



Xceed Launches New Insurance Practice (Business & IT Consulting for London Markets)



Xceed Consultancy Services www.xceedgroup.com is pleased to announce the launch of their new Insurance Practice. The practice is headed up by Director Mark Ward, who brings over 20 years experience of working within the London Markets. In its sixth year of operating and with offices in London and New York, Xceed is a growing IT Consultancy with a strong track record of providing IT Consultancy and Outsourcing services to financial services organisations. With an established presence in the Retail and Investment banking sectors the launch of the Insurance Practice reflects an increasing need for Insurance companies to leverage their IT operations more efficiently. As Mark commented *"with the reduction in investment income and generally challenging market conditions it's more important than ever that companies make the most of their IT investment. There's a lot of simple steps we can help companies take to save money and reduce operating costs through the application of improved IT practices"*.

John Turner, Xceed Director, commenting on the new practice and Mark's appointment said: "We saw that Mark shares our passion for high quality delivery and with many years in the Insurance sector he has the experience to provide both strategic and delivery projects to a client base whose challenges he understands well." Whilst another founding Director of Xceed, John Casserly, explained; "we've been delivering for Retail and Investment banking clients for a number of years and have always seen the Insurance sector as an ideal market for us but it's only since meeting Mark that we've had the depth of understanding to establish a specific Insurance Practice. Having proved our products & services can deliver savings and clear ROI for the likes of RBS and Barclays it's a good time to expand the business in this direction."

Mark first joined the London Market in 1989 with the Lloyd's Insurance Brokers Committee. In 1998 Mark joined IBM, where he won their National Excellence Award, leading major business and IT change initiatives within their insurance and banking practice. Mark returned to work directly for Marsh in 2003, followed by Beazley in 2005 as their business and IT functions undertook major transformations. Mark has led programmes with budgets exceeding \$100m and with teams of over 120 people, both as an operational line manager and as a Programme Manager. He brings this wealth of experience to Xceed and will be focusing on delivering Xceed's products and services within the Insurance sector to the same exacting standards employed with their current client base.

Xceed's Insurance Practice focuses on delivering: Business & IT Change Management, Business Analytics, Systems Integration, Governance Frameworks and Programme & Project Delivery Assurance.

For more information or to request an initial consultation with Mark please contact Mark.Ward@xceedgroup.com