Political Risks & Crisis Management**

- Political risk and crisis management, including political risk and trade credit, aviation war and crisis management (contaminated product, sabotage and terrorism, kidnap and ransom)

### **Casualty and Accident & Health**

- Casualty, including excess casualty, international general liability, professional indemnity, and financial institutions
- International accident & health

### **UK Specialty**

- Household and specialist property / niche personal lines
- Casualty, including accident & health and professional indemnity
- Commercial combined for the SME sector
- Specialist Consumer Products, including warranty, creditor, mortgage indemnity and accident & health
- Marine including pleasure craft and marine trade
- Motor including personal, commercial and specialist vehicles

For more information, visit [www.sompocanopius.com](http://www.sompocanopius.com), [www.sompocanopiusre.com](http://www.sompocanopiusre.com) and [www.sompo-hd.com/en](http://www.sompo-hd.com/en)