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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Stephen Leeret joins Markel Specialty as head of its programs business**

**Richmond, Virginia, June 7, 2016** — Markel Specialty, a division of Markel Corporation (NYSE: MKL), announced today that Stephen Leeret has joined the company and will be leading its delegated authority programs business. Leeret, an insurance executive with 26 years of experience, was previously employed by Lexington Insurance Company, an AIG company.

Matt Parker, President of Markel Specialty, stated, "We are happy to welcome Steve to our team. Steve is a well-respected and talented executive, and his experience and contacts will prove to be real assets as we position ourselves to enter into new partnerships with program administrators. Markel, all in, supports nearly \$700 million in programs business, and I am confident that Steve will help us grow and expand our presence in this space."

Leeret added, "Markel is a great company with a great reputation and a great brand. I look forward to strengthening our long-term relationships with current and future program administrators."

Leeret's appointment was effective May 16, 2016, and he reports to Parker.

**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 and 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 [markelcorp.com](http://markelcorp.com).

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