

AUSTIN MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

Austin Mutual Completes Affiliation with Cooperative Mutual – Rating Affirmed

March 26, 2010

Minneapolis, MN - Austin Mutual announced today that it has completed its affiliation with Cooperative Mutual Insurance Company of Omaha, Nebraska.

Cooperative Mutual is licensed in 24 states and writes approximately \$27 million of direct written premium for commercial property casualty and worker's compensation lines of business throughout the Midwest. For 75 years, Cooperative Mutual has been providing insurance solutions for agribusiness and is focused on enhancing safety through state of the art loss control services provided to all of its policyholders.

"It is a great success to have this behind us and are now ready to look forward to growth and stability for Cooperative," remarked Doug Derscheid, Chairman of the Board. Cooperative Mutual will operate as a stand -alone affiliate of Austin Mutual, operating from its current Omaha location.

"We are extremely pleased to have completed this transaction," stated CEO Jeffrey B. Kusch. "This will allow diverse growth for Austin while providing a stable insurance market for thousands of farmers associated with our Cooperative policyholders," added Kusch.

In addition, based on the conditions of the affiliation, the financial strength rating of Cooperative Mutual has been affirmed at B+ (Good), Stable. Austin Mutual's AM Best financial strength rating remains unchanged at A- (Excellent).

Austin Mutual Insurance Company is a regional property casualty insurer with premium writings in excess of \$90 million. Austin Mutual is headquartered in Maple Grove, Minnesota and currently operates in 33 states throughout the country.

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