

News Release

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RISK MANAGEMENT VETERAN TO HEAD WILLIS RE'S ANALYTICS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

New York, NY, May 13, 2005 – Willis Re, the reinsurance unit of Willis Group Holdings (NYSE: WSH), the global insurance broker, strengthening its analytical capabilities, today announces that **Yakov Lantsman**, a twenty-year veteran of quantitative risk management, has joined Willis Re US in New York as Senior Vice President to lead Willis Re Analytics Research and Development.

Mr. Lantsman, who brings vast experience in applied mathematics and risk modeling, joins Willis from Fitch Risk Management Services, where he was Senior Vice President and Head of Quantitative Services. In his new capacity, he will be responsible for leading Willis Re's analytics research and development activities worldwide.

"We are very excited about this latest addition to the analytics team. Yakov is well known for his publications in the field of applied mathematics and risk, and he is highly respected for his contributions to advancing quantitative approaches to risk management," commented Ron Carlson, Executive Vice President and Managing Director of Willis Re Analytics.

"Bringing Yakov in to lead our R&D activities demonstrates our commitment to creating leading edge analytic tools and techniques in the service of our clients," adds Peter Hearn, CEO of Willis Re US.

Mr. Lantsman, who joined Fitch Risk Management in 2000 to head their Quantitative Services, was responsible for quantitative support of Fitch's strategic risk management consulting services. From 1997 to 2000, he was Assistant Vice President at Guy Carpenter & Company, Inc., responsible for research and statistical modeling, and from 1992 to 1997 he was a consulting statistician with Tillinghast-Towers Perrin Company.

Between 1984 and 1991, Mr. Lantsman was a senior researcher at the Tashkent Research Center for Development in the Department of Mathematics and Marketing. He began his career in 1981 as an assistant professor in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Statistics at the Tashkent Institute of Technology.

Mr. Lantsman graduated from Tashkent State University, Uzbekistan, with an M.S. in Mathematics (with Honors) and earned a Ph.D. in Applied Statistics from Tashkent Institute of

Technology, Uzbekistan.

Willis Group Holdings Limited is a leading global insurance broker, developing and delivering professional insurance, reinsurance, risk management, financial and human resource consulting and actuarial services to corporations, public entities and institutions around the world. With over 300 offices in over 100 countries, its global team of 15,800 Associates serves clients in 180 countries. Willis is publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol WSH. Additional information on Willis may be found on its web site: www.willis.com.

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Note to Editor: Photo available on request