

QBE triumphs at *Australian Banking & Finance Magazine* Telstra Insurance Awards

22 October 2008, Sydney – QBE and its chief executive Frank O’Halloran took top honours at last night’s *Australian Banking & Finance Magazine* Telstra Insurance Awards.

The Australian insurance company was named Best General Insurance Company while O’Halloran, who has led the company since 1998, was named Best Australian Insurance Executive.

It is the second year in a row O’Halloran has been named as the country’s top insurance executive.

In a reflection of the intense competition within the insurance sector, TOWER was the only other company to pick up multiple awards on the night, winning Best Technology Innovation and Best Life Insurance Product.

The full list of winners are:

- Best Technology Innovation - **“Accelerate”, TOWER**
- Best Life Insurance Product - **“Accelerate”, TOWER**
- Best General Insurance Product - **“Pay As You Drive”, Real Insurance**
- Best Call Centre - **AAMI**
- Best Promotion – **“Super for Life”, BT Financial Group**
- Best Reinsurance Company - **Swiss Re**
- Best Insurance Broker - **AON**
- Best Niche Insurer - **Budget Direct**
- Best Regional Insurer - **RACQ Insurance**
- Best Life Insurance Company - **CommInsure**
- Best Australian Insurance Executive - **Frank O’Halloran, QBE**
- Best General Insurance Company - **QBE**

Australian Banking & Finance Magazine has recognised excellence in the insurance sector with these awards for the last six years and this year’s awards come at a time when the value of good risk management could not be more evident globally.

This year *Australian Banking & Finance Magazine* established a panel of leading insurance industry experts to assist with selecting the worthy winners. They included former Suncorp insurance boss Diana Eilert, senior Moody’s analyst Wing Chew and top UBS analyst Ralph Butterworth.

The awards were announced in Sydney at a gala ceremony at WatersEdge and attended by more than 200 people from the Australian insurance industry.

Dr John Hewson, economist and a former federal Liberal leader, was guest speaker on the night.

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