



Core Specialty adds Pioneer pair to lead Northwest ocean marine

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Core Specialty Insurance Holdings has hired former Pioneer Underwriters executives Zach McAbee and Peter Sandler to lead the recently rebooted insurer's Northwest ocean marine business.

McAbee will manage Core Specialty Ocean Marine's Northwest underwriting team. He has over 20 years of experience in the marine insurance industry, most recently serving at Pioneer Underwriters as head of ocean marine.

Sandler has over 30 years of experience in numerous insurance lines. He joins from Pioneer Underwriters, and will assist in the leadership of the Northwest underwriting team in Seattle.

"Peter and Zach are well respected in the Seattle marine community, and their relationships, skills and leadership will be a great addition to the division's management team," said Tim McAndrew, president, marine and energy division.

The marine and energy division was established after extracting it from the StarStone London managed business when Core Specialty completed its recapitalisation at the end of November.

The company said the marine and energy division achieved a 9 percent rate increase through the first nine months of 2020.

This is one of a series of announcements since the \$900mn recapitalisation and rebrand to Core Specialty. The specialty insurer was launched through the recapitalisation of StarStone US Holdings with former American Financial Group CFO and Validus co-founder Jeff Consolino as president and CEO and former Validus CEO Ed Noonan as executive chairman.

This week Core Specialty also announced the hire of former Hallmark Financial executive Stephen Moore as president, D&O management professional liability.

Last week it announced a partnership with Lancer Management Company to provide excess liability limits for local, intermediate and long-haul trucking accounts and general commercial and public auto companies.

It has also recently replaced Hallmark Financial as the capacity provider on AmWINS Program Underwriters' long-term care facilities program, hired former Tokio Marine HCC executive Jeff Jacobs as head of errors and omissions professional liability, and filled several roles within its property division.