



# Bizcover On-line Accountants Professional Indemnity Insurance Policy

Professional and financial risk solutions



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<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Policy wording</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1. Insuring clause</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2. Limit of indemnity and maximum aggregate limit of indemnity</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3. Insured costs</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>4. Excess</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>5. Aggregation of claims and notices</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>6. Insurance clarification</b>	<b>2</b>
6.1 Consumer Protection Legislation	2
6.2 Contractual liability	2
6.3 Intellectual property	2
6.4 Libel or slander	2
6.5 Liability for acts, errors or omissions of contractors and consultants	2
<b>7. Extensions</b>	<b>2</b>
7.1 Compensation for court attendance	2
7.2 Continuous cover	2
7.3 Deposit bonds	3
7.4 Dishonesty of employees	3
7.5 Extended reporting period	3
7.6 External appointments	3
7.7 External dispute resolution schemes	4
7.8 Fidelity	4
7.9 Former subsidiary	4
7.10 Indemnity to contractors	4
7.11 Inquiry costs	5
7.12 Joint venture liability	5
7.13 Legal consultation	5
7.14 Lost documents	5
7.15 National Consumer Credit Protection Act	6
7.16 Newly created or acquired subsidiary	6
7.17 Public relations expenses	6
7.18 Run off cover	6
7.19 Spousal liability	7
7.20 Thirty day reporting period	7
<b>8. Optional extension</b>	<b>7</b>
8.1 Principal's previous business	7
<b>9. Exclusions</b>	<b>7</b>
9.1 Section 1	7
9.1.1 Prior claims or known circumstances	7
9.1.2 Retroactive date	7
9.1.3 Professional fees	7

9.2 Section 2	7
9.2.1 Asbestos	7
9.2.2 Assumption of liability	8
9.2.3 Audit of financial institutions	8
9.2.4 Directors and officers liability	8
9.2.5 Dishonest, fraudulent or criminal acts	8
9.2.6 Employer’s liability	8
9.2.7 Fines, penalties, punitive or aggravated damages	8
9.2.8 High risk investments	8
9.2.9 Insolvency	8
9.2.10 Investment performance/advice	8
9.2.11 Liquidated damages	9
9.2.12 Mortgage/finance brokers excluded activities	9
9.2.13 Radioactivity	9
9.2.14 Related parties	9
9.2.15 Sanctions	9
9.2.16 Subrogation waiver	9
9.2.17 Tax schemes	9
9.2.18 Terrorism	10
9.2.19 Trading debts	10
9.2.20 War	10
<b>10. Claims conditions</b>	<b>10</b>
10.1 Claims notifications	10
10.2 Claims co-operation	10
10.3 Claims conduct	10
10.4 Claims settlement	10
10.5 Fidelity recoveries	11
<b>11. General conditions</b>	<b>11</b>
11.1 Assignment	11
11.2 Authorisation	11
11.3 Cancellation	11
11.4 Endorsements	11
11.5 Goods and Services Tax	11
11.6 Governing law	11
11.7 Interpretation	11
11.8 Material change	12
11.9 Other insurance	12
11.10 Payment of premium	12
11.11 Severability and non imputation	12
11.12 Territorial and jurisdictional limits of cover	12
11.13 Variation of the policy	12
<b>12. Definitions</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Notices</b>	<b>15</b>

# Introduction

Please read the policy carefully to ensure that it meets your requirements. It is written on a claims made and notified basis, which means that, subject to the 'Continuous Cover' clause, it will only respond to claims first made against the insured and notified to the insurer during the policy period.

Any word or expression to which a specific meaning has been attached shall bear that specific meaning wherever it may appear.

You received important notices about your duty of disclosure, unusual terms in professional indemnity insurance policies and our privacy statement prior to purchasing this policy. The notices are replicated at the back of this document for your reference.

## Policy wording

The **Policyholder** and the **Insurer** agree that the **Insurer** will provide insurance in accordance with the terms of this **Policy**.

### 1. Insuring clause

The **Insurer** will indemnify the **Insured** against civil liability for compensation and claimant's costs and expenses in respect of any **Claim** first made against the **Insured** during the **Policy Period** and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period** resulting from the conduct of the **Professional Services**.

### 2. Limit of indemnity and maximum aggregate limit of indemnity

The liability of the **Insurer** for compensation and claimant's costs and expenses in respect of any one **Claim** first made against the **Insured** and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period** shall not exceed the **Limit of Indemnity**.

The aggregate liability of the **Insurer** under this **Policy** will not exceed the **Maximum Aggregate Limit of Indemnity** for all **Claims** first made against the **Insured** and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period**.

### 3. Insured costs

If the 'Basis of Limit' in the **Schedule** is specified as 'Costs in Addition', the **Insurer** will, in addition to the **Limit of Indemnity**, pay **Insured Costs** for **Claims** covered under this **Policy**.

Provided that if the total amount of compensation and claimant's costs and expenses required to dispose of any one **Claim** exceeds the **Limit of Indemnity**, the liability of the **Insurer** for **Insured Costs** shall be only that proportion of them that the **Limit of Indemnity** bears to the total amount of compensation and claimant's costs and expenses required to dispose of the **Claim**.

If the 'Basis of Limit' in the **Schedule** is specified as 'Costs Inclusive', the **Insurer** will pay **Insured Costs** for **Claims** covered under this **Policy**, provided that the liability of the **Insurer** for compensation, claimant's costs and expenses and **Insured Costs** in respect of any one **Claim** shall not exceed the **Limit of Indemnity** and the liability of the **Insurer** for compensation, claimant's costs and expenses and **Insured Costs** in respect of all **Claims** shall not exceed the **Maximum Aggregate Limit of Indemnity**.

### 4. Excess

If the **Excess** is specified as 'Costs Inclusive' in the **Schedule**, the **Principal Policyholder** must pay the amount of any compensation, claimant's costs and expenses or **Insured Costs** that are collectively less than the **Excess** for any one **Claim**. The **Insurer** has no liability for the amount of compensation, claimant's costs and expenses or **Insured Costs** that is less than the **Excess** for any one **Claim**.

If the **Excess** is specified as 'Costs Exclusive' in the **Schedule**, the **Excess** does not apply to **Insured Costs** but the **Principal Policyholder** must pay the amount of any compensation and claimant's costs and expenses that are collectively less than the **Excess** for any one **Claim**. The **Insurer** has no liability for the amount of compensation or claimant's costs and expenses that is less than the **Excess** for any one **Claim**.

The **Excess** is deducted from compensation, claimant's costs and expenses or **Insured Costs** payable before the application of the **Limit of Indemnity**.

The **Principal Policyholder** must pay the amount of any **Inquiry Costs** that is less than the **Excess** for any one notice. The **Excess** is deducted from **Inquiry Costs** payable before the application of the 'Inquiry Costs Limit' specified in the **Schedule**. The **Insurer** has no liability for the amount of **Inquiry Costs** that is less than the **Excess** for any one notice.

The **Principal Policyholder** agrees that the **Excess** must be borne by the **Principal Policyholder** and is to remain uninsured.

### 5. Aggregation of claims and notices

All **Claims** arising out of, based upon, attributable to or in respect of a single act, error or omission or series of acts, errors or omissions consequent upon or attributable to one source or original cause shall be considered to be one **Claim** and shall attract one **Limit of Indemnity** and one **Excess**.

For the purposes of extension 7.11 'Inquiry Costs', all notices arising out of, based upon, attributable to or in respect of any one inquiry or hearing shall be considered to be one notice and shall attract one **Excess**.

For the purposes of extension 7.8 'Fidelity' all **Fidelity Claims** sustained as a result of the same or causally related acts, causes or events will be deemed to be one **Fidelity Claim** regardless of when during the **Policy Period** or prior thereto such acts causes or events occurred.

For the purposes of extension 7.7 'External Dispute Resolution Schemes' all **Claims** arising out of, based upon, attributable to or in respect of a single complaint, act, error or omission or series of complaints, acts, errors or omissions consequent upon or attributable to one source or original cause shall be considered to be one **Claim** and shall attract one **Excess**.

## 6. Insurance clarification

For the purposes of clarifying the scope of cover under 1. 'Insuring Clause' of this **Policy**, civil liability includes:

### 6.1 Consumer Protection Legislation

**Claims** for civil liability for compensation resulting from breach of a statutory duty under the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth), Corporations Act 2001 (Cth), National Consumer Credit Protection Act 2009 (Cth) or similar legislation enacted for the protection of consumers, within any Australian jurisdiction including any amendment, consolidation or re-enactment of such legislation, to the extent that such **Claims** are not otherwise excluded under this **Policy**.

### 6.2 Contractual liability

Contractual liability, provided that:

1. the **Insurer** will not be liable for any liability assumed by the **Insured** under any express warranty, guarantee, hold harmless agreement, indemnity clause or the like unless such liability would have attached to the **Insured** in the absence of such agreement; and
2. where a **Claim** is an alleged breach of contract the **Insurer** will not reduce their liability by the mere fact that contributory negligence is not available as a defence.

### 6.3 Intellectual property

Infringement of rights of intellectual property, provided that the act, error or omission by the **Insured** is unintentional and is committed in the conduct of the **Professional Services**.

### 6.4 Libel or slander

Libel or slander, provided that:

1. the libel or slander is committed by the **Insured** in the conduct of their **Professional Services**; and
2. the **Insured** did not intend to commit the libel or slander with express malice.

### 6.5 Liability for acts, errors or omissions of contractors and consultants

Acts, errors or omissions of contractors and consultants, provided that the **Insurer** will only indemnify the **Insured** for its civil liability for the **Professional Services** provided by the contractor and/or consultant. Indemnity will not extend to the contractor and/or consultant who committed the act, error or omission, except to the extent provided for in extension 7.10 'Indemnity to Contractors Extension'.

## 7. Extensions

These 'Extensions' are subject to all the terms of the **Policy**, unless otherwise stated. The total of all payments made under the 'Extensions' will be part of and not in addition to the **Limit of Indemnity** and the **Maximum Aggregate Limit of Indemnity**, unless otherwise stated.

### 7.1 Compensation for court attendance

The **Insurer** will pay the **Policyholder** compensation if legal advisers, acting on behalf of the **Insured** with the consent of the **Insurer**, require any **Principal** or **Employee** to attend court as a witness in connection with a **Claim** covered under this **Policy** first made and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period**, but only in circumstances where the **Policyholder** actually pays the **Principal** or **Employee** for their time. Such compensation by the **Insurer** will be at the rate equivalent to such **Principal's** or **Employee's** daily take home salary or wage up to a maximum of \$250 per person for each day on which attendance is required subject to a maximum of \$10,000 for all persons for any one **Claim**.

### 7.2 Continuous cover

Where the **Insured**:

1. first became aware of facts or circumstances that might give rise to a **Claim**, prior to the **Policy Period**; and
2. had not notified the **Insurer** of such facts or circumstances prior to the **Policy Period**,

then exclusion 9.1.1 'Prior Claims or Known Circumstances' will not apply to any notification during the **Policy Period** of any **Claim** resulting from such facts or circumstances, provided that:

- (a) there is an absence of fraudulent noncompliance with the **Insured's** duty of disclosure and an absence of fraudulent misrepresentation by the **Insured** in respect of such facts or circumstances; and

- (b) the **Policyholder** has been continuously insured, without interruption at the time of the notification of the **Claim** to the **Insurer**, under a professional indemnity policy issued by the **Insurer** and was insured by the **Insurer** at the time when the **Insured** first became aware of such facts or circumstances; and
- (c) the **Insurer** may reduce its liability under the **Policy** to the extent of any prejudice the **Insurer** may suffer in connection with the **Insured's** failure to notify the facts or circumstances giving rise to a **Claim** prior to the **Policy Period**.

### 7.3 Deposit bonds

The **Insurer** will indemnify the **Insured** against civil liability for compensation and claimant's costs and expenses in respect of any **Claim** first made against the **Insured** and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period** resulting from the issue of **Deposit Bonds** in connection with the **Professional Services**.

The **Insurer** will pay **Insured Costs** on the basis already set out in this **Policy**.

The total liability of the **Insurer** under this extension for compensation, claimant's costs and expenses and **Insured Costs** shall not exceed \$50,000 in the aggregate during the **Policy Period**.

### 7.4 Dishonesty of employees

The **Insurer** will, notwithstanding exclusion 9.2.5 'Dishonest, Fraudulent or Criminal Acts', indemnify the **Insured** against civil liability for compensation and claimant's costs and expenses in respect of any **Claim** first made against the **Insured** and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period** resulting from any dishonest, fraudulent, criminal or malicious act or omission by any **Employee** occurring or committed in connection with the **Professional Services**.

The **Insurer** will pay **Insured Costs** on the basis already set out in this **Policy**.

Provided that nothing in this extension shall require the **Insurer** to indemnify any **Employee** who has perpetrated any such dishonest, fraudulent, criminal or malicious act or omission or who by act or omission has condoned any such act or omission.

### 7.5 Extended reporting period

In the event that this **Policy** is neither renewed nor replaced at the end of the **Policy Period** with insurance that covers substantially the same risk exposure as this **Policy**, the **Principal Policyholder** will be entitled to purchase an extended reporting period of 365 days.

The **Principal Policyholder** will not be entitled to purchase an extended reporting period if the **Policyholder** is **Insolvent** during the **Policy Period**.

The extended reporting period begins immediately following the expiry of the **Policy Period** and ends on the earlier of 4.p.m. **L.S.T.** on the three hundred and sixty fifth day thereafter, or at the time on the effective date on which the **Policyholder** obtains insurance that covers substantially the same risk exposure as this **Policy**.

The additional premium for the extended reporting period will be 100% of the **Full Annual Premium**. If the extended reporting period ends because the **Policyholder** obtains insurance that covers substantially the same risk exposure as this **Policy** then the **Insurer** will retain a short term premium calculated at the pro rata proportion of the additional premium plus ten percent and the **Principal Policyholder** will receive a refund of any balance of the premium, unless there have been any notifications during the **Policy Period** or the extended reporting period, in which case no refund shall be given.

The entitlement to purchase the extended reporting period lapses upon expiry of the **Policy Period**.

The application to purchase the extended reporting period must be received by the **Insurer** prior to the expiry of the **Policy Period**, and payment of the additional premium must be made to the **Insurer** within thirty days of the same date.

During the extended reporting period the **Insured** may continue to notify the **Insurer** of **Claims**, but only **Claims** based on any act, error or omission committed or alleged to have been committed prior to expiry of the **Policy Period**.

Any notification to the **Insurer** during this extended reporting period will be deemed to have been first notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period**.

### 7.6 External appointments

The **Insurer** will, notwithstanding exclusion 9.2.4 'Directors and Officers Liability', indemnify the **Insured** against civil liability for compensation and claimant's costs and expenses in respect of any **Claim** first made against the **Insured** and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period** resulting from any appointments as trustees, executors, receivers, managers, liquidators, administrators, directors or secretaries of bodies corporate other than public listed companies, or under powers of attorney, which are held by any **Principal** or **Employee** of the **Policyholder** in the conduct of the **Professional Services**.

Provided always that the fees received from such appointments are specifically declared to the **Insurer** and where no fee is generated, then the appointment or power of attorney is held with the consent and for the benefit of the **Policyholder**.

## 7.7 External dispute resolution schemes

The **Insurer** will indemnify the **Insured** against civil liability for compensation and the complainant's costs and expenses resulting from a binding determination made by an **ASIC-approved External Dispute Resolution Scheme** in respect of any **Claim** arising from the conduct of the **Professional Services**, where the **Claim** was first made against the **Insured** and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period**.

The **Insurer** will in addition pay all necessary and reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the **Insured** with the **Insurer's** prior written consent, arising from the **Insured** responding to a **Claim**.

Provided that:

- (a) the total liability of the **Insurer** under this extension for compensation, the complainant's costs and expenses and all reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the **Insured** with the **Insurer's** prior written consent shall not exceed \$280,000 for any one **Claim** during the **Policy Period**; and
- (b) the **Insurer** shall not be liable in respect of:
  - (i) the cost of membership of the **ASIC-approved External Dispute Resolution Scheme** or any professional association to which the **Insured** belongs;
  - (ii) the costs of any **ASIC-approved External Dispute Resolution Scheme** services or facilities or those of any professional association to which the **Insured** belongs; or
  - (iii) the costs arising from any dispute between members of such professional association.

## 7.8 Fidelity

The **Insurer** will indemnify the **Policyholder** for **Fidelity Claims**, provided that:

- (a) no person committing or condoning such fraud or dishonesty shall be entitled to indemnity;
- (b) the **Insured** must immediately take all reasonable steps to prevent further loss;
- (c) if the **Insurer** so requests the **Insured** shall take all reasonable steps to effect recovery from the person committing or condoning such fraud or dishonesty;
- (d) the following will be deducted from any amount payable under this **Policy**:
  - (i) any monies which but for such fraud or dishonesty would be due from the **Insured** to the person committing or condoning such act;
  - (ii) any monies held by the **Insured** and belonging to such person; and
  - (iii) any monies recovered following action as described in (c) above;
- (e) the **Principal Policyholder** must pay the amount of any loss of money or goods that is equal to or less than the **Fidelity Excess** for each **Fidelity Claim**. The **Fidelity Excess** is deducted from loss of money or goods before the application of the aggregate limit stated in paragraph (g) of this Extension. The **Insurer** has no liability for the amount of loss of money or goods that is equal to or less than the **Fidelity Excess** for each **Fidelity Claim**. The **Principal Policyholder** agrees that the **Fidelity Excess** must be borne by the **Principal Policyholder** and is to remain uninsured;
- (f) the **Insurer** shall not be liable in respect of any **Fidelity Claim** for loss of money or goods arising from any fraud or dishonesty committed by any person after the discovery in relation to that person of reasonable cause for suspicion of fraud or dishonesty; and
- (g) the total liability of the **Insurer** for all **Fidelity Claims** under this extension will not exceed \$100,000 in the aggregate, during the **Policy Period**.

## 7.9 Former subsidiary

The indemnity provided by 1. 'Insuring Clause' is extended to cover the conduct of the **Professional Services** by any former **Subsidiary** of the **Policyholder** that is specified in the **Proposal**, provided that such indemnity shall only apply in respect of civil liability arising out of any act, error or omission occurring prior to the date such **Subsidiary** ceased to be a **Subsidiary** of the **Policyholder**.

The **Insurer** will pay **Insured Costs** on the basis already set out in this **Policy**.

## 7.10 Indemnity to contractors

Notwithstanding clarification 6.5 'Liability for Acts, Errors or Omissions of Contractors and Consultants', the **Insurer** will indemnify any natural person who is a past and/or present contractor of the **Policyholder** against civil liability for compensation and claimant's costs and expenses in respect of any **Claim** first made against such contractor and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period** resulting from the conduct of the **Professional Services** for the **Policyholder**.

Provided that:

- (a) at the time of any act, error or omission by such contractor giving rise to the **Claim** such contractor:
  - (i) had entered into a contract for services with the **Policyholder**;
  - (ii) earned at least ninety per cent of his or her income from the **Policyholder** in the six months preceding such act, error or omission;
  - (iii) was not an **Employee** or a **Principal** of the **Policyholder**; and
  - (iv) was under the direct control and supervision of the **Insured**;
- (b) if the **Insurer** required a declaration of the **Policyholder's** income for certain periods of time for the purposes of calculating the **Full Annual Premium** for this **Policy**, whether in the **Proposal** or otherwise, the gross fees paid to such contractor by the **Policyholder** in those periods of time must not have been deducted from the declaration of income furnished by the **Policyholder**; and
- (c) such contractor shall be subject to all the terms of the **Policy** as if he or she were an **Insured**.

The **Insurer** will pay **Insured Costs** on the basis already set out in this **Policy**.

#### 7.11 Inquiry costs

The **Insurer** will indemnify the **Insured** for **Inquiry Costs**.

Provided that:

- (a) the notice requiring the **Insured's** response or attendance is first received by the **Insured** and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period**;
- (b) such response or attendance arises directly from conduct allegedly committed by the **Insured** in conducting the **Professional Services**;
- (c) such indemnity is subject to the written consent of the **Insurer** prior to the incurring of the **Inquiry Costs**;
- (d) the **Insurer** is entitled, at its discretion, to appoint legal representation to represent the **Insured** at the inquiry or hearing;
- (e) regular or overtime wages, salaries or fees of the **Insured** are excluded from this indemnity; and
- (f) the total liability of the **Insurer** for all **Inquiry Costs** under this extension will not exceed in the aggregate, during the **Policy Period**, the 'Inquiry Costs Limit' specified in the **Schedule**.

#### 7.12 Joint venture liability

The **Insurer** will indemnify the **Insured** against civil liability for compensation and claimant's costs and expenses in respect of any **Claim** first made against the **Insured** and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period** resulting from the **Policyholder's** participation in any joint venture in connection with the **Professional Services** provided that:

- (a) the indemnity given shall only relate to the **Policyholder's** proportion of any liability incurred by such joint venture; and
- (b) the **Policyholder's** income derived from participation in such joint venture shall have been included in the calculation of income furnished by the **Policyholder** for the purposes of calculating the **Full Annual Premium** for this **Policy**.

The **Insurer** will pay **Insured Costs** on the basis already set out in this **Policy**.

#### 7.13 Legal consultation

The **Policyholder** is entitled to up to two hours legal advice from the 'Legal Adviser' specified in the **Schedule** (or their delegate) on any matter related to the risks insured under this **Policy**, except in relation to the scope of cover provided under this **Policy**, or claims, disputes or complaints against the **Insurer**, provided that:

- (a) the legal advice is sought during the **Policy Period**;
- (b) the **Policyholder** must provide the legal adviser with the policy number, **Policy Period** and name of the **Policyholder**; and
- (c) the legal advice is limited to one hour in relation to any particular matter.

The cost of the legal advice is to be paid by the **Insurer** and not the **Policyholder**.

#### 7.14 Lost documents

The **Insurer** will, in the event of loss of or damage to **Documents** occurring in connection with the **Professional Services**, indemnify the **Policyholder** against all costs and expenses reasonably incurred by the **Policyholder** in replacing or restoring such **Documents** provided that:

- (a) such loss or damage is sustained during the **Policy Period** while the **Documents** are either in transit or in the custody of the **Policyholder** or of any person to whom the **Policyholder** has entrusted them in the course of the normal conduct of the **Professional Services**;



- (b) where the **Documents** are in electronic format, the **Policyholder** or any person to whom the **Policyholder** has entrusted them, have in place sufficient and proper procedures for the security and the daily back-up of the **Documents**;
- (c) the amount of any claim for such costs and expenses shall be supported by bills and accounts which shall be subject to approval by a solicitor to be nominated by the **Insurer** with the consent of the **Policyholder** or if such consent is withheld, by the President of the Law Society of whatever State where the **Policy** was issued;
- (d) the **Insurer** will not be liable in respect of loss or damage caused by riot or civil commotion;
- (e) the **Insurer** will not be liable in respect of loss or damage caused by fading, mould, vermin, pest infestation, wear, tear or any other gradually operating cause; and
- (f) the total liability of the **Insurer** for all costs and expenses under this extension will not exceed in the aggregate, during the **Policy Period**, the 'Lost Documents Limit' specified in the **Schedule**.

#### 7.15 National Consumer Credit Protection Act

The **Insurer** will indemnify the **Insured** against civil liability for compensation and claimant's costs and expenses in respect of any **Claim** by any credit provider for the recovery of any civil penalty paid or payable by the credit provider under the National Credit Protection Act, first made against the **Insured** and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period**.

Provided that such civil penalty is compensatory in nature and arises from a breach of duty in the conduct of the **Professional Services** of the **Insured** by reason of any act, error or omission on the part of the **Insured**.

The **Insurer** will pay **Insured Costs** on the basis already set out in this **Policy**.

To the extent that there is an inconsistency between this extension and exclusion 9.2.7 'Fines, Penalties, Punitive or Aggravated Damages,' this extension shall prevail.

#### 7.16 Newly created or acquired subsidiary

If during the **Policy Period** the **Policyholder** acquires or creates a new **Subsidiary**, the **Policyholder** will also include such new **Subsidiary** in respect of any **Claim** first made against the **Insured** and notified to the **Insurer** during the period beginning on the date of acquisition or creation and ending thirty days thereafter or at expiry of the **Policy Period**, whichever is the lesser period, resulting from the conduct of the **Professional Services** by such new **Subsidiary**, but not in respect of any such **Claim** resulting from any act, error or omission occurring or committed prior to the date the **Subsidiary** was created or acquired.

The **Insurer** may, at its discretion, offer to extend cover for such new **Subsidiary** beyond that period. In order for cover for such new **Subsidiary** to be extended beyond that period, the **Policyholder** must, prior to the end of that period:

- (a) give the **Insurer** written notice of any such acquisition or creation together with such additional information as the **Insurer** may require so that the **Insurer** can exercise its discretion whether or not to extend the cover;
- (b) accept any notified alteration in the terms of this **Policy**; and
- (c) pay any additional premium required by the **Insurer**.

Provided that this extension does not apply to:

- (i) any new **Subsidiary** acquired or created by the **Policyholder** that is domiciled or incorporated in the United States of America or its territories or protectorates; and
- (ii) the conduct of **Professional Services** that are not the same as those conducted by the **Policyholder** and covered under this **Policy** prior to the acquisition or creation of such **Subsidiary**.

#### 7.17 Public relations expenses

The **Insurer** will indemnify the **Policyholder** for **Public Relations Expenses** incurred by the **Policyholder** in respect of an **Adverse Publicity Event** that first occurs and is notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period**.

The total liability of the **Insurer** under this extension will not exceed in the aggregate the 'Public Relations Expenses Limit' specified in the **Schedule** during the **Policy Period**.

The **Principal Policyholder** must pay an excess of the first \$1,000 of **Public Relations Expenses**, for any one **Adverse Publicity Event**. The excess is deducted from **Public Relations Expenses** before the application of the aggregate limit stated in this extension. The **Insurer** has no liability for the amount of **Public Relations Expenses** that is less than the excess for each **Adverse Publicity Event**. The **Principal Policyholder** agrees that the excess must be borne by the **Principal Policyholder** and is to remain uninsured.

#### 7.18 Run off cover

If, during the **Policy Period**, any of the following events occur:

- (a) a **Merger or Acquisition** of the **Policyholder**; or
- (b) the appointment of a receiver, controller, administrator or liquidator to the **Policyholder** or the commencement of a scheme of arrangement or compromise or a winding up process in respect of the **Policyholder**,

then this **Policy** will remain in force until the expiry of the **Policy Period**, but only in respect of a **Claim** resulting from any act, error or omission occurring or committed prior to the event described in parts (a) or (b) of this extension.

### 7.19 Spousal liability

If a **Claim** against an **Insured** includes a claim against such **Insured's Spouse** solely by reason of:

- (a) such **Spouse's** legal status as a **Spouse** of such **Insured**; or
- (b) such **Spouse's** ownership interest in property which the claimant seeks as recovery for **Claims** made against such **Insured**,

then the **Spouse's** legal liability for compensation resulting from such **Claim** will be treated for the purposes of this **Policy** as the liability of the **Insured**.

This extension does not apply to the extent the **Claim** alleges any act, error or omission by such **Insured's Spouse**.

### 7.20 Thirty day reporting period

The **Insured** may continue to notify the **Insurer** of **Claims** up to thirty days after the expiry of the **Policy Period**, but only **Claims** first made against the **Insured** during the **Policy Period** and based on any act, error or omission committed or alleged to have been committed prior to expiry of the **Policy Period**.

Any notification to the **Insurer** during this thirty day reporting period will be deemed to have been first notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period**.

## 8. Optional extension

### 8.1 Principal's previous business

If the 'Principal's Previous Business' extension is noted as 'Included' in the **Schedule** then the **Policy** is extended to cover **Claims** made against any past and/or present **Principal** of the **Policyholder** and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period** resulting from the conduct of professional services that are the same as the **Professional Services** whilst such **Principal** was a sole practitioner, a partner of a firm or a director of a company other than the **Policyholder** prior to becoming a **Principal** of the **Policyholder**.

## 9. Exclusions

### 9.1 Section 1

The **Insurer** shall not be liable in respect of:

#### 9.1.1 Prior claims or known circumstances

- (a) any **Claim** first made against the **Insured** prior to the inception of the **Policy Period** or disclosed in the **Proposal**; or
- (b) any **Claim**, liability, compensation, **Inquiry Costs**, claimant's costs and expenses or **Insured Costs** directly or indirectly arising from or in respect of any facts, events or circumstances:
  - (i) which the **Insured** knew, prior to the inception of the **Policy Period**, might give rise to a **Claim**, liability, compensation, **Inquiry Costs**, claimant's costs and expenses or **Insured Costs** which might be covered under this **Policy**;
  - (ii) which a reasonable person in the **Insured's** position would have thought, prior to the inception of the **Policy Period**, might give rise to a **Claim**, liability, compensation, **Inquiry Costs**, claimant's costs and expenses or **Insured Costs** which might be covered under this **Policy**;
  - (iii) which were disclosed in the **Proposal** or were or could be notified under any insurance that was in force prior to the inception of the **Policy Period**;
  - (iv) which were alleged in or discovered in any **Claim** made against the **Insured** prior to the inception of the **Policy Period**; or
  - (v) relating to or underlying any **Claim** made against the **Insured** prior to the inception of the **Policy Period**.

#### 9.1.2 Retroactive date

any **Claim** resulting from any act, error or omission occurring or committed prior to the **Retroactive Date**.

#### 9.1.3 Professional fees

- (a) any **Claim** for indemnity by the **Insured** for;
- (b) any **Claim** solely for; or
- (c) that part of any **Claim** that is in respect of,  
professional fees or charges or the refund of professional fees or charges (by way of damages or otherwise).

### 9.2 Section 2

The **Insurer** shall not be liable in respect of any **Professional Services**, **Claim**, liability, compensation, **Inquiry Costs**, claimant's costs and expenses, **Insured Costs** or compensation for court attendance:

#### 9.2.1 Asbestos

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of asbestos, asbestos fibres or derivatives of asbestos.

### 9.2.2 Assumption of liability

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of any liability assumed by the **Insured** outside the normal course of the provision of **Professional Services**.

### 9.2.3 Audit of financial institutions

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of the audit of any public listed company, **Financial Institution**, general insurance company, reinsurance company or life insurance company.

### 9.2.4 Directors and officers liability

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of the **Insured's** functions and duties as a director and/or officer of the **Insured** or any legal entity, corporation or other incorporated body.

### 9.2.5 Dishonest, fraudulent or criminal acts

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of any:

- (a) dishonest, fraudulent or malicious act or omission by the **Insured**; or
- (b) criminal act or omission or breach of any statute committed by the **Insured** with reckless or wilful intent.

### 9.2.6 Employer's liability

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of:

- (a) the death, bodily injury, disease or illness of any **Insured** arising out of or in the course of or in respect of their employment; or
- (b) a breach of any obligation owed by an **Insured** to an **Insured**.

### 9.2.7 Fines, penalties, punitive or aggravated damages

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of fines or penalties including civil penalties, punitive or aggravated damages.

### 9.2.8 High risk investments

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of all primary industry and agricultural managed investment scheme products, sub-ordinated debt, mezzanine finance, unlisted or unrated securities for which an Australian government accredited liquid market does not exist or for which units cannot ordinarily be redeemed at market value on demand, unsecured loans or under-funded property developments.

### 9.2.9 Insolvency

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of:

1. a breach of a provision of, or an offence committed under, Part 5.8 of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth), by any person or entity; or
2. any person or entity becoming or being **Insolvent** (whether actual, deemed or otherwise), including but not limited to:
  - (a) any such person or entity continuing to trade whilst **Insolvent**;
  - (b) the failure of any such person or entity to enter into voluntary administration as and when the office bearer of such person or entity knew or reasonably ought to have known that such person or entity was **Insolvent** or likely to become **Insolvent**;
  - (c) the incurring of debt by any such person or entity when such person or entity was **Insolvent** or became **Insolvent** by incurring that debt, or by incurring at that time debts including that debt;
  - (d) any breach by any office bearer of any duty (whether imposed by common law, statute or by reason of the office bearer being a fiduciary or otherwise) in allowing any such person or entity to become **Insolvent** or continuing to trade whilst **Insolvent** or whilst likely to become **Insolvent**;
  - (e) any omission or decision made or course of action taken by any office bearer that results in any such person or entity becoming **Insolvent** or continuing to trade whilst **Insolvent**;
  - (f) any representation made by an office bearer as to the solvency or future prospects of any such person or entity at a time when such entity was **Insolvent** or likely to become **Insolvent**;
  - (g) any such person or entity entering into a transaction that is voidable; or
  - (h) the appointment of a liquidator or receiver.

For the purposes of this exclusion, a reference to the **Policyholder** in the definition of **Insolvent** in the **Policy** is deemed to be a reference to such person or entity.

### 9.2.10 Investment performance/advice

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of:

- (a) the depreciation of, or any loss in respect of, an investment or the value of an investment, or the failure of an investment or the value of an investment to appreciate, including but not limited to any:
  - (i) securities, commodities, currencies, options and futures transactions; or

- (ii) real estate investment, including but not limited to any related return on investment, capital appreciation or tax benefits; or
  - (iii) loss of value, surrender value or cancellation value of any leased product or service as a result of fluctuations in value of any leased product or service as a result of fluctuations in the value of such product or service; or
  - (iv) profit projections or financial forecasts.
- (b) any actual or alleged representation, advice, forecast or guarantee, whether express or inferred, provided by or on behalf of the **Insured** as to the performance of any investment.

#### 9.2.11 Liquidated damages

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of liquidated damages imposed upon the **Insured** by contract or agreement, except to the extent that the **Insured** would have been liable for that damage in the absence of any such contract or agreement.

#### 9.2.12 Mortgage/finance brokers excluded activities

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of:

- (a) any advice or forecast given by the **Insured** in relation to the performance of an asset or investment;
- (b) the making of any discretionary fund decision by the **Insured**;
- (c) any valuation services, including but not limited to, property valuations, market appraisals, market estimations or opinions on the value or future value of any property or other asset;
- (d) the failure to obtain a valuation (where required by the lender) on a security and/or relying on a valuation, that is more than 3 months old at the time of loan approval;
- (e) obtaining or relying on a valuation that has not been undertaken by an independent, appropriately qualified and registered valuer who is approved by the lender;
- (f) promoting, managing, or arranging for the loan of funds supplied by managed investment schemes, legal practitioners or private lenders;
- (g) margin lending, including without limitation margin calls;
- (h) the **Insured** acting as an agent of a financial institution under an authority, written or otherwise, to approve loans, finance or mortgages;
- (i) insurance agency activities
- (j) any finance arranged in excess of \$5,000,000

#### 9.2.13 Radioactivity

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of ionising radiation or contamination by radioactivity from any nuclear fuel or from any nuclear waste from the combustion of nuclear fuel or from the radioactive, toxic, explosive or other hazardous properties of any explosive nuclear device or assembly, or a nuclear component thereof.

#### 9.2.14 Related parties

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of any **Claim** brought by:

- (a) any **Insured**;
- (b) any **Subsidiary**;
- (c) any company or trust which is operated or controlled by the **Insured** or its nominees or trustees and in which an **Insured** has a direct or indirect financial interest;
- (d) any company in which an **Insured** has or has held at least a 20% financial interest and has had or has board representation on that company; or
- (e) any **Relative** or any company owned or controlled by a **Relative**, unless the **Professional Services** that gave rise to the **Claim** were signed off by a **Principal** of the **Policyholder** who is a person not related to the **Relative**.

#### 9.2.15 Sanctions

that would be in contravention of any sanction, prohibition or restriction under United Nations resolutions or trade or economic sanctions, laws or regulations of Australia, the European Union, United Kingdom or United States of America.

#### 9.2.16 Subrogation waiver

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of any liability which is incurred or affected by reason of the **Insured** at any time entering into a deed or agreement excluding, limiting or delaying the **Insured's** legal rights of recovery against another.

#### 9.2.17 Tax schemes

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of the promotion of, advice in favour of or in any way facilitating the investment in schemes, arrangements or products designed to minimize or avoid taxation, unless before the promotion occurred, the advice was given or the investment was facilitated:

- (a) the Australian Taxation Office had issued a compliancy determination or product ruling in favour of the scheme, arrangement or product and such scheme, arrangement or product has been implemented in accordance with such compliancy determination or product ruling; and
- (b) the **Insured** made all reasonable inquiries necessary of a prudent professional in the **Insured's** position to establish that the scheme, arrangement or product satisfied the relevant Australian tax laws, complied with the intention of these laws and was not defeated by any anti-avoidance tax; or
- (c) there has been a court ruling in favour of the scheme that is binding on the Australian Taxation Office.

#### 9.2.18 Terrorism

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of:

- (a) any **Act of Terrorism**; or
- (b) any action taken in controlling, preventing, suppressing or in any way relating to any **Act of Terrorism**.

#### 9.2.19 Trading debts

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of any trading debt incurred, or any guarantee in respect of such debt given, by the **Insured**.

#### 9.2.20 War

arising directly or indirectly from or in respect of any consequence of war, invasion, act of foreign enemy, hostilities (whether war be declared or not), civil war, rebellion, revolution, insurrection or military or usurped power.

### 10. Claims conditions

#### 10.1 Claims notifications

Every **Claim** made against the **Insured** shall be notified to the **Insurer** as soon as practicable and in any event prior to expiry of the **Policy Period**, and every letter, demand, writ, summons and legal process pertaining to such **Claim** shall be forwarded to the **Insurer** as soon as practicable after receipt.

All **Claim** notifications to the **Insurer** must be sent to the address next to 'Claims Notification' specified in the **Schedule**.

It is the **Insured's** responsibility to ensure that such notification has been forwarded to and has been received by the Liability & Profin Notification Centre.

#### 10.2 Claims co-operation

In the event of a **Claim** the **Insured** will at all times and at its own cost provide the **Insurer** with all information, evidence, documentation, assistance and co-operation and will execute such documents, including signed statements and affidavits, which the **Insurer** reasonably requests.

The **Insured** will at all times and at its own cost use reasonable endeavours to do and concur in doing everything reasonably practicable to avoid or diminish loss and to assist with the defence, investigation or settlement of any **Claim**.

The **Insurer** may make any investigation it deems necessary.

#### 10.3 Claims conduct

The **Insurer** shall be entitled to take over and conduct in the name of the **Insured** the defence or settlement of any **Claim** and shall have full discretion in the conduct of any proceedings and in the settlement of any **Claim**.

The **Insurer** reserves entirely its rights under this **Policy**, including its right to agree or deny cover while it assesses a **Claim** or conducts the defence. The **Insurer's** rights under this **Policy** are not affected if it does not conduct the defence.

Neither the **Insured** nor the **Insurer** will be required to contest or litigate any **Claim** if, in the opinion of Senior Counsel, reasonable attempts should be made to settle the **Claim**. The Senior Counsel shall be mutually agreed upon, or in the absence of such agreement, as nominated by the President of the NSW Bar Association (or the equivalent State or Territory association). The cost to obtain the opinion will be advanced by the **Insurer** and treated as **Insured Costs**.

Senior Counsel shall provide the opinion in writing. In formulating the opinion Senior Counsel shall consider commercial matters including the amount of the **Claim**, the actual and potential loss (including **Insured Costs**) that may reasonably be incurred in contesting the **Claim**, the liability prospects and the prospect of recovering costs against the claimant in the event that the defence is successful. Senior Counsel shall also provide a settlement range within which reasonable attempts should be made to settle the **Claim**.

If it is the opinion of Senior Counsel that reasonable attempts should be made to settle the **Claim**, the **Insured** shall not object to the **Insurer's** attempt to do so.

#### 10.4 Claims settlement

The **Insured** must not settle or offer to settle any **Claim**, incur any **Insured Costs** or otherwise assume any contractual obligation or admit any liability in respect of any **Claim** without the **Insurer's** prior written consent.

If the **Insured** objects to a proposal by the **Insurer** to settle or compromise any **Claim** payable under this **Policy** and wishes to contest or litigate the matter, then the **Insured** may so elect, but the **Insurer's** liability in respect of any such **Claim** so contested or litigated will not exceed the amount for which, but for such election, it could have been settled or compromised by the **Insurer**, together with **Insured Costs** payable in accordance with the terms of this **Policy** and incurred up to the time of such election, subject to the **Excess** and to the **Limit of Indemnity**.

### 10.5 Fidelity recoveries

In the event of any payment in respect of a **Fidelity Claim**:

- (a) the **Policyholder** must, if requested by the **Insurer**, take all reasonable steps to make recovery from any person committing or condoning the dishonest or fraudulent act or from the legal representatives of such person; and
- (b) to the extent allowed by law, the **Insurer** will deduct the following from any amount payable in respect of loss of money or goods caused by or resulting from a dishonest or fraudulent act:
  - (i) any monies which but for such dishonest or fraudulent act would be due from the **Policyholder** to the person committing or condoning such act; and
  - (ii) any monies held by the **Policyholder** and belonging to such person; and
  - (iii) any monies recovered under (a) above; and

all such monies will be applied towards reducing the amount of the loss of money or goods.

## 11. General conditions

### 11.1 Assignment

This **Policy** cannot be assigned by the **Policyholder**.

### 11.2 Authorisation

The **Principal Policyholder** is the agent for each **Insured** and each **Insured** is bound by any statement, act or omission of the **Principal Policyholder** for all purposes under this **Policy**, subject to 10.3 'Claims Conduct' and 11.11 'Severability and Non Imputation'.

### 11.3 Cancellation

The **Principal Policyholder** may cancel this **Policy** at any time in writing to the **Insurer**. Upon receipt of such request, the **Insurer** will retain a short period premium calculated at the pro rata proportion of the **Full Annual Premium** for the time it has been on risk plus ten percent and the **Principal Policyholder** will receive a refund of any balance of the premium actually paid, unless there have been any notifications during the **Policy Period**, in which case no refund shall be given.

The **Insurer** may cancel this **Policy** in accordance with the Insurance Contracts Act 1984.

### 11.4 Endorsements

An **Endorsement** does not affect or increase the **Limit of Indemnity**, the **Maximum Limit of Indemnity** or any other term, except to the extent specifically provided in the **Endorsement**. Each **Endorsement** is otherwise subject to all the terms of this **Policy**.

### 11.5 Goods and Services Tax

The premium is the amount the **Policyholder** pays the **Insurer** for this insurance and it includes stamp duty, GST and any other government charges that applies.

The **Insured** must inform the **Insurer** of the extent to which there is an entitlement to an input tax credit for that GST amount each time that it notifies a **Claim** under this **Policy**. No payment will be made to the **Insured** for any GST liability that it may incur on the settlement of a **Claim** if it does not inform the **Insurer** of its entitlement or correct entitlement to an input tax credit.

Despite the other terms of this **Policy**, the **Insurer's** liability to the **Insured** will be calculated taking into account any input tax credit to which the **Insured** is entitled for any acquisition which is relevant to the **Claim**, or to which it would have been entitled had it made a relevant acquisition.

'GST', 'input tax credit', 'acquisition' and 'supply' have the meaning given in A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999.

### 11.6 Governing law

The **Policy** will be governed in accordance with law of the State or Territory of Australia in which the **Policy** was issued. Any disputes relating to interpretation will be submitted to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Australia.

### 11.7 Interpretation

In this **Policy** the singular includes the plural and vice versa. The neutral gender includes the female and male genders.

A reference in this **Policy** to any legislation or legislative provision includes any statutory modification or re-enactment of, or legislative provision substituted for, and any subordinate legislation issued under, that legislation or legislative provision (whether of the Commonwealth of Australia or elsewhere).

The titles and headings to the various sections of the **Policy** are included solely for ease of reference and do not in any way limit or expand or otherwise affect the terms of such sections.

### 11.8 Material change

The **Policyholder** must notify the **Insurer** as soon as reasonably practicable of any material change in the risk insured by this **Policy**. The **Insurer** is entitled to amend the terms of this **Policy** and/or charge an additional premium based on the **Insurer's** assessment of any change in the risk insured by this **Policy**. A material change in the risk includes, without limitation:

- (a) activities that are materially different from those declared in the **Proposal**;
- (b) activities outside the normal activities of the **Professional Services**;
- (c) the **Policyholder** being **Insolvent**; or
- (d) any loss of or conditions imposed upon any licence or other authority required by the **Insured** to conduct the **Professional Services**.

### 11.9 Other insurance

If at the time any **Claim** arises under this **Policy** there is any other insurance in force covering the same liability the **Policyholder** shall promptly give to the **Insurer** full details of such other insurance, including the identity of the insurer and the policy number, and such further information as the **Insurer** may reasonably require.

### 11.10 Payment of premium

The **Policyholder** must pay the 'Premium' specified in the **Schedule** for the **Policy Period** to the **Insurer** by the due date. The due date is on or before ninety days after the inception date of the **Policy Period** or such other time that the **Insurer** agrees in writing. If the **Policyholder** fails to pay the 'Premium' by the due date, the **Insurer** is entitled to cancel this **Policy** in accordance with the Insurance Contracts Act 1984.

### 11.11 Severability and non imputation

Where this **Policy** insures more than one party, any failure on the part of any of the parties to:

- (a) comply with the duty of disclosure under the Insurance Contracts Act 1984;
- (b) comply with any obligation under this **Policy** (other than the obligation to pay premium); or
- (c) refrain from conduct which is dishonest, fraudulent, criminal or malicious,

shall not prejudice the right of the remaining party or parties to indemnity under this **Policy**, provided that such remaining party or parties shall:

- (i) be entirely innocent of and have had no prior knowledge of any such failure; and
- (ii) as soon as practicable after becoming aware of any such failure, advise the **Insurer** in writing of all its relevant circumstances.

### 11.12 Territorial and jurisdictional limits of cover

This **Policy** provides cover for:

- (a) any civil liability resulting from the conduct of the **Professional Services** anywhere in the world, except for any civil liability resulting from:
  - (i) the conduct of the **Professional Services** within the United States of America;
  - (ii) the provision of professional services to persons in the United States of America as part of the conduct of the **Professional Services**; or
  - (iii) any act, error or omission occurring within the United States of America

and

- (b) subject to (a), **Claims** made anywhere in the world, except for those **Claims**:
  - (i) brought in a court of law, arbitration, tribunal, forum or other body entitled to impose enforceable orders against the **Insured** in the United States of America; or
  - (ii) arising from the enforcement of any judgment, order or award in respect of any action brought in any court of law, arbitration, tribunal or other judicial body in the United States of America.

For the purpose of this General Condition the United States of America includes its territories and protectorates.

### 11.13 Variation of the policy

No variation of this **Policy** will be effective, unless made by **Endorsement**.

## 12. Definitions

For the purpose of this **Policy**:

**Act of Terrorism** means an act, including but not limited to the use of force or violence and/or the threat thereof, of any person or group(s) of persons, whether acting alone or on behalf of or in connection with any organisation(s) or government(s), which from its nature or context is done for, or in connection with, political, religious, ideological, ethnic or similar purposes or reasons, including the intention to influence any government or to put the public, or any section of the public, in fear.

**Adverse Publicity Event** means an event which, in the reasonable opinion of a **Principal** of the **Policyholder**, might cause the reputation of the **Insured** to be seriously affected by adverse or negative publicity.

**ASIC-approved External Dispute Resolution Scheme** means a scheme falling within s912A(2)(b)(i) of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).

**Claim** means:

- (a) any demand made by a third party upon the **Insured** for compensation, however conveyed, including a writ, statement of claim, application or other legal or arbitral process; and
- (b) for the purposes of cover under extension 7.7 'External Dispute Resolution Schemes' only, a complaint by a third party to an **ASIC-approved External Dispute Resolution Scheme**.

**Control** has the meaning given by section 50AA of the Corporations Act 2001.

**Deposit Bonds** means real estate deposit bonds.

**Documents** means deeds, wills, agreements, maps, plans, records, computer records, electronic data, written or printed books, letters, certificates, written or printed documents or forms of any nature (excluding any bearer bonds, coupons, bank or currency notes or other negotiable instruments) which is the property of the **Policyholder** or for which the **Policyholder** is responsible.

**Employee** means a natural person (other than a **Principal**) employed under a contract of service or apprenticeship by the **Policyholder** and includes any trainee, volunteer and casual, part-time, seasonal, temporary and work experience personnel.

**Endorsement** means any document which is described as an endorsement to this **Policy** and intends to vary it.

**Excess** means the amount shown in the **Schedule** except in respect of **Inquiry costs** in which case it means the amount shown in the **Schedule** as the 'Inquiry Costs Excess'.

**Fidelity Claim** means loss of money or goods belonging to or held in trust by the **Policyholder** caused directly by any act, or series of related acts of fraud or dishonesty committed by any **Employee** of the **Insured** in connection with the **Professional Services** and discovered and notified to the **Insurer** during the **Policy Period**.

**Fidelity Excess** means the 'Fidelity Excess' specified in the **Schedule** and represents the first amount which is payable by the **Principal Policyholder** in respect of loss of money or goods.

**Financial Institution** means any bank, building society, credit union, friendly society or other company or institution which receives deposits of money and / or makes advances on the provision of security.

**Full Annual Premium** means the annual premium payable by the **Principal Policyholder**, including any additional premium which becomes payable in respect of the **Policy Period**.

**Inquiring Body** means any official body or institution empowered by law to investigate the professional conduct of the **Insured** including but not limited to a coroner's court, Royal Commission, statutory regulatory body, tribunal or legally constituted industry or professional board but excluding any parliament or any committee of a parliament. **Inquiring Body** does not include any **ASIC-approved External Dispute Resolution Scheme**.

**Inquiry Costs** means necessary and reasonable legal costs and expenses incurred by the **Insured** arising out of any notice from an **Inquiring Body** requiring a response from the **Insured** or requiring the **Insured's** attendance at an investigation, inquiry or hearing held before the **Inquiring Body** (not being **Insured Costs**).

**Insolvency or Insolvent** means:

- (a) the **Policyholder** is an insolvent under administration or insolvent (each as defined in the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth));
- (b) the **Policyholder** has had a controller appointed or is in liquidation, in provisional liquidation, under administration, has been wound up or has had a receiver appointed to any part of its property;
- (c) the **Policyholder** is subject to any arrangement, assignment, moratorium, compromise or composition, it is protected from creditors under any statute or it is dissolved (in each case, other than to carry out a reconstruction or amalgamation while solvent);
- (d) an application or order has been made, resolution passed, proposal put forward or any other action taken which is preparatory to or could result in any of (a), (b) or (c) above;
- (e) the **Policyholder** is taken (under Section 459F(1) of the Corporations Act) to have failed to comply with a statutory demand;
- (f) the **Policyholder** is otherwise unable to pay its debts when they fall due; or
- (g) something having a substantially similar effect to (a) to (e) above happens in connection with the **Policyholder** under the law of any jurisdiction.

**Insured** means:

- (a) the **Policyholder**;
- (b) any past and/or present **Employee** of the **Policyholder**, but only in his or her capacity as such;
- (c) any past and/or present **Principal** of the **Policyholder**, but only in his or her capacity as such; and/or
- (d) the estate, heirs, legal representatives or legal assigns of any natural person insured under this **Policy** in the event of the death or legal incapacity of such person.



(e) each partnership, company, corporation or trust carrying on the whole or part of a practice, where practice means a business providing **Professional Services**.

**Insured Costs** means all necessary and reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the **Insurer**, or by the **Insured** with the **Insurer's** prior written consent, in defending, investigating or settling any **Claim** (not being claimant's costs and expenses).

**Insurer** means Vero Insurance Limited ABN 48 005 297 807.

**Limit of Indemnity** means the amount specified beside 'Limit of Indemnity' as shown in the **Schedule**.

**L.S.T. or Local Standard Time** means the time in the State or Territory of Australia in which the **Policy** was issued.

**Maximum Aggregate Limit of Indemnity** means the amount specified beside 'Maximum Aggregate Limit of Indemnity' as shown in the **Schedule**.

**Merger or Acquisition** means:

- (a) the **Policyholder** consolidating with, merging into or selling all or substantially all of its assets such that the **Policyholder** is not the surviving entity; or
- (b) any entity obtaining **Control** of the **Policyholder**.

**Policy Period** means the time between 'From' and 'To' noted beside 'Policy Period' in the **Schedule**.

**Policy** means the **Schedule**, the terms of this document and any **Endorsements**.

**Policyholder** means the firm or legal entity shown in the **Schedule**.

**Principal** means a sole practitioner, a partner of a firm or a director of a company.

**Principal Policyholder** means the **Policyholder** or if the **Policyholder** is more than one person or entity, the first person or entity listed as the 'Policyholder' in the **Schedule**.

**Professional Services** means

- (a) the 'Professional Services' described in the **Schedule**, and no other, of the **Policyholder**; or
- (b) where the **Insured** is a Chartered Accountant, Certified Practising Accountant or Professional National Accountant, as designated by the National Institute of Accountants, National Tax and Accountants Association or the Association of Taxation and Management Accountants:
  - (i) services which require any of the following registrations:
    - registered company auditor;
    - registered company liquidator;
    - registered tax agent;
    - registered trustee in bankruptcy; or
    - licensed municipal auditor (or its equivalent); or
  - (ii) the provision of services to the public as a Chartered Accountant, Certified Practising Accountant or Professional National Accountant, National Tax and Accountants Association, Association of Taxation and Management Accountants.

**Proposal** means the written proposal or declaration made by the **Policyholder** to the **Insurer** containing particulars and statements together with other information provided by the **Policyholder**.

**Public Relations Expenses** means the reasonable costs, charges, fees and expenses of a public relations firm or consultant engaged to prevent or limit the adverse effects of or negative publicity from an **Adverse Publicity Event**, which the **Policyholder** may engage with the prior written consent of the **Insurer**, but only during the first thirty days immediately following the **Adverse Publicity Event**.

**Relative** means an **Insured's**:

- (i) **Spouse**;
- (ii) parent;
- (iii) children or siblings; or
- (iv) the **Spouse**, parent, child or sibling of a **Relative** specified in (i), (ii) and (iii) above.

**Retroactive Date** means the 'Retroactive Date' as shown in the **Schedule**.

**Schedule** means the current schedule issued by the **Insurer** to the **Policyholder**.

**Spouse** means a lawful spouse, domestic partner (including without limitation same sex partner) or any person deriving similar status by reason of the common law or statute.

**Subsidiary** means a subsidiary of the **Policyholder** as defined in the Corporations Act 2001.

End of Policy wording

# Notices

These notices do not form part of the policy.

## Broker acting as agent for insurer

In effecting this contract of insurance the broker will be acting under an authority given to it by the insurer and the broker will be effecting the contract as agent of the insurer and not the insured. Mega Capital Pty Ltd ABN: 37 098 080 418 arranges the insurance and Vero Insurance Limited ABN 48 005 297 807 issues the insurance.

## Your duty of disclosure

Before you enter into an insurance contract, you have a duty to tell us anything that you know, or could reasonably be expected to know, may affect our decision to insure you and on what terms.

You have this duty until we agree to insure you.

You have the same duty before you renew, extend, vary or reinstate an insurance contract.

You do not need to tell us anything that:

- ▼ reduces the risk we insure you for; or
- ▼ is common knowledge; or
- ▼ we know or should know as an insurer; or
- ▼ we waive your duty to tell us about.

## If you do not tell us something

If you do not tell us anything you are required to, we may cancel your contract or reduce the amount we will pay you if you make a claim, or both.

If your failure to tell us is fraudulent, we may refuse to pay a claim and treat the contract as if it never existed.

## Claims made and notified basis of coverage

The Civil Liability Professional Indemnity Insurance policy is issued on a 'claims made and notified' basis.

This means that the Insuring Clause responds to:

- (a) claims first made against you during the policy period and notified to the insurer during the policy period, provided that you were not aware at any time prior to the policy inception of circumstances which would have put a reasonable person in your position on notice that a claim may be made against you; and
- (b) written notification of facts pursuant to section 40(3) of the Insurance Contracts Act 1984. The facts that you may decide to notify, are those which might give rise to a claim against you. Such notification must be given as soon as reasonably practicable after you become aware of the facts and prior to the policy period expiring. If you give written notification of facts the policy will respond even though a claim arising from those facts is made against you after the policy has expired. For your information, s40(3) of the Insurance Contracts Act 1984 is set out below:

'S40(3) Where the insured gave notice in writing to the insurer of facts that might give rise to claim against the insured as soon as was reasonably practicable after the insured became aware of those facts but before the insurance cover provided by the contract expired, the insurer is not relieved of liability under the contract in respect of the claim when made by reason only that it was made after the expiration of the period of the insurance cover provided by the contract.'

When the policy period expires, no new notification of facts can be made on the expired policy even though the event giving rise to the claim against you may have occurred during the policy period.

## Retroactive date

You will not be entitled to indemnity under your new policy in respect of any claim resulting from an act, error or omission occurring or committed by you prior to the retroactive date, where one is specified in the policy terms offered to you.

## Subrogation waiver

Our policy contains a provision that has the effect of excluding or limiting our liability in respect of a liability incurred solely by reason of the insured entering into a deed or agreement excluding, limiting or delaying the legal rights of recovery against another.

## Privacy statement

AAI Limited trading as Vero Insurance is the insurer and issuer of your commercial insurance product, and is a member of the Suncorp Group, which we'll refer to simply as "the Group".

## Why do we collect personal information?

Personal information is information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable.

We collect personal information so that we can:

- ▼ identify you and conduct appropriate checks;
- ▼ understand your requirements and provide you with a product or service;
- ▼ set up, administer and manage our products and services and systems, including the management and administration of underwriting and claims;
- ▼ assess and investigate any claims you make under one or more of our products;
- ▼ manage, train and develop our employees and representatives;
- ▼ manage complaints and disputes, and report to dispute resolution bodies; and
- ▼ get a better understanding of you, your needs, your behaviours and how you interact with us, so we can engage in product and service research, development and business strategy including managing the delivery of our services and products via the ways we communicate with you.

#### What happens if you don't give us your personal information?

If we ask for your personal information and you don't give it to us, we may not be able to provide you with any, some, or all of the features of our products or services.

#### How we handle your personal information

We collect your personal information directly from you and, in some cases, from other people or organisations. We also provide your personal information to other related companies in the Group, and they may disclose or use your personal information for the purposes described in 'Why do we collect personal information?' in relation to products and services they may provide to you. They may also use your personal information to help them provide products and services to other customers, but they'll never disclose your personal information to another customer without your consent.

Under various laws we will be (or may be) authorised or required to collect your personal information. These laws include the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006, Personal Property Securities Act 2009, Corporations Act 2001, Autonomous Sanctions Act 2011, Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, Income Tax Assessment Act 1936, Income Tax Regulations 1936, Tax Administration Act 1953, Tax Administration Regulations 1976, A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999 and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 2001, as those laws are amended and includes any associated regulations.

We will use and disclose your personal information for the purposes we collected it as well as purposes that are related, where you would reasonably expect us to. We may disclose your personal information to and/or collect your personal information from:

- ▼ other companies within the Group and other trading divisions or departments within the same company (please see our Group Privacy Policy for a list of brands/companies);
- ▼ any of our Group joint ventures where authorised or required;
- ▼ customer, product, business or strategic research and development organisations;
- ▼ data warehouse, strategic learning organisations, data partners, analytic consultants;
- ▼ social media and other virtual communities and networks where people create, share or exchange information;
- ▼ publicly available sources of information;
- ▼ clubs, associations, member loyalty or rewards programs and other industry relevant organisations;
- ▼ a third party that we've contracted to provide financial services, financial products or administrative services – for example:
  - ▼ information technology providers,
  - ▼ administration or business management services, consultancy firms, auditors and business management consultants,
  - ▼ marketing agencies and other marketing service providers,
  - ▼ claims management service providers,
  - ▼ print/mail/digital service providers, and
  - ▼ imaging and document management services;
- ▼ any intermediaries, including your agent, adviser, a broker, representative or person acting on your behalf, other Australian Financial Services Licensee or our authorised representatives, advisers and our agents;
- ▼ a third party claimant or witnesses in a claim;
- ▼ accounting or finance professionals and advisers;
- ▼ government, statutory, or regulatory bodies and enforcement bodies;
- ▼ policy or product holders or others who are authorised or noted on the policy as having a legal interest, including where you are an insured person but not the policy or product holder;
- ▼ in the case of a relationship with a corporate partner such as a bank or a credit union, the corporate partner and any new incoming insurer;
- ▼ the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) Australia or any other external dispute resolution body;
- ▼ credit reporting agencies;

## General Insurance Code of Practice

We support and adhere to the General Insurance Code of Practice. A copy of the Code can be obtained from the Insurance Council of Australia by:

- ▼ Telephone (02) 9253 5100 or 1300 728 228
- ▼ Website [www.insurancecouncil.com.au](http://www.insurancecouncil.com.au)

## Complaints resolution

We are committed to:

- ▼ listening to what you tell us;
- ▼ being accurate and honest in telling you about our products and services;
- ▼ communicating with you clearly; and
- ▼ resolving any complaints or concerns you have in a fair, transparent and timely manner.

If you have a complaint concerning this product or our services, please tell the people who provided your initial service or you can contact us by:

- ▼ Telephone: 1800 689 762
- ▼ Mail: Reply Paid 1453 Customer Relations Unit RE058,  
GPO Box 1453 Brisbane QLD 4001 or
- ▼ Email: [customer.relations@suncorp.com.au](mailto:customer.relations@suncorp.com.au)

## What we will do to resolve your complaint

When you first let us know about your complaint or concern, we will review your complaint, consider the facts and attempt to resolve your complaint by the end of the next working day.

If we cannot resolve your complaint to your satisfaction within 5 working days we will contact you to agree reasonable alternative time frames.

We will endeavour to send you our final decision within 15 working days from the date you first made your complaint provided we have all necessary information and have completed any investigations

required. If you are still unsatisfied with the final outcome at your request we can refer your complaint to our Internal Dispute Resolution (IDR) team. Our IDR team will review your dispute, and respond to the dispute within 15 working days of your complaint being referred to them provided they receive all necessary information and have completed any investigation required.

What if you are not satisfied with our final IDR decision?

We expect our procedures will provide you with a fair and prompt resolution to your complaint. If however you are not satisfied with our final decision or if we have not been able to resolve the complaint to your satisfaction within 45 days you may be able to take the complaint to the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) Australia.

FOS is an independent external dispute resolution scheme and its service is free to our customers.

You can contact FOS by:

- ▼ Telephone: 1800 367 287
- ▼ Mail: Financial Ombudsman Service Limited  
GPO Box 3  
Melbourne VIC 3001.
- ▼ Email: [info@fos.org.au](mailto:info@fos.org.au); or
- ▼ Website: [www.fos.org.au](http://www.fos.org.au)

FOS will tell you if they can help you, as their services are not available to all customers.

We agree to accept a FOS decision however you have the right to take legal action if you do not accept their decision.

