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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DSU Executive Team Joins Markel to Grow Employer Stop Loss

Richmond, VA, July 19, 2010 – Continuing a commitment to the employer Stop Loss market with expanded capacity and expertise, Markel's Accident & Health Division announced today the addition of Steve Donnelly, Paul Skrtich, and Lynn Stoner, formerly of DSU, LLC, to Markel's staff. These industry specialists bring a wealth of experience in the Stop Loss arena to the task of growing Markel's book.

The former DSU team had been Markel's independent underwriting management partner for supporting specialty brokers, wholesalers, and third party administrators. Steve Donnelly, Director of Stop Loss & Excess Medical, explained, "Our joining Markel is the natural progression of the business plan that started in 1994. We began our partnership with Markel in 2007. Bringing us on as employees demonstrates the commitment and investment that Markel is making in this business. My associates Paul Skrtich, Lynn Stoner, and I are excited about joining the company to align our collective resources."

Alan Kirshner, Chairman & CEO, Markel Corporation, commented, "Markel has been successful by attracting and providing resources to talented professionals and by giving them the authority to manage their business and grow. I am very pleased about the formation of our expanded Stop Loss product team."

With coverage available in 49 jurisdictions, Markel expects Stop Loss to become a significant line of business. The former DSU office in Shelton, CT, is now a Markel office specializing in Stop Loss. Mark Nichols, Managing Director, Markel Accident & Health, shared, "Steve, Paul, and Lynn's joining us provides greater capacity and a more efficient alignment of our already successful efforts. Having them on our team forms a more traditional insurance company underwriting and business development model that will benefit our producers immediately."

The changes in healthcare delivery and financing continue to make self-insuring benefit plans attractive to businesses. Mike Crowley, President & Co-Chief Operating Officer of Markel Corporation stated, "Markel's strong balance sheet, commitment to professional, experienced talent, and the healthcare insurance environment combined with our growth strategy make this an ideal time to expand. We are pleased that this team has been formed to bring better, faster, and more efficient service to Stop Loss producers and purchasers."

ABOUT MARKEL CORPORATION

Markel Corporation markets and underwrites specialty insurance products and programs to a variety of niche markets. In each of these markets, the company seeks to provide quality products and excellent customer service so that it can be a market leader. The financial goals of the company are to earn consistent underwriting profits and superior investment returns to build shareholder value. Visit Markel Corporation on the web at www.markelcorp.com or our A&H division at www.markelAH.com.