

Transaction Announcement

Curtis Securities, LLC represents Excess Reinsurance Company in Merger with KnightBrook Holding, LLC and Northwestern Insurance Company.

PHILADELPHIA, PA, July 2008 – Curtis Securities, LLC, (“Curtis”) an investment banking firm specializing in advising middle market businesses, announced that its client, Excess Reinsurance Group (“Excess”) Philadelphia, PA was acquired by KnightBrook Holding, LLC (“KBH”) and Northwestern Insurance Company (“NW”).

Excess is comprised of Excess Reinsurance Company, a Delaware corporation headquartered in Philadelphia, PA and originally founded in 1935 and its wholly owned subsidiary, Guilderland Reinsurance Company (“GRC”), a New York corporation. Excess has historically provided property and casualty reinsurance to small- and medium-sized insurance companies in forty-five states.

Excess’ 45 stockholders, essentially all of which are insurance companies, sought an acquirer to provide liquidity and future management direction.

Curtis issued a fairness opinion to the Board of Directors of Excess in connection with the transaction. Knowledge of and experience within the insurance industry enabled Curtis to develop its opinion in a timely manner and provide useful transaction insights to the Excess Board of Directors. Pepper Hamilton LLP served as legal counsel to Excess and Duane Morris LLP served as legal counsel to KBH and NW.

Curtis Financial Group, LLC is an investment banking firm that advises middle market companies on mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, raising capital, and provides fairness opinions, business valuations, and related corporate finance services. Our financial services group has completed approximately 40 engagements during the past three years serving banks, insurance companies, asset managers and insurance agents. According to SNL Securities, Curtis ranks 1st in the U.S. for insurance company assignments in the mid-Atlantic region since January 1, 2005. Overall, our professionals have completed mergers and acquisitions with over \$1.6 billion in transaction value, financing transactions totaling over \$1 billion, over 150 fairness opinions and 1,500 valuation assignments.

For more information please contact:

Kevin J. Rudd, President, (215) 972-2351, kjrudd@curtisfinancial.com

Anthony A. Latini, Jr., Managing Director, (215) 972-2353, alatini@curtisfinancial.com



