



## **150-year Milestone**

New Zealand Insurance recently celebrated 150 years of operations by moving into new premises at 1 Fanshaw Street in Auckland's CBD. The NZI Centre, as the building is named, is one of the most sustainable and energy efficient office buildings in New Zealand, and say NZI, will help them reach their goal of being carbon neutral by 2012.

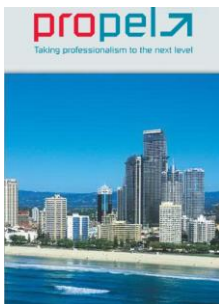
The glass clad building has many features to ensure low energy consumption, including treble glazing on its northern face and underfloor air conditioning designed not to reach ceiling areas where it is unnecessary. Rainwater is collected from the building's roof and used to flush toilets.



## **Regulation Update – Financial Advisers Act**

The Securities Commission recently sought submissions on a paper outlining developments and possible approaches to standards of competence for authorised financial advisers under the Financial Advisers Act 2008. The Commission has appointed Annabel Cotton as Commissioner for Financial Advisers to oversee the development of a code of professional conduct. The code will set the minimum standards of competence, ethical behaviour, client care, and professional training requirements that authorised financial advisers must comply with.

## **Annual Insurance Brokers Conference**



The 2009 Insurance Brokers Conference was held on 13-15 August at the Conrad Jupiters Convention Centre in the Gold Coast Australia. Titled Propel 09, the conference focused on raising professionalism with various speakers sharing ways and means to accelerate brokers into the future. Amongst the speakers was Tony Alexander, high profile economist of the BNZ.

The plenary speakers were followed by a number of workshops including two specifically designed for young professionals. Apart from using the conference opportunity to update on latest industry developments, delegates were provided with a networking environment where the main concern was maintaining profitability in a restrained economic environment.



## **FAI (NZ) General Insurance Company Limited (in liquidation)**

The infamous name of FAI resurfaced recently. Many will recall the company being placed in receivership back in 2001 following the collapse in Australia of parent company HIH Insurance. Liquidators McGrath Nicol advised that whilst liquidation was substantially complete, they were proposing to seek further directions from the High Court in relation to the making of final distributions and completion of the liquidation.

We believe it is unlikely that any of our clients will have a claim on FAI, such claim would relate to a policy issued by FAI prior to 1 March 1999. Most policies issued by FAI/HIH were assumed by QBE Insurance (International) Limited, and we believe that none of our clients were affected. Nevertheless, if you believe you may have a claim under an old FAI/HIH policy, please contact us or the Liquidator.



## **Power Lines – Are you responsible?**

There are many types of power lines, and transmission and distribution lines are essentially owned by the State or one of the distribution companies, but with service lines, (they are the ones that take power from distribution lines to homes and businesses), many would be surprised to know that not only might you own the line, but you may also be responsible for maintaining the power line.

This may require you to consider if you need to actually insure the line and any associated poles. In most urban environments, this may not be a problem; however some farms have service lines that are several kilometres long. If the lines come down, it may be your responsibility, as the owner, to repair them. You may also be liable for damage caused by the line to your and other people's property.



Most farm type policies have an extension to cover such situations; however it is wise to check policy limits, as sometimes the "extension" offered may be limited in its coverage. Business properties can be another matter with the need to include coverage for distribution lines. Talk to us if you believe you have a problem.

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