

New head of global product management

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Swiss Re Life & Health – a specialist global division of Swiss Re – has appointed Mark Gallagher to its executive board and as head of its product management unit.

Based at the division's London headquarters, Swiss Re Life & Health's Life Product Management team serves as a knowledge center for mortality and other risks on a worldwide basis. The team conducts technical research into a range of fields including mortality improvement and the impact of genetic research on insurance matters, as well as evaluating global industry trends and developments and leveraging global risk expertise within the life and health division.

Australian-born Mr. Gallagher has worked within the reinsurance industry for 32 years. He began his business career in 1968 with Mercantile & General Reinsurance (M&G Re), gaining experience in Australia and Canada in roles including corporate finance, employee benefits and marketing. In the early eighties he became chief actuary and general manager of M&G Re's life company in Australia and then chief executive officer for life and non-life operations in Australia and the South Pacific. Following the merger of M&G Re and Swiss Re he was appointed managing director of Swiss Re Life & Health's operations in Australia and New Zealand, a position he held until his recent move to his new role.

An actuary by training, Mark Gallagher is a Fellow of both the Society of Actuaries in the USA and the Institute of Actuaries of Australia.

Commenting on Mr. Gallagher's appointment, divisional chief executive of Swiss Re Life & Health, John Coomber, said, "Mark's wide experience will enable him to bring new insight and ideas into global risk management issues. He will also be a valuable addition to our divisional board."