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**For Immediate Release****InsuranceNoodle Appointed General Agent for Capitol Insurance Companies**

*Initial agreement expands online broker's admitted and non-admitted commercial product line offerings.*

**CHICAGO – March 6, 2006** – InsuranceNoodle ([www.insurancenoodle.com](http://www.insurancenoodle.com)) has been appointed the newest General Agent of Capitol Indemnity Corporation and Capitol Specialty Insurance Corporation (collectively "Capitol Insurance Companies"). Both companies are rated A by A.M. Best. The appointment covers a limited number of specific states and classes of business that the Capitol Insurance Companies have targeted for growth.

"We are extremely proud of this appointment, especially because Capitol Insurance Companies has very few General Agents," said Don Urbanciz, CEO of InsuranceVianet, InsuranceNoodle's holding company. "Partnering with Capitol Insurance Companies enables us to expand the platform of commercial products we are able to offer our partner agencies in selected states."

The agreement initially allows Noodle Specialty Brokers, the underwriting arm of InsuranceNoodle, to underwrite some 30 classes of "Main Street" and more difficult "Off-Main-Street" risks on both admitted and non-admitted paper. InsuranceNoodle will be the primary distribution outlet for these products through its network of active agencies in the target states. Some of the classes covered under this appointment are security services, detective & investigative agencies, child care centers, martial arts centers, tanning salons, amusement centers and selected service contractors. The states covered by this appointment represent over 30% of the InsuranceNoodle's active agencies.

With the addition of these and future products from Capitol Insurance Companies, Urbanciz said InsuranceNoodle has significantly increased the breadth of its offerings and taken another important step closer to being the "one-stop" for agencies' small-to-medium commercial insurance needs.

"Capitol Insurance Companies are very excited about this new appointment," said David Finkelstein, Vice President Sales & Marketing of Capitol Insurance Companies. "Having the Noodle as our newest General Agency partners two growth-minded companies together and allows us to target selected growth states in a highly effective manner."

InsuranceNoodle, the leading Internet-based distributor of small business, has more than 2,500 active NoodleNetwork™ agencies across the country who use the e-broker's patented proprietary, Web-based technology platform to write and service small commercial business. InsuranceNoodle's current line of commercial products includes property, general liability, package, business owners' policy (BOP), directors' and officers' liability, commercial auto, umbrella liability, workers' compensation, employment practices liability (EPLI), professional liability and surety bonds.

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**About Capitol Insurance Companies**

Headquartered in Madison, WI, the Capitol Insurance Companies have been insuring business owners since 1959. Capitol Insurance Companies is a national underwriter of specialty insurance products in niche areas of the commercial property and casualty and the fidelity and surety markets. Through its operating entities, Capitol Indemnity Corporation, Capitol Specialty Insurance Corporation and Platte River Insurance Company, Capitol Insurance Companies offers high quality customer service in programs tailored to the needs of its customers' business and risk management strategies. Information on Capitol Insurance Companies is available at [www.capitolindemnity.com](http://www.capitolindemnity.com). Capitol has an A ("Excellent") rating from A.M. Best. Capitol Indemnity Corporation, Capitol Specialty Insurance Corporation and Platte River Insurance Company are subsidiaries of Alleghany Insurance Holdings LLC, whose parent company, Alleghany Corporation, is publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange (ticker symbol 'Y').

**About InsuranceNoodle**

InsuranceNoodle, a Chicago-based insurance e-broker, is the most complete online insurance solution for small business, ensuring comprehensive, tailored coverage at competitive prices. Through a quick, streamlined process, InsuranceNoodle offers agencies and small business owners comparative quotes, online purchasing and servicing of products from leading insurers including AIG, CNA, Encompass, The Hartford, Markel, OneBeacon, Philadelphia Insurance Companies, Safeco Insurance Corp., St. Paul Travelers, and Zurich. Real-time customer service and advice from licensed insurance advisors is available 7:30 am to 6 pm (Central Time), Monday-Friday. InsuranceNoodle is licensed in 49 states, reaching over 99% of all U.S. small businesses through its extensive national network of independent insurance agencies or via direct access online. For more information, visit [www.insurancenoodle.com](http://www.insurancenoodle.com). Information about joining the NoodleNetwork™ may be found at <https://www.insurancenoodle.com/secure/agency>.