



Media Release

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2015 Aon Benfield Scholarship Winner Announced

Aon Benfield and the Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance and Finance (ANZIIF) have awarded the 2015 Aon Benfield Scholarship to Levi Gardner.

Mr Gardner is an Account Executive at CRE Insurance Broking, and submitted the winning entry on this year's topic of social media and web-based technology in the insurance industry.

Mr Gardner will attend the 50th Annual Aon Benfield Global Clients Reinsurance Seminar in London in June, an intensive study program where he will gain an understanding of the principles and practices of arranging reinsurance on a global scale.

"I am beyond thrilled and humbled to be the recipient of the 2015 Aon Benfield Scholarship. This journey will be an amazing experience and I am grateful to both ANZIIF and Aon Benfield for the opportunity. I am very much looking forward to furthering my education and professional development and broadening my network at the Seminar in London," said Mr Gardner.

In partnership with ANZIIF, Aon Benfield has sponsored the scholarship for 11 years. The program was established to reward and recognise outstanding insurance professionals in the Australian and New Zealand insurance markets and emphasise the importance of continuing professional development in all aspects of the industry.

"The scholarship allows insurance and reinsurance professionals to explore and discuss highly relevant issues to our industry, with the added opportunity of gaining knowledge and best practice insights about the reinsurance market globally," said Robert De Souza, President APAC/CEO Australia and New Zealand, Aon Benfield.

"Levi's essay is an outstanding academic contribution and he is a deserving winner," said Prue Willsford, CEO, ANZIIF.

"The Aon Benfield Scholarship offers the opportunity for a passionate insurance professional to explore the issues that matter to our industry, and it is a true privilege to be able to facilitate this exploration. ANZIIF is confident the scholarship will enable Levi to continue to expand his understanding of the industry in a global setting."

The scholarship was determined by a judging panel of industry figures, featuring:

- Robert De Souza – President APAC/CEO Australia & New Zealand, Aon Benfield
- Prue Willsford – CEO, ANZIIF
- Julie Batch – Chief Analytics Officer, IAG
- Gary Dransfield – Chief Executive, Vero Insurance New Zealand
- Rob van den Honert – Co-Deputy Director, Risk Frontiers, Macquarie University NSW

The winner will also be recognised at the annual Australian Insurance Industry Awards in Sydney on 19 August 2015.

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About ANZIIF

The Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance and Finance (ANZIIF) is the leading membership body and provider of education, training and professional development services to the insurance and financial services industry in Australia, New Zealand and the Asia-Pacific region.

Established in 1884, ANZIIF has more than 15,000 members in over 50 countries. With offices in Australia, New Zealand and China, our mission is to lead, engage and support the industry through education, thought leadership, community initiatives and the promotion of professional standards. Through our activities, we aim to help members to achieve their career and corporate aspirations and to contribute to the success of the insurance and financial services industry.

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