



## **HIIG ANNOUNCES NEW CAPITAL RAISE AND A.M. BEST RATINGS AFFIRMED**

HOUSTON – January 26, 2015

**Houston International Insurance Group (HIIG)** announced today that it had raised \$70 million in additional capital from its partner, The Westaim Group (WEDV: TSX) as well as other partners from the Westaim-HIIG L.P. This capital was used, in part, to fund an acquisition and a capital contribution to HIIG's insurance company subsidiaries to keep pace with premium growth.

The Company also announced that A.M. Best Company has affirmed the financial strength ratings of HIIG insurance company subsidiaries and revised Imperium Insurance to a stable outlook. HIIG has four property & casualty insurance companies:

- A- (Excellent) IX Houston Specialty Insurance Company
- A- (Excellent) IX Oklahoma Specialty Insurance Company
- A- (Excellent) VIII Imperium Insurance Company
- A (Excellent) VIII Great Midwest Insurance Company

All ratings have a stable outlook

Stephen L. Way, Chief Executive Officer of HIIG, said "We appreciate the support and trust that Westaim and our LP partners continue to show in our management team, as we navigate a challenging insurance landscape." Mr. Way added, "We are pleased with the A.M. Best report which recognizes our hard work in building a financially strong and reliable platform."

HIIG is an insurance holding company headquartered in Houston, Texas, with offices across the USA.

HIIG writes business throughout the USA and Internationally through its underwriting divisions that include Accident & Health, Construction, Energy, Professional, Transactional Property, and other Specialty business.

Contact:

L. Byron Way, EVP & COO  
Houston International Insurance Group  
(713) 935-4800  
[www.hiig.com](http://www.hiig.com)