

# Press release



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**11 October 2007**

**Brit Insurance Holdings PLC**

## **Brit Insurance launches Brit Risk Management**

**-Offering enhanced by telematics-based G-force technology-**

Brit Insurance Holdings PLC, the UK-domiciled international general insurer and reinsurer, today announces the launch of Brit Risk Management, the most comprehensive online service offered by a UK insurer to support fleet risk managers. The web-based service ([www.riskmanagement.britinsurance.com](http://www.riskmanagement.britinsurance.com)) provides fleet risk managers with an innovative and comprehensive support and advice function. As part of the service, Brit Insurance is introducing Brit Fleet Insight, a new generation of telematics-based<sup>1</sup> technology, unique to the UK market.

Brit Risk Management provides the following benefits:

- It helps companies to fulfil their duty of care to employees driving for work
- Online fleet management database provides an audit trail, showing what checks have been made, and what training has been carried out
- Online driver risk assessments, rating drivers as low, medium or high risk, enable fleet managers to target their budget where it is most needed and provide the most appropriate training for each driver
- Lower carbon emissions should result, thanks to more careful driving following driver awareness training and/or installation of Brit Fleet Insight
- Brit Fleet Insight can help reduce fraudulent claims, and speed up and streamline the claims process
- Accident alerts can enable help to be summoned for an injured driver almost immediately

Processes are aligned to the Health and Safety Executive's four step risk management process.

Brit Fleet Insight, a key component of the service, uses revolutionary technology to enhance standard telematics-based offerings. The small 'black box' units, fitted to each vehicle in the fleet, combine the standard functions of speed, direction, location and mileages with a unique real-time collision monitoring feature. G-force sensors will automatically text or email the fleet manager if the unit registers a force of more than 1G, enabling them to immediately respond to an incident. Brit Insurance is the only UK insurance company offering this facility.

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The information generated by the unit can be invaluable in combating claims fraud. As well as verifying the time and location of accidents, data on the size and nature of the impact can help assess the validity of a whiplash claim and prove which vehicle made the initial impact.

As well as combating claims fraud, it is anticipated that the new technology will produce significant cost savings, for example:

- Fuel efficiency:  
A combination of telematics technology and driver awareness training has been shown to result in more fuel efficient driving behaviour. Government figures estimate that users of telematics systems see average fuel savings of 5% on the heaviest vehicles and up to 15% on lighter vehicles<sup>2</sup>. A SAFED Pilot Study also showed that drivers who take training courses that include fuel efficiency typically see fuel savings of 10%. For an average 7.5 Tonne vehicle, this could equate to savings of around £1000 a year per vehicle.
- Reduction in accidents:  
Brit Risk Management estimates that the average direct repair cost of an accident is £750, with the hidden costs being up to four times that amount. Changes in driver behaviour brought about by driver training and installing telematics can reduce the frequency and severity of accidents significantly.

Ray Cox, UK Underwriting Director at Brit Insurance, commented:

“The combination of our innovative Brit Risk Management system and the unique technology of Brit Fleet Insight provides the most comprehensive and intelligent fleet risk management service in the UK market.

“Our approach to fleet risk management will significantly speed up and streamline claims, in line with the Government’s proposed improvements to the personal injury claims process.”

-Ends-

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## Notes to Editors

Brit Insurance's operations comprise three strategic business units: Brit Global Markets, Brit Reinsurance and Brit UK. All three have access to the two regulatory vehicles through which Brit Insurance underwrites: Brit Insurance Limited which is a UK FSA regulated insurance company and Lloyd's syndicate 2987 which is managed by Brit Syndicates Limited. Brit Insurance has UK underwriting offices in London, Reading, Birmingham, Bristol, Glasgow, Leeds, Darlington, Ilford and Manchester. [www.britinsurance.com](http://www.britinsurance.com)

Brit Risk Management is offered in association with THB Risk Management Limited, a leading provider of fleet risk management services, with many years' experience working with some of the largest UK intermediaries and fleet operators,

Brit Fleet Insight was developed in conjunction with Trace Systems Ltd, who specialise in developing and supplying computerised vehicle fleet and plant management systems especially for commercial vehicles and mixed fleets.

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<sup>1</sup> Telematics is a generic name for systems which allow a fleet manager at base to have remote access to details of the activities of all vehicles fitted with a telematics 'black box'. Details can include location, speed, direction and mileage.

<sup>2</sup> Telematics Good Practice Guide, Department of Trade and Industry