



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ICW Group Expands Executive Roles for Kevin Prior and Doug Browne

SAN DIEGO, April 8, 2008 – **ICW Group**, a leading group of insurers, announced it has named Kevin Prior President of its Independence Casualty and Surety (ICS) subsidiary. Kevin, whose career at ICW Group spans 18 years, remains President and CEO of ICW Group and President of its Explorer Insurance Company subsidiary. He replaces John Hannum, former Executive Vice President of Surety and President of ICS, who retired in February 2008.

“Kevin has been instrumental in differentiating ICW Group by placing an extremely high emphasis on underwriting discipline while delighting our customers,” said Bernard Feldman, Vice Chairman of ICW Group. “We welcome Kevin to his expanded executive role, which gives us a cohesive team at the top to lead further growth.”

“I would like to thank John for his many contributions over the years,” said Kevin. “His track record has established a long and proud tradition for ICW Group that I am honored to continue.”

In 2004, Kevin became one of the youngest insurance company presidents in the industry when he was promoted to President and CEO of ICW Group. Under his leadership, ICW Group is rapidly transforming itself into a next-generation carrier. By embracing new technology and moving forward with creative talent, Kevin has driven underwriting profitability at ICW Group, making it one of the fastest-growing carriers in the insurance industry.

In addition, ICW Group has promoted Doug Browne to Senior Vice President and Managing Director of its Surety Division, where he will oversee day-to-day activities. Previously Senior Vice President of Surety, Doug joined ICW Group in 1998 and brings more than 35 years of underwriting and management experience to the position.



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About ICW Group

Privately held ICW Group represents a group of multi-line property and casualty insurance carriers 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 continues to transform itself into an insurance industry leader dedicated to meeting the needs of its agents and the people and companies they insure. More information is available at <http://www.icwgroup.com/>.