



News Release

For Immediate Release

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ACORD Awards Honor Outstanding Achievements by Companies and Vendors at ISF 2004 Conference

LAS VEGAS, NV – May 24, 2004 - The 12th Annual ACORD Awards ceremony recognizing achievements in ACORD data standards implementations was held at a special luncheon during the ACORD LOMA Insurance Systems Forum in Las Vegas. Beginning with a welcome from ACORD President and CEO Gregory A. Maciag and remarks from ACORD Board Chairman David Findley, Senior Vice President, Commercial Lines/Personal Lines, St. Paul Travelers, the ceremony honored those who excelled at implementing ACORD data standards over the past year.

In his welcome to the winners, their associates, the ACORD Board of Directors, members of the press, and other guests, Maciag emphasized the importance of standards and the fact that "implementation is what it is all about." In his remarks, Findley illustrated through statistics the exceptional rise in certifications and implementations in only one year's time. He also emphasized that this was the opportunity to "recognize and applaud our members who are actively implementing standards and participation is what we are here to recognize."

The awards were presented by Denise Garth, vice president, Membership and Development, ACORD who commented that "this year was especially competitive with over 400 submissions and 160 winners. We are honored to present these companies with these awards and recognize their leadership in standards adoption. They are truly on the vanguard of the insurance industry."

New awards for 2004 included Early Forms Adopter Awards (presented to Allstate Financial/Lincoln Benefit Life and JCRS Inland Marine Solutions, Inc., Hooper Holmes, Strategic Insurance Software, Inc., Applied Systems, Inc., and The Hartford), Early SOAP Framework Adopter Award (presented to Brixlogic, Innovative Process Technology, Inc., Softshare, Web Connectivity, ri3K, and Computer Sciences Corporation) and the Shared Service/Infrastructure Platform Provider Award (presented to Aon Limited, Fiserv, and IVANS, Inc.).

In its second year as a category, the Industry Leadership for Straight Through Processing award was presented to Depository Trust Clearing Corporation, Examination Management Services, Inc., ri3K, Aon Surety, Computer Sciences Corporation, St. Paul Travelers, Hooper Holmes, Safeco Insurance Companies, ACUITY, and Applied Systems, Inc.

Many insurers, reinsurers and brokers won multiple awards, including ACUITY, Aon Limited, Ohio Casualty, Aon Surety and The Hartford. Other multiple-award winners included Secura, Frankemuth, St. Paul Travelers, GE ERC and Safeco. GE Financial brought home seven awards and SCOR won eight, the most of any nominee.

"This year, we were excited to see a rapid rise in implementations and certifications in ACORD standards throughout the world," said Garth. "With implementations rising more than 300% across lines of business, these awards are becoming more competitive and more prestigious, a true badge of honor within the industry that allow them to stand out from their competitors."

Next year's awards will be held at ACORD LOMA Insurance systems forum at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Hotels in Orlando, Florida, May 24-26, 2005. For additional information visit <http://www.acord.org>.

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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.

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