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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Markel Names Chris Reichert Managing Director of Sales & Marketing for Markel Specialty

Richmond, VA, June 28, 2012 — Markel Corporation announced that Chris Reichert has assumed new responsibilities as Managing Director of Sales & Marketing for Markel Specialty. In this role, he will be responsible for the tactical implementation of sales and marketing plans for Markel Specialty. Chris will focus primarily on the growth of Markel Specialty's business with retail agencies.

Chris came to Markel as a result of the 2010 acquisition of FirstComp Insurance, a monoline workers' compensation insurer, and assumes his new duties following his leadership roles and success in underwriting, sales, and marketing. Chris has been serving as the primary business development link between Markel FirstComp and Markel Specialty.

"In the wake of the FirstComp and THOMCO acquisitions, Markel Specialty has grown and is expanding the distribution of specialty products," said Thomas K. Smith, Managing Director of Marketing for Markel Corporation. "As a specialist in developing and growing high-quality distribution networks that match company capabilities, Chris is well positioned to help Markel Specialty expand its industry-leading niche products countrywide."

Chris will split his time between Markel's Richmond headquarters and other offices to work with Markel Specialty's business unit marketing teams.

About Markel Corporation

Markel Corporation is a diverse financial holding company serving a variety of niche markets. The Company's principal business markets and underwrites specialty insurance products. In each of the Company's businesses, it seeks to provide quality products and excellent customer service so that it can be a market leader. The financial goals of the Company are to earn consistent underwriting and operating profits and superior investment returns to build shareholder value. Visit Markel Corporation on the web at www.markelcorp.com.

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