

FAIRFAX News Release

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FAIRFAX ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF BRUCE ESSELBORN AS CHAIRMAN AND CEO OF CRUM & FORSTER

Fairfax is pleased to announce the appointment of Bruce Esselborn as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Crum & Forster Holdings and its subsidiary companies, effective immediately.

Mr. Esselborn's career in the insurance industry spans over 30 years. From 1967 to 1986, he occupied increasingly senior positions within American International Group. In 1986 he set out on his own by establishing United Capitol Insurance Company, an excess and surplus lines company which produced a ten-year record of combined ratios averaging approximately 80%.

United Capitol became part of Capsure Holdings Corp., a NYSE-listed company, in 1990. As President of Capsure, Bruce led several successful acquisitions and, ultimately, a merger of Capsure with a division of CNA, which resulted in excellent returns for Capsure's shareholders.

Most recently, Bruce was serving as a consultant for Marsh & McLennan Capital Inc., the private equity affiliate of the global J&H/Marsh & McLennan organization specializing in insurance investments.

Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited is a financial services holding company which, through its subsidiaries, is engaged in property, casualty and life insurance and reinsurance, investment management and insurance claims management.

For further information contact: John C. Varnell, Vice President at (416) 367-4941