



Gard reports strong half year results

For the first six months of the 2016 financial year, ending 20 August, Gard reported the following results at a group level:

- Result after tax of USD 97 million
- Combined ratio net (CRN) of 97 per cent
- Investment return of USD 82 million
- Equity of USD 1,114 million

Rolf Thore Roppestad, CEO of Gard, said: “The first half of the 2016 year has seen a positive result, reflecting a strong overall performance. Lower rates and reduced demand – particularly in the offshore market have led to a decline in gross written premium of around eight per cent for the period. At the same time, we have continued to gain tonnage in P&I and maintained market share in most marine products. For a mutual, keeping overall premiums down is a good thing – as long as it is accompanied by a positive claims environment.

“There is no doubt that market conditions continue to be demanding for many of our Members and clients. Any business making plans in unstable market conditions values stability and predictability. It is core to our offering that our Members and clients should know where they stand in terms of our premium policy, product offering and claims promise. We are therefore focussing even more closely on how we can support the maritime industries when times are tough.”

Gard also announced today its premium policy for the coming year. Given the current claims environment and rating level of the portfolio, there will be no general increase in the Advance Call for owners’ mutual P&I or for mutual FD&D for the 2017 policy year. The Boards have decided that premium adjustments should result in a combined ratio net of 102.5 per cent for P&I mutual.



Mr Roppestad continued: “Our premium policy is based on a strategy of long-term steadiness and sustainability. We want to support our shipowners in challenging times by keeping costs as low as possible. As well as having been modest in our premium increases over recent years, we have a well-established procedure that allows excess capital to be returned to the membership by a reduction in the last instalment of premium which is deferred to the year after the policy year in question. Over the last ten years, we have returned USD 223 million to our mutual Members.”

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1. Gard is a shipowner-controlled provider of P&I, marine and energy insurance products, with gross written premium of USD 911 million, with over 450 staff in 13 offices around the world.
2. The direct insurance entities within the Gard group; Gard P. & I. (Bermuda) Ltd, Assuranceforeningen Gard, Gard Marine & Energy Limited and Gard Marine & Energy Insurance (Europe) Limited are rated 'A+' by Standard & Poor's.

Contacts

Caroline Wagstaff
Mobile +44 7767 794208

Luther Pendragon