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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Markel Specialty President to speak at the 2013 Entrepreneurial Insurance Symposium

Richmond, VA, Aug 19, 2013 — Greg Thompson, President of Markel Specialty, will speak at the 7th annual Entrepreneurial Insurance Symposium which will be held September 10-11, 2013, in Dallas, Texas. The symposium is hosted by MarketScout and features CEOs and other industry thought leaders as speakers.

Greg's presentation, titled "The Road to Success is Paved with Failure," highlights his personal experience with entrepreneurship in the insurance business. "I often attribute the success of my venture, THOMCO, to running out of ways to screw things up. This talk will cover the sometimes painful process of building a company from one employee (myself) to selling the company to Markel," stated Greg. At the time of the acquisition, THOMCO wrote \$170 million in premium with 110 employees located in Denver, Kansas City, and Atlanta.

"I will talk about what I learned about leadership along the way and will highlight a number of 'near death' business experiences that ultimately made both our team and myself more productive," continued Greg.

Greg has been in the insurance business for over 30 years. He began his career in the brokerage industry and in 1979, formed Thompson Insurance Enterprises (THOMCO) with his father. Greg led THOMCO for 32 years, growing it from a small wholesale operation to a national program administrator. Markel acquired THOMCO in January 2012, and Greg is now President of Markel Specialty.

About Markel Specialty

Markel Specialty, a division of Markel Corporation, provides innovative insurance solutions for both commercial customers and individuals. Types of insurance offered include property & casualty, workers' compensation, accident, and programs featuring industry or risk-specific coverage packages.

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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