

News

Lumley General Australia Management Changes

Tuesday, 20 January 2009

A number of senior management changes have been announced at Lumley General Australia.

David Matcham, CEO of Lumley General Insurance announced his intention to retire from the end of June this year.

Wesfarmers Insurance Managing Director Rob Scott said, "David has made a significant contribution to Lumley and the insurance industry generally during his 32 year career with Lumley including 10 years as CEO."

Lumley was acquired by Wesfarmers in 2003, David continued on as CEO following the acquisition and he oversaw the successful integration of the AILL business (OAMPS Underwriting) into the Lumley portfolio.

David Matcham said, "It is rare to have had the opportunity to commence as a junior in a business and then to progress to CEO and I am extremely grateful to the Lumley family, Lumley management and Wesfarmers who supported a very rewarding time at Lumley".

Vivek Bhatia has been appointed Deputy CEO of Lumley and will assume the CEO role upon David's retirement. He has worked closely with David and the management team of Lumley in his role as Chief Operating Officer of Wesfarmers General Insurance and as CIO of Wesfarmers Insurance. Vivek has experience in insurance operations, strategy and IT having worked in senior roles at QBE in Australia and overseas and in management consulting.

Wesfarmers Insurance Managing Director Rob Scott said, "Vivek has been directly involved in many aspects of Lumley's business and working closely with David for some time. He is a hands-on manager with enormous capacity and passion to drive the business forward. Importantly he understands the value of Lumley's relationships and is focused on continuing to improve our proposition and service to brokers."

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Lumley General Australia has also appointed David Richards to the role of General Manager – Lumley Business Solutions. This role will have responsibility for Lumley’s non-commercial lines businesses including Lumley Retail Warranty, Lumley Special Vehicles, third-party claims management, and other personal lines and retail initiatives. David was formerly an Executive General Manager of Niche Markets in Promina and Suncorp with responsibility for APIA, Shannons, Just Car and other activities. David has over 24 years insurance experience in Australia and the UK across retail and intermediated insurance.

In relation to Wesfarmers Insurance’s future strategy for Lumley General Australia, Rob Scott said, “We see a unique opportunity for Lumley to be a more significant participant in the insurance market. To achieve this we must continue to improve our service and proposition to intermediaries whilst maintaining a disciplined approach to underwriting. We will continue to invest in strengthening our team and business to deliver on these objectives”

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