

OneBeacon to Purchase Atlantic Mutual's Commercial Insurance Business

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BOSTON, Dec. 5 /PRNewswire/ -- OneBeacon Insurance Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of White Mountains Insurance Group, Ltd. (NYSE: WTM), announced it has signed an agreement in principle to acquire the Atlantic Specialty Insurance Company, a subsidiary of Atlantic Mutual, and the renewal rights to Atlantic Mutual's commercial insurance business, including the unearned premiums on the acquired book. The overall gross written premium for this book of business totals approximately \$450 million.

"This is an exciting new chapter for OneBeacon," said John Cavoores, president and CEO of OneBeacon. "With the acquisition of this segmented middle-market business, we will start underwriting commercial business throughout the United States. This will bring the best of Atlantic Mutual's and OneBeacon's commercial products, services and people to the market. It is a great fit for OneBeacon and I welcome the Atlantic Mutual employees and producers to the OneBeacon organization," added Cavoores.

Consummation of the transaction is subject to regulatory approval and other conditions.

Headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts, OneBeacon Insurance Group provides property-casualty and select specialty insurance solutions. With roots dating back 170 years and an A.M. Best rating of A (excellent), OneBeacon's wide range of personal, commercial and specialty products and services are sold through select property-casualty independent agents.

OneBeacon Insurance Group is wholly owned by White Mountains Insurance Group, Ltd., of Hamilton, Bermuda. White Mountains' principal businesses are conducted through its subsidiaries and affiliates in the business of property- casualty insurance and reinsurance. The company is publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "WTM."

Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

This press release may contain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, included or referenced in this release which address activities, events or developments which we expect or anticipate will or may occur in the future are forward-looking statements. The words "believe,"

"intend," "expect," "anticipate," "project," "estimate," "predict" and similar expressions are also intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements include, among others, statements with respect to White Mountains':

- growth in book value per share or return on equity; business strategy;
- financial and operating targets or plans;
- incurred losses and the adequacy of its loss and loss adjustment expense reserves;
- projections of revenues, income (or loss), earnings (or loss) per share, dividends, market share or other financial forecasts;
- expansion and growth of its business and operations; and
- future capital expenditures.

These statements are based on certain assumptions and analyses made by White Mountains in light of its experience and perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors believed to be appropriate in the circumstances. However, whether actual results and developments will conform with its expectations and predictions is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from expectations, including:

- whether the acquisition of Atlantic Specialty Insurance Company is consummated;
- the continued availability of capital and financing;
- general economic, market or business conditions;
- business opportunities (or lack thereof) that may be presented to it and pursued;
- competitive forces, including the conduct of other property and casualty insurers and reinsurers;
- changes in domestic or foreign laws or regulations applicable to White Mountains, its competitors or its clients;
- an economic downturn or other economic conditions adversely affecting its financial position;
- loss reserves established subsequently proving to have been inadequate; and
- other factors, most of which are beyond White Mountains' control.

Consequently, all of the forward-looking statements made in this press release are qualified by these cautionary statements, and there can be no assurance that the actual results or developments anticipated by White Mountains will be realized or, even if substantially realized, that they will have the expected consequences to, or effects on, White Mountains or its business or operations. White Mountains assumes no obligation to update publicly any such forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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