

*Press release*

## The birth of Aurora Assicurazioni - the company resulting from the merger between the Winterthur Italia Group and Meieaurora

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The third largest composite insurance company in Italy has been formed.

With the conclusion of the merger of Meieaurora and NewWin Assicurazioni into Winterthur Assicurazioni, which took place on 19 April, and of the simultaneous change of name of Winterthur Assicurazioni, Aurora Assicurazioni S.p.A. is now officially up and running.

At a meeting held today the Company's Board of Directors also launched the process of merging Winterthur Vita S.p.A.

Aurora Assicurazioni is registered in Milan while awaiting transfer to the new head office in the E-Towers complex in San Donato Milanese.

It has premium income of €3.2bn (the figure for 2003 relating to the total premium income for the Winterthur Italia Group and Meieaurora, which puts Aurora Assicurazioni in third position based on the amount of premium income achieved by composite companies). Two thirds of premium income is from Non-Life business. It has approximately three million clients, a sales network of 1,300 agencies covering the whole of Italy and more than 2,400 employees.

The Company Chairman is Fabrizio Rindi, the Vice Chairman is Giovanni Consorte and the Managing Director is Ivano Sacchetti. The Board of Directors consists of Umberto Bertelè, Carlo Cimbri, Riccardo Laurora, Franco Migliorini, Salvatore Petrillo and Tino Rampazzi, and Enrico San Pietro who was coopted at today's meeting to replace the late Claudio Demattè. At today's meeting the Board of Directors also officially appointed Giampiero Gelmi as the Company's Chief Executive.

Since 19 April the Company's website has been online at [www.auroraassicurazioni.it](http://www.auroraassicurazioni.it).

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