

September 3, 2008 - Catlin Group Limited is the main sponsor of the Catlin Arctic Survey, a major scientific expedition to measure the thickness of the remaining permanent Arctic Ocean sea ice.

The pioneering survey, which will begin in February 2009, is a collaboration with leading international scientists to help them more accurately assess the state of the rapidly receding Arctic sea ice.

The Catlin Arctic Survey will be led by British polar explorer Pen Hadow. The expedition will include an extensive programme of scientific measurements of the Arctic sea ice over a 1,200-mile route from the Canadian coast to the North Geographic Pole.

Current estimates as to how long ice will remain a year-round feature at the North Pole vary considerably, with scientific predictions ranging from five to 100 years. More accurate information – such as that to be gathered by the Catlin Arctic Survey – is essential if scientists and decision makers are to anticipate fully the potential impact of the loss of the Arctic sea ice on the world's population.

A team of three highly experienced Arctic explorers – Hadow, Ann Daniels and photographer Martin Hartley – will take millions of readings of the thickness of the floating ice during the expedition, which will take approximately 3½ months to complete.

“As a specialty insurance and reinsurance company, the potential effects of global warming will have a direct impact on Catlin's business,” said Stephen Catlin, chief executive of Catlin Group Limited. “The Catlin Arctic Survey will produce vital information that can be used by all those who must plan for the potential effects of global warming.”

More information about the Catlin Arctic Survey is available at www.catlinarcticsurvey.com.

