Dear Reader,

Welcome to the first Ruschlikon newsletter of 2015!

To stay up-to-date with the latest Ruschlikon happenings, be sure to check out www.ruschlikon.com and join the nearly 250 other people who are now part of our LinkedIn group (Ruschlikon – eAccounting for the Global Insurance Market).

Earlier this year in February, Munich Re hosted Ruschlikon Business Implementation Group (BIG), the Marketing Group and the Steering Committee at a face-to-face meeting. Important strides were made in increasing the automation for e-trading and developing tools that will provide reporting capabilities for implementers. The Steering Committee also decided to launch a service provider session in London in June in conjunction with the next Ruschlikon face-to-face meeting (hosted by Swiss Re), when they will meet with an initial round of service providers who are implementing with at least one Ruschlikon member, to have an open discussion around member needs and solutions. More information to follow in our next newsletter!

Kind regards,

Your Ruschlikon Marketing Group & ACORD Team

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Announcements & Events:
Did you know that in 2014 there were more than 25 new Ruschlikon partnerships in Bermuda, North America, the UK, Europe and Asia? Or that Ruschlikon now has more than 45 companies? Read more about the exciting developments that Ruschlikon made in the past year, here.

We are pleased to announce that Hannover Re is now a full ACORD member! Hannover Re joins other reinsurers Swiss Re, SCOR, Munich Re, XL Re, Trans Re, MS Frontier, QBE RE, Partner Re and Catlin - all of whom are ACORD members.

Check out the interview that Régis Delayat, CIO of SCOR and Ruschlikon Chairman, had at msg's Digital Innovation Forum.

ACORD hosted a Cedent Bordereau webinar in April as a first step in considering whether to extend support to it as Ruschlikon and thus add a new element of cedent-to-reinsurers interaction to the Ruschlikon agenda. The webinar is available online in case you missed it!

On 1st April 2015 new versions of the EBOT and ECOT guides were published by ACORD (version “2015-04”). This was the culmination of extensive discussions by the Ruschlikon Business Implementation Group during 2014/15 to define changes required by implementers. The 2015-04 versions of EBOT and ECOT have now been adopted by Ruschlikon with effect from 1st April 2015, and this is confirmed in the updated Ruschlikon “Best Practices Guide” documentation, which shows the versions supported by Ruschlikon and also lists the references to all of the changes that have been incorporated. Implementers will now work with each other to plan migration to the 2015-04 versions of EBOT and ECOT during the next 12 months.

The Central Service Refresh Programme (CSRP) is one of the London Market Group’s (LMG) priority initiatives to meet its modernisation vision. CSRP will leverage ACORD EBOT standards for all financial transactions (including claims) and ACORD ECOT standards for all claim movement advices. A series of workshops involving market participants (including Ruschlikon representatives) and their software vendors are currently being run to agree the design and Market Interaction Model. The workshops are scheduled to run through to June, following which a User Guide will be published to supplement the information contained within the EBOT & ECOT Quick Reference Guides. Workshops for simple premium and claim transactions have been completed, and work to build applications to support these transactions has commenced. CSRP intends to initiate Market Model Office testing in June using data provided by identified market participants to ensure that developments by these parties are fully synchronised. For more information about CSRP, please check out the LMG website.
**New Ruschlikon Joiners:**
We are pleased to welcome the following people to the various Ruschlikon bodies:

**Ruschlikon Marketing Group:** Lorraine Smart (ACE)
**Ruschlikon North America:** Shawn Sylvester (Endurance), Michael Mikitiuk (Holborn), Loretta O’Donnell (QBE), John Downham (XL Group), George Di Martino, Kenneth Graham (Partner Re).

**Ruschlikon Steering Committee:**
As mentioned above in the opening letter, the Steering Committee met in February for their face-to-face meeting and decided to host a service provider session in June at Swiss Re. The premise of this meeting is to enable service providers to better understand Ruschlikon and its members’ current and future needs, and for Ruschlikon to better grasp current offerings and planned future solutions from the service providers. This meeting will be the first of other future sessions planned with service providers, all which will help reinforce the “ecosystem” around Ruschlikon.

Régis Delayat, our Ruschlikon Chair, will be joining the Ruschlikon North America group at ACORD’s Pearl River office on April 30th, and will be joining the Ruschlikon UK group on June 1st. He’ll also be presenting at ACORD’s next Board Meeting on Ruschlikon and the importance of ACORD GRLC standards and maintaining a global focus.

Simon Squires and Régis Delayat will be meeting with the London Market Group to ensure consistency between their electronic platform, “Placing Platform Limited” (PPL), and Ruschlikon’s back-office messages and practices.

**Ruschlikon Marketing Group**
The Ruschlikon Marketing Group is working on creating a user-friendly database that will help Ruschlikon implementers track the information that is most relevant to them and generate management reports as relates to current capabilities and engagement activities. The database is just in the first development stages now, but the Group plan to have the first version up and running in a few months.

The Group is also working on creating more dedicated marketing materials that can be printed and provided as handouts. Some will be general and others will have specific stakeholders in mind; currently they are working on a piece for brokers.

**Ruschlikon Business Implementation Group (BIG)**
So far in 2015 BIG has met face to face in Munich during 18th-19th February, and plans a further face to face meeting in London in June. The focus of the Munich meeting was to finalize the content of the next versions of the EBOT/ECOT standards for adoption from 1st April 2015. This was completed and the new versions have now been published. This was a huge task which incorporated the work kicked off in October 2014 to remove
optional items in order to create consistency amongst the Ruschlikon members, enable higher automation and avoid the possibility of divergent implementations. The June 2015 meeting will focus on other key issues such as referencing, and establishing transparency regarding future planned changes and when they are scheduled to be adopted by Ruschlikon.

**Ruschlikon UK Implementation Group**

2015 is a year of more qualitative measures for the Ruschlikon UK Group, helping to develop the depth and total usage of messaging rather than just a focus on the number of new connections. We now have a significant number of initiatives, that when completed will provide a much stronger foundation for messaging going forward. New message types will include development of Retail messaging, Implementation of Coinsurance messaging and wider implementation of ECOT messaging.

**Ruschlikon North America Implementation Group**

There are 12 reinsurers, two brokers, and two cedents live in North America. Three new brokers are planning implementations in 2015. The main focus of this group has been implementing ACORD EBOT, ECOT, Cedent Bordereau, and Ruschlikon Best Practices. The group anticipates a consistent growth in implementations and is as well as looking into the use of a standardized post-placement process.

The Ruschlikon NA Steering committee has six new members: Endurance, Holborn, QBE, XL Group, TransRe and Partner Re. ACORD and members of RNA will be presenting at the Insurance Accounting & Systems Association, Incorporated (IASA) 2015 conference. This annual education conference and business show attracts a large number of reinsurers involved in both business and IT.

Following the directive of the Ruschlikon Steering Committee of reaching out to solution providers, the RNA will be organizing solution providers’ presentations at their face-to-face meetings. The April meeting presenters will be Scylogis Consulting and STRIPE.

**Ruschlikon Bermuda Implementation Group**

The Bermuda market has advanced rapidly during 2014. There are nine carriers live with three brokers, and two more carriers are in the planning stage. Although the group will continue to foster more carrier implementations during 2015, it will also focus on engaging more brokers and increasing the number of implementations amongst the committee members.

**Ruschlikon Asia Pacific Implementation Group**

The Ruschlikon Asia-Pacific has been placed on hold while we look for a new Chair. In the meantime, interested companies are continuing to work with their partners on implementation of EBOT and ECOT.

In February 2015, ACORD successfully hosted its third ACORD Forum Asia in Singapore. The Forum’s keynote speakers provided the audience of senior managers from the
region, with food for thought – and then set them to work in roundtable discussions. The attendees fed their ideas back to the wider audience and helped to start a wider discussion on the issues facing the region. ACORD used the feedback in its 20/20 work and will be following-up with interested parties to continue the conversation so that the regional players can come together to agree on objectives and strategies to face the challenges and opportunities that the future will bring.

The ACORD Forum Asia was partnered with Celent’s Model Insurer Asia Awards 2015, where XL was the winner of the Operational Excellence in Non-Core Systems Award. Simon Squires of XL presented to the attendees of the Awards on the benefits of eAccounting. Squires’ presentation won over new interest, with the CEO of a major Chinese insurer expressing an interest in following Ruschlikon.

**Ruschlikon Lite**

On the successful conclusion of the Lite pilot at the end of February 2014, the service was formally adopted by Ruschlikon and opened up to a multi-vendor environment. Since then, Lite Reinsurers have been considering to bring further cedents and reinsurers of major insurance groups on board. AXA has recently gone live, and testing is now well advanced with MAPFRE RE, the reinsurer of the MAPFRE Group (with go-live scheduled for H1 2015). This is an exciting stepping stone for MAPFRE RE, as they intend to go on to implement full ACORD messaging. In addition it is intended that further cedents will be approached during 2015 to expand the current Lite community that also includes GENERALI and CLAL.

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