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12 March 2014

The Manager
Market Announcements Office
ASX Limited
Level 4
Exchange Centre
20 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

QBE announces appointment of Peter Horton as Group General Counsel & Company Secretary

Please find attached an announcement for release to the market.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter Smiles".

Peter Smiles
Deputy Company Secretary

Encl.



MARKET RELEASE

12 March 2014

QBE ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF PETER HORTON AS GROUP GENERAL COUNSEL & COMPANY SECRETARY

QBE Insurance Group Limited (ASX:QBE) is pleased to announce the appointment of Woolworths Limited executive, Peter Horton, to the role of Group General Counsel and Company Secretary. Peter will succeed Duncan Ramsay who, after over 20 years of service to QBE, will be leaving the organisation on 30 June 2014.

John Neal, Group Chief Executive Officer, said "We are delighted to have someone of Peter's calibre join our executive team. Peter's understanding of the regulatory environment and his proven leadership ability in a multinational company will be a great addition to QBE.

"While we are very pleased to welcome Peter to our team, I also want to acknowledge the contribution of Duncan Ramsay to QBE. We wish Duncan well in his future endeavours."

Mr Horton will start in his role on 9th June 2014.

Attachment: Professional biography for Peter Horton

For further information, please contact:

Investor Relations

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QBE Insurance Group Limited is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange, is one of the top 20 global insurance and reinsurance companies as measured by net earned premium and has operations in 43 countries.



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**Professional Biography
~ Peter Horton BA LLB ~**

Peter Horton is a respected and well-known member of the corporate legal community in Australia. Peter has spent the majority of his legal career working in corporate functions for significant blue-chip companies across challenging sectors including retail, mining and petroleum. Peter has been recognised for his professional achievements as he was awarded ACLA Corporate Lawyer of the Year in 2002 and his team have been acknowledged as the In-house Legal Department of the Year in 2004, 2005 and 2013.

Peter's career has included the following key appointments:

**Woolworths Limited (2005 – 2014)
Group General Counsel and Company Secretary**

- Woolworths is one of Australia's largest companies with significant retail and related operations in Australia, New Zealand and with smaller operations in Hong Kong and China
- Peter was responsible for the legal, company secretarial, compliance, corporate governance, public liability and share registry functions of the company
- As a member of the Management Board, Peter was involved in a number of key initiatives, as well as supervision of M&A activity in Asia, North America and Latin America.

**WMC Resources Limited (1993 - 2005)
General Manager Legal and Company Secretary**

- WMC was a large diversified mining and fertilizer company that was listed on the ASX and NYSE.
- While at WMC Resources, Peter rose from senior lawyer to become General Counsel and Company secretary.
- Peter was responsible for all legal and company secretarial matters worldwide including the conduct, negotiation and coordination of all legal transactions and the majority of commercial issues.
- Peter was also responsible for all matters relating to the Board, board committees, compliance and corporate governance

**BHP Petroleum Pty Limited (1986 – 1993)
Corporate Lawyer and Principal Solicitor**

- During his time at BHP Petroleum Pty Limited, Peter was responsible for a number of major projects, including Joint ventures, management of litigation, contract negotiation, government negotiations and marketing of key operations.

Prior to joining BHP Petroleum Pty Limited, Peter worked in private practice across a variety of litigation and commercial matters.

ENDS