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ICW Group and FirstBest Win ACORD Innovative Implementation Award

ACORD Honors FirstBest for Deploying Underwriting Management System at ICW Group

LAS VEGAS, NV, May 13, 2008 – FirstBest® Systems, Inc, provider of advanced Underwriting Management Systems™ (UMS) that enable commercial insurance carriers to profit from better underwriting, has been honored with the ACORD Innovative Implementation Award for deploying its next-generation underwriting solution at ICW Group, a leading provider of property and casualty insurance based in San Diego. The award was presented at an awards luncheon at the 2008 ACORD LOMA Insurance Systems Forum, a leading insurance industry conference taking place at the Mandalay Bay Report, Las Vegas, NV.

“Our selection of FirstBest’s UMS enabled us to deploy an enterprise underwriting strategy that is innovative and unique in the marketplace. It is gratifying to share this award with FirstBest, a company that shared our vision and enabled us to deploy a transformational underwriting solution,” said Kevin Harris, Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer, ICW Group.

“This prestigious award is especially exciting, since ACORD is dedicated to improving the way insurance companies do business through the use of technology. FirstBest invested nearly two years researching the needs of commercial carriers, and meeting those needs with a next-generation software solution that enables underwriting transformation. Our deployment at ICW Group is the culmination of that effort,” said John Belizaire, CEO, FirstBest.

“On behalf of ACORD, I want to congratulate FirstBest on receiving a 2008 ACORD Innovative Implementation Award. I also want to commend them for their ongoing commitment to the implementation of ACORD standards,” said John Kellington, senior vice president, ACORD.

ICW Group will present a case study on “Underwriting Transformation,” which will describe how the FirstBest UMS has transformed the company’s multi-line property and casualty underwriting and helped ICW expand and scale the business, enter new markets, and enable an enterprise underwriting strategy. Kevin Harris, Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer, ICW Group, will deliver the presentation on May 14, 2008, 3:15 - 4:00 p.m., at the Mandalay Bay Report, Room Islander AB.

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 automobile 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 www.icwgroup.com.

About FirstBest Systems

Founded in 2006, FirstBest® Systems, Inc. delivers advanced Underwriting Management Systems™ (UMS) that enable commercial insurance carriers to profit from better underwriting. The FirstBest UMS™ is a next-generation underwriting solution for commercial-lines carriers that enables them to write more business and write better business. Insurers can

scale their underwriting profitably while achieving greater speed and business agility; foster real-time collaboration to make it easy for agents to do business with carriers; promote enhanced underwriting discipline and consistency; and empower management with greater visibility into underwriting processes. For more information, please visit www.firstbest.com or call 1.888.863.6095.

About ACORD

Based in New York, ACORD (Association for Cooperative Operations Research and Development) is a global, nonprofit insurance association whose mission is to facilitate the development and use of standards for the insurance, reinsurance and related financial services industries. With offices in London as well, ACORD accomplishes its mission by remaining an objective, independent advocate for sharing information among diverse platforms. ACORD Standards and services improve efficiency and expand market reach. Affiliated with ACORD are hundreds of insurance and reinsurance companies, and thousands of agents and brokers, related financial services organizations, software providers, and industry organizations worldwide. More information is available at www.acord.org

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