



CANOPIUS

**PRESS RELEASE**

10 June 2010

**THERE'S A BUZZ ABOUT CANOPIUS ...**

**CANOPIUS BRINGS BEES TO LLOYD'S IN SUPPORT OF BIODIVERSITY**

Canopus Group Limited ("Canopus"), a leading specialist insurance underwriting business, today announces that it has partnered with this year's City of London Festival in support of the International Year of Biodiversity by acquiring and hosting a bee hive.

The hive, which is situated on Canopus's tenth floor roof terrace at Lloyd's, was this week officially inaugurated by Lloyd's Chief Executive, Richard Ward and Canopus Chairman, Michael Watson.

The arrival of the Canopus bees at Lloyd's was filmed by the BBC programme, Panorama, as part of a documentary on biodiversity, currently scheduled to be broadcast on 30 August at 8.30pm on BBC1.

Through the sustainable and long-term placement of this and seven other hives, the initiative aims to support the biodiversity of the Square Mile and its environs and provide an innovative example of the scope for successful and productive urban bee keeping.

As part of this initiative, Canopus has installed bee-friendly planting on the roof terrace to help support the bees' immediate environment. Following an enthusiastic response from its staff, a group of volunteer beekeepers from Canopus is being trained by a professional beekeeper to ensure that the hive can be maintained on an on-going basis after the close of the festival.

Michael Watson, Chairman of Canopus, commented "We are proud to represent the insurance industry in this innovative initiative by the City of London Festival. This is the first urban bee project of its kind in the UK and we hope that it will help highlight the importance of maintaining the biodiversity of our natural environments, an issue of increasing importance to us all".

Richard Ward, Chief Executive of Lloyd's, commented, "This initiative supports the market's reputation of innovation and leadership, and we wish the bees well in their unusual new environment, along with Canopus in their support for the City of London Festival."

- Ends -

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**Notes to Editors:**

1. Canopus Group Limited is a privately-owned international insurance and reinsurance group with operations in the UK, Bermuda, Singapore, Dublin and Australia. Canopus is owned by management and Bregal Capital LLP, a private equity company.
2. Incorporated in Guernsey, Canopus Group Limited is the parent of Canopus Managing Agents Limited (CMA), the tenth largest managing agent at Lloyd's, which manages Syndicate 4444. Syndicate 4444's gross premiums written for 2010 are approximately £600 million.
3. Syndicate 4444 focuses on the following classes of insurance and reinsurance:
  - UK Homeowners and Miscellaneous Property Facilities
  - Commercial Combined business for the UK SME sector
  - Global Direct and Facultative Property Risks
  - Crisis Management, including Product Contamination & Recall, Sabotage & Terrorism and Kidnap & Ransom
  - North American Facilities
  - Marine, Energy and Engineering
  - Casualty, including Professional Indemnity, Financial Institutions, General Liability, Accident & Health and Excess Casualty
  - Treaty Reinsurance including Property, Engineering, Casualty and Marine.
4. The City of London Festival takes place from 21<sup>st</sup> June to 10<sup>th</sup> July. See [www.colf.co.uk](http://www.colf.co.uk) for more information.