



## Core Specialty puts capacity behind Dual A&E and PL program

*The Insurer* April 21, 2022

Rebooted US specialty insurer Core Specialty has entered into an underwriting agreement with program manager Dual Commercial to provide primary and excess professional liability limits across a number of classes including architects and engineers.

The program also includes miscellaneous professional liability and excess professional liability insurance.

In a statement, the parties said the new partnership will build on Dual's underwriting expertise in the niche, with the program available nationwide on a non-admitted basis.

Dual Commercial is part of Dual North America, whose parent Dual Group is the specialist underwriting arm of Howden Group Holdings.

Core Specialty is the A- rated former StarStone US business that was relaunched last year under the new management team of Jeff Consolino and Ed Noonan with private equity backing. Since then the carrier has been building out its platform into new classes of business through team hires, acquisitions and program partnerships.

It was recapitalised to over \$900mn with \$610mn of new private equity investment from Dragoner Investment Group, SkyKnight Capital and Aquiline Capital Partners, along with a rollover of Enstar's existing holding and \$60mn from management and other investors.

Commenting on the relationship, Dual professional liability divisional leader Tom Owen said: "This collaboration will enhance our professional liability offering and allow us to provide more comprehensive coverage for our clients.

"We look forward to a long and prosperous relationship with Core Specialty."

Core Specialty's president of errors and omissions professional liability Jeff Jacobs added: "Dual's experienced underwriters are well known in the wholesale broker community as

specialists in this practice area and will help Core Specialty continue to expand our professional liability business.”

Core Specialty recently agreed its first acquisition with a deal to combine with the parent of commercial auto insurer Lancer.

Other recent moves include a new underwriting arrangement with insurtech MGA Celerity Pro to provide D&O solutions, the launch of an agriculture reinsurance division, a new E&S product liability group, and the development of a fronting platform.