



PRESS RELEASE

DATE: December 16, 2011 Toronto

Ted Harman, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors for CSIO is pleased to announce the appointment of Catherine Smola to the position of President.

Reporting to the Board, Catherine is responsible for advancing CSIO's central mandate of seeking ways to provide a competitive advantage for the Independent Broker Distribution Channel in Canada. She will lead a team currently dedicated to servicing the membership of CSIO which includes 2100 brokerages, 21 insurers, 43 mutual insurers under the CAMIC umbrella, and 25 vendors.

Catherine joins CSIO from Intact Financial Corporation where she held a variety of regional and national roles since 1997. At Intact, Catherine's career cumulated with her appointment in 2006 to President, Grey Power Insurance Brokers Inc. Under her strong leadership Grey Power became a well recognized provider of insurance solutions for Canadian consumers.

Catherine earned her Honours Bachelor of Arts degree from York University and holds her Fellow Chartered Insurance Professional designation from the Insurance Institute of Canada.

Centre for Study of Insurance Operations (CSIO) was founded in 1981 as an association of Property and Casualty insurance companies and their distributing brokerages.

Contact information:

Ted Harman
(514) 363-3636 ext. 320