



Press release: March 9, 2010

## Hiscox Launches Special Protection Insurance for Houses of Worship

**NEW YORK** – Hiscox (LSE: HSX), the international specialist insurer and leading provider of kidnap and ransom insurance, has today announced the launch of its Houses of Worship coverage, a new offering through its Special Protection Solution program.

The product, which is unique to the insurance market, addresses a range of complex risks faced by religious institutions within the US and abroad with no country exclusions. The Houses of Worship Special Protection Solution includes coverage for expenses incurred by religious institutions responding to acts of violence that may result in death or serious injury to personnel and parishioners. The policy also reimburses expenses related to threats of violence, extortion, and kidnapping.

Handling of these difficult and dangerous circumstances require specialized knowledge to ensure the swift and safe return of those covered, which include directors, officers, employees, volunteers, mission attendees, students, chaperones, consultants and independent contractors. Working with Control Risks, an independent specialist risk consultancy, Hiscox's kidnap and ransom underwriting team offers unrivalled industry knowledge of intricate security risks to address any situation worldwide, based on over 30 years of experience.

"The Houses of Worship product offers proactive coverage that may include crisis and evacuation planning and travel security awareness training to address all the potential needs and impending risks to houses of worship." said Jeremy Lang, Manager, US Kidnap and Ransom insurance, Hiscox USA. "We have developed this product in direct response to broker requests for an all encompassing program that would not only protect houses of worship against violent assaults on their premises but would also provide coverage to those who work or volunteer abroad on the organization's behalf against threats and travel associated risks."

The Houses of Worship Special Protection Solution covers expenses incurred in responding to:

- kidnaps for ransom
- acts of violence resulting in death or serious injury
- threats of violence and/or damage to property
- specified extortion threats
- disappearances of members from a sponsored activity or while travelling
- express kidnaps
- travel evacuations
- loss of earnings as a result of an insured event.

Covered losses may include:

- legal liability
- loss of revenue
- costs of increased security
- costs to evacuate insured persons to safety
- fees and expenses of professional security consultants deployed within 24 hours worldwide
- death or dismemberment benefit
- ransom/extortion money
- additional expenses including travel and accommodation costs, legal advice, personal financial loss, public relations, psychiatric and medical care, rest and rehabilitation expenses and additional reasonable necessary expenses.



In addition to the Houses of Worship Special Protection Solution, Hiscox offers a variety of industry specific Kidnap and Ransom products including: Corporate Risks, Family Risks, Academic Security Risks; Hospital Security Risks and Marine Risks.

In the last 18 months, Hiscox has added several new products to its already extensive range of product lines in the U.S., including Inland Marine, Construction and Commercial Property and has almost doubled its number of experienced underwriters.

Hiscox has offices in New York, NY; Armonk, NY; Boston, MA; Chicago, IL; Geneva, IL; Los Angeles, CA; San Francisco, CA; Kansas City, MO; and Lexington, KY.

### **Ends**

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### **About Control Risks**

Hiscox's Kidnap and Ransom policy includes exclusive access to Control Risks, an independent, specialist risk consultancy. Control Risks has more than 30 years of experience in crisis response and has advised on a variety of cases. Control Risks handles cases involving kidnap for ransom (whether short or long-term, financially, politically or otherwise motivated), hostage takings, ship and aircraft hijacks, political detentions, and other threat extortions. Staffed with a full-time team of consultants, Control Risks' consultants are able to deploy with minimum notice to a crisis anywhere in the world.

### **About Hiscox in the US**

Hiscox, the international specialist insurer, is headquartered in Bermuda and listed on the London Stock Exchange (LSE:HSX). There are three main underwriting parts of the Group – Hiscox London Market, Hiscox UK and Europe and Hiscox International. Hiscox International includes operations in Bermuda, Guernsey and the USA. Hiscox ASM Ltd, Hiscox Underwriting Ltd and Hiscox Syndicates Ltd are authorized and regulated by the UK Financial Services Authority. The ability of syndicates at Lloyd's to do business in the USA and its territories is restricted as they are not US-based insurers.

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