

## **PRESS RELEASE**

30 July 2014

### **CANOPIUS APPOINTS HEAD OF CHINA TO SPEARHEAD GROWTH**

Canopus Group Limited (“Canopus”), the global specialty (re)insurance platform of NKSJ Holdings, Inc. has appointed Shibo Zhang as Head of China Market, as part of the ongoing expansion of its Asian operations. Mr Zhang is based in Singapore reporting to Linus Phoon, Chief Executive, Canopus Asia.

Mr Zhang brings nearly two decades of (re)insurance experience to his new role. He most recently worked for Peak Re where he was Senior Vice President China Market and prior to this served as General Manager at FP Reinsurance Brokers Limited and Department Head at China International Reinsurance Co, Ltd. Mr Zhang started his career at the People’s Insurance Company of China where he spent eight years gaining valuable experience in both insurance and reinsurance underwriting.

Linus Phoon, Chief Executive, Canopus Asia said, “The Chinese market offers significant potential and is a key part of our specialty growth strategy in Asia. Shibo’s underwriting expertise and strong track record in strategic business development will be a great asset in realising our ambitions for profitable growth in the region.”

Shibo Zhang commented, “Canopus has a strong and growing reputation in the Asian market as a provider of specialist (re)insurance products and I am delighted to take up this role to capitalise on the opportunities that exist for Canopus in China.”

– Ends –

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#### **About Canopus Group Limited**

1. Canopus is wholly-owned by Sompo Japan Insurance Inc, a subsidiary of NKSJ Holdings, Inc. (“NKSJ”) which is listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange (No. 8630).
2. NKSJ is one of the top three Japanese insurers with a market share in Japan of 28%.

3. As of 31 March 2014, NKSJ had total assets of \$93.4 billion, ordinary income of \$29.6 billion, profit after tax of \$434 million and a solvency margin ratio of 783.1%. As of 30 June 2014, NKSJ has a market capitalization of \$9.4 billion.
4. Canopius has operations in the UK, US, Bermuda, Switzerland and Singapore.
5. Canopius is the global specialty (re)insurance platform for NKSJ. Its business is organised into three strategic business units writing the following lines of business:

#### **Global Property**

- Direct and facultative commercial property
- North American excess and surplus lines binding authorities
- Property treaty reinsurance

#### **Global Specialty**

- Marine insurance
- Energy insurance
- Marine treaty reinsurance
- Casualty, including international general liability, professional indemnity, financial institutions and excess casualty
- Casualty treaty reinsurance
- Construction and engineering
- International accident & health
- Crisis management, including product contamination, war, sabotage & terrorism, aviation war and kidnap & ransom
- Political risk, including expropriation, contract frustration, aircraft repossession and structured trade credit

#### **UK Specialty**

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

For more information, visit [www.canopius.com](http://www.canopius.com) and [www.nksj-hd.com/en](http://www.nksj-hd.com/en)

#### **Biography**

##### **Mr Shibo Zhang, Head of China, Canopius Asia**

Shibo Zhang was appointed Head of China Market for Canopius Asia in June 2014. Previously Shibo worked at Peak Re where he was Senior Vice President China Market. Prior to this he served as General Manager at FP Reinsurance Brokers Limited and Department Head at China International Reinsurance Co., Ltd. He worked with the People's Insurance of China from 1994 to 2002 based in both Hong Kong and Mainland China. He speaks fluent English as well as Mandarin and Cantonese. Shibo studied for his Bachelor of Arts at the Shanghai International Studies University and for a Master of Arts at the University of Auckland. He spent three years as a Parliamentary Assistant in the New Zealand Parliament acting in a number of roles, including providing cultural advice to cabinet ministers and Members of Parliament.