



Insurance Company of the West
Explorer Insurance Company
Independence Casualty and Surety Company

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kevin Harris assumes the CIO position for ICW Group

SAN DIEGO, January 7, 2008 – **ICW Group** has announced the appointment of Kevin Harris to the position of Chief Information Officer effective January 1, 2008. Kevin joined the company in March 2007, as Senior Vice President of Technology, Innovation and Services. Since then, he has built a robust and capable technology foundation and IT leadership team. As the new CIO, Kevin will execute on key technology projects that support Business initiatives - ensuring that the company's rapid advancement into a next-generation carrier will continue to move dynamically forward. Kevin replaces Deborah Smallwood, who will move to a consulting role using her extensive insurance expertise to support ICW Group business strategy and transformation.

About ICW Group

ICW Group is a growing multi-line property and casualty insurance carrier providing workers' compensation, surety, commercial property, DIC and personal and business auto insurance. Its member companies consist of Insurance Company of the West, Explorer Insurance Company and Independence Casualty and Surety. Based in San Diego, Calif., ICW Group is a full-service insurer, providing claims and safety services for its product lines. With its unparalleled financial strength and underwriting acumen, privately held ICW Group is transforming itself into a 'next generation' insurance provider. More information is available at <http://www.icwgroup.com/>.