

ver the past two decades, SIIA has periodically held international conferences in various locations around the world. This summer, the association brought the event to Dublin, Ireland, which attracted attendees from the United State as well as several other countries.

The educational program covered topics related to international employee benefits, captive insurance, behavioral health, emerging risks, medical travel and healthcare cost trends. According to Program Chairman Greg Arms, key takeaways included.

## **KEY EDUCATIONAL TAKE-AWAYS**

Self-insurance and captives for employee benefits globally are well established and growing by double digits

- Captives overall are now considered "mainstream," with growth accelerating in recent years, even more so outside the US (12% Int'l growth vs 7% in the US in 2023). \$185 billion premiums are now included in over 6500 captive set-ups.
- Group captives are relatively new in Europe, compared to the US and are described as the "mutualization of risks" where like-minded firms come together in a single risk pool
- Cyber risk is the big new exposure for captives, with a focus on risk mitigation and resilience. However, the huge cyber failure on Friday 7/19 was a non-malicious event, which was a surprise, very different than expected malicious IT failures.
- In-depth discussions on "hot button" healthcare issues, including: claims data, digital, AI, Cell + Gene Therapies, RX Infusions, prevention, chronic conditions, and mental health.





• The updates on Lloyd's and Lloyd's Ireland were fascinating: it began 350 years ago by ship captains and private investors, now an \$80 billion premium global insurance leader. Interestingly, US sourced placements represent the majority of Lloyd's business.

## UNIQUE NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to the educational program, the conference featured multiple organized network events, including a golf outing and a tour and hosted dinner at the Guinness production facility. Of course, plenty of additional socializing took place in various pubs and restaurants in the area of the conference hotel.

## SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT MADE THE EVENT A REALITY

SIIA cannot produce international conferences without the support of key corporate partners, so it would like to acknowledge the support of this year's event sponsors:

- AIG
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