

Airclaims eyes global growth after rebranding as McLarens Aviation

Specialist loss adjuster Airclaims has rebranded as McLarens Aviation in a bid to exploit the parent firm's global footprint as a springboard to international growth.

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Vernon Chalfant, CEO
McLarens



Nigel Minett, MD
McLarens Aviation

The name change, which coincides with the company's 50th anniversary, marks the culmination of Airclaims integration into the McLarens group [following a 2011 merger](#).

Since the merger the aviation specialist has focused on international expansion and has opened new offices in Brasilia, Brazil (2014), Vancouver, Canada (2014), Abu Dhabi, UAE (2012) and Johannesburg, South Africa (2011).

Post understands, plans are now being formulated to extend the firm's Asian presence with an office opening in China expected within the next 18 months, while the rebranded business is also plotting the launch of a fourth US office in Chicago.

In addition to extending the firm's global footprint, expanding its service capacity and product line offering have also been on the agenda, with recruitment in London strengthening the firm's aviation liability services and leading to the development of a new liability product line, which will be launching later this summer.

The recruitment of Harmit Sangha to head the Vancouver office has also given the firm a base from which to provide risk and asset management services in North America.

As McLarens Aviation, the firm intends to leverage the McLarens name to make further inroads into markets where McLarens already has an established foothold.

Nigel Minett, managing director of McLarens Aviation, *pictured*, said: "By taking on the McLarens name we are reflecting our place in the larger company and as part of its network of branches. The opportunity to utilise McLarens' global footprint as a platform to extend our own international presence was a key factor in our decision to merge and we believe we are best placed to achieve this as McLarens Aviation.

"We know that our clients value not just our expertise in aviation claims management and technical services, but also our ability to offer a rapid response on all assignments, wherever they occur in the world."

On the nature of future international expansion, Minett added: "There is increasing demand for us to expand our global footprint and moving forward we are focused on further international expansion,

particularly in those territories such as North America and China, where McLarens' existing foothold opens doors for us."

Vern Chalfant, chairman and chief executive of McLarens, added: "Given the strength of Airclaims' own brand identity, it was important for this to be a gradual, carefully planned process, but essentially we feel that now is the right time for the business to adopt the McLarens name.

"Globally, McLarens has the larger presence - operating from 300 locations across the globe - and we believe this puts the business in the best position possible for continued global expansion."

A full profile interview with McLarens Aviation boss Nigel Minett will appear in next week's Post [July 4th]...