

Willis Timeline

- 1828** Willis Faber's roots go back to London's seaport in 1828 when the city was at the heart of the world's most powerful political and industrial nation. Henry Willis & Co. was established in that year as a broker principally concerned with Marine insurance for UK and International clients.
- 1898** Henry Willis & Co. merges with Faber Bros. creating Willis Faber & Co. Ltd.
- 1899** Willis Faber began to act as London agents for Tokio Marine, then as now, Japan's premiere insurance company, marking the start of the Group's close involvement with Japan.
- 1905** R.A. Corroon and Company established in New York.
- 1912** After the Titanic, insured by Willis Faber for £1 million Hull and Machinery (£35 million in today's terms) sank in 1912, Willis Faber and Johnson & Higgins collected the whole claim in less than 30 days.
- 1928** Willis Faber & Co. merges with Dumas & Wylie to create Willis Faber & Dumas Ltd.
- 1929** Corroon and Reynolds is established in New York as the first publicly held broking business.
- 1966** Corroon and Reynolds merges with CR Black Jr. Corporation, a prestigious New York firm, to form Corroon & Black Corporation.
- 1975** Grade-1 listed Willis building at Friars Street, Ipswich opens. Designed by Norman Foster, this award-winning building was a pioneering example of energy-conscious design.
- 1976** Corroon & Black merges with Synercon of Nashville, Tennessee, the largest merger in US broking history and a move that nearly doubles the size of Corroon & Black.
- 1987** Willis Faber & Dumas acquires Stewart Wrightson creating the largest broker at the time in the UK corporate sector.
- 1990** Willis Faber merges with Corroon & Black to form Willis Corroon plc.
- 1997** Willis Corroon became the first international broking firm to be licensed in Japan.
- 1998** Willis Corroon Group becomes a private firm upon being acquired by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. in the form of Trinity Acquisitions, the new holding company for the Group.
- 1999** The entire Group is branded as Willis.
- 2000** Joe Plumeri joins Willis as the Chairman & CEO.
- 2001** Willis returns to the stock market under the ticker symbol WSH with an IPO on the NYSE at \$13.50 per share.

- 2004** Willis becomes the first broker to abolish the practice of accepting contingent commissions and introduces the Client Bill of Rights.
Willis also becomes the first foreign-controlled broker in China.
- 2006** Willis launches the Shaping our Future strategy to deliver breakout growth and greater efficiency while delivering client value.
Joe Plumeri honored as the Insurance Leader of the Year by St. John's University School of Risk Management.
- 2007** Willis moves into first-class office space at One World Financial Center in New York.
- 2008** Willis moves into landmark London headquarters, The Willis Building at 51 Lime Street.