



P R E S S R E L E A S E

London, 17 May 2016

Coface in the UK and Ireland adds to its experience with the appointment of John Nicholas as Risk Underwriting Director

Coface in the UK and Ireland, a leading provider of credit insurance, appoints John Nicholas as Risk Underwriting Director while the incumbent, Grant Williams, becomes Political Risk Director.

In making these appointments Coface in the UK and Ireland demonstrates the importance of recruiting experienced employees whilst enabling other parts of the business to benefit from existing experience.

John will head up a multi-sector knowledge based underwriting team in the UK and Ireland which can also draw on the experience of 340 underwriters in 44 centres around the world. He will work closely with the Commercial team in supporting the needs of clients and brokers.

John has 30 years' experience of credit risk management crucially spanning both client and insurer sides. Most recently John spent 12 years as Credit Risk Director at a global steel trading group and prior to that 8 years at a credit insurer where his last role there was as Regional Risk Manager.

Grant brings 25 years' knowledge of credit risk underwriting to the Political Risk role and this expertise will enable Coface in the UK and Ireland to further meet the needs of our clients and brokers in this market.

Frédéric Bourgeois, Managing Director of Coface in the UK and Ireland commented: "I am delighted with both these appointments. John brings with him not only specialised credit insurance underwriting capability but an appreciation of the role of the credit function in businesses operating in a challenging economic and competitive environment. Grant's appointment brings valuable credit risk underwriting skills to our Political Risk offer."

If you want to be better informed about UK and overseas trading risks, attend Coface's half-day Country Risk Conference which takes place in London, Manchester and Dublin on Thursday 9th June. Register your interest by emailing crc_uk@coface.com. The event is free for corporate credit risk managers and their advisers.

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About Coface

The Coface Group, a worldwide leader in credit insurance, offers companies around the globe solutions to protect them against the risk of financial default of their clients, both on the domestic market and for export. In 2015, the Group, supported by its ~4,500 staff, posted a consolidated turnover of €1.490 billion. Present directly or indirectly in 100 countries, it secures transactions of 40,000 companies in more than 200 countries. Each quarter, Coface publishes its assessments of country risk for 160 countries, based on its unique knowledge of companies' payment behaviour and on the expertise of its 340 underwriters located close to clients and their debtors.

In France, Coface manages export public guarantees on behalf of the French State.





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Coface SA. is listed on Euronext Paris – Compartment A
ISIN: FR0010667147 / Ticker: COFA

In the **UK and Republic of Ireland** Coface has been a leading provider of [credit management services](#) since 1993 - its objective being to enable businesses to trade securely at home and overseas. Operating from offices in London, Dublin, Watford, Birmingham and Manchester allows Coface to provide a local service.

The company's [credit insurance](#) offer integrates credit assessment, [collection services](#) and cover for unpaid debts. Multinational businesses can protect their worldwide subsidiaries through Coface's international network.

The company also provides access to domestic and international [business information](#) and a collection network at home and overseas. Coface is also a recognised operator in the London [political risk](#) market. www.cofaceuk.com and www.coface.ie



*John Nicholas
Risk Underwriting Director*



*Grant Williams
Political Risk Director*