

Peter Townsend - Biography

Peter Townsend graduated from Warwick University in 1979 with an Honours degree in Economics. He commenced work as a clerk with the marine syndicate, TW Higgins and others, at Lloyd's in 1980. After completing his Fellowship of the Chartered Insurance Institute in 1986, he moved to become deputy underwriter on a small syndicate, writing all classes of marine business.

After twenty years with Lloyd's syndicates, Peter "jumped the fence" to join Marsh in charge of the marine reinsurance support team, departing three years later along with a team of five colleagues to join a competing Lloyd's reinsurance broker, Dennis M Clayton.

The last eighteen months of his eight year broking career were spent as Head of marine hull at Aon, before he was approached by Swiss re, who he joined in August 2009 as hull and liability underwriter.

Peter was elected to the Joint Hull Committee, the London market hull technical body, in 2010, and was elected Chairman of that body in 2013. He is a member of the International Union of Marine Insurers (IUMI) Ocean hull committee and Technical Marine Committee of the International Underwriting Association. In addition he is a member of the Lloyd's Salvage Group and the Insurance Institute of London.

He lectures regularly at the Lloyd's Maritime Academy, the technical courses for the Chartered Insurance Institute and has spoken at IUMI and Salvage conferences.