

December 2008

General Insurance Overview - UK

The general insurance market is perhaps the most competitive sector in UK retail financial services. In recent years it has attracted a plethora of new entrants, resulting in aggressive pricing and advertising strategies and an increase in switching activity. Growing pressure to remain competitive, particularly given the growth of price-comparison ...

November 2008

Home Insurance - UK

Both 2007 and 2008 have been years that have shaken up the formerly sedate home insurance market. Some of the worst floods to hit Britain in decades took place in 2007, resulting in a huge increase in claims on home insurance policies. The impact of the floods brought home in ...

October 2008

Niche Insurance - UK

The development of the niche insurance sector reflects increased diversity among the UK population, as financial products no longer conform to a one-size-fits-all approach. Emerging social, technological and economic trends provide a platform for insurers to develop and launch new products in order to meet these continually evolving requirements. Niche ...

August 2008

Private Medical Insurance - UK

Prior to 2006, the individual PMI market had been reliant on the corporate sector to make up for a steady decline in sales. Since 2006, the individual sector has shown signs of recovery, although there is still work to be done to rejuvenate the market. Maintaining affordable premiums and product ...

July 2008

Creditor Insurance - UK

There can be few finance markets that have hit the headlines to the same degree as the creditor insurance market has over the past 18 months. A market which, until 2005, was robust and highly (excessively?) profitable now faces fundamental changes in terms of its distribution structure and sales tactics ...

May 2008

Motor Insurance - UK

The private motor insurance market continues to suffer an underwriting loss, due to rising claims costs and intense competition placing a downward pressure on premiums. Speculation that the sector would witness significant premium hikes in 2007 failed to materialise, although premiums have risen steadily over the last year. However, these ...

April 2008

Legal Expenses Insurance - UK

Legal changes have made LEI increasingly applicable to the UK. While it will never match the size of other sectors of the general insurance industry, it has seen rapid growth in sales and uptake in the past few years as it is increasingly sold as a near-standard add-on feature to ...

February 2008

Travel Insurance - UK

Despite aggressive price promotions and the FSA imposing tight regulations, the travel insurance market has continued to grow, largely due to the continuing rise in annual policies and strong consumer desire to go on holiday. This, though, has been accompanied by an increasing commoditisation in the market – not helped ...

Income Protection - UK

The income protection (IP) market has been in decline for several years now, and is vastly outsold by similar protection products such as critical illness cover (CIC) and mortgage payment protection insurance (MPPI). This report explores the reasons behind this shift, and the steps that the industry and regulatory bodies ...