

**Press release  
13 July 2016**

### **New appointments at GRiD**

Group Risk Development (GRiD) has made two senior appointments. Dan Crook, sales director . Group Insurance at Canada Life UK has been appointed as chair of GRiD's Raising the Profile Working Party, and Iain Black, head of Zurich Corporate Risk has been appointed as treasurer.

Lee Lovett, chair of GRiD said: "These roles are in addition to day jobs so we're very grateful that Dan and Iain are taking on this extra responsibility. These are important roles and crucial in helping us achieve GRiD's aims of creating awareness and understanding of group risk protection benefits. We're making progress - industry statistics show that the number of people covered for group risk protection benefits continues to increase, and more claims have been paid than ever before. However, we have more to do and we believe we're in a strong position to make good progress."

John Cowell, from Mercer Marsh Benefits is stepping down from his role as treasurer after many years but will continue as an active member of GRiD's Steering Group. Marco Forato from Unum is stepping down from his role as chair of Raising the Profile Working Party as he is returning to the USA.

Lee Lovett continued, "Both John Cowell and Marco Forato have made significant contributions in their roles at GRiD which has been greatly appreciated both by our members and me personally."

GRiD has also appointed SMUK Marketing and PR, headed up by Sharon Mason to manage its PR.

- Ends -

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## Notes for editors

### About GRiD

Founded in 1998, Group Risk Development (GRiD) encourages awareness and uptake of corporate group protection benefits . income protection, group life insurance and critical illness cover . on behalf of its members which include insurers, reinsurers and intermediary businesses. Under the chairmanship of Lee Lovett, Head of Business Development UK and Ireland Life, Munich Re, GRiD aims to enhance the industry's profile among media and stakeholder groups. The Group provides a collective voice to Government and participates in industry wide initiatives such as the qualification in Group Risk launched jointly with the Chartered Insurance Institute. In May 2009, the Group appointed its first dedicated spokesperson, Katharine Moxham, to provide expert media comment on a full range of group risk issues.

[www.grouprisk.org.uk](http://www.grouprisk.org.uk)

Follow Katharine Moxham on Twitter @KMoxham