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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Markel Global Reinsurance appoints Frank Bigley to underwrite agriculture and crop reinsurance

Richmond, VA, September 9, 2013 — Markel Corporation today announced that Markel Global Reinsurance has appointed Frank Bigley as Underwriting Director for agriculture and crop reinsurance.

Jed Rhoads, President and Chief Underwriting Officer, Property Reinsurance for Markel Global Reinsurance, commented: "Frank Bigley is a highly respected industry veteran with a successful track record as a reinsurance underwriter specializing in agriculture and crop exposures. We are fortunate that he has agreed to join our team in Bermuda, where, with effect from October 2013, he will assume responsibility for the book of agriculture reinsurance business previously written by Markel in Dublin."

Frank has held various reinsurance underwriting and management positions during a career spanning more than forty years. He was most recently Senior Vice President and Reinsurance Department Manager at Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance Company of Iowa, where he was responsible for all assumed and ceded reinsurance activities from 2000 until his retirement earlier this year. Frank earned a BS degree in Business Administration from Villanova University and an MBA in Management and Finance from Rutgers University Graduate School of Business Administration.

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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