



## **Assurant Elects Melissa Hall Senior Vice President; Barbara Hege to Retire**

NEW YORK, August 1, 2005 -- Assurant, Inc. ("Assurant") (NYSE: AIZ), a premier provider of specialty insurance and insurance-related products and services, today announced that Melissa J.T. Hall, 40, has been named senior vice president effective August 1, 2005. She succeeds Barbara R. Hege, 61, who will retire in January 2006. For the remainder of 2005, Ms. Hege will work on special projects for Assurant and in an advisory role to Ms. Hall.

P. Bruce Camacho, Assurant's chief financial officer, said: "Assurant has greatly benefited from Barbara's contributions for the past fifteen years. Under her leadership, Assurant has been successful in maximizing each business' tax planning and tax compliance strategies. Her experience, insight, and management expertise have been invaluable to our company and we wish her well in her retirement."

Ms. Hege plans to retire in West Orange, New Jersey with her husband. She also plans to travel extensively and stay active in various community and charitable organizations.

In addition to assuming overall responsibility for Assurant's tax planning and tax compliance function, Ms. Hall will also continue to oversee the company's ratings department and will be responsible for all insurance and financial rating agency relationships.

"We are fortunate to have someone of Melissa's caliber ready to assume this role," said Mr. Camacho. "Her longstanding tenure with the company and knowledge of Assurant's diversified specialty insurance strategy make her uniquely qualified for this position."

Ms. Hall joined the department as director of taxation in 1994, was named assistant vice president in 1995, and then vice president in July of 1997. She began her career in 1986 with KPMG Peat Marwick, where she worked in both New York and London as a tax manager until joining Assurant.

Ms. Hall graduated with distinction from George Washington University in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in accounting and was President of George Washington's Beta Alpha Psi Accounting Honor Society. In 1997, she earned her master's degree in taxation from Fordham University. Her business affiliations include the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the New York State Society of CPA's (NYSSCPA). Ms. Hall is a member of the Advisory Group of New York Women United in Philanthropy, a division of the United Way. In addition, she is a member of the Board of Trustees for the Morningside Montessori School, co-chair of the Anderson School and co-chair of the Grants Committee of P.S. 9.

Assurant is a premier provider of specialized insurance products and related services in North America and selected other markets. Its five key businesses -- Assurant Employee Benefits; Assurant Health; Assurant Preneed; Assurant Solutions and Assurant Specialty Property -- have partnered with clients who are leaders in their industries and have built leadership positions in a number of specialty insurance market segments in the U.S. and selected international markets.

Assurant, which is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol AIZ, has over \$20 billion in assets and \$7 billion in annual revenue. [www.assurant.com](http://www.assurant.com)

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