



# 19th Asia Insurance Industry Awards 2015

## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### Best of Asia's insurance industry honoured at awards ceremony

Singapore, 3 Nov 2015

Asia's insurance industry celebrated its very best at a gala dinner held in Singapore last night with some 15 winners.

The 19<sup>th</sup> Asia Insurance Industry Awards honoured the achievements of outstanding industry members in 15 categories.

The **Life Insurance Company of the Year** award went to Sun Life of Canada (Philippines) Inc, with its commitment to help Filipinos achieve lifetime financial security, promoting financial literacy through its excellent efforts in community outreach and making insurance relatable to the people. The **General Insurance Company of the Year** award went to MSIG Insurance (Malaysia) Bhd for advancing its customers' experience and pioneering role in Enterprise Risk Management (ERM).

Aon and its reinsurance intermediary Aon Benfield won big, garnering the **Broker and Reinsurance Broker of the Year** awards respectively for their continued consistency in meeting their clients' needs and thought leadership, resulting in its continued growth in the region. Meanwhile, Munich Re, the world's largest reinsurer, swept both **General Reinsurer** and **Life Reinsurer of the Year** honours, ranking first for life reinsurance market penetration and being a voice for key issues at global platforms with its strong Nat CAT research and risk assessment capabilities.

The awards also recognised those who have excelled in innovation and the attention paid to developing their staff and community. Sri Lanka's Asian Alliance Insurance PLC brought home the **Innovation of the Year** award, for its mobile application which has revolutionised motor claims settlement and saving the time and energy of all involved. With its Instant Mobile Office as the deserving **Technology Initiative of the Year**, AIA Malaysia has fully exploited the benefits of the mobile platform to enhance the efficiency and productivity of its agency force.

Insurance is not just a profitable business – it is an employer with a heart and soul. Tata AIG General Insurance Company Ltd has shown how it is possible to make insurance an attractive career with its employee-centricity, winning the **Employer of the Year** accolade for its efforts in career development for its staff. The **Corporate Social Responsibility** award honoured Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company of Vietnam Limited for its construction projects in rural Vietnam which the insurer's staff actively participated in despite the remoteness and difficulty, thus contributing to local flood protection efforts in time for the rainy season.

Paying tribute to the service providers without which the insurance industry could not operate, the awards acknowledged the **Educational Service Provider of the Year**, the Australian and New Zealand Institute of Finance for its consistent efforts and in-depth knowledge in providing a wide-range of training. ReMark International, with its savvy mobile marketing capabilities and use of apps to help its clients achieve greater efficacy in distribution efforts, bagged the **Service Provider of the Year** award.

For individual honours, Mr Chai Sophonpanich is this year's **Lifetime Achievement Award** winner. Long seen as the "elder" and leader of Thailand's insurance market, he has served today's successful Bangkok Insurance valiantly for over 50 years and has been in many regional insurance leadership roles. Ms Aruno Rajaratnam is the industry's **Personality of the Year** – few are those who can match the length, breadth and depth of her insurance career and her contributions to mentoring and training the younger insurance generation. In the still growing but vital field of risk management, Mr Ryan Tan, Head of Strategy and Risk Management at Singapore transport operator SMRT Corporation was awarded the **Corporate Risk Manager of the Year** title for his dual role in spearheading strategy development and ERM while promoting risk management as a philosophy and business discipline.

Mr Sivam Subramaniam, Editor-in-Chief of awards' host Asia Insurance Review said, "The insurance industry is committed in its search for excellence. The entries this year showed passion and dedication to be different. These leaders make the industry shine, and so do the Judges with their commitment to the task of selecting winners. I salute all participants who had the pride, guts and gumption to take pride in what they do and want to share their story."

There were over 400 entries for the awards, from which over 40 finalists were selected for a judging process involving a panel of over 20 international judges made up of business leaders and regulators in the insurance industry. This year's judging process and award results were audited by KPMG. The annual Asia Insurance Industry Awards are the only awards of its kind in the region. It has been hosted since 1997 by Asia Insurance Review, the leading journal and strategic partner in the region's insurance industry.

### **19<sup>th</sup>Asia Insurance Industry Awards winners**

#### **Life Insurance Company of the Year**

Sun Life of Canada (Philippines) Inc

#### **General Insurance Company of the Year**

MSIG Insurance (Malaysia) Bhd

#### **Educational Service Provider of the Year**

Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance and Finance

#### **Innovation of the Year**

Asian Alliance Insurance PLC

#### **Service Provider of the Year**

ReMark International

#### **Corporate Risk Manager of the Year**

Mr Ryan Tan, SMRT Corporation, Singapore

#### **Broker of the Year**

Aon

#### **Reinsurance Broker of the Year**

Aon Benfield

#### **General Reinsurer of the Year**

Munich Re

#### **Life Reinsurer of the Year**

Munich Re

#### **Corporate Social Responsibility Award**

Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company of Vietnam Ltd

**Technology Initiative of the Year**

AIA Malaysia

**Employer of the Year**

Tata AIG General Insurance Company Ltd

**Personality of the Year Award**

Ms Aruno Rajaratnam

**Lifetime Achievement Award**

Mr Chai Sophonpanich

**19<sup>th</sup>Asia Insurance Industry Awards judges**

**Annie Choi**, Former Commissioner of Insurance, Hong Kong

**Alan Wilson**, Regional CEO, MSIG Holdings (Asia) Pte Ltd

**Attaphon Phibunthanaphatthana**, Assistant Secretary General, Office of Insurance Commission, Thailand

**Chai Sophonpanich**, Chairman & President, Bangkok Insurance Public Co Ltd

**Christopher Townsend**, President, Asia, Metlife Inc

**David L Fried**, CEO, Emerging Markets, QBE Insurance Group

**Franz Josef Hahn**, CEO, Peak Re

**Franck Baron**, Chairman, Pan-Asia Risk & Insurance Management Association

**Geoff Riddell**, Adviser, APMEA, Zurich Insurance Group

**Katsuo Matsushita**, Special Advisor & Liaison Officer for Japan & East Asia, The Geneva Association

**Kazuhito Oura**, Director & General Manager, The Toa Reinsurance Company, Limited

**Kent Chaplin**, Head of Asia Pacific & Managing Director, Lloyd's Asia

**Malcolm Steingold**, CEO, Aon Benfield Asia Pacific

**Mark Newman**, Head of Asia & Deputy Chief Executive Asia Pacific Insurance, XL Catlin

**Richard Austen**, Chairman, Reinsurance Brokers' Association (Singapore) & CEO, Asia Reinsurance Brokers Pte Ltd

**Dr Roger Sellek**, CEO, A.M. Best - EMEA & Asia Pacific

**Sara Lamsam**, President, The Thai Life Insurance Association and President & CEO, Muang Thai Life Assurance Public Co Ltd

**Sharon Ooi**, Managing Director, Client Markets Asia & Principal Officer, Swiss Re Singapore Branch

**Simon Copley**, Asia Pacific Insurance Leader, PwC Hong Kong

**Thomas Lillelund**, Chairman of Singapore Reinsurers' Association and Managing Director & Chief Executive, Aspen Re

**Dr Till Böhmer**, CEO, Munich Reinsurance Company Singapore Branch Office

**Thomas Yu-Hui Chang**, Deputy Director General, Insurance Bureau, Taiwan

**Tony Cheng**, Executive Vice President, Asian Markets, RGA Reinsurance Company

**Tsutomu Terabayashi**, Managing Director, Tokio Marine Asia Pte Ltd

**International judges:**

**Gregory Maciag**, President & CEO, ACORD

**Patrick Liedtke**, Managing Director & Head of Financial Institutions Group – EMEA, BlackRock

**Michael J Morrissey**, President and CEO, International Insurance Society

**Stephen Collins**, CEO, ReMark Group

**Yassir Albaharna**, CEO, Arab Insurance Group (Arig)

For more information on the awards, please refer to the following website:

<http://www.asiainsurancereview.com/asiaawards/>

