

News Release



*International
Insurance
Society*

*101 Murray Street
New York, NY
10007-2165
www.IISonline.org*

2013 JOHN S. BICKLEY FOUNDER'S AWARD WINNER ANNOUNCED

New York, New York -- Jan 30, 2013 -- The International Insurance Society (IIS) has announced Dr. Wolf Becke, retired Member of the Executive Board, Hannover Re Group, Germany, as the 2013 recipient of the prestigious John S. Bickley Founder's Award. He will be honored at the June 17 gala dinner during the IIS 49th Annual Seminar at the Grand Hyatt Seoul, Korea, June 16 – 19, 2013.

The John S. Bickley Founder's Award Gold Medal for Excellence recipient is elected by secret ballot by the IIS Honors Committee, a body of senior insurance executives and leading academicians, and honors individuals who have made a significant, lasting and recognized contribution to insurance thought, product, practice or education. "It is a real pleasure to honor Dr. Becke, one of the most creative thinkers in the industry. He always understood to anticipate the needs of his clients and our industry and was able to build a business model around it," says Bernhard Fink, IIS Honors Committee Chairman. "Dr. Becke's visionary efforts contributed greatly to the successful development of Hannover Re and we are very pleased to present Dr. Becke with his well-deserved award in front of 500+ insurance leaders at the Seoul Seminar," adds IIS President and CEO, Michael J. Morrissey. IIS Chairman Norman R. Sorensen says, "the election of Wolf Becke as the winner of the Bickley Founder's Award for 2013 has been particularly encouraging to me. Wolf represents the best of the global insurance enterprise - his selfless, dedicated commitment to the improvement of our industry on a global basis is without parallel."

Dr. Wolf Becke is a creative visionary in the field of the pension and annuity reinsurance market who, at the helm of Hannover Life Re in 1995, developed the Enhanced Annuity concept which offered an affordable longevity cover to millions of people who otherwise would have only had access to standard annuity policies priced at a level which would not have taken into account individual medical history and significantly higher death risk. It was under his leadership that the attractive segment of enhanced annuities was launched in the United Kingdom, now a key market and a pillar of Hannover Re's life/health reinsurance business.

The strategic expansion of the Hannover Re Group's life and health reinsurance portfolio is closely linked with Dr. Becke's name. When he joined the company this business accounted for just 6% or around EUR 130 million of the total premium volume. Today, life and health reinsurance plays a pivotal role in Hannover Re's success, delivering almost 45% of premium income or a volume of some EUR 5.1 billion

Dr. Becke graduated from the Mathematical Institute of the University of Freiburg in 1978 and embarked on his professional career in the same year with Hamburger Internationale Rückversicherung. In 1990 he joined Hannover Re, where he initially headed the life and health reinsurance division. In 1992 he was appointed to the Executive Boards of Hannover Re and E+S Rück. Dr Becke retired at the end of 2011 as a Member of the Executive Board of HannoverRe. Dr. Becke also served as Chairman of Hannover Life Re AG and Vice Chairman of Hannover Life Re US.

For a complete bio of Dr. Becke please visit InsuranceHallofFame.org.

About the [International Insurance Society](#):

The IIS, founded in 1965, is the world's largest and most prestigious industry organization, with almost 900 members representing global insurance leaders, international regulatory authorities and worldwide insurance scholars from over 90 countries. Our mission is to facilitate cross-border exchange of ideas, development of global personal networks and to initiate practical and original research addressing critical issues facing the industry through the Shin Research Excellence Awards program. The IIS seminar is the must attend annual conference and draws 500 or more senior insurance executives, regulators and insurance scholars, representing all parts of the world and all sectors of the industry. Inclusiveness and diversity are distinguishing characteristics of the IIS which enable us to serve as THE global resource for the insurance community.

We invite you to become a [Media Partner](#) for the 2013 IIS Seminar in Seoul, Korea. As a Media Partner you will enjoy many benefits, including exposure on our website and at the seminar. A [Media Partner application form](#) is available on our website.

For further information please contact:

Elisabeth Johansson

Director of Media and Communications

Tel. +1-212-277-5120; Fax +1-212-277-5172; Email: ej@iisonline.org